

# Compliance Monitoring Implementation Plan for 40 CFR §191.14(b), Assurance Requirement

U. S. Department of Energy

Revision 8

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**ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

CARD	Certification Application Review Document
CBFO	Carlsbad Field Office
CCA	Compliance Certification Application
CRA	Compliance Recertification Application
CFR	<i>Code of Federal Regulations</i>
CMP	Compliance Monitoring Program
DBDSP	Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance Program
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DRZ	disturbed rock zone
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
FEP	Features, Events and Processes
GMP	Geotechnical Monitoring Program
GWMP	Groundwater Monitoring Program
LWA	Land Withdrawal Act
M&OC	Management and Operating Contractor
PA	performance assessment
SMP	Subsidence Monitoring Program
TRU	transuranic
WDS	Waste Data System
WIPP	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
WQSP	Water Quality Sampling Program

**CHANGE HISTORY SUMMARY**

<b>REVISION NUMBER</b>	<b>DATE ISSUED</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES</b>
7	04/09/12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Editorial changes to enhance readability</li><li>• Add new information from CRA-2009</li><li>• Incorporate changes from a HWFP Class 2 Groundwater change</li><li>• Global deletion of the term "WIPP Waste Information System (WWIS)"</li><li>• Correct CBFO titles</li></ul>
8	10/07/14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Every section of this plan has been extensively rewritten to align it with Appendix MON of the 2014 Compliance Recertification Application. The majority of the changes involve rearranging and reformatting the document. Table 3.1 was revised to make it easier to read and add information. Changes to reporting requirements in the Groundwater Monitoring Program are also identified in this plan.</li></ul>

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Compliance Monitoring Implementation Plan outlines monitoring activities conducted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) to demonstrate compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) disposal regulations at Title 40 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 191, "Environmental Protection Standards for Management and Disposal of Spent Nuclear Fuel, High-Level and Transuranic Radioactive Wastes," Subparts B and C (U.S. EPA 1993); and the EPA criteria for certifying compliance at 40 CFR Part 194, "Criteria for the Certification and Recertification of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant's Compliance with the Disposal Regulations," Certification Decision, Final Rule (U.S. EPA 1998a). This plan does not address monitoring activities intended to demonstrate compliance with 40 CFR Part 191 Subpart A.

WIPP is a mined repository designed for the permanent disposal of defense-related transuranic (TRU) waste. It is located in the Chihuahuan Desert, 26 miles east of Carlsbad, New Mexico. The suitability of the WIPP site for TRU waste disposal is supported by more than three decades of environmental studies. Monitoring the WIPP facility is one of the DOE's top priorities. Monitoring activities are implemented in compliance with various federal and State of New Mexico regulatory and operational safety requirements. These activities are conducted to ensure environmental protection, public and worker health and safety, and proper characterization of the disposal system. Monitoring activities will continue at WIPP through the operational period and until well after closure of the facility.

The monitoring activities described in this plan are performed as assurance measures to detect substantial and detrimental deviations from expected disposal system performance. This program consists of a preclosure and postclosure monitoring program using monitoring techniques that do not jeopardize the isolation of the waste.

The preclosure monitoring program will be conducted until the shafts are sealed. After the shafts are sealed, postclosure monitoring will be initiated in accordance with the specifications described in section 5.2 and continue until the DOE and EPA agree there is no benefit to further monitoring. The long-term performance expectations for the disposal system are derived from conceptual models, scenarios, parameters and assumptions developed for the WIPP performance assessment (PA). Monitoring is used to both determine if deviations from these expectations occur and to validate the basis of PA.

The program outlined in this Compliance Monitoring Implementation Plan is the result of the certification process, which began with preparation of a compliance certification application (CCA) demonstrating compliance with the disposal standards and culminated with an EPA Certification Decision authorizing the disposal of TRU waste at WIPP. For the purpose of this document, Compliance Certification is defined as the EPA determination of compliance as documented in the *Federal Register*. The determination includes the terms and conditions of the certification, and is based upon the information provided within the CCA and Compliance Recertification Applications (CRAs), as well as information submitted by request of the EPA. The Compliance Recertification is mandated by the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Land Withdrawal Act

(LWA) (Public Law 102-579; 104-201) which requires the DOE to provide the EPA with documentation of continued compliance once every five years.

