



Media Advisory

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Immediate Release: Thursday, January 5, 2017 10 am EST

Energy Secretary Moniz, Governor Martinez, and New Mexico Delegation to Formally Reopen the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)

Event will recognize the efforts by workforce and the federal, state and local community to restore waste emplacement operations following the 2014 shutdown

WASHINGTON – On January 9, 2017, U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz, along with Governor Martinez and members of the New Mexico delegation, will formally reopen the nation's only deep geological repository for transuranic (TRU) waste during a ribbon cutting and ceremony at WIPP. The WIPP facility has been closed for recovery operations since February 2014.

On January 9, Secretary Moniz will recognize the exemplary work of the WIPP workforce, the local and state community and the contractor for their fulfillment of this critical mission that supports both disposal of TRU waste and the legacy cleanup of communities across the country. The first waste emplacement operations at WIPP occurred on January 4, 2017.

WHAT	Reopening of the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) Ribbon Cutting and Ceremony
WHO	Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz• New Mexico Governor Martinez• U.S. Senator Heinrich• U.S. Representative Pearce• U.S. Representative Lujan Grisham
WHERE	Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, Carlsbad, NM
WHEN	Monday, January 9, 2017 9:45 AM MT – 11:00 AM MT
RSVP	Media that can attend must RSVP by Saturday, January 7, 2016 at noon EST in order to be approved for site entry and participate in the media-only underground tour following the ceremony: Bridget.bartol@hq.doe.gov

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