

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

DOENews

Media Contact:

Dennis Hurtt
U.S. DOE Carlsbad Field Office
(505) 234-7327
Dennis.hurtt@wipp.ws

Anne Wickham
(513) 246-0463
anne.wickham@emcbc.doe.gov

For Immediate Release

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AWARDS CONTRACT FOR TRANSURANIC WASTE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

Carlsbad, NM, March 14, 2007 - The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today awarded a contract to CAST Specialty Transportation of Henderson, Colorado valued at \$96.7M to provide transportation services for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). This notification is for the first of two contracts to be awarded for these services. The second award will be announced separately at a later date.

“These special transportation contracts will allow the Department to continue its vital campaign of safely shipping transuranic waste to the WIPP for permanent disposal,” said James Rispoli, DOE Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management. “The safe and uneventful transportation, management and disposal of transuranic (TRU) waste are fundamental requirements of the extensive environmental clean-up actions now being performed nationwide by the Department.”

Each awardee will provide transportation services necessary to support the WIPP near Carlsbad, New Mexico. This includes transportation of both contact-handled and remote-handled TRU waste among the Department’s generator sites and between those same generator sites and the WIPP site. The services also include the transportation of training units or empty shipping containers to training exercises and/or public awareness events.

Both contract awards were conducted using a competitive partial small business set-aside solicitation, which specified the Department would award two contracts for these services.

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Competition for the first contract, awarded today, was open to any qualified contractors-- either large or small--while the competition for the award of the second contract was restricted to only qualified small businesses. The solicitation also provided for the selection of the contractors that represented the best value to the Department.

Both awards are structured as Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity-type contracts using firm-fixed price task orders with cost reimbursable items. Similar services are currently being provided by the two incumbent contractors – CAST Specialty Transportation of Henderson, Colorado, and Tri-State Motor Transit of Joplin, Missouri.

The period of performance for each contract includes a base period of 10 months from the date of award, and five options periods which, if exercised, will extend the term of the contract to five years.

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