DOENEWS:

NOTICE OF CORRECTION
September 1, 1994


The report issued on August 22, 1994, recommended a 25 percent reduction in staffing levels of the DOE's contractor, the Westinghouse Electric Corporation's Waste Isolation Division. DOE officials said that a 25 percent reduction would make it difficult to achieve established programmatic goals including a 1998 disposal decision.

DOE Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Thomas Grumbly, did not agree with the OIG's suggestion, saying instead that he would immediately schedule an 11 percent reduction, to be achieved through attrition by June 30, 1995, and a 15 percent or more reduction will be targeted for September 30, 1995.

Reduction will be from the staffing level of 777, which was the Westinghouse employment level when the audit began. The September 1995 staffing level is targeted at 662. Westinghouse currently employs 740 employees at WIPP. Annual attrition rates at the government facility average about 6 to 7 percent.

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