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For Immediate Release

SBA Says WIPP Contractor Program Outstanding

CARLSBAD, N.M., October 9, 2006 – Washington TRU Solutions' (WTS) small business program received an "Outstanding" rating by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for exceeding all of its small business goals. The rating was the result of a comprehensive, on-site review completed last month.

The purpose of the SBA review was to evaluate how well WTS met U.S. Department of Energy-negotiated goals for small business subcontracts, small business assistance, outreach and training. In fiscal year 2006, WTS placed 83 percent, or more than \$59 million, of its available procurement dollars with small businesses, exceeding its 2006 goal of 45 percent.

In a letter to WTS President and General Manager Dick Raaz, Trinnie Bridge of the SBA said, "This rating is a direct result of your continued excellent performance in the percentage of overall awards to small business, small disadvantaged business, woman-owned small business, HUBZone, veteran-owned small business and small-disadvantaged, veteran-owned small business and the efforts that your entire staff involved with this program has expended."

"I'm very proud of our efforts on behalf of small business," said Raaz. "Helping small businesses compete in the government procurement process is particularly important to southeast New Mexico and the state."

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As defined by SBA, an outstanding rating signifies that a company has an exemplary program that could be used as a model by other contractors in similar industries.

WTS and related legacy companies have managed WIPP for the U.S. Department of Energy for more than 20 years. WTS is owned jointly by Weston Solutions, Inc. and Washington Government Environmental Services Company, LLC, an affiliate of Washington Group International, headquartered in Boise, Idaho.

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