

SUSANA MARTINEZ
Governor
JOHN A. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant Governor

State of New Mexico ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Hazardous Waste Bureau

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BUTCH TONGATE Cabinet Secretary J. C. BORREGO Deputy Secretary

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

April 19, 2018

Todd Shrader, Manager Carlsbad Field Office Department of Energy P.O. Box 3090 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090 Bruce C. Covert, Project Manager Nuclear Waste Partnership, LLC P.O. Box 2078 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-2078

RE: APPROVAL OF REQUEST FOR 90-DAY EXTENSION OF TIME FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE APPROVED CLASS 2 PERMIT MODIFICATION REQUEST WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT EPA I.D. NUMBER NM4890139088

Dear Messrs. Shrader and Covert:

On April 16, 2018, the New Mexico Environment Department ("NMED") received the Department of Energy's ("DOE") and Nuclear Waste Partnership's ("NWP") (collectively, the "Permittees") April 13, 2018 Request for Extension of Time ("Request") to implement the two item Class 2 Permit Modification effective April 23, 2018 ("Permit Modification") for *Training Program Revisions* and *Changes Due to Construction and Operation of a New Filter Building*.

The Request was submitted pursuant to Permit Part 1, Section 1.10.3., *Extension of Time*, of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant ("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."

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The Permittees state in the Request that, due to the extensive nature of the changes to the Facility Personnel Permit Training Program, the effort required to transfer detailed information from the Permit to the WIPP Facility files, and procedure changes needed to implement revised Permit Attachment O, the Permittees are requesting that NMED allow for a period of 90-days beyond the effective date of the revised Permit (i.e., July 22, 2018) for implementation of the modifications.

NMED recognizes the efforts required to implement the approved modifications to the Permit and herby grants approval of the Request. The implementation period will be completed by no later than July 22, 2018, at which time NMED will expect the permit modification to be fully implemented.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Ricardo Maestas of my staff at (505) 476-6050.

Sincerely,

John E. Kieling

Chief

Hazardous Waste Bureau

cc:

R. Maestas, NMED HWB

D. Biswell, NMED HWB

M. McLean, NMED HWB

H. Tellez, NMED HWB

S. Lucas-Kamat, NMED DOEOB

L. King, EPA Region 6

T. Peake, EPA ORIA

File: WIPP 2018