



MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM  
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CABINET SECRETARY

April 11, 2023

Mark Bollinger, Acting Manager  
Department of Energy - Carlsbad Field Office  
P.O. Box 3090  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090

Ken Harrawood, Program Manager  
Salado Isolation Mining Contractors LLC  
P.O. Box 2078  
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-2078

**Re: Approval of Request for Extension of Time for Submittal of Documentation  
Associated with Closure of Panel 7  
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant  
EPA I.D. Number NM4890139088**

Dear Messrs. Bollinger and Harrawood,

On April 7, 2023, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) received a 45-Day Extension of Time for Submittal of Documentation Associated with Closure of Panel 7 (Request) at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) from the Department of Energy (DOE) and Salado Isolation Mining Contractors LLC (SIMCO) (together, the "Permittees"). The request was submitted pursuant to the Permit Part 1, Section 1.10.3., *Extension of Time*, of the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (Permit), which states:

*"The Permittees may seek an extension of time in which to perform a requirement of this Permit, for good cause, by sending a written request for extension of time and proposed revised schedule to the Secretary. The request shall state the length of the requested extension and describe the basis for the request. The Secretary will respond in writing to any request for extension following receipt of the request. If the Secretary denies the request for extension, reasons for the denial will be stated. "*

The Permittees state in the Request that Panel 7 was closed on February 11, 2023, therefore the certification of closure is due to NMED by April 12, 2023. The Request is seeking a 45-day extension of time for the following two reasons:

- To compile the required documentation for the professional engineer.
- To complete the required reviews of the documentation.

NMED hereby grants the Request, pursuant to Part 1, Section 1.10.3, *Extension of Time*, to extend the due date 45 days for submittal of the closure documentation to May 26, 2023.

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Hazardous Waste Bureau - 2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505-6313  
Telephone (505) 476-6000 - [www.env.nm.gov](http://www.env.nm.gov)

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Associated with Closure of Panel 7  
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If you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please contact me at (505) 690-6148.

Sincerely,



Ricardo Maestas  
WIPP Group Manager  
Hazardous Waste Bureau  
New Mexico Environment Department

cc: D. Biswell, NMED HWB  
M. McLean, NMED HWB  
A. Donahue, NMED HWB  
B. Masse, NMED DOE-OB  
M. Gerle, DOE-CBFO  
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L. King, EPA Region 6  
H. Shah, EPA Region 6  
File: WIPP '23