



HLW & FD EIS PROJECT - (AR)PF

Control # NC-02

Supporting Tomorrow's Technologies With Facts + Not Fears!
P.O. Box 51232+Idaho Falls, Idaho 83405+208-528-2161+FAX: 528-2199

COMMENTS RE THE IDAHO HIGH-LEVEL WASTE DEIS: DOE/EIS-0287D

- 2-1
X(2) 1. [The purpose of an EIS doesn't have to include the effect of costs. However, cost effective comparisons of the various alternatives is (or should be) a major factor in the public's and DOE's evaluations and decisions. Environmental concerns are important, but are not the only important factors that determine the best interests of our United States. Therefore we, the public, need to know when the cost evaluation will be available to us. Such information could very possibly narrow down the alternatives worth considering.]
- 2-2
X1(3) 2. [We are not convinced that DOE supplied the National Research Council's (NRC) Committee on INEEL with sufficient data for them to arrive at a more definitive evaluation of the different alternatives for handling its High Level Waste (HLW) to the the Idaho Settlement's deadlines.] It is easy to postpone decisions and actions while waiting for better information, but mere postponement does not get things done.]
- 2-6
VI(1) 3. [We support the State of Idaho's view that DOE's current method of calculating Metric Tons of Heavy Metal (MTHM) should be changed to either of the State's proposed methods to allow DOE HLW to be within the proposed repository's space allotment.]
- 2-4
111.F.2
(2) 4. [DOE should freeze the waste acceptance criteria without waiting for details of the repository. This would allow expediting a decision on INEEL waste handling by eliminating bureaucratic procrastination.]
- 2-5
VII.A(1) 5. [Greater DOE emphasis on public comment input should be given to recommendations and comments from their Citizen Advisory Boards, who are selected to represent a real cross section of the public and who intensively study the issues before making consensus recommendations. Those of the public who make comments have an obligation to really study the issues and facts first, and base their comments on those rather than emotions.]

Lowell A. Jobe



EXHIBIT #7
HLW&FD Draft EIS
Idaho Falls, ID
February 7, 2000
Name: Lowell Jude

MIKE CRAPO
IDAHOO
SENATOR
CO-CHAIRMAN, WESTERN WATER CAUCUS
111 RUSSELL
WASHINGTON, DC 20510
(202) 224-6142
Internet e-mail:
www.senate.gov/~crapo



HLW & FD
Control # DC-04
United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

EIS PROJECT - AR/PF
COMMITTEES:
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON FISHERIES, WILDLIFE,
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Comment on High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition Draft EIS

I appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the Idaho High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS) and regret that I could not be here in person.

As a life-long Idahoan, I am a strong supporter of the people and programs at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL). The INEEL has served the nation and contributed to the enhancement of Idaho for over fifty years, continues to do so today, and will continue to in the future.

Although the INEEL has been and continues to be an asset to the nation and Idaho, the environmental legacy of Cold War weapons production and the INEEL missions has left 4200 cubic meters of mixed high-level waste calcine and 1.4 million gallons of liquid mixed transuranic/sodium-bearing waste. This high-level waste must be safely disposed of so that future generations are not burdened by this legacy. The process established by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) includes an Environmental Impact Statement as the method of ensuring that federal decisions that could significantly affect the quality of the environment are made considering all the facts. Paramount in this process are considerations of the environment and public and worker health and safety. This public comment period allows input to the decision making process prior to initiation of major federal actions.

As a step toward cleaning up the waste in Idaho, the 1995 Settlement Agreement between the State of Idaho and the Departments of Energy and Navy identifies milestones that must be met for treatment and removal of the waste from Idaho. I am a strong supporter of the 1995 Settlement Agreement and will do all that I can to ensure that the Department of Energy continues to meet its obligations to clean up the Cold War legacy at the INEEL. To date, all portions of the agreement have been met.

This Draft EIS discusses actions that feed directly into meeting the milestones to complete calcination of sodium-bearing liquid high-level waste by December 31, 2012, and to complete treatment of all high-level waste so it is ready to be moved out of Idaho by December 31, 2035.

The Draft EIS identifies nine waste processing alternatives and six different facility disposition alternatives that must be carefully evaluated to ensure that the final EIS and subsequent record of decision reflect the best interests of Idahoans, the nation, and the environment.

BOISE
304 North 8th Street
Room 338
Boise, ID 83702

CALDWELL
704 Blaine Street
Suite 1
Caldwell, ID 83605

COEUR D'ALENE
118 North Second
Suite 1
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

IDAHO FALLS
480 Memorial Drive
Idaho Falls, ID 83402

LEWISTON
111 Main Street
Suite 140
Lewiston, ID 83501

EXHIBIT #4
HLW&FD Draft EIS
Idaho Falls, ID
February 7, 2000
Name: *Lucy Hall* *ocatello, ID 83201
LS
414 1/2 4th Avenue
Suite 2
Twin Falls, ID 83330

D-11

DOE/EIS-0287

Some of the waste processing alternatives, if chosen, would not meet all aspects of the Settlement Agreement. The Draft EIS states that two of the alternatives will not meet the 2035 milestone for having high-level waste ready for shipment out of Idaho. One of these two is the No Action Alternative, which is required to be investigated to provide a baseline for the NEPA process. In addition, the Draft EIS states that it may be difficult to have all liquid waste out of the underground storage tanks and cease using them by 2012 for seven of the alternatives.