This plan implements a monitoring program focused on demonstrating compliance with 40 CFR §191.14(b) which reads as follows:

*Disposal systems shall be monitored after disposal to detect substantial and detrimental deviations from expected performance. This monitoring shall be done with techniques that do not jeopardize the isolation of the wastes and shall be conducted until there are no significant concerns to be addressed by further monitoring.*

The EPA provides criteria for demonstrating compliance with this assurance requirement at 40 CFR §194.42. The criteria identify disposal system features that may have an effect on waste containment in the disposal system and require the DOE to conduct an analysis to identify parameters considered significant to waste containment in the disposal system. These criteria also require the DOE to conduct preclosure and postclosure monitoring of the significant parameters. The parameters being monitored were determined by a DOE parameter analysis documented in the CCA, Chapter 7.0, and Appendix MON, Attachment MONPAR (U.S. DOE 1996). The EPA documented its approval of the DOE monitoring approach in the compliance certification decision (U.S. EPA 1998a) and Compliance Application Review Document (CARD) 42 (U.S. EPA 1998b).

In the CRA-2004 (U.S. DOE 2004), the DOE reassessed the analysis in the CCA, Appendix MON, Attachment MONPAR, and determined the original conclusions and monitoring parameters remain valid and unchanged (Kirkes and Wagner 2003). For the CRA-2009, the DOE assessed the original MONPAR analysis and determined the original conclusions remain valid for inclusion in the CRA-2009 (Wagner, 2008). An additional reassessment in 2013 determined that the conclusions of the original MONPAR assessment remain valid; therefore, no changes are needed to the program (Wagner 2013). Section 2.0 of this plan discusses the parameters selected for monitoring.

The objectives of this plan are to:

- Identify monitoring of disposal system parameters required to comply with 40 CFR Part 191, Subparts B and C, Part 194.42, and the terms and conditions of the EPA Certification/Recertification Decision.
- Implement a Compliance Monitoring Program (CMP) that identifies the disposal system parameters being monitored, the organizations responsible for monitoring the parameters, and the frequency for conducting the monitoring.
- Describe how monitoring data are assessed against repository performance expectations.
- Define the quality assurance process used to ensure the validity of the monitoring data.

- Define the process for reporting compliance monitoring results.
- Provide documentation of continued compliance for the DOE recertification program as described in DOE/CBFO 99-2296, *Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Certification Management Plan* (U.S. DOE 2012).

The remainder of this document is organized in the following manner:

- Section 2.0 describes the CMP identifying disposal system parameters and the responsibilities of WIPP organizations in monitoring the parameters.
- Section 3.0 describes the preclosure monitoring program.
- Section 4.0 describes the planned postclosure monitoring program.
- Section 5.0 describes the quality assurance requirements applicable to the CMP.
- Section 6.0 describes the reporting of monitoring data.

## **2.0 COMPLIANCE MONITORING PROGRAM**

The purpose of the CMP is to demonstrate compliance with the requirement at 40 CFR §191.14(b) in accordance with the criteria at 40 CFR §194.42 to monitor disposal system parameters most useful in gauging the performance of the repository. The EPA approved the selection of these monitoring parameters in its Certification Decision U.S. (EPA 1998a) and as part of the most recent EPA Recertification Decision (U.S. EPA 2010). The appropriateness of the monitoring parameters will continue to be evaluated, at a minimum, once every five years as a part of each recertification effort. The ten monitored parameters are:

- Creep closure and stresses
- Extent of brittle deformation
- Initiation of brittle deformation
- Displacement of deformation features
- Waste activity
- Culebra groundwater composition
- Change in Culebra groundwater flow
- Drilling rate in the Delaware Basin
- Probability of encountering a Castile brine reservoir
- Subsidence in the vicinity of the repository

All of these parameters are being monitored during the preclosure period.

The ten monitoring parameters can be divided into those relating to performance assessment parameters and those relating to conceptual models, features, events, or processes (FEPs), and confirmation of related modeling assumptions. The monitoring parameters related to performance assessment parameters are:



- Waste activity
- Culebra groundwater composition
- Change in Culebra groundwater flow
- Drilling rate in the Delaware Basin
- Probability of encountering a Castile brine reservoir

The monitoring parameters related to either the EPA's list of potential monitoring parameters in 40 CFR 194.42 or screening decisions for repository FEPs are;

- Creep closure and stresses
- Extent of brittle deformation
- Initiation of brittle deformation
- Displacement of deformation features
- Subsidence in the vicinity of the repository

The relationship of each of the ten parameters to performance assessment and to the FEPs is described in Table 2.1.

Data are collected to monitor the ten parameters of the CMP by the following WIPP programs:

- Geotechnical Engineering
- Groundwater Monitoring and Hydrology
- Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance
- Subsidence Monitoring
- Waste Information Tracking on the Waste Data System (WDS)

Data from the monitoring programs are submitted periodically to the WIPP scientific advisor. The scientific advisor refers to this collection of data from the five monitoring programs as Compliance Monitoring Parameters.

The scientific advisor, upon receiving the Compliance Monitoring Parameters, reviews, analyzes, and evaluates them using processes and procedures governed by their quality assurance and document control procedures and determines whether the results are within performance assessment expectations. The scientific advisor then documents the evaluation in a Compliance Monitoring Parameter Assessment report issued to the DOE.

