



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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WIPP Operator Earns Corporate Safety Recognition

CARLSBAD, N.M., March 9, 2012 – Washington TRU Solutions (WTS), the management and operating contractor at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), was selected as the 2011 Safe Project of the Year from a list of highly successful projects managed by URS Corporation’s Global Management & Operations Services (GMOS) Group.

“Congratulations to WTS for achieving another safety milestone,” said Carlsbad Field Office, which oversees the WIPP program, Manager Joe Franco. “We have a truly outstanding safety culture at WIPP and all the credit goes to our employees.”

WTS employees worked another year without a days away case (a work-related injury or illness causing at least one day of missed work), compiling more than 1.2 million safe hours in 2011 and more than 4 million safe hours since February 2009 while operating the world’s only licensed repository for defense-generated transuranic waste.

“I’m excited for our employees,” said WTS President and General Manager Farok Sharif, whose project was selected from four URS GMOS Group sites for Safe Project of the Year honors. “The great work they do here every day has an impact on the entire nation and even

the world. We have cleaned up 21 transuranic waste sites nationwide since operations began in 1999. Day in and day out, our employees perform to the highest safety standards in a high-hazard environment.”

Considering the work that WTS performs in mining and the disposal of radioactive waste, its “zero” injury rate is world class, he said. For comparison, the latest national figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics list the injury rate for the mining industry as 2.3 injuries per 200,000 hours worked. Even financial activities (such as banking, insurance and real estate) that are not generally thought to have many potential hazards in the workplace have a rate of 1.3 injuries per 200,000 hours worked.

“I congratulate the WTS employees on another exemplary year,” said Dave Pethick, URS GMOS Group General Manager. “Their safe performance is not only a model within URS, but well recognized within the DOE complex. The work performed at WIPP is extremely challenging and requires safety to be paramount, and 2011 was truly another impressive year.”

The URS GMOS Group is a preeminent provider of high-technology management, operations and environmental services for the DOE and the United Kingdom Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. The Group specializes in long-term operations and management projects at nuclear and environmental restoration sites.

Representing the URS GMOS Group as the nominee for the 2011 URS Energy & Construction Business Project of the Year, WTS will be competing against projects from five other URS Energy & Construction businesses for the corporate-level award.