



**PUBLIC COMMENTS SUBMITTED VIA LINE COMMISSION WEBSITE
Week of December 31, 2012**

Dr. Laurence P Gebhardt
1200 Aspen Drive
Pocatello, ID 83204
208-380-205
lpgebhardt@cableone.net

1. What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

The INL and its education partners can become the leading coordinator for comprehensive public education around energy. Other countries, such as Germany and China, have invested heavily in curriculum, displays, demonstrations, conversations that reveal energy history, present, and future. In this process, the better educated public is positioned to comprehend both science (theory and principle) and technology (artifacts). The well-educated public can then better influence good decisions for public-private policy and investment that includes nuclear and many other energy sources. Past federal energy bills have had little emphasis on educating the public. INL/LINE can take a leadership role here.

2. In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Key R&D and economic impact areas should not be intentionally separated by LINE activities. Energy & Environment; National & Homeland Security; and, Nuclear Energy are all inter-related. Separation of functions, isolating nuclear, allows a divide and conquer approach by opponents. Finding integrating concepts and technologies can help this process. For example, water resources are needed for essentially all energy sources, distribution and use. Cleanup and pollution prevention are critical here. INL has extensive water resource experience and expertise. Water resource knowledge and technology will become a more global export opportunity. Grid distributions of liquid/gas and transmission line electrical are integrating concepts. Competition for defense dollars threatens spending on the Navy shipbuilding program, that includes nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers so INL/LINE can add emphasis here to public education efforts. INL is so fragmented now that even well-educated and technically literate citizens have difficulty comprehending what INL does. LINE can tell a big picture, comprehensive story (see public education comment in #1) to build Idaho support, and then connect support linkages between Western states to build a broader alliance. Collaboration organized by state governors and universities are critical here. Public trust is very low in big corporations who suck \$\$ from taxpayers and produce little long term results for Idaho and neighboring state economies.

3. What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

Nuclear risks and biological effects of radiation/contamination may be better known and understood than many other risks such as viruses, toxic chemicals, and 'natural disasters'. INL/LINE can include logical risk assessment and mitigation into public education efforts. People who have more knowledge about risks will be

less fearful and reactive. Risk assessment that is thoughtful and honest can also help make connections about how energy/nuclear R&D can reduce other national risks ranging from grid reliability to long-term hedges against technical-financial-political threats to other energy sources and distribution systems. With good risk assessment and public education then better priorities can be set and followed than some of the current knee-jerk response going on. A consortium of Idaho environmental companies (Northwind, Portage) and universities may be much more effective than big national firms such as TetraTech or Ch2MHill in protecting Idaho and exporting environmental technology.

4. Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

The LINE report indicates knowledge that other developed and developing countries consider comprehensive energy strategies that include nuclear because their publics understand risk assessment better than Americans. INL/LINE can develop much more pro-active international R&D, product, and service (expertise) export capability. A key weakness in the export process is unrealistic secrecy and management fears of making 'political' mistakes in sharing information. INL has historically been perceived to deal in procurement mostly from large, national firms who have no loyalty, and often no awareness of Idaho-based suppliers and vendors. A few have 'cracked the code' and appear to be insiders who are savage in blocking competition. The procurement process is therefore often 'opaque' to small, start-up and expanding firms. The INL web site is nearly impenetrable by ordinary people with ideas (inventors, developers) searching for some confidential conversation with INL scientists. Some don't trust INL's tech transfer processes. A relatively few INL patents have ever been commercialized to benefit Idaho. INL/LINE could emphasize a buy-local approach to kick-start economic impact in Idaho. A logical energy-water resource industry cluster (with related environmental, science, technology) can build connections and collaboration.

There is recurring evidence that competing energy industry (oil, coal, etc.) has worked hard to raise fears in the public. Some of this is self-inflicted by the government. Dixy Lee Ray said that if electricity development had remained secret like nuclear, and its first public revelation of electricity had been the electric chair that public opinion against electricity would be somewhat like nuclear, where nuclear weapons come to mind first among many citizens. INL/LINE must carefully study all groups and rationale opposing nuclear power then integrate better knowledge and rationale into public education strategies.

5. Given the Blue Ribbon Commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Logical adaptive change of the 1995 Settlement Agreement appears needed if INL is to remain a national nuclear leader. Multi-stakeholder process to develop changes can be facilitated by respected leaders. The Henry's Fork watershed collaborative solutions described in Intermountain Journal of Sciences Vol 6 No 3 contains lessons learned. There is a lot of technical knowledge and ideas for problem solving in the general public that can be tapped using principles of Wikinomics, or Macro-Wikinomics in collaborative R&D. In other states, invitation to participate have resulted in solutions that are win-win to environmental groups, businesses and government, such as Narragansett Bay cleanup. There are some retired folk with deep and broad NRTS-INEEL-INL knowledge such as Dr. Larry Ybarrondo, Sciencetech Founder, and Leo P. Duffy, former Assistant Secretary of Energy.

6. How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

Management of INL by private, for-profit companies is not in the best interest of long-term economic impact for Idaho or the region, or to accomplish public (DOE) goals. LINE should explore a management system that could include Batelle (a non profit) but with partnership leadership from Idaho's universities instead of BWX Technologies, Inc., Washington Group International. It is my opinion that a series of private contractors – Philips 66, Lockheed, Bechtel, etc. never had Idaho's long-term interest at stake, were never adequately

supervised by DOE and predecessor bodies, so technical and operational decisions did not include what Nathan Small might suggest as 7th generation thinking. Idaho's universities are committed to the state and have less political/financial pressure so they can make better management decisions. LINE should work to keep INL management money and 'profits' in Idaho.

7. Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Long-term base-load demand analysis points to the need for nuclear power world-wide until better technology emerges, such as high-efficiency solar, wind, etc. Fossil fuels can eventually become too expensive or unavailable in quantity or environmentally unacceptable (source/use) so hedging the long-term future means R&D of fission and fusion technology makes sense. Energy will be connected to water access – distribution, desalination and other cleanup. Better sources of energy world-wide can help reduce instability leading to conflicts such as middle east, piracy, etc. LINE and public education can help Idahoans understand the global energy and water trends.

Mr. Russell Slack 4068 Rulon Ammon, ID 83406

(208) 313-3439 russellslack@cableone.net I am happy to see such an interest taken in the role and future of the INL. The impact the INL has on Eastern Idaho in particular is very noticeable for those of us that live here. I have taken an interest in the economic development of Eastern Idaho and I agree whole heartedly on the LINE commissions report. In particular agree with the recommendations outlined that include changing the previous Idaho agreement with the INL and updating it to allow for the INL to continue its path in being the foremost research center on nuclear fuel. That includes the wise import of spent nuclear fuel for research.

Having also been on a tour of the INL and seen the ATR, to hear how it is used and of its unique capabilities, I highly encourage the expansion of its use. It would also benefit our nation to engage in other similar uses of equipment at the INL for income generating and research activities.

Mr. Lloyd Rich 860 Tiger Ave Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 357-4478 lloyd.rich@yahoo.com I support the LINE Commission and all the sub-committees with their recommendations to the Governor for the state of Idaho.

Mr. Scott Lyman 3991 E 200 N Rigby, ID 83442

(208) 881-3268 lymasl01@gmail.com I would like to offer my opinion as a citizen of Idaho related to nuclear work at the INL. In short I strongly support nuclear research in Idaho at the INL. Additionally I would support some fuel storage at Idaho. The current US administration has placed the US in a bad position by stopping the Yucca Mnt project. Idaho stands in a good position to benefit from this bad plan by allowing the state to alter a short sighted agreement. Don't get me wrong cleaning up the improperly disposed of waste in Idaho has been a good thing. But the INL is close to being done in that arena. Current storage of used fuel in a dry medium is a good option for the country. Additionally reprocessing makes sense to me if the country sees fit to objectively look at Nuclear energy as a good viable option for the future. I personally like the idea of the SMR concept where large plants do not make sense. Fukushima, Three Mile Island and Chernobal were all terrible accidents but if you look objectively at the number of hours nuclear has operated versus the accidents nuclear is clearly a great option. Regardless of your politics on global warming I can say that the winters in Idaho have changed in my lifetime. If we believe we are adding GHG and contributing then there is only one option to keep up with our energy demands; nuclear. Why would we not take advantage of the economic advantages of continuing

as the lead nuclear lab and allow research and yes even storage in Idaho? I see your job as looking at the advantages of nuclear research, storage and processing in this state in an objective and non emotional manner to advise the Idaho government on nuclears future in Idaho. If we dont show our support it seems clear that we will lose out on this opportunity. Realistically Idaho does not have the political pull to keep the money coming without citizen support. I ask you to listen to those that support nuclear work in Idaho and advise the State government to review the agreement with DOE in an objective manner to promote nuclear work in Idaho and keep the economic future of eastern Idaho alive and well. If you dont it will have far reaching impact to the state and country. I am convinced there is no better place to do this work than at the INL and in Idaho. Take the long term option and lets help secure our struggling countries future and promote energy independence from those that only see the short term gains by sending our money and jobs to other countries. Thank you for your attention to this important matter and for my opportunity to comment.

Dr. Margrit von Braun 121 S Jackson Moscow, ID 83843

(208) 882-7858 vonbraun@uidaho.edu I support sustaining the ban on commercial spent fuel coming in. At a minimum, please ensure an open dialogue on Idaho's nuclear future by posting all the public's comments to the LINE commission and ensuring its final deliberations are in a public setting.

Mr. Edward Aldrich 1555 N Rapidcreek Rd Inkom, ID 83245

(208) 775-3461 rapidcreek1@gmail.com As an employee of ITG on the site I would strongly recommend the creation of future job opportunities at INL. With work force reductions and business closers happening all across our great state how can we afford to lose a great chance on keeping work right here in Idaho. The facilities and work force are already in place, and maybe more jobs would be created. Keep up the great work your team has been providing.

Thanx for your time, Ed Aldrich

Mr. lee juan tyler rr 2 box 166-c pocatello idaho 83202 po box306 fort hall idaho 83203 fort hall , ID 83203

(208) 478-3801 ityler@sbtribes.com hello just interested in the info and would like to read some thanks

Ms. Rebecca Casper 2903 Druvor Street Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 681-9989 rcasper@byu.net Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission c/o Idaho Department of Commerce P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Chairman Sayer:

I extend my thanks to the LINE Commission for the work done thus far. I commend all commission members for taking a broad view of the issue. I generally support the recommendations listed in the Progress Report. I submit my comments as a layperson with no special scientific training or nuclear industry credentials. Yet I felt that the citizen-view is all-important to the larger political context surrounding the state's role in supporting and advocating for the INL. Limited though they may be, my comments are below.

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Strong leadership and support from the Governor's office and the Legislature is vital. As national appreciation for the economic promise of nuclear energy research, production and even storage opportunities increases, all aspects of the industry will become more competitive. It could conceivably become difficult to maintain the INL's current work much less attract new work.

Awareness on the part of state and local political and policy leaders must extend beyond simply knowing of the INL's mission to an actual understanding of how and what it contributes to the state economically a \$3.5 billion industry for Idaho. Our leaders must have the vision to promote the Lab as a regional asset for governments, higher education, and private industries.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

I preface my comment with a reminder that at times it behooves us to appreciate that life itself is a broad and risky venture. It strikes me as sufficient to require that any future opportunities adopt high industry standards. Requiring guarantees in all things may be impossible, economically infeasible, or simply impractical. Idaho has had a strong safety record when it comes to handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. The current culture of safety should be retained. I fully believe the INL can pursue new technologies and the use of nuclear research materials in a safe and controlled manner.

I do believe especial care must be given to protect the water supply as the Site sits above the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA). I trust that hydrologists and DEQ scientists will be consulted to ensure continued safety just as long as these recommendations are incorporated into routine planning processes and not viewed as obstacles to progress.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho should not subscribe to anti-nuclear rhetoric. Our state should be active in identifying potential new missions for the INL as well as opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting for those opportunities. I like the new nickname for Idaho: The R&D State. My greatest worry for the INL is that if our state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has served the state well. Yet few documents are meant to stand forever. The dynamic nature of this industry with significant changes in scientific knowledge and the ever-changing political landscape make it impractical NOT to make revisions as needed. It may be in the state's best interest to update the Settlement agreement especially in light of the President's suspension of Yucca Mountain. My own understanding is that some types of solid waste carry minimal risks and are sufficiently safe. As our state enters into the national dialogue about nuclear waste storage, we will be in a stronger position to shape the outcome and fashion the kinds of solutions Idaho can benefit from. Additionally, it may be time to redefine terms and categories. For example, the small amounts of nuclear material used for some research may not be the same as interim storage and should not be categorized as such.

Some have suggested that the state should identify a business model to use to attract private sector research and development opportunities. I agree with this in theory since private sector interests can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho. But business and government provide separate social functions. Government will always bear the additional burden of seeking equality and assuring safety and rightly so.

How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

As an educator, I believe it would be almost criminal for Idaho not to pursue the higher education angle. If there is more to be taught, learned or studied in this field, then Idaho should be a part of that. The entire world

should be able to look to our area as the education hub for all things nuclear. The several educational institutions in Eastern Idaho that complement the work of the INL include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. These of these quality institutions can be a part of the winning team, but again, the LEADERSHIP for this must come from the state level. It is not enough to encourage supporting studies, programs and research; it must be coordinated at least at first.

