WIPP UPDATE: April 8, 2014

Los Alamos shipments to Waste Control Specialists

To date, Waste Control Specialists (WCS), a facility in Andrews, Texas, has received and processed seven shipments of defense-generated transuranic waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory. Members of WIPP’s Central Characterization Project mobile loading unit and crew went to WCS to safely unload the disposal containers.

Plans include completing up to 10 shipments per week to WCS. All shipments are using WIPP’s transportation protocols and procedures, and all waste meets WCS permit requirements and WIPP waste acceptance criteria. This transuranic waste will be returned to WIPP for disposal after the site reopens.

NWP employee activities

Workers on site recently performed maintenance cleaning and inspection on the brakes for the Air Intake Hoist, one of the elevator systems to the underground mine, to support re-entry activities.

As previously noted, Nuclear Waste Partnership (NWSP) relocated a large number of WIPP site employees to Carlsbad following the February 14 radiological event. NWP also accelerated training schedules for workers whose job-specific qualifications or credentials require regular training so that it could be completed while the employees are stationed in Carlsbad. NWP is also offering offsite employees several refresher training courses that are typically scheduled throughout the year so that employees can resume work activities at WIPP without interruption once the site is operational.

Community Meetings Scheduled

April 10 - Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway and DOE will co-host a meeting 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. Halagueneo Street. Live streaming of the weekly meetings can be seen at http://new.livestream.com/rry/.

April 14 – WIPP update to the Jal City Council at 5:30 p.m. Location: 309 S. Main St.