



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JUN 7 2002

OFFICE OF
AIR AND RADIATION

Dr. Inés R. Triay
Manager
Carlsbad Field Office
Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, NM 88221

Dear Dr. Triay:

Thank you for your letter, dated May 30, 2002, requesting the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) approval of changes to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) performance assessment. EPA has completed its evaluation of the Department of Energy's (DOE) request to use a single parameter set, based primarily on parameter values used in the Performance Assessment Verification Test (PAVT), as the compliance baseline for future performance assessments. As I stated in my April 24, 2002, letter to you, we agree that this approach will streamline computational efforts and will facilitate EPA future reviews.

EPA acknowledges that two errors have also been corrected as noted in your letter. EPA also understands and agrees that as your program develops and matures you will propose possible changes to the PA in the future. With this letter, EPA approves your proposal to use a single parameter set in future PA calculations. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Monroe at (202) 564-9712.

Sincerely,

Frank Marcinowski, Director
Radiation Protection Division

cc: Cindy Zvonar, CBFO
Matthew Silva, EEG
Steve Zappe, NMED

UNIQUE #	DOE UFC	DATE REC'VD	ADDRESSEES
0203627	1300-00	JUN 24 2002	F. Triay C. Zvonar D. Galbraith J. Plum L. Patterson