

5-7-15

 ENTERED

Initial Closure of Panel 6 & Closure of Room 7, Panel 7

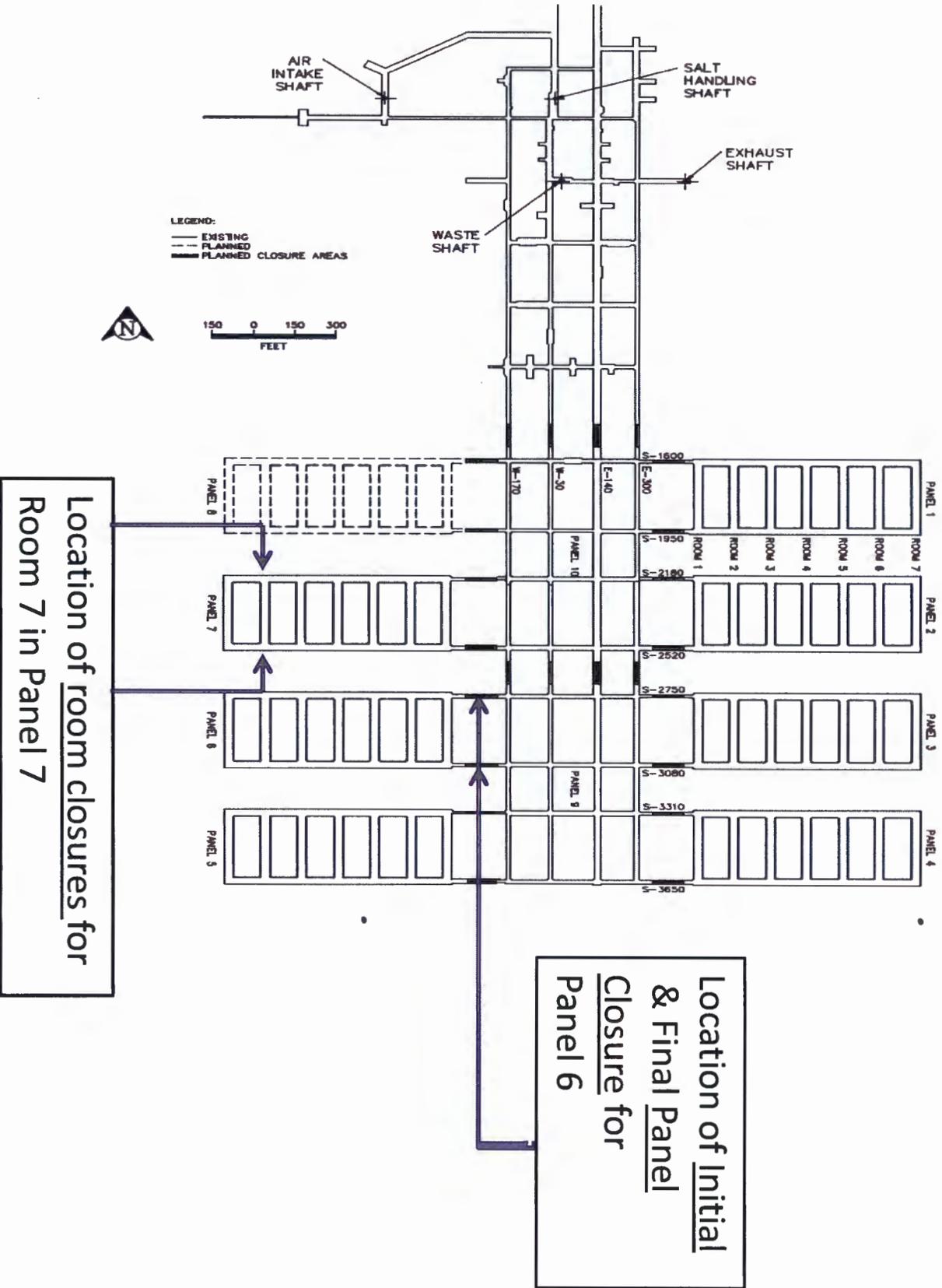
George Basabilvazo



Prerequisites for Initial Closure of Panel 6 and Closure of Room 7, Panel 7

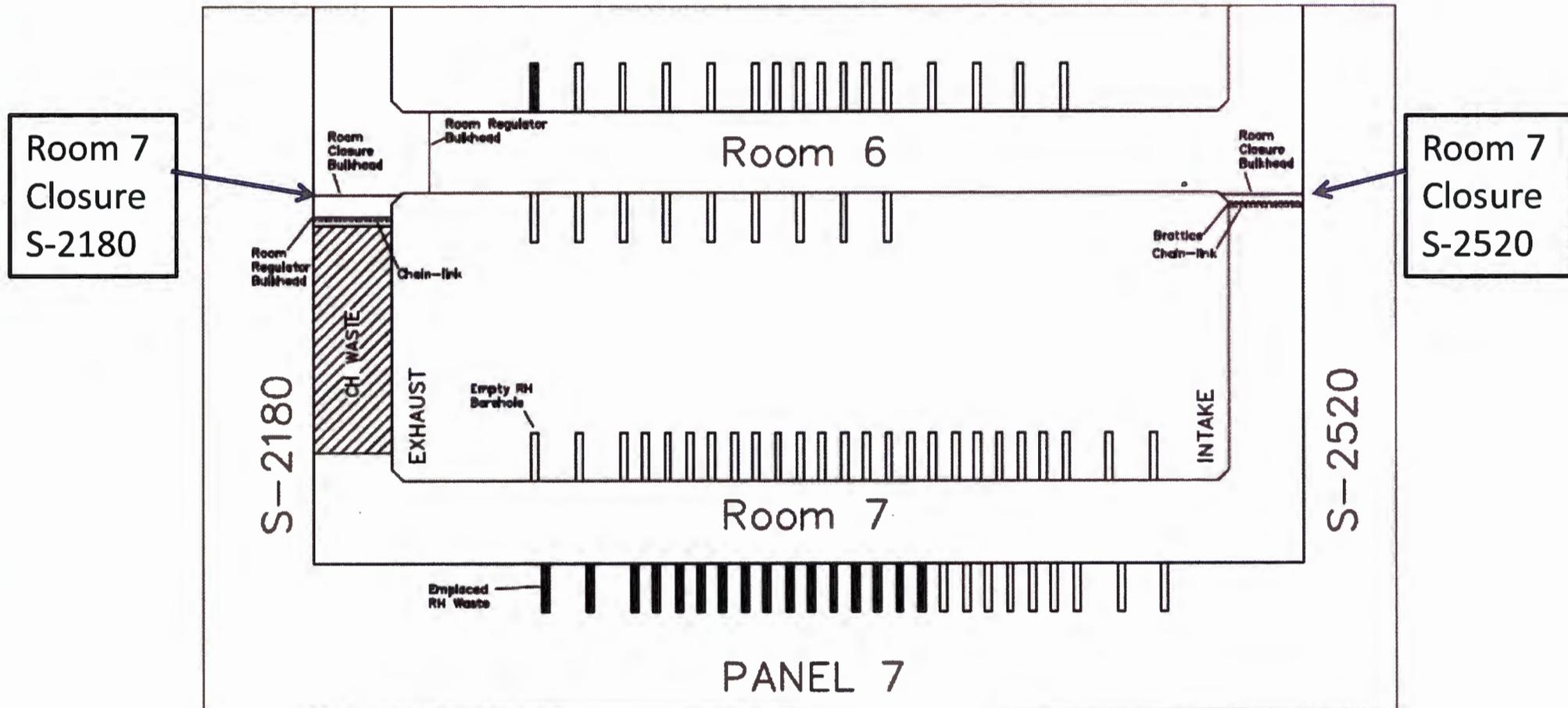
- A tremendous amount of prerequisite work activities were conducted, over the past 14 months, which facilitated safe conditions for installation of a substantial barrier and steel bulkhead for initial closure of Panel 6
- Activities include but were not limited to the following:
 - Radiological characterization (from entrance at shafts to all parts of the underground using respirators and protective clothing, gloves and booties)
 - Established radiological control areas based on characterization and posted accordingly
 - Installation of portable radiological monitors air samplers throughout the underground (u/g)
 - Realignment of ventilation in u/g for recovery activities
 - Geotechnical evaluation, conducted ground control and bolting
 - Establish u/g habitability (e.g., portable toilets replacement, eyewash stations inspections, and fire suppression equipment inspections, etc.)
 - Cleaning of electrical equipment in shafts and throughout the u/g
 - Restocking self rescuers and SCSR caches, establish operability of mine phones, lights, carts, etc.
 - Bring Waste Hoist back into operation (clean soot from structure, ductwork and electrical panels; remove sump water; conduct pre-operational shaft and structural inspections, conduct pre-operation maintenance)
 - Conducted maintenance on u/g infrastructure (e.g., bulkhead doors, plant air, electrical sub stations, etc.)
 - Performed cleaning, maintenance and decontamination of u/g equipment to ensure safe operability
 - Performed HEPA filter Change out for U/G Ventilation System
 - Developed new work control documents/procedures and safety basis documentation and
 - Training on new documents, PPE; performed drills and an exercise
 - Developed transition zones between clean areas and radiological contamination areas
 - Conducted u/g bolting in contamination areas using PPE (respirators and clothing)
 - Reestablished appropriate ventilation to many portions of the u/g to meet the u/g equipment requirements for safe operability
 - Began spraying water on salt to attenuate radiological contamination in many access drifts areas
 - Conducted REACH activities and sampling in Panel 7 to support the AIB investigation

