



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

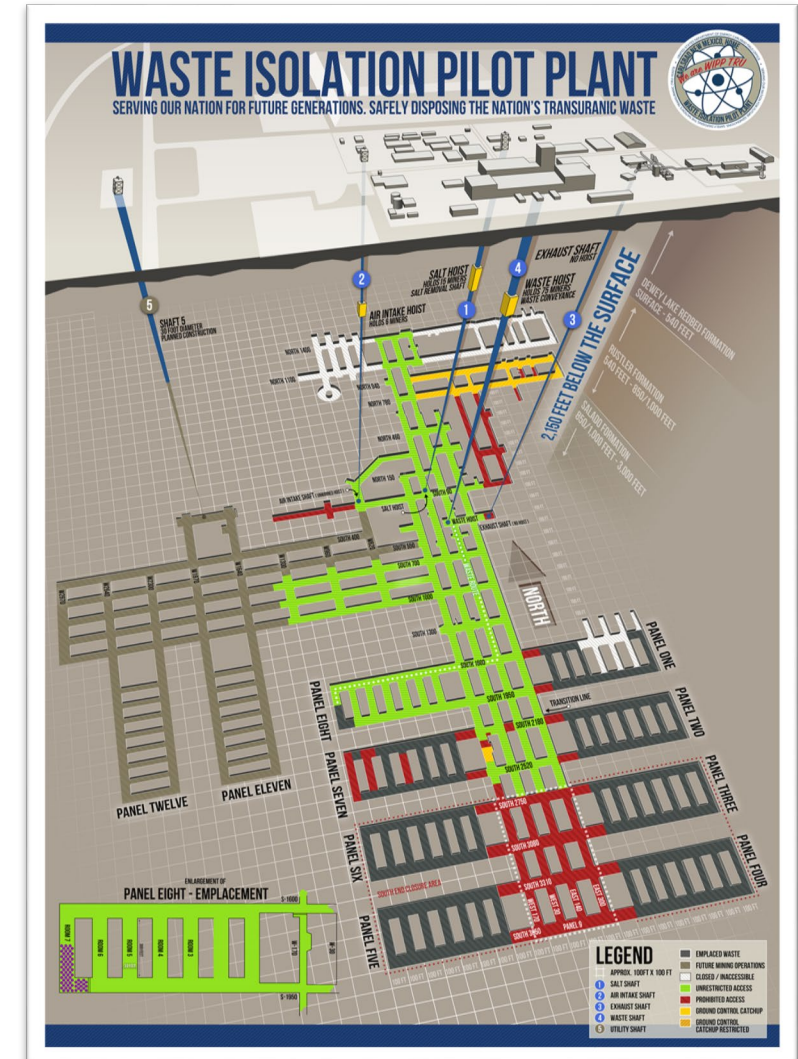
OFFICE OF
**ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT**



WIPP Community Forum

March 23, 2023

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant mission is to provide safe characterization, transportation, and disposal of defense transuranic (TRU) waste in a manner that is protective of the workforce, public and environment.



- Transuranic or TRU waste is a byproduct of the nation's nuclear defense program and consists of materials contaminated with radioactive elements, mostly plutonium.
- These man-made elements have atomic numbers greater than uranium on the periodic table of elements.

PERIODIC TABLE

93 (237) Np Neptunium	94 (244) Pu Plutonium	95 (243) Am Americium	96 (247) Cm Curium	97 (247) Bk Berkelium	98 (251) Cf Californium	99 (252) Es Einsteinium	100 (257) Fm Fermium	101 (258) Md Mendelevium	102 (259) No Nobelium	103 (266) Lr Lawrencium
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**U.S. Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office**

- Leads the Transuranic Waste Program
- Science Program



**Salado Isolation Mining
Contractors LLC**

- Manages and operates the WIPP facility
- Manages transportation logistics and packages
- Manages waste retrieval, characterization and certification
- Mobile loading



