Dear Mr. Kieling:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of a planned physical alteration to the permitted facility in accordance with Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11 (20.4.1.900 New Mexico Administrative Code incorporating Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations §270.30(l)). The U.S. Department of Energy and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC, collectively referred to as the Permittees, intend to upgrade the underground ventilation system (UVS) by adding the supplemental ventilation system (SVS). The UVS is broadly described in Permit Attachment A2, Section A2-2a(3).

The SVS consists of an auxiliary fan installed in the S-90 drift to provide additional ventilation air to the underground. The SVS system is designed to work in conjunction with the Interim Ventilation System. Supplemental ventilation is needed to facilitate underground recovery activities such as maintenance activities in the north area, mining, drilling, bolting and salt handling. Use of the SVS will minimize dust particulate loading on the High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters since the construction split will take clean air from the surface and will exhaust salt dust laden air directly through the Salt Handling Shaft. Ventilation air through the disposal area will continue to be routed through HEPA filtration. Conceptual drawings depicting the SVS auxiliary fan and underground ventilation flow paths are enclosed for information.

The Permittees anticipate that the installation of the auxiliary fan to occur in calendar year 2015. Upon completion of this alteration, the Permittees will provide the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) a letter with a New Mexico registered professional engineer's statement that the facility has been altered in compliance with the Permit and provide the NMED the opportunity to inspect the alteration pursuant Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11. The Permittees anticipate submitting a Class 1 Permit modification to revise descriptive text to address changes to the UVS.

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.
Mr. John E. Kieling

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

Sincerely,

Jose R. Franco, Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

Robert L. McQuinn, Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

Enclosure

cc: w/envelope
R. Maestas, NMED * ED
K. Roberts, NMED ED
CBFO M&RC
*ED denotes electronic distribution
Supplemental Ventilation System
(Conceptual Drawings Only)