



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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Photo of WIPP Trucks Delivering First Remote-Handled Transuranic Waste from the Savannah River Site

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Photo caption: On June 7, 2012, Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) trucks approach the WIPP facility near Carlsbad, New Mexico, with the first shipment of defense-related remote-handled transuranic (TRU) waste from Savannah River Site (SRS), near Aiken, South Carolina. TRU waste consists of materials contaminated with radioactive elements that have atomic numbers greater than uranium, including tools, rags, protective clothing, sludge and soil. That shipment and two contact-handled TRU waste shipments were released by SRS at the same time. The three shipments consisted of (left to right) a TRUPACT-III, a RH-72B and one with TRUPACT-IIs, -- marking another first for WIPP. Since opening in 1999, WIPP has established an impressive record. In addition to more than 10,500 safe shipments, WIPP drivers have logged more than 12.6 million safe loaded miles—equivalent to 26 roundtrips to the moon without a serious accident or injury—to clean up 22 TRU waste sites around the nation.

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