**Los Alamos
National Laboratory**

- Scientific advisor for waste characterization



**Aleut Aerospace
Engineering, LLC—
TRANSCOM**

- Satellite Tracking



**Sandia National
Laboratories**

- Scientific advisor for repository recertification



**CBFO Technical
Assistance Contractor**

- Technical and Quality Assurance support for the Carlsbad Field Office



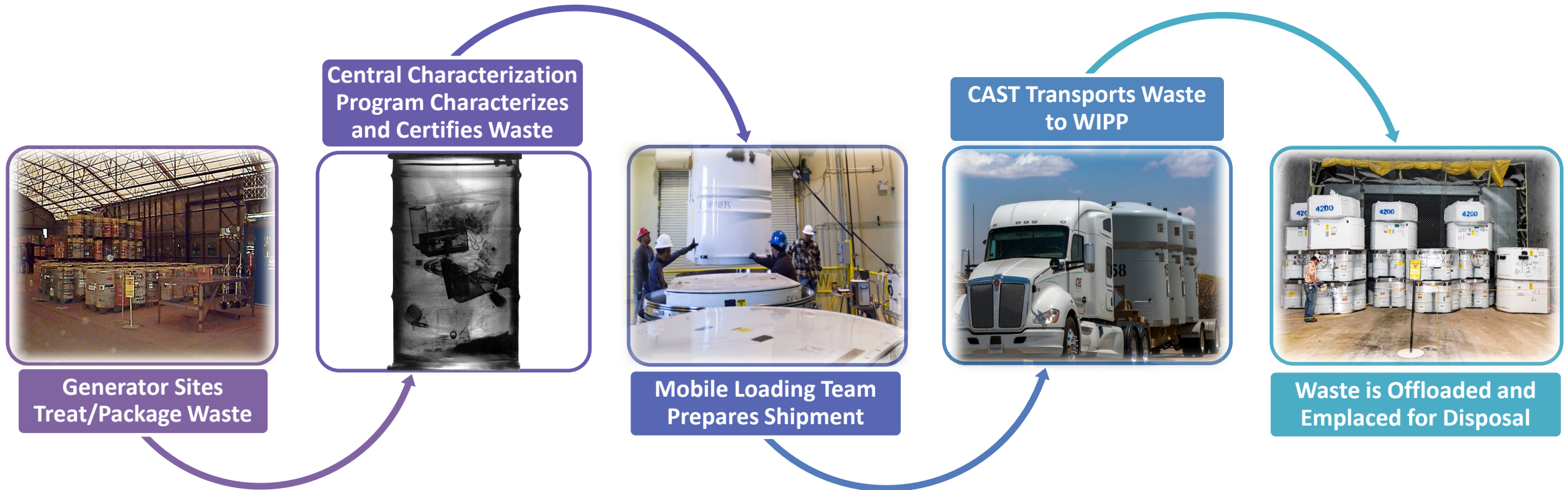
Specialty Transportation, Inc.