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<b>Table 2.1 - Compliance Monitoring Program Parameters Relationship to Performance Assessment and Features, Events, and Processes</b>				
<b>Monitoring Parameter</b>	<b>Monitoring Program</b>	<b>Frequency of Data Collection and Reporting</b>	<b>Related PA Parameter</b>	<b>Related FEPs</b>
Creep Closure and Stresses	Geotechnical Monitoring Program (GMP)	Various data calls from weekly to monthly based on repository conditions, instrumentation, and data collection system. Data are reported annually.	Not directly related to a PA parameter. May provide a short-term (operational) observation of the geomechanical response of repository excavation. Can provide confidence in the creep closure model.	Salt creep, excavation-induced stress changes, changes in stress field, pressurization.
Extent of Brittle Deformation	GMP	Various data calls from weekly to monthly based on repository conditions, instrumentation, and data collection system. Data are reported annually.	Not directly related to a PA parameter. Can provide confidence in the long-term behavior of the disturbed rock zone (DRZ), as modeled. Intrinsic shaft DRZ permeability and effective shaft seal permeability is calculated from this parameter.	DRZ, roof falls, consolidation of seals.
Initiation of Brittle Deformation	GMP	Various data calls from weekly to monthly based on repository conditions, instrumentation, and data collection system. Data are reported annually.	Not directly related to a PA parameter. Can provide confidence in the anhydrite fracture model implemented in the BRAGFLO code. May provide related repository observation data on initiation or displacement of major brittle deformation features in the roof or surrounding rock.	Disruption due to gas effects.
Displacement of Deformation Features	GMP	Various data calls from weekly to monthly based on repository conditions, instrumentation, and data collection system. Data are reported annually.	Not directly related to a PA parameter. Provides related repository operational data on initiation or displacement of major brittle deformation features in the roof or surrounding rock.	Stability of open panel.
Culebra Groundwater Composition	Groundwater Monitoring Program (GWMP)	Data are collected annually and reported annually.	Average Culebra brines composition and matrix distribution coefficient for uranium (IV, VI), plutonium (III, IV), thorium (IV), americium (III). Matrix distribution coefficient is not a sensitive PA parameter.	Groundwater geochemistry, actinide sorption.

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<b>Monitoring Parameter</b>	<b>Monitoring Program</b>	<b>Frequency of Data Collection and Reporting</b>	<b>Related PA Parameter</b>	<b>Related FEPs</b>
Change in Culebra Groundwater Flow	GWMP	Data are collected monthly and reported annually.	Culebra transmissivity, fracture and matrix porosity, fracture spacing, dispersivity, and climate index. Changes in Culebra groundwater flow are important to performance and incorporated into the PA.	Groundwater flow and recharge.
Drilling Rate	Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance Program (DBDSP)	As well records are received (weekly and monthly basis). Data are reported annually.	Required PA parameter per 40 CFR § 194.33. The Drilling Rate is important to performance and incorporated into the PA.	Drilling Fluid Flow
Probability of Encountering a Castile Brine Reservoir	DBDSP	As drilling records are received. Data are reported annually.	Probability of Encountering a Castile Brine Reservoir	Drilling Fluid Flow
Subsidence	Subsidence Monitoring Program (SMP)	Data are reported annually or as determined necessary by the DOE.	Not directly related to a PA parameter. Can provide spatial information on surface subsidence (if any) over the influence area of the underground openings during operations.	Changes to groundwater flow due to mining effects; subsidence baseline.
Waste Activity	Waste Inventory Monitoring Based on WDS	Continually updated as waste is approved for shipment to the WIPP and emplaced. Data are reported annually.	Waste Activity	Waste Inventory Monitoring Based on WDS

**3.0 PRECLOSURE COMPLIANCE MONITORING**

This section describes the preclosure CMP, the resulting data the ten parameters and associated monitoring program for each, and the frequency of data collection and reporting.

**3.1 Geotechnical Engineering Program Plan**

The WIPP Geotechnical Engineering Program Plan (WP 07-1) defines the field programs and investigations carried out by the Management and Operating Contractor’s (M&OC) Geotechnical and Mine Engineering section. The Geotechnical Engineering Program provides geologic information related to geotechnical characteristics and assesses the stability and performance of the underground facility. The geotechnical monitoring activities defined in the WIPP Geotechnical Engineering Program Plan that collects data related to the parameters described in Table 2.1 are divided into the Geomechanical Monitoring Program and the Geosciences Program.

