

Criteria for Safe Parking Areas for WIPP Shipments

Shipments of transuranic waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) may be delayed en route due to mechanical problems, adverse weather conditions, bad road conditions or other unanticipated problems. The Western Governors' Association (WGA) WIPP Technical Advisory Group worked cooperatively with the Department of Energy (DOE) to develop a safe transport program for WIPP shipments. The development of criteria for safe parking locations is one element of this safety program.

Under a contract with WGA, in 1990 the Western Interstate Energy Board developed criteria for safe parking areas for WIPP shipments. DOE has agreed to implement these criteria for WIPP shipments.

A hierarchy has been developed to incorporate two factors: 1) the *desirability* of a particular type of parking area; and 2) the driver's *ability* to reach that parking area under different types of emergencies.

A 1989 Memorandum of Understanding between the DOE and the Department of Defense (DOD) allows safe parking at military installations, coordinated by the Joint Nuclear Accident Coordinating Center (JNACC). The WIPP Central Monitoring Room (CMR) will coordinate with the DOE JNACC when safe parking is required at a military installation. The JNACC will ensure that the installation is ready to support the WIPP shipment when it arrives.

The criteria for selection of parking areas are:

Selection of Parking Areas	
<i>1st Choice</i>	Department of Defense (DOD) and Department of Energy facilities
<i>2nd Choice</i>	Specific types of places (possibly, but not necessarily, predesignated by states) <i>e.g.</i> , truck stops, state highway department sheds, ports of entry, national guard units
<i>3rd Choice</i>	<p>Factors to avoid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)

1st Choice: DOD & DOE facilities are the most desirable parking areas for WIPP shipments. However, it may not be possible for the driver to safely reach a DOD or DOE facility. The driver should then proceed down the hierarchy in selecting a parking area. DOD facilities will not be available if the safe parking location is required due to damage to a TRUPACT.

2nd Choice: Specific types of facilities are likely to be more common than DOD or DOE facilities. State-specific information on the types of facilities that are acceptable are listed in Part 2. If the driver cannot reach one of these types of facilities, the driver should use the *3rd Choice* criteria.

3rd Choice: If no DOD or DOE facilities or facilities listed in the second tier can be reached safely, a series of avoidance factors should be applied to select a parking area. No priorities have been assigned to these factors. It may not be possible to select a parking site that meets all of the criteria listed in the third tier. Compromises may be necessary.

To meet an immediate emergency, use of safe parking may be initiated by the WIPP driver or

on-scene law enforcement. Otherwise, use of safe parking will be coordinated and passed to the WIPP driver by the CMR.

Specific direction by an on-scene law enforcement officer will take precedence over guidance in this procedure. However, if the guidance in this procedure is superseded, the shipment will be moved as necessary to conform with this guidance as soon as on-scene law enforcement officers will allow, and in consultation with the state.

The Central Monitoring Room (CMR) or designee will coordinate with the appropriate state agency on selection of a safe parking location, and on when it is appropriate to leave safe parking and resume travel.

State Specific Information

Arizona

First Choice for safe parking area: Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.

DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas: Camp Navajo

Second Choice for safe parking area: Topock, Kingman and Sanders Ports of Entry

Third Choice for safe parking area: Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid using the avoidance priority shown below:

Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:

1. Highly populated areas
2. Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools)
3. Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives
4. Residential areas
5. Areas with numerous pedestrians
6. Crowded parking areas
7. Highway shoulders
8. Areas with difficult access
9. Industrial areas (e.g., refineries)
10. Poorly lighted areas
11. Areas without driver services (e.g., food)

Contact action: Contact the Department of Public Safety

Contact telephone number: (602) 223-2212

Additional considerations: Additional considerations may be added upon completion of the proposed study described above.

Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking: These circumstances are dependent on the study results and recommendations.

California

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	The U.S. Department of Energy should, as appropriate, identify occupied DOD facilities along WIPP shipment routes in California and make arrangements, including developing access procedures, for the use of these bases for safe
Second Choice for safe parking area:	The driver/Central Monitoring Room would have to receive permission from Caltrans and California Highway Patrol for highway department yards, commercial vehicle inspection facilities and from the National Guard for National Guard facilities.
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	Central Monitoring Room should notify California Highway Patrol's Sacramento Communications Center for use of Caltrans or Commercial Vehicle Inspection Facilities
Contact telephone number:	(916) 861-1299
Additional considerations:	
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:	Deviation from the selected route should be limited to extremely unusual conditions and then only after consultation with the California Highway Patrol.

