

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

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# WIPP UPDATE: May 8, 2014

#### **Evaluation of WIPP radiological protection program underway**

Today began a comprehensive evaluation of the WIPP site's radiological protection program, which is a key element in the WIPP recovery process. At the request of WIPP management, experts from across the country will assist in the evaluation to identify program strengths and areas for improvement to strengthen WIPP's radiological protection program.

The team will review the WIPP program for compliance with federal regulations that protect workers, the public and the environment. They will interview radiological control managers and personnel; assess program content, including training and personnel qualifications; and observe how radiological controls are implemented at WIPP. The evaluation is expected to take four to six weeks.

#### New environmental sampling results available

New environmental sampling data show composite rainwater samples, collected from the downspouts of WIPP building roof tops and storm water collection areas, had contaminants well below Safe Drinking Water standards and just above minimum detectable concentrations. The latest analysis of soil, sediment and vegetation samples, taken from various locations across the WIPP site, showed contamination levels were below minimum detectable concentrations.

For complete air and water sampling results, please visit: http://www.wipp.energy.gov/wipprecovery/sampling results.html

## **Community Meetings Scheduled**

**Today (May 8)** – The City of Carlsbad and DOE will co-host their weekly meeting featuring updates on WIPP recovery activities. The meeting is scheduled today at 5:30 p.m. Location: Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 101 N. Halagueno Street. Live streaming of the weekly meetings can be seen at <a href="http://new.livestream.com/rrv/">http://new.livestream.com/rrv/</a>.