

Radwaste Solutions

Volume 16, Number 3
May/June 2009



Features

WIPP@10

WIPP Celebrates 10 Years of Safe Operations 15

Celebrations and ceremonies mark WIPP's 10th anniversary.

WIPP@10: Securing the Past—Piloting the Future 16

On March 26, 1999, WIPP became America's first deep-underground repository for long-lived radioactive waste. In the 10 years since, WIPP has produced an exemplary performance record.

The Salt of the Earth: 25 Years of Experience in WIPP Underground Operations 20

More than 25 years of underground experience and a decade of disposal operations at WIPP have proven that salt is an excellent medium for a deep nuclear waste repository.

The Moving Target of WIPP's TRU Waste Inventory: Tracking the Generation, Treatment, Packaging and Emplacement of TRU Waste Across the Nuclear Weapons Complex 26

In mapping the future, the DOE's National TRU Program must determine how much TRU defense waste remains, establish strategic plans for the shipment of that waste, and ensure WIPP's regulatory compliance.

Tracking the Trash: Characterization and Certification of Waste for Disposal at WIPP 32

Before any shipment departs for WIPP, generator sites must develop an understanding of and document what is in every drum on that shipment, under one of the most rigorous regulatory environments ever conceived.

Going Mobile: How WIPP's CCP Revolutionized Nuclear Waste Characterization 38

What good is having a safe, highly efficient disposal system if there is hardly any waste to dispose of? WIPP elected to play an active role in solving the waste characterization dilemma.

WIPP's Mobile Loading Unit: Loading Shipments Using Mobile/Modular Systems 42

WIPP's mobile loading unit has been a tremendous success for the DOE in terms of life-cycle cost savings, as well as supporting accelerated closure of DOE facilities.

WIPP's Unique Fleet of Packages Delivers 47

Development of WIPP's transport packages started in the early 1980s, leading to a current fleet of 112 packages, by far the largest such fleet in the world.

Big Wheels Keep on Rolling: The Transportation Side of WIPP 54

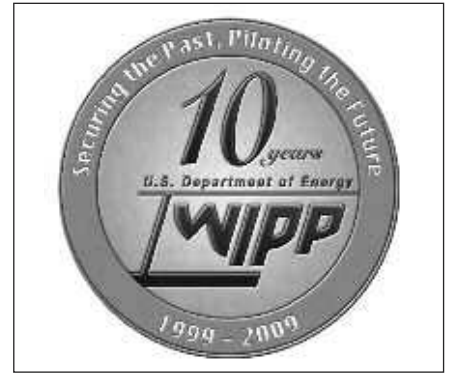
The U.S. Department of Energy spent time, effort, and money to ensure that the WIPP transportation system would result in the safest shipping campaign ever to travel the nation's highways.

From Collaboration to Compliance to Campaign Completion: Lessons from the Rocky Flats TRU Shipping Campaign 60

On shipping waste to WIPP—a generator site's perspective.

Independent Oversight at WIPP 66

Independent oversight—no ax to grind, no hidden agendas.



A WIPP commemorative coin, showing the WIPP 10-year anniversary logo.

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Underground operations at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. This issue is devoted to various aspects of WIPP operations, including inventory determination, characterization, packaging, transportation, and oversight.

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*Spent Fuel/
High-Level Waste*