

1.1 EMPLOYMENT AND POPULATION continued

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The following table shows the population for Eddy and Lea Counties, the municipality of Carlsbad, and the Carlsbad School District. Population projections are presented for the area with and without the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. The population figures end in 1985, since it is assumed that the operational phase will be static in terms of impact by that time.

The most significant population impact will be felt by the year 1981 when approximately 2,700 individuals will have been added to Carlsbad's population due to the construction of the plant. The impact on the school district is expected to be 2,900 individuals, while throughout Eddy County an additional 3,100 people are estimated.* In Lea County by 1980 an additional 200 people will be added to the population. After that time, it is assumed that impact of the plant will be essentially static until 1983.

As the operation phase begins and construction is completed, population and employment characteristics will change significantly. For example, the number of people required during the construction phase is substantially greater than the work force in the operation phase. During the construction phase total employment is expected to be approximately 741 people during the most active years; by 1984 employment directly connected with the operation will total only 427 individuals. Most of these, slightly over 300, will be directly connected with the general operation of the plant, while between 75 and 80 persons will be working on continual mining operations, and approximately 40 individuals will be employed in maintenance and additional construction work. In addition to these jobs directly created by all operation activity, there will be between 950 and 1,000 jobs indirectly created by the operation phase.

* Figures are for concentric geographic areas, and are not additive.