

WIPP Recovery Update



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Today's Topics

- WIPP status and recovery activities
- Accident Investigation Board
- Technical Assistance Team
- CBFO and M&O organizations
- Funding
- WIPP is vital to the nation
- Q & A



Two events at WIPP

- **February 5, 2014**
Underground salt haul
vehicle fire
- **February 14, 2014**
Radiological release



Safety

- Safety – Protect human health and the environment
- Release was below EPA reporting requirements
- WIPP ventilation system worked as designed
- Thousands of air and environmental surveys taken since Feb. 15 and majority are non detectible for contamination

The Recovery Process

- **Phase 1** – Identifying the source of the contamination
- **Phase 2** – Decontaminating the mine; replacing equipment, improving infrastructure; and upgrading procedures and processes to ensure safe, compliant operations

Underground Re-entry

Teams have
completed over a
dozen entries

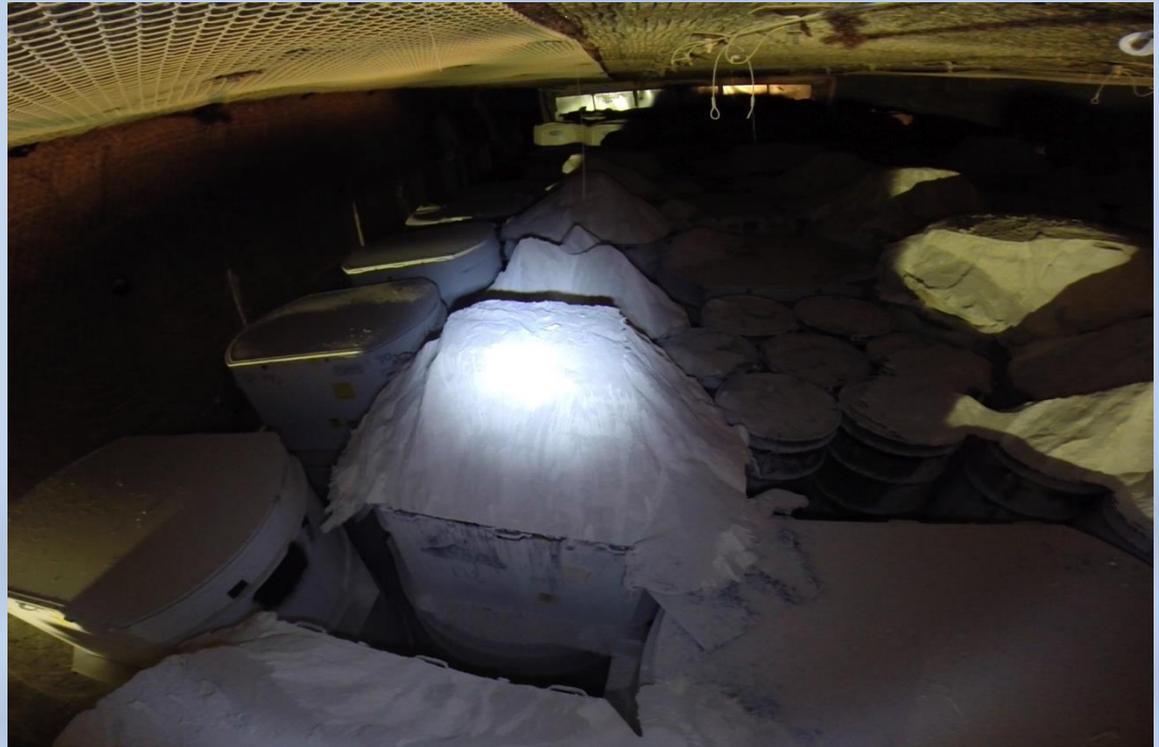
All have been
planned
extensively and
completed safely



Source

Event scene
was Panel 7,
Room 7

The cause is
under
investigation



Filters changed

Moderate- and high-
efficiency filters
affected by smoke and
contamination were
changed

