

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 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 March 27, 2007.
- WHEN:** Tuesday, May 1, 2007
5 – 7 p.m. Thursday, May 3, 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 March 21, 2007, DOE submitted a Class 2 permit modification request to the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED). The proposed modification request would:
- 1) establish tiered training requirements for personnel involved in the waste confirmation process.
 - 2) remove references to the “brush truck” from the permit. This piece of fire fighting equipment has been replaced with a newer truck.
 - 3) remove the annual preventive maintenance reference as it pertains to the Overhead Bridge Crane located in the remote-handled waste bay. Inspections are already performed on a quarterly basis.
 - 4) remove the reference to the annual preventive maintenance procedure for the Cask Unloading Room Crane. This piece of equipment already undergoes quarterly inspections.
 - 5) change the frequency of the preventive maintenance procedure for the Horizontal Emplacement and Retrieval Equipment from monthly to semi-annually. This equipment is used to emplace remote-handled transuranic waste and is inspected prior to each use.
 - 6) clarify language in the permit referring to preventive maintenance and instrument control procedures.
 - 7) reduce the number of individuals needed to activate the Emergency Operations Center located at the WIPP facility.
 - 8) revise the language in Table F-1 of the WIPP HWFP to be consistent with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 471) regarding a Level II incident. The revisions would include any size container of contact-handled and remote-handled transuranic mixed waste.
 - 9) remove the requirement to maintain the internal fire hose connections in Attachments E and F of the WIPP HWFP. These connections are not required to maintain adequate fire protection as stated in the revised Fire Hazard Analysis for the WIPP facility. Additionally, it is requested that the pictorial representation of fire hose cabinets in two figures in Attachment F be removed.
- 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 May 25, 2007:
- 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@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 to the Permittees regarding this permit modification may be sent to Mr. Bobby St. John, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, NM 88221, no later than May 14, 2007.