Plan View of the WIPP Underground



Proposed Closure of Room 7 in Panel 7

(disposal room closure – steel bulkhead)

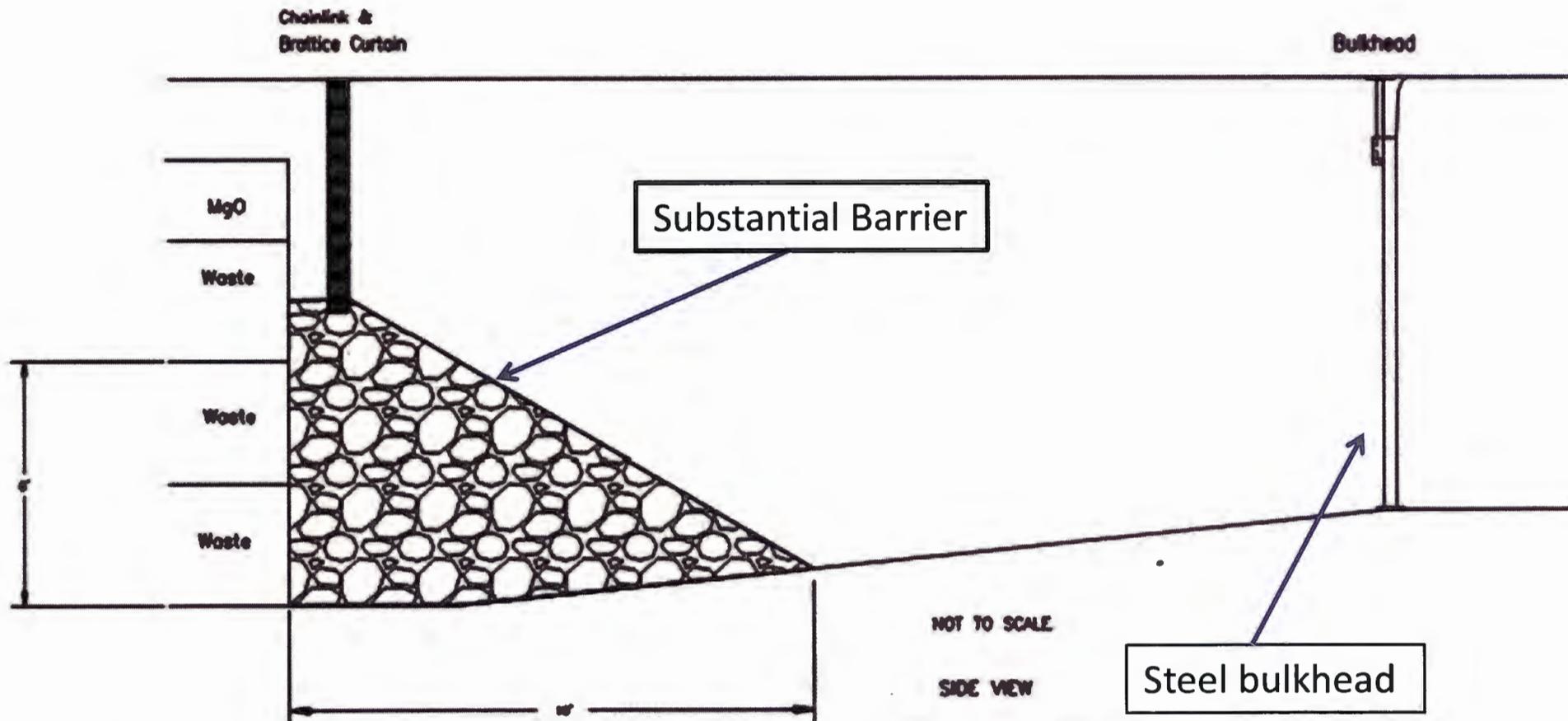


***Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Nitrate Salt Bearing
Waste Container Isolation Plan, Revision 1,
September 30, 2014
Pages 9 - 10 of 32***

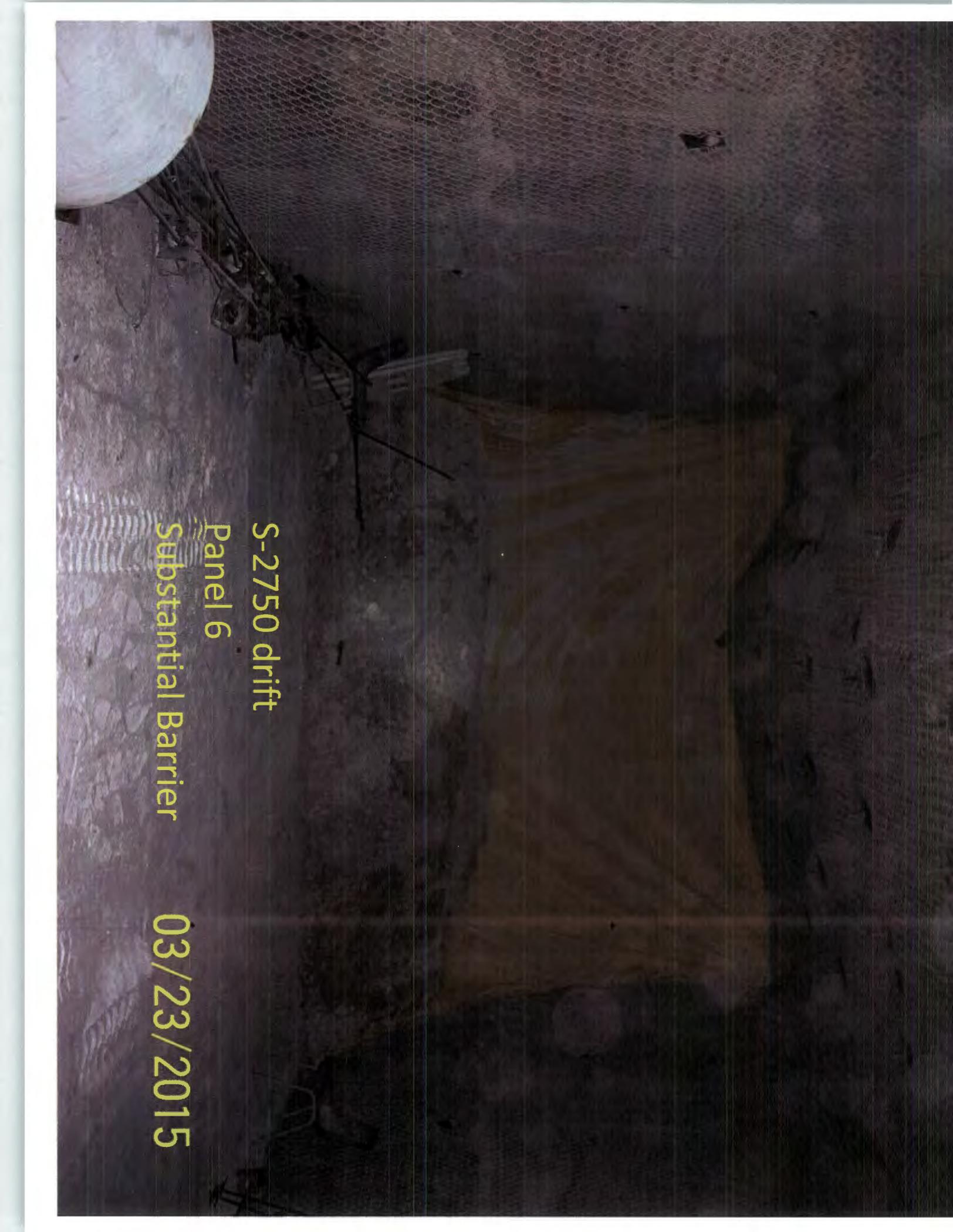
“.....Construction of the substantial barrier and bulkhead structures in Panel 6 was suspended when a vehicle fire in another part of the mine required the immediate evacuation of the underground on February 5, 2014. Work on these structures had not resumed prior to the radiological release event. The substantial barrier (defined in Permit Part 1, Section 1.5.13) has been installed in Panel 6, S-2750 drift (ventilation air intake side). The salt and the chain-link and brattice cloth curtain are in place. On the S-3080 drift (ventilation air exhaust side), the chainlink and brattice cloth curtain have been dropped from the back (ceiling) but the run-of-mine salt (or other non-flammable material pursuant to Permit Attachment N1, Figure N1-1) has not been placed against the waste. Bulkheads have not yet been installed in either drift. The initial closure will complete construction of the substantial barrier, including bulkheads.”