**CAST Specialty
Transportation**

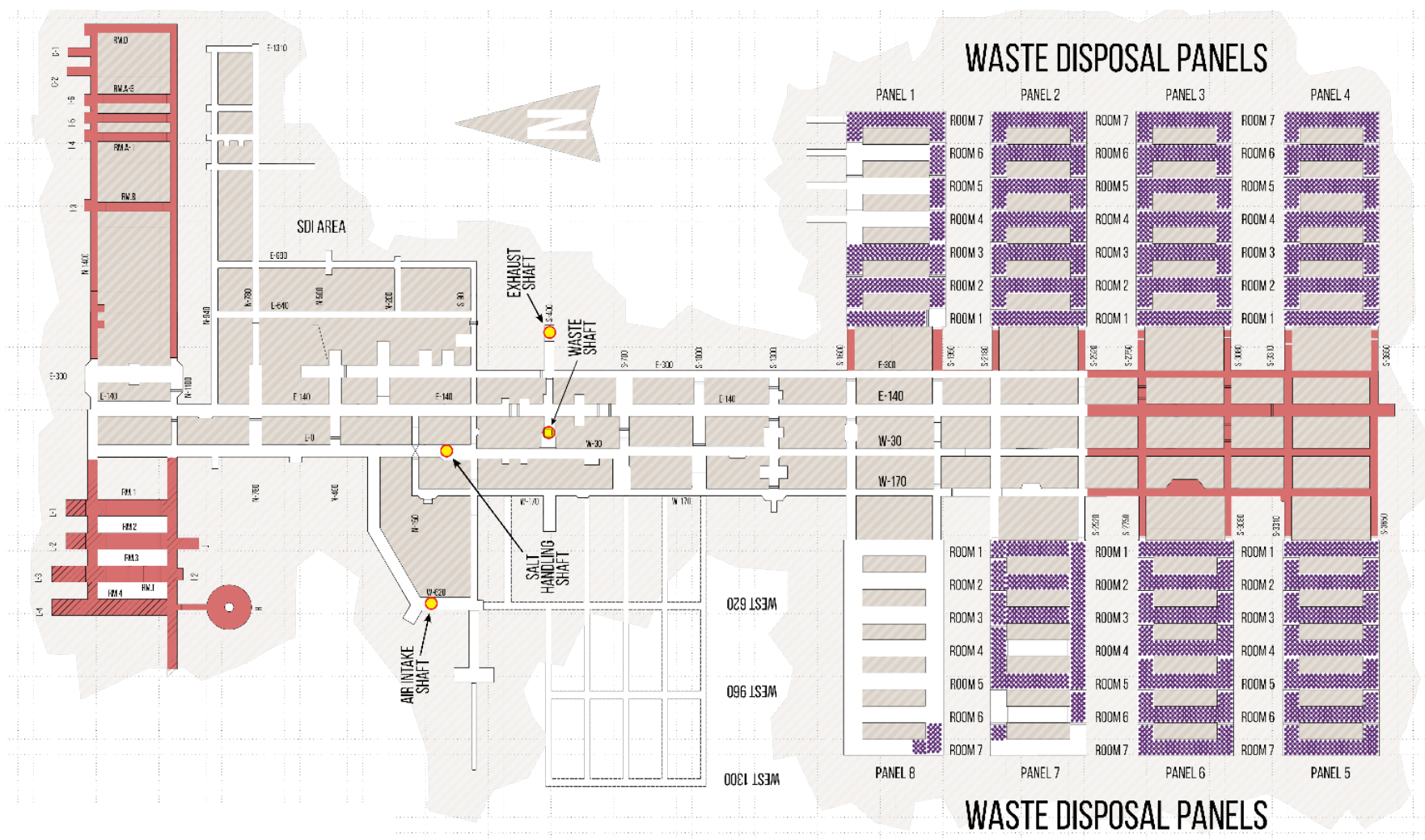
- Transportation carrier

- Salado Isolation Mining Contractors LLC (SIMCO)
 - February 4, 2023
- About 1,000 existing employees retained
- Over 5,500 procedures, policies and documents reviewed
- More than 85 facility walk downs conducted
- Continue to build WIPP's important national mission





- Currently emplacing in Panel 8
- Mining west drifts to replacement Panels 11 & 12



Safety Significant Confinement Ventilation System (SSCVS)

- Increase the amount of airflow to the underground

Progress

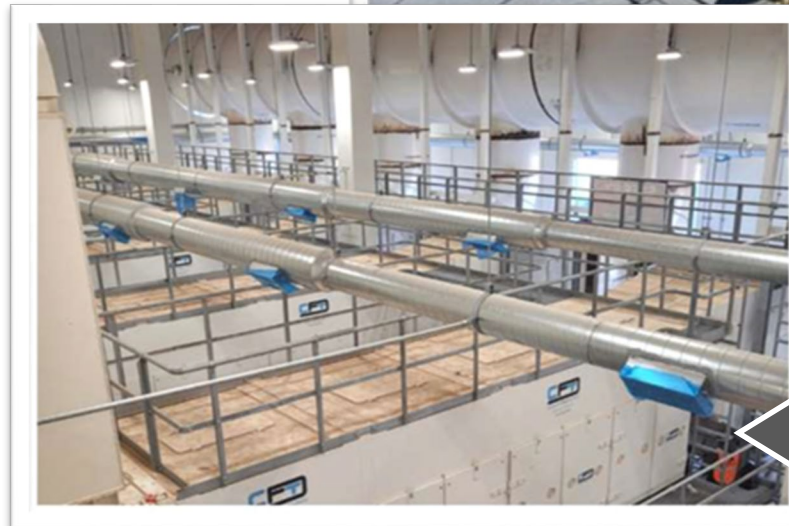
- Overall project about 78% complete
 - New Filter Building (NFB) about 75% complete
 - Salt Reduction Building (SRB) is about 88% complete

