Los Alamos Field Office Resumes Area G Waste Shipments to WIPP



The waste management teams for the EM Los Alamos Field Office and Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos gathered to mark the completion of the first waste shipment from Technical Area 54's Area G at Los Alamos National Laboratory to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) since WIPP resumed operations in January 2017.

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. – On Oct. 4, the EM Los Alamos Field Office and cleanup contractor Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos (N3B), with support from the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), safely and successfully completed the first waste shipment from Technical Area 54's Area G at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) since WIPP resumed operations in January 2017.

"The resumption of waste shipments from Area G to WIPP is a significant milestone for the EM mission at LANL," EM Los Alamos Field Office Manager Doug Hintze said. "Our contractor, N3B, accelerated the process of standing up mobile loading operations at Area G. With that capability, EM is ready to ship waste to WIPP as the shipment schedule permits. We look forward to continue to ship waste offsite from LANL on a regular basis."



Newport News Nuclear BWXT-Los Alamos waste management staff prepare the waste shipment for transport to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.

The latest Area G shipment — the second shipment from LANL to WIPP since WIPP's resumption of operations — contained waste from NNSA. In November 2017, NNSA sent a waste shipment to WIPP from LANL's Technical Area 55.

Future Area G shipments to WIPP will consist of legacy transuranic waste from the EM program.