



**Department of Energy**  
 Albuquerque Operations Office  
 Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Project Office  
 P. O. Box 3090  
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

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**Distribution**


Enclosed is a copy of the Environmental Report for 1989 for the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. The purpose of the report is to present summary environmental data. This data characterizes site environmental management performance and confirms the success of the continuing efforts to maintain compliance with environmental standards and requirements. In addition, significant environmental programs and efforts are highlighted.

This report is prepared and published annually for distribution to local, state, and federal government agencies; the Congress; the public; and the news media. The report was prepared for DOE by Westinghouse Electric Corporation Waste Isolation Division. To the best of my knowledge, this report accurately summarizes and discusses the results of the 1989 environmental monitoring program for the WIPP.

Chapter 9 of the report summarizes significant changes to our compliance status, current issues and actions, and conformance to environmental permit requirements for the period January through May 1990. We prepared this chapter as part of our continuing efforts to upgrade the quality of the report.

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) activities at the WIPP were limited in 1989 to the generation and off-site disposal of small quantities of hazardous waste in full compliance with RCRA. Due to recent events, RCRA activities have greatly increased in 1990 at the WIPP. The WIPP submitted a revised No Migration Variance Petition to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in March 1990. The EPA notified the public in April 1990 of its intent to approve this petition. Approval is expected before the end of 1990. In July 1990, the State of New Mexico was authorized to regulate mixed hazardous waste. New Mexico requested that WIPP submit RCRA permit applications in early 1991. As a result, there has been a great deal of RCRA permit related work at the WIPP in 1990 which is expected to continue into 1991.

If you have any questions or desire additional information, please contact Dr. James A. Mewhinney of our Environment, Safety and Health Branch at (505) 887-8143 or (FTS) 571-2143.

  
 Arlen Hunt  
 Project Manager

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