



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

April 7, 2023

Mr. David Cobrain, Acting Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Subject: Notification of Planned Physical Alteration to the Permitted Facility Regarding a Sprinkler System Upgrade for the Waste Handling Building and TRUPACT Maintenance Facility, Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Number: NM4890139088-TSDF

Dear Mr. Cobrain:

The purpose of this letter is to provide notification of a planned physical alteration to the permitted facility in accordance with Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Salado Isolation Mining Contractors (SIMCO), collectively referred to as the Permittees, intend to upgrade the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility sprinkler system in the Waste Handling Building (WHB) and TRUPACT Maintenance Facility (TMF) starting in calendar year 2023. A modification to the Permit conditions will not be required for this change.

This upgrade to the WHB and TMF involves the full replacement of the entire sprinkler system compliant with the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA) 13, Standard for the Installation of Sprinkler Systems, NFPA 14, Standard for the Installation of Standpipe and Hose Systems, Permit Part 2, Section 2.10.1.4, and Permit Attachment D, Figure D-5.

The upgrade to the sprinkler system in the WHB will be constructed while the existing sprinkler systems in the permitted storage areas (e.g., Room 108, the contact handled [CH] Bay, and the Waste Shaft loading area) remain operational and subject to applicable Permit inspections and compensatory measures.

The completion of the sprinkler system upgrade project is expected in calendar year 2024. At that time, the Permittees will provide the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) a letter with a New Mexico registered professional engineer's statement that the automatic sprinkler system and associated appurtenances have been upgraded in compliance with the Permit pursuant to Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11.2(i), and provide the NMED the opportunity to inspect the modified portion of the facility pursuant to Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11.2(ii).

We certify under penalty of law that this document and all enclosures 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. David Cobrain

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April 7, 2023

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Michael Gerle at (575) 988-5372.

Sincerely,

Signatures on File

Mark Bollinger
Acting Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

Ken Harrawood
Program Manager
Salado Isolation Mining Contractors

cc:

R. Maestas, NMED * ED

D. Biswell, NMED ED

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*ED denotes electronic distribution