WIPP Town Hall Meeting

Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy
and the
City of Carlsbad, NM

April 7, 2016

Agenda

- Opening Comments – Mayor Dale Janway
- Introductory Statements – John Heaton (Moderator)
- DOE-EM Remarks – Mark Whitney
- Update on CBFO and WIPP – Todd Shrader
- Preparations for Restart – Tammy Reynolds
- EM-LA Established Corrective Actions – Doug Hintze
- Questions and Answers – John Heaton
  - In house
  - Internet

DOE – Environmental Management

Mark Whitney, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Environmental Management

Update on CBFO and WIPP Activities

Todd Shrader, CBFO Manager

Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) Visit

- What does the Board do?
- Purpose of visit to WIPP
- Outcome of the visit

EOC Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Governor Susana Martinez cuts the ribbon for the new WIPP Emergency Operations Center (EOC)

CBFO's Mike McCoy discusses features of the new EOC

New Mexico Settlement Agreement

Preparations for Restart

Tammy Reynolds, NWP Deputy Recovery Manager

NWP
Nuclear Waste Partnership LLC

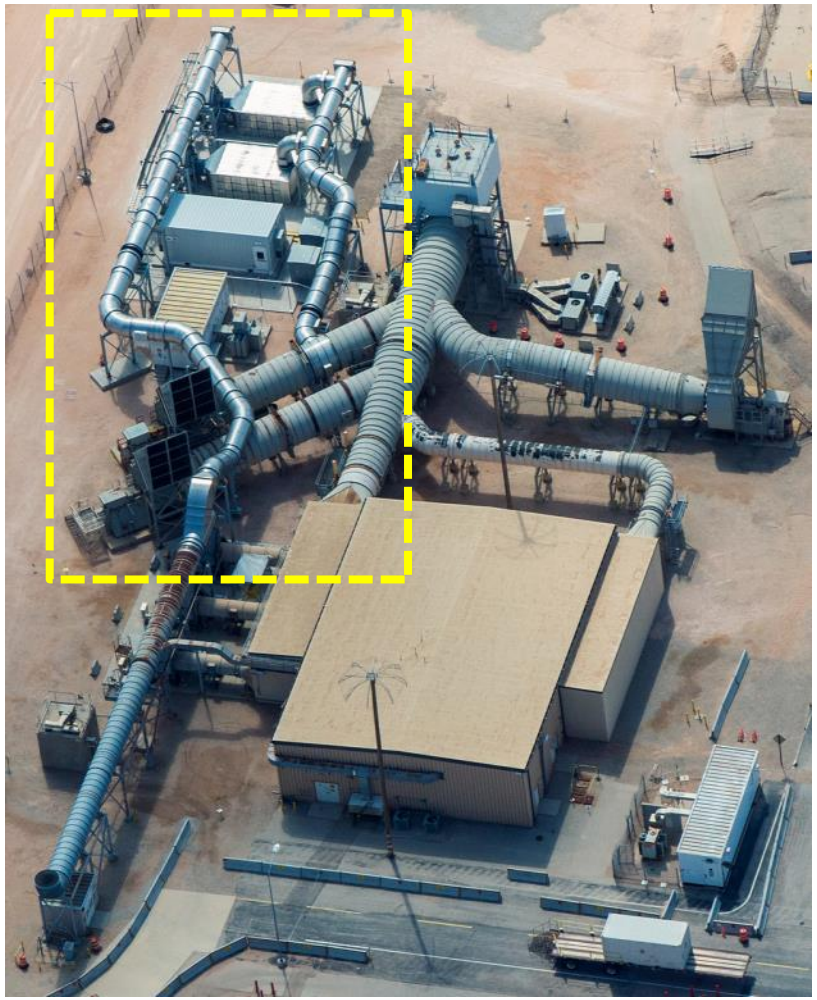
An AECOM-led partnership with BWXT and AREVA

Safety Pause – Air Quality in the Underground

- NWP initiated a "Safety Pause" on 2/22 for work in the outer north and south ends of the underground
- WIPP air quality monitoring alarms are more conservative than industry standards
- An air monitoring workshop was held in Carlsbad on 3/17
- Safety pause was lifted on 3/25 based on corrective actions that were developed to enhance the air quality monitoring program

