



Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
P. O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

OCT 3 1 2017

Mr. John Kieling, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6303

Subject: Transmittal of Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Annual Geotechnical Analysis Report

Dear Mr. Kieling:

The purpose of this letter is to submit the following annual report as required by the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit No. NM4890139088—TSDF, Part 4, Section 4.6.1.2.

- Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Geotechnical Analysis Report for July 2015 – June 2016, DOE/WIPP-17-3560, Volumes 1 and 2

Please note that Permit Part 4, Section 4.6.1.2. also requires the submittal of an assessment of the explosion-isolation walls in Panels 1, 2 and 5 at the time the Geotechnical Analysis Report is submitted. The assessment, which is performed by a professional engineer in the spring, was not conducted this year due to the inaccessibility of the areas in the underground. The NMED was made aware that this assessment cannot be conducted until it is deemed safe to perform the inspections. The NMED Administrative Order dated May 12, 2014, supersedes this reporting requirement until which time the Permittees can resume the related underground inspection activity or the Panels are closed.

We certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under our direction or supervision according to a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on our inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of our knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. We are aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. George T. Basabilvazo at (575)-234-7488.

Sincerely,

Signatures on file

Fodd A. Shrader, Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

Bruce C. Covert, Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

Enclosures (2)

cc: w/enclosure
R. Maestas, NMED *ED
D. Biswell, NMED ED
CBFO M&RC
*ED denotes electronic distribution