

Allen, Pam, NMENV

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Friday, January 25, 2019 4:10 PM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV
Subject: FW: WIPP Notification



From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Thursday, November 15, 2018 12:03 PM
To: Tongate, Butch, NMENV <butch.tongate@state.nm.us>; Yurdin, Bruce, NMENV <Bruce.Yurdin@state.nm.us>; Hower, Jennifer, NMENV <Jennifer.Hower@state.nm.us>; Kieling, John, NMENV <john.kieling@state.nm.us>; LucasKamat, Susan, NMENV <Susan.LucasKamat@state.nm.us>; Dougherty-Diffendorfer, Katy, NMENV <Katy.Dougherty-Diff@state.nm.us>
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Subject: WIPP Notification

Hello all,

Mr. Mike Brown of DOE and Mr. Rick Chavez NWP (the WIPP Permittees) called and notified me this morning of a roof fall in Room 6 of Panel 7.

There are no injuries and no signs of radiation release.

This roof fall had been anticipated for some time and the area has been restricted for over two years because of this.

The roof fall happened around 6:50pm last night.

There was no waste emplacement going on at the time.

Some workers were performing ground inspections in Room 2 through Room 4 of Panel 7 when they heard the roof fall in Room 6.

There is no contact handled (CH) waste in Room 6. There are a few remote handled (RH) waste packages in the RH boreholes in the walls.

There are six pieces of equipment in Room 6. NMED approved the emplacing of this equipment in January 2017.

There were some workers in the underground that were evacuated as a precaution.

Workers were frisked for radiation and there were no signs of a radiation release.

Continuous Air Monitors (CAMs) did not pick up any radiation release.

WIPP folks are working on a re-entry plan today.

WIPP folks reviewed the Permit and determined that the Permit Contingency Plan did not need to be implemented.

My staff and I are in contact with the Permittees.

WIPP will update NMED when more is known.

The Permittees mentioned that a press release may be issued regarding this roof fall.

Thank you.

Ricardo Maestas
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