It does not take a nuclear scientist to recognize the social and economic advantages that would come to the State as we became the hub or all things nuclear high-wage jobs, an educated workforce, world-wide attention, and increased opportunities for recruiting new business. So of course Idaho should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho's position as a nuclear energy lead.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

As a rule, I believe we should look to the past to learn from it. Yet when considering this industry, we must not lose sight of the fact that every failure is attended by many more successes. Despite the Fukushima tragedy, our country must move forward using the best available research. Other countries have relied on nuclear power with great success. It is indeed time for the US to move away from a fear-based approach to this technology. Idaho should be one state to lead out in this national conversation with research and optimism. I feel nuclear energy's nearly invisible carbon footprint makes it very attractive and will be a huge advantage as Americans consider what kind of an energy future we want to have.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Casper
rcasper@byu.net

Mr. Thomas Hally 4741 Torrey Pines Dr Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 680-8886 hallycouncil@yahoo.com Research and storage go hand in hand. Storage issues show improvement. Idaho cannot afford to lose a \$350B industry. Research will disappear if we are not willing to step forward and market Idaho as a storage site. We need fuel for research and thus a new agreement. Things have changed

Mr. Randy Anderson 119 Westello Pocatello, ID 83204

(208) 233-2937 highbasin@gmail.com Idaho should not become a repository temporary or permanent, for outside radioactive/nuclear waste from other states/countries for processing or permanent storage. All efforts should be made to see clean up obligations are completed and not further complicated by outside waste.

Idaho should promote the Advanced Test Reactor as the basis for the future of INL projects and not processing or storing outside waste except for test purposes.

Transportation infrastructure improvements should utilize mass-transit to demonstrate INL's conviction to America's future energy needs.

Ms. Susan Weeg 518 S 6th Ave Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 904-0715 stweeg44@gmail.com In October 2012 the Idaho State Journal published an insert named Idaho Impact from the INL Public Affairs Office. On page one the INL discusses the impressive research benefits provided to Idaho and the Nation. It is clear that the INL does not need more nuclear waste to maintain operations.

We read on later pages that the site still has nuclear waste to cleanup. No more nuclear waste! We must protect our Snake River Aquifer

Dr. Harold McFarlane 3545 Sun Circle Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 757-9573 doubleeagle@cableone.net We should think of INL as a high-value catalyst for nuclear energy and the nation's energy future. Idaho can have a pivotal role or we can wither and be blown off the map. It all depends on whether the State decides to engage and compete, or narrowly protect a small piece from an imagined risk. We have many precious resources that are precious to us all; INL's current or future activities in no way endanger those resources. The biggest risk of all would be turn our back and walk away as some would advocate. Nothing will ensure dealing with our nuclear legacy so well as a thriving nuclear economy.

The 1995 Settlement Agreement will be most powerful if it can be adjusted to fit changing realities. If the Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations are implemented in part or in full, Idaho will face stiff competition from States who recognize the potential for an economic boon and creation of good jobs.

Nuclear will evolve toward even safer and more affordable technology, but exact how that will happen will depend on several key factors, including the outcome of critical research that will be done at INL--or elsewhere if Idaho cannot demonstrate enthusiastic support of its nuclear assets.

Although the US public has reacted rationally to the Fukushima accident, i.e. effectively no loss of support for US nuclear projects, all energy projects in the US are affected by the availability of low-priced natural gas and the dropping price of oil. However, the US has an opportunity to regain some of its status as an exporter of premium nuclear technology. The US national laboratories including INL can greatly assist in making this a reality

Ms. Elizabeth Paul 6152 Plantation Lane Garden City, ID 83703

(208) 853-4435 peacenow22@gmail.com Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The Commission needs to listen carefully to the people of Idaho and offer additional convenient and rewarding opportunities for public participation. I urge you to write a Response to Comment report. More public education on these important issues is warranted.

The INL is an important state and national resource with much to offer, and the Commission should urge Idaho to strongly resist becoming a nuclear waste nanny for the commercial nuclear power industry. It's time to promote the many ways INL can contribute to a clean and sustainable energy future. It's time to finish the cleanup of nuclear and hazardous waste that was improperly disposed of in the midst of Idaho's most precious water resource, the Snake River Plain Aquifer. The state has no greater responsibility than the protection of our water and our people, and the transportation, handling and storage of commercial nuclear waste threatens both. Idaho's water, land, people and animals carry a terrible and permanent burden from the release of nuclear materials at INL. Let's hold the federal government to its promise to clean up the INL. Idaho and INL can be so much more than a nuclear waste babysitter. I urge the Commission to reject the shipment of any commercial nuclear waste to INL and to promote the unique skills of INL's incredible workforce to build a safe and sustainable future for Idaho and INL.

Linda Engle
Pocatello
Linda_engle@hotmail.com

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

In my view, INL needs to step down it's research and development of creating energy using nuclear reactors. There are several basic reasons: First is the threat of terrorism. Not only can spent fuel be reprocessed to make a bomb, but terrorists can infiltrate a facility putting millions of people at risk. Second is human error as we saw in Chernobyl, we can never be absolutely sure our new plants are safe. And as we attempt to design safer nuclear plants they become prohibitively expensive. Third is the threat of normal geologic/ climatic changes as we saw in Fukushima. And last we [still] have no way to store or transport the waste without the possibility of releasing radioactive material poisoning plants, animals and humans for decades and more.

And then there is the elephant in the room. No insurance company could ever insure a nuclear plant - no single company can compensate society for the destruction that we have seen around the world and that still could happen in the future. The government is beholden for the possible damage - which can never be entirely repaired. This insurance is an empty compensation. There is no "clean up" only the moving of dirt around, packaging and sequestering away the worst of it, and quarantining off areas that are unsafe for agriculture and humans. A plume of radioactivity can not be compensated - or contained - we all bear the physical and mental degradation brought about by past radioactive experiments, mistakes and bombs. Is this the legacy we want to leave future generations?

Idaho should not play a role in protecting INL nuclear research. Idaho should play a role in cleanup funding until such clean up is completed. Idaho should promote clean energy research at INL.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies; what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future application of nuclear technology in Idaho.

As you can tell I'm no expert in the field. Many scientific papers have been written on the environmental risks posed by the many aspects of nuclear technology from mining to disposal of waste. While the media and government can "spin" nuclear energy as being safe, it just isn't true. There is no "safe" nuclear energy. There are other solutions to our climate and energy needs that INL is very capable of addressing.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of the nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development and advancement in nuclear technologies? I believe the best course of action is to shift INL's focus from nuclear energy toward

- conservation (you won't have to build the power plant at all) Conservation: Idaho and in America we are tremendously wasteful of our energy. We can begin to turn that around through education and without sacrificing. That can, and should, be our focus, not continuing the assumption that we must expand the role of nuclear energy.

- Renewable Energy: For many reasons nuclear energy should be phased out, replaced by equally interesting and much less expensive and dangerous alternatives. including but not limited to:

photo voltaic cells
wind
geothermal

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future.

I don't know what the future role of nuclear energy will be in the the nation's energy policy, I can only hope it will be a diminished one. I indicated two important focuses for INL above. I can only hope that we will steer toward this less risky course.

Let us not poison our planet - we will die, yes, but our children and their children will live on the planet we leave for them.

Mr. John Rygh P.O. Box 7 McCall, ID 83638

(208) 634-4180 jtrygh@gmail.com Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the future role of INL. I see from the LINE Progress Report that INL is involved in a wide range of nuclear and some non-nuclear programs. Some I would support, while others I would not. I would support the continuation of all programs dealing with research into nuclear waste management (including ongoing site cleanup). Any non-nuclear alternative energy programs should also be encouraged, although from the brief mention in the beginning of the report, I gather these are not extensive. What I cannot support is the further pursuit of research into commercial nuclear power applications.

I believe that nationally and globally the future of the nuclear power industry is looking steadily dimmer. As far as I'm concerned the con column shown on page 24-25 of the LINE report significantly outweighs the pro column. I note that the ongoing disaster at Fukushima Daichi is given only passing consideration as a negative factor in the future of commercial nuclear debate. As far as I'm concerned, Fukushima constitutes the ultimate argument against commercial nuclear power. Tokyo Electric Power Company has done a remarkable job of blacking out Fukushima news from the mass media. Here we have the largest industrial accident in human history still in progress with virtually no news coverage (unless you know where to look). For anyone still following the story, we are acutely aware of how the future of Japan and indeed much of the northern hemisphere hangs on the outcome of the simple question of whether TEPCO will be able to unload the spent fuel assemblies from the #4 pool before another large earthquake knocks it down and a spent fuel fire ignites. As a geologist with a passing familiarity with seismicity of Japan, this frankly scares the crap out of me. I'd encourage the commission members to talk with reasonably non-biased nuclear engineers off the record to get a better sense of what the hell is really going on at Fukushima. They know.

So some might argue that "Oh, those Japanese, they really don't know what they're doing, but the new improved reactor designs will be so much safer". All I can say is, careful of that technological hubris. I would hope that the specter of spent fuel pool fires due to failed backup pumping systems is a lesson learned and applied at U.S. nuclear facilities. How many Westinghouse Mark I boiling water reactors are still in service in this country? I'm thinking 40+, with probably a good number of them up for the 20 year relicensing extension. Bad idea.

Okay, before I launch into an overly-detailed rant here, I'll just say that although there is a ton of money and jobs associated with the global nuclear industry, the failure of the industry to deal with safety and waste disposal issues is going to lead to its demise. I don't think INL would be well served by throwing good money after bad. Hence my recommendations to focus their work on the waste end of the fuel cycle which we will be saddled with regardless of new developments on the front end.

Since I believe the decline of nuclear will be paralleled by the rise of solar, I'd encourage INL to refocus more of their mission on this technology. Perhaps they should try to absorb some of the functions of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (which has suffered some funding cuts lately). If we don't take the initiative on solar R&D soon, the Chinese are going to crush us on that front in the next decade. The old adage that renewable energy (especially solar) is insignificant and can't compete with other sources is rapidly being disproven. The magic \$1/watt competitive threshold for photovoltaic cells has been broken, the Germans have shown that abandoning nuclear in favor of renewables has NOT resulted in negative economic impacts, and a host of other technological breakthroughs have led me to believe that this is the path forward.

So to reiterate just a bit here, I am supportive of the "Energy and Environment" directorate and the "National and Homeland Security" directorate, but not of the "Nuclear Energy" directorate, except where it deals with waste management and site cleanup. It sounds like the INL cleanup has been going well, and those involved are to be commended. I would just add that it would be very desirable to accelerate the timetable for the transfer of spent fuel to dry cask storage, simply because of the aforementioned dangers of spent fuel fires from loss of coolant. Hopefully INL is doing a better job of proper racking of their rods and having multiply redundant pumping systems than TEPCO did at Fukushima Daichi.

As far as the 1995 settlement agreement goes, I am against any changes to it even if it means INL losing its lead designation as mentioned on page 30 of the progress report. Idaho is simply not the place for any long-term storage facilities; it is too tectonically active. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Best Regards,

John Rygh
P.O. Box 7
McCall, ID 83638

Mr. Timothy Andreae 401 1/2 O'Farrell St Boise, ID 83702

(208) 424-6821 timandreae@gmail.com No means no! I am strongly against bringing any more nuclear waste into Idaho. The thought of allowing Idaho to become an intermediary repository for spent fuel is completely absurd and will only be detrimental to our economy.

We have enough nuclear waste already. Taking on tens of thousands of tons of spent fuel won't create that many more jobs and it won't give the INL the face-lift it so desperately needs. Instead, invest in clean energy: solar, wind, and hydro.

Mr. Shawn Anderson 293 Dove Ave Rigby, ID 83442

(208) 745-5004 sanderson@intisoid.com I strongly support the LINE commission and believe that we should take every opportunity we can to increase and expand on nuclear power and research in Idaho. Idaho and its residents should be proud of the opportunities we have at the INL and we must do everything within our power to increase this growth.

Mr. Dennis Donnelly 56 Tulane Ave. Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 232-4060 dennidonn@ida.net ABSOLUTELY NO COMMERCIAL SPENT FUEL IN IDAHO!

The reasons:

1. Legal protection negotiated by Governor Batt.
2. Tectonic activity here (earthquakes, volcanoes) unsafe.
3. Underlying aquifer is Idaho's current and future lifeblood.
4. Large salt formations (safest repository sites) exist in the East and Midwest, where the reactors are.

5. Hardened Onsite Storage of spent fuel is best option until repositories can accept the fuel.

6. Nuclear Waste Policy Act is unworkable and should be replaced yet again.

Mr. Ernest Laible 2757 Mt. Borah Pl. Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 232-8018 ELaible@aol.com Jeffery Sayer LINE Commission Chairman

I fully support the position by former Governors Batt and Andrus that the Batt Agreement should not be modified and that all requirements should be completed. All penalties should be invoked for non-completion of milestone commitments. The Batt Agreement should not be amended to allow re-introduction of spent commercial or any spent nuclear fuels for interim storage in Idaho at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL).

