

NMED
New
Mexico
Environment
Department



WASTE ISOLATION PILOT PLANT (WIPP) STATUS RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS WASTE COMMITTEE

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Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

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□ Background

- Salt hauler fire - February 5th, 2014
- Drum breach and radiological release - February 14th, 2014
- WIPP facility suspended operations
- NMED issued Administrative Orders and Compliance Order in Calendar Year 2014

□ Settlement Agreement & Stipulated Final Order signed January 2016

- Includes 4 Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs): All completed
 - WIPP Roads in southern New Mexico (\$34 million)
 - Construct Emergency Operations Center (\$4 million)
 - Enhanced Training for Emergency Responders (\$1 million)
 - Triennial Review 2018 (\$500 thousand)



Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

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- December 2016 - NMED inspected and approved WIPP to resume operations
- January 2017 - WIPP began waste emplacement starting with waste from the surface Waste Handling Building at WIPP
- April 2017 - WIPP received first shipment of waste in three years
 - Calendar Year 2017
 - 2,715 Containers emplaced
 - 208 containers from WIPP Waste Handling Building
 - 133 Shipments received
 - Calendar Year 2018
 - 5,289 Containers emplaced as of October 30th, 2018
 - 272 Shipments received



Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

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□ Waste Characterization Audits for Generator Sites

□ NMED observes audits and reviews and approves Final Audits Reports

□ Calendar Year 2017 - Audits

- Oak Ridge National Lab (Tennessee): April
- Los Alamos National Lab: May
- Idaho National Lab: June
- Sandia National Lab: July
- Argonne National Lab (Chicago): August
- Savannah River Site (South Carolina): October

□ Calendar Year 2018 - Audits

- Oak Ridge National Lab (Tennessee): March
- Los Alamos National Lab: May
- Argonne National Lab (Chicago): July
- Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (Idaho): August
- Savannah River Site (South Carolina): November
- Idaho National Lab: December



Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

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- Hazardous Waste Permit and Modifications
 - Current Permit
 - Became effective December 2010 for 10 years
 - Application for renewal due June 2020
 - Class 3 (major) modifications to the WIPP Facility Hazardous Waste Permit
 - Panel Closure Redesign
 - Issued draft Permit for public comment on February 22, 2018
 - Received several requests for a public hearing
 - Negotiations in July resolved the concerns without going to a public hearing
 - The modified Permit was issued final on September 7, 2018
 - Volume of Record
 - Issued draft Permit for public comment on August 6, 2018
 - Negotiations held in September
 - Public hearing occurred October 23-25, 2018 in Carlsbad
 - Post-Hearing proceedings
 - Surface Storage
 - Other Permit modifications