4-1
V.I.D(w) I am a strong supporter of the Settlement Agreement and I urge the state and Department of Energy to choose an alternative that meets the milestones in the court-enforceable Agreement. I also want to encourage all Idahoans to review the Draft EIS and participate in the public comment period. Public comment is an important part of federal agency decision-making and is one of the factors that will be considered when choosing a course of action.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Crapo
United States Senator

- New Information -

Idaho HLW & FD EIS

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Control # DC-05

STATEMENT BY
Representative Mike Simpson
High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition
Environmental Impact Statement
February 2000



The U.S. Department of Energy has some important decisions to make regarding management of high level waste and mixed transuranic waste now stored at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. High-level waste management is a complex technical subject, but it's important for Idahoans to understand that these decisions will determine how DOE will treat large amounts of radioactive and hazardous material stored over the Snake River Plain Aquifer, and how it will close contaminated facilities when they are no longer needed.

The Idaho High-level Waste and Facilities Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement that DOE Idaho has just issued for public review and comment is the critical first step in this decision-making process. While it is not a decision document itself, it provides the scientific information about the potential impacts to the environment of various management alternatives that DOE is considering. The document gives Idahoans the opportunity to study these environmental issues, compare the impacts of different actions, and to make their voices heard under the National Environmental Policy Act process.

5-1
IX.A(2)

The DOE project staff have obviously worked hard to convey technical information in a manner that the general public can understand. I encourage all Idaho citizens to review the EIS and send their comments on to the Department of Energy. Public comment is an important part of federal agency decision making and is one of several factors that the Secretary of Energy will consider when choosing a course of action.

LARRY E. CRAIG
IDAHO
HAFF SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 224-2752
TTY (202) 224-9377
CHAIRMAN
REPUBLICAN POLICY COMMITTEE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1203

February 7, 2000



HLW & FD EIS PROJECT - ~~AR~~PF
Control # DC-05
APPROPRIATIONS
NATURAL RESOURCES, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY
ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING
VETERANS AFFAIRS

STATEMENT ON TRANSMITTAL OF THE IDAHO HIGH-LEVEL WASTE & FACILITIES
DISPOSITION DRAFT
By U.S. Senator Larry E. Craig

The Department of Energy in Idaho has managed dry granular calcined mixed high-level waste in above-ground storage tanks and liquid mixed transuranic waste in tanks below the ground according to regulatory requirements for many years.

With the agreement made between the State of Idaho and the Department of Energy, this waste will be treated for transportation in the highest and most safely effective way possible. This Draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzes five waste treatment alternatives that span the years between the years 2000 and 2035. It also analyzes six facilities disposition alternatives.

6-1
IX.A(2) I am very impressed with the readability of this document. It is very unusual for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to be a document that is "user-friendly". I must congratulate the project staff for their efforts to provide scientific information in a manner that the general public can understand. It is important to know that the decisions made from this document and the public input will determine how DOE will treat the great amount of radioactive and hazardous material for shipment out of Idaho.

I encourage all Idahoans to review this DEIS and send their comments to the DOE by the deadline of March 20, 2000.

Thank you!

Larry E. Craig
United States Senator

ROOM 149
304 NORTH 8th STREET
BOISE, ID 83702

HARBOR PLAZA
610 HUBBARD, SUITE 121
COEUR D'ALENE, ID 83814

846 MAIN STREET
LEWISTON, ID 83501-1864

ROOM 193
801 E. SHERMAN STREET
POCATELLO, ID 83201

EXHIBIT #3
HLW&FD Draft EIS
Idaho Falls, ID

February 7, 2000

Name: Georgie Dixon

http://craig.senate.gov

HLW & FD EIS-PROJECT - (AR) PF
Control # DC-17

HLW EIS Web Comments

From: HLWFDEIS Web Site
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2000 3:40 PM
To: web@jason.com
Cc: web_archive@jason.com
Subject: HLW EIS Web Comment



Auto-Assigned Comment Number: 2
Name: Dr. Lee Plansky
Affiliation: INEEL
Address1: POB 1625
Address2:
City, State Zip: Idaho Falls, ID 83415
Telephone: 208.526.2788
Date Entered: 2000-01-28 08:39:48
Comment:

- 7-1 1 [Need a dd.mm for the general timeframe on page 3-2 at bottom for "Cease Introduction of NGLW...to the...., only YEAR
IX.A(2) is specified - 2005.]
- 7-2 2 [Need a clear definition of NGLW in one or more places in the EIS, including glossary.]
- V(2) 3.

HLW & FD EIS PROJECT - (AR) PF
Control # DC-8

HLW EIS Web Comments

From: HLWFDEIS Web Site
Sent: Wednesday, February 09, 2000 3:40 PM
To: web@jason.com
Cc: web_archive@jason.com
Subject: HLW EIS Web Comment



Auto-Assigned Comment Number: 3
Name: Richard Lindsay
Affiliation: Retired
Address1: 77 N 50 E
Address2:
City, State Zip: Blackfoot, ID 83221
Telephone: 208 785 3209
Date Entered: 2000-02-04 20:09:43
Comment:

- 0-1 [I believe that the DEIS is lacking vital information necessary to allow informed decisions and discussion. The information needed is: What will the radiation level be in the calcine and liquid wastes as a function of years, eg, 100, 200 300, etc. and how will those levels compare with the average levels of natural radioactive isotopes in Idaho soil.] Unless and until DOE begins to put that basic information in EIS documents dealing with options for handling radioactive wastes of any type, the "no action" option cannot be meaningfully addressed. [A thorough discussion of the RBE (I think this is an old term now) comparisons between waste stored over a period of time and natural isotopes in the soil is not a job for the timid or uninformed, but there is a sore need for it because it directly speaks to the "environmental impact".]
- Richard Lindsay

D-13

DOE/EIS-0287

- New Information -

Idaho HLW & FD EIS