

Allen, Pam, NMENV

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2016 10:19 AM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV
Subject: FW: Summary of April 25-28 Trip To WIPP
Attachments: IMG_4910.jpg; WO 1617480 Station B Stack COV Testing May 2016.pdf; 16-0519 Letter-CBFO Response to the EPAs Request for Documentation of Pl....pdf; 16-0519 Enclosure 1- EPA Response.pdf; 16-0519 Enclosure 2- WP 04-VU4605.pdf

Email only for WIPP Record.

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Tuesday, May 03, 2016 10:21 AM
To: Kieling, John, NMENV; LucasKamat, Susan, NMENV; Smith, Coleman, NMENV; Teeter, William, NMENV; Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Subject: Summary of April 25-28 Trip To WIPP

Hello all,

Below is a summary of events that took place during the trip to WIPP on April 25-28, 2016. Ricardo Maestas of the NMED HWB and Will Teeter of the NMED DOE-OB spent Tuesday and Wednesday together observing activities and meeting with WIPP personnel. WIPP had a photographer on hand and many pictures taken of the underground tour and the surface IVS tour and testing. A CD with these pictures will be sent to both EPA and NMED soon.

Monday

-Travel to Carlsbad.
-Ricardo had dinner with EPA's Nick Stone and Jon Walsh. We discussed the WIPP Ventilation System and our Site Agenda for Tuesday.

Tuesday

6:00am-I picked up Will at the NMED office and headed to the WIPP Site.
7:00am- We met up with EPA and Stuart Jones, signed in, watched the visitor video and walked over to the training building where the group participated in W65/SCSR training where we donned the self-rescuers. This was our first time participating in this training. This is a new training for those who are going underground. The training was very well presented and very informative. I stated that I would let NMED managers know that I thought the new training was great.
~8:30am- We headed over to the lamp room where we prepared for our trip underground. The tour group took the Waste Shaft elevator to the underground. The group consisted of EPA's Nick and Jon, NMED's Ricardo and Will, WIPP's Vanderkraats, Farnsworth, Zimmerly, Boatwright and two others.

While underground we boarded two tour carts and headed over to where the Supplemental Ventilation System (SVS) fan is located, near the Air Intake Shaft in the S-90 drift. One could notice the significantly lower mine ventilation of 60k scfm. It was warmer than I last remembered it and it had been almost three years since I had gone underground, around summer of 2013. I did not notice any particular odors. This was Will's first time underground. One thing I did notice was there was standing puddles of water near the SVS. Tour guides mentioned that back when the air intake shaft was being constructed, one of the drill heads had gotten stuck and lots of water (almost 100,000 gallons of water) was used to

render it free. The puddles of water were the result of water creeping out of the formation. They mentioned that when the ventilation was up around 420k scfm, the water creeping out would evaporate and not puddle up.

Pictures were taken of both the group and the SVS fan. We were able to see both ends of the fan. While there we also discussed the Dry De-duster (DD). No photos or specs of the DD were provided but they mentioned that they were hoping to use the DD in conjunction with SVS to cut down on the amount of salt dust that was being produced during mining operations. The tour guides mentioned that it was not certain at the moment if the DD would be used before the SVS was put in operation, and with IVS only. They mentioned there was a real concern of doing any mining without SVS because the salt dust would quickly clog up the HEPA filters. The DD is made up of two separate sections each about 30ft long and would be put together and could run around 50k scfm of air through filters. Dust would be trapped in large bags that could be transported and emptied either at the surface or a place in the underground.

We left the area and proceeded down W-30 all the way to S-1950. There we stopped and looked at one of the bulkheads that separated the clean side from contaminated side of the mine. EPA and the tour guides discussed where CAMs would be placed once the SVS was operational. We then headed across S-1950 over to E-140 and again stopped to look at bulkheads. We then headed back north toward the Waste Shaft along E-140. I included a picture of a map with our tour path in orange highlight.



These photos were copied over from one of the

WIPP Town Hall presentations.

~10:30am- We returned to surface and had lunch at the Site around 11:00am.

~12noon -3:00pm- The group spent time in Support Building having discussions and waiting to see if the IVS COV testing was going to take place. The testing was ultimately canceled due to high winds. Both EPA and NMED were then given an extended tour of the IVS at the surface. We walked around and took lots of pictures. Ricardo verified that that February 17, 2016 Class 1 Permit Modification adequately describes the IVS system in the Permit. We walked over to Station B and had a look inside. Will explained which sample ports belonged to NMED, CEMRC and WIPP.

3:00pm- Ricardo and Will left the Site and headed back to town.

4:00pm- We arrived back at the NMED office.

Wednesday

6:00am- I picked up Will at the NMED office and headed to the WIPP Site.

7:00am- We arrived at WIPP Site and walked over and assembled near the ventilation exhaust.

~9:00am- Workers were preparing to perform the COV testing. Attached is the work order they were using to perform the test. Workers used a man lift to access a small sample portal to take velocity measurement about

10-15 feet before Station B. Measurements were taken from the bottom of the duct and different intervals all the way to the top and from the side (pictures will be available soon). Those measurements were then going to be provided to Mr. Brent Blunt out of Savannah River to calculate the turbulence and verify that Station B will still be adequate for point of compliance sampling after the IVS is operational.

11:00am- Both EPA and NMED left Site and headed to town to meet with others from WIPP. NMED would be meeting with Permitting folks and EPA was going to meet with the LANL Carlsbad office and CBFO managers.

12:00-12:30pm Ricardo and Will had lunch at McAlester's.

12:30pm- We arrived at Cascades Office for our meeting with Permittees. We dialed in Cole and discussed the following topics:

- Triennial Reviews status- draft schedule and matrix
- Status of Class 2 PMRs (RCAR CP and Ventilation to be submitted this week or next)
- Status of Class 1(revise record keeping, add option for VOC Testing, add live fire training)- submitted on Wednesday, April 27th.
- Status and highlights of VOC Monitoring Report- submitted on Wednesday, April 27th.
- Status and highlights of Quarterly Report- submitted on Friday, April 30th.
- Monthly Status Report (email) for SFO Corrective Action- submitted on Friday, April 30th.
- PE Letter Status for the IVS package to NMED- submitted on Monday, May 2nd.
- Periodicity of Inspections- thoughts on future PMR to clarify what day, week, month, annual, all specifically mean.
- Panel Closure Status
- Certificate of Completion- for emergency response training SEP
- Request for Extension of Storage Time in the Waste Handling Building
- Agenda items for upcoming meeting in Santa Fe

~5:00pm- We wrapped up meeting and headed back to NMED office. At the office Will showed me the filters that he prepares and he also prepared to go back to WIPP the next day to collect his samples. I also called Cole and briefed him on the activities at the Site.

Thursday

Ricardo travel back to SF HWB, arriving around 2:00pm.

This completes my summary of the trip to WIPP on April 25-28, 2016.

I have detailed notes from our meeting and observations and pictures will be available soon.

I also attached additional information regarding the SVS and IVS in the form for CBFO responses to questions from EPA that were transmitted on April 28th.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

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