WIPP filtration system
continues to perform
well

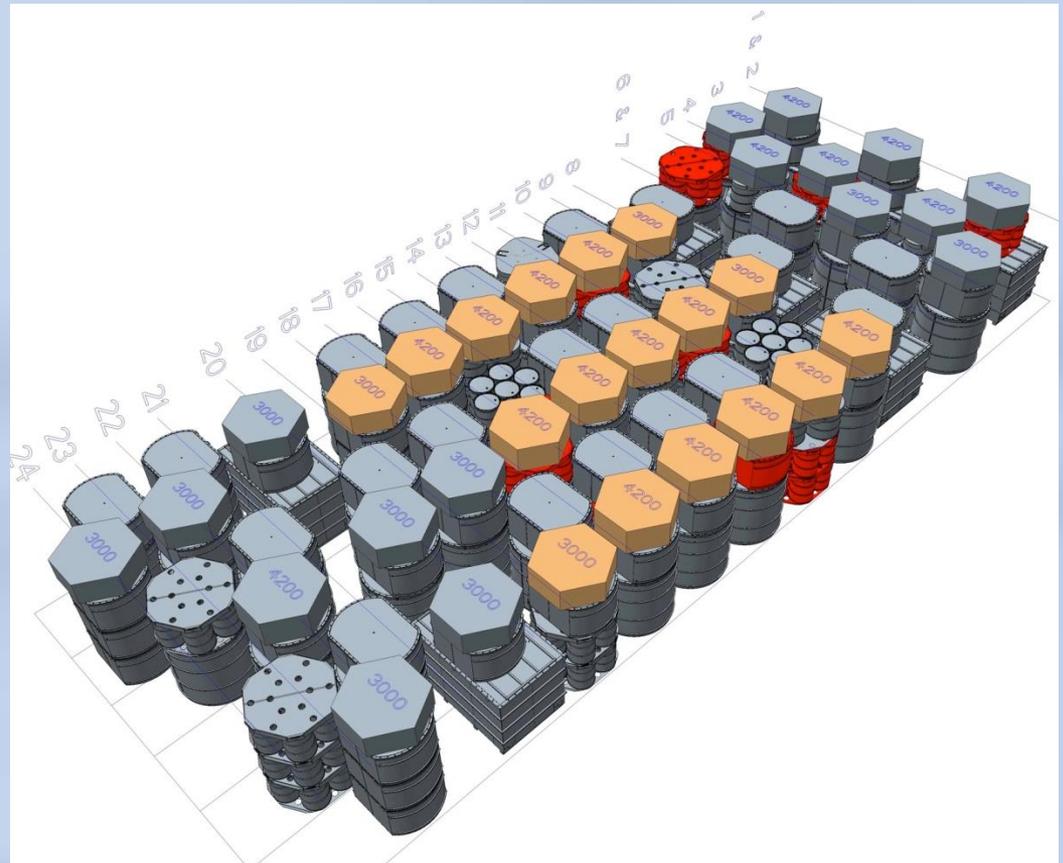


Current activities

- Implementing system to examine Room 7 from Row 1- 24, top to bottom
- Analyzing samples

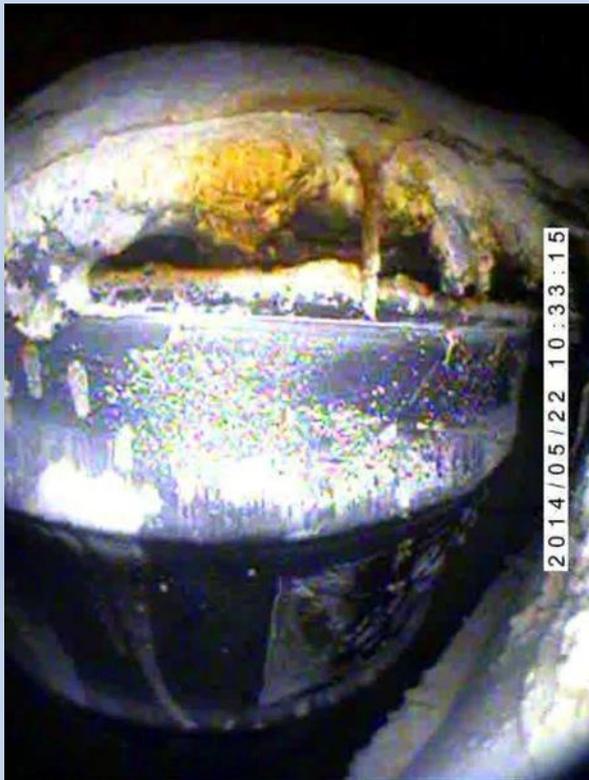
A drum from the waste stream is suspected of causing heat-generating reaction