The Progress Report: Subcommittee Recommendations dated December 3, 2012, provides a very glowing report on economic contributions by the INL to Idaho's economy. However, the real economic importance of the INL in terms of jobs and associated projects is, in actuality, decreasing as evidenced by the continued voluntary and involuntary layoffs that have been occurring for the last seven years. As the Department of Energy, Office of Environmental Management (DOE-EM) mission in Idaho continues to wind down, the amount of subcontracts awarded to private companies will also decrease further reducing employment in the region. The long term viability of the INL was questioned by the Department of Energy, Idaho Operations Office (DOE-ID) almost ten years ago when it was ready to declare the INL a non-enduring facility. Layoffs, footprint reduction, and transfers of Special Nuclear Material (SNM), Source Nuclear Materials, and Other categories of reportable nuclear material identified by Department of Energy (DOE) Manuals, and Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) Part 72 Code of Federal Regulations (CFRs) to the Nevada Test Site (NTS), processing facilities at Oak Ridge, and Babcock and Wilcox have reduced the importance of the INL. The focus of the Department of Energy, Headquarters (DOE-HQ) to reduce and streamline the nuclear mission within the United States was emphasized by the transfer of an Office of Environmental Management (EM) official to Idaho in the position of a DOE-ID senior staff member. This individual's position was reportedly to ensure that nothing would impede the removal of stored nuclear materials from Idaho and provide oversight for accelerated INL footprint reduction activities. The successes claimed by DOE-ID and the INL for the removal of materials from Idaho have largely been the result of a cost plus award fee contract system that rewarded efforts to remove materials based on agreed upon milestone commitment dates by DOE-ID and the operating or closure contractor. Accelerated completion of those milestone commitment dates were incentivized through awarding of larger fees for early completion. Compliance with contractor oversight organization minimum DOE requirements was bypassed through the use of the deviation process in order to ensure accelerated material removal successes. Full compliance would have slowed overly optimistic completion time frames and reduced contractor award fees. Millions of dollars were awarded to the various operating contractors and the closure contractor to complete those tasks. The nuclear mission of the INL has been decreasing for many years and will continue that decline. Federal deficit concerns and the required spending reductions will have increasing impacts on the INL. A site funded by smaller Offices within the DOE will not be in strong position to bargain for the allocation of resources. The Office of Nuclear Energy (NE), Office of Science, and with the reduction of closure activities, the Office of Environmental Management (EM), will not be able to compete with the National Laboratories operated by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) e.g., Oak Ridge, Savannah River, Sandia National Laboratory, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, and PANTEX. A larger portion of EM funding will be provided to Hanford to meet enforceable milestones where significant waste disposal issues remain lessening funding for the INL. The Leadership In Nuclear Energy (LINE) Commission's recommendation to modify the Batt Agreement to allow the development of an interim storage facility for commercial and other wastes at the INL is in opposition to EM's role at the INL, the direction that has been chosen for the INL by DOE-HQ, and the express position of former Governors Andrus and Batt. It is incomprehensible that millions of dollars were spent to remove INL stored nuclear materials, a majority of which were unirradiated or lightly irradiated only to allow more highly irradiated material to be returned for long term interim storage. Re-introduction of more spent fuel to the INL for interim storage

makes the accelerated removal of nuclear material and facility demolitions conducted for the past ten years clearly an example of the waste, fraud and abuse of taxpayer dollars.

The Progress Report: Subcommittee Recommendations states on page 29

Looking to the future, the opportunities for sustained DOE funding for nuclear research appear to be centered on the development of SMRs and on the nuclear fuel cycle, particularly in the development of advanced fuels and in the disposal and storage of spent nuclear fuel and other high-level wastes. States that are willing to engage in establishing or expanding storage facilities for spent fuel and high-level waste would appear to hold a competitive advantage for receiving research funds directed at these back-end of the fuel cycle activities.

The LINE Report also states that no action has been taken by Congress or the Executive Branch to implement the Blue Ribbon Commission Report. Inaction supports the position that the national political will does not exist to pursue this path and that available funding does not exist either. The Field of Dreams mentality contained in the LINE Progress Report, i.e., build it and they will come, is not founded on a rationally based model.

Questions regarding ownership of an interim storage facility i.e., DOE or NRC, siting, security, operational support, and Safeguards requirement implementation, nuclear material types, irradiation levels etc., would need to be addressed. Even though commercial nuclear fuels are Low Enriched Uranium (LEU) fuels, i.e. as built enrichment levels less than 20 % U 235, significantly greater quantities of plutonium are generated through the commercial irradiation cycle. Only one NRC storage facility is currently located at the INL. This Independent Spent Fuel Storage Installation (ISFISI) located at the Idaho Nuclear Technology Center (INTEC) stores commercial spent fuel and spent fuel debris. DOE-ID is the NRC License holder. Manpower requirements to maintain and meet facility NRC and DOE requirements are minimal. As is the case with the INTEC ISFISI, economic gain for the area would only occur during construction and not long term operation.

The statement on page 30 of the LINE Report states If Idaho is not willing to consider changes to the 1995 Settlement Agreement, is it instead willing to allow INL to lose its designation as the lead nuclear energy laboratory and see some or all of its research mission transferred to other DOE facilities? A progress report attempting to be factual and provide data for informed public response is severely questioned through the incorporation of such a blatant scare tactic! The fact of the matter is, the INL is the lead nuclear energy laboratory in name only and has been in that position for the last ten years. Multiple reactors located at the Test Area North, Materials and Fuels Complex, Test Reactor Area, and numerous small facilities have been removed. The Federal Government will continue to appropriate a significantly larger amount of federal dollars to NNSA National Laboratories for nuclear research. The Transient Reactor Experiment and Test (TREAT) Facility has been on cold standby for several years. Efforts by the INL to secure startup funding have not been successful. The Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) is nearing the end of its life cycle, the ATRC is used infrequently, and then, only for extremely short intervals. The nuclear reactor development role for the INL has been and will continue to be minimal. The INL should pursue increased use of the Idaho State University Accelerator center for the production of isotopes rather than using the ATR.

The direction that has been pursued by DOE-HQ, DOE-ID, operating contractors Lockheed Martin Idaho Technologies (LMITCO), Babcock and Wilcox Technologies (BWXT), Battelle Energy Alliance (BEA), and Ch2MHill Idaho (CWI) has been to aggressively remove nuclear materials stored at the INL, reduce the site footprint through deactivation and removal of the site infrastructure. Current BEA emphasis has been to develop training and educational opportunities for the nuclear industry located at in-town facilities. Educational training should be the new role of the INL as the nuclear research role of the INL continues to decrease within the national nuclear community. Items 13,14,15,16,17,and 18 identified on pages 38 and 39 should be areas of emphasis and the path forward for continuing activities at the INL.

Mrs. Ginna Lagergren PO Box 1241 Hailey, ID 83333

(208) 720-1957 GinnaParsonsLagergren@gmail.com I am outraged at the proposition that the IDAHO National ENGINEERING LABORATORY should be PROSTITUTED to become more of a nuclear waste dump! The INL was started for the purpose of Engineering Research for nuclear energy. The idea that is being submitted to the Governor, that the INL's future support should depend on accepting nuclear waste from ANYWHERE else is an OUTRAGE!!!!!!

I demand that the public have a voice in the discussion process with the Governor.

I demand that the Governor reject the idea of bringing any waste into Idaho AND, in fact he should protect and secure the funding for INL's cleanup agreements, such as the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement.

I demand that the recommendations of the Technology Subcommittee, chaired by the CEO of Battelle be viewed as harmful to Idaho, and dismissed as irresponsible to the citizens of Idaho!

The desert region, where INL sits on top of one of the largest aquifers in our country, AND one of the most vulnerable underground super volcano networks in the world should be viewed with the utmost respect.

It is very unfortunate that any committee would put economics before intelligence when deciding how to plan for the future on INL.

Please stop the nonsense of thinking that any more nuclear waste should ever be brought to Idaho. All waste should stay where it is generated. And if it comes from ships at sea, then let it be deposited at the shipyards. It is dangerous for the entire public to be at risk when waste is shipped across country to be stored elsewhere. Nuclear waste must be stored where it is generated. If it can't be stored safely, then it should not be generated.

Sincerely,

Ginna Parsons Lagergren

Mr. Kelly Kynaston 1502 S. Mink Creek Rd Pocatello, ID 83204

(208) 220-4265 Kellykynaston@yahoo.com I am in full support of revising the Batt Agreement. I believe that Idaho should support the INL and the United States of America by building more facilities on the Lab to support spent fuel storage for both commercial and government. I am also in full support of continued research to prove the principals of the next generation nuclear reactors. Idaho needs to also support reprocessing technologies of spent fuels. Build and operate systems here in Idaho to help support our future.

My Son will soon be attending ISU to earn an engineering degree. My hope is that he would be able to gain employment at the Lab as a third generation INL worker. My fear is that other Idahoans who do not understand Nuclear Energy will continue to be against the INL forcing further workforce reductions. The result will be me and my family moving from the state to find work. I know this fear is real as I have been at the Lab for almost 25 years and I know of numerous families who have lost their job at the lab and have left the state in search of work including my sister and her family.

I appreciate the work that the LINE commission has accomplished so far. I believe that supporting INL missions and bringing in more missions puts us on the right path for the future of Idahoans.

Respectfully,

Kelly L. Kynaston

Mr. Ken Lagergren 215 E. Myrtle St #1241 Hailey, ID 83333

(208) 788-2453 lagergren@cs.com I am AGAINST the idea that Idaho should endorse INL becoming the pilot nuclear waste dump for the region, as recommended by the Technology Subcommittee, chaired by the CEO of Battelle.

Idaho should protect the threatened funding for INL's cleanup program by protecting the legal agreements that support it, such as the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement. Don't be bluffed and

bullied into thinking that INL's only future is dependent on becoming even more of a nuclear waste dump in Idaho. Stand up for being an important research center, not for becoming waste dump!

The public should be allowed to participate in the LINE Commission's discussion to select the recommendations that go to Governor Otter.

Sincerely, Ken Lagergren

Mr. Lew Pence 1960 US Hwy 26 Gooding, ID 83330

(208) 934-5302 pence5302@msn.com On behalf of the Middle Snake Regional Water Resource Commission, formed by a joint powers agreement between Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln and Twin Falls Counties, we make the following comments on the LINE subcommittee recommendations:

1. This Commission is responsible for water quality and quantity issues facing our member counties and we oppose any effort to alter Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement and particularly, the time lines for removal of nuclear waste from Idaho.
2. This Commission supported Governors Andrus and Batt in their efforts to protect the Snake Plain aquifer and ultimately the Snake River from contamination by hazardous waste stored at the INL. We see no compelling reasons in the LINE subcommittee report to change our stand.
3. Our Region's (Magic Valley) economy is based solely on a clean and adequate supply of water. The Magic Valley is dominated by agriculture which contributes over half of the states total farm gate receipts. Agriculture in the Magic Valley is responsible for nearly 33,000 direct and indirect jobs. Magic Valley agribusiness sells more than \$7 billion of goods and services according to a recent study by the University of Idaho. Should the Snake Plain Aquifer become contaminated, those dollars and jobs would be gone. This region would disappear as an economic engine for Idaho.
4. Humans, no matter how well educated, their level of experience or how well intentioned can and usually do make mistakes. Their facilities, machines and equipment can and do fail. No matter how remote the possibility of a spill, the people of the Magic Valley cannot take that chance. The long term storage of nuclear waste was absolutely refused in the 1995 Agreement and that agreement must continue to be supported by our current state leaders.
5. The Snake Plain Aquifer has been designated a Sole Source aquifer. It supplies fresh clean water to over 100,000 people in this region and nearly \$2 billion worth of livestock. It also supplies water to every food processor in the region that are here only because of our farm production. For these reasons the aquifer must be protected from all present or potential sources of contamination. The INL is the highest risk of all for the people of this region and indeed the state of Idaho.
6. The Commission is particularly concerned with items 10-12 on page 35 and item 7 on page 37 of the report. These items ask the state of Idaho to become a cheerleader for the INL. This would make the state complicit if the unthinkable happens. Idaho should certainly not become an advocate for the INL or its research and development. Idaho's only position should be one of stringent independent oversight.
7. The overall tone of this report is demeaning to the people of Idaho. Like children, we must be led to the Promised Land. It's been the experience of this Commission that the people of Idaho are a pretty smart bunch. They knew what they wanted in 1995 and they know what they want and deserve from their leaders today.
8. We find it interesting that no one living downstream on the aquifer from INL was appointed to the LINE Commission. Was this a human error?

Mr. Joseph Ricks 1535 Vernon Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 681-4337 jricks1973@gmail.com It is my feeling that Idaho needs to embrace the nuclear industry. I have felt for a number of years that the deal that the governor made with the DOE was a death nail to the economy of SE Idaho. When the Navy training personnel left Idaho Falls as part of the agreement, there was a significant impact felt. In the ensuing years the economy has recovered from that, but at what cost. Now the nation is in dire need of a repository for commercial used nuclear fuel. With the closing of Yucca Mountain, there is no place for the used fuel. Idaho has a long history of treating and storing Naval Fuel. This has been done for years without serious consequence. For the benefit of the nation, and the economic benefit of Idaho, I think Idaho should become a repository for the storage, and treatment of used commercial nuclear fuel. If Idaho chooses not to do this someone will. At a time of such economic turmoil, we need to make the decisions that will benefit the most. Some will fight it tooth and nail, but I believe the majority will embrace the opportunity for such economic growth.

Mr. Charles Park 1258 Norton Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 529-2844 Cvpark8@gmail.com I believe that the INL should continue to lead the Nation's nuclear energy effort. The world will be less safe if the US relenquishes its influence in nuclear safety. INL's historic role with NRC should be strengthened wherein the Lab ensured the safety of nuclear facilities built across the nation.

Maintaining a strong nuclear technology capability allows the US to influence nonproliferation. Without our leadership the world will be less safe.

Mr. Michael Miller 10992 n river rd Payette, ID 83661

(208) 405-9983 mwmiller75@live.com I would feel comfortable and safe living on nuclear power plant lands. U.S. safety record and regard for the environment is second to none. Idaho needs jobs; this appears to be an economic boon. Nuclear power is needed badly--if not Idaho, home of INL, then where?

Mrs. Michelle Holt PO Box 46 Arco, ID 83213

(208) 527-5900 lred@atcnet.net January 3, 2013

Jeff Sayer, Chairman
Idaho LINE Commission
C/O Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Lost Rivers Economic Development, Inc. I am submitting this letter for public comment on the LINE Commission Sub Committee Recommendations.

