



# New Mexico Environment Department

## Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Activities

Christopher S. Catechis, Acting Resource Protection Division Director

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Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Interim Committee





# Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Permit Activities

## 10-Year Permit Renewal Process

- Renewal application submitted to NMED March 31, 2020
- Current permit, expired December 2020, remains in effect and enforceable
- NMED technical review is underway. Once deemed technically complete, NMED will issue a draft permit for public comment and eventual public hearing





# WIPP Permit Activities (cont.)

## Class 3 Modification - *“Excavation of a New Shaft and Associated Connecting Drifts”*

- Submitted to NMED August 2019
- Public hearing May 17-20, 2021
- Post hearing activities include:
  - Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law;
  - Hearing Officers Report and Recommendation; and
  - NMED Response to Comments
- Final decision from NMED Secretary anticipated Fall 2021.



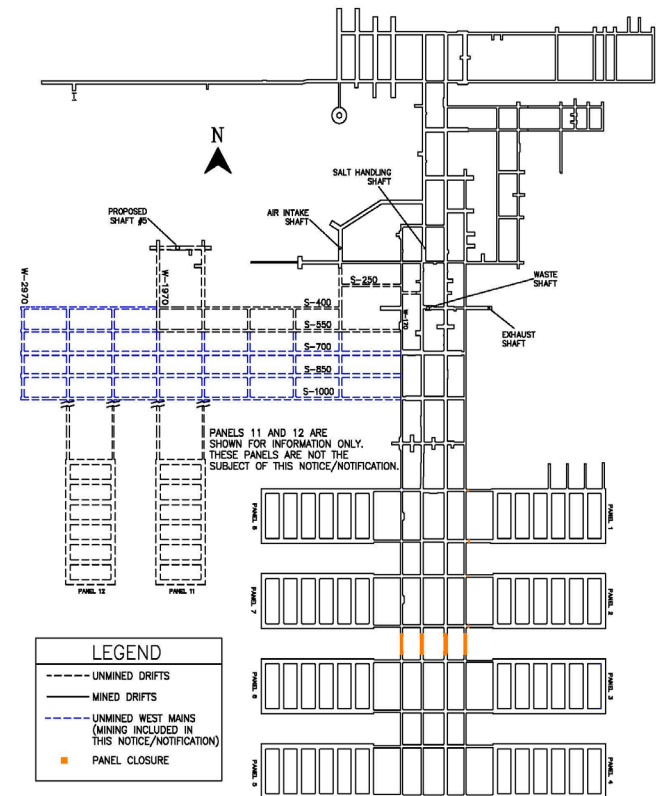
# WIPP: Upcoming Permit Activities

## Class 3 Modification for New Panel 11 and Panel 12:

- ❑ Anticipated submittal to NMED in late summer or early fall 2021
- ❑ Modification will request to construct two new panels to the west of the existing underground

## West Access Drifts:

- ❑ Planned Change Notice submitted to NMED in June 2021
- ❑ Drifts would run from existing underground to new panels area
- ❑ NMED evaluating whether access drifts need to be approved before excavation commences
- ❑ May take up to two years to excavate access drifts



# NMED Contact Information

Chris Catechis

Acting Director, Resource Protection Division

[chris.catechis@state.nm.us](mailto:chris.catechis@state.nm.us)

Ricardo Maestas

Acting Chief, Hazardous Waste Bureau

[ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us](mailto:ricardo.maestas@state.nm.us)