



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Update

***New Mexico Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee
Carlsbad, New Mexico***

October 14, 2010

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Director, Office of Regulatory Compliance
Carlsbad Field Office



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Topics

- WIPP organizational structure
- WIPP workforce
- Economic impacts
- Facility Status
- Safety
- Shipments received
- Disposal
- National cleanup
- Key regulatory processes
- Expected changes with the new Hazardous Waste Facility Permit
- ARRA
- Questions and answers



WIPP organizational structure



U.S. Department of Energy

- Carlsbad Field Office
- Leads the Transuranic Waste Program
- Science Program



Washington TRU Solutions LLC

URS Washington TRU Solutions

- Manages and operates the WIPP facility
- Manages transportation logistics and packages
- Manages waste retrieval, characterization and certification



Sandia National Laboratories

- Scientific advisor for repository recertification



Los Alamos National Laboratory

- Scientific advisor for waste characterization
- Mobile loading



CBFO Technical Assistance Contractor

- Technical and Quality Assurance support for the Carlsbad Field Office



Specialty Transportation, Inc.



CAST and Visionary Solutions

- Transportation carriers



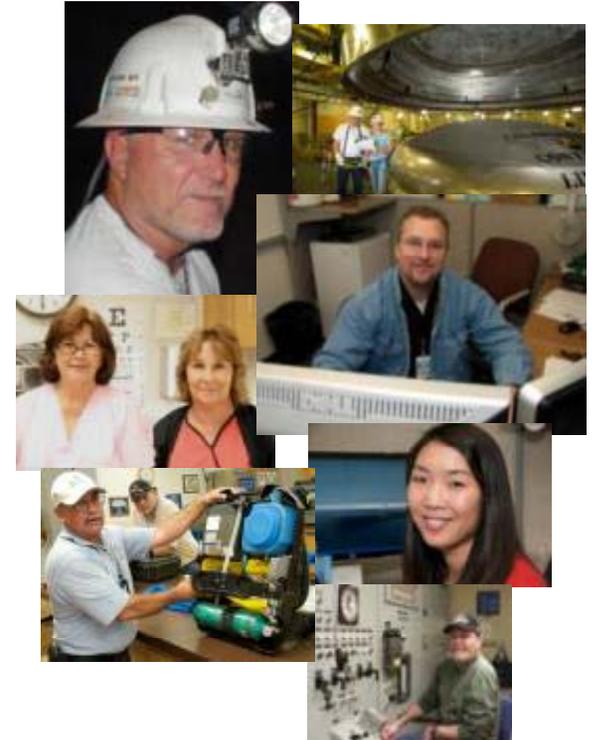
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WIPP workforce

- Approximately 1,500 people
 - Diverse backgrounds
 - Engineering, chemistry, geology, physics, safety, mining, emergency management, environmental management, security, training, accounting, nursing and many more
 - Broad experience from the nuclear industry
 - Other DOE sites
 - Nuclear power plants
 - U.S. military



