

Section 13: Program Evaluation

Lead States: Oregon, California, Wyoming

The Issue: The WIPP Transportation Safety Program and its individual elements must be regularly and rigorously evaluated to determine their effectiveness.

The Objective: Measure the effectiveness of the WIPP Transportation Safety Program, identify areas needing improvement, and ensure open issues are resolved.

The Approach: Western States have worked with the DOE-CBFO to develop a comprehensive transportation safety program for the WIPP shipments. This safety program is designed to reduce the risk of a WIPP transportation incident, ensure effectiveness of emergency response capabilities, and increase the public's confidence in the safety of the shipments and nuclear waste transportation in general. The program is also intended to serve as a model for use or adaptation for use on other radiological shipments.

The evaluation process has two elements: reviews of procedures and policies specific to each section, and evaluation of the WIPP Transportation Safety Program as a whole.

Criteria for the evaluation for each section are developed by the lead states for each task. Criteria to evaluate the overall program are developed by all the states. Data collection and analysis should not be unnecessarily burdensome. Quantitative, qualitative, and anecdotal information will be used.

The evaluation of each section will include both the procedures and policy decisions specific to that section. For example, evaluation of safe parking could include looking at specific procedures, such as whether directions to designated safe parking locations are easy to understand. It could also include a review of the policy issues, such as whether the avoidance criteria agreed to by the states results in the selection of appropriate safe parking locations. This evaluation will be conducted by the lead states for each task.

The overall program evaluation will occur biennially and involve all the states. The lead states for Program Evaluation will coordinate this activity and develop recommended suggestions for the program.

Program elements related to remote-handled transuranic waste shipments should be evaluated within a year after the beginning of remote-handled shipments.

Table 13: Program Evaluation

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Documents	Responsible for Updates	Status
<i>Documents included in Guide</i>		
<i>WIPP Transport Safety Program Biennial Program Review, June 2007</i>	OR, WY, CA WGA	Final