

## The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Community Relations Plan is Currently Being Updated

The U.S. Department of Energy Carlsbad Field Office and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (the Permittees) are seeking public comments to improve the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Community Relations Plan (the Plan). The purpose of the Plan is to provide Permit-related information to communities and interested members of the public and to alert them to opportunities to participate in the Permit process.

The Permittees propose the following editorial changes to the following sections of the Plan:

- **Section 1.1** added “(Plan)”
- **Section 1.1** added “The Plan is tied to Permit-related topics only. Topics outside the Permit are not included. If stakeholders have questions not related to the Permit, the Community Relations staff will assist in identifying the proper venue for discussing the topic.”
- **Section 1.1** deleted “Community Relations”
- **Section 1.3** deleted “WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Community Relations”
- **Section 1.3** Added “waste characterization and confirmation.”
- **Section 2.0** added “management and operating contractor”
- **Section 2.0** deleted “co-operator of the WIPP facility and performs”
- **Section 2.0** added “hired by DOE to perform”
- **Section 2.0** added “Under the Permit, NWP is considered a co-operator of the WIPP facility.”
- **Section 2.1** added “circulating ground”
- **Section 2.2** added “Transuranic”
- **Section 2.2** deleted “TRU”
- **Section 2.2** added “waste is a byproduct of the nation’s nuclear defense program and consists of materials contaminated with radioactive elements, mostly plutonium”
- **Section 2.2** deleted “waste consists mostly of solid materials such as protective clothing, rags, tools, soils and residues contaminated with radioactive elements – mostly plutonium”
- **Section 2.2** added “federal”
- **Section 2.2** added “sponsored”
- **Section 2.2** added “and development”
- **Section 2.2** added “the result of the decontamination and decommissioning of”
- **Section 2.2** deleted “some”
- **Section 2.2** deleted “sites”
- **Section 2.2** added “facilities”
- **Section 2.2** deleted “are being decommissioned”
- **Section 2.2** added “Transuranic”
- **Section 2.2** deleted “TRU”
- **Section 3.2** added “regarding the Plan”
- **Section 3.2** deleted “uniform”
- **Section 3.2** added “broad”
- **Section 3.2** deleted “various”
- **Section 3.2** added “numerous”
- **Section 3.3** added “access to”
- **Section 3.3** added “The WIPP Permit Information Repository provides access to Permit-related documents dating back to 2009 when the Web page was set up”

- **Section 3.5** added “Options for signing up include”
- **Section 3.6** added “This service provides information regarding some Permit-related actions that would not otherwise be directly available to the public”
- **Section 3.7** deleted “major local newspapers”
- **Section 3.7** added “the Carlsbad Current-Argus, the Albuquerque Journal, and the Santa Fe New Mexican”
- **Section 3.8** deleted “dedicated”
- **Section 4.1** deleted “Thank you for your in the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit”
- **Section 4.2** added “The Plan is tied to Permit-related topics only. Topics outside the Permit are not included. If stakeholders have questions not related to the permit, the Community Relations staff will assist in identifying the proper venue for discussing the topic.”

Proposed changes to the Plan are identified by red text with a double underline for new text and a strikeout font for deleted information. The Plan and proposed changes can be read in its entirety online at:

<http://www.wipp.energy.gov/WIPPCommunityRelations/index.html>.

We encourage members of the public to submit comments or suggestions by Friday, **November 18, 2022**. Comments may be submitted by:

- E-mail to [Communityrelations@wipp.ws](mailto:Communityrelations@wipp.ws)
- Accessing <http://www.wipp.energy.gov/WIPPCommunityRelations/index.html> online. Clicking on the Comments tab, typing in your comments and submitting them.
- Calling the toll-free number at 1-866-271-9640 to speak directly to WIPP staff
- Mailing your comments to Bobby St. John, Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC, P.O. Box 2078, Carlsbad, N.M., 88221

The Permittees are required to post comments, consultations, communications, agreements and disagreements between the Permittees and members of the public on the Community Relations Plan Web page “Comments” section. Comments and suggestions will only be posted with the express consent of the contributor.

You have received this correspondence because your name is listed on the WIPP Facility Mailing List. If you would like a copy of the WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Community Relations Plan or do not wish to receive further Permit-related correspondence, please contact:

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P. O. Box 2078  
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or

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