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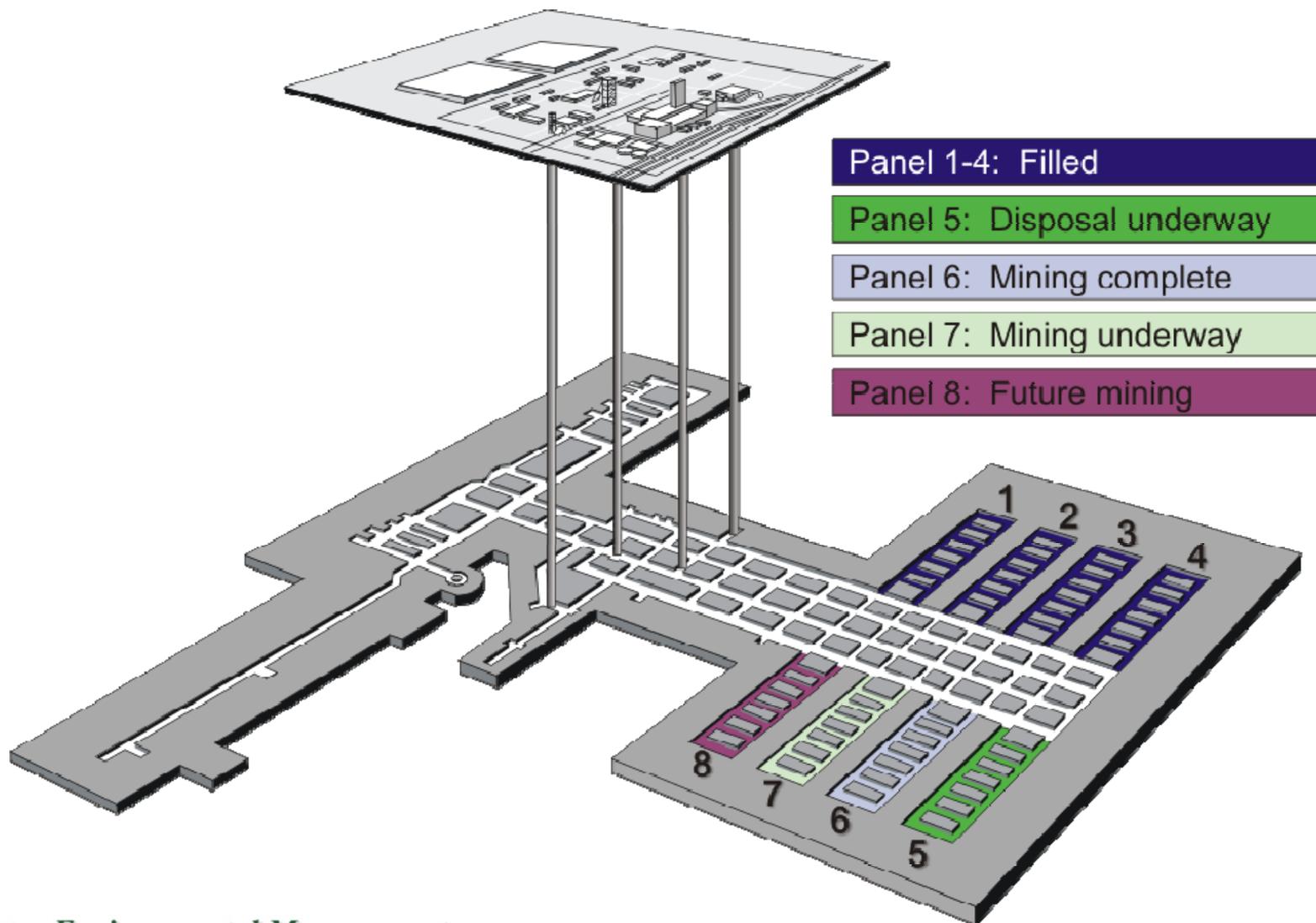
Economic Impact



- Annual budget: \$235M
- Total impact/economic development spending in New Mexico has exceeded \$590M
- WIPP provides about 1,500 jobs
- Managing and operating contractor procurement of \$134M for FY10 (As of 6-30-10)
 - 60 percent spent in New Mexico (\$81M)
 - 32 percent spent in southeast New Mexico (\$43M)



The Underground



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As of 8-9-10

Safety

- More than 4 million hours worked without a lost time injury
- Recertified in CY 2010 at the Star level in DOE's Voluntary Protection Program (maintained since 1994)
- More than 10.7 million safe loaded miles traveled to WIPP
- Low injury rate of 0.20 (as of 9-30-10) compared to 2009 DOE complex average 1.3



