**More Nuclear Waste Transport Through your Neighborhood**

Please attend an **Informational Meeting** to learn the new risks of an **expanded nuclear waste dump** at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). Learn how it affects residents along the route and opportunities to take action. This is free and open to the public in all areas of town (not just Eldorado residents).



**When: Wednesday, Aug. 11**

**at 6:00 pm**

**Where:** Meeting Room at the

**Vista Grande Library**

**in Eldorado,** 14 Ave.

Torreon, 87508.

**“It ain’t your Daddy’s WIPP anymore.”**

What will change if WIPP’s mission expands:

* Waste will be a more dangerous form of plutonium (see below) and each shipment will pass our neighborhoods twice.
* The site will expand to more than twice its current size.
* It will not close in 3 years as promised, but continue accepting waste beyond 2080, putting neighborhoods at risk through the century.
* Waste will travel 3,300 miles through 12 states and is not limited to the designated route. I-40 is included.

There is much that can be done to make this safer and change this plan. The Governor needs to hear from us because she has the mechanism and power to stop the expansion. **We can close WIPP in 3 years as planned.**

**Talking Points:**

1. Plutonium in particulate form is the most dangerous in an accident because it is quickly carried on breezes, where it is immediately and unknowingly inhaled, even before emergency crews arrive. **Inhaled plutonium particles** lodge in lung tissue and **provide a continuous and on-going source of radiation**, which causes bone, liver, and lung cancers 100% of the time**. Children are most at risk** because they have the time for the cancer to develop.
2. When plutonium in particulate form is released, Sandia Nationals Labs warns that it is also impossible to clean up. Soil wouldbe scraped and bagged, **homes and possessions left behind**, and no insurance will compensate property owners for their losses.
3. Los Alamos National Labs (LANL) and WIPP have dismal safety records and are rarely punished adequately for putting the public at risk. More severe consequences are the only thing that will cause LANL and WIPP to improve their safety cultures.
4. The Defense Federal Nuclear Safety Board said in 2020 that LANL’s hundreds of drums with unlabeled chemicals holding radioactive materials could, in an explosion, deliver a more than fatal dose to workers and a dose to New Mexican residents that would result in the death of 50% within a month.
5. The risk increases with each of these conditions that the WIPP expansion would create:

* increased number of shipments,
* across 12 states,
* for the rest of the century,
* more dangerous waste in a more harmful form,
* agencies with dismal safety records.

These conditions and an understanding of the laws of statistics and human error put innocent residents at risk without their knowledge or permission.

Possible comments to Governor:

Dear Governor Lujan Grisham, I am on the designated radioactive waste route for nuclear waste going to WIPP. The proposed DOE expansion of WIPP’s mission will put my neighborhood at too much risk of an accident involving powdered plutonium. The increase in number of shipments of a more dangerous waste, over a longer period of time and distance, is a risk I don’t agree to take. Please use your executive powers to invoke the Consultation and Cooperation Agreement and tell DOE that it must stop digging a 5th shaft. Your commitment to public health issues is your greatest asset to New Mexicans. Sincerely, *your signature.*

<https://www.governor.state.nm.us/contact-the-governor/>

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