Initial Closure of Panel 6:

Consists of a Substantial Barrier & Steel Bulkhead
(cross-sectional view of access drift)



“Substantial barrier” means salt or other non-combustible material installed between the waste face and the bulkhead



S-2750 drift

Panel 6

Substantial Barrier

03/23/2015

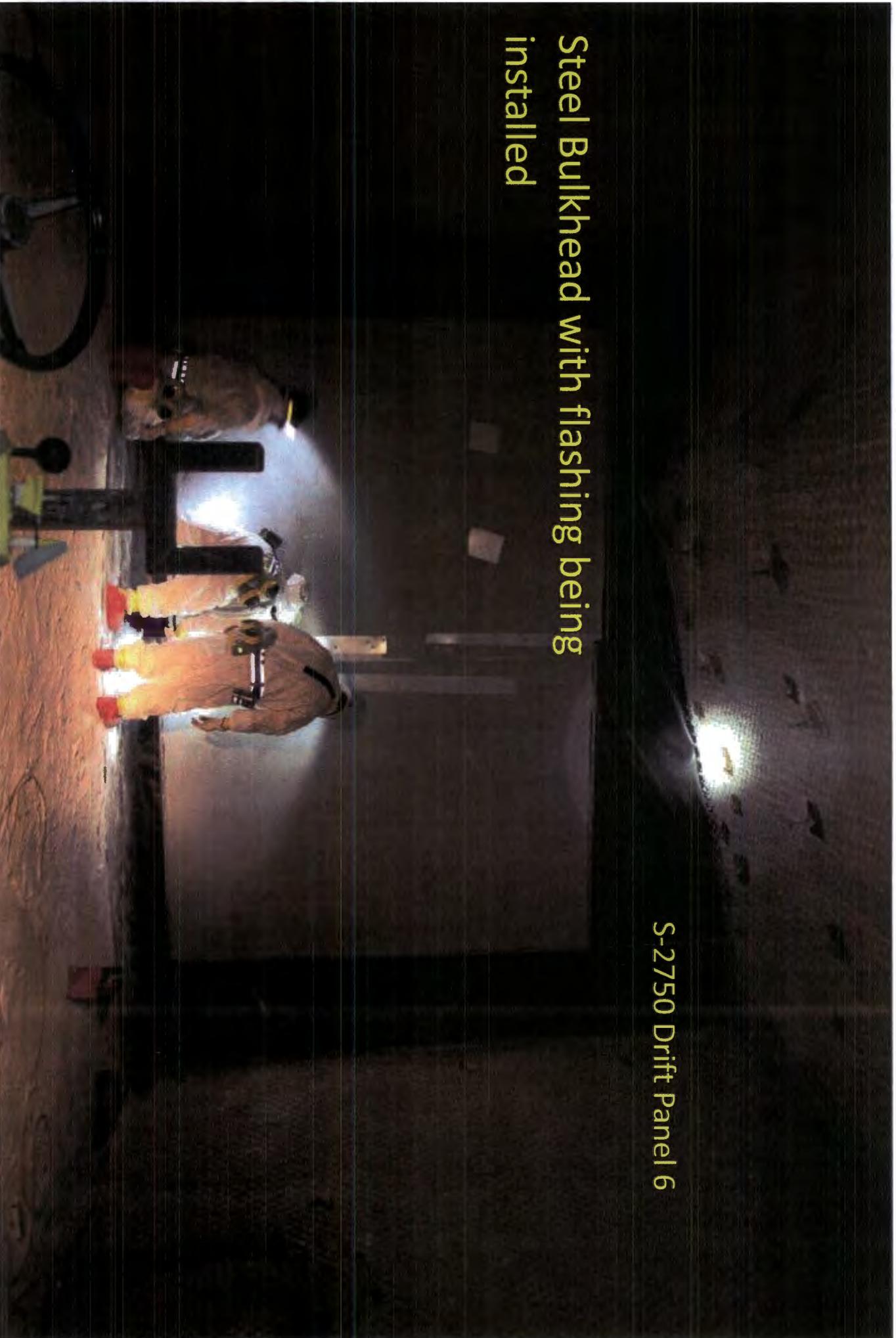


