

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS



On a Proposed Modification to the Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

- WHO:** U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office and Westinghouse TRU Solutions LLC (WTS).
- WHAT:** DOE and WTS will conduct these public meetings to provide information on the following requested permit modification. There will be a 60-day public comment period beginning on October 15, 2002.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, November 12, 2002
5 – 7 p.m. Thursday, November 14, 2002
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 October 7, 2002, DOE submitted a class 3 permit modification request to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED):
- This permit modification request clarifies certain permit provisions regarding closure requirements for a transuranic waste disposal panel in the WIPP underground. A waste disposal panel consists of seven rooms each, with a 100-foot beam of salt separating each room. Currently the panel closure system requires that a disposal panel be permanently secured by emplacing a 12-foot long reinforced isolation wall followed by a 26-foot thick solid wall composed of Salado Mass concrete. The revised panel closure system proposes a 30-foot long isolation wall composed of mortared concrete block reinforced by a 100-foot thick barrier of salt backfill.
- 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.ws> and at the WIPP Information Center, Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, New Mexico. 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 December 16, 2002:
- Mr. Steve Zappe
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505
Phone: 505-428-2517
Fax: 505-428-2567
E-mail: steve_zappe@nmenv.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 of the Permittees regarding this permit modification may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, NM 88221, no later than December 6, 2002.