WIPP Re-Entry
& Recovery Update

Regional Coalition of LANL Communities
April 25, 2014

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Carlsbad Field Office
What happened?

February 5, 2014
Underground fire in a salt hauler vehicle

February 14, 2014
Radiological release occurred at WIPP
Event Locations

Event locations more than 3,000 feet apart

- Continuous Air Monitor Alarm Location (Panel 7 External Drift)
- Salt Haul Truck Fire Location (North part of mine)

North Experimental Area

Waste Disposal Area
Where are we now?

- Continuous environmental monitoring
- Personnel safety
- Event source identified
- Isolating the source
- Decontamination & recovery
- LANL shipments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Completed</th>
<th>Checklist</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Unmanned entry to underground</td>
<td>March 7-8</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Install Continuous Air Monitor at Station B</td>
<td>March 24</td>
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<td>✔️</td>
<td>Initial Salt Shaft and AIS safety inspections</td>
<td>Mar. 25-26</td>
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<tr>
<td>✔️</td>
<td>Manned entry to underground (1 or more) to establish base</td>
<td>April 2</td>
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<td>Manned entry to locate source of contamination</td>
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<td>Isolate source of contamination</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Refine decontamination plan</td>
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<td>Refine interim plans for waste on surface</td>
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<td>Commence decontamination activities</td>
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<td>Clean soot and return Waste Handling Shaft to operational status</td>
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<td>Develop plan for resuming waste disposal at WIPP</td>
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What We Are Seeing Offsite Since the Radiological Event

- 84 air samples
- 43 surface water & sediment samples
- 39 vegetation samples
- 49 soil samples
- 4 wildlife samples
- 219 total environmental samples

All recent results have come back as below Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC)
Re-Entry

- Phased approach
  - Phase 1 - Sent probe down into mine
  - Phases 2-3 - Manned entries
- Established work areas
- Set up continuous air monitors
- Tested communication and safety equipment
- Proceeded south toward suspected event scene
Route to Scene of Event
Route to Scene of Event

• Safe, methodical approach to re-entry
• During the Phase 3 entry we reached the scene of the event
• Cause of event was not readily visible
LANL Shipments to Waste Control Specialists

• Enables WIPP to support LANL to eliminate a radiological release hazard during a wildfire
• First shipment arrived April 2
  o Los Alamos National Laboratory - Carlsbad mobile loading teams processed the shipping containers
  o Waste containers have been safely secured at the WCS facility
  o Averaging about 10 shipments a week
  o June 30 deadline
What’s next?

• HEPA filter replacement
• Isolating the event source
• Decontamination
What WIPP Recovery Means

• Ensuring the safety of employees, the public and the environment
• Re-affirming WIPP’s role as a national leader in nuclear waste management
• Building on a relationship of trust and transparency between WIPP and New Mexico
• Meeting a critical national need with WIPP’s common sense, science-based solution

For updates go to www.wipp.energy.gov