100% Complete

- Fabrication Assembly Building
- Office Trailer Complex
- Two Diesel Generators

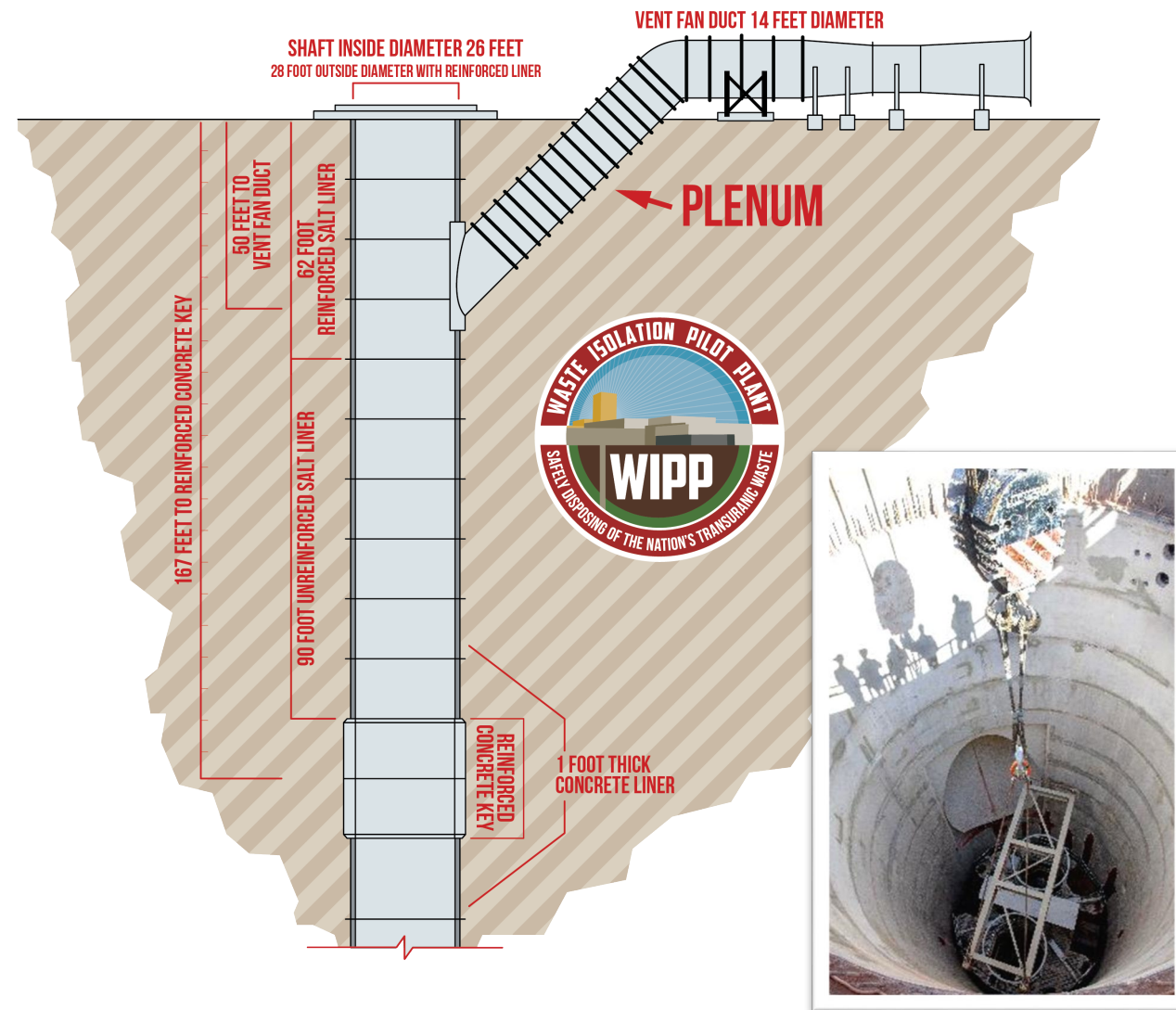