### **3.1.1 Geomechanical Monitoring Program**

The data collected as part of the Geomechanical Monitoring Program are used to validate the WIPP design, track short-term and long-term geotechnical performance behavior of underground openings, and support routine safety and stability evaluations of the excavations. From an operational point of view, geomechanical data are used to identify areas of potential instability to allow corrective action to be taken in a timely manner. For underground opening behavior, in situ data were used to model long-term disposal system performance. Geomechanical monitoring instrumentation generates data related to the following four parameters:

- Creep closure and stresses
- Extent of deformation
- Initiation of brittle deformation
- Displacement of deformation features

#### **3.1.1.1 Scope**

The activities associated with the Geomechanical Monitoring Program are designed to:

- Maintain and augment the geotechnical instrumentation system in the WIPP underground and upgrade the automatic data acquisition system as necessary.
- Monitor geotechnical instrumentation on a regular basis and maintain a current database of instrument readings.
- Evaluate the geotechnical instrumentation data and prepare regular reports that document the data and analyses describing the stability and performance of underground openings.
- Recommend corrective or preventive measures to ensure excavation stability and safe operation of the facility.

#### **3.1.1.2 Schedule**

The process by which geomechanical monitoring of an area is initiated may vary as part of operational excavation monitoring or research testing. Installation and monitoring of the instruments is governed by approved WIPP procedures. Instrumentation is monitored remotely using data loggers, or is read manually. Routine tasks are carried out according to approved WIPP procedures. Activities that are in development, or that are not expected to be performed routinely, are performed in accordance with the WIPP work control process and individual activity plans that supplement the Geotechnical Engineering Program Plan.

Remotely polled instruments are connected to a surface computer through a system of cables, termination boxes, and data loggers. Manually read instruments are monitored using electronic read-out boxes and mechanical measuring devices. Instrumentation is located in the shafts and drifts, including tape extensometer stations, convergence meters, borehole extensometers, piezometers, embedment strain gauges, stress gauges, inclinometers, load cells, and crack meters. Monitoring data are collected on a quarterly basis, at a minimum, but more frequent readings may be collected as determined by the cognizant engineer or manager.

### **3.1.1.3 Program Output**

Data analysis is performed and published annually in the WIPP Geotechnical Analysis Report. An assessment of convergence measurements and geotechnical observations is made after each round of data collection. The results of each assessment are distributed to affected underground repository operations, engineering, and safety managers.

### **3.1.2 Geosciences Monitoring Program**

Geosciences document existing geologic conditions and characteristics, and changes resulting from the WIPP excavations. These activities generate data related to the following four parameters:

- Creep closure and stresses
- Extent of brittle deformation
- Initiation of brittle deformation
- Displacement of deformation features

#### **3.1.2.1 Scope**

The Geosciences Program implements field activities such as geologic mapping of the facility and near-surface stratigraphic horizons, core logging, and geophysical surveys. These activities generate data used in monitoring the repository and in rock mechanics studies. Information from the Geosciences Program is used to document the existing geologic conditions and characteristics and to monitor for changes resulting from excavations. Activities associated with this program include geologic and fracture mapping, maintenance of the Core Library for the storage of geologic samples, seismic monitoring and evaluation, and other activities performed as needed. These activities characterize, demonstrate the continuity of, and document the geology at the site.

#### **3.1.2.2 Schedule**

The following activities are performed on the indicated schedule.

- **Seismic Monitoring.** Regional seismic monitoring and evaluation are conducted by the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The network is operated continuously and monitoring results are reported quarterly.
- **Geologic Mapping.** Geologic mapping is conducted in newly excavated areas and in other areas when deemed necessary by the cognizant engineer or Geotechnical and Mine Engineering Manager.
- **At a minimum, a complete analysis of geotechnical data is performed annually.** The geotechnical activities will continue throughout the operational period.

### 3.1.2.3 Program Output

Data analysis is performed on an annual basis and published in the WIPP Geotechnical Analysis Report.

## 3.2 Groundwater Monitoring Program

Groundwater monitoring at WIPP is carried out in accordance with the WIPP Groundwater Monitoring Program Plan (WP 02-1). Its purpose is to collect groundwater data from numerous wells located near the facility.

The Culebra is the focus of the GWMP. It has been extensively studied during past hydrologic characterization programs, and was found to be the most likely hydrologic pathway to the accessible environment or compliance point for any potential human-intrusion-caused release scenario.

Data obtained through the GWMP are also used to support the following two monitoring parameters:

1. Culebra groundwater composition
2. Culebra groundwater flow parameters

Details on how the program is implemented are provided in the WIPP Groundwater Monitoring Program Plan (WP 02-1).

### 3.2.1 Scope

The Groundwater Monitoring Program Plan addresses requirements for sample collection, groundwater surface elevation monitoring, groundwater flow direction, data management, and reporting of groundwater monitoring data. It also identifies analytical parameters selected to assess groundwater quality.

