



**NEW MEXICO ENERGY, MINERALS
& NATURAL RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
2040 South Peasee Street
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87505
(505) 827-5950

Jennifer A. Salisbury
CABINET SECRETARY



 ENTERED

May 21, 1999

Dr. Ines Triay
Manager
Carlsbad Area Office
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 3090
Carlsbad, NM 88220-3090



Mr. Steve Zappe
Permit Writer
Radioactive/Hazardous Material
N.M. Environment Dept.
P.O. Box 26110
Santa Fe, NM 87502

Mr. Robert H. Neill
Director
Environmental Evaluation Group
7007 Wyoming Boulevard, N.E.
Albuquerque, NM 87109

Mr. Lindsay Lovejoy, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Attorney General's Office
P.O. Drawer 1508
Santa Fe, NM 87504-1508

Subject: COPIES of N.M. RADIOACTIVE WASTE TASK FORCE PRESENTATION
MATERIALS for 66th WIPP QUARTERLY REVIEW MEETING

Attached are copies of the materials I had planned to distribute during the 66th WIPP Quarterly Review meeting in Carlsbad. Unfortunately, I did not notice the switch in meeting dates on the materials faxed to me and, consequently, missed the meeting. Hopefully these last-minute changes will not be necessary in the future.

I am providing extra copies of my presentation materials for each of you. Please ensure members of your staff receive a copy. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chris J. Wentz
Coordinator
N.M. Radioactive Waste Consultation Task Force

c: Jennifer A. Salisbury, Cabinet Secretary and Task Force Chair



**STATE OF NEW MEXICO'S
RADIOACTIVE WASTE TASK FORCE:**

UPDATE ON WIPP ACTIVITIES

Presented to

66th WIPP QUARTERLY REVIEW MEETING

between

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO
&
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

**Carlsbad, NM
May 19, 1999**

By

**CHRIS J. WENTZ
COORDINATOR
N.M. RADIOACTIVE WASTE TASK FORCE**

TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST MEETING

- CONTINUED MONTHLY MEETINGS OF THE TASK FORCE'S WIPP WORKING GROUP (February 9, March 5, April 6, May 11); TRANSPORTATION SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PREPAREDNESS REMAINS THE KEY FOCUS
- CONTINUED TO UPDATE NEW MEXICO'S WIPP TRANSPORT SAFETY PROGRAM WEB SITE (www.emnrd.state.nm.us/wipp). FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 3/31/99, SITE RECEIVED ALMOST 2,000 "HITS" FROM 100+ ENTITIES (MOST EVER)
- PROVIDED A "WIPP STATUS REPORT" AND OTHER MATERIALS TO THE WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION (WGA STAFF COUNCIL), GOVERNOR JOHNSON AND NM TASK FORCE CABINET SECRETARIES IN PREPARATION FOR THE 1ST WIPP SHIPMENT
- DELIVERED A PRESENTATION ON "STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS CONCERNING OVER THE WIPP PROJECT" TO THE NATIONAL LOW-LEVEL WASTE FORUM IN SAN DIEGO (February 11)
- MONITORED PUBLIC HEARINGS ON THE REVISED DRAFT PERMIT FOR WIPP ISSUED UNDER THE NM HAZARDOUS WASTE ACT
- PARTICIPATED IN A ONE-HOUR INTERVIEW ON WIPP AT A LOCAL SANTA FE RADIO STATION (KSVE)

TASK FORCE ACTIVITIES SINCE LAST MEETING (continued)

- PREPARED AND SUBMITTED COMMENTS ON THE "WIPP BIENNIAL ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REPORT," DOE/WIPP 98-2171, OCTOBER 1998
- REPRESENTED THE TASK FORCE AT THE GRAND OPENING OF WIPP IN CARLSBAD (April 17)
- DELIVERED A PRESENTATION ON "THE STATUS OF WIPP AND ITS TRANSPORTATION OPERATIONS" TO DOE'S STATE AND TRIBAL WORKING GROUP IN RICHLAND, WA (April 27)
- UPDATED A PUBLIC INFORMATION DOCUMENT ENTITLED "CHRONOLOGY OF THE WIPP PROJECT"
- CONTINUED TO COMPILE, REVIEW AND ASSESS INFORMATION RELATING TO A PROPOSED URANIUM ENRICHMENT FACILITY IN SOUTHEASTERN NEW MEXICO

STATE OF NEW MEXICO'S WIPP TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROGRAM

- **UPDATED AND REVISED NEW MEXICO-SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN THE WGA/DOE *WIPP TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE* AND OTHER PROCEDURES DOCUMENTS**