Steel Bulkhead without flashing installed

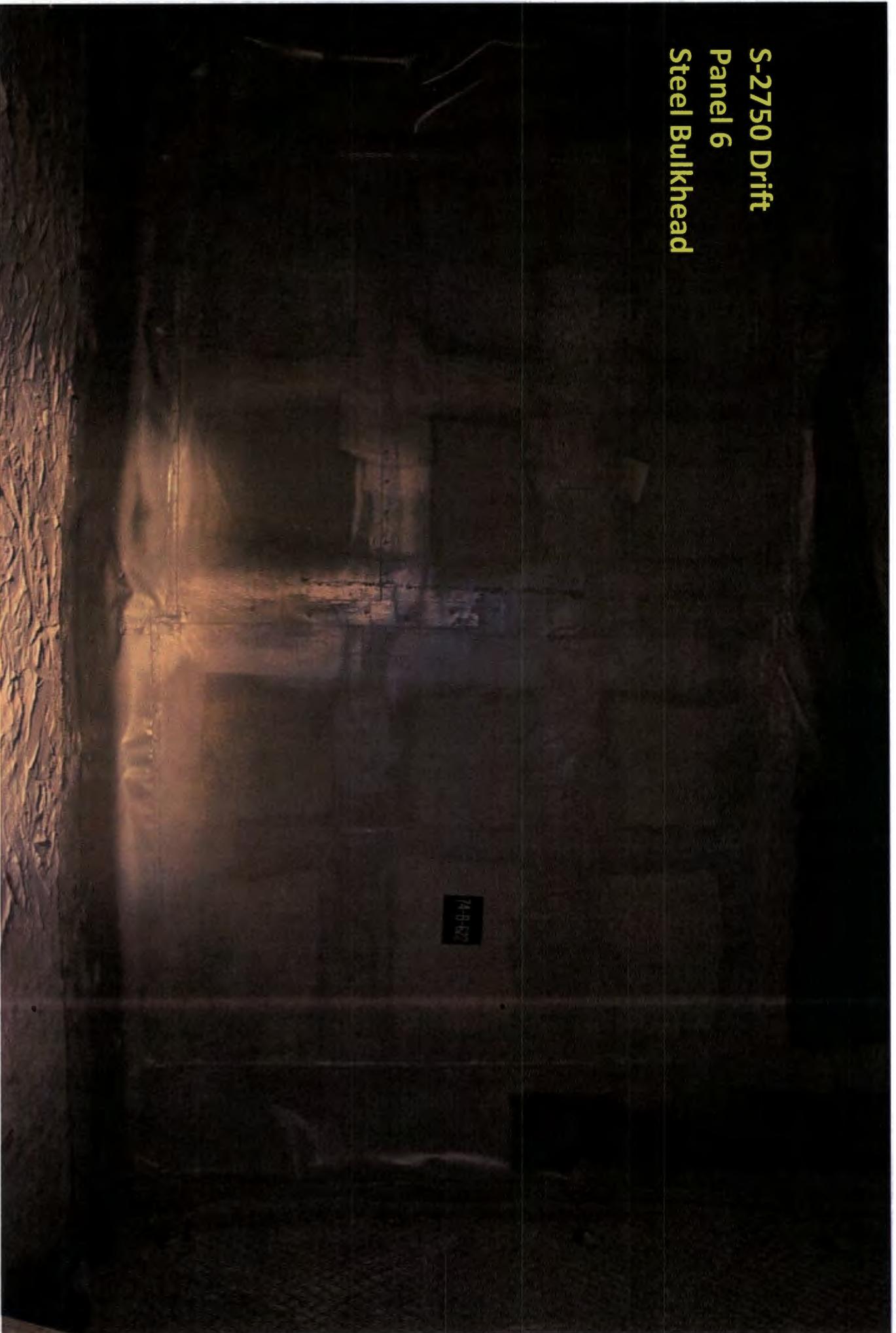
S-2750 Drift Panel 6

S-2750 Drift Panel 6

Steel Bulkhead with flashing being installed



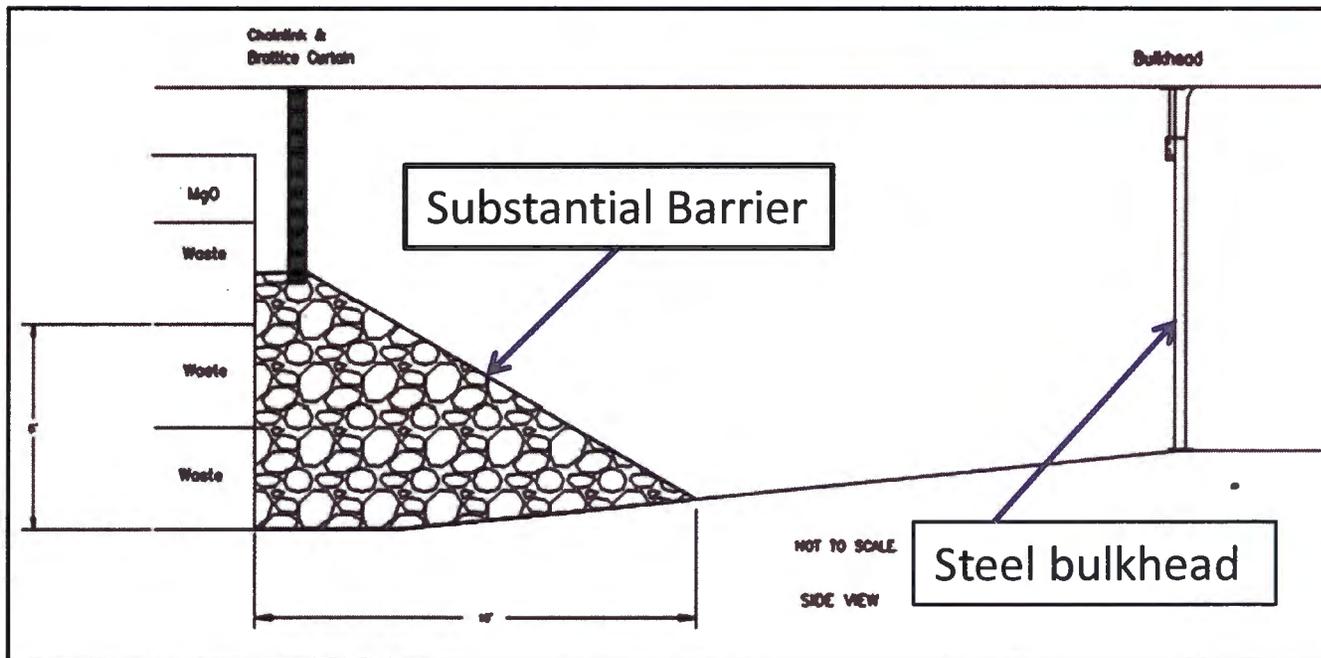
**S-2750 Drift
Panel 6
Steel Bulkhead**



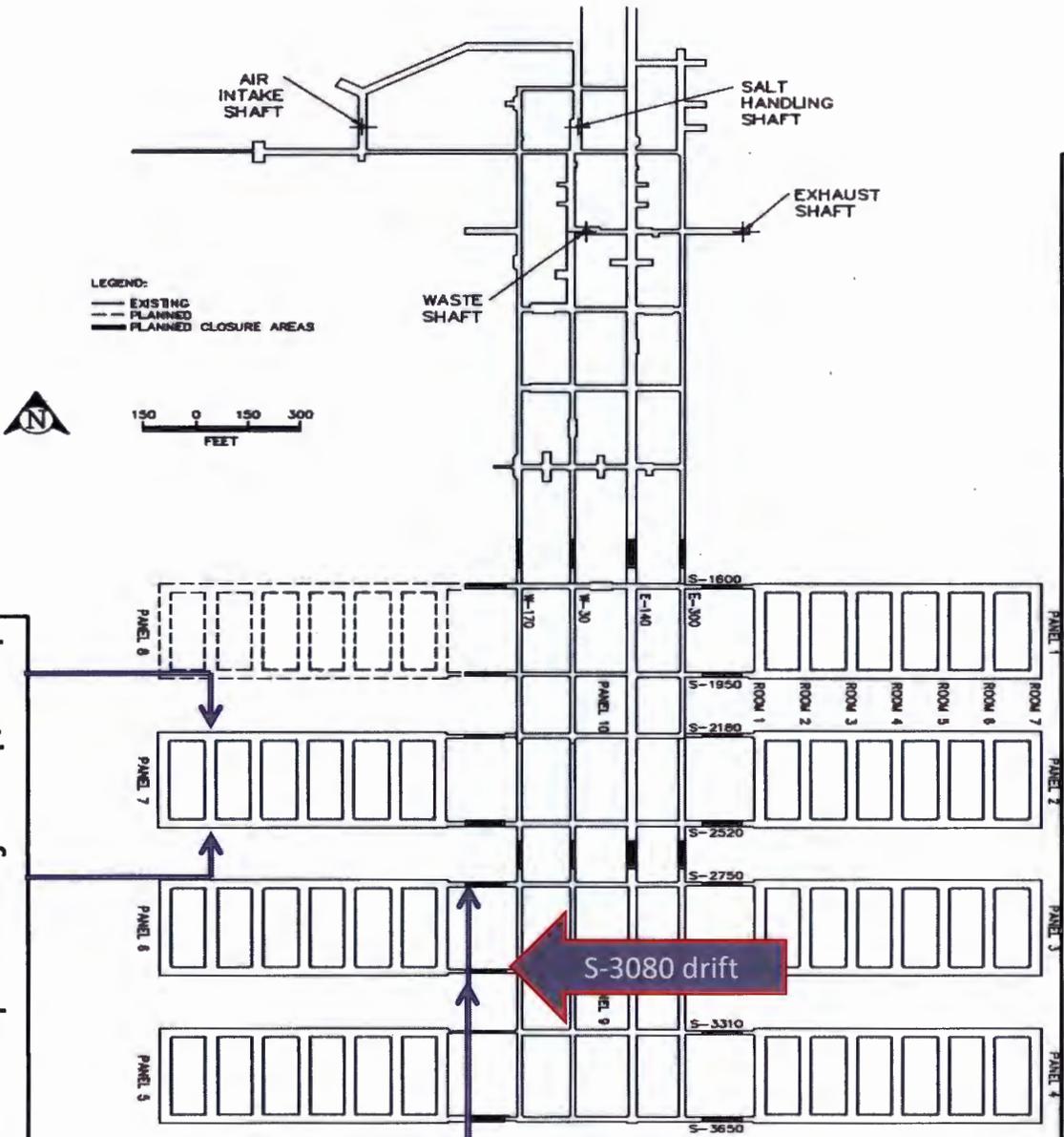
S-2750 Drift Panel 6
Substantial Barrier