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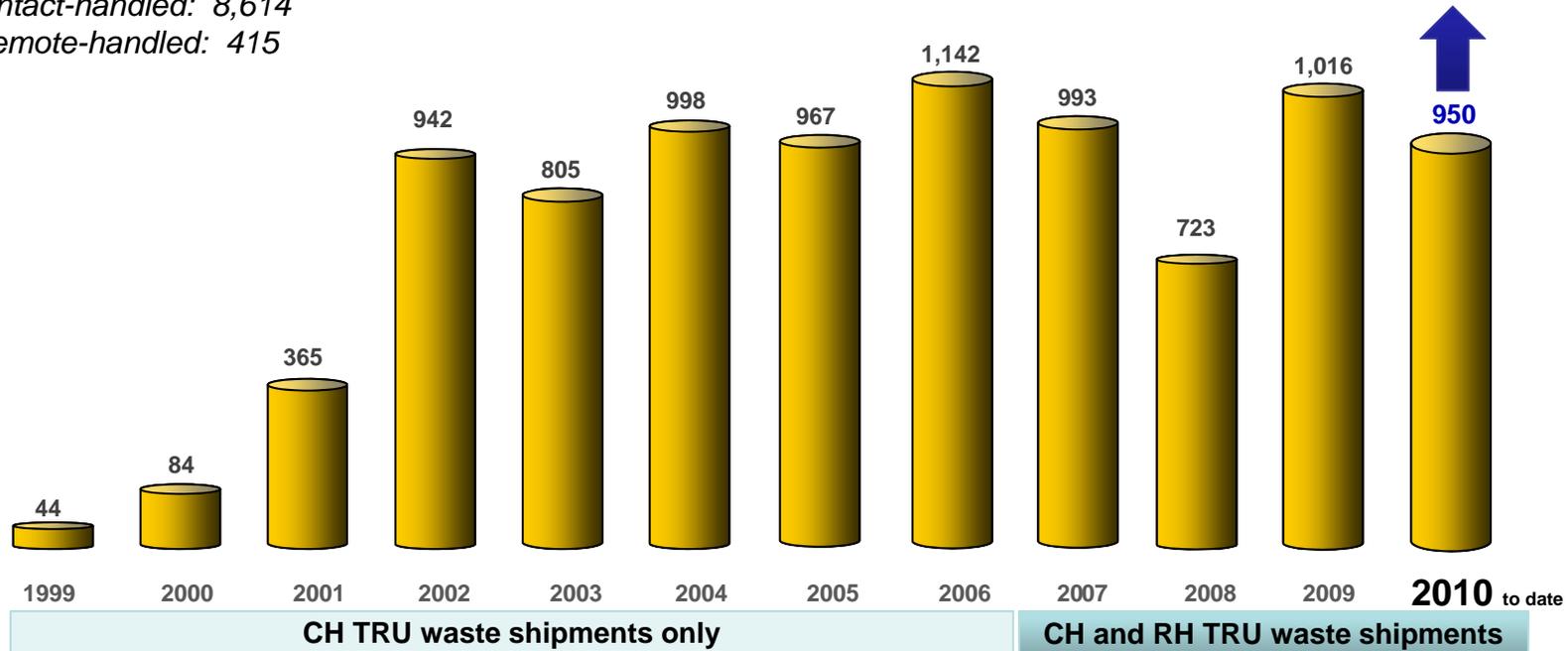
Shipments Received

**Total shipments
received to date:
9,029**

Contact-handled: 8,614
Remote-handled: 415

More than two months
in calendar year remaining.

2010 shipments to WIPP expected
to be about 1,101. In addition, WIPP has completed
49 intersite shipments this year and anticipates up to
36 more before the end of 2010. Total shipments
expected to reach 1,186.



