WIPP INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

RICH LEONARD - WESTINGHOUSE WASTE ISOLATION DIVISION
WIPP INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

- New Mexico and tribal cooperative agreements
- Emergency response training
- Transportation route selection
NEW MEXICO AND TRIBAL
COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS
RICH LEONARD - WESTINGHOUSE
WASTE ISOLATION DIVISION
NEW MEXICO STRUCTURE FOR WIPP OVERSIGHT

• Radioactive Materials Act passed by New Mexico Legislature, 1979

• Act provisions
  - Radioactive Waste Consultation Task Force
    Reports to the governor and negotiates with DOE on behalf of the state
  - Radioactive and Hazardous Materials Committee
    Provides legislative WIPP oversight

• Environmental Improvement Division
  - State regulatory body that will monitor WIPP operations
  - Granted regulatory authority for the WIPP from federal Environmental Protection Agency
NEW MEXICO ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION GROUP

- Founded in 1978
- Provides an independent technical review of WIPP
- Funded by Department of Energy
- Maintains offices in Albuquerque and Carlsbad
- Reviews and comments on all WIPP technical documents
- Produced about fifty independent WIPP studies to date
- Conducts an independent environmental program of WIPP
NEW MEXICO SUES TO STOP WIPP

- WIPP authorizing legislation required DOE to sign Consultation and Cooperation (C & C) Agreement with the state of New Mexico by September, 1980
  - DOE and the state failed to agree on a C & C Agreement by September, 1980. DOE wanted to confine the agreement to matters within the site boundary. State wanted to include the entire state
  - State sued to stop WIPP in 1981
STIPULATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN DOE AND NEW MEXICO

- DOE and the state signed a Stipulated Agreement in 1981

- Agreement provisions
  - Legal action brought by the state to stop WIPP was delayed
  - C & C Agreement was provided as an appendix to the agreement

- DOE and state signed a Supplemental Stipulated Agreement (SSA) in 1982 which addressed the state's off-site concerns

- SSA provisions
  - Emergency response training and equipment
  - WIPP transportation route selection and funding to upgrade portions of the routes
  - Independent environmental monitoring for the state
  - Price-Anderson coverage for WIPP incidents
MODIFICATION TO THE DOE/NM AGREEMENTS

- DOE/NM agreements have been modified three times
  - 1984 to require compliance with all applicable EPA regulations
  - 1987 to require DOE support for the state in its efforts to obtain federal funding to compensate the state for WIPP impacts and to build relief routes around six New Mexico cities on WIPP transportation routes
  - 1987 to require additional testing at the site
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING AND PUBLIC INFORMATION

- WIPP teams visited the state government of each state on WIPP transportation routes from Idaho and Savannah River in 1987 and 1988 to provide the following
  - Review of emergency response training that DOE would provide to emergency responders along the routes
  - Review of a public information tour that DOE would provide along the routes

- Emergency response training was completed on the Idaho route, 1988. Refresher training has been provided

- Public information tour was conducted on the Idaho route, 1988
DOE NEW MEXICO AGREEMENT FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE ASSISTANCE

- Two-year agreement to enhance the state of New Mexico's emergency response capability was signed in 1988

- Provisions
  - $203,017 for financial assistance and $60,000 for emergency response equipment

- Agreement was extended for two years in 1990

- Provisions
  - $226,088 for financial assistance and $30,000 for emergency response equipment

- In 1988 Congress appropriated $1M to be used by states along the Hanford/WIPP route to address safety concerns related to WIPP shipments

- Actions
  - Activity was implemented by a one-year cooperative agreement between WGA and DOT
  - Most significant product was a WGA report to Congress that outlined state concerns
    - Accident prevention
    - Emergency preparedness
    - Public information
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WGA AND THE DOE

- Five-Year Cooperative Agreement was signed by the WGA and the DOE, 1990

- Provisions
  - $1.515M funding for first year
  - Will address concerns listed in the WGA report to Congress
  - Provides full funding to seven states along Hanford/WIPP route
  - Provides funding for the states of Arizona, Nevada and California to attend WGA meetings during the first year. Will provide enhanced funding to these states in later years as the initial shipment dates are approached
  - Each corridor state will provide a work plan for DOE approval
ACTIVITIES

Accident Prevention

- Driver and vehicle audits for contract compliance
- Independent inspections of shipments
- Advance notice of shipments
- Shipment status information
- Avoiding bad weather and adverse road conditions
- Safe parking during abnormal conditions
ACTIVITIES

Emergency Preparedness

- Mutual aid agreements
- Emergency response plans
- Radiation detection and protection equipment
- Training emergency responders
ACTIVITIES

Public Information

- Credible education
OTHER AGREEMENTS BEING NEGOTIATED BY DOE

- DOE is negotiating cooperative agreements similar to the DOE/WGA Cooperative Agreement with the following:
  - Southern States Energy Board
  - Fort Hall Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Idaho
  - Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Oregon
  - Other tribes
INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

Lessons Learned

- States relationship
  - Cooperative agreements between DOE and state regional organizations provide a uniform approach to problem resolution. Details must still be worked out with individual states
INSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMS

Lessons Learned (cont.)

