Carlsbad Area Office
MONTHLY CALENDAR
Information and Involvement Opportunities
December 1998

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November 1998
November 30 -- First Responder Training, Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, 856 Green Street, Conyers, Georgia. For more information, contact Carolyn Hunter at (770) 785-5900.

December 1998
December 1, 3 -- Command and Control Training, Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, 856 Green Street, Conyers, Georgia. For more information, contact Carolyn Hunter at (770) 785-5900.

December 2, 4 -- First Responder Training, Nancy Guinn Memorial Library, 856 Green Street, Conyers, Georgia. For more information, contact Carolyn Hunter at (770) 785-5900.

December 11 -- *Public Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico

January 1999
January 10-16 -- First Responder and Command and Control Training Courses, Madison and Augusta, Georgia. For more information, contact Jim Eastham at (505) 234-7529. January 18 -- Deadline to submit written comments to the NMED on the revised draft hazardous waste permit for the WIPP.

February 1999
February 1 -- Deadline to register to speak at the NMED hearings on the revised draft hazardous waste permit.

February 9 -- 65th WIPP Quarterly Review, Santa Fe, New Mexico. For more information, contact Steve Zappe at (505) 827-1557.

February 9-10 -- Train the Trainer Course, Carlsbad, New Mexico. For more information, contact Jim Eastham at (505) 234-7529.

February 12 -- *Public Tour Day at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, New Mexico

February 22 -- New Mexico Environment Department public hearing on the revised draft hazardous waste permit for the WIPP, Santa Fe, New Mexico. (See reverse side for more information.)

*Although the December tour is currently full, cancellations do occur. Interested persons are encouraged to call the WIPP Information Center to check tour availability. Interest in WIPP tours is high. Therefore, please try to call four weeks in advance to make tour arrangements.
NMED requests comments on revised draft hazardous waste permit

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) issued a revised draft WIPP hazardous waste permit on November 13, 1998. Written public comments are due on January 18, 1999 at the address below:

Hearing Clerk, WIPP Draft Permit
New Mexico Environment Department, Room N-4071
P.O. Box 26110, 1190 St. Francis Drive
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-6100

The deadline to register to speak at the public hearings is February 1, 1999. Persons wishing to present oral comments must submit a written request to the address above or call (505) 827-2842. The hearings begin February 22 in Santa Fe and March 8 in Carlsbad.

WIPP Transportation Plan available

The WIPP Transportation Plan is now available at the WIPP Information Center. To request a copy, please call 1-800-336-WIPP. This 110-page guidance document provides information about procedures and requirements for those persons involved in the transportation of transuranic waste shipments to the WIPP.

Emergency responder training underway in Georgia

Emergency responder training is an important part of preparations for the transuranic waste shipments anticipated during the 35-year disposal phase of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP). About 300 emergency response personnel are scheduled to undergo this specialized training November 30 through December 4 in Conyers, Georgia.

Three First Responder and two Command and Control courses are scheduled. These Occupational Safety and Health Administration-certified classes cover a variety of topics, including caring for accident victims, securing public safety, protecting the environment, and ensuring the safety of responders. These courses are useful in any emergency, but are geared toward responding to an incident involving radioactive material. Trainers also provide a general overview of radiation, waste acceptance criteria at the WIPP, and transportation regulations.

Additional courses are scheduled in the Atlanta area January 10-16. For more information on these courses, contact Jim Eastham at (505) 234-7529. About 400 persons recently took these courses in Madison and Augusta, Georgia. To date, the Department of Energy has trained more than 12,000 emergency response professionals in 12 states and 9 tribes.