Six Culebra wells were drilled as part of the WIPP GWMP: Water Quality Sampling Program (WQSP) wells WQSP-1 through WQSP-6. Water samples are collected from these wells and analyzed for certain chemical and physical parameters. This activity generates data in support of the Culebra Groundwater Composition parameter, which calls for analysis of the following ions:

Cations:  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$

Anions:  $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$

Water level data are collected to assess changes in Culebra groundwater flow. Water level measurements are tracked over time using WQSP wells and other wells that are widely distributed across the WIPP area to monitor potentiometric surface and groundwater flow directions. If changes in water level(s) occur, the cause is investigated, and any potential impact on the long-term performance of the repository is assessed.

**3.2.1.1 Sampling and Reporting for Water Quality**

Background Culebra water quality in both the upgradient and downgradient monitoring wells has been established for the WIPP. Sampling for water quality is performed at six groundwater monitoring wells. The Culebra is monitored using wells WQSP-1 through WQSP-6.

When a well is sampled, field parameter measurements are used by the sampling team to determine when purged groundwater is representative of the undisturbed native groundwater of the Culebra. After well stabilization, final samples are collected for submittal to analytical laboratories. The field indicator parameters are pH, temperature, specific conductance, and specific gravity. Each well is purged no more than three well bore volumes, or until field parameters stabilize, whichever occurs first. Well stabilization occurs when field-analyzed parameters are within  $\pm 5\%$  of three consecutive measurements. Should field parameters not stabilize after three well bore volumes have been purged, a notation is made in the field data sheets, where appropriate, and final samples are obtained.

Once the field indicator parameters have stabilized, indicating that the sample is representative of formation groundwater, final samples are collected in the appropriate type of container for the specific analysis to meet state and federal groundwater requirements. The final samples are submitted to laboratories for chemical analysis. Section 4.2.1 lists the analytes needed to support the PA parameter.

Samples are tracked and managed in accordance with WIPP facility standard operating procedures to assure analyses are completed within prescribed time periods.

**3.2.1.2 Sampling and Reporting for Water Level Fluctuations**

To identify any fluctuations in water levels, measurements are taken in the six groundwater monitoring wells WQSP-1 through WQSP-6 and other available WIPP wells in the monitoring network (Figure 1).

In addition to the water level measurements, groundwater density is determined in the wells on an annual basis. This density is used to convert the water level measurements to equivalent freshwater heads for developing potentiometric surface maps.

**3.2.2 Schedule**

The six WQSP monitoring wells constructed for the GWMP are sampled on an annual basis to compare to the baseline water quality.

The groundwater level is measured by monitoring the wells on a monthly basis. Groundwater level measurements are monitored and collected for other WIPP wells, as well as for the WQSP wells. The water levels are determined monthly in at least one accessible, completed interval at each available well pad, and quarterly in redundant wells at well pads where two or more wells are completed in the same interval. Groundwater level measurements are primarily used to examine changes in groundwater flow rate and direction to identify any changes pertinent to compliance.

The characteristics of the GWMP, such as the frequency of sampling and the location of the sampled wells, will be reevaluated if significant changes are observed in the groundwater flow direction or gradient. Reporting frequencies are listed in Table 3.1.

<b>Table 3.1 - Sample Collection and Water-Level Reporting Frequency</b>	
<b>Type of Well</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
<b>Water Quality Sampling</b>	
WQSP wells (six)	Annually
<b>Water-Level Monitoring</b>	
Other available WIPP wells	Monthly and quarterly on selected wells
WQSP Culebra wells (six)	Monthly and before sampling events

### 3.2.3 Program Output

The groundwater samples are analyzed to quantify Culebra groundwater parameters and water quality parameters listed in Section 3.2.1.

The GWMP also generates Culebra water level data. The data and results of the GWMP are summarized and published in the WIPP Annual Site Environmental Report.