Lost Rivers Economic Development's operating area includes Butte & South Custer counties. As such we recognize that our proximity to the INL's desert reservation provides economic opportunities important to the future of our rural communities. The future prosperity of the Idaho National Laboratory is closely tied to the

future prosperity of all of eastern Idaho as well as the State as a whole. As an economic development organization, we are in full support of the current and future missions of the INL and we believe in the INL's long-term viability. We believe that dry cask storage research is a mission centric opportunity for the INL, which we support. Lost Rivers Economic Development acknowledges the current need to provide interim storage for orphaned spent fuel, which is a critical national issue affecting all Americans.

Lost Rivers Economic Development believes that the siting of an interim storage location is a potential economic opportunity that Idaho communities and the State cannot afford to pass up. Additionally, we adamantly support the efforts to conduct further experimentation regarding spent fuels, which is vital to the discovery of future solutions. We endorse the concept of locating commercial research facilities in the Arco desert to utilize and commercialize the world class research capabilities that the INL provides.

Sincerely,

Michelle Holt, Executive Director
Lost Rivers Economic Development, Inc.

Mr. Louis Landry 211 E. 33rd Street Boise, ID 83714

(208) 890-0886 loulandry@cableone.net Idaho should not be a nuclear dump site. INL seems to be an organization on a desperate search for a mission --- so desperate that Idaho can be sacrificed as a nuclear waste dump. Stick to the agreement to get the waste out; don't add more. In a time of fiscal austerity I am concerned with maintaining the funding for protecting the Snake River Aquifer from the waste that is already stored above.

Mr. William Blair 11561 W Colony St Boise, ID 83709-7760

(208) 378-8102 wblair4318@aol.com Ladies and gentlemen of the LINE Commission, I strongly disagree with the premise that INL's future is dependent on accepting more nuclear waste. I believe we must protect the funding through the existing legal contracts including the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement. I reject the recommendation of the Technology Subcommittee, chaired by the CEO of Battelle, that INL become a pilot nuclear waste dump. Idaho has too much waste stored over the Snake River Plain Aquifer now. We must continue to treat and move the waste out as current agreements dictate.

Thank you, wdb

Ms. Jennifer Siegel 2030 Candlewood Circle Twin Falls, ID 83301

(208) 859-2987 dreamspynner@yahoo.com To the members of Nuclear Energy Commission:

I am a 34 year Idaho native, born in the Magic Valley, with family spread all over the state from Pocatello, Twin Falls, Glens Ferry, to Boise.

I am in STRONG opposition of INL becoming a nuclear waste facility state. I do not want to see Idaho become an interim waste or Heaven forbid possibly a permanent waste repository for the rest of the nation.

I implore you to protect the funding for INL's current cleanup program: protect the legal agreements that support it, such as the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement.

Also, there should be access, postings, and coverage of meetings for public participation in the LINE Commission's discussions and recommendations about INL to Governor Otter.

My family and I stand by former Governor's Andrus and Batt; we are utterly opposed to any amendment to the 1995 Agreement between the State of Idaho and the U.S. Department of Energy.

Jennifer Siegel

Mr. Bill Chisholm 19073E Hwy 30 Buhl, ID 83316

(208) 543-4418 chisholm3@mindspring.com Abandoning the 95 Waste Agreement is totally unacceptable...surely the talents of the folks working at IN(E)L can be put to more constructive use than trying to create a nuclear waste facility. Perhaps they could help engineer better interface with renewable sources of energy or work on a rail system that would get us out of our cars, or to truly recycle all the electronic waste from our ever devolving devices. Creating a waste disposal site for a make jobs program is not a solution....we need jobs that solve problems.

To whom it may concern:

People do not stay in this state for the wages--and even Washington has left Idaho wages at the bottom. So do they have to live in a state where the nuclear waste has not been cleaned up as promised-- and supposedly promised to do so under two different governors? Or do they need to leave because the state has a reputation to live up to its responsibility--and has no intention to do so?

Any answers? Creating jobs with nuclear waste? Do you pass us off as idiots? When its citizens feel you are not listening, we have made changes (as in the state school proposals) and will do so in other areas if necessary.

Pat Robinson
1562 West Storey
Meridian, Idaho 83646
855-0404

Ms. Caroline Morris 1347 W Parkhill Dr. Boise, ID 83702

(208) 954-1092 fleursmorris@gmail.com I urge the LINE Commission to not alter the 1995 Settlement Agreement in any way, and to conduct all Commission business and that of its subcommittees publicly with broad advance notice to all interested parties. Good luck.

Caroline Morris

Mr. Michael Clarke 9424 W Avalanche Dr Boise, ID 83709

(208) 631-2285 mcmustang@hotmail.com I support nuclear energy development in Idaho.

Mrs. Maureen Jenner P.O. Box 249 Sun Valley, ID 83353

(208) 726-2114 Jennermo@gmail.com I'm writing to oppose efforts to lift the ban on commercial radioactive waste into Idaho. Idahoans voted to ban radioactive waste from being stored in Idaho. We don't want it trucked in or have it come by train. We need to clean up what is there and keep the ban in place. Maureen Jenner

Dr. J. Stephen Herring 298 Call Avenue Idaho Falls, ID 83402-3040

(208) 524-1875 steveherrng@gmail.com To: The LINE Commission

I'd like to make a few comments now that I have reviewed your draft report.

First of all, I congratulate the Governor and the Department of Commerce for chartering the Commission and for considering the role that the Idaho National Laboratory will play in the future of the state's economy as well as in the development of nuclear energy.

The INL has a set of facilities and human capabilities in the engineering of nuclear reactors and fuels that are unmatched elsewhere in the country. At the same time, nuclear energy is faced with a set of prospects and problems that will require those facilities and capabilities. The prospects for the future of nuclear energy are driven by the needs for secure and reliable energy sources in both the developed and the developing countries and by the probable concurrent requirement that we minimize emissions of CO₂. The problems are in needs to minimize spent fuel and nuclear waste, to ensure and improve the safety of both existing and future reactors, to devise further barriers to the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to reduce the cost of nuclear plants. Neither these prospects nor these problems are short-term phenomena.

The INL can play pivotal roles in the solving the problems listed above through the development of high burnup fuels, through research into future configurations of the nuclear fuel cycle, through engineering and testing of passive reactor safety, through scientific research into the long-term storage of fuel in dry casks and through innovative instrumentation at the interface between operators and the reactor. Several of these pivotal roles require examination of spent fuel and the storage of trial amounts of spent fuel for long periods of time. While the 1995 Settlement Agreement is achieving its primary goal of prodding DOE and the Navy to clean up decades of waste and to store that waste in robust forms, the Agreement is also limiting the INL's ability to develop and test long-lasting fuels and secure storage technologies. The amounts of spent fuel that are allowed into the state for examination and experimental purposes should be increased.

With the demise of the Yucca Mountain Project and the consequent need for consolidated sites for storage of fuel in dry casks there have been suggestions that Idaho host a commercial storage site. I think that these suggestions are premature and that support for Idaho's hosting of such a site needs to come from a larger cross section of the state's population, beyond eastern Idaho.

That said, I congratulate the Commission for its apparent view that the INL is a vital asset for the state economy and their exploration of ways in which the state can collaborate with DOE in preserving that asset.

The tsunami in Japan has shown that external events have to be carefully considered in the design of all infrastructure, particularly reactors. I hope that this tragic experience will lead both to a realistic assessment of hazards by governments and utilities and to innovative, robust, infrastructure designs by engineers and academic researchers.

Engineering for nuclear power stations and for the nuclear fuel cycle requires a long-term perspective, far beyond the daily or monthly variations in the price of competing fuels. The present low price of natural gas

should be viewed as a one or two decade disequilibrium among supply, technology and growing demand in Asia and Africa. As methods for producing diesel and jet fuel from natural gas are implemented and long-distance transport of LNG becomes more common, natural gas prices will come back into equilibrium (on an energy basis) with petroleum and into equilibrium between North America and Asia. Uranium (and possibly thorium) resources vastly exceed the energy content of fossil fuels, so the nuclear enterprise can and must take a very long-term perspective in planning its development. The key to that long-term approach is the development of passively safe reactors, high burnup fuels and a sustainable stewardship of the nuclear fuel cycle all roles in which the INL and the state of Idaho can vigorously participate.

Thank you,
Steve Herring

As a concerned citizen and a leader in my spiritual community, I request that you make comments about the LINE Commission's consideration to allow more toxic waste into Idaho public so that anyone who wants to inform themselves can do so with ease. The issue of nuclear energy and waste affects us all so deeply. A true community "conversation" is deserved so that friends and neighbors can sound the chorus of what we support and what we do not. In this way our public servants can best serve us and be supported by us in their work.

How does the LINE commission plan to involve the public in deliberations about final recommendations? This is an issues that affects so many generations to come, please allow the decision making process to be one that is fully disclosed and fully receptive to the public.

Thank you for your time and your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Luna Stravers, LSW
Earth Song Healing Arts, LLC

Offering people natural spaces to celebrate, heal and inspire each other at a time of great change on Earth.

Mr. Takayuki Yoshida 4551 S Trails End Ln Boise, ID 83716

(208) 342-2633 gahanyoshida1@msn.com I am resident of Idaho. I think if you want take nukes waste from another states to Idaho, first You should ask about it to every resident of Idaho for yes or no. And My answer is NO. I do not want to see another FUKUSHIMA here. I do not want see contaminated snake river. If you want protect nature of Idaho, protect people living in Idaho, Please say NO with us.

Ms. Elise Lufkin 101 Greenhorn Loop true Ketchum, ID 83340-2997

(208) 788-9112 e.lufkin@gmail.com I strongly oppose efforts to change the regulations which protect us from radioactive waste being brought into Idaho.

Mr. John Miller 4730 E. Comish Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83406

(208) 542-0159 JJMILLER@INTISOID.COM I am attempting to submit comments to the Line Commission subcommittee recommendations. My comments exceed the 15000 character limit. Is there a fax number I can fax my comment letter to or is there an email address I can send the letter as a pdf to?

Ms. Diane Jones 5218 Castle Drive Boise, ID 83703

(208) 345-4199 sweethomeidaho@yahoo.com There is a good reason why Eastern Idaho is not suitable for storage of nuclear waste, namely the Snake River Aquifer. And there is no good reason to ship waste across the country to simply get it out of sight! INL has the potential to lead into the future with R&D on non-polluting forms of energy. Looking to N-waste storage as a business model is both dangerous and backward-looking.

Mr. Daniel Payne 580 Milkyway ct 580 Milkyway ct Pocatello, ID 83204

(208) 241-3319 danpayne580@yahoo.com I agree with the draft LINE Commission report. Idaho should certainly be part of the nuclear research and power community.

Mrs. Dana Storms 2825 W. Morningside Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 529-2127 dana_storms@yahoo.com I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and encourage the State of Idaho to take an active role in securing the energy research, development, demonstration and deployment activities at the Idaho National Laboratory.

Mr. Park Price 1098 E. 25th Street Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 552-2148 pricesp@q.com I agree with the subcommittee recommendations. Nuclear belongs in the energy portfolio and Idaho has an important part to play in the research on this important energy source.

The Lab has made great progress in handling waste and its storage.

Dr. Steve Albiston 1730 Del Mar Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 529-6575 smalb79@gmail.com Mr. Sayer,

This is just a quick note to let you know that I fully support all of the recommendations that have been submitted by the Line Commission. Furthermore, as a member of the Partners for Science and Technology, and board member of Grow Idaho Falls, I fully support the contents of the letters that they have submitted.

Thank you and the members of the commission for all of the time,energy and great work.

Steve

Dr. Carol Baldwin 475 N. 4108 E. Rigby, ID 83442

(208) 745-0517 carol83442@gmail.com I support the recommendations of the Line Commission. I believe that nuclear power is a safe source of power and should be in our power portfolio.

Thank you,
Carol Baldwin, Ph.D.

Mr. John McGimpsey 2122 Calkins Avenue Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 313-1583 john@mcgimpsey.com I strongly support the Subcommittee recommendations published in the 3 December 2012 Line Commission Progress Report

Mr. John Hoyrup 939 Boyd Chubbuck, ID 83202

(208) 681-5434 jplkh@msn.com I would like to voice my support for the LINE Commission report on the future of Nuclear Energy and Research at the INL. With the knowledge and experience available at the INL from the engineers to the craftsman who have worked doing the research and development of new power sources for satellites, cars and communications. The same have worked on the clean-up of past work and storage facilities without any major mishaps. That being said I think it would be a grave mistake to not allow the INL to move forward in it's mission to be the #1 research and development lab in the DOE line-up when the knowledge and work force is here already, to waste them and lose the economic stability that the INL brings to Southeastern Idaho and the State would be unthinkable.

Ms. Terri Steele 1910 Avalon St. Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 552-6583 ston0492@yahoo.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations.

Mr. Douglas Wheeler 1723 S Highline Dr Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 522-1906 wheels@ida.net My wife and I wholeheartedly support the LINE commission's recommendations.

Please do not throw away our opportunity to participate in the only truly viable "alternative" energy industry. In the State of Idaho, particularly at the INL, we have the expertise and resources to move this industry forward in a positive, safe and productive way.

Thank you for your efforts and your consideration.

Doug & Sue Wheeler

Mr. Aubyn Chiles 475 River Parkway Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 206-0479 achiles@hotelonthefalls.com I support all the subcommittee recommendations listed in the progress report.

Mr. Jesse Webb 1324 Preston Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 529-9655 jessew@diversifiedmetal.com I Agree with the Subcommittee's recommendation!!

Mr. Kelly D Archibald 35 Duke Street Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 529-9655 kellya@diversifiedmetal.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations.

Mr. Donald Patterson 2709 Hallon St. Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 522-4172 eypatterson@cableone.net "agree with the subcommittee's recommendations."