Final Pre-Cast Roof
Panel installed at the
NFB January 27, 2023

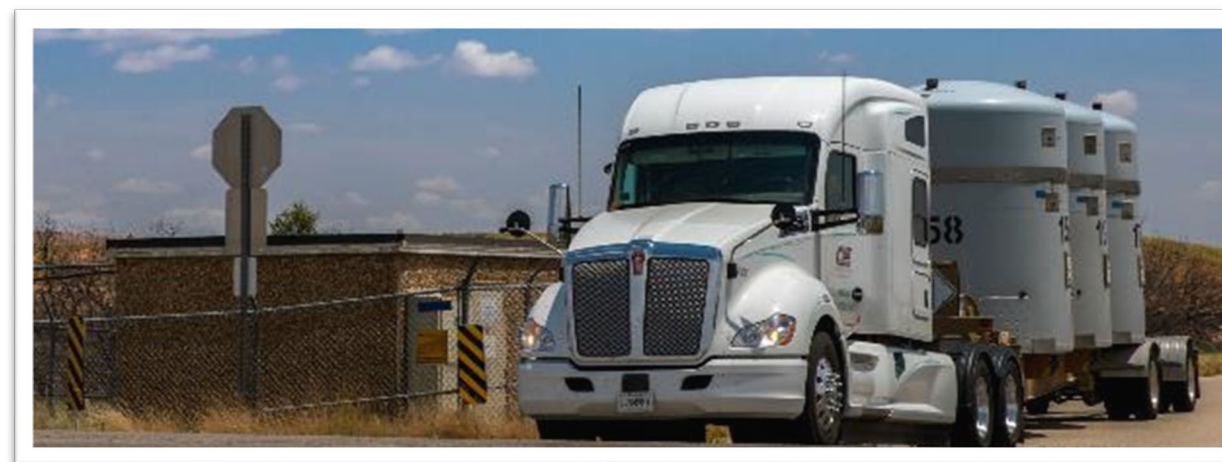
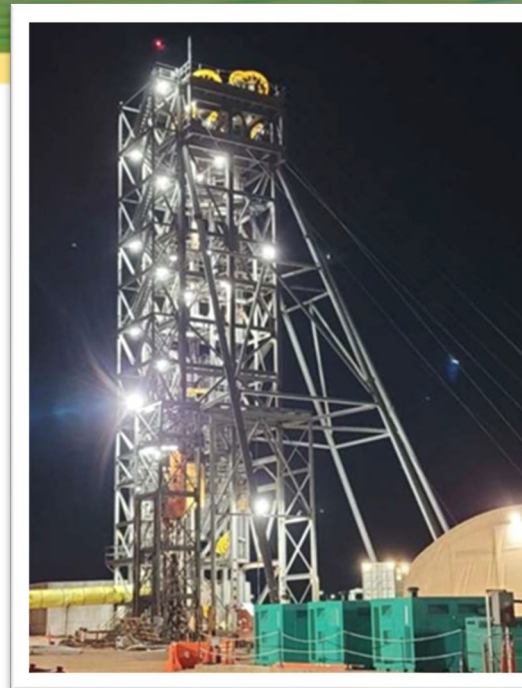


