



# Carlsbad Area Office MONTHLY CALENDAR

Milestones and Involvement Opportunities  
May 1998

MAY 1998  
RECEIVED

May 1998						
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June 1998						
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July 1998						
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## 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 Emergency Response Exercise, Mile High Stadium, Parking Lot G, Denver, Colorado, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

May 7 -- WIPP Information Day, Mile High Stadium, Parking Lot G, Denver, Colorado, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**May 15 -- \*Public Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico**

★ *Milestone -- Begin contact-handled transuranic waste disposal operations* [This milestone, originally scheduled for late May, will be delayed about two weeks pending certification of the WIPP by the Environmental Protection Agency.]

## June 1998

June 27 -- WIPPTRAX, Full Scale WIPP Emergency Response Exercise, Interstate 25 at Exit 447, Raton, New Mexico. For more information, contact John Shea at (505) 476-9628

**June 29 -- Public Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico**



\* This tour is currently full. In the event that cancellations occur, interested persons should call the WIPP Information Center.  
★ *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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**U.S. Department of Energy**  
**Carlsbad Area Office**  
**P.O. Box 3090**  
**Carlsbad, New Mexico 88221**

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U.S. Department of Energy 443-11677  
 1000 G Street, N.W.  
 Washington, D.C. 20545  
 Carlsbad Area Office 443-11677  
 P.O. Box 3090  
 Carlsbad, NM 88221

**For more information:**

**WIPP Information Center**  
 1-800-336-WIPP  
 (1-800-336-9477)  
 infocntr@wipp.carlsbad.nm.us

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



**★ ★ ★ For Your Information ★ ★ ★**  
**May 1998**

**Rocky Flats authorized  
 to characterize and ship transuranic waste**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Carlsbad Area Office has announced that the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site (RFETS) near Denver, Colorado has met all program requirements to characterize, certify, and ship transuranic radioactive waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP).

Each DOE facility generating and/or temporarily storing transuranic waste must meet stringent quality assurance requirements for characterizing and shipping waste to the WIPP. The RFETS authority to operate its WIPP transuranic waste program signifies that the facility has all required procedures and plans in place, and that all personnel have been appropriately trained to implement the waste characterization, TRUPACT-II loading, and shipping procedures. Approximately 1,370 shipments (roughly 36,000 55-gallon drums) of contact-handled transuranic waste will travel from RFETS to the WIPP over the life of the project.

The WIPP project will begin disposal operations after final certification from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and notification of Congress by the U.S. Secretary of Energy.