Mr. Justin Deitrick 697 Trejo St. Apt 201 Rexbrug, ID 83440

(425) 231-1659 jsdeitrick@gmail.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations. We need to keep nuclear projects and facilities here in Idaho.

Mr. Holly Romrell hromrell@idahofallschamber.com 420 Memorial DR. Idaho falls, ID 83402

(208) 523-1010 hromrell@idahofallschamber.com I endorse all of the recommendations listed in the LINE Commission progress report.

Mr. Brian Hogan po box 921 Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 251-3154 brbhog@aol.com I agree with the subcommittees recommendations.

Dr. Dennis Keiser 2942 Homestead Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 520-9492 denkei132@gmail.com I basically agree with the subcommittee's recommendations. Nuclear waste can be safely stored at the INL site using current dry storage technology.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Dennis Keiser, PhD

Mrs. Julie Jacobson 1811 N. Bramble Lane Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 525-8741 rmbonsai@msn.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations. Our country needs nuclear power as an energy source.

Mrs. Valerie J Hathaway 2600 Everon st Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 524-5368 valerieh@uidaho.edu We need nuclear energy. It is clean, affordable and safe energy. Please continue to support nuclear in Idaho.

Mr. Thane Bolander 285 N. Emerson Shelley, ID 83274

(208) 357-5668 tbolandars@yahoo.com I agree with supporting nuclear energy within Idaho and supporting the activities at the INL as detailed in the recent report. I would even suggest putting a working reactor at the site that will produce power and be used to produce electricity for Idaho citizens.

Mr. Eric Vanderploeg 1257 Hiline Rd Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 226-6219 ericv4274@yahoo.com I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future. I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations.

Mrs. Representative Janet Trujillo 3144 Disney Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 419-8266 jtrujillo@idaho.house.gov Dear Chairman Sayer:

I strongly endorse the recommendations listed in the Line Commission draft report and look forward to the final report.

It is important to recognize the INL is an asset and benefit to the state. The Idaho National Laboratory is a \$3.5 billion industry and has an economic impact in Idaho. We must protect and advance this industry. The INL has the opportunity to diversify Idaho's economy if we do not take this opportunity it will quickly be lost to other states.

INL is a direct benefit to the States higher Education. We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. The State should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho's position as a nuclear energy leader. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology.

Idaho has existing infrastructure and a workforce that will continue to help us play a lead role in the national and international nuclear arena. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other opportunities.

Idaho must continue to look forward and lead the way in the nuclear industry.

Rep. Janet Trujillo
District 33
Idaho Falls, ID

Mrs. Jan Mason box 1352 Ketchum, ID 83340

(208) 726-7566 jan.mason@cox.net The 1995 Settlement Agreement is working for Idaho, please do not weaken it. The robust research element at the INL is alive and well. Reject hosting anymore nuclear waste coming to this mostly pristine State.

Mr. Timothy Adelizzi 5493 N 5th W Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 569-2074 tim.adelizzi@gmail.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations

Ms. Evelyn Hoover 1257 Hiline Rd Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 226-6558 ehoover0297@yahoo.com I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future. I am a student at ISU and INL is my future livelihood and I pray that I will be able to make a difference in R&D and help fill the need for Nuclear Energy in the future!!!!

Mr. Timothy Solomon 2300 North Yellowstone Highway Idaho Falls, ID 83440

(208) 528-9400 tim@rdaidaho.org We agree with the subcommittee's recommendations. We believe in and support a strong nuclear Idaho and in a strong and diversified nuclear mission for the Idaho National Laboratory. We support a considered and thoughtful approach to revising, if appropriate, the Settlement Agreement to permit the pursuit of suitable nuclear missions for the INL.

We believe that Idaho can and must play a critical role in the nuclear future of the United States with the INL. Idaho elected officials must formulate and present a formidable and proactive approach to securing ongoing and sustainable nuclear missions and roles for the state and INL.

The history of safe and proper handling of fuels and processes should give Idaho great courage in accepting the role of a significant leader in a nuclear energy renaissance in the United States.

We support a strong foundation of higher education in nuclear science and engineering in Idaho universities. Without such a foundation, our ability to lead will be compromised and advantaging technology development within the state will be crippled.

Sincerely,

Timothy L. Solomon

Mrs. Marilyn Harkness 3603 Deloy #1 idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 360-6917 marilyn6777@hotmail.com I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future. I am an employee of the INL and have been for 23 years. The INL has been a great asset in our communities and is providing the world with leading research. It would be devastating if the INL were to be shut down.

Mr. Dean Mortimer 7403 South 1st East Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 524-9004 Dean@comfortconst.com Sirs,

I have been very active in watching the activities at the INL all of my life. I have been intimately familiar with the activities the last 30 years. I have been impressed with the thoroughness with which these activities have occurred. The concern for safety and public security has been remarkable.

With this history and background, I can recommend that nuclear energy continue to be a part of the active environment in Eastern Idaho and Idaho. Nuclear needs to be part of this nation and states long term energy plan.

The INL and its employees have the experience and the safety record to develop, plan and execute a continued, active nuclear long term program.

Respectfully,

Dean M. Mortimer

Mr. Will Quitberg 236N 4037E Rigby, ID 83442

(208) 520-4974 willardq@gmail.com I agree largely with the LINE Commission's findings.

All the activists and useful idiots who fail to recognize the potential of nuclear, can build their energy free communities outside of Idaho. They can all go back to California and cut their own power grids instead of subvert public comment forums such as this and try cutting my power. Anybody within Idaho who thinks Nuclear should go away should take a second look at the future options of where their power comes from and shut the hell up or get out. Don't tread on me!

Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Setter 41227 N. Prestancia Dr. Anthem, AZ 85086

(623) 551-4557 tjsetter@hotmail.com WE NEED ALL THE ENERGY WE CAN GET. WE NEED 100 MORE NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS IN THE USA. THEY ARE A SAFE,CHEAP FORM OF NON POLLUTING ENERGY.

WE WILL DO WHATEVER IS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THIS GOAL.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Dr. Steven Howe 211 Lost Trail Place Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 529-3837 showe@usra.edu The demand for electricity will continue to grow in this country. Intermittent renewable sources cannot meet the high levels of baseload power. Nuclear power offers the best potential for clean base load power. Sometimes individual states have to "step up" for the good of the country instead of their own selfish interests. I fully support the findings of the LINE Commission. We need to pursue development of safe nuclear power sources and the recycling of the spent fuel.

I would , in fact, like to see the DOE pay the state of Idaho \$1B/yr to temporarily store spent reactor fuel in dry casks. This would benefit the nation and the state.

Mrs. Cheryl Wilhelmsen 455 Coventry Ct Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 523-9533 cherylw@uidaho.edu "I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations."

Dr. John Bess 2900 Linda St Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 523-1766 john.bess@inl.gov I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the LINE Commission report in regarding nuclear in Idaho.

Mr. Michael Hedden 1463 Vega Circle #7 Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 390-4636 mhedden@ptius.net Hello, I would like to say that I am in favor of the LINE commission recommendations and hope for additional work and expansion at the Idaho National Laboratory.

I support the recommendations of the subcommittees and support a long term, sustained nuclear future in ID, including waste disposition

Sent from my iPad

Dr. Jason Harris
1273 Country Ave.
Blackfoot, ID 83221

Mr. Juliet Marshall 2861 Newman Dr Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 542-5868 jmarshall@uidaho.edu I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations and support nuclear power and research in Idaho

Ms. Linda Harper 3854 E 12 N Rigby, ID 83442

(208) 745-7788 linda_harp@hotmail.com I am in support of the Line Progress report recommendations.

Mr. Douglas Sayer 7766 w. buckskin rd pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 760-0840 dsayer@ptius.net this is very important for the future of Idaho and i appreciate the leadership from our Governor. i support all the recommendations by the LINE Commission.

Mr. Michael Fullmer 1900 Brentwood Drive Idaho Falls, ID 208-523-6489

(208) 523-6489 mfullmer@cableone.net I full heartedly support DOE and the INL west of Idaho Falls. No only are there many spin offs, but the site is a great influence to our economy and way of life here in Idaho.

Mr. Larry Smith 1707 Curlew Pocatello, ID 83204

(208) 233-1480 lsmith@ptius.net I would express my support for Project 60 beleiving it will be of great economical value to our state.

Mr. Caleb Dimick 888 E 17th St Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 716-5242 cdimick@dlevans.com Dear Chairman Sayer:
I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

Mrs. Kathy O'Brien 1136 So. 3rd. Avenue Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 233-3763 obid@juno.com I am concerned about some of the items in your report, especially those that would violate the agreement negotiated by Gov. Batt regarding nuclear waste. Therefore, I ask that you:

Reject the recommendation of the Technology Subcommittee that Idaho endorse INL becoming the “pilot” nuclear waste dump for the region. Above our aquifer? No! (This committee was chaired by the CEO of Battelle, which seems not quite right.)

Protect the threatened funding for INL’s cleanup program by protecting the legal agreements that support it, such as the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement.

Reject the false premise that INL’s only future is dependent on more nuclear waste coming to Idaho. Do research on this claim.

Demand public participation in and access to the LINE Commission’s discussion to winnow down the recommendations that go to the Governor. The public needs to be party to everything that is happening.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Kathy O'Brien

Mr. Todd Freeman 461 Hummingbird Lane Shelley, ID 83274

(208) 680-8145 tfreema3@gmail.com I strongly support allowing the INL the ability to bring in spent nuclear fuel and waste into the state to perform research.

Mr. Anthony Frederick 315 Hall Street Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 604-1641 tonyf@live.com It is my opinion that Idaho should pursue any actions necessary to continue and advance our involvement in the nuclear industry. We need to have a strong hold in the market to insure the continued economic growth of our state. I support the nuclear industry operated in a safe manner.

Mr. Aaron Craft 206 N. Lloyd Cir Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 201-4242 aaron.e.craft@gmail.com I support nuclear in Idaho. Remember that the opposition is always louder than the status quo. Most people actually support nuclear. However, anti-nuclear clubs seek out public comment forums and polls to make their voices heard, while pro-nuclear people don't necessarily.

Mr. Bruce Turner 330 Shoup Ave Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 525-1610 bruce.turner@usbank.com INL is a national treasure. Nuclear energy and the various research projects at the INL are great for Idaho and great for our nation. I fully support the LINE recommendations. bt

Upon hearing that many people are potentially against nuclear research, or any nuclear activity in Idaho, I had one major thought. Moving backward in research or science is never the answer. Cutting funding for any science or research that is pushing the boundaries of our collective knowledge is never good.

If dangers are discovered, or mistakes are made, we need to learn from them and move forward. This is how we as individuals grow, and how we as a civilization grow. We learned from past mistakes that we need to be careful in how we handle and dispose of nuclear waste. Now we are cleaning up those mistakes and preventing future similar mistakes. It would be a shame to simply give up and walk away when there is so much potential in the nuclear industry.

If I had more time I could go much further into this, however, due to time constraints I will simply say: move forward, never backward, expand knowledge, don't back away from challenges, be responsible but be ambitious.

P.S. If funding has to be cut from somewhere, take it from those holding us back, not those pushing us forward.

Brett Jensen
Estimator
brettj@diversifiedmetal.com



- Specialty Metal Fabricator
- UL 508A Panel Shop
- Idaho Small Business
- NQA-1 Quality Program, 10+ years
- ASME Code Vessel Stamps - U, R, & S
- American Glovebox Society Member

Diversified Metal Products, Inc.
3710 N. Yellowstone Hwy.
Idaho Falls, ID 83401
phone 208-529-9655
fax 208-529-9836
www.diversifiedmetal.com

Mr. Lyle Freeman 1858 W. Bridge Street Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 782-9129 Lfreeman@optius.net I believe that it is very important to support the INL in research of commercial spent fuel and allow shipment of the fuel to be shipped to the INL site. It is important to Idaho as well as the USA to support this effort to maintain our status as a world technology leader. We need to embrace opportunities like this in Idaho and take advantage of our Lead Laboratory designation to advance science and technology. I also see this as an opportunity to create jobs in a sluggish economy in Idaho.

Mr. Trent Jensen 1704 Olympia Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 604-3227 trtjensen@yahoo.com I am 100% in support of the INL's research on nuclear spent fuel.

Mr. Laurie Boggs 26181 Gail Lane Middleton, ID 83644

(208) 991-6998 laurieboggs@netzero.net

Reject the recommendation of the Technology Subcommittee, chaired by the CEO of Battelle, that Idaho endorse INL becoming the "pilot" nuclear waste dump for the region.

Protect the threatened funding for INL's cleanup program by protecting the legal agreements that support it, such as the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement.

Reject the false premise that INL's only future is dependent on more nuclear waste coming to Idaho.

Demand public participation in and access to the LINE Commission's discussion to winnow down the recommendations that go to the Governor.

Ethan Huffman
3709 Pearce Drive
Ammon, ID 83401
208-716-4594
ethan.huffman@gmail.com

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

Please accept my comments on the future of nuclear energy research in Idaho and at Idaho National Laboratory. Please also accept my sincere thanks for the commission's work on this important topic. I endorse most of the recommendations listed in the draft report and look forward to the final document.

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead nuclear energy research laboratory. INL has the facilities, history, and workforce that is ready to play a part in securing the nation's energy future. The laboratory has the capabilities to conduct back-end fuel cycle research, advanced reactor and next-generation fuel design research and testing, modeling and simulation to improve safety and fuel burn-up, and materials testing and analysis. The laboratory also possesses world-class capabilities in nuclear nonproliferation, cyber security, alternative energy sources, and non-traditional hydrocarbon research.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Without strong support from the Governor's office and the Idaho State Legislature it will be difficult to continue existing missions and attract new work to INL.

