



UNITED STATES
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

ADR
101-1

August 25, 1978

Ms. Denise D. Fort
Attorney-at-Law
Southwest Research and
Information Center
P. O. Box 4524
Albuquerque, N.M. 87106

Dear Ms. Fort:

Thank you for your letter of July 28, 1978 in which you commented on the establishment of local public document rooms in New Mexico. As you mentioned in your letter, representatives of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) discussed this matter with officials of the State of New Mexico.

Since our meetings with State officials, we have established local public document rooms at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and the New Mexico State Library in Santa Fe. NRC reached agreement with these libraries on May 19, 1978. However, the first set of documents relating to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility was not transmitted to each of the local public document rooms until July 21, 1978. The delay in sending these documents resulted from our need to verify the completeness of the docket file.

It is our understanding that the New Mexico State Library has not yet received our July 21, 1978 transmittal (the University of New Mexico did receive the July 21, 1978 documents). If, by the end of this week, the New Mexico State Library still has not received the documents, we will send a duplicate set. Our second set of WIPP documents was sent out on August 18, 1978.

With regard to notification of meetings between NRC and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the NRC will continue to publish a meeting notice prior to the date of the meeting when this is feasible. However, in order to facilitate greater public participation and to allow earlier notification of the meeting, the NRC will telecopy all meeting notices directly to the local public document rooms so that they can be placed in the docket file immediately after they are published.

Sincerely,

/s/

James C. Malaro, Chief
High-Level and Transuranic
Waste Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle
and Material Safety

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