

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 194.55

§ 194.52 Consideration of exposure pathways.

In compliance assessments that analyze compliance with §191.15 of this chapter, all potential exposure pathways from the disposal system to individuals shall be considered. Compliance assessments with part 191, subpart C and §191.15 of this chapter shall assume that individuals consume 2 liters per day of drinking water from any underground source of drinking water in the accessible environment.

§ 194.53 Consideration of underground sources of drinking water.

In compliance assessments that analyze compliance with part 191, subpart C of this chapter, all underground sources of drinking water in the accessible environment that are expected to be affected by the disposal system over the regulatory time frame shall be considered. In determining whether underground sources of drinking water are expected to be affected by the disposal system, underground interconnections among bodies of surface water, ground water, and underground sources of drinking water shall be considered.

§ 194.54 Scope of compliance assessments.

(a) Any compliance application shall contain compliance assessments required pursuant to this part. Compliance assessments shall include information which:

(1) Identifies potential processes, events, or sequences of processes and events that may occur over the regulatory time frame;

(2) Identifies the processes, events, or sequences of processes and events included in compliance assessment results provided in any compliance application; and

(3) Documents why any processes, events, or sequences of processes and events identified pursuant to paragraph (a)(1) of this section were not included in compliance assessment results provided in any compliance application.

(b) Compliance assessments of undisturbed performance shall include the effects on the disposal system of:

(1) Existing boreholes in the vicinity of the disposal system, with attention

to the pathways they provide for migration of radionuclides from the site; and

(2) Any activities that occur in the vicinity of the disposal system prior to or soon after disposal. Such activities shall include, but shall not be limited to: Existing boreholes and the development of any existing leases that can be reasonably expected to be developed in the near future, including boreholes and leases that may be used for fluid injection activities.

§ 194.55 Results of compliance assessments.

(a) Compliance assessments shall consider and document uncertainty in the performance of the disposal system.

(b) Probability distributions for uncertain disposal system parameter values used in compliance assessments shall be developed and documented in any compliance application.

(c) Computational techniques which draw random samples from across the entire range of values of each probability distribution developed pursuant to paragraph (b) of this section shall be used to generate a range of:

(1) Estimated committed effective doses received from all pathways pursuant to §194.51 and §194.52;

(2) Estimated radionuclide concentrations in USDWs pursuant to §194.53; and

(3) Estimated dose equivalent received from USDWs pursuant to §194.52 and §194.53.

(d) The number of estimates generated pursuant to paragraph (c) of this section shall be large enough such that the maximum estimates of doses and concentrations generated exceed the 99th percentile of the population of estimates with at least a 0.95 probability.

(e) Any compliance application shall display:

(1) The full range of estimated radiation doses; and

(2) The full range of estimated radionuclide concentrations.

(f) Any compliance application shall document that there is at least a 95 percent level of statistical confidence that the mean and the median of the range of estimated radiation doses and the range of estimated radionuclide

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concentrations meet the requirements of § 191.15 and part 191, subpart C of this chapter, respectively.

Subpart D—Public Participation

§ 194.61 Advance notice of proposed rulemaking for certification.

(a) Upon receipt of a compliance application submitted pursuant to section 8(d)(1) of the WIPP LWA and § 194.11, the Agency will publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking announcing that a compliance application has been received, soliciting comment on such application, and announcing the Agency's intent to conduct a rulemaking to certify whether the WIPP facility will comply with the disposal regulations.

(b) A copy of the compliance application will be made available for inspection in Agency docket established pursuant to § 194.67.

(c) The notice will provide a public comment period of 120 days.

(d) A public hearing concerning the notice will be held if a written request is received by the Administrator or the Administrator's authorized representative within 30 calendar days of the date of publication pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section.

(e) Any comments received on the notice will be made available for inspection in the docket established pursuant to § 194.67.

(f) Any comments received on the notice will be provided to the Department and the Department may submit to the Agency written responses to the comments.

§ 194.62 Notice of proposed rulemaking for certification.

(a) The Administrator will publish a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcing the Administrator's proposed decision, pursuant to section 8(d)(1) of the WIPP LWA, whether to issue a certification that the WIPP facility will comply with the disposal regulations and soliciting comment on the proposal.

(b) The notice will provide a public comment period of at least 120 days.

(c) The notice will announce public hearings in New Mexico.

(d) Any comments received on the notice will be made available for inspection in the docket established pursuant to § 194.67.

§ 194.63 Final rule for certification.

(a) The Administrator will publish a Final Rule in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcing the Administrator's decision, pursuant to section 8(d)(1) of the WIPP LWA, whether to issue a certification that the WIPP facility will comply with the disposal regulations.

(b) A document summarizing significant comments and issues arising from comments received on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, as well as the Administrator's response to such significant comments and issues, will be prepared and will be made available for inspection in the docket established pursuant to § 194.67.

§ 194.64 Documentation of continued compliance.

(a) Upon receipt of documentation of continued compliance with the disposal regulations pursuant to section 8(f) of the WIPP LWA and § 194.11, the Administrator will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcing that such documentation has been received, soliciting comment on such documentation, and announcing the Administrator's intent to determine whether or not the WIPP facility continues to be in compliance with the disposal regulations.

(b) Copies of documentation of continued compliance received by the Administrator will be made available for inspection in the docket established pursuant to § 194.67.

(c) The notice will provide a public comment period of at least 30 days after publication pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section.

(d) Any comments received on such notice will be made available for public inspection in the docket established pursuant to § 194.67.

(e) Upon completion of review of the documentation of continued compliance with the disposal regulations, the Administrator will publish a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER announcing the Administrator's decision whether or not to re-certify the WIPP facility.