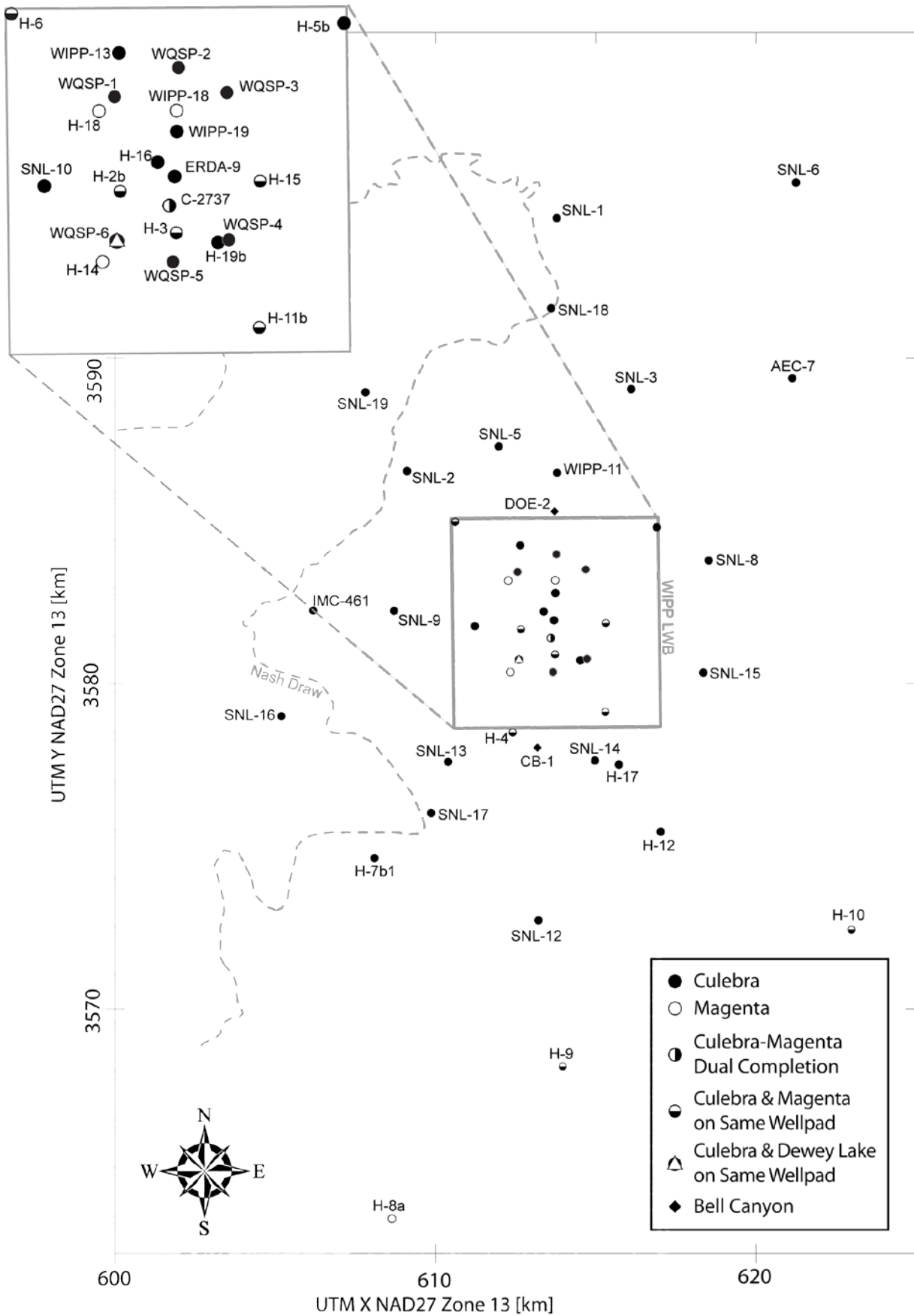


Figure 1- Groundwater Wells

### **3.3 Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance Program**

The DBDSP is described in the Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance Plan (WP 02-PC.02). This plan provides for the surveillance of drilling activities within the Delaware Basin, with specific emphasis on the nine-township area surrounding the WIPP site.

The Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance Plan collects information related to the following two parameters:

1. Probability of encountering a Castile brine reservoir
2. Drilling rate

In addition the DBDSP collects information on the following activities:

- Borehole plugging
- Enhanced recovery
- Natural gas storage
- Solution mining
- Potash mining
- Seismic events

#### **3.3.1 Scope**

The DBDSP provides for active surveillance of drilling activities within the Delaware Basin. The WIPP PA includes the potential impacts of drilling on the performance of the disposal system. The number of deep boreholes drilled per square kilometer is a parameter used in PA calculations for WIPP inadvertent intrusion scenarios. This parameter is based on actual drilling rates within the Delaware Basin over the last 100 years, as required by 40 CFR §194.33 (U.S. EPA- 1996).

The DBDSP continues to collect new data, thus expanding the existing database. The results of this program are used to detect any substantial deviations from the assumptions used in the previous PA (see Table 3.2). Collecting additional information about resource exploration and exploitation activities and practices in the Delaware Basin provides information to determine whether the drilling scenarios, assumptions, and probabilities used in the PA will continue to be valid for each five-year recertification of the WIPP disposal system.

Drilling information for the study area is obtained through commercially available electronic databases and the records of government agencies. The electronic database is updated and reviewed weekly to reflect drilling activities in the Delaware Basin. Records of government agencies are updated as they become available.

### 3.3.2 Schedule

Table 3.2 shows the frequency of DBDSP data collection.

