Perspective on Passive Institutional Controls at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

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Main Issues

- DOE needed to have a design for passive institutional controls (marker system, records, etc) as part of the certification (license) application
- EPA wanted a reasonable expectation that any marker system to deter inadvertent intrusion would:
  ◦ Endure
  ◦ Be understood into the future
- EPA allowed for the possibility of credit for reducing drilling intrusions
Did not allow DOE to take credit for a reduction in drilling rate

Had concerns that the granite blocks could be developed as planned

Issues identified with use of international archives

Identified a need to be flexible to allow for new technological developments

EPA Determination
• DOE to develop final plan for passive institutional controls no later than the final recertification application
• DOE needs to have an implementation schedule
• Need to document that the granite pieces can be constructed as planned
• Document that archives and record centers will accept WIPP information

Condition for PICs
• We have allowed DOE time to address new technological and sociological findings
  ◦ Feasibility of marker construction
  ◦ Long-term records
• We have urged DOE to participate in international institutional control efforts