

Allen, Pam, NMENV

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2014 11:10 AM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV
Subject: FW: 2150 - April 29, 2014

April

From: 2150 - Employee Information
Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2014 10:54 AM
Subject: 2150 - April 29, 2014

April 29, 2014

Quick action earns recognition for two employees



Firefighting isn't a routine task for NWP Business Administration's Donnie Rodriguez or Leslie Aragon. But that didn't stop either one from acting quickly to prevent a small fire inside a toaster from turning into something larger.



Search for radioactive contamination source narrows



Three members of our re-entry team in Level B anti-contamination suits reached the waste face in Panel 7, Room 7 Wednesday, but the exact location and cause of the radioactive material release is still unknown. There was no visible indication of what has occurred.

However, a review of photos and video taken during the entry indicates some disruption and dispersion of magnesium oxide in Room 7 (see photo above). This area will be a focal point during the next entry to try and verify whether this is related to the radiation event or not.

Aragon was recognized for promptly notifying the CMR of the fire. Rodriguez was recognized for his actions to extinguish the fire.

As a precautionary measure, everyone in the Skeen-Whitlock Building was evacuated until given the okay to re-enter the building.

Above, Bob McQuinn congratulating them both for their efforts.

Safety & Wellness: The dangers of gardening?

Vegetables are an important part of a healthy diet and most agree that fresh from the garden is tough to beat. But while many have already started planting gardens, very few have probably stopped to think about the hazards that may be associated with it.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has some tips for gardeners, whether a novice or a proven green thumb!

Dress to protect

Gear up to protect yourself from lawn and garden pests, harmful chemicals, sharp or motorized equipment, insects, and harmful rays of too much sun.

Put safety first

Powered and unpowered tools and equipment can cause serious injury. Limit distractions, use chemicals and equipment properly, and be aware of hazards to lower your risk for injury.

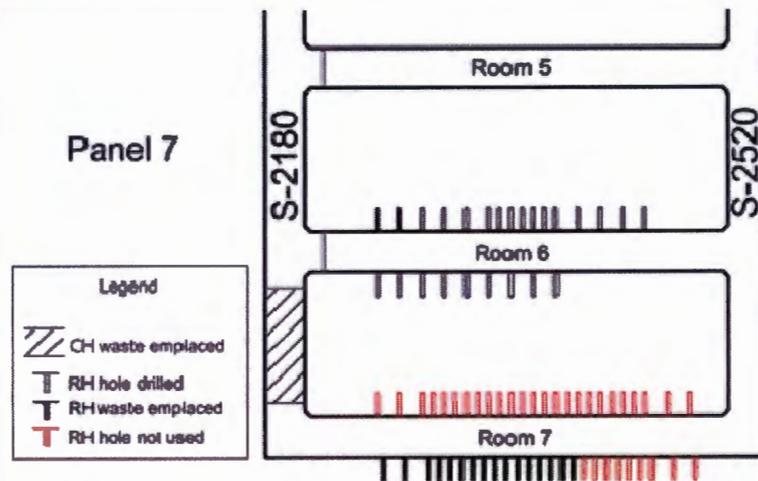
Know your limits in the heat

Even being out for short periods of time in high temperatures can cause serious health problems. Monitor your activities and time in the sun to lower your risk for heat-related illness.

For more information about these tips and more, visit the [CDC Web page](#).

Contact
2150

Click here to e-mail
or call Ext. 7215



File photo: Panel 7 view of S2520 looking west toward Room 7.

Panel 7, Room 7 Quick Facts

Waste containers disposed
274 (258 CH and 16 RH)

Container volume emplaced
393 cubic meters

Last row emplaced
24

Percent of room full
12.96 percent

Joint Information Center volunteers participate in annual training





A UPS-led partnership with B&W and AREVA

Volunteers of the Joint Information Center (JIC) took part in annual training last week, but this year was like no other. Following the fire and radiation event in February, every member of the team had fresh experience from one or both of the JIC activations.

The training was provided by emergency public information expert Darrell Lankford, who is one of the original authors of DOE Order 151.1C, which established DOE's comprehensive emergency management system that includes JICs. Early in the week, an overview was held for all volunteers that included information about a JIC's purpose, individual roles and responsibilities and the importance of accurate and timely information in an emergency. Some of the discussions included examples of what worked well and what needed improvement based on the real-life activations in February.

The use of social media in emergency public information was also discussed. WIPP recently established an account on Twitter, but some sites are almost exclusively using social media for dissemination of information, rather than traditional news releases.

Spokesperson training was also offered for those who serve as either spokespersons or technical spokespersons for the JIC. Participants not only learned fundamentals of serving in that role, but also stood up and were critiqued by Lankford and their peers.

The training culminated in a drill, where the full JIC was activated in response to a simulated emergency at WIPP. Above, DOE Spokesperson Roger Nelson and members of the JIC management team consult with Lankford (standing in the pink shirt) about information for distribution via Twitter. The use of social media may become an integral part of the JIC's future operations. Below, Public Information Manager Kim Greer writes information on the white board as the public and media phone teams get ready to answer phone inquiries.

