WIPP UPDATE: May 30, 2014

Tests begin in preparation for filter change out

Today, workers began the process to test underground ventilation fans to verify that airflow can be safely reduced during the filter replacement process. New filters are required to replace those that have been capturing material since the February 5 fire and February 14 radiation event. Workers are replacing the filters in phases so that exhaust air leaving the underground facility will continue to be filtered during the activity.

This is the first filter replacement to be done at WIPP, and workers will be assisted by experts from the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site. Replacement work is expected to take several weeks and no entries will be made during the filter change out.

Community Meetings Scheduled

June 5 – The City of Carlsbad and DOE will co-host its twice-monthly meeting featuring updates on WIPP recovery activities. The next meeting is scheduled Thursday at 5:30 p.m. Location: Carlsbad City Council Chambers, 101 N. Halagueno Street. Live streaming of the weekly meetings can be seen at http://new.livestream.com/rrv/.