

HOLTON, BRIAN, NMENV

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 3:17 PM
To: Allen, Pam, NMENV; HOLTON, BRIAN, NMENV
Subject: FW: ABOVE GROUND WIPP incident

From: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV <Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us>
Sent: Thursday, November 7, 2019 9:41 AM
To: Connolly, Stephen, NMENV <Stephen.Connolly@state.nm.us>; Stringer, Stephanie, NMENV <Stephanie.Stringer@state.nm.us>
Cc: Hermanns, Daniel, NMENV <Daniel.Hermanns@state.nm.us>; Kraemer, Janine, NMENV <Janine.Kraemer@state.nm.us>; Cobrain, Dave, NMENV <dave.cobrain@state.nm.us>; McLean, Megan, NMENV <Megan.McLean@state.nm.us>; Pruett, Jennifer, NMENV <Jennifer.Pruett@state.nm.us>; Hayden, Maddy, NMENV <Maddy.Hayden@state.nm.us>; Hower, Jennifer, NMENV <Jennifer.Hower@state.nm.us>; Biswell, David, NMENV <David.Biswell@state.nm.us>; Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV <Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us>
Subject: RE: ABOVE GROUND WIPP incident

UPDATE November 7, 2019

Good morning all,

I wanted to provide an update on the rusted Idaho drum at WIPP.

I spoke with Mike Brown- DOE and Rick Chaves-NWP this morning.

On Saturday, at the time the rust issue and potential pin hole was discovered during the drum inspection process at WIPP (no radiation or hazardous waste was detected outside the drum), the payload (the 14 drums) was placed back into the TRU-Pact that it was originally in and was sealed back up. The TRUPact remains in the Waste Handling Building.

The current plan is to remove the 14 drums from the TRUPACT and over-pack the effected drum in a standard waste box (SWB). The Waste Data System (electronic tracking program) will be updated to reflect this over-packing. The SWB will then be emplaced in the underground. This action is allowed by the WIPP Permit.

The picture below is of a SWB with drums inside for reference..



The WIPP Permittees and folks in Idaho are investigating the issue. We have asked the Permittees to keep us updated on findings and when the over-packing and emplacement are taking place.

The Permittees will be submitting the Permit required 15-day report from initiation the Contingency Plan.



Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Ricardo Maestas

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Hazardous Waste Bureau
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-----Original Message-----

From: Connolly, Stephen, NMENV <Stephen.Connolly@state.nm.us>

Sent: Saturday, November 2, 2019 4:02 PM

To: Maestas, Ricardo, NMENV <Ricardo.Maestas@state.nm.us>; Stringer, Stephanie, NMENV <Stephanie.Stringer@state.nm.us>

Cc: Hermanns, Daniel, NMENV <Daniel.Hermanns@state.nm.us>; Kraemer, Janine, NMENV <Janine.Kraemer@state.nm.us>; Cobrain, Dave, NMENV <dave.cobrain@state.nm.us>; McLean, Megan, NMENV <Megan.McLean@state.nm.us>; Pruett, Jennifer, NMENV <Jennifer.Pruett@state.nm.us>; Hayden, Maddy, NMENV <Maddy.Hayden@state.nm.us>; Hower, Jennifer, NMENV <Jennifer.Hower@state.nm.us>

Subject: ABOVE GROUND WIPP incident

Good Day,

As was conveyed via telephone to Ricardo and Stephanie,

At 14:12 today, Saturday, November 2, 2019, NMED received a report of the subject incident at WIPP, as follows:

During the processing of a 14 drum waste group, a drum was found with corrosion and a pin hole. The drum was still in a trupak and IN THE WASTE HANDLING BUILDING ABOVE GROUND. A rad con performed and no contamination outside of the drum was observed or recorded. There was no release of any contaminants.

The plan of action at the time is to enter an LCO, place drum into 85 gallon overpak container, place back into a trupak.

Facility contact : Mike proctor 575 234 8276

RP DID notify Ricardo and he will update this as needed.

Stephen

Stephen Connolly, CHMM
Incident Response Coordinator
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