



Department of Energy

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

JUN 09 2017

Mr. John Kieling, Chief
Hazardous Waste Bureau
New Mexico Environment Department
2905 Rodeo Park Drive East, Building 1
Santa Fe, NM 87505-6303

Subject: Notification of Planned Change to the Permitted Facility Regarding the Construction of a New Filter Building, Hazardous Waste Facility Permit, Number: NM4890139088-TSDF

Dear Mr. Kieling:

The purpose of this letter is to provide notification to the New Mexico Environmental Department (NMED) of a planned change to the permitted facility in accordance with Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11. (20.4.1.900 New Mexico Administrative Code incorporating Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations §270.30(I)). The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC (NWP), collectively referred to as the Permittees, intend to upgrade the underground ventilation system (UVS) by constructing a new High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filter building. The UVS is broadly described in Permit Attachment A2, Section A2-2a(3).

The new HEPA filter building will be located southeast of the existing filter building, as shown on the attached conceptual drawing (Figure 1). This addition will require an expansion to the Property Protection Area and a modification to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant facility fence line. Additionally, the new exhaust stack will result in an alternate effluent discharge point that will be higher than the current exhaust stack discharge point.

Plans for the new filter building include six exhaust fans and 22 HEPA filter banks and associated ductwork to provide an increased amount of air to the underground. The primary function of the new filter building will be to remove airborne radioactive particulate from the exhaust air through HEPA filtration before the air is released to the environment. The new filter building will supply additional air to the underground in order to achieve up to 540,000 actual cubic feet per minute (acfm) in filtration mode. A conceptual drawing depicting the general location of the new filter building is attached for information (Figure 2).

The Permittees anticipate that the construction of the new filter building will be completed in calendar year 2020. Upon completion of the construction, the Permittees will provide the NMED a letter with a New Mexico registered professional engineer's certification statement that the facility has been constructed in compliance with the Permit and provide the NMED the opportunity to inspect the alteration pursuant to the Permit Part 1, Section 1.7.11.

Mr. Kieling

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The Permittees anticipate submitting a Permit Modification Request to revise descriptive text to address changes to the UVS.

We certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. George T. Basabilvazo at (575) 234-7488.

 Sincerely,

Signature on file

Todd Shrader, Manager
Carlsbad Field Office

U
for Todd Shrader

Philip J. Breidenbach, Project Manager
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

Enclosure

cc: w/enclosure

R. Maestas, NMED * ED

D. Biswell, NMED ED

CBFO M&RC

*ED denotes electronic distribution