No definitive cause determined yet

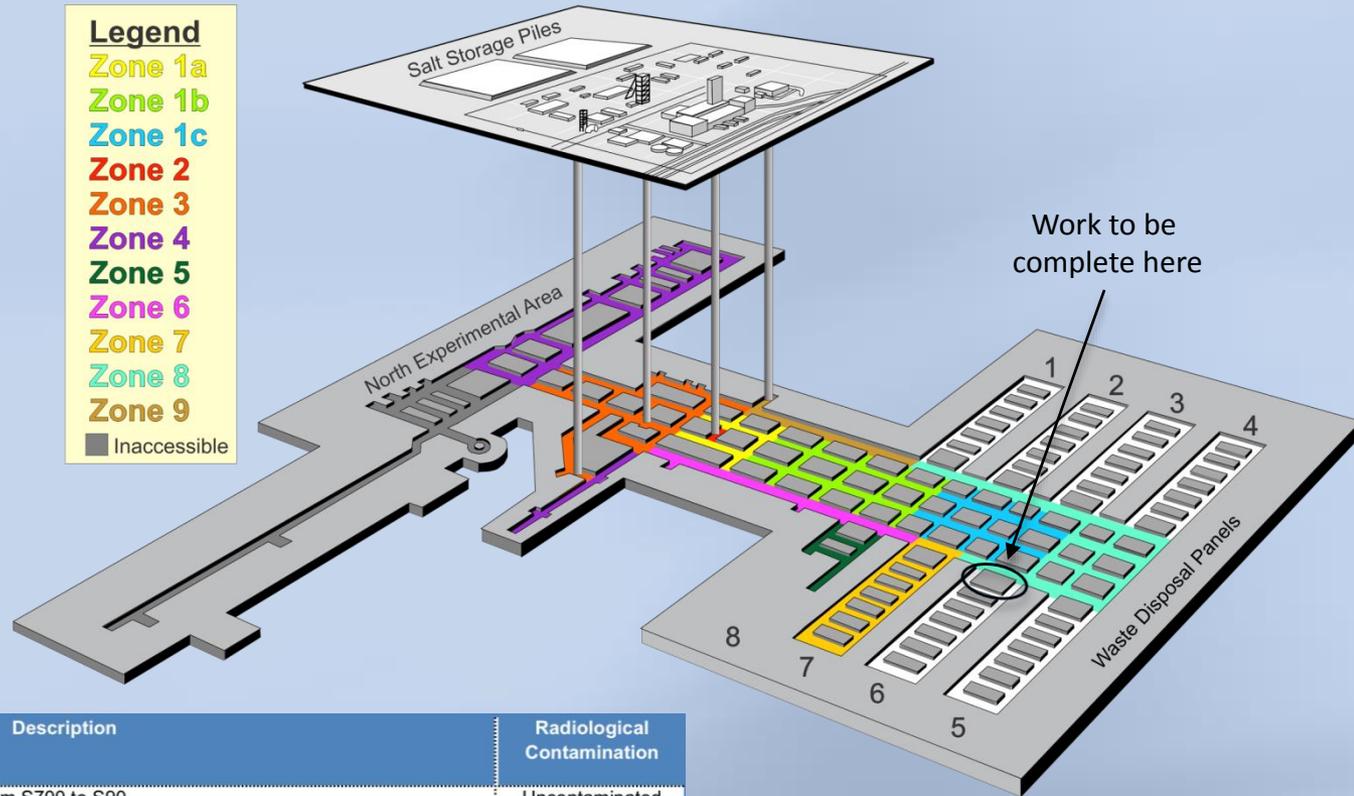


What we know

- The mine is stable
- Magnesium oxide sacks were disturbed by event
- Heat damage is evident
- At least one container is no longer intact