Colorado

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Energy (DOE) and Department of Defense (DOD) facilities
DOE & DOD facilities designated as safe parking areas:	Ft. St. Vrain ISFSI Fort Carson Pueblo Army Depot
Second Choice for safe parking area:	Other available DOD facilities, such as the US Air Force Academy or Peterson Air Force Base, with the approval of the Colorado State Patrol
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking area:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Highly populated areas• Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools)• Industrial areas (e.g., refineries)• Areas with difficult access• Crowded parking areas• Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives• Poorly lighted areas• Highway shoulders• Residential areas• Areas with numerous pedestrians• Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	The driver should notify the Central Monitoring Room (CMR) of the need for a safe parking location. The CMR contacts the CSP to discuss safe parking alternatives and to obtain concurrence as well as additional guidance. The CMR enters the safe parking location into TRANSCOM.
Contact telephone number:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wyoming State Line to the El Paso County Line: (303) 239-4501 (Denver CSP, Regional Communication Center);• El Paso County Line (North) to New Mexico State Line: (719) 544-2424 (Pueblo CSP, Regional Communication Center)
Additional considerations	<p>Public rest areas are not appropriate parking locations for WIPP shipments.</p> <p>Approved rest areas: Pinon Rest Area and Monument Rest Area</p> <p>Approved truck stops: Del Camino, Monument Truck Stop, and Pinon Truck Stop</p> <p>Driver may use "Exit 11" on Colorado I-25 if the Raton Port of Entry is full (short term, not to exceed 2 hours).</p>
Circumstances when a	If an accident or unusual traffic blockage should occur while the

route change would be preferable to parking: shipment is traversing the I-25 corridor, it may be preferable to re-route the shipment. The Colorado State Patrol will make the decision as to the alternate route to be used and whether a CSP escort will be required.

When leaving the route for any reason: The driver must stop when it is safe to do so and contact the Central Monitoring Room (CMR). The CMR will be responsible for contacting the CSP to obtain instructions on how to proceed, including awaiting CSP escort and appropriate routes to return to the interstate.

Idaho

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	INEEL, Mountain Home AFB Gowen Field, Boise
Second Choice for safe parking area:	Malad, Pocatello, Boise, Mountain Home, Burley and Blackfoot Highway Department yards, Ports of Entry, National Guard Facilities.
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	Enter parking locations into TRANSCOM.
Contact telephone number:	Idaho State Police, Regional Communications Center, Boise (208) 846-7500
Additional considerations:	None
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:	There are times when a route change with Idaho State Police escort would be preferable to parking.

Nevada

First Choice for safe parking area:

Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.

DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas

Nellis AFB

Second Choice for safe parking area:

Third Choice for safe parking area:

Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.

Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:

Highly populated areas
Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools)
Industrial areas (e.g., refineries)
Areas with difficult access
Crowded parking areas
Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives
Poorly lighted areas
Highway shoulders
Residential areas
Areas with numerous pedestrians
Areas without driver services (e.g., food)

Contact action:

To be determined before shipments occur.

Contact telephone number:

Additional considerations:

Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:

New Mexico

First Choice for safe parking:	Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking	Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Kirtland AFB
Second Choice for safe parking area:	State predesignated parking area: Ports of Entry at Carlsbad, Gallup, Pojoaque, Raton and Vaughn [UPDATE]
Third Choice for safe parking area:	If the driver cannot safely reach a DOE or DOD facility or a State predesignated parking area, the driver should select an appropriate safe parking area utilizing the “avoidance factors” listed below and notify the CMR of his location. The CMR should then contact the state for concurrence and/or additional guidance regarding the temporary parking location.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	The CMR should call the State Police District 1 Communications Center, which can then contact appropriate personnel in the N.M. Department of Public Safety’s Motor Transportation Division (MTD) and State Police Division (SPD), for concurrence and/or additional guidance regarding the driver’s selection of a temporary parking location.
Contact telephone number:	State Police Dist 1 Communications Center – (505) 827-9300
Additional considerations:	Inappropriate areas include highway on/off ramps and congested rest areas.
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:	The state would have to be consulted regarding any proposed route change. Any deviation from a designated WIPP route in New Mexico must be made in accordance with the applicable federal regulations, 49 CFR 397.101(c).