S-2750 Drift Panel 6
Steel Bulkhead & Flashing



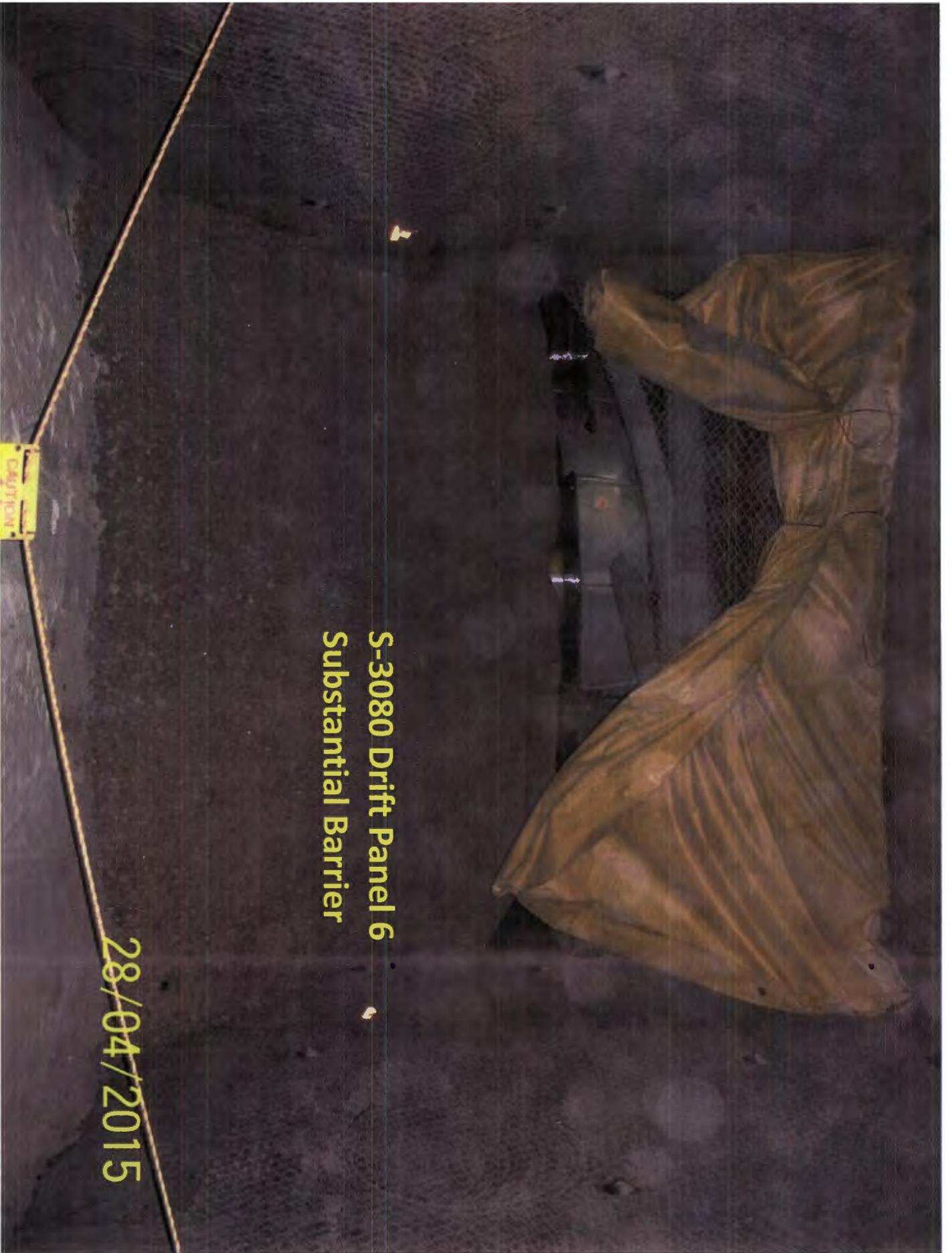
Plan View of the WIPP Underground



Location of room closures for Room 7 in Panel 7

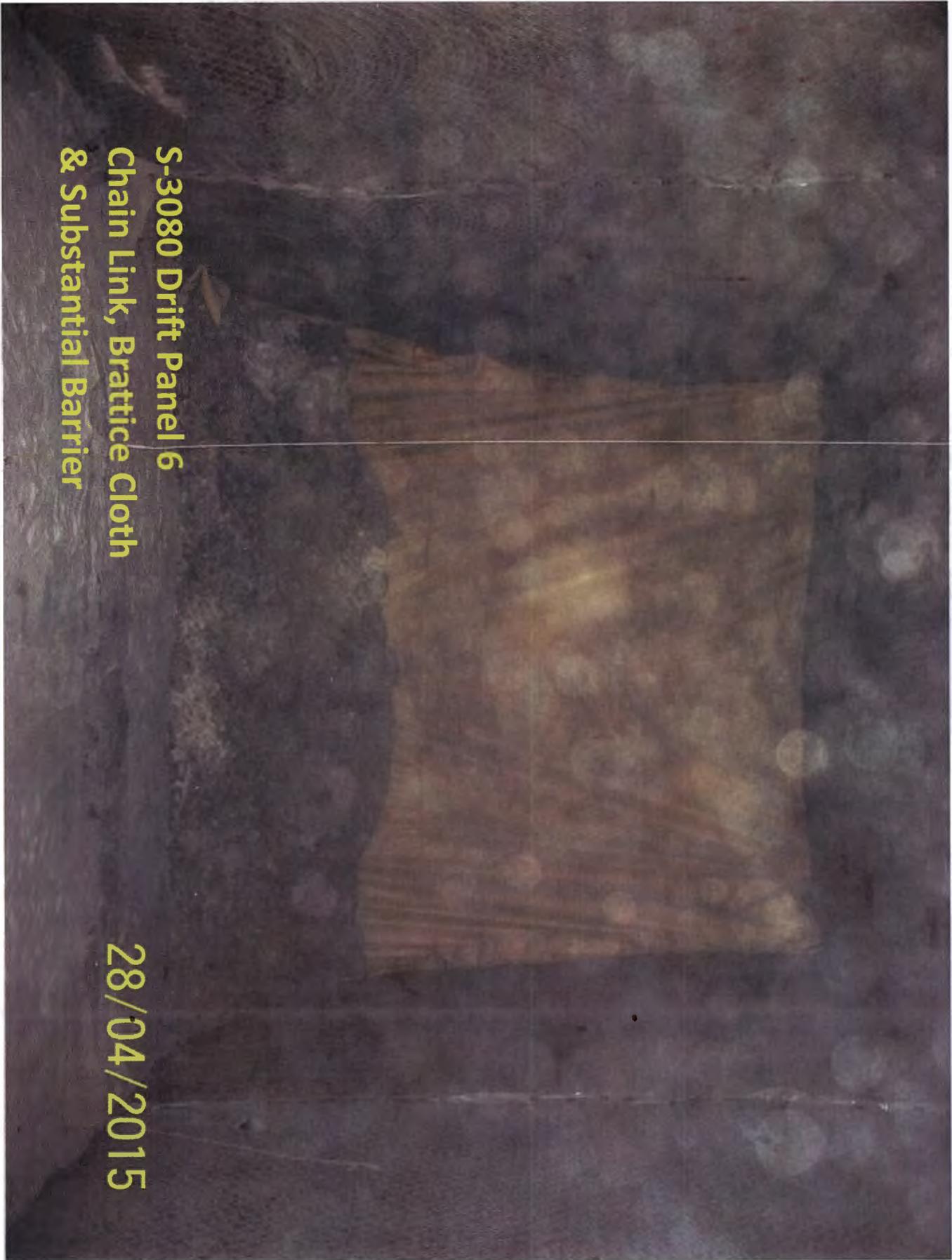
Location of Initial & Final Panel Closure for Panel 6