Near-term work activities planned



| Legend | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Zone 1a | (Yellow) |
| Zone 1b | (Light Green) |
| Zone 1c | (Light Blue) |
| Zone 2 | (Red) |
| Zone 3 | (Orange) |
| Zone 4 | (Purple) |
| Zone 5 | (Green) |
| Zone 6 | (Pink) |
| Zone 7 | (Yellow-Orange) |
| Zone 8 | (Cyan) |
| Zone 9 | (Light Green) |
| Inaccessible | (Grey) |

| Zone | Description | Radiological Contamination |
|---------|---|----------------------------|
| Zone 1a | Drift W30 from S90 to S700, Drift E140 from S700 to S90 | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 1b | Drift W30 from S700 to S1950, Drift E140 from S1950 to S700, and cross drifts at S1000, S1300, S1600 and S1950. | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 1c | Drift W30 from S1950 to S3080, Drift E140 from S3080 to S1950, and cross drifts at S2180, S2520, S2750 and S3080. | Contaminated |
| Zone 2 | Area around the waste shaft station including sumps | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 3 | Drifts from S-400 to N-1100 including maintenance area | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 4 | Experimental areas including NEXA, EXO, SDI | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 5 | Panel 8 | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 6 | Other uncontaminated areas (e.g., panel entry drifts) | Uncontaminated |
| Zone 7 | Panel 7 including rooms 1 to 7 and the exhaust drifts | Contaminated |
| Zone 8 | Contaminated areas at the south end of the mine with boundaries defined by characterization | Contaminated |
| Zone 9 | The exhaust drift and exhaust shaft | Contaminated |

What the Accident Investigation Board is investigating in coordination with CBFO

- What caused the damage to the waste container?
- Was it the original source of the entire event?
- Are there other damaged containers?



Technical Assistance Team

- Experts from several national laboratories to perform a review of scientific and technical issues surrounding the incident at WIPP
- The Technical Assistance Team is led by Dr. David Wilson, Associate Laboratory Director at the Savannah River National Laboratory
- The team coordinates with the Department's Carlsbad Field Office, the Los Alamos Field Office, and the WIPP Accident Investigation Board
- Experts from Savannah River, Pacific Northwest, Los Alamos, Sandia, Oak Ridge, and Lawrence Livermore national laboratories comprise the Technical Assistance Team

CBFO

Upcoming Organizational Changes



- Carlsbad Field Office re-organized to address weaknesses identified
- 12 additional positions approved by DOE Headquarters
- Process to be implemented during summer 2014

NWP

Organizational Changes



A URS-led partnership with B&W and AREVA

- **President & Project Manager:** Robert McQuinn
- **Recovery Manager and Deputy Project Manager:** Jim Blankenhorn
- **Deputy Recovery Manager:** Tammy Reynolds
- **Acting Environment, Safety & Health Manager:** Jim Stafford
- **Acting Radiological Controls Manager:** Duane McLane
- **Permanent Radiological Controls Manager:** Walt McMillan
- **Emergency Management Manager:** David Stuhan
- **Safety Basis Recovery Manager:** John Menna (Current Nuclear Safety Manager and Chief Nuclear Safety Engineer report to him)
- Realignment of Engineering – Direct report to project manager
- Realignment of all performance assurance functions into integrated Contractor Assurance organization – Direct report to project manager

Funding

- Appropriations process continues for FY2015
- Recovery funds anticipated in addition to base funding for operations
- Adequate funding is critical for full implementation of the WIPP Recovery Plan

Looking ahead

- All issues raised by the Accident Investigation Board are being addressed
- We will resume operations in a safe, compliant manner



Questions & Answers