



Allen, Pam, NMENV

From: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2014 1:29 PM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV
Cc: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Subject: FW: LANL-ALL2653: Leadership of WIPP Response, Waste Streams

Please add the email below to the record. Thanks.

From: Maggiore, Peter [<mailto:Peter.Maggiore@nnsa.doe.gov>]
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2014 12:50 PM
To: Kliphuis, Trais, NMENV
Subject: FW: LANL-ALL2653: Leadership of WIPP Response, Waste Streams

2nd try...

Pete

From: owner-lanl-all@maillist.lanl.gov [<mailto:owner-lanl-all@maillist.lanl.gov>] **On Behalf Of** Distributions
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2014 10:18 AM
To: lanl-all@lanl.gov
Cc: KimDavis.Lebak@nnsa.doe.gov
Subject: LANL-ALL2653: Leadership of WIPP Response, Waste Streams

To/MS: LANL-ALL
From/MS: Charles F. McMillan, DIR, A100
Phone/Fax: 7-5101/Fax: 7-2997
Symbol: DIR-14-081
Date: May 23, 2014

SUBJECT: LEADERSHIP OF WIPP RESPONSE, WASTE STREAMS

Los Alamos National Laboratory has been examining many aspects of the recent radiological release at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) facility. Many uncertainties and questions remain about our drum(s) and the event at WIPP. Our current efforts include understanding possible mechanisms for the release, details of the historic waste stream, and the processes and procedures used to package and transport that waste. In order to enhance the significant investigation underway here at Los Alamos, I have placed Principal Associate Director for Global Security, Terry Wallace, in charge of coordinating the Laboratory's response effective immediately.

As a New Mexico geophysicist who has worked at WIPP, with extensive experience as the senior Laboratory leader for science and technology, Terry brings the highest level of leadership to



this challenge. He understands the chemistry, physics, and geological science issues that we must navigate.

We have an urgent task before us to understand what happened, prevent a recurrence, and continue taking appropriate action to enhance the protection of our people, the community, and the environment.

In addition to pursuing the technical basis for understanding the WIPP event, our preliminary internal investigation has revealed weaknesses in our own processes, and we need to determine whether this contributed to the event and make immediate course corrections.

Terry's priorities in this new assignment will be to: 1) assure we are safe and secure in ALL our transuranic waste operations; 2) understand the processes and packaging environment that contributed to the uncertainties surrounding the WIPP event; and 3) confirm that processing, packing, and shipping are integrated in a manner that ensures the safety, security, and integrity of the management of our waste streams.

I expect all Laboratory elements associated with our investigation and resolution of this incident to be responsive to Terry's direction until I am satisfied that we understand the causes and have a credible plan for management of our waste streams. In addition, Terry will lead the coordination efforts with key external entities including the State of New Mexico, the Department of Energy, WIPP, and our sister Laboratories.

My tasking of one of the Laboratory's most senior leaders underscores the priority I have placed on protecting employee and public safety, understanding what may have occurred with our waste streams, and ensuring that we take appropriate actions.