Notice of Availability

Public Meetings

Meetings will begin at 7 p.m. at each location, following a 6:30 p.m. availability session. A court reporter will prepare a transcript of the public meetings and record public comments.

May 16 • Idaho Falls
Engineering Research Office Building
2525 N. Fremont

May 17 • Boise
Earl Chandler Building
1410 N. Hilton
Conference Rooms A and B

May 18 • Moscow
Palouse Empire Mall

To request a briefing, copy of the proposed plan, or an auxiliary aid, call the INEL's toll-free number at (800) 708-2680.

Written comments on these proposed plans may be sent to:

Mr. Jerry Lyle, Acting Deputy Assistant Manager, Office of Program Execution, DOE-Idaho Operations Office, P.O. Box 2047, Idaho Falls, ID 83403-2047

Idaho National Engineering Laboratory

The U.S. Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, and state of Idaho want to hear your thoughts at an upcoming public meeting involving two separate remediation projects at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory. The agencies will discuss and accept comments on proposed plans to remediate the Stationary Low-Power Reactor-1 and Boiling Water Reactor Experiment-1 burial sites and three landfills at the Central Facilities Area. The following briefly describes the projects and indicates dates of comment periods:

April 26 to May 26, 1995

Central Facilities Area Landfills I, II, and III (Operable Unit 4-12)

The Central Facilities Area Landfills I, II, and III were used as recently as 1984 to dispose of municipal-type and industrial wastes generated from INEL operations. Several field investigations were performed to determine if contaminants from wastes disposed in the landfills have moved away from the original areas of disposal. Although a baseline risk assessment of the landfills does not clearly identify any unacceptable risks, there is substantial uncertainty associated with the types and volumes of wastes disposed to the landfills, which could not be reduced through additional data collection. Therefore, remedial action is warranted to reduce the presumed unacceptable risk.

The agencies have evaluated the following alternatives for possible remediation of the landfills:

- **No Action with Monitoring:** Wastes would remain in place and groundwater monitoring would take place for 30 years if deemed appropriate, with the decision to continue monitoring reviewed at least every five years.
- **Institutional Controls with Monitoring:** Wastes would remain in place; groundwater monitoring would take place; and fences would be constructed around the landfills and access restricted.
- **Uniform Containment with Native Soil Cover, Institutional Controls, and Monitoring (Preferred Alternative):** Wastes would remain in place; a soil cover would be placed over the surface of the landfills; a deed restriction would restrict future sale and use of the property; and groundwater monitoring would take place.
- **Containment with Single-Barrier Cover, Institutional Controls, and Monitoring:** Wastes would remain in place; an impermeable cover would be placed over the surface of the landfills; a deed restriction would restrict future sale and use of the property; and groundwater monitoring would take place.

May 3 to June 3, 1995

Stationary Low-Power Reactor-1/Boiling Water Reactor Experiment-1 Burial Grounds (Operable Units 5-05 and 6-01)

Stationary Low-Power Reactor-1

Stationary Low-Power Reactor-1 was a small nuclear power plant designed for the military. It accidentally achieved a critical nuclear reaction on January 3, 1961, creating a steam explosion that killed the three operators on duty and contaminated the reactor vessel and building.

To minimize radiation exposure to the public and site workers, a disposal site for the contaminated debris was constructed about 1,600 feet northeast of the original reactor site. Disposing of the material onsite was preferred to transporting the radioactive debris over 16 miles of public highway to the Radioactive Waste Management Complex.

Boiling Water Reactor Experiment-1

Seven years prior to the destruction of the Stationary Low-Power Reactor-1, the Boiling Water Reactor Experiment-1, a small reactor for testing boiling water reactor technology, was intentionally destroyed for research purposes after the mission of the reactor had been completed. The destruction of the reactor resulted in the contamination of about 2 acres of the surrounding terrain. Much of the reactor debris was buried in place and the area was covered with about 6 inches of gravel to reduce radioactivity levels.

Since both reactor burial sites are similar, they are being investigated together. The agencies are considering the following remediation alternatives:

- **No Action:** No attempt would be made to contain, treat, or remove contaminated materials, and environmental monitoring would be performed.
- **Containment by Capping with an Engineered Long-term Barrier Comprised Primarily of Natural Materials (Preferred Alternative):** A cover would be installed over the burial sites; wastes would remain in place; and periodic monitoring for effectiveness and maintenance needs would be performed.
- **Removal by Conventional Excavation with Disposal at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex:** All contaminated materials would be removed from the burial grounds using conventional excavation techniques and disposed of at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex, and the excavated areas would be backfilled with clean fill material and revegetated.

Additional Information

Supporting documents and copies of the proposed plans will be available by Operable Unit number in the Administrative Record section of the INEL Information Repository at the INEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls; Shoshone-Bannock Library in Fort Hall; University of Idaho Library in Moscow; Boise INEL Office, and public libraries in Pocatello, Twin Falls, Idaho Falls, and Boise.