



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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

Media Contact:

Deb Gill
U.S. DOE Carlsbad Field Office
(575) 234-7270

www.wipp.energy.gov

CBFO Names Randy Unger Director of Quality Assurance

CARLSBAD, N.M., June 14, 2011 –Randy Unger has been named Director of Quality Assurance (QA) for the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE’s) Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO), which oversees the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). Unger brings with him 17 years of experience within the DOE complex from sites across the country.

"I'm pleased to announce the selection of Randy Unger as the CBFO Director of Quality Assurance," said Acting CBFO Manager Ed Ziemianski. "Randy's expertise and experience in managing programs and organizations in addition to Quality Assurance activities will benefit both the CBFO and DOE complex-wide."

Unger came to Carlsbad in the fall of 2009 as headquarters site representative for the CBFO American Reinvestment and Recovery Act Project funds received by the WIPP. He joined CBFO after spending the last five years at the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) as an electrical engineer and program manager for the electrical safety program. Prior to his work with NNSA, Unger spent 10 years at the Hanford site in Richland, WA.

"I'm excited to have a chance to work with our regulators," Unger said. "Our mission is to assure that all the elements supporting the National TRU Program are compliant with regulatory requirements."

Unger has undergraduate and graduate degrees in a variety of engineering, science and management programs from Texas A&M University in central Texas.

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Unger, who has been in Carlsbad since September of 2009, said he prefers living in a smaller town and says Carlsbad is a nice community in which to live.

“I have really enjoyed my time here. I have a preference for smaller towns anyway, it’s not as hectic and, until recently with the construction, there aren’t any traffic jams,” he joked. “But there is a positive outlook within the city and this is a positive community with whom to work with.

The WIPP is a DOE facility designed to safely isolate defense-related transuranic waste from people and the environment. Waste temporarily stored at sites around the country is shipped to WIPP and permanently disposed in rooms mined out of an ancient salt formation 2,150 feet below the surface. WIPP, which began waste disposal operations in 1999, is located 26 miles outside of Carlsbad, N.M.

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