- **TASK FORCE STAFF AND STATE POLICE DISPATCH CENTER PERSONNEL PARTICIPATED IN TRAINING ON THE TRANSCOM SYSTEM (March 8)**

- **CONTINUED TO SCHEDULE AND PARTICIPATE IN WIPP PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING PRESENTATIONS TO:**
 - **EDDY COUNTY COMMISSION/OFFICIALS (March 9)**
 - **DEXTER TOWN COUNCIL (April 13)**
 - **HAGERMAN TOWN COUNCIL (April 13)**
 - **CHAVEZ COUNTY COMMISSION (April 14)**
 - **ROSWELL CITY COUNCIL/OFFICIALS (April 14)**
 - **SANTA FE HIGH SCHOOL (April 22)**

- **CONVENED A FORUM ENTITLED "WIPP INFORMATION FOR TRIBAL OFFICIALS" AT THE PUEBLO OF POJOAQUE (March 23); APPROXIMATELY 15 REPRESENTATIVES OF INDIAN TRIBES/PUEBLOS ALONG THE NM WIPP CORRIDOR PARTICIPATED**

- **UPDATED BOTH THE AWARENESS- AND OPERATIONS-LEVEL FIRST RESPONDERS COURSES**

**STATE OF NEW MEXICO'S
WIPP TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROGRAM
(continued)**

- PARTICIPATED IN A WIPP TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROGRAM MEETING WITH DOE-CAO, LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY, CAST TRANSPORTATION, INC. AND WESTINGHOUSE-WID IN SANTA FE (May 11)
 - REVIEWED THE WIPP SHIPPING CAMPAIGN TO DATE
 - IDENTIFIED POSITIVE/NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM
 - DEVELOPED TENTATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR IDENTIFIED PROBLEM AREAS

- NEW MEXICO WIPP VEHICLE INSPECTION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING
 - ALL LEVELS OF TRAINING ARE CONTINUING
 - INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF EXERCISE PROGRAM
 - SITES: NM TRAINING ACADEMIES & COMMUNITY-BASED
 - WIPP MEDICAL PREPAREDNESS COURSE WAS PRESENTED TO EMT PERSONNEL FROM ROSWELL
 - RADIATION INSTRUMENTATION REFRESHER COURSE PRESENTED TO SANTA FE HAZMAT TEAM PERSONNEL

- TASK FORCE AGENCIES IMPLEMENTED WIPP TRANSPORT SAFETY PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOLS FOR ALL WIPP SHIPMENTS TO DATE

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- NEXT MEETING OF THE WESTERN GOVERNORS' ASSOCIATION (WGA) TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP ON WIPP TRANSPORT SCHEDULED FOR MAY 26-27 IN DENVER

- NEXT SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF THE DOE'S TRANSPORTATION EXTERNAL COORDINATION WORKING GROUP SCHEDULED FOR JULY 13-15 IN PHILADELPHIA
 - NEXT THREE DRAFT TRANSPORTATION PROTOCOLS (Planning; Advance Notification; Routing) TO BE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW; INTENT IS TO "STANDARDIZE" PROCEDURES ACROSS DOE TRANSPORT PROGRAMS

 - AN "UMBRELLA" TRANSPORTATION GRANT BEING EXPLORED BY DOE AND ITS STAKEHOLDERS; INTENT IS TO CONSOLIDATE DOE FUNDING

- CY 1999 MEETINGS OF THE INTERIM RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS COMMITTEE OF THE NM STATE LEGISLATURE TO BE ANNOUNCED SOON

- NEXT MEETING OF THE NM RADIOACTIVE WASTE TASK FORCE TO COINCIDE WITH ISSUANCE OF WIPP RCRA PART B PERMIT



GARY E. JOHNSON
Governor
DARREN P. WHITE
Cabinet Secretary

State of New Mexico
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

P.O. Box 1628
4491 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-1628

DIVISIONS

Administrative Services
(505) 827-9161

Special Investigations
Albuquerque * (505) 841-4660

State Police
(505) 827-9001

Technical & Emergency Support
(505) 827-3375

Training & Recruiting
(505) 827-9251

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 11, 1999

FROM: John M. Shea, NMDPS WIPP Coordinator

THROUGH: Ernesto Rodriguez, Director of Emergency Management
Max D. Johnson, Chief, Technological Hazards Branch

TO: Chris Wentz, Coordinator, Governor's WIPP Task Force

SUBJECT: Review of Initial WIPP Shipments through May 5, 1999

To date, there have been seven (7) successful shipments to the WIPP site: six (6) from Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) beginning on March 26; and one (1) from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) on April 27-28. The following provides a review of these initial shipments.

