

Maria Thomas, MD

Dear New Mexico Energy Dept. and Madam Governor Lujan, Please stand fast and keep to the original limits of the Waste Isolation PILOT Plant (WIPP) contract with New Mexico. I don't need to remind you of its original intent-to process and store only Transuranic radioactive waste products and for the project to end in 2024. The federal Dept of Energy is stealthily trying to force NM to accept much larger quantities of radioactive products, Plutonium decommissioned bomb triggers (innocuously called "pits" by many) and to extend WIPP's mission for many decades. The DOE and the Natl. Nuclear Security Administration have shown no transparency or willingness to interact with the citizens raising concerns. By saying No you will force other states to be responsible for their nuclear waste that resides near them. Don't let New Mexico be the USA's nuclear dumping ground. I am a practicing radiologist and am aware of the impact on health that radiation can have. I am a resident of Eldorado at Santa Fe. I am equally concerned that any travel accident of trucks hauling the radioactive waste will raise alarm to potential homebuyers along the route, even if no radiation leaks at the time. A drop in property values would occur and this would of course lead to lawsuits against the state and its officials, the NNSA, and DOE, among others. Don't let this happen. Be a source of positivity. Protect your NM citizens. sincerely,
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