

Notice of Availability

Meetings Scheduled on Cleanup of Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center

The U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state of Idaho want to hear your thoughts on cleanup plans for the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory's Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (formerly the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant or Chem Plant).

The agencies have started a public comment period on the proposed cleanup plan beginning Oct. 23. Although the required period is only 30 days, the agencies have extended this period an additional 30 days in anticipation of large public interest.

Public meetings are scheduled for Nov. 16 in Idaho Falls (Shilo Inn), Nov. 17 in Twin Falls (Shilo Inn), Nov. 18 in Boise (Doubletree Downtown) and Nov. 19 in Moscow (University Inn). Informal availability sessions will take place from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at each location. Meetings begin at 7 p.m.

The INTEC facility, which began operations in 1952, reprocessed defense-related spent nuclear fuel until 1992. Liquid wastes generated from this activity were stored in an underground tank farm until they were treated using a calcining process, which converts the liquid to a more stable granular form. The current mission of INTEC is to receive and temporarily store spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste for future disposition, manage waste and clean up past contamination.

Forty areas in and near the facility will require cleanup actions to reduce the risk to human health and the environment. These areas principally involve contaminated soils, groundwater and "perched" water, which is water that is suspended between sedimentary interbeds. Fifty-one suspected or confirmed contaminated areas have been designated as no action or no further action sites because calculated risks were within acceptable limits. Four other sites are being addressed by other programs.

The preferred alternatives for the following contaminated areas include:

Tank Farm Soils Interim Action — Existing and Additional Institutional Controls, Surface Water Controls (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; Institutional Controls)

Soils Under Buildings and Structures — Institutional Controls, Containment (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; Removal and On-Site Disposal)

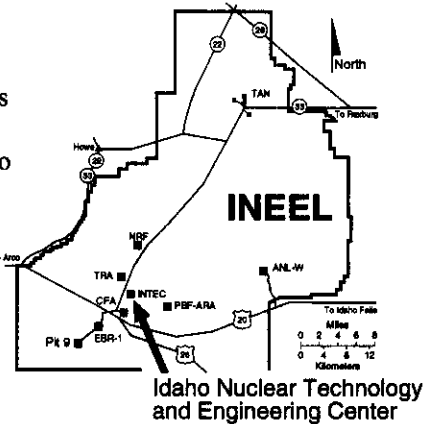
Other Surface Soils — Removal, On-Site Disposal (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; Institutional Controls; Containment; Removal, Treatment and Off-Site Disposal)

Perched Water — Institutional Controls, Aquifer Recharge Controls (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; Aquifer Recharge Control and Perched Water Removal, Treatment and Disposal)

Snake River Plain Aquifer — Institutional Controls, Monitoring, Contingent Remediation (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; Institutional Controls, Monitoring and Source Control; Contingent Localized Groundwater Removal, Treatment and Disposal)

Buried Gas Cylinders — Removal, Treatment, Disposal (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; Containment)

SFE-20 Tank System — Removal, Treatment, Disposal (other alternatives evaluated include No Action with Monitoring; In Situ Stabilization with Containment; Liquid Removal and Treatment with In Situ Stabilization).



Citizens may request a copy of the proposed cleanup plan or a briefing with project managers by calling the INEEL Community Relations Plan Office at (208) 526-4700 or the INEEL's toll-free number at (800) 708-2680.

Additional information is available in the Administrative Record file for Operable Unit 3-13. The Administrative Record is located at the DOE Reading Room of the INEEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls. Copies can be found at the Albertson Library on the campus of Boise State University in Boise and the University of Idaho Library in Moscow. The Administrative Record may be accessed on the Internet at <http://ar.inel.gov/home.html>.