1. Advance Notification.

- a. Conflicts between monthly schedule Westinghouse-WID (Jeff Winkel) distributes by e-mail and the TRANSCOM shipment schedule. Letters of notification from Keith Klein, Acting Manager of the U.S. Department of Energy-Carlsbad Area Office (DOE-CAO), state that TRANSCOM is the designated source for current shipment information within seven days of shipment. The TRANSCOM Operations Officer (Gene Carnes) and DOE/CAO Transportation and Emergency Response Manager contradict that position.
- b. There are frequent examples of incorrect and inconsistent times or other information posted for shipments. Often these are not resolved until the last minute before the shipment and then only at the insistence of the state.

Emergency Management
WIPP Safe Transportation Program
Phone: (505) 476-9628 *** FAX: (505) 476-9695
E-mail: jshea@dps.state.nm.us

- c. **Schedule Changes:** Currently, schedule changes are posted as they occur. Minor adjustments within a specified range (to be determined) can be tolerated. Major changes, such as a change of date at the last minute before the planned departure, are difficult to accommodate. We need to establish guidelines for changes to the schedule within the last 12 or 24 hours. In one case the monthly schedule indicated an April 8th departure; telephonic notification from Jeff Winkel indicated that the shipment would depart on April 9th. Subsequently the shipment was cancelled within hours of the presumed departure time with no notice through TRANSCOM or communication from CMR.
- d. An important aspect of advance notification to the jurisdictions is the anticipated scheduled stopping locations. These have been provided to New Mexico for the New Mexico routes. This information, combined with the vehicle position reports, allows local jurisdictions to respond to public inquiries when the vehicle is stopped.
- e. We need to agree on an allowable period of delay, after which we reschedule the shipment. Minute-to-minute delays that go on for hours create resource scheduling problems. We cannot continue to accommodate such indefinite delays.

2. Security.

- a. Intelligence (information on planned protests, acts of civil disobedience, sabotage) has been primarily a State Police responsibility for six of the seven shipments.
- b. The only significant incidents involving demonstrators occurred during the first shipment from LANL in the area of Lamy, NM. The NM State Police Response Teams capably handled them.
- c. Exchange of intelligence information among states needs to be more fully developed.

3. Inspections.

Currently, inspections are conducted at Los Alamos (TA-54) for LANL shipments, the New Mexico Raton Port of Entry for INEEL shipments, and at the WIPP facility upon arrival of all shipments. The Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance's (CVSA) Enhanced North American Standard Inspection Procedures and Out-of-Service Criteria are applied.

- a. Adjustments have had to be made to the schedule of inspections at Los Alamos to accommodate driver rest.
- b. The two-hour notice was made to the Raton Port of Entry to alert inspectors of the arrival of the shipment from INEEL.
- c. The shipper and receiver need to accommodate the MTD Inspectors in transmitting the post-inspection result messages.

4. TRANSCOM Tracking.

- a. TRANSCOM continues to be a weakness in the process. The system lacks reliability, is difficult to login to and is unresponsive to the needs of the users.
- b. Alternate procedures are not working. Vehicle position reports are not being posted either directly from the vehicle or relayed from TCC or CMR.
- c. The vehicle is often 20 miles ahead of the depicted TRANSCOM position, rendering it almost useless to dispatch emergency response resources.

5. Protocols/Program Implementation Guide.

- a. After seven shipments through New Mexico, shipment protocols are still not being implemented by DOE/Westinghouse/CMR. The relationship between WIPP Central Monitoring Room and the New Mexico State Police District 1 (D-1) is not comfortable. CMR does not communicate voluntarily with D-1.
- b. CMR and the shipper do not conduct pre-shipment checks with D-1 to obtain weather, highway conditions and state concurrence/non-concurrence, unless the state initiates the process.
- c. The position reporting issue needs to be resolved. The DOE Transportation Manager contends that position reports are not necessary. NMDPS maintains that scheduled and unscheduled stops need to be reported. This may be accomplished by prepared messages on TRANSCOM or by cellular telephone.
- d. Does the shipper or CMR initiate the pre-shipment check for weather, highway and state concurrence? At the TRANSCOM steering committee meeting, the shipper was discussed as the responsible party.
- e. The sense of Emergency Management, State Police and Motor Transportation is that DOE/Westinghouse are not following the spirit and letter of all procedures and protocols established by WGA.

6. Post-Shipment Review.

- a. CMR is improving on providing the shipment arrival-at-WIPP message.
- b. It is recommended that a post-shipment conference call among the shipper, DOE-CAO/Westinghouse, state/tribal/local government representatives, and the carrier/drivers be conducted for the initial shipments along each new route for the purpose of improving shipping operations and enhancing coordination among all parties.