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@WIPPNews

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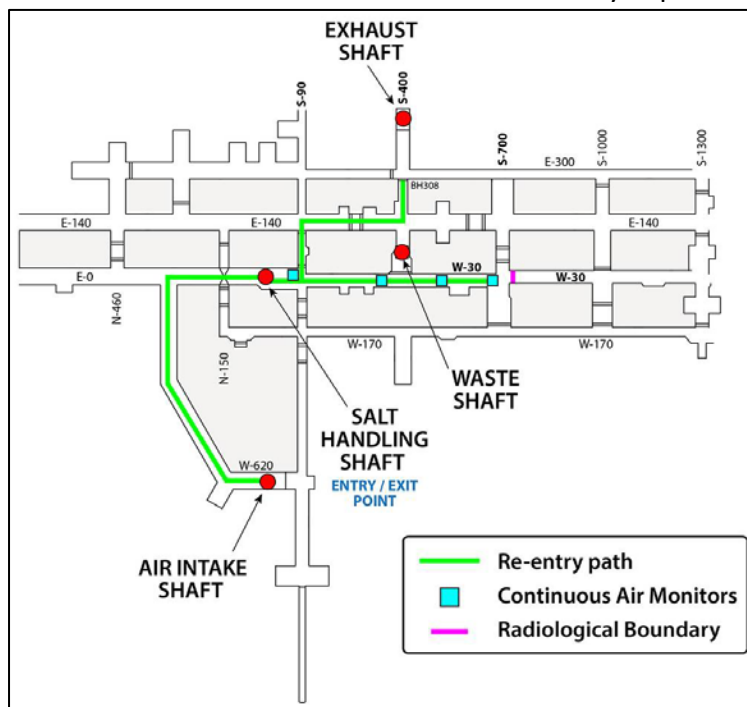
Re-entry Paves Way for Future Work Underground

Yesterday, during the first worker re-entry into the WIPP underground, monitoring and surveys revealed no contamination in the immediate area. These results were anticipated since workers only entered a portion of the non-disposal area. This was an important step toward additional entries into the mine to allow for further exploration.

Once underground, workers installed four portable Continuous Air Monitors (CAM) that provide early detection and monitoring of the mine's airborne conditions for future entries. We tentatively expect another entry within the next week after final evaluations of the best practices from the first visit are complete. The next entry will establish a work area farther south in the mine, install another CAM, and test communication equipment. The results from this entry will set the stage for the third phase of the manned re-entry when the team will work to identify the source of the radiological release.

*Graphic note: This is not a complete blueprint of the WIPP underground. The waste disposition areas are not represented. It focuses on where activity occurred yesterday. For greater detail, visit:

<http://wipp.energy.gov/WIPPRecovery/Images/WIPP%20Layout.pdf>



Town Hall Scheduled Today

Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway and DOE will co-host a Town Hall meeting today featuring updates on WIPP recovery activities. The meetings will be held every Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Location: Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 101 N. Halagueno Street. Live streaming of the weekly meetings can be seen at <http://new.livestream.com/rvy/>.