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 @WIPPNews

WIPP UPDATE: October 21, 2014

First liquid fueled vehicle returned to service in WIPP underground

The first piece of diesel-powered equipment has been returned to service in the WIPP underground facility. Last week, workers inspected the four-ton forklift and performed preventative maintenance so that it could be returned to service. The forklift will support various activities over the next several weeks, including resumption of bolting activities, final waste hoist inspections, and moving equipment associated with project REACH. Preventative maintenance activities and inspections are also being performed on the roof bolting machine and the mobile vehicle that supplies lubricants to equipment throughout the underground facility.

Currently, all exhaust air leaving the WIPP underground facility continues to be sent through High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filters. The HEPA filters require reduced airflow, which means the number of diesel vehicles that can operate at one time in the underground facility has also decreased. Personnel will continue monitoring airflow conditions to make sure diesel exhaust is being removed from the immediate area to ensure all health and safety requirements are being met.

Community meeting scheduled

November 6 – The City of Carlsbad and DOE will co-host its Town Hall meeting featuring updates on WIPP recovery activities. The meeting is scheduled for Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Location: Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 101 N. Halagueno Street. Live streaming of the meeting can be seen at <http://new.livestream.com/rrv/>.