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WIPP UPDATE: May 27, 2014

Waste Control Specialists continues precautionary measures

Waste Control Specialists (WCS) in Andrews, Texas, continues implementing precautionary measures this week to ensure the safety of the public, environment and workers. WCS is loading standard waste boxes from the suspect waste stream originating from the Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) into modular concrete casks.

Prior to loading, thermal readings are taken of each standard waste box container to verify the external temperature. Once the box is loaded into the modular concrete cask, the cask is then filled with gravel. Typically, two boxes are loaded in each cylindrical cask. Each cask is also equipped with an internal thermocouple to monitor internal temperatures on a daily basis.

An employee with Waste Control Specialists examines modular concrete casks, similar to those that are being used to overpack waste containers from LANL.

Additionally, cameras monitor the area where the waste is being stored. As of today, three of the 73 standard waste boxes originating from LANL remain to be loaded into modular concrete casks.

Community Meetings Scheduled

May 29 – The City of Carlsbad and DOE will co-host its weekly meeting featuring updates on WIPP recovery activities. The meeting is scheduled 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/.