- Tribal relationships
  - Tribes should be dealt with individually, as sovereign states
  - Cooperative agreements between the DOE and individual tribes/pueblos provide a satisfactory approach to problem resolution
STATES TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS
HISTORICAL PROSPECTIVE
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DOE COMMITMENT TO PROVIDE TRAINING

- Consultation and Cooperation Agreement (1981) between DOE and the state of New Mexico commits DOE to emergency response training in New Mexico.

- DOE committed to training outside of New Mexico at the Western Interstate Energy Board (WEIB) meeting in Albuquerque, N.M. December, 1987.
DEVELOPMENT OF THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING PROGRAM

- Initiated by the DOE Joint Integration Office, Albuquerque, 1986
- Effort was transferred to Westinghouse Waste Isolation Division July, 1987
- Curriculum developed by Westinghouse between July and December, 1987
- Program presented to the WEIB at Albuquerque, N.M. meeting December, 1987
- Curriculum presented to the WIEB board at Albuquerque, N.M. meeting January, 1988
STATES TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- First responder (1 day)
  - Local fire, medical, and law enforcement

- Command and control (2 days)
  - State police - Emergency Response Officer (ERO), scene commander

- Mitigation (1 day)
  - RPB, EID

- Train-the-Trainer (1 1/2 days)
  - Emergency medical, state police, fire
TRAINING ACCOMPLISHED

- Training initiated in Utah, April, 1988
- Training completed in all five first corridor states (Idaho, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico) in five months
- 4459 emergency responders trained in first corridor
- Trained in six southern states in 1989. 1653 students were trained
- In three years of training and refresher training, 6158 students have been trained
  - As of February 7, 1991
ACCEPTANCE OF TRAINING BY STUDENTS

• Students rate the courses above average or excellent 86.2% of the time

• Reasons for success
  - Instructors are former firefighters, police officers, and/or emergency medical technicians. This provides credibility to the students
  - Training is taken to the students, eliminating travel
  - Curriculum is designed to answer the concerns of the student
BENEFITS OF THE PROGRAM

- Having DOE instructors provide training to each state each year is less costly. Estimated cost is one-half of the cost of individual state training programs.

- Provides training consistency among the states.

- Allows timely updating of training material.
TRENDS

- More law enforcement officers attend than other job classifications followed by firefighters and emergency medical personnel

- Local officials attend training courses infrequently. The states invite students to the classes and should have more participation by local officials to keep them informed

- Attendance at the courses decreases 40 percent each year

- Acceptance of the courses by the students has increased each year
LESSONS LEARNED

- Working through regional state organizations for concurrence of course is not viable. Each state must be contacted individually.

- Take the course to the responders.
WIPP TRANSPORTATION
ROUTE SELECTION

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WIPP TRANSPORTATION ROUTE SELECTION

- New Mexico routes were included in the Supplemental Stipulated Agreement signed December, 1982

- Routes from waste generator sites to New Mexico were laid out in accordance with DOT regulations in 1986. Routes were presented for review and comment to
  - Southern States Energy Board in 1986
  - Individual western states in separate meetings in 1986-87
  - National Congress of American Indians in Denver and Carlsbad in 1987 and again in Carlsbad in 1988
  - Western Interstate Energy Board in 1987
WIPP TRANSPORTATION ROUTE SELECTION
(cont.)

- Department of Transportation modified its route selection regulations in 1989. As a result
  - New Mexico Attorney General ruled that the state must designate routes
  - New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board was the state agency authorized to designate state routes

- New Mexico Environmental Improvement Board (EIB) took action to designate WIPP routes and the following sequence occurred
  - New Mexico Highway Department performed an analysis of the routes
  - Public hearings were held in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Roswell, April-May, 1990
  - EIB designated a single north, south route that avoided Santa Fe and Carlsbad, October 12, 1990
WIPP SHIPMENT ROUTES
Designated by the State of New Mexico

Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)
New Mexico Highway Department appealed the EIB route designation stating:
- Designated routes were not designed for heavy vehicles
- Route 360 in Eddy County was subject to damage from subsidence from potash mines

EIB met again in December, 1990 and refused to reconsider its decision

EIB met again in February, 1991 and scheduled public hearings in Carlsbad, May 16-17, 1991 to consider the use of Route 360
ROUTE SELECTION

Lessons Learned

- Route selection should be addressed early
  - WIPP New Mexico routes addressed in supplemental agreement between DOE and the state December 1982
  - Route designation in New Mexico still incomplete