Six Salt Reduction Units, duct,
electrical and HVAC installed in the
SRB

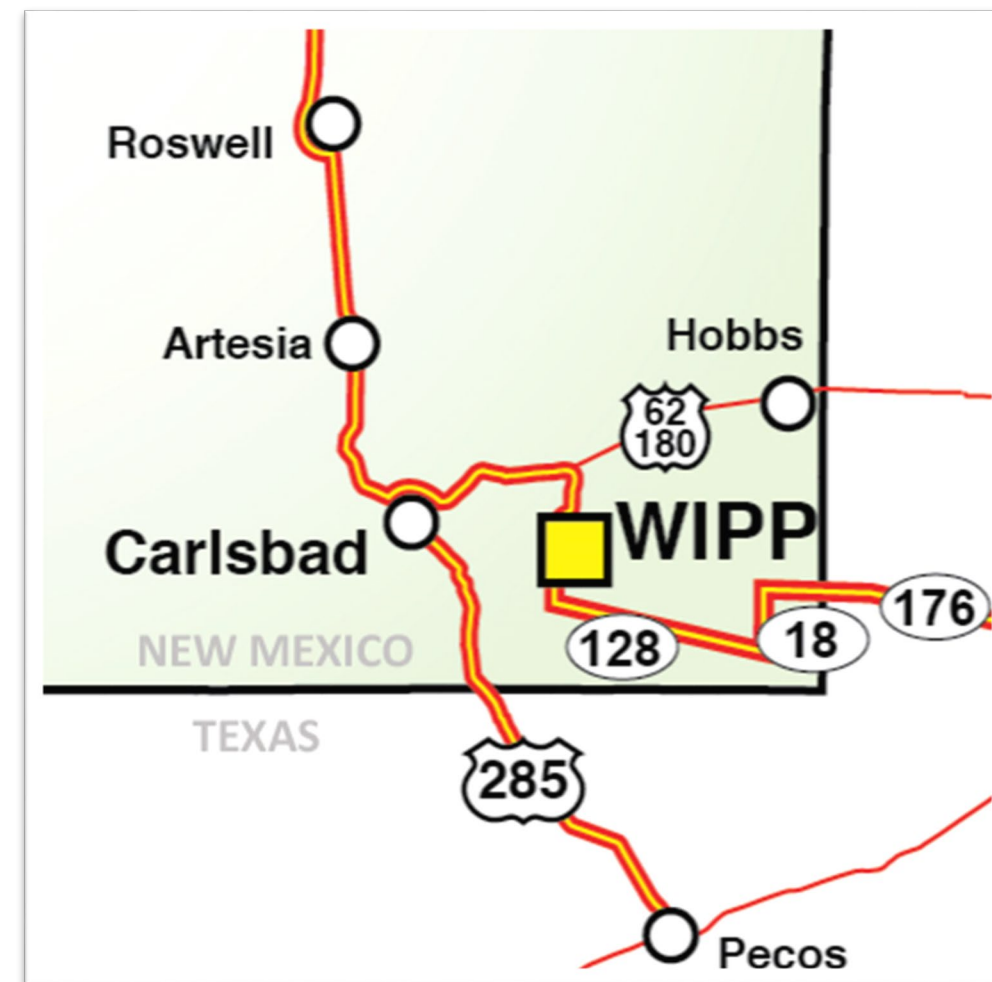
- To provide higher-capacity air intake for the underground in conjunction with the SSCVS system
 - Shaft sinking to 2,275ft
 - 30-foot diameter shaft
 - (26-feet with liner in place)
- Current depth over 1,200ft (halfway)



- Begin commissioning of Safety Significant Confinement Ventilation System
- Complete sinking Utility Shaft to repository level
- Complete 400 TRU waste shipments, while ensuring no backlog at Los Alamos
- Permit modification request – comment period extended April 19, 2023

