



New Mexico Environment Department

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Activities

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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.



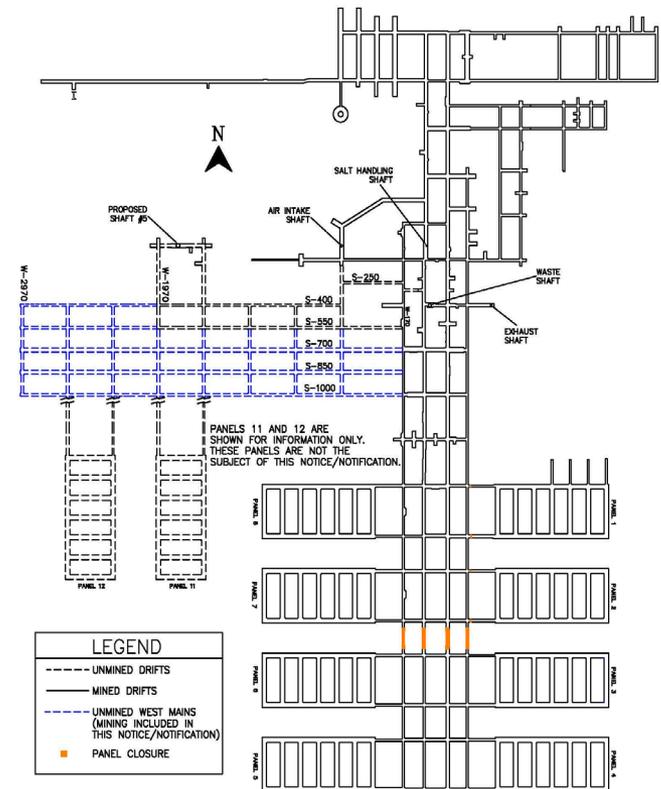
WIPP: Upcoming Permit Activities

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



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