

1

CHAPTER C

2

SECURITY

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1 the active portion of the facility. This system will be maintained to fulfill the requirements of
2 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.14(b)(1)).

3 The major duties of the security officers are to control personnel, vehicle, and material
4 access/egress 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. During non-operational hours, the security
5 officers conduct documented security patrols outside of the PPA, at a minimum rate of two per
6 12-hour shift. Whenever scheduled security patrols cannot be made, for situations such as
7 inclement weather or an emergency, the reason for missing the patrol will be documented in the
8 security logbook. In addition to the security officers, WIPP facility employees are called upon to
9 challenge any person in the WIPP facility who is not wearing a badge or who is not under escort
10 when an escort is required. Further physical protection is provided by fences, protective lighting,
11 and locked buildings.

12 C-1a(2) Barrier and Means to Control Entry

13 The existence of a barrier and a means to control entry demonstrates compliance with 20.4.1.500
14 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.14(b)(2)). Each is discussed in detail in the following
15 sections.

16 C-1a(2)(a) Barrier

17 The surface portion of the WIPP facility PPA is contained within a 35 acre (14 hectare) fenced
18 area. This area is surrounded by a permanent 7 foot (ft) (2.13 meter [m]) high chain-link fence
19 that is topped by three strands of barbed wire, for a total height of 8 ft (2.44 m). The fence
20 encloses major surface structures. The regularly inspected chain-link fencing at the WIPP facility
21 completely surrounds the active portion of the facility, thereby complying with 20.4.1.500
22 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.14(b)(2)(i)). Access is normally through the Main Gate on
23 the west side of the PPA. Two other gates are available for emergency use. One of these gates is
24 opened to allow salt trucks access to the salt pile. Use of all gates is under the supervision of
25 security.

26 C-1a(2)(b) Means to Control Entry

27 Entry into the PPA, whether by personnel or vehicles, is through controlled gates and doors.
28 WIPP-facility access-control procedures are designed to ensure that only properly identified and
29 authorized persons, vehicles, and property are allowed entrance to and exit from the facility. A
30 personnel identification and access control system is maintained within the facility. Employees
31 identify themselves with an identification badge when entering or leaving the premises. Security
32 officers require visitors to show proper authorization prior to allowing them to enter the facility.
33 In addition, visitors are required to wear a temporary badge and may require an authorized
34 escort. Because the WIPP facility controls entry to the active portion of the facility at all times,
35 the requirements of 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.14(b)(2)(ii)), are met.

36 For the purposes of entry control to areas where wastes are being handled, the Waste Handling
37 Building Container Storage Unit (**WHB Unit**), the boundaries of the Parking Area Unit south of

1 the WHB, and those portions of the underground where wastes are disposed are posted as
2 Controlled Areas (CAs). The WIPP allows access to a CA by anyone who has successfully
3 completed General Employee Radiological Training, which is included in the General Employee
4 Training Course. Access for visitors can also be arranged with proper training.

5 Areas within the CA, however, may have further access restricted. Smaller areas may be
6 designated as Radiological Buffer Areas, Radiation Areas, and Radioactive Materials Area.
7 These smaller areas are generally within the direct vicinity of waste handling activities or waste
8 storage or disposal areas. They are sized and posted in accordance with strict guidelines.
9 Activities in these areas are performed under a Radiological Work Permit (RWP), and personnel
10 must be listed on the RWP before they are allowed to enter. To be listed on the RWP, personnel
11 must have the appropriate radiological and hazardous waste worker training and must have
12 available radiation dose for the task. In addition, the individuals must sign the RWP
13 acknowledging that they intend to comply with the radiological controls that are in place.
14 Personnel may be escorted into the smaller areas if they are escorted by a person who meets all
15 of the above requirements and is not performing any work in the area.

16 The WHB Unit, the Parking Area Unit, and the underground Hazardous Waste Disposal Units
17 (HWDUs) will be posted with a sign that states: "Danger: Authorized Personnel Only" in both
18 English and Spanish.

19 C-1a(3) Warning Signs

20 The permanent chain-link fence surrounding the PPA is posted at approximately 50 ft (15.24 m)
21 intervals with "No Trespassing" signs and with "Danger: Authorized Personnel Only" signs in
22 English and Spanish. The signs are legible from a distance of 25 ft (7.62 m) and can be seen
23 from any approach to the facility. These same signs, plus security and traffic signs, are also
24 located on the controlled gates. The fence and gate signs at the WIPP facility fully comply with
25 20.4.1.500 NMAC (incorporating 40 CFR §264.14(c)). Warning signs with "Controlled Area"
26 and "Hazardous Waste Management Unit" will be posted at entrances to the HWDUs prior to the
27 emplacement of waste.