



Technical Tour



Technical Tour: Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), URENCO USA uranium enrichment facilities and Waste Control Specialists radioactive and mixed waste processing and disposal company

Sponsored by Sandia National Laboratories

DATE: Thursday May 2, 2013 – Saturday, May 4, 2013

TRANSPORTATION: Fee includes the trip from ABQ Marriott and back to ABQ Marriott also the trips to WIPP/URENCO/WCS and any incidental transportation while in SE New Mexico. \$220.00

LODGING: Includes 2 nights at the Stevens Inn in Carlsbad, NM. \$220.00

MEALS: Include group dinner Thursday night. \$35.00 (does not include any alcoholic beverages, but there will be a cash bar available). Lunches on Friday and Saturday. (\$17.50 each) \$35.00

TOUR-FEE: Final pricing is \$510 and will include transportation, two nights hotel in Carlsbad, a group dinner, and box lunches on the days of the tours.

PARTICIPATION IS LIMITED – REGISTER EARLY!

Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) is pleased to offer and host these three tours.

1. WIPP is the Department of Energy's facility for the deep geologic disposal of defense related transuranic wastes. The repository has been operational for 13 years and has received in excess of 10,000 shipments. In 2010 WIPP received its third 5-year certification from the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in terms of meeting EPA's long term safety criteria, and it also received its second 10-year certification from the State of New Mexico Environment Department regarding the disposal of Hazardous Waste. The WIPP repository is located in bedded rock salt ~660 m (~2,150 feet) below the surrounding Chihuahuan desert terrain. Tours will be led by project scientists and engineers directly involved with the WIPP repository and its operation. This is a unique opportunity to experience the world's most successful operating deep geologic repository and to have direct access to the scientists and engineers with WIPP expertise. You will witness first-hand the WIPP facility, including the transportation systems, the transuranic waste handling systems, and the underground disposal environment; everything from waste receipt to emplacement underground for final disposal.
2. The URENCO USA facility began operations on June 11, 2010. Construction of the project will continue until the plant reaches the planned 5,700 tSW/a capacity. URENCO USA is the first enrichment facility to be built in the US in 30 years and the first ever using centrifuge enrichment technology. Robust project, operational, and corporate teams have been established to monitor construction activities, and to ensure training and procedural development run to schedule.

Capacity at URENCO USA currently stands at 2,000 tSW/a. It is anticipated that at full capacity the facility can produce sufficient enriched uranium for nuclear fuel to provide approximately 10% of America's electricity needs.

3. Waste Control Specialists LLC (WCS) is a national leader in treatment, storage and disposal of radioactive, hazardous and mixed waste at its 1,338-acre west Texas facility near Andrews. With the opening of the Texas Compact Disposal Facility in April 2012, and approval for operation of its Federal Disposal Facility in September 2012, WCS is now the only facility in the United States licensed in the last 30 years to dispose of Class A, B and C low-level and mixed low-level radioactive waste. These new disposal facilities complement WCS' existing byproduct disposal facility, the hazardous/toxic disposal facility, and the treatment facility. WCS is now a "one-stop shop" for treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous, toxic, mixed and radioactive waste needs. The company was founded in 1989 and is based in Dallas, Texas. Waste Control Specialists LLC operates as a subsidiary of Valhi, Inc

The WIPP facility is located about 40 miles from Carlsbad, New Mexico, URENCO is located near Eunice, New Mexico and WCS is located in Andrews, TX. Therefore hotel reservations will be made in Carlsbad on behalf of registered tour participants for two nights lodging and a group dinner on Thursday evening will be organized. Lodging and the dinner are both included in the participant fee.

HOW TO REGISTER:

At this time, the tour is limited to the first 25 registrants. Please indicate your interest in participating in the tour by emailing Ms. Dina Howell at vdhowel@sandia.gov no later than February 28th, 2013. Dina will send you further information with a link to the registration website, and inform you of the security requirements that apply for non-US citizens entering a federal government facility. Non-US citizens will need to fill out a form and submit it to the address given on the form, via fax or email, about 60 days prior to the tour. Full non-refundable payment for the tour will be required prior to March 15th, or the tour slot will be offered to a waiting list. Any questions, please contact Ms. Howell at vdhowel@sandia.gov or (505) 284-2780.

Payment can be most easily made through a Web-Pay URL using any major credit card. The Web-Pay application can be found at:

<https://cfwebprod.sandia.gov/cfdocs/ccpwa/index.cfm>.