

3/28/23

Karen Bonime

The WIPP Renewal Draft Permit contains many steps in the right direction, including a 10-year limit and public involvement. I would additionally like to see provisions made for outreach in Spanish and Navajo languages and perhaps others, using methods that do not rely solely on having reliable Internet capability, which many New Mexicans lack. Also, an effort should be made to explain things in layman's language and spell out --AND EXPLAIN -- acronyms, which can be quite mystifying to uninitiated members of the public.

9/19/23

Karen Bonime (boh-NEEM)

I applaud the NMED for negotiating with concerned citizen groups regarding the WIPP Renewal Draft Permit. I urge you to implement all the provisions in the draft permit that were supported by CVNM, Stop Forever WIPP, and allied citizen groups during those negotiations earlier this year. I moved to New Mexico in 1991 and participated in some of the DOE hearings before WIPP was opened and started receiving TRU waste in 1999. I am appalled that the repository is being considered as the repository for powdered plutonium waste as well as waste from the manufacture of new plutonium pits. WIPP was supposed to be only for legacy TRU waste. Please do not expand the mission to include this waste. The two accidents that occurred at WIPP on Feb. 7 and 14 of 2014 should be a warning to all New Mexicans that human error happens. Let's not pile on even more risk with increasingly dangerous kinds of waste. Please protect our citizens and our beautiful state. Thank you