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GOVERNOR

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**RON CURRY**  
SECRETARY

**DERRITH WATCHMAN-MOORE**  
DEPUTY SECRETARY

January 24, 2006

Dear Concerned Citizen:

This is a notice extending the period for submission of public comments and requests for public hearing on the draft Hazardous Waste Facility Permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (**WIPP**). On November 23, 2005, the New Mexico Environment Department (**NMED**) issued an initial public notice to submit public comment and requests for public hearing by January 23, 2006. Since issuance of that initial notice, NMED has received a request to extend the public comment period from Southwest Research and Information Center.

The public comment period shall be extended for an additional thirty (30) day period. NMED will now receive comments and requests for public hearing through **5:00 PM, February 22, 2006**.

The fact sheet issued on November 23, 2005 stated that a public hearing, if held, would begin on March 8, 2006. The date of any public hearing is hereby postponed until further notice.

The draft permit, public notice (including the extension of the public comment period), and fact sheet are available on the NMED WIPP Information Page at <http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/wipp/>. These documents, along with the entire administrative record for this administrative action, may be reviewed at the Hazardous Waste Bureau at the address listed in the letterhead above.

If there are any corrections necessary to your address or you no longer want to receive mailings from NMED concerning WIPP, please contact me at the address or phone number listed in the letterhead above, or e-mail me at [james.bearzi@state.nm.us](mailto:james.bearzi@state.nm.us).

Sincerely,  
*Original signed by*

James P. Bearzi  
Chief  
Hazardous Waste Bureau

Enclosure