Interim Ventilation System Status

- Instrument calibrations and component testing underway
- Early May, perform Contractor Readiness Assessment
- Interim Ventilation System will:
  - Provide adequate air flow at the waste face – for resumption of waste placement
  - Increase airflow for ground control and maintenance operations



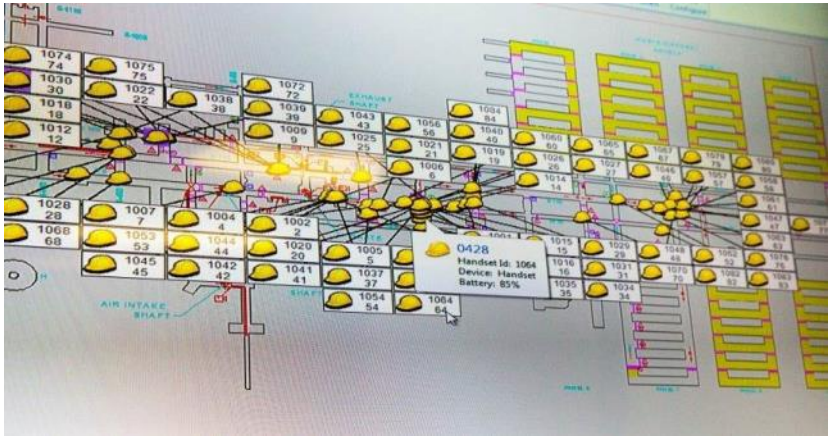
Vehicle and Area Fire Suppression System

- Vehicle Fire Suppression Systems
  - Installed on 2 of 5 vehicles needed for Cold Operations
  - Remaining 3 vehicles being upgraded

- Area Fire Suppression Systems in U/G
  - Equipment mounting brackets installed
  - Installation of suppression equipment in progress

Accomplishments

- Underground accountability and notification system
- Instrument loops
- DSA training
- Obstruction testing
- Program improvements