The state should recognize the \$3.5 Billion economic impact that INL has on the entire state and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing that industry. Similar to the Nuclear Energy Institute's recent announcement about INL, the state and its citizens need to promote the lab's strategic capabilities as a regional asset to help build and strengthen the lab's capabilities and business model beyond just a federally funded research and development center.

The state also needs to protect the relationship it has with the U.S. Navy. If the Navy has a desire to continue their mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, then Idaho should work to ensure that it has the tools and support needed to continue their activities at both the Naval Research Facility and the Advanced Test Reactor.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

As stated by the Nuclear Energy Institute, the nuclear energy industry is among the safest and most regulated industrial process in the world. The United States nuclear industry and the Department of Energy's nuclear facilities are safe and managed appropriately considering the risk level of the work that is performed. There is also a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case.

While the intent of Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement must continue and cleanup at the Site should be completed in accordance with the law, INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho residents should search out the truth when it comes to working with nuclear materials and not default to emotionally-based anti-nuclear rhetoric.

While Idaho could safely and effectively store commercial used nuclear fuels and waste as an interim location, there does not appear to be the political or public support in the state that would be necessary to broadly

pursue and expand this initiative. Further, I believe there are other states – such as New Mexico – that are better suited for this part of the nuclear energy mission. I would encourage the commission to put forth to the Governor recommendations that have the strongest chance for implementation and that align closely with the core capabilities of the laboratory and Idaho’s existing nuclear industry.

It should be noted, that some spent fuel storage will remain a necessary component of operating INL in the future and revisions to the 1995 Settlement Agreement to protect the operation of the Advanced Test Reactor, research for the U.S. Navy, and development of advanced fuels and materials research at the Materials and Fuels Complex.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho should be proactive in identifying potential new missions and partners at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the state should be very focused on. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement and finding ways to be the R&D state for this industry.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission’s focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho’s 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state’s interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho’s Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should look to update the Settlement Agreement. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

How can Idaho’s universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

Idaho should continue to develop opportunities for all our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho’s position as a nuclear energy leader. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology. Nearly every educational institution in Idaho has a capability or research emphasis that can be mutually beneficial when partnered with INL. Efforts to expand the Center for Advanced Energy Studies, partner with the U.S. and international nuclear industry, and transition nuclear energy ideas and technology via the IGEMS program should be strongly supported.

Additionally, INL and ISU’s recent designation by the Nuclear Energy Institute as a northwest regional education center is one example of how our colleges and universities can play an essential role in training and educating experts for careers in the nuclear energy field.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation’s energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Currently nuclear power supplies almost 20% of the nation’s electrical power supply. There is no one resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.

The U.S. Department of Energy projects that US electricity demands will rise 22 percent by 2035, about one percent each year. That means our nation will need hundreds of new power plants to provide electricity for our homes and continued economic growth. Maintaining nuclear energy’s current 20 percent share of generation would require building one reactor every year starting in 2016 or 20 to 25 new units by 2035, based on DOE

forecasts. If decommissioning of coal plants continue as projected, it is believable that nuclear (a baseload emission free resource) will have to provide for more than 20 percent of the generation.

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors. Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other such as hybrid energy systems generation opportunities.

Mr. David Smith 310 Elm Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 524-2601 david@smithco-cpa.com I agree with the draft LINE Commission Report and strongly believe the INL is the best selection (location) for the future of nuclear research and development. I look forward to the Final report.

Mrs. Sonja Monson 11259 Augusta Dr Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 220-0690 smonson@titlefss.com I strongly agree with the subcommittee's recommendations.

Respectfully,

Sonja Monson

1. What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho has a very unique workforce that is highly specialized in the nuclear energy and fuel cycles. The nuclear industry has come under great scrutiny for its inability to solve the fuel cycle issues. Idaho should identify how its assets, skillset, knowledge, and experience, both on and off the INL, can help keep the nuclear energy industry successful. The nuclear industry has a need for Idaho's workforce to participate in the front end and back end of the nuclear fuel cycle and develop technology to support both of those stages.

2. In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

The state and the INL need to aggressively compete for the research money from the DOE. The shrinking budgets will force the national labs to begin cannibalizing the other labs. INL and Idaho need to become proactive in how it manages its relationship with the DOE, how it approaches projects proposals, and how it enforces its formal agreements. Just as industry is constantly adapting and evolving, the INL and Idaho must shift.

3. What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

As with all energy projects and research there are environmental challenges. The key is to ensure that the risks are minimized by enforcing strict controls and ensuring the team in place has the tools and experience necessary to do an appropriate job. Fortunately, our experience in Idaho is substantial and the technology exists to manage risks. Now just leverage the exposure to risk (even though it is manageable) for substantial rewards.

4. Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

* SMR demonstration - Idaho is not even in the running for one of two demonstration projects. We are late to

the game and risk losing our designation as the lead nuclear lab. Idaho, the birthplace of nuclear energy in the United States, needs to be actively engaged in this technology advancement and find ways to be the demonstration and R&D site for this technology.

- * Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential opportunities for private sector nuclear work (manufacturing SMR components) and recruiting those opportunities. Idaho should catalog assets in terms of ability to meet this mission and initiate full court press to SMR manufacturers (B&W, NuScale, Westinghouse).

- * Security issues at existing nuclear facilities are of critical importance to the country and the future of nuclear energy. INL has tremendous assets and capabilities in cyber security. Idaho should continue to build on that capability through partnerships.

- * Idaho has the ability to lead national and international discussion on nuclear safety from both plant and waste perspectives. Idaho should continue to build relationships to help advance industry safety. This is particularly important given that an event internationally (in less developed or sophisticated countries) negatively impacts nuclear industry progress in this country.

- * the State should work with private sector to identify and develop incentives that would encourage nuclear related business growth in Idaho.

5. Given the Blue Ribbon Commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

- * Recognizing the reality of orphan waste at existing reactor sites and the capabilities of Idaho, specifically INL both personnel and infrastructure, and actively support the ability of INL to conduct necessary fuel cycle research. This may require the need to amend the settlement agreement.

- * Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should work to gain benefit beyond the limited financial penalties of the agreement. Consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for mission that remains to be completed.

- * Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interest in pursuing interim storage. The State should identify terms it would like to secure should such opportunity be explored (such as a location that does not have aquifer concerns and ways in which the state can retain control versus the federal government). The state should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. Private sector collaboration with INI could be pursued in this regard to build off the historic taxpayer investment in infrastructure and workforce.

- * the State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission "consent based" siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

6. How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

The universities can compete to become a managing partner of the Lab in the next 4-5 years, with some help and effort of course.

7. Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Hybridized energy systems, Backend fuel cycle management, expand the labs mission, develop new technology to reduce infrastructure cost of nuclear reactors (SMR development).

Regards,

Andy Hasselbring



1858 W. Bridge Street
Blackfoot, ID 83221
Direct (208) 782-9142
Main (208) 785-2274
Fax (208) 782-9005

www.ptius.com

Mr. Douglas Gerstner 1533 Sviskon Way Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 529-4890 gerstner_doug@yahoo.com I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report. Idaho must promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy. INL can play to secure the country's energy future.

I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future.

Mrs. Johanna Hess 455 S 2nd E #402 Rexburg, ID 83440

(208) 782-9181 jhess@ptius.net I am most intrigued by the recommendations Infrastructure #10 and National & Global Landscape #6 regarding SMR implementation. I also agree that focus on storage for spent fuel or nuclear waste is critical to getting any nuclear project interest in the government (including SMRs). Educating the public on nuclear benefits and drawbacks would boost interest as well. Encouraging nuclear curriculum in schools in Idaho (Infrastructure #1, d) would build qualified people to head such recommendations and advance the nuclear industry.

Mr. TODD WIGHTMAN 1600 SOUTH 25TH EAST IDAHO FALLS, ID 83404

(208) 524-3000 todd.wightman@my.eitc.edu I fully support Idaho continuing to be a world leader in nuclear technology.

Mr. Henry Jones 381 E. Hallmark Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 521-1032 Mjones_epsilon@me.com I fully support the commission recommendation. Idaho is the technical leader in nuclear, and is a beneficiary of hitech funding...good pay jobs are good for Idaho.

Mr. Don Miley 10978 N 41st East Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 821-4298 Uconluau@yahoo.com As a citizen of Idaho, I fully support the recommendations of the LINE Commission. Idaho should consider expanding the 1995 Governor's Agreement and discuss other nuclear-related research or work, even temporary storage facilities. An emotional "not in my backyard" attitude based on fear and ignorance should not stop Idaho from rationally considering expanding our role in the nuclear industry.

Mrs. Susan Jensen 541 W. 75 S. Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 681-4846 sujensen@cableone.net I support the recommendations that the commission has put together. Nice job!

Mr. Don Miley 10978 N 41st East Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 821-4298 Uconluau@yahoo.com As a citizen of Idaho, I fully support the recommendations of the LINE Commission. Idaho should consider expanding the 1995 Governor's Agreement and discuss other nuclear-related research or work, even temporary storage facilities. An emotional "not in my backyard" attitude based on fear and ignorance should not stop Idaho from rationally considering expanding our role in the nuclear industry. Don't allow the fear mongering of a vocal minority hinder Idaho's future!

Dr. Steven Kohtz 3024 East 3500 North Twin Falls, ID 83301

(208) 421-4755 koht3226@hotmail.com I wanted to make a comment in support of the recommendations of the LINE commission. Nuclear energy is safe, plentiful, and a green energy form as it results in no greenhouse gas production. Additionally, the radioactive waste issue has been addressed by the development and demonstration of the breeder reactor (running prototype completed at INEL but shut down by the Clinton Administration) which significantly reduces the time the waste is radioactive. Idaho needs to take a leadership role in nuclear energy and the recommendations of the LINE report represent a good start. Of all our options, it is the only viable energy source capable of providing energy for all needs (including electricity and transportation) in a way that is sustainable, affordable, and does not pollute the environment. Thank you for the time and consideration.

I concur with Lane's letter (attached). I have worked in the nuclear industry for 35 years and find this work to be safe for me and my family. We need this in Idaho. Idaho should lead in the support of nuclear development to free our country from foreign power. Thank you in advance for your support.

Terry Hathaway
2600 E Everon St.
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-5464
Phone: 205-524-5368

Mr. Brent Stacey 5273 Shadow Creek Drive. Idaho falls, ID 8340

(208) 524-2645 Brentjaystacey@gmail.com I agree with the line commission recommendations

Mr. Richard Lindsay 77 N 50 E Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 785-3209 rlindsay@mstar2.net Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I believe that there is much room for further development of the nuclear industry and I further believe that the United States is rapidly

losing its capability to do meaningful nuclear research. If our present course continues, we will soon see a mere caretaking activity at the INL, with little or no research.

The Department of Energy, over the last many years has pretty much lost its way in having any focused effort that will lead toward new and better nuclear power plants. When research has moved ahead in the past, such as the Integral Fast Reactor project that was developed for DOE by Argonne National Laboratory, the DOE moved quickly to stop the effort. Fortunately DOE was too late in shutting down the IFR project and it had moved forward to the point of demonstrating all the major objectives. As a result of the IFR project, many now believe that there is much to be done for the next generation nuclear facility that can reap great benefits in the areas of Safety, Transportation, Waste, Economics, and unlimited potential for power production if we move forward.

The key to new plant concepts and improvements in the areas listed above are found in the type of fuel and coolant that the nuclear reactor uses. Without fuel research, there will be little or no progress and what little that remains of the nuclear research ability in the US will be squandered.

We need Idaho to step up and welcome "spent" commercial fuel as well as to encourage research on fuel recycle (the recoverable fuel in the existing spent fuel is in the range of hundreds of billions of dollars worth of recoverable materials).

Ironically, if we do at least the fissile materials recovery from the spent commercial fuel, the resulting radioactive waste will be of no significant concern after about 1000 years. The isotopes of concern will have decayed to that of common dirt (maybe from Blaine County): because the isotopes of concern will have half-lives of about 30 years. We here in Idaho can take care of the spent fuel "problem" by turning it into a valuable resource. In addition, the natural outgrowth of expertise in fuels can help lead to the optimization of new and better plant designs --!

Opening the INL to fuels research is a smart first step. To not do so will make a lot of naysayers happy (temporarily) and ensure that meaningful research will go elsewhere - probably out of the US.

Thank you for your time and effort.

Richard Lindsay

Mr. Lon Stewart 4610 N Shirley Boise, ID 83703

(208) 841-3929 afreeeagle@yahoo.com I urge you to reject the recommendation of the Technology Subcommittee that INL become the pilot nuclear waste dump for this region or the country. The 1995 Settlement Agreement to ban future shipments of nuclear waste to Idaho needs to be honored. Nothing has changed in the short few years that could possibly call for a complete turnaround. No new technology exists to better contain waste. No new technology exists to reduce the half life of waste. The affects of climate change and population growth make the water in the Snake Plain Aquifer more precious now than at the time of the agreement, there are no guarantees that waste will not contaminate the aquifer. So much more of Idaho is dependent upon the water in the aquifer than INL sitting on top of it. Agriculture, including potatoes and dairy, and communities all downstream along the Snake River would be devastated if the water became contaminated with radioactivity.

The Settlement Agreement and the Superfund Agreement need to remain in place to protect the funding for ongoing cleanup created by decades of inappropriate and unknowing disposal of waste. Knowing the destructive toxic nature of this waste, why would we ever want to go back in time to accept this waste again? Haven't we learned? It is unacceptable to bring more nuclear waste to Idaho. Let's clean up the radioactive mess in Idaho so we can keep it clean.

