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**DOE Awards Technical Assistance Contract  
for Carlsbad Field Office**

**Carlsbad, N.M., July 2, 2010 --** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) today awarded a Task Order to Portage, Inc., a small disadvantaged business from Idaho Falls, Idaho, to provide technical assistance to the Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) and the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, N.M. This is a time-and-material task order issued under a General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Supply Schedule with an estimated cost of approximately \$30 million.

The contractor will provide a range of services that include:

- Quality assurance support
- Safety oversight support
- Environmental and regulatory services support
- National Transuranic (TRU) Program technical support
- Performance demonstration program management
- Science and international program support
- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) support
- Operations oversight support
- Perform assessments nationwide which are involved with TRU waste.

The WIPP site is a deep geologic repository mined in salt and is the final disposal destination for 6.2 million cubic feet of defense-related stored and newly generated TRU waste from generator sites around the country. WIPP's mission is to safely characterize, transport, and dispose of radioactive waste resulting from defense activities. The CBFO is responsible for ensuring safe and efficient characterization and certification of TRU waste at DOE sites, transportation activities associated with TRU waste, and management and operations at WIPP in accordance with applicable quality assurance, safety and health, nuclear safety, security, DOE orders, environmental standards, laws and regulations.

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