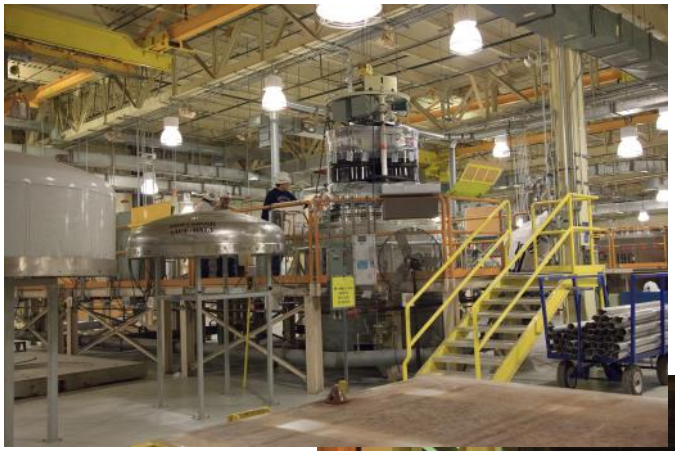


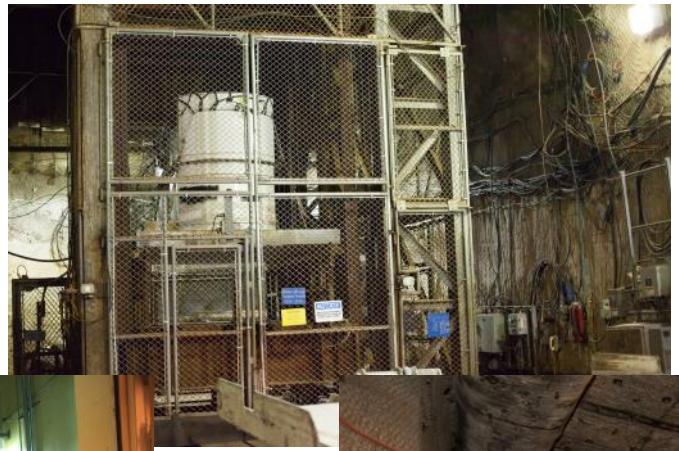
Recent Reports

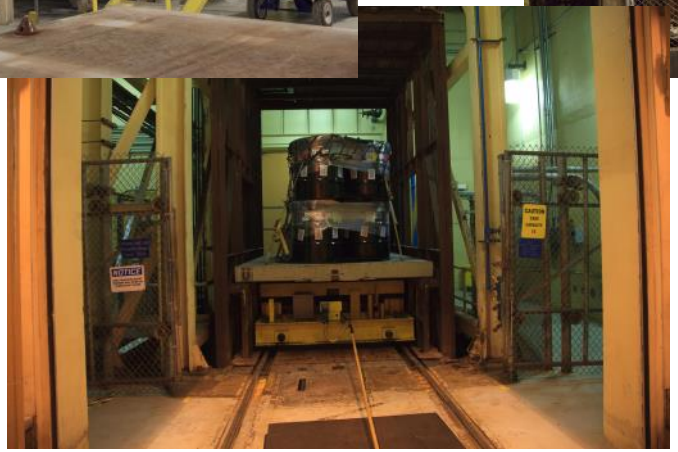
- DNFSB
  - Documented Safety Analysis
- DOE Office of Enterprise Assessments
  - Air flow modeling related to Interim Ventilation System

Cold Operations Readiness

- Following approval of the DSA, WIPP will begin cold operations
- WIPP crews will process and download empty waste containers utilizing the new DSA Rev. 5 controls







Transition of Legacy Cleanup at Los Alamos National Laboratory

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Douglas Hintze
Manager
Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office

Transition at LANL

- **Environmental Management Los Alamos Field Office (EM-LA) Established March 22, 2015**
  - Oversees the cleanup of legacy waste at LANL
  - Doug Hintze became EM-LA's permanent Manager September 20, 2015

- **Existing Los Alamos EM Employees Were Reassigned to EM-LA**
  - Nineteen new EM-LA positions have been/are being recruited
  - Workforce planning and EM-LA organization approved, implementation is underway

- **Two Field Offices at Los Alamos National Laboratory**
  - EM-LA as a Tenant – NNSA (NA-LA) is Landlord
  - Partnership in executing assigned missions through an MOU with defined R2A2

WIPP Event: How We Are Moving Forward?

- **Processing of Legacy TRU Waste**
  - Suspended Since May 2014
- **Accident Investigation Board Report**
- **Five Corrective Action Plans Developed – One for EM-LA/NA-LA**
  - Two (of five) Corrective Action Plans developed for Los Alamos
    - One for contractor (LANS)
    - One for two federal field offices – joint plan
- **New Mexico Environment Department-Approved Isolation Plan**
- **Improved Safety Basis Evaluations**
- **Evaluating a Treatment Path For Nitrate Salt Waste Containers**

Area G

The remediated nitrate salt drums are stored in standard waste boxes

EM-LA Corrective Actions Plan Implementation

What the EM-LA CAP Will Achieve

- Documented roles, responsibilities, accountabilities and authorities between EM-LA, NA-LA and CBFO
- Formalized process for conducting contractor oversight
- Qualified staff with experience commensurate with responsibilities
- Training/qualification completed for oversight positions
- Safety culture emphasized by managers and employees
- Improved compliance envelope (i.e. nuclear safety, RCRA and waste management programs)

Status of the EM-LA CAP

- Of the 33 Corrective Actions detailed in the EM-LA CAP, 21 have been completed

Summary of Nitrate Salt Wastes

❑ Safe Storage

- Temperature and Pressure Control
  - o Have implemented supplemental cooling to cool waste and during storage evaluating use of refrigeration/freezers for treatment
  - o Plans to install pressure relief devices to the RNS drums in the weeks ahead which will provide an additional layer of defense

❑ Treatment of Waste

- Treating waste protects workers and the public and eliminates the potential for release to the environment
- DOE is working to determine a safe, effective path forward to treat this waste

Contract Vehicles

- **Work Scope Was with the M&O Contractor – LANS through FY2015**

- **EM Bridge Contract with LANS in Place Beginning FY2016 with up to Two Successive Six-Month Options in FY2017**
  - This contract is a Cost-Plus-Award-Fee Federal Acquisition Regulation based contract

Los Alamos National Laboratory

- **Award of New Contract Expected in Summer 2017**

Summary

- **New Paradigm Approach in Managing Cleanup at LANL**

- **EM-LA Fundamental Principles**
  - Safety
  - Transparency
  - Efficiency

- **Priorities**
  - Protection of Workers and the Public
  - Protection of the Environment

Questions
&
Answers