Oregon

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	Umatilla Depot.
Second Choice for safe parking area:	Umatilla Port of Entry, Farewell/Bend Port of Entry (near Ontario).
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries, tank farms, chemical storage facilities, fertilizer manufacturers, etc.) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	The Central Monitoring Room should notify the Oregon Emergency Response System Duty Officer for concurrence and/or additional guidance. The CMR should also notify the Umatilla Tribe if truck is on or approaching the Umatilla Indian Reservation.
Contact telephone number:	(503) 378-6377 – Oregon Emergency Management (541) 276-2126 – Umatilla Tribal Fire Department
Additional considerations:	None.
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:	If an accident is blocking the interstate and the police are rerouting other traffic, the WIPP shipments should follow the rest of the traffic. The Oregon Emergency Response System Duty Officer should be notified of the deviation in the route.

Texas

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Defense (DOD) facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	Dyess Air Force Base, Abilene, Texas
Second Choice for safe parking area:	State of Texas designated Safe Havens along IH-20. Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) Maintenance Offices located along the Interstate.
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	The driver should call the Texas State Operations Center (SOC).
Contact telephone number:	Call the State Operations Center (SOC) at (512) 424-2208) or (512) 424-2277
Additional considerations:	Public rest areas are not appropriate parking areas for WIPP shipments. If medical facilities are required, please contact the Central Monitoring Room (CMR) for reference to the Texas Emergency Notification and Response Guide for Transuranic Shipments (Mile-by-Mile Guide) for emergency phone numbers (law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services, and hospitals) along the route. Please know your mile marker location.
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable	If an accident or unusual traffic blockage should occur while the shipment is traversing the I-20/US 285 corridor, it may be

to parking:

preferable to re-route the shipment. The Technological Hazards Group (THG) will make the decision as to the alternate route to be used and whether a Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) escort will be required. Contact the SOC at the numbers above to request rerouting. Contact the SMR prior to contacting the SOC.

Utah

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Defense (DOD) facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	Hill Air Force Base
Second Choice for safe parking area:	1. Perry Port of Entry 2. Commercial Truck Stops
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	The driver should notify Weber Communications if the safe parking procedure is invoked in Utah.
Contact telephone number:	(435) 734-3800
Additional considerations:	Selecting and arranging for safe parking is the driver's responsibility. Utah Highway Patrol resources listed can assist with these decisions.
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:	In the event of a long term road closure, an alternate route would be considered only after consultation with the Utah Department of Transportation, Motor Carrier Office (435) 734-3800.

Washington

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	Hanford
Second Choice for safe parking area:	None
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food)
Contact action:	Contact Washington State Patrol Communications Center
Contact telephone number:	(509) 575-2320, ext 0.
Additional considerations:	In the event of mechanical problems or adverse weather conditions, the shipment will be returned to Hanford.
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking:	With the approval of the Washington State Patrol, alternate routes may be used in long-term emergencies. During short-term incidents/accidents, parking or limited detours may be utilized, depending upon the incident/accident.

Wyoming

First Choice for safe parking area:	Department of Energy and Department of Defense facilities.
DOE & DOD Facilities designated as safe parking areas	F.E. Warren AFB
Second Choice for safe parking area:	Truck stops, Ports of Entry Note: During road closures, truck stops become very congested. The potential for parking lot accident situations is high. Drivers should check with local Highway Patrol for better parking area during road closure.
Third Choice for safe parking area:	Driver selects safe parking area based upon areas to avoid.
Areas to avoid for safe parking areas:	Highly populated areas Areas that are difficult to evacuate in case of emergency (e.g., hospitals, schools) Industrial areas (e.g., refineries) Areas with difficult access Crowded parking areas Parked trucks carrying flammables or explosives Poorly lighted areas Highway shoulders Residential areas Areas with numerous pedestrians Areas without driver services (e.g., food) Rest Areas
Contact Action:	The driver should notify CMR of the safe parking location. The CMR enters the parking location in the Note section of the TRANSCOM Bill of Lading. The driver should call the Wyoming Highway Patrol for concurrence and/or additional guidance during road closures, if a problem selecting a safe parking location arises or if TRANSCOM is not working.
Contact telephone number:	Wyoming Highway Patrol – (307) 777-4321 F.E. Warren AFB: (307) 773-3921 or (307) 773-3501
Additional considerations:	Department of Transportation yards will be available for parking of WIPP shipments only if directed by the Wyoming Highway Patrol.
Circumstances when a route change would be preferable to parking	None

