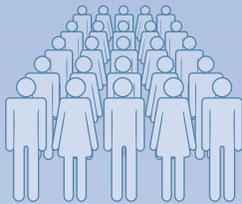




# By the Numbers WIPP Site Cleanup

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) is a Department of Energy facility designed to safely isolate defense-related transuranic (TRU) waste from people and the environment. WIPP, which began waste disposal operations in 1999, is located 26 miles outside of Carlsbad, New Mexico. Waste temporarily stored at sites around the country is shipped to WIPP and permanently disposed in rooms mined out of an ancient salt formation below the surface. TRU waste destined for WIPP consists of clothing, tools, rags, debris, residues and other disposal items contaminated with radioactive elements — mostly plutonium.

## 1,000



**people**  
employed at WIPP.

## 11,894



shipments safely  
transported more than  
**14 million loaded miles.**



## 24

**hrs/day**

shipments are tracked  
and monitored around  
the clock by satellite.

## 2,150

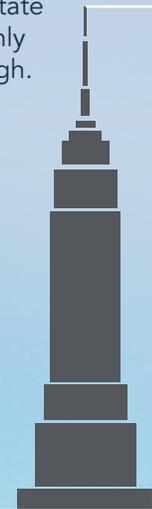
feet

2,150 ft.

distance to  
disposal rooms  
below the surface.

By comparison,  
the Empire State  
Building is only  
1,454 feet high.

1,454 ft.



## SEVEN

waste disposal rooms  
in each disposal panel measuring  
**300 ft. long**, 33 ft. wide, and 13 ft. high

## 171,064



containers have been emplaced  
in the WIPP underground.

## 11,894

**m<sup>3</sup>** of waste disposed  
in the underground mine.

