

**Subject:** Problems with the WWIS

**From:** Don Hancock <sricon@earthlink.net>

**Date:** Wed, 09 Jul 2003 14:46:17 -0600

**To:** Steve\_Zappe@nmenv.state.nm.us, sandra\_martin  
<sandra\_martin@nmenv.state.nm.us>



Steve,

Thanks for the WSPF and the repository report.

Although the CBFO approval and submission of the WSPF indicates that shipments from NTS are imminently going to begin, Scott Field tells me that the first shipment has been postponed and won't likely occur for some time.

Regarding the repository report, as you know, SRIC has long been concerned about the accuracy and reliability of the WWIS. The WWIS is the linchpin for many aspects of overall compliance with the permit and is a basic, essential information source for both the permittees and NMED.

Based on today's repository report, I believe that the permittees are in violation of the WIPP permit. Specifically, Section B-4b(1)(i) of the permit requires that the WWIS "will document the specific panel room or drift that an individual waste container is placed in as well as the row/column/height coordinates location of the container or containers assembly."

Since at least two containers are apparently "lost" from the repository report, it seems to me that the WWIS does not comply with that permit requirement.

For months the WWIS indicated that two damaged 55-gallon drums from INEEL (from two different shipments) were put into two 85-gallon drum - overpacks and that those overpacks were emplaced in panel 1.

Today's repository report no longer shows that those two overpacks exist, as they are not included in the containers summary page (page 2) nor do they show up on page 6, the INEEL page.

As you will remember we discussed at the time and there was correspondence with DOE in early 2002, on August 25, 2001, container IDRF074112468 arrived at WIPP. It was subsequently overpacked into an 85-gallon overpack and a dunnage drum was put into assembly IN011740 and the overpack drum was emplaced separately. At that time, there were some fixes made to the WWIS about this matter. But I have not been apprised of why a related problem is seemingly now occurring.

So I have a couple of questions:

1. Is NMED aware of the current status of those two overpacks? If so, please provide me with that information.

2. Has NMED brought this apparent problem with the WWIS to the attention of DOE? If so, what has been the response?

030713



Thanks for your help. I'm also sending this to Sandra Martin, in case the request should be made to her, rather than to you.

At 11:56 AM 7/9/03 -0600, you wrote:

Don -

The WSPF is on the fax machine right now, about 50 pages worth. The current respository report is attached.

Steve

Don Hancock wrote:

Steve,

As we discussed on the phone, please send me the waste stream profile form for about 1,400 drums of NTS TRU waste and a repository report showing NTS drums.

Thank you for your assistance.

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