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Existing Areas of Mutual Benefit and Areas for Improvement in Idaho

Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the
U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy



Idaho National Laboratory

Idaho Settlement Agreement

Parallel paths – Modernization and Waivers

- Modernizing is DOE-ID – State of Idaho led process
- Waivers are where we can have more of a direct impact
 - 1 canister and 100 canister letter
- All conversations address one common theme:
CERTAINTY

QUESTION/CHALLENGE:

Knowing we are back to the 2011 MOU, what are the next priorities to address with the state?

What's the associated timing?

Are our priorities aligned with DOE-ID/DOE-NE?

Are there options we haven't considered?

State and Legislative Agenda

2024 Session: Idaho LAUNCH funding, advanced energy resolution, monitor higher education funding, transportation investments

State Agencies:

- Idaho Office of Energy and Mineral Resources – Energy summit, Idaho Advanced Nuclear Strategic Framework Working Group
- Idaho Department of Commerce – Energy strategic area of focus, Energy incentives white paper, updated website, attraction outreach
- Idaho Office of Emergency Management – Cyberfusion center (based on Cyber Task Force recs), CCE training
- Idaho Transportation Department – Highway 20/26 improvements

QUESTION/CHALLENGE:

Idaho is a conservative state with an inherent bias against federal entities (yes, that impacts us) – yet we seem to be successful in spite of it. What additional things do we need or want from the state?

What's the art of the possible?

Future State Investments

Is there something beyond a building?

- Land board land acquisition
- Transfer of Center for Advanced Energy Studies to INL mission
- Additional university/workforce investments
- State incentives
- Regional partnerships

QUESTION/CHALLENGE:

What are the areas where we can pique the interest of the state for collaboration?

Cyber has worked. Critical minerals could be an obvious place with the abundance of natural resources available in Idaho and current support from majority of stakeholders in the state for mining. What about the Intermountain West Nuclear Energy Corridor?

State Support for Higher Education

Legislature is hostile to the higher education.

Idaho LAUNCH:

- Over 12,500 high school seniors applied for Idaho LAUNCH; in-demand careers

Governor 2025 budget recommendation:

- Eliminating Idaho Global Entrepreneurial Mission (IGEM) program (\$1M/annually) - a clear signal to demonstrate return on investment for other higher education programs by 2024 summer to justify continued appropriations from the state
- Higher Education Research Council (HERC) and Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) funded for one more year

QUESTION/CHALLENGE:

At times, it seems INL's support for Idaho's higher education institutions is an obligation rather than a value add. How do we get a better accounting of, and recognition for, INL's overall contribution to higher education in Idaho? We would like to change the narrative amongst policy-makers regarding the value of Idaho's higher education institutions to the lab and other high-tech industries



Idaho National Laboratory

Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy. INL is the nation's center for nuclear energy research and development, and also performs research in each of DOE's strategic goal areas: energy, national security, science and the environment.