S-3080 drift



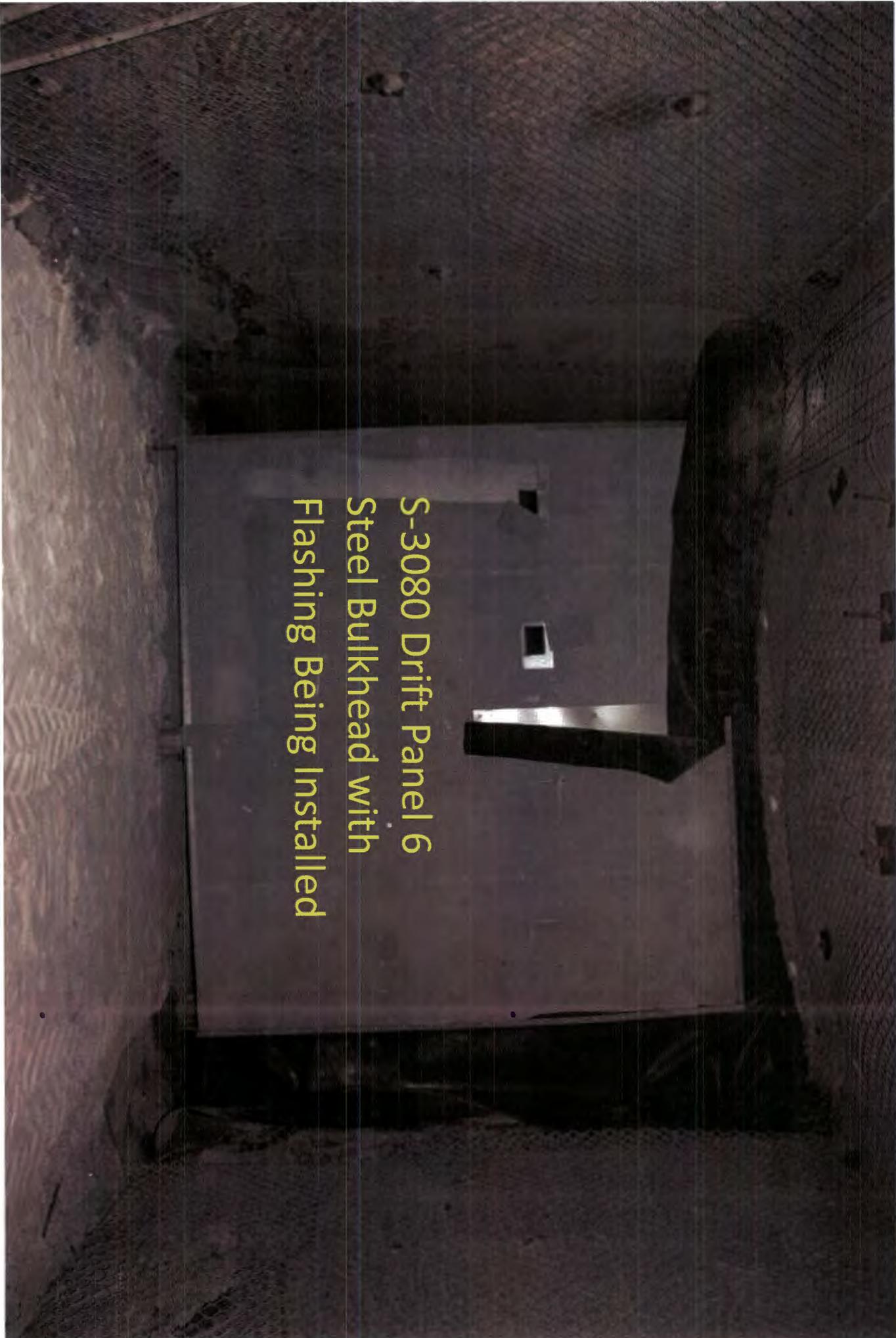
**S-3080 Drift Panel 6
Substantial Barrier**

