

TRU Solutions News

Media Contact

Bobby St. John
(505) 234-7348
<http://www.wipp.ws>

For Immediate Release **Westinghouse Earns Mine Safety Award for 16th Consecutive Year**

CARLSBAD, N.M., September 30, 2002 – Westinghouse TRU Solutions LLC (WTS) was recently awarded the “Mine Operator of the Year Award” at the annual New Mexico Mining Association Convention held in Silver City, N.M.

WTS, the management and operating contractor for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), received the award in the category of large non-producing mine. A non-producing mine is one that does not mine for profit.

New Mexico State Inspector of Mines Paul Pierce presented WTS the award September 23 to recognize excellence in underground operation and “an outstanding record for safety.” On hand to receive the award was Richard Farrell, Safety Officer for the DOE Carlsbad Field Office; Subhash Sethi, Manager, Mine Development Project; and Bob Kirby, Manager, WIPP Underground Operations.

“This shows the importance of safety at the WIPP facility,” said Mr. John Lee, President, Westinghouse TRU Solutions LLC. “I would like to congratulate the employees of WIPP on accomplishing this for an unprecedented 16th consecutive year.”

WIPP, a cornerstone of the DOE's cleanup effort, is the nation's first repository for the permanent disposal of defense-generated transuranic radioactive waste left from the research and production of nuclear weapons.

-More-

-2-

Located in southeastern New Mexico, 26 miles east of Carlsbad, project facilities include disposal rooms excavated in an ancient, stable salt formation 2,150 feet (almost one-half mile) underground. Waste disposal operations began at WIPP March 26, 1999.

Transuranic waste consists of clothing, tools, rags, debris, residues, and other disposable items contaminated with radioactive elements, mostly plutonium.

For more information about WIPP, call 1-800-336-9477, or visit the WIPP Web site at <http://www.wipp.ws>.

-30-

011WR0902