

## Allen, Pam, NMENV

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**From:** Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 17, 2014 4:42 PM  
**To:** Allen, Pam, NMENV  
**Subject:** FW: WIPP Information - For Call Today

May

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**From:** Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV  
**Sent:** Monday, May 05, 2014 2:35 PM  
**To:** Flynn, Ryan, NMENV; Kendall, Jeff, NMENV  
**Cc:** Winchester, Jim, NMENV; Tongate, Butch, NMENV; Schwender, Erika, NMENV; Blaine, Tom, NMENV; Skibitski, Thomas, NMENV; Kieling, John, NMENV; Holmes, Steve, NMENV; LucasKamat, Susan, NMENV; Turner, Jill, NMENV; Nelson, Morgan, NMENV; Ines Triay (triayin@fiu.edu); Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV; Smith, Coleman, NMENV  
**Subject:** FW: WIPP Information - For Call Today

NMED Notes in Blue

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**From:** Oba Vincent  
**Sent:** Monday, May 05, 2014 10:50 AM  
**To:** 'Kliphuis, Trais'; 'peake.tom@epa.gov'; 'Edwards, Jonathan'; 'Walsh, Jonathan'; 'Perrin, Alan'; 'Kehrman, Bob - RES'; 'Chavez, Rick - RES'; 'Stone.Nick@epa.gov'; 'coleman.smith@state.nm.us'; 'brozowski.george@epa.gov'; 'Fraass, Ron'; 'Hardy, Russell'; 'Veal.Lee@epamail.epa.gov'; 'Economy, Kathleen ([Economy.Kathleen@epa.gov](mailto:Economy.Kathleen@epa.gov))'; 'Poppell, Sam W. ([Poppell.Sam@epa.gov](mailto:Poppell.Sam@epa.gov))'; 'Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV <[Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us](mailto:Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us)> ([Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us](mailto:Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us))'; 'Faller, Scott H.'  
**Cc:** George Basabilvazo - WIPPNet; 'Reynolds, Tammy - NWP'; 'Harris, Alton - DOE EM'; Susan McCauslin; 'Joe Harvill ([jharvill@portageinc.com](mailto:jharvill@portageinc.com))'; 'Kennedy, Scott - NWP'; 'Jones, Stewart - RES'; 'Oates, Berta - CTAC'; 'schultheisz.daniel@epa.gov'; Philip Theisen - ORISE; Russ Patterson - WIPPNet; 'Kouba, Steve - WRES'; Roger Nelson - WIPPNet; 'Bignell, Dale - CTAC'; Susan McCauslin - WIPPNet; 'Pace, Berry'; Anthony Stone - WIPPNet; J.R. Stroble - WIPPNet  
**Subject:** WIPP Information - For Call Today

Attached are the filter performance data, and Station A/B data.

Below is a summary of activities: (Please note, activities and dates are subject to change. Please verify the most current dates of any information provided).

- Underground remains in Filtration Mode utilizing Fan 860B. Due to higher than normal vibration readings on 5/2, fan 860C was shutdown and 860B was placed online. The vendor will be on site on 5/5 to assist engineering with evaluation of the 860C fan condition.
- Cleaning of the soot from the fire event in the Waste Handling Tower is continuing; Cleaning of the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> floor has resumed. The WS is anticipated to be back in service in June.
- Weekly MSHA inspections of the AIS & SS are anticipated on 5/7.
- The next U/G entry to the waste face will be to collect additional pictures with a longer reach rod to obtain an aerial view of the waste containers in the area of interest and sample material from Panel 7 to help determine the cause of the event. The entry is projected for 5/6.
- Reestablishment of Radiation Protection Program in U/G: A series of entries will be made into the U/G to modify postings, maintain CAMs and establish "clean zones". Close to daily. A CAM is now in operation at the base of

the SS which is being monitored at the surface. The first entry may occur this week to initiate this work possibly on 5/8.

- 39 shipments have been made to WCS. Waste shipping is on hold due to the concerns associated with waste potentially containing nitrate salts. (No change)
- Based on detailed evaluations of the video taken during the U/G entry on 4/30, potential concerns with waste stream LA-MIN02-V.001 have been raised. There are:
  - 26 of these containers at LANL (3706 Project),
  - 116 of them at WCS (all overpacked in SWBs) and
  - 349 of them in WIPP (0 in the surface waste handling bay; 209 in Panel 6, Room 1; 85 in Panel 6, Room 2; 55 in Panel 7, room 7).
- LANL has initiated daily reports on the waste concerns. LANL personnel are on site today to participate in meetings regarding the waste. (No change)
- Working with Evaporator bottom salts with nitric acid –stabilized with kitty litter – changed from inorganic to organic – has wheat shaft in it. Came in contact with salt and became explosive...hoping to get samples to track back to the waste.
- Busy prepping for tomorrow.
- Scott on video: Video highlighted that there is a larger area behind 7<sup>th</sup> row that MgO has been disturbed. Shows rib in back in good condition and bolts are OK. New camera in by Tuesday that can be lowered into waste and will articulate.
- Part of video shows stiffeners in MgO sack – this is because of the disturbance.
- NMED asked about the bulkhead and damage to it. They will continue looking into this.
- Nick Stone (EPA): Sampling analysis for nitrates or other byproducts? Has DOE given thought was to when analyses will be available? Analysis of MgO for nitrate products? DOE: Arranging with SRS for analysis. WIPP labs may not be able to handle because of rad level. As of this AM still talking about it. For tomorrow, they will focus on photos. If MgO and other sampling is possible, it will be done.
- Same number for re-entry tomorrow. Will send work plan before tomorrow's entry.
- Steve (NMED): Is INL analytic lab still operating? DOE: No longer funding for it. Not sure if anyone else has picked up the tab.
- Steve (NMED): Are there any neutron emitters near the suspected center of the event? New action item...
- Nick Stone (EPA): Are they identifying other drums that may be similar? DOE immediately stopped movement of this waste.
- Trais asked for elaboration on the investigation: CCP is reviewing RTR and data. Mark Piercy (CCP) is lead on that and will be on tomorrows call to answer any additional questions. DOE has a team at LANL with chemists and mangers. LANL had folks at WIPP.
- WCS/State of TX are very engaged and was at WIPP this weekend. They have concrete portable bunkers – may move waste to them but are concerned about temperature.
- At LANL all waste is consolidated to Dome 230 at Area G. Extensive defense in depth inspections. Constant air monitoring. This waste stream never carried D001 or D003 (ignitable or reactive). No indication of concrete barriers around wastes. Some chemists already doing tests at LANL.

**NOTE CALL-IN NUMBER: 1 888 413 3490, Code 7175394**

Thank you

