

THE WIPP JOINT INFORMATION CENTER



U.S. Department Of Energy

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

The U.S. Department of Energy and the Carlsbad Field Office have established procedures to ensure the safety of the public health and the environment in the event of an emergency at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility. If an actual emergency did occur involving the WIPP facility or a shipment en route to WIPP, the Joint Information Center (JIC) may be activated.

Located in Carlsbad, N.M. at the Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks highway, the JIC is part of the overall WIPP emergency response organization.

The purpose of the JIC is to issue timely and accurate information to the public, news media and project employees about emergency events at WIPP and/or along the WIPP transportation routes.

The JIC is designed to serve as the central control point to coordinate multi-agency response efforts. Additionally, it is the central emergency public information center for the Carlsbad Field Office, the WIPP management and operating contractor and other agencies involved in responding to a WIPP-related emergency.

News media outlets and key public officials will be notified immediately when the JIC is activated.

Reporters will be provided a specific telephone number to call for up-to-date reports about the emergency. Access to the WIPP site, east of Carlsbad, is restricted to project personnel and necessary response personnel during an emergency. Reporters will be asked to come to the JIC for information, including regular updates. Facilities will be available to support reporters in filing/broadcasting stories. Reporters may also find additional information about WIPP and its operations on the WIPP web site at <http://www.wipp.energy.gov>.

Members of the general public will be encouraged to monitor local television and radio stations for up-to-the-minute information regarding a specific emergency involving WIPP or one of its shipments. Members of the public may call for information via the toll free number (1-800-336-9477) or directly at 575-234-7380.

Did you know . . .

WIPP's JIC is also available to support city and county agencies in accordance with previously established agreements. JIC personnel are on-call 24/7 to respond if needed.



The JIC is linked to WIPP's Emergency Operations Center to ensure the accuracy of information in a crisis.

For more information

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