



Carlsbad Area Office
MONTHLY CALENDAR
 Information and Involvement Opportunities
 March 2000



March 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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April 2000						
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May 2000						
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28	29	30	31			

March 2000

March 1-2 -- WIPP Exhibit, Waste Management Symposia, 245 S. Plumer, Suite 19, Tucson, Arizona.
 More information: Sue Johns (505) 234-7230

March 8 -- WIPP Exhibit, Energy Communities Alliance, Washington, DC.
 More information: Sue Johns (505) 234-7230

April 2000

April 5 -- WIPP Exhibit, Waste-Management Education and Research Consortium, Las Cruces, New Mexico.
 More information: Sue Johns (505) 234-7230

April 10 -- WIPP Exhibit, National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference, Reno, Nevada.
 More information: Sue Johns (505) 234-7230

April 27 -- 70th WIPP Quarterly Review, Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, New Mexico.
 More information: Patricia Kilgore (505) 234-7302



Note: Interest in WIPP tours is high. Citizens interested in touring the WIPP are encouraged to call the WIPP Information Center at 1-800-336-WIPP (1-800-336-9477) four weeks in advance to make tour arrangements.

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**U.S. Department of Energy
 Carlsbad Area Office
 P.O. Box 3090
 Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221-3090**

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For more information:

WIPP Information Center
 1-800-336-WIPP
 (1-800-336-9477)
 infocntr@wipp.carlsbad.nm.us

New Mexico Environment Department
 Steve Zeppe
 PO Box 26110
 SANTA FE, NM 87502-0110

WIPP Home Page
 www.wipp.carlsbad.nm.us

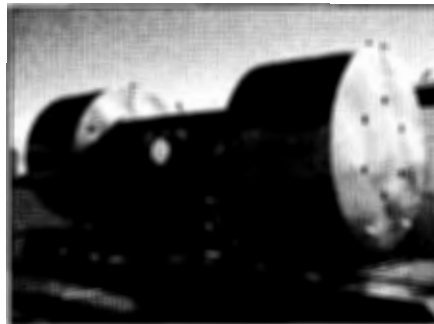


★ ★ ★ For Your Information ★ ★ ★

March 2000

**CAO unveils full-scale model of transportation cask
 for remote-handled waste**

The Carlsbad Area Office (CAO) unveiled a full-scale model of its newest waste transportation cask, the RH-72B, last week. The CAO will use the model for a variety of activities, including procedure development, waste-handling instruction, and public outreach activities. Westinghouse Engineered Products Department in Carlsbad, New Mexico built the model.



The RH-72B is a large, horizontal, stainless steel cylinder approximately 12 feet long and 3 1/2 feet in diameter, weighing about 37,000 pounds empty. When completed, the RH-72B will be able to transport one canister containing three 55-gallon drums. A large

impact limiter, similar to a shock absorber, covers each end of the container to protect the unit in the event of an accident. An outer thermal shield will protect the container and its contents from potential fire damage.

Once the Nuclear Regulatory Commission certifies the cask, it will be used to ship remote-handled (RH) transuranic radioactive waste to the Waste Isolation Plant (WIPP). RH wastes, which will make up about three percent of WIPP shipments, emit penetrating gamma radiation. The RH-72B will provide heavy shielding of this radiation. Shipments of RH wastes are expected to begin in 2002, primarily from transuranic waste sites in Washington, Idaho, New Mexico, and Tennessee.