Shipments Received by Calendar Year

As of October 11, 2010



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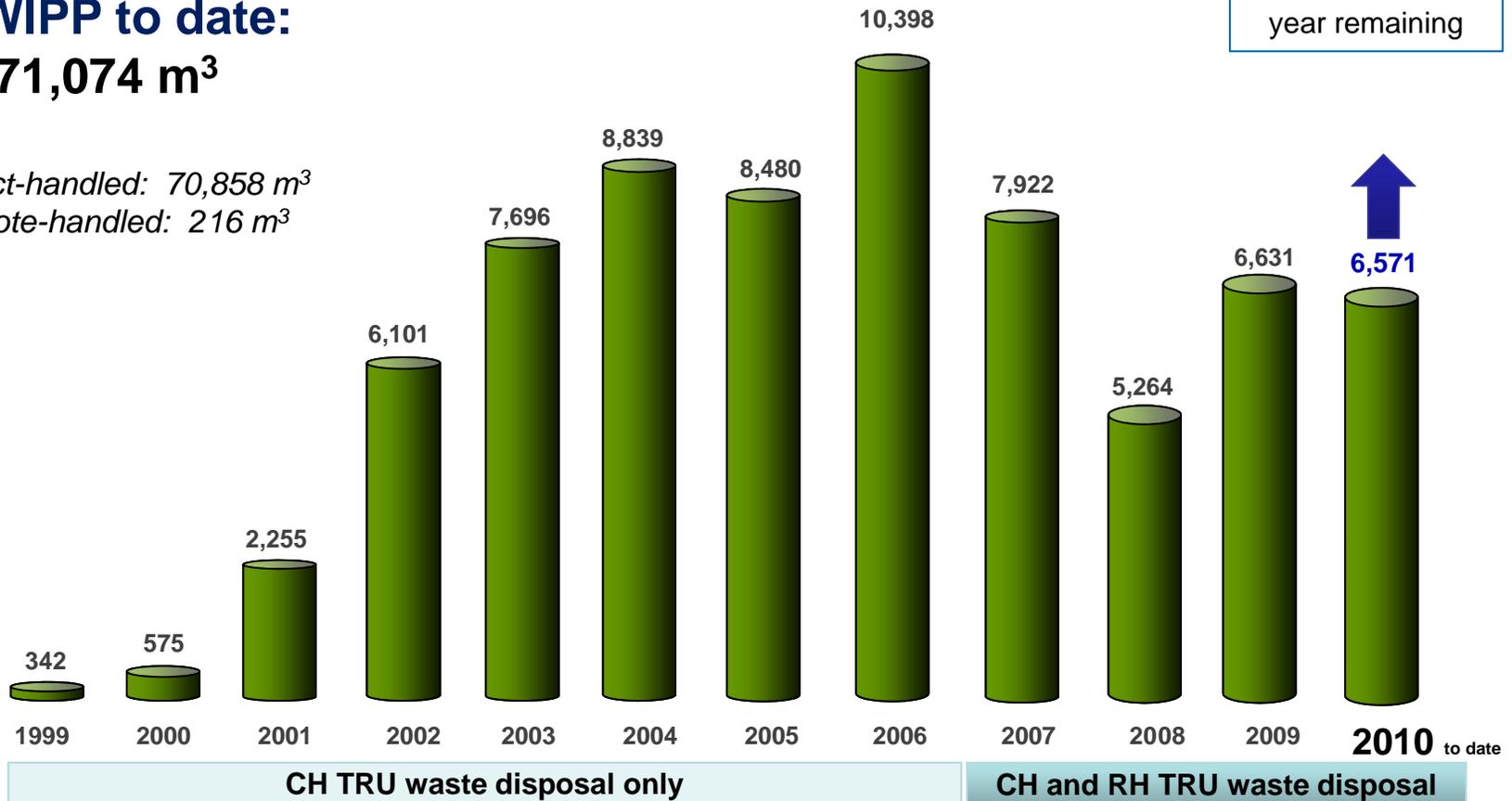
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Disposal

**Volume of waste
disposed
at WIPP to date:
71,074 m³**

More than two
months in
calendar
year remaining

Contact-handled: 70,858 m³
Remote-handled: 216 m³



As of October 10, 2010

Waste Disposed by Calendar Year (in cubic meters)



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National Cleanup



○ TRU waste site
● TRU waste site cleaned up of legacy TRU waste

Total number TRU waste sites cleaned up to date:

17



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Key regulatory processes



- Compliance Recertification Application (CRA)
 - Submitted to the Environmental Protection Agency by March 25
 - Required every five years until closure
 - CRA documents continued compliance with long-term disposal regulations
 - EPA issued completeness determination June 29
 - Decision anticipated late October/early November



- Hazardous Waste Facility Permit Renewal Application
 - Ten-year permit issued in October 1999
 - NMED issued draft permit on April 27, 2010
 - Public hearing concluded in August 2010
 - NMED issuance of new permit anticipated in December 2010



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Expected changes to WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit

- Format changes
- Disposal in Panel 8 is authorized
- Waste Stream Profile Forms (WSPF), Acceptable Knowledge Sufficiency Determinations (AKSD) and confirmation must be approved specifically by DOE
- Characterization requirements revised



Expected changes to WIPP Hazardous Waste Facility Permit (continued)

- Stakeholder E-mail notification events expanded
- New requirement for a Community Relations Plan
- New requirement for an Electronic Information Repository
- WIPP Mine Ventilation Rate Monitoring Plan included



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act



- Carlsbad Field Office allotted \$172 million
- Jobs created or saved
 - WIPP target: 400
 - End of September actual: 546
 - 382 in New Mexico

As of 9-30-10



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Benefits of ARRA

- Safety
- Nationwide environmental cleanup
- Acceleration of clean-up efforts at DOE sites
- Protection of human health and the environment



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ARRA Accomplishments

- Cleanup completed at three sites
 - Nevada Test Site
 - Vallecitos Nuclear Center
 - Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory – Site 300
- Started reconstruction of WIPP's South Access Road
- Increased shipments from Los Alamos National Laboratory



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Questions & Answers



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