



B. Brown

# Carlsbad Area Office

## MONTHLY CALENDAR

Milestones and Involvement Opportunities  
April 1998

April 1998						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 1998						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June 1998						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**April 1998**

**April 6 -- \*Citizens Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico**

- April 6 -- WIPPTREX 98-2, Table Top with Debriefing, Police Protective Association, 2105 Decatur Street, Denver, Colorado, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- April 20 -- WIPPTREX 98-1, Full-Scale Exercise, 22 miles south of Malad, Idaho, Exit 22, Devil's Creek Reservoir, 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.
- April 22 -- \*\*Road Show, 1437 Bannock Street, front of City & County Building, Denver, Colorado, 12 p.m. - 3 p.m.
- ★ Milestone -- EPA Certification anticipated
- ★ Milestone -- Secretary of Energy Decision to Operate WIPP as Disposal Facility
- ★ Milestone -- Notify States and Indian Tribes of Intent to Transport

**May 1998**

- May 1 -- End of comment period for *Accelerating Cleanup: Paths to Closure* draft strategy documents. For copies or more information, call the WIPP Information Center at 1-800-336-WIPP
- May 6 -- WIPPTREX 98-2, Full-Scale Exercise, Mile High Stadium, East Parking Lot, Denver, Colorado, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- May 7 -- 62nd WIPP Quarterly Review. Skeen-Whitlock Building, 4021 National Parks Highway, Carlsbad, New Mexico
- May 7 -- \*\*Road Show, Mile High Stadium, East Parking Lot, Denver, Colorado, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- May 11 -- \*Citizens Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico**
- ★ Milestone -- Begin CH Disposal Operations

\* This tour is currently full. In the event that cancellations occur, interested persons should call the WIPP Information Center.  
 \*\* Road Show is an outreach event designed to familiarize stakeholders with the features of trucks and shipping containers that will transport transuranic waste to the WIPP. Drivers are available to answer questions.  
 ★ Milestones (in italics) are key dates shown on the Disposal Decision Plan. For additional information, call the WIPP Information Center at 1-800-336-WIPP (1-800-336-9477).





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**For more information:**

**WIPP Information Center**  
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 infocntr@wipp.carlsbad.nm.us

**National Transuranic Waste  
 Program Home Page**  
<http://www.wipp.carlsbad.nm.us>



**★ ★ ★ For Your Information ★ ★ ★  
 April 1998**

**Expert team completes review of DOE's readiness to open the WIPP**

A team of 15 experts from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and private companies conducted an in-depth review of the Carlsbad Area Office (CAO) in early March. This review completed another important step toward opening the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for disposal operations.

The experts evaluated the WIPP's personnel, equipment, and procedures to check whether the CAO can meet requirements to operate the facility for the permanent disposal of transuranic radioactive waste.

The review team, consisting of experts from DOE sites other than the CAO, identified some needed improvements in procedures and training documentation. The CAO is already implementing corrective actions on those items to prepare for a declaration of operational readiness.

The WIPP is scheduled to begin disposal operations in May pending final certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and notification to the Congress by Secretary of Energy Federico Peña that the WIPP is ready to proceed with disposal.