<b>Table 3.2 - Delaware Basin Drilling Surveillance Plan Data Collection</b>	
<b>Information Collected</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Borehole Plug	Weekly
Enhanced Recovery	Monthly
Gas Storage	Annually
Solution Mining	Annually
Potash Mining	Annually
Seismic Events	Quarterly
Drilling-Related	Weekly
Probability of Encountering a Castile Brine Reservoir	Weekly
Drilling Rate Calculations	Quarterly

### 3.3.3 Program Outputs

The DBDSP updates and maintains a database of drilling activities and related practices in the Delaware Basin. For the nine-township area surrounding the WIPP the DBDSP updates and maintains a database containing the following information:

- Plugging and abandonment activities, including descriptions of plugging configurations
- The fraction of plugged and abandoned boreholes that are sealed
- Well conversion activities (injection, disposal, and water)
- Injection well operation (disposal and secondary recovery)
- Drilling activities, including borehole depth, diameter, and type and amount of drilling fluid
- Ownership of state and federal minerals and hydrocarbon leases within the area
- Occurrences of pressurized brine within the Castile Formation

Data collected and recorded as a result of the DBDSP are reported annually in the Delaware Basin Monitoring Annual Report.

### 3.4 Subsidence Monitoring Program

The SMP is described in detail in the WIPP Underground and Surface Surveying Program (WP 09-ES.01). Subsidence monitoring measures vertical movement of the land surface relative to a reference location using state-of-the-art leveling equipment. The technique used to monitor subsidence involves measuring the vertical height difference between two or more markers placed on a surface a known distance away from each other using a leveling survey. A reference benchmark is used as the standard and the relative movement of the other benchmark(s) is measured to detect

vertical movement over time. Subsidence measurements are relative because the reference is fixed only with respect to the subsidence marker(s).

### **3.4.1 Scope**

The activities associated with the SMP are designed to:

- Provide time-related spatial information on surface subsidence within 152.4 meters (500 feet) surrounding the waste shaft during the operational phase of the repository.
- Provide time-related spatial information on surface subsidence over the influence area of the underground openings for comparison with subsidence predictions.
- Maintain a database of subsidence data.

With current technology, vertical elevation can be measured at a precision of 0.0305 centimeters (cm) (0.001 feet). Subsidence monitoring was chosen by the DOE as a long-term monitoring tool because it effectively meets the requirements in §191.14(b). Subsidence monitoring is conducted to detect substantial and detrimental deviations from expected repository performance by comparing actual subsidence to predicted subsidence.

Subsidence data currently being compiled will be compared to subsidence predictions. In addition, subsidence monitoring during the operational phase generates data to establish a baseline against which long-term subsidence data and information may be evaluated.

### **3.4.2 Schedule**

Subsidence surveys are performed annually throughout the operations period. After closure of the repository, subsidence surveys will be performed at ten-year intervals for the next 100 years, or until no further useful information may be obtained through continued monitoring.

### **3.4.3 Program Outputs**

The SMP generates annual surface subsidence data for 24.14 kilometers (km) (15 miles [mi]) of leveling loops through approximately 48 monuments. Results are reported annually in the WIPP Subsidence Monument Leveling Survey.

## **3.5 Waste Inventory Monitoring Based on WIPP Waste Data System**

Information on the waste activity parameter is measured or estimated by generator sites through waste characterization activities. Sites are required to report certain information in the WIPP WDS. Reports are generated to tabulate key waste parameters for waste that has been emplaced in the WIPP repository. The waste activity parameter includes tracking the total waste material parameter weights and curie content of the 10 radionuclides listed in Section 3.5.1.

### **3.5.1 Scope**

Radionuclide inventory data and material parameter weights for every container of waste placed in the WIPP underground repository are submitted to the WDS database at the time waste is certified for shipment to the WIPP facility. The waste activity parameters being tracked and reported include radiological activity (in curies) emplaced during the 40 CFR § 194.4(b)(4) reporting period and the cumulative activity since waste was first emplaced in the repository. The radionuclides being tracked (in curies) include:

- americium-241
- plutonium-238
- plutonium-239
- plutonium-240
- plutonium-242
- uranium-233
- uranium-234
- uranium-238
- strontium-90
- cesium-137

The material parameter weights that are annually tracked and reported in the section 194.4(b)(4) report include:

- A repository maximum limit for emplaced cellulose, plastic and rubber materials of  $2.2 \times 10^7$  kg
- A repository minimum for emplaced ferrous metals of  $2 \times 10^7$  kg
- A repository minimum for emplaced nonferrous metals of  $2 \times 10^3$  kg

### **3.5.2 Schedule**

A current collection of radionuclide inventory data and material parameter weights for the WIPP is maintained within the WDS, and data reports can be generated at any time.

