



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



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**For Immediate Release**

**CBFO Selects Quality Assurance Director**

**CARLSBAD, N.M., December 18, 2013** – The U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Carlsbad Field Office (CBFO) has announced the selection of Mike Brown as the Director of the Office of Quality Assurance (QA).

Brown’s responsibilities include programmatic responsibility and lead for managing the Office of QA Program for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) and National Transuranic (TRU) Program. CBFO has responsibility for WIPP and the National TRU Program.

“The QA function is critical to our work,” said CBFO Manager Joe Franco. “Mike’s experience and skills are well suited to the position. I’m pleased to welcome him as our QA Director and look forward to working with him as he begins the duties.”

Brown’s previous experience includes nearly 30 years at WIPP. He moved to Carlsbad in 1984 to work with the WIPP management and operating contractor after having worked at the Hanford Reservation in Washington State. His first assignment at WIPP was the establishment of the inaugural security program and he later managed several other project functions. In

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1995, he joined the then DOE Carlsbad Area Office, where he managed the remote-handled waste, waste packaging development and waste characterization programs. Since 2000, he has served as the CBFO transportation packaging manager, overseeing the fleet of Nuclear Regulatory Commission-certified shipping containers used to transport waste to WIPP.

Brown is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a bachelor's degree in applied science and engineering. During his years of military service, he was stationed in Camp Ames in Korea, Fort Wainwright in Alaska and Sierra Army Depot in California.

WIPP is a DOE facility designed to safely isolate defense-related TRU waste from people and the environment. Waste temporarily stored at sites around the country is shipped to WIPP and permanently disposed in rooms mined out of an ancient salt formation 2,150 feet below the surface. WIPP, which began waste disposal operations in 1999, is located 26 miles outside of Carlsbad, N.M.

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