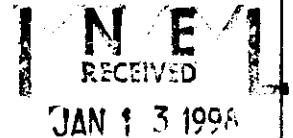



IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

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January 8, 1999



COMMUNITY RELATIONS
 COORDINATOR

Honorable Helen Chenoweth
 Member of Congress
 1727 Longworth House Office Building
 Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Chenoweth:

On behalf of the Idaho Farm Bureau's 48,000 plus member families, I would like to express my thanks for your December 18, 1998 letter to Energy Secretary Bill Richardson requesting that the federal government steer away from burying radioactive waste over the Snake River Plain aquifer.

We agree that protection of this highly productive resource is essential to the future of Idaho's agricultural economy, as well as being a major source of drinking water for hundreds of thousands of Idaho citizens. Surely a better alternative could be secured for disposition of radioactive and chemical wastes produced at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

By copy of this letter we are requesting that the Department of Energy record our views with other public comments received on plans to build the so-called "INEEL CERCLA Disposal Facility" at the proposed location.

Thank you for your continuing attention to this important Idaho issue and for solidly representing the citizens of Idaho.

Sincerely,

Frank Priestley, President
 Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

cc: Governor Dirk Kempthorne
 Energy Secretary Bill Richardson
 John Wileynski, Manager, DOE Idaho Operations Office
 IFBF Officers, Directors & Staff
 County Presidents