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# Fed report slams safety lapses at New Mexico nuclear facility



Workers conduct remote tests inside an underground nuclear waste dump in Carlsbad, N.M., earlier this month after a fire and radiation leak at the facility. (Department of Energy)

By Joseph Serna

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**W**orkers at a New Mexico nuclear waste storage facility that suffered an underground fire and radiation leak last month lack adequate safety training, oversight or a proper response plan for emergencies, a federal investigation has found.

In a report released Friday, Energy Department investigators faulted employees at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, or WIPP, near Carlsbad, for failing to maintain equipment and failing to correct procedures regulators have faulted before — issues that became apparent when a truck caught fire Feb. 5 followed by a radiation leak Feb. 14.

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