U.S. Department of Energy
Carlsbad Field Office
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221

Media Contact:
Ben Williams
WIPP Recovery Communications
(575) 234-7545

www.wipp.energy.gov
@WIPPNews

WIPP UPDATE: April 12, 2014

Carlsbad Environmental Monitoring and Research Center: WIPP contamination below minimum detectable concentrations

The Carlsbad Environmental Monitoring and Research Center (CEMRC), an independent scientific and research group associated with New Mexico State University, released new WIPP monitoring data yesterday that reveals no contamination in surface water samples collected from three area reservoirs (see attached).

CEMRC's testing shows that the areas previously showing trace amounts of radioactive particles following the February 14 event have returned to historic background levels. This confirms results from WIPP's environmental monitoring program. All recent sampling and analysis conducted in the area by WIPP employees do not detect contamination in the area's air, surface water, sediment, vegetation, soil, or wildlife.

Available sampling data is posted on the WIPP website.

Community Meetings Scheduled

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

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/.

NOTE: There will not be a WIPP Update for Sunday, April 13. The next update will be Monday, April 14.