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

JAN 1 1 2007

Mr. Juan Reyes
Office of Radiation and Indoor Air
Environmental Protection Agency
1310 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005

Subject: Request for Extension

Dear Mr. Reyes:

The Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office would like to request an indefinite extension in the schedule for the testing of passive institutional controls (PICs) for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. The commencement of the testing schedule and planned activities as identified in DOE's May 16, 2002, Proposed Change Request and as agreed to in EPA's letter dated November 7, 2002, will be delayed until approximately ten years prior to the beginning of WIPP site closure.

This extension will allow DOE to use the latest in design and material technologies and propose to EPA, at some future date, the use of the best available PIC's for WIPP site closure well in advance of the anticipated decommissioning of the WIPP facility.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Russell Patterson at (505) 234-7457.

Sincerely,

David C. Moody
Manager

cc:

L. Piper, CBFO	* ED
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