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### **AMWTP Sends 2000<sup>th</sup> Shipment To WIPP**

IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO (May 21, 2008)---When Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project Shipper Lonney Nate signed-off on shipment #IN080178, in one sense he was sending just another shipment on its way to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, located near Carlsbad, New Mexico.

That shipment, however, carried a more symbolic load, transporting the 2000<sup>th</sup> shipment of radioactive transuranic waste that Bechtel BWXT Idaho has sent safely and compliantly out of Idaho since May 1, 2005.

AMWTP is managed and operated for the U.S. Department of Energy by Bechtel BWXT Idaho. Since May 1, 2005, AMWTP has sent more radioactive waste to the WIPP site than any other project in the DOE Complex. To date, more than 41,800 containers have been safely shipped to the New Mexico site, representing more than one-third of the 65,000 cubic meters of stored transuranic waste that is required to be shipped out of the state.

"Our employees are firmly committed to the safe, compliant and efficient operation of this facility," said Bechtel BWXT Idaho President and General Manager Jeff Mousseau. "With more than 6.5 million hours worked without a lost time injury, our employees are intent on bolstering this project's reputation for safety and the facility of choice in the DOE Complex for treating and shipping radioactive transuranic waste."

Shipments leaving Idaho are a promise kept by the Department. Radioactive waste shipments have become a regular sight to travelers driving south on US Interstate 15. The steady flow of nuclear waste out of Idaho has also put the Department of Energy nearly two and-a-half years ahead of the pace defined by the Idaho Settlement Agreement.

"AMWTP is turning out to be a genuine success story for the Department and demonstrates its commitment to clean up the Idaho site," said DOE Idaho Operations Deputy Manager Rick Provencher. "Given the significant progress made in the past three years, the Department is confident in meeting the completion milestone contained in the Settlement Agreement."

The volume of waste permanently disposed in the underground salt caverns of WIPP is an area roughly the size of a football field and five stories high. Nearly 40 percent of all waste disposed in WIPP has come from AMWTP.