



Carlsbad Area Office MONTHLY CALENDAR

ENTERED

Milestones and Involvement Opportunities
July 1998

July 1998

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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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August 1998

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September 1998

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27	28	29	30			

July 1998

July 13 -- Public Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico

July 16-18 -- State Emergency Medical Services Conference, Albuquerque, New Mexico. For more information contact Ralph Davis, New Mexico Department of Health, (505) 476-7000 ext. 123.

July 17-20 -- WIPP Exhibit, National Association of Counties, Portland, Oregon.

July 20-23 -- WIPP Exhibit, National Association of State Legislatures, Las Vegas, Nevada.

July 31 -- Public Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico

August 1998

August 12-13 -- U.S.-Mexico Border Region Hazardous Waste Forum, Carlsbad, New Mexico. For more information contact Christy Bourgeois at (505) 234-7231.

August 14 -- End of comment period on the New Mexico Environment Department's draft Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit for the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

September 1998

September 11-27 -- WIPP Exhibit, New Mexico State Fair, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

September 13-18 -- WIPP Exhibit, Spectrum '98, Denver, Colorado.

September 14-17 -- New Mexico Emergency Management Conference, Santa Fe, New Mexico. For more information, contact James Leach at (505) 473-7253.



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For more information:

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



**★ ★ ★ For Your Information ★ ★ ★
 July 1998**

Opening of Waste Isolation Pilot Plant delayed

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has decided to delay shipments of waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory in northern New Mexico to the WIPP until several issues are resolved.

Issues are:

- Concerns of the New Mexico Environment Department about the characterization of transuranic waste.
- Litigation in federal court concerning an injunction entered in 1992. The New Mexico Attorney General's Office says the injunction prohibits the DOE from opening the WIPP, while the DOE says that the injunction no longer applies due to actions by Congress and regulatory approval from the Environmental Protection Agency. The judge is also expected to rule on whether a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit is required before any waste can be shipped, including waste that does not contain hazardous chemicals.