INL's only future is not dependent on receiving more nuclear waste. INL is becoming a respected non-nuclear research facility in its own right. As one example, INL has partnered with the Idaho Universities to create the

Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) that has become a recognized research partnership and has some great success stories. I am sure INL has other similar research groups that are equally or more successful than CAES.

Because the LINE Commission's recommendations have such a large impact on the residents and State of Idaho that it is imperative that the public be allowed to participate in and have access to the LINE Commission's discussion to winnow down the recommendations passed on to the Governor.

Again, I urge you to reject the recommendation that INL become a repository for future nuclear waste.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Dr. Donald Allen 230 Hampton Ln Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 538-0626 drallen@mac.com I would like to voice my support of the INL and other efforts to support Nuclear technology within Idaho as outlined in the subcommittee's recommendations. Whether supplied by government supported facilities such as INL, or by private industry - the continued development of a wide range of energy technologies is critical for Idaho and our Nation. It makes good fiscal sense to continue to support an existing facility such as INL where facilities, trained personnel provide the lowest cost solution to continued activities.

Best regards,
Dr. Donald R. Allen

Mr. David Weimer 497 Jefferson Ave Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 221-8652 dweimer@ptius.net As an employee at Premier Technology I am well aware of the importance of the INL site to the local economy. I believe that nuclear energy is a viable and extremely important alternative to other energy sources, not only to Idaho, but to our nation. While working at Premier I have become aware of the many safety precautions taken in the nuclear industry world wide, and believe the risk to people and the environment are minimal.

Everybody in Idaho should be aware of the huge economical impact that the INL Site has on our economy, and should be supportive of any initiative to support and advance the Nuclear Energy industry in Idaho. It is important for the jobs that are created and to insure reliable energy sources in the future.

Mr. William Haas 830 Whittier #2 Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 709-2021 troublehaas69@msn.com To Whom it may concern; My name is Bill Haas, I am employed at Premier Technology as a Lead Machinist. I would like to take the time to thank the Line Commission for all the things they do and give my support for the recommendations that they have produced. This is very important for our companies continued opportunities and many others companies in the state of Idaho and the surrounding Regions. Good Luck with Everything you plan to do.

Best Regards;

Bill Haas
Weekend Machine Shop Lead
Premier Technology, Inc.
1858 W. Bridge Street
Blackfoot, Idaho 83221
Email: bhaas@ptius.net

Mr. Jim Windmiller 5385 E. Skidmore Dr. Idaho Falls, ID 83406

(208) 681-5472 windmiller@ida.net I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations. This is good for Idaho and it's people.

Jim Windmiller

Mr. James Mahar 1749 Granite Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 237-1829 mahajame@isu.edu
4 January 2012

Comments to the Idaho LINE Commission Subcommittee Recommendations, date December 3, 2012:

provided by:

James W. Mahar, PhD, LPG
(Senior Lecturer in the Departments of Civil Engineering and Geosciences at Idaho State University)

I have provide the following comments and suggestions as ways of making the report even more complete.

Page 21 - SEISMIC CONSIDERATIONS. Comparing the seismic response of a 6.9 magnitude earthquake at INL to the response of the 1989 San Francisco 6.9 magnitude earthquake is unrealistic and in my opinion sends the wrong message without clarification. The geologic conditions associated with damage beneath San Francisco which includes soft bay muds and stream deposited (alluvial) sands, silts and clays are much more sensitive to and magnify ground motions than the rocks in the Snake River Plain. If any comparison is made the difference in the geologic settings needs to be elucidated. I suggest removing the sentence: "In comparison, the 1989 earthquake in San Francisco with its considerable damage was also a 6.9 magnitude earthquake."

In the section on bullet points, I suggest the following:

"The most severe natural phenomena historically reported for the site and surrounding area. The NRC then adds a margin of safety to account for the limited historical data (such as the early 1800's earthquakes in the central United States that are estimated to have had magnitudes as high as 8.2)."

If the statement is correct, I would consider the following sentence opening the last paragraph:

The INL is also highly engaged in locating any existing faults, in monitoring seismic activity around the site and in performing seismic analyses of the nuclear waste facilities.

These comments are made by myself as a professional and in no way reflect the opinions or positions of Idaho State University.

Ms. Linda Keele P.O. Box 3067 Idaho Falls, ID 83403

(208) 528-0051 red@redinc.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations.

Thank you.

Dr. Jay Kunze 3488 Desert View Ct. Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 313-7395 kunzejay@isu.edu TO: The Idaho LINE Commission www.line.idaho.gov
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
700 West State Street
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0093

SUBJECT: Comments pertaining to the "Progress Report: Subcommittee Recommendations" dated December 3, 2012

Below I have drafted a paragraph which I recommend be inserted on page 10, as a bulleted item describing the ISU Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics Department, which is in the listed organizations on page 9. The parenthetical "(Research assets)" does not seem necessary or appropriate, since both the educational assets and research assets of that department are quite significant to the future of the INL and Idaho's nuclear energy future.

The Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics Department (NE/HP) provides education at the baccalaureate, masters, and PhD levels, and the research activities associated with the faculty, graduate students, as well as some seniors. The student population numbers over 180, with 55% as undergraduates and 45% aspiring for degrees at the masters or PhD level. ISU has the only operating university nuclear reactor in Idaho (or in Washington, Montana, or Wyoming). The reactor (an AGN-201) is used both for training and for research, and is licensed by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The ISU Nuclear Engineering Laboratory also contains a NRC-licensed subcritical assembly, used for education and training. Regarding health physics research and service activities, there are two laboratories, the Environmental Monitoring Lab, primarily serving under contract to the state's INL Oversight program, and the Environmental Assessment Laboratory, both with the ability to detect extremely low levels of radioactivity.

The above statement is obviously needed to complete the listing on page 9 and 10, and represents factual information about the Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics Department at ISU.

Sincerely,

Jay F. Kunze, PhD, PE, CHP
Chair and Professor of Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics, Idaho State University

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I appreciate the work your committee has performed and the Progress Report issued that summarizes the subcommittees' recommendations. I agree with the subcommittees' recommendations as a whole and hope that you will incorporate them into your final report.

Sincerely,
Bruce Hilton

Mr. Nathan Jerred 1502 Beverly Rd Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(605) 430-3304 Njerred@me.com I agree and support the subcommittee's recommendations

Dr. Jay Kunze 3488 Desert View Ct. Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 313-7395 kunzejay@isu.edu Comments to the Idaho LINE Commission Subcommittee Recommendations, date December 3, 2012:
provided by:

Jay F. Kunze, PhD, PE, CHP
(Chair and Professor of Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics at Idaho State University)

The following comments represent my personal opinions and are not necessarily those of Idaho State University.

General: I commend the writers of the report, for providing a very comprehensive and unbiased background (first 29 pages) and a set of recommendations that have been thoughtfully and capably prepared. I provide the following comments and suggestions as ways of making the report even more complete.

Page iii - Item 7, the reference to the Fukushima tsunami is relevant. I suggest starting the sentence as "Following the public perceptions of the nuclear impacts of the Fukushima tsunami ..."

My reason for the extra words are that the nuclear releases resulting from the Fukushima tsunami have not caused harm to anyone, even the worker who received the highest radiation dose. Low levels of radiation, even those from whole body C-T scans, are not only harmless, but definitely have health benefits. Quoting Dr. Theodore Rockwell, "Fukushima has shown that obsession with reducing harmless radiation doses has not led to greater safety, but has in fact led to an unprecedented amount of avoidable human suffering."

Page 11 - CAES - For accuracy, it would be appropriate to add, after the first sentence, "The facility was built by Idaho State University on ISU property, for the purpose of serving the recommendation made by the U.S. Department of Energy when it awarded the operating contract for the INL to Battelle Energy Associates."

Page 13 - Use of injection wells. I was a member of Gov. Evan's commission to investigate the environmental impacts of this well, which once was a water production well. Hence you might change the sentence to read: "1) use of a former water supply well as an injection well to dispose of solvents and other waste."

Page 17 - 4th paragraph, I suggest that it would be appropriate to underline "decreasing concentrations of below-limits contamination"

Page 20 - with reference to Transuranic (TRU) wastes: The table does clarify the definitions as used in the 1995 agreement. However, I am concerned that the fact that spent nuclear fuel contains TRU, and that is not part of the definition of TRU as used throughout the 1995 document. Is there a not-too-cumbersome way of making that clear?

Page 24 - top line, after "low cost of gas-fired generation" (add) "continued very low wholesale cost of electricity throughout the nation" and other issues. At these consistently low wholesale prices (3 to 3.5 cents per kWh) of electricity, not even the new highly efficient Gas-Turbine/Combined Cycle natural gas fired plants can make a profit (but the already amortized 104 nuclear plants can operate profitably!)

Page 26 - middle of first paragraph, it should be stated that - - - The method designed and constructed for storing the spent fuel in Yucca Mountain is such that the fuel can be retrieved at a later time to be reprocessed, so as to utilize much of the 93% of the nuclear energy that still remains in that fuel.

Page 28 - U.S.-owned companies once had the leadership role in nuclear power utilization, but the buying up of these assets by foreign companies is one of the saddest situations that have occurred in the last 20 years. (You cannot stress this enough !)

Somewhere, whether on Page 28 or elsewhere, I feel that the statement should be made that:

The INL once led the world in fast reactor development, with the EBR-II reactor and its associated Integral Fast Reactor fuel reprocessing and reuse concept. Currently, the USA has about one million tons of depleted uranium "tails" from the three uranium enrichment plants that the U.S. government once operated. If fast reactor technology were to be employed on a major scale, this enormous stockpile of low enriched uranium could supply all (not just the current 20%) of the electricity, that the USA now produces, for a period of about 1500 years. Under such a scenario the U.S. would not have to mine or purchase any new uranium ore, nor operate any uranium enrichment plants during that 1500 years.

Page 35 - Perhaps just before the listing of "Technology: Current and Future" it would be appropriate to note that the State continues to financially support the research role of the CAES facility in Idaho Falls.

Page 44 - Item 11 - Is this intended to refer only to Idaho, or to the entire nation? Either (both) is correct, but it might be clarified.

There are two major recommendations that I propose:

Page 34, as part of item 8, or as part of the table on page 36, add -
Underground siting of nuclear power plants has been discussed and planned since the inception of the industry. The first nuclear power plants in the USSR were sited underground. Advances in underground excavation/support methods in the last two decades have vastly reduced the time and cost of such applications. This development makes underground siting of nuclear plants appropriate from safety and security considerations, and also significantly reduces the capital cost of overall construction. The caveat is that this concept needs to be for underground nuclear parks, producing many thousands of megawatts of electricity, plus the associated reprocessing, waste storage facilities, and decommissioning activities are included in the overall design. (Numerous references can be provided.)

As a recommendation to be added on page 37 through page 40 -
The Subcommittee notes that the long-accepted theories on the health effects of low levels of ionizing radiation have been scientifically challenged over the last three decades. Particularly pertinent is the special session held by the outgoing president of the American Nuclear Society at its annual meeting in June 2012. Basically, the demographic evidence shows that the extremely conservative approach to low levels of radiation is not only costly and unwarranted, but is scientifically false. These traditional paradigms have created unwarranted fear of radiation not only in the minds of the public and the media, but also in the professionals in the nuclear industry, including the medical professionals utilizing radiation for diagnostic purposes. The State of Idaho, in cooperation with the INL, can take a lead in dismissing the current false paradigm(s) with an appropriate paradigm that will greatly enhance public acceptance of nuclear power as well as vastly reducing the unnecessary regulatory costs. There is adequate scientific evidence to support this change, but additional research would not be inappropriate.

(Note to the Commission pertaining to the health effects issue - I will gladly provide the appropriate documentation covering the last three decades of scientific literature. Most relevant to the current activity is the 197 page "President's Special Session: Low-Level Radiation and Its Implications for Fukushima Recovery" (June 2012) published by the American Nuclear Society. I have an additional copy available personally that I can supply to the Commission, and other copies can be obtained free, paying only postage, from the American

Nuclear Society, Chicago IL, 708-352-6611. Other major organizations that have recognized the fallaciousness of the current paradigms are the Health Physics Society, the Society of Nuclear Medicine, and the nuclear regulatory agency of France.)

Mr. Kevin Lundquist 428 North 4100 East Rigby, ID Idaho

(208) 745-8902 lundks@msn.com I want to express my support for your work concerning Nuclear Waste. I believe that you are making good decisions and recommendations, specifically on the possibility of studying the storage of spent nuclear fuel in Idaho. I have worked with nuclear waste for over 28 years, so I know a little bit about the subject. Thanks for your good work.

Mr. Lane Allgood 466 7th st idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 313-4166 lallgood@p-s-t.org Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission

c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

Mrs. Machell Bergeman 3351 Creekside Dr. Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 521-4340 mbergeman@leisurecare.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations. Thank you.

Mr. Steve VanZandt 1800 N. Cole Rd. Apt C-208 Boise, ID 83704

(208) 377-0268 vanzandt@filertel.com The following are my comments on the Line Commission recommendations:

1. Question - What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Comment: First of all, the INL and Idaho's leaders need to come to the realization that nuclear power probably does not have a bright future as either a clean energy technology or a market-competitive way to generate electricity. In light of the recent discoveries of natural gas and other petroleum reserves in America, nuclear power appears to be even less viable in this country.

That being said, there may be minor niches to be filled by commercial nuclear reactors and the INL should focus on those technologies rather than any anticipated renaissance of nuclear power which at least in this country does not seem realistic. I have real doubts about exporting nuclear technologies also and don't think INL should hang its hat on that prospect either.

I believe the wording of Question 1 should be changed to "energy industry" so that INL starts thinking out of the box and looking beyond nuclear.