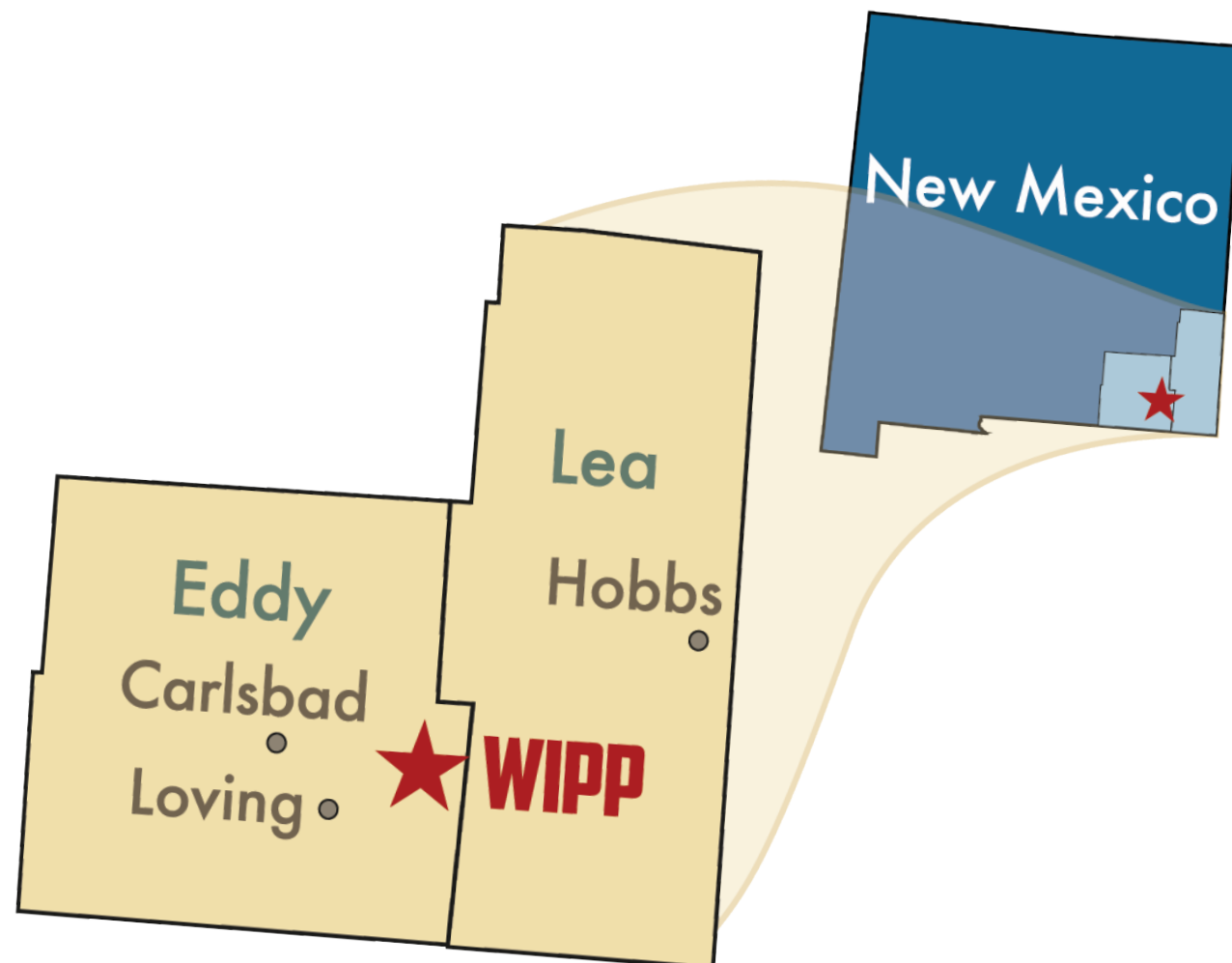


- Total shipments received: **13,390**
- Total loaded miles traveled: **15,989,562**
- Total contact-handled waste containers emplaced: **269,689**
- Total remote-handled waste canisters emplaced: **775**
 - Shielded containers emplaced: **56**
- DOE Cleanup sites closed: **22**



Hobbs/Lea County

- Fiscal Year 2022
 - 15 contracts (over \$440,000)
- Employees
 - 70 in Lea County



- SIMCO is committed to helping create a better community in which our employees work, live and play
- SIMCO has pledged \$500,000 in 2023 to support the needs of our host communities
- *SIMCO Serves* volunteer program
- Education outreach through scholarships, teacher mini grants, education and STEM initiatives
- Community partnerships and grants to local non-profits



- Carlsbad Field Office
 - <https://www.usajobs.gov>
- SIMCO
 - <https://wippnm.hrmdirect.com>
- Internship Opportunities
 - <https://orise.orau.gov/careers/index.html>
 - <https://wippnm.hrmdirect.com>



Questions?

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