WIPP UPDATE: April 15, 2014

Truck fire Corrective Action Plan submitted to Carlsbad Field Office

Nuclear Waste Partnership (NWP), the management and operating contractor for WIPP, submitted its corrective action plan to the Department of Energy’s Carlsbad Field Office in response to the underground truck fire Accident Investigation Board report. On February 5, an underground mine fire involving a salt haul truck occurred in WIPP’s underground mine. The DOE-appointed Accident Investigation Board began its investigation on February 10 and submitted a final report to DOE on March 11.

The Accident Investigation Board report included several recommendations that informed the corrective actions, which were designed by a combination of external corporate subject matter experts and NWP staff to prevent the recurrence of such an event. For more information on the Accident Investigation Board report, see the accident description area of the WIPP Recovery Page www.wipp.energy.gov.

WIPP senior management participate in emergency operations training scenario

On April 14, senior managers from NWP and the Carlsbad Field Office, including Manager Joe Franco and Deputy Manager Dana Bryson, participated in a WIPP Emergency Operations Center training drill. The scenario allowed crisis management participants to practice revised procedures and demonstrate their understanding and capabilities during an emergency. The training event also provided an opportunity to familiarize DOE’s management in their role in the Emergency Operation Center during an event. During the scenario, senior managers discussed the process, asked questions, and provided feedback to team members.

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Community Meetings Scheduled

April 17 – Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway and DOE will co-host a weekly town hall meeting featuring updates on WIPP recovery activities. The meetings are 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/rrv/.