Certainly, INL should continue to support some military nuclear applications such as naval reactors which may make strategic sense.

2. In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Comment: In my opinion, the signators of the Settlement Agreement need to make every attempt to keep their promises. The Idaho legislative delegation as well as all parties concerned need to make sure the funding is made available and stress that as a priority.

The INL needs to take a hard look at its research focus in view of the current bleak outlook for the nuclear power industry and see if it can use its wonderful onboard talent and experience to develop other technologies. As a tax payer, I don't want the government supporting technologies which have little promise.

3. What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigation steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future application of nuclear technology in Idaho?

Comment: We all know there are broad environmental and public health risks associated with nuclear materials. Why else would we Idahoans be so concerned about contamination to our air, land and water?

On page 25 of the Line Commission Report (Report) under Energy Security, "Negative Public Perception post-Fukushima" is listed as a disadvantage. Was it merely public perception that there was a real meltdown of several cores and huge area in Japan is now evacuated and poses continued contamination risks? Nowhere in the list of disadvantages is there acknowledgement that nuclear reactors and associated spent fuel storage pose real environmental dangers. It is not just a misperception by the public.

The risks and problems associated with nuclear reactors and nuclear wastes are manifold. Accidents may not be common but when they occur they are catastrophic and the after affects are long lived. How can anyone provide for the safekeeping of material which does not degrade for tens of thousands of years? Few people want nuclear wastes stored in their backyards and that goes for most Idahoans.

4. Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Comment: INL needs to not only look to nuclear technologies but others as well. Think Green! That's where the future is.

5. Given the Blue Ribbon Commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interest to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Comment: The Agreement needs to be adhered to and no "opportunity" should include Idaho accepting any wastes beyond what was stipulated in the Agreement.

6. How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

Comment: Idaho's universities should focus on the educational needs of a market-based economy. While there are continuing needs for nuclear industry scientists, engineers and operators, the educational institutions should be undertaking research in areas such as waste reduction, safe storage, nuclear medicine, essential military applications, etc. Gearing up to support a nuclear renaissance is beating a dead horse, in my opinion. The faculty at our universities should also be thinking creatively to develop alternative energy technologies such as more efficient solar power systems and better batteries. The cyber security contingent at INL has been making a name for itself lately. Let's support that.

7. Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Comment: Fukushima was not a tsunami. A tsunami hit Fukushima and caused multiple nuclear meltdowns and widespread nuclear radiation releases. It was a nuclear disaster of the first order and should not be spoken about euphemistically. Just like the newly discovered natural gas reservoirs in America, Fukushima is having a market-based impact on the nuclear industry. People are realizing that nuclear power plants can be dangerous and are less eager to accept them. The market is saying "No". Even Japan has announced a phase-out of nuclear power although the new administration is reconsidering.

My view is that INL needs to do what any smart person does when his job is threatened: Hone skills and stay flexible. And look to other opportunities and other technologies to fill the gap. The future does not look bright for the civilian nuclear power industry unless some radical new breakthrough is forthcoming.

Final Remarks: In my opinion, Idaho should not modify or abrogate the original Settlement Agreement or accept wastes beyond what was negotiated.

Sincerely, Steve VanZandt

Mr. Melvin Cromwell 1675 Pederson Street Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 523-7030 mcromwell@intermechinc.com I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations

Mrs. Teri Ehresman 1711 Claremont Lane Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 521-9882 Tlehre@aol.com As a lifelong resident of Idaho, an Idaho property owner, wife, mother and grandmother, I would like to give my complete support for the LINE Commission and the recommendations presented. The Idaho National Laboratory is a unique gem in our state and one that must be preserved. I know many of the researchers at the INL and they are the experts in the nuclear energy field. They came to Idaho because of the unique research opportunities afforded them at the INL. Idaho needs to unanimously support this research so these quality people do not take their expertise to laboratories in other states. Idaho's research capabilities are unmatched in the US and there is an important research role INL most continue to plan to secure the country's energy future and can play to help conduct back the fuel cycle research as identified in the BRC research recommendations. These technical experts love Idaho and they love their research. What a win-win situation for Idaho and the INL. They will protect the Idaho we love because safety is always on their minds. Their families live here as well, and they want to make sure to protect their environment as they safely do the research. Please understand how important the INL is to the entire state of Idaho and to the nation and the world. We must continue this research and IDAHO is the right place to do it.

Keep up the good work and know the my family and I support you in this work.

Teri Ehresman
Idaho Falls, Idaho

Ms. Cary Hart 394 10th St Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 542-5266 cary@comdesigns.com I strongly agree with the subcommittee's recommendations regarding the important strategic role that the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future, as well as in Idaho's future. Idaho would be devastated economically without continued funding for INL and without INL's influence, our schools and citizens will continue to fall further and further behind.

Furthermore, I'm shocked that people don't get that global warming is happening now, and the probability of massive wide-spread species die-off, rampant famine, disease and death is assured unless we stop adding CO2 to our atmosphere through traditional forms of power generation. Nuclear energy has to be an option, if only to maintain our current levels of 18-20% electricity production via nuclear and reduce the current and future number of CO2 generating power plants. The risks associated with managing nuclear waste and a potential nuclear accident are a tiny fraction of those associated with the global warming, which may already be unstoppable.

Our planet needs Idaho National Laboratory to continue its work to provide our planet with a potential part of the solution for slowing down global warming. All options must continue to be explored. Finally, if not Idaho, then where? Idaho is the perfect geographic location for pursuing this nuclear energy research. We have the infrastructure, body of knowledge/memory, and the workforce in place.

Mr. David Howe 540 Clifford St. Blackfoot, ID 83221

(208) 380-0468 dhowe@ptius.net I support nuclear work and growth in Idaho. It is vital to our workforce and economy.

Ms. Pamela Williams 2418 Jean St. Boise, ID 83705

(208) 342-2423 blackdogx2@clear.net After reading the progress report and recommendations, I am very disappointed. The focus is on the short-term monetary advantages with a very strong bias to understating the risks. Any accident or oversight in a nuclear environment, regardless of how "minor," is significant. There is a huge risk to both nearby and far-flung populations due to wind currents and toxic plumes. Why doesn't the progress report even mention the possibility of toxic releases other than in an earthquake? Has no one heard of human error?

Unfortunately, Idaho seems to embrace the concept of ignore-it-now and pay-for-it-later. Look at mining and the toxic and wasteful practices of agriculture. For political leadership that is rabidly anti-government, it is the epitome of hypocrisy to allow these problems to develop and then demand federal dollars to fix them. This, I'm afraid, is the future of nuclear development in Idaho. Lip service to protecting the population and the environment while selling out both.

Nuclear development is a bad, bad, bad way to go, and the progress report and recommendations are woefully inadequate. I believe in the precautionary principle, and I believe there are more benevolent technologies that Idaho could pursue. Nuclear puts everyone at risk.

Mr. Jackie Flowers PO Box 52265 Idaho Falls, ID 83405

(208) 521-4541 jackieflowers@cableone.net Dear Chairman Sayer & Member of the LINE Commission:

I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report. What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy. INL can play to secure the country's energy future and can help conduct back of the fuel cycle research as identified in the Blue ribbon Commission's recommendations.

I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as

well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Without strong support from the Governor's office and the Idaho State Legislature it will be difficult to attract new work (and possibility continue existing missions) at the INL.

The State should recognize the economic impact that the Idaho National Laboratory (a \$3.5 billion industry in Idaho) has on the entire State and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing that industry. We need to promote these capabilities as "regional" assets to Wyoming, Utah, Montana, etc. to help build strength in the INL/CAES mission and hopefully be a catalyst to other partnerships - including private sector in neighboring states.

The State also needs to protect the relationship it has with the U.S. Navy. If the Navy has a desire to continue their mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, then Idaho should work to ensure that it has the tools and support needed to continue their activities at both the Naval Research Facility and their research at INL.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the State should be very focused on. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement (such as Small Modular Reactors) and finding ways to be the demonstration and R&D state for this technology.

If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should to gain benefit beyond the limited financial penalties of the agreement. Consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for milestones remaining to be completed.

To ensure INL's valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline

that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Although INL's interest is focused on conducting research that would involve bringing small amounts of research materials, recognize this is not the same as interim storage. However there may be interest in Idaho outside the boundaries of INL. Regarding interest outside INL, Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing interim storage. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored - a feasibility study should be commissioned. The state should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

The State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission "consent based" siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.

The existing workforce and workforce development training programs provide an advantage to the State in recruiting private sector opportunities. The State should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho's position as a nuclear energy lead. Perhaps some funding through IGEM could be used for research and development as well continuing to support these programs. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Currently nuclear power supplies almost 20% of the nation's electrical power supply. EPRI reports demonstrate that an "all of the above" energy strategy is necessary. There is no one resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.

The U.S. Department of Energy projects that US electricity demand will rise 22 percent by 2035, about one percent each year. That means our nation will need hundreds of new power plants to provide electricity for our homes and continued economic growth. Maintaining nuclear energy's current 20 percent share of generation would require building one reactor every year starting in 2016 or 20 to 25 new units by 2035, based on DOE forecasts. If decommissioning of coal plants continue as projected, it is believable that nuclear (a baseload emission free resource) will have to provide for more than 20 percent of the generation.

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.

Mr. L Riepl 10345 Treeline Boise, ID 83704

(208) 378-8055 jrboise23@gmail.com In answer to the seven questions highlighted in the progress report, I would humbly submit the following.

1) An appropriate strategic role for INL relative to the nation's energy future would be as a primary system integrator and test bed. The federal government has invested billions of dollars creating sophisticated nuclear energy research infrastructure in Idaho that the nation cannot afford to recreate or relocate somewhere else. Because of that, requisite research, development and scale-up work in the nuclear energy field can most efficiently be done in Idaho - at INL. And there is simply no other institution in the nation with a more proven legacy of taking disparate pieces and parts and integrating them in an end product that is far more capable than the sum of its parts would suggest. These strategic roles are key to maintaining and broadening the energy diversity and security of the nation.

2) INL, like all federally funded institutions, will face reduced funding profiles for years to come. The "pie" is shrinking for everyone. As at least three other states have stepped forward to express a willingness to take on various expanded nuclear energy development and staging roles, Idaho's failure to similarly step forward threatens the continued existence of INL.

3) Risks related to nuclear energy are well-known and highly manageable. Adequately protective practices and protocols are already in place.

4) It's somewhat hard to say for a certainty where nuclear energy is going, but it's safe and appropriate to say that the nation's current fleet isn't going anywhere anytime soon - and that new reactors are being built, with new, smaller reactors on the way. It is also safe to hope that prudent policymakers will see the great advantages of encouraging the development of hybrid energy systems that seek to leverage the best attributes, while managing or minimizing the downsides of ALL energy sources. Developing these hybrid systems is a sensible and fitting role for INL and Idaho's broader nuclear industry - based on well-demonstrated legacy system integration skills and distinctive capabilities.

5) The Settlement Agreement was well- and thoughtfully crafted in its time. It did not and could not foresee every technological and political development that would arise in the future. Because of that, it is both reasonable and rational to take a dispassionate look at whether certain date-specific aspects should be revisited. Such a move would not eviscerate the agreement - rather, it would simply make certain it is in reasonable form for current-day realities.

6) Idaho's universities have essential roles to play. They need to be encouraged and equipped (through more adequate state funding) to pursue more nuclear and general energy research themselves. Such actions would strengthen Idaho's overall competitive position for more such research in the future - whether that would be funded by government, industry or foreign energy concerns.

7) Nuclear will have to play a key role in the nation's energy future for many decades to come. Over-reliance on a single "flavor of the day" energy source does the nation no favors. Right now, natural gas is the low-cost, low-hanging energy source of choice. Wind, with recently renewed federal subsidies, is also very popular. But, as the President has made clear, it is the policy of the United States to pursue an "all of the above" energy portfolio - and that includes nuclear. The latest 2013 EIA Energy Outlook shows nuclear as a key electricity generating source through 2040. Idaho being very openly and consistently supportive of nuclear energy in general and INL more specifically will go a long way toward ensuring long-term relevance of its national laboratory.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

Mr. Gary Richardson 746 Santa Paula Ct BOISE, ID 83712

(208) 336-2128 garyerichardson@gmail.com I fully endorse the comments filed on behalf of the Snake River Alliance: Idaho's Nuclear Watchdog. Under no condition should ANY additional spent nuclear fuel be brought into Idaho beyond that agreed to in the 1995 "governor's" agreement.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Mr. Derek Moss 611 N. 11th Ave Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 221-2104 derek_mss@yahoo.com I support continued expansion of nuclear research at the Idaho National Laboratory.

Dr. James Lake PO Box 144 Sun Valley, ID 83353-0144

(208) 622-1628 james.lake@cox.net I strongly support the draft recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Leadership in Nuclear Energy. The national leadership responsibilities of the Idaho National Laboratory are critically important to the Nation and to the state of Idaho, particularly as the centerpiece of a strategy to develop and exploit high-technology science and engineering industries that can help grow Idaho's economy in the future. The enormous economic impact of INL's activities (24,000 direct and indirect jobs and \$3.5 billion in overall economic impact) is critically important to Idaho's future. Idaho cannot prosper in the future with a strictly agricultural and ranching industry base, and nuclear related industries like the planned AREVA enrichment plant are excellent examples of the growth of high technology, nuclear related jobs in Idaho that are associated with INL technologies and capabilities.

The Commission Draft Report lays out a number of positive steps the State can and should take, including flexibility in the management and execution of the Settlement Agreement to encourage and enable the INL R&D mission, to do its part in assuring a healthy environment for INL to grow and conduct its mission.

James A. Lake, PhD

past President of the American Nuclear Society retired Associate Laboratory