

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS

On Two Proposed Modifications to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant



- WHO:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office and Washington TRU Solutions LLC (WTS).
- WHAT:** DOE and WTS will conduct public meetings to provide information on the following requested permit modifications to the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (HWFP). There will be a 60-day public comment period beginning on November 21, 2007.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, December 11, 2007
5 – 7 p.m. Friday, December 14, 2007
2 – 4 p.m. & 6 – 8 p.m.
- WHERE:** Skeen-Whitlock Building
4021 National Parks Highway
Carlsbad, New Mexico Courtyard by Marriott
3347 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico
- WHY:** On November 21, 2007, DOE submitted two Class 2 permit modification requests to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The first proposed modification request would:
- 1) Monitor each full panel for methane and hydrogen gas until final panel closure
 - 2) Establish action levels for methane and hydrogen gas that would trigger various activities that may include the installation of the explosion isolation wall component of the existing panel closure system
 - 3) Beginning with Panel 3, add a substantial barrier and a steel bulkhead in the intake and exhaust drifts of the panel as part of the monitoring program
 - 4) Collect data to be used in determining a final closure for each panel
 - 5) Initiate an inspection schedule and inspection criteria for the explosion isolation walls in Panels 1 and 2, as well as the bulkheads in Panels 3 through 7 until final panel closure
 - 6) Revise volatile organic compound (VOC) monitoring locations in full panels and revise the frequency of VOC monitoring in full panels to monthly, until final panel closure.
 - 7) Extend final closure dates for Panels 1 through 7 until the year 2016
- The second proposed modification request would allow the WIPP Operating Record to be maintained in an unalterable electronic format. Hard copies of the Operating Record, which have been converted into an electronic format, will be maintained at the WIPP Records Archive facility and paper copies of any electronic file will be made available to NMED upon request.
- HOW:** To obtain additional information about this permit modification request, contact Mr. Bobby St. John, WTS, at 1-800-336-9477. The permit modification is also available on the WIPP web site at <http://www.wipp.energy.gov> and at the WIPP Information Center, Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, N.M. A copy of the requested permit modification also may be obtained from NMED at the address listed below.
- COMMENTS:** Written comments for the record must be sent to the NMED contact person at the address below and received no later than 5 p.m. on January 21, 2008:
- Mr. Steve Zappe
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, N.M. 87505
Phone: 505-476-6051
Fax: 505-476-6060
E-mail: steve.zappe@state.nm.us
- The Permittees' compliance history during the life of the permit being modified is available from Mr. Steve Zappe at the New Mexico Environment Department.
- QUESTIONS:** Any questions or comments to the Permittees regarding this permit modification may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, N.M. 88221, no later than January 7, 2008.