### **3.5.3 Program Outputs**

The data collected for the waste activity parameter is tracked by the WDS. The WDS annually generates a Waste Emplacement Summary Report that is submitted each November to the EPA in the annual 40 CFR § 194.4(b)(4). In addition a Dashboard is available on the WDS from which the EPA can call up any of the following reports at any time.

- Container Query
- Nuclide Report
- Waste Emplacement Report
- Summary of Waste Emplacement Inventory Report
- Emplacement By container Type Report
- Emplacement History Overview

#### **4.0 POSTCLOSURE (LONG-TERM) MONITORING**

The final Postclosure Monitoring Plan will be developed prior to final facility closure (sealing of the shafts), but will not be implemented until after facility closure. When the final Postclosure Monitoring Plan is written, the historic monitoring data collected per the requirements of this Preclosure Monitoring Plan that will support postclosure monitoring will be analyzed.

#### **5.0 MONITORING PROGRAMS QUALITY ASSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

The quality of the work performed under the CMP is accomplished per the criteria of 40 CFR §194.22(a)(2) and controlled by the application of the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) *Quality Assurance Program Document (QAPD)*, DOE/CBFO-94-1012 (U.S. DOE 2010). Waste information is controlled by implementing the relevant quality assurance requirements at generator sites.

In addition to the management requirements, such as document and record control established in the QAPD, requirements related to sampling and monitoring activities are specified. In particular, the following two sections of the QAPD are directly related to the performance of monitoring work and the control of samples:

##### Section 2.4 – Inspection and Testing

- Qualification of personnel
- Inspection
- Test requirements
- Monitoring, measuring, testing, and data collection
- Use and control of measuring and test equipment
- Calibration

##### Section 4.0 – Sample Control Requirements

- Sample control
- Sample identification
- Handling, storing, and shipping samples
- Disposition of nonconforming samples

WIPP monitoring programs are subject to EPA inspections in accordance with 40 CFR §194.21 (U.S. EPA- 1996).

The Compliance Monitoring Implementation Plan relies on the individual monitoring plan's QA program to ensure compliance with DOE WIPP requirements for data quality assessments, objectives, and analyses. Each sampling and monitoring program is implemented through individual implementation plans, which include the QA descriptions, objectives, and references to the applicable governing QA documents.

## **6.0 REPORTING AND ASSESSMENT**

Information flow is controlled to ensure that important monitoring results are communicated to the appropriate individuals and groups.

### **6.1 Monitoring Data Reporting**

The monitoring programs that generate data used in the CMP are implemented and coordinated by the M&OC.

### **6.2 Compliance Monitoring Program Assessment Report**

The results of the CMP are reported in the Sandia National Laboratories Annual Compliance Monitoring Parameter Assessment Reports which are provided to the EPA with each recertification.

The CMP results may indicate two general cases: 1) normal or expected conditions in which results are generally consistent with existing data, parameter values, and conceptual models, and 2) anomalous conditions in which results are inconsistent with existing data, parameter values, or conceptual models.

The DOE determines whether these results are consistent with expected conditions modeled in the PA or screening decisions used to support the compliance determination. The report also recommends if the CMP should be modified based on results of the monitoring programs.

#### **6.2.1 External Reporting**

The DOE reviews the recommendations of the M&OC and the scientific advisor to evaluate their significance. Significance is determined based on consideration of the following criteria:

- The containment requirements established pursuant to 40 CFR §191.13 are, or are expected to be, exceeded.
- Releases from already emplaced waste lead to committed effective doses that are, or are expected to be, in excess of those established pursuant to 40 CFR §191.15 (U.S. EPA 1993) (not including emissions from operations covered pursuant to 40 CFR Part 191 Subpart A).
- Releases have caused, or are expected to cause, concentrations of radionuclides (or estimated doses due to radionuclides in underground sources of drinking water in the accessible environment) to exceed the limits established pursuant to 40 CFR Part 191 Subpart C.

If monitoring results meet any of these criteria, the results are considered significant. Significant monitoring results are promptly reported to the EPA. The report is accompanied by a recommended course of action, including the appropriate external reporting. If the monitoring results exceed or possibly exceed containment requirements or release limits as specified in 40 CFR §194.4(b)(3)(ii), the CBFO will immediately cease emplacement of waste in the WIPP and notify the EPA within 24 hours.

If the DOE discovers a condition or activity that differs significantly from what is indicated in the most recent compliance application, but does not involve conditions or activities listed in section 194.4(b)(3)(ii), then the difference shall be reported in writing to the EPA within 10 calendar days of discovery. For normal conditions where monitoring results are within expectations, the Sandia National Laboratories Annual Compliance Monitoring Parameter Assessment Report documents these conditions.



<b>REFERENCES</b>	
DOCUMENT NUMBER AND TITLE	KEY STEP
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WP 02-1. <i>WIPP Groundwater Monitoring Program Plan</i> , Carlsbad, NM.	
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