



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

August, 25, 2021

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

Subject: Notification of the Use of the CH Bay Surge Storage

Dear Mr. Maestas:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you of (Contact-Handled) CH Bay Surge Storage Area usage, pursuant to Permit Part 3, Section 3.1.1.4. The justification for using surge is that some TRUPACT-II shipping packages were needed to be brought into the CH Bay for venting for safety purposes in accordance with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission Certificate of Compliance.

On August 12, 2021, the Permittees met the requirements and conditions in Permit Attachment A1, Section A1-1c (1), subsection, *CH Bay Surge Storage Area*, to utilize the CH Bay Surge Storage Area. At that time, the maximum capacities in the CH Bay Storage Area and the Parking Area Unit (PAU) were reached. Due to an issue associated with the configuration of waste handling equipment (airlock doors), the Permittees were unable to download waste at that time. This equipment is important to ensure that appropriate airflow direction is maintained in order to assure containment in the event of release, as required by Permit Attachment A1, Section A1-1c (1).

This use of the CH Bay Surge Storage Area was initiated on August 12, 2021. Approximately 23 percent of the permitted storage capacity of the CH Bay Surge Storage Area was utilized. Usage of the CH Bay Surge Storage Area was terminated on August 13, 2021 when waste processing operations resumed.

The Permittees will post a link to this notice of CH Bay Surge Storage Area use on the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Home Page, and inform those on the e-mail notification list pursuant to Permit Part 3, Section 3.1.1.4.

We certify under penalty of law that this document was 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Michael R. Brown at (575) 706-0072.

Sincerely,

*//Signatures on File//*

Reinhard Knerr  
Manager  
Carlsbad Field Office

Sean Dunagan  
President and Project Manager  
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

cc:

N. Barka, NMED                   \*ED

D. Biswell, NMED               ED

M. McLean, NMED               ED

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\*ED denotes electronic distribution