28/04/2015



**S-3080 Drift Panel 6
Chain Link, Brattice Cloth
& Substantial Barrier**

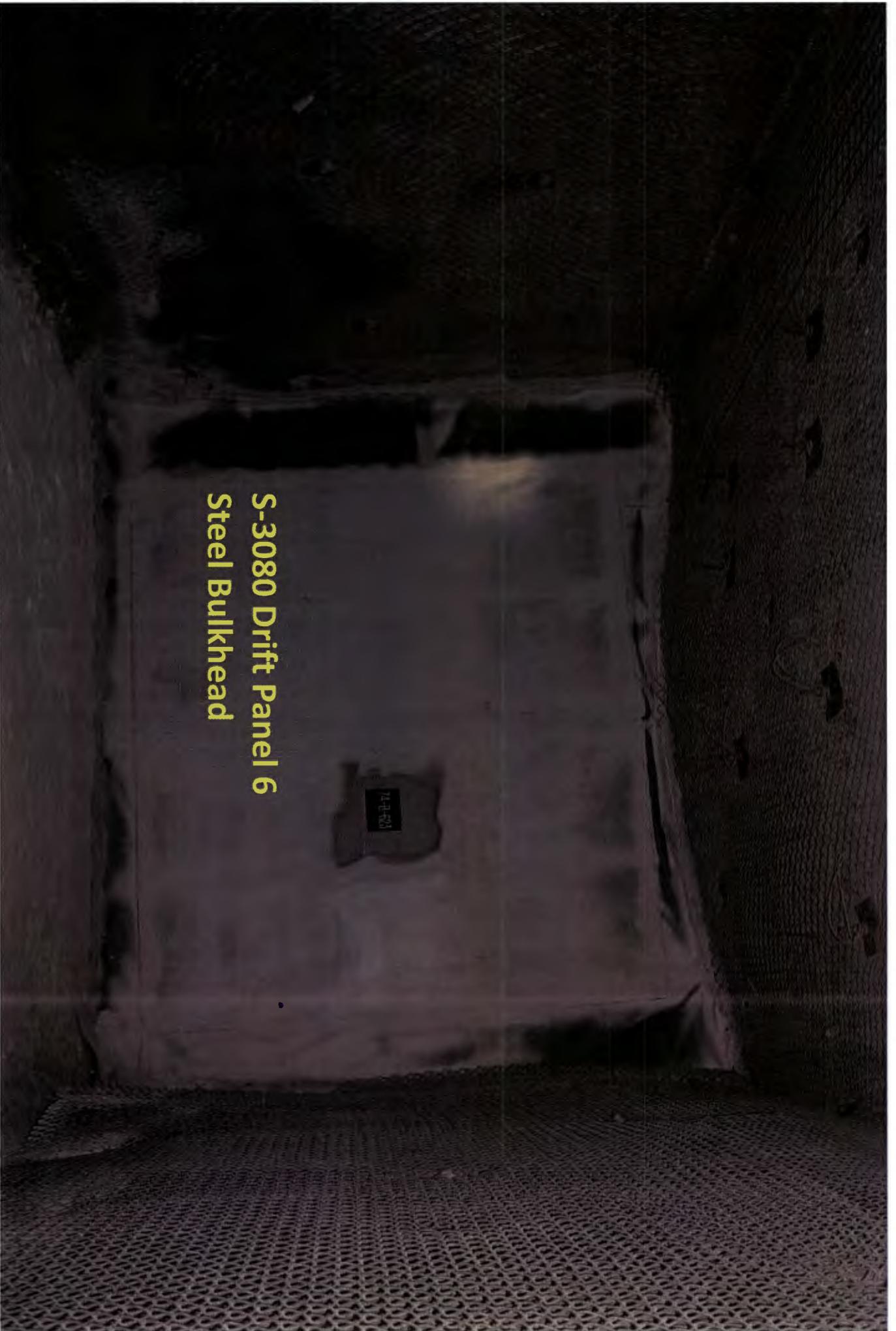
28/04/2015



S-3080 Drift Panel 6
Steel Bulkhead with
Flashing Being Installed

**S-3080 Drift Panel 6
Steel Bulkhead**

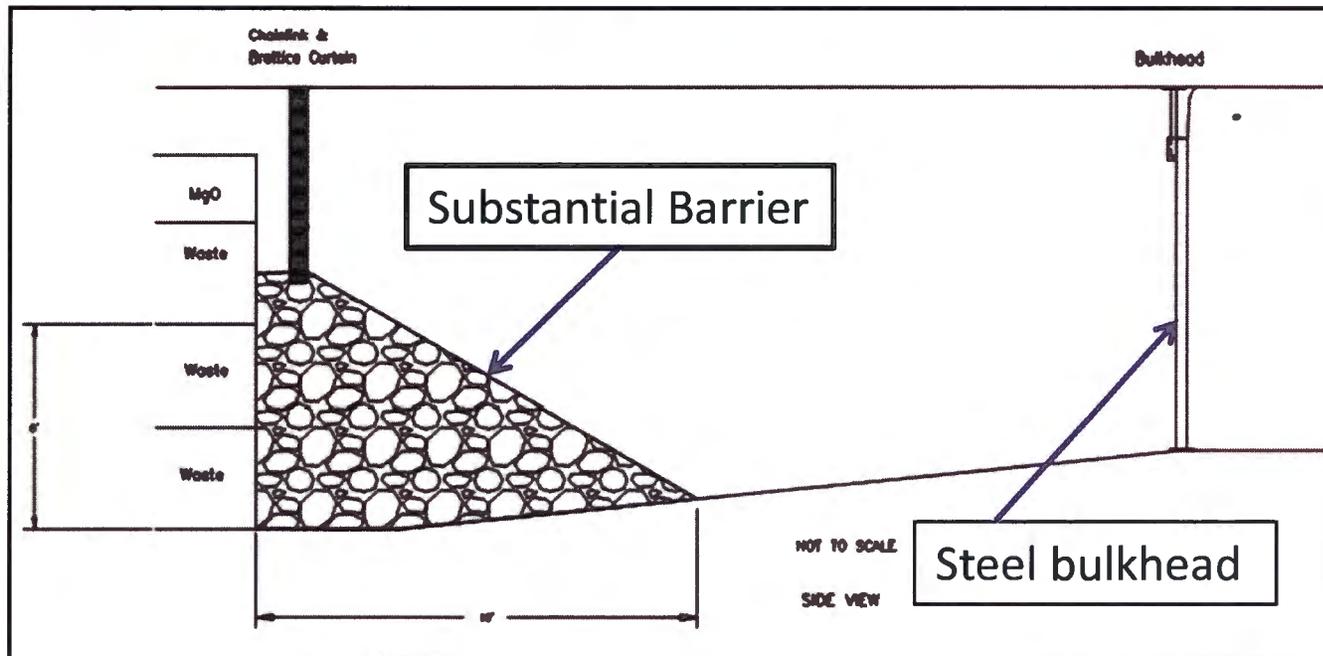
14-11-2011



S-3080 Drift Panel 6
Substantial Barrier

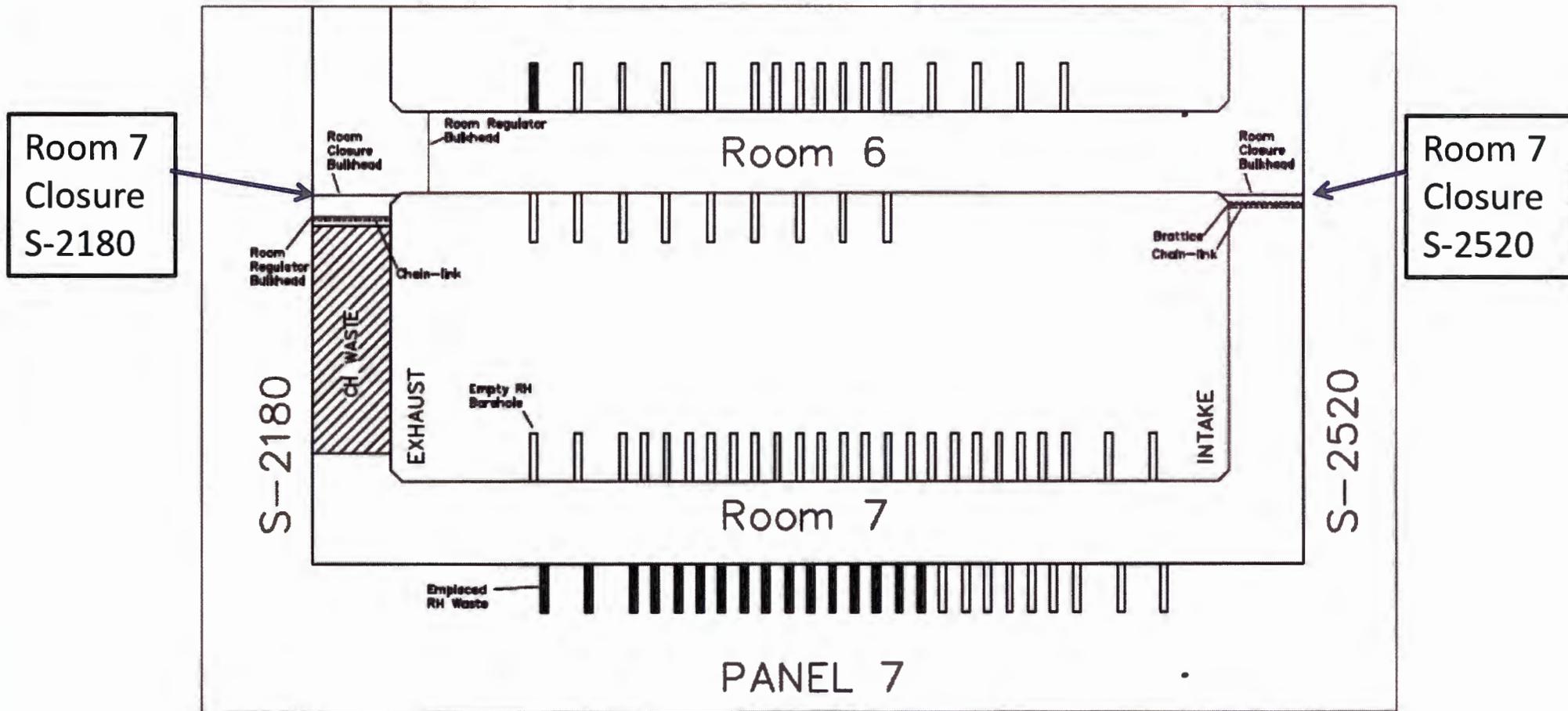


S-3080 Drift Panel 6
Steel Bulkhead & Flashing



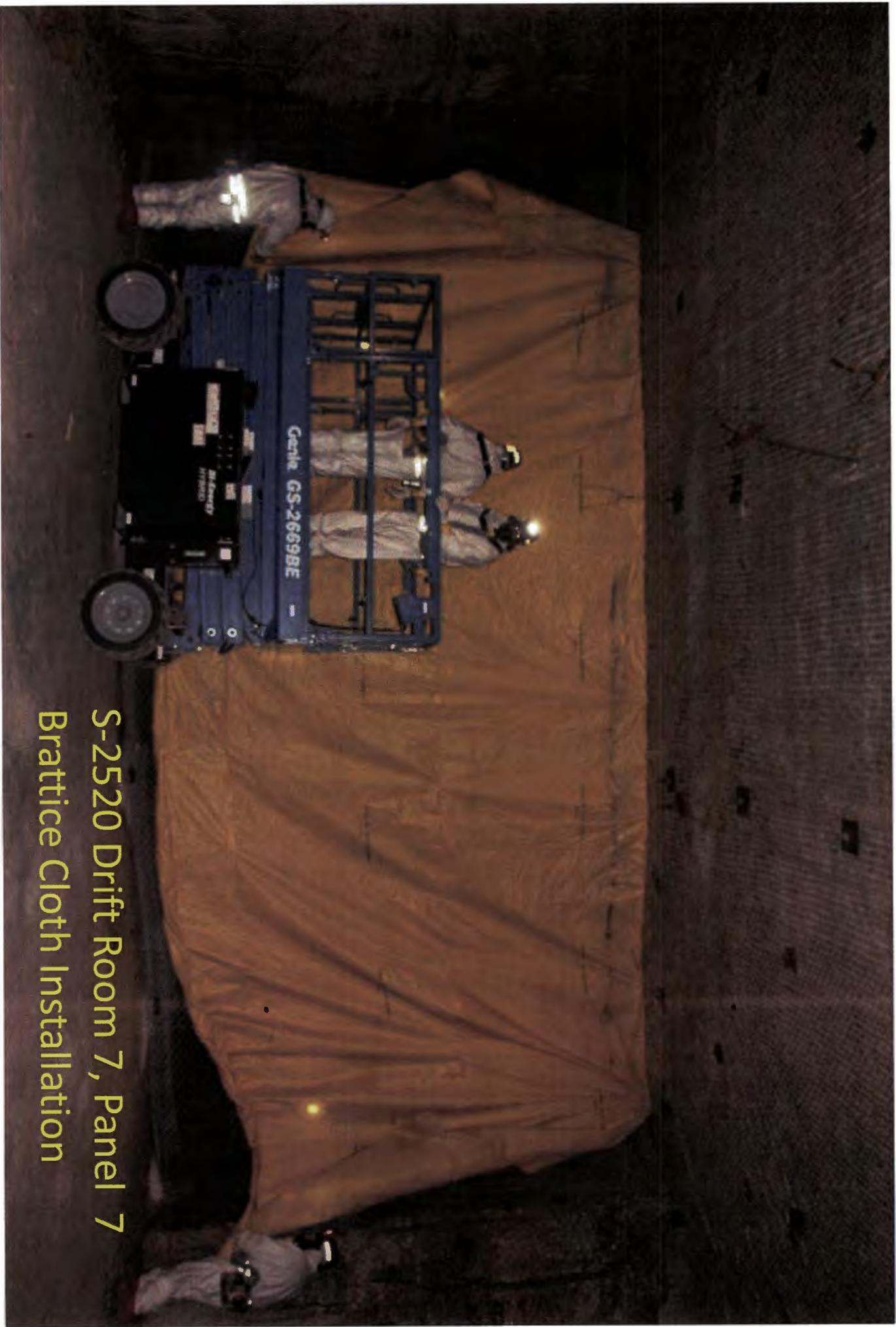
Closure of Room 7, Panel 7

(disposal room closure – steel bulkhead)



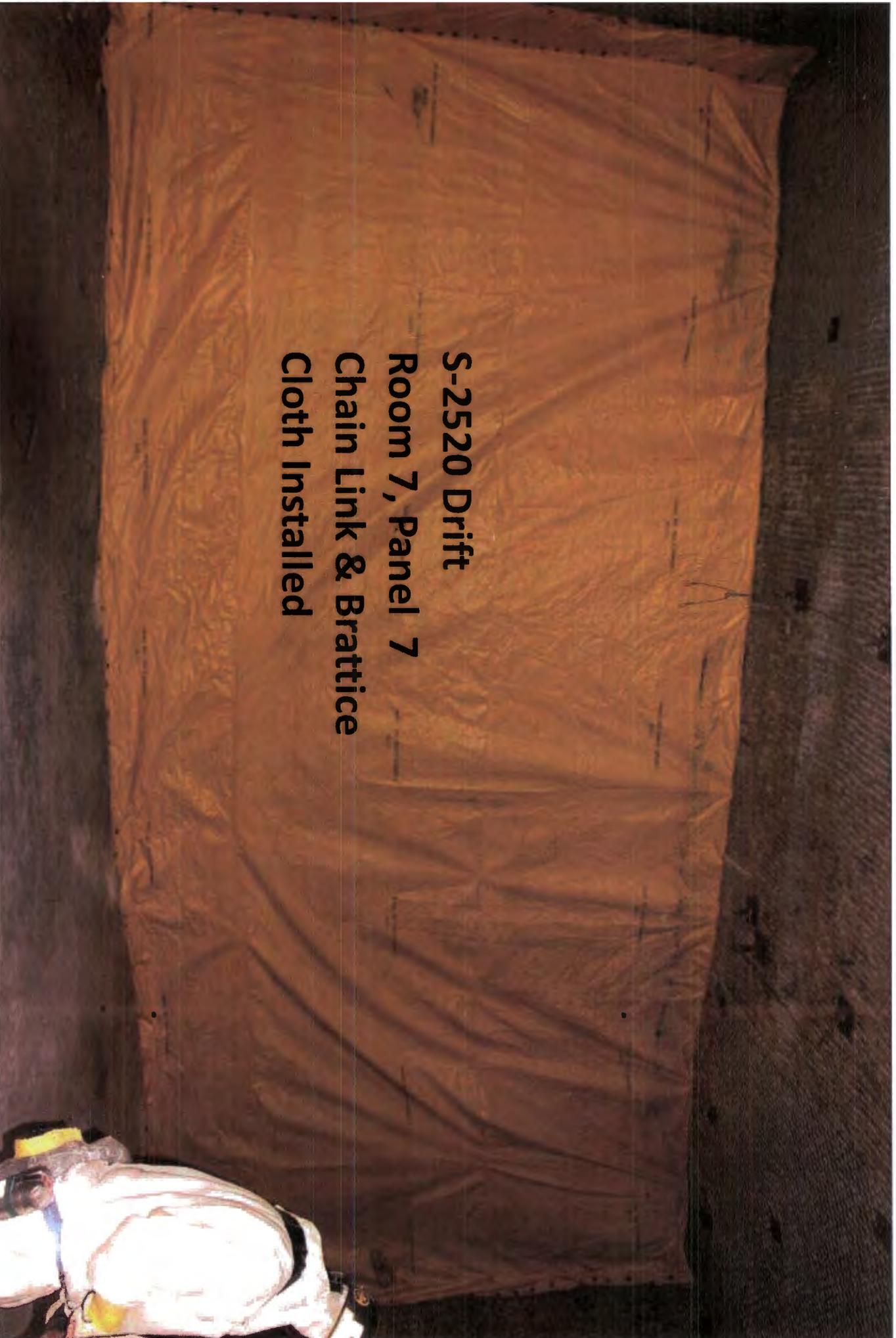


S-2520 Drift
Room 7, Panel 7
Chain Link Anchored

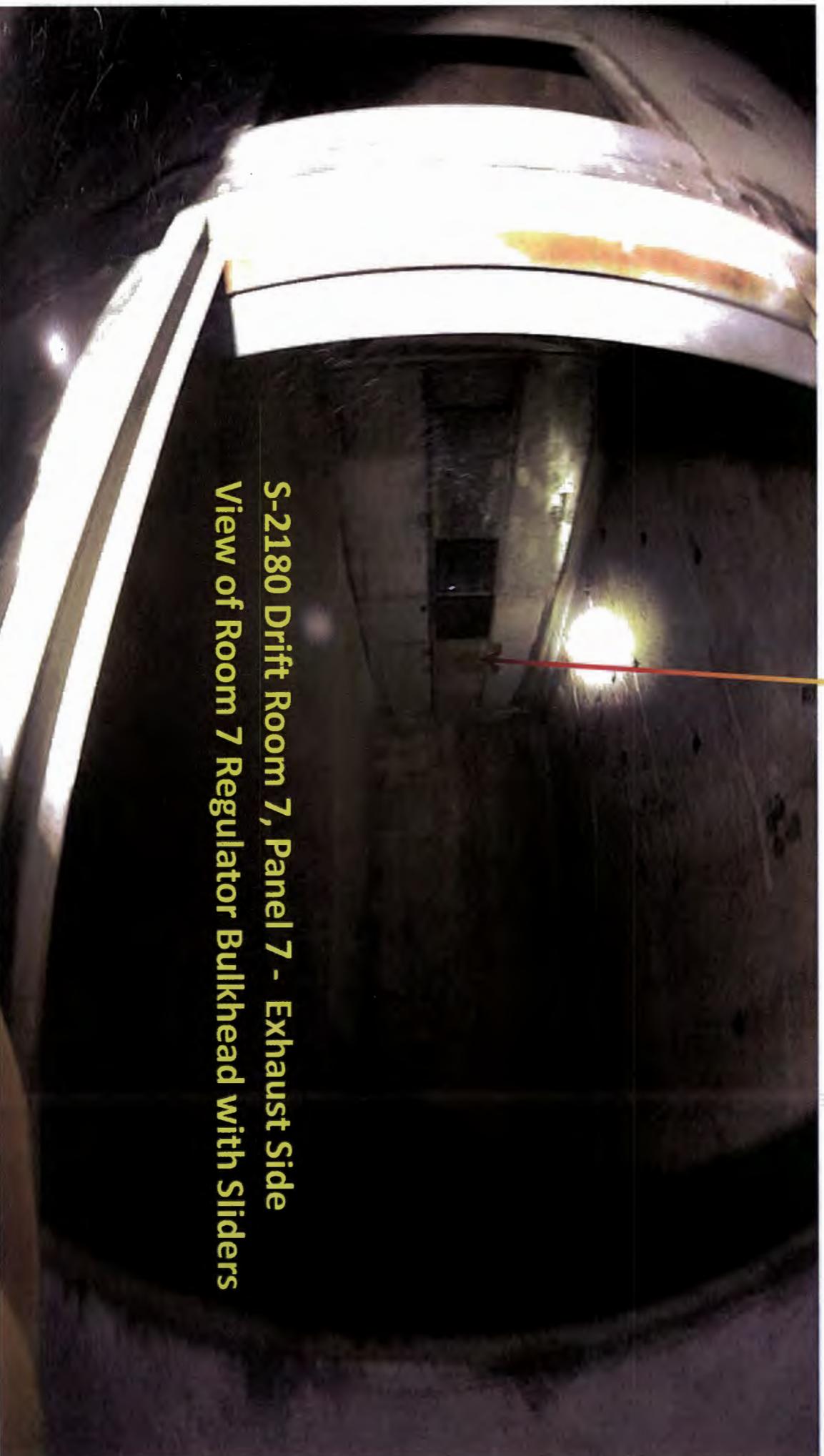


S-2520 Drift Room 7, Panel 7
Brattice Cloth Installation

**S-2520 Drift
Room 7, Panel 7
Chain Link & Brattice
Cloth Installed**



The Ventilation Sliders on the Room 7 Steel Regulator Bulkhead Have Now Been Closed



**S-2180 Drift Room 7, Panel 7 - Exhaust Side
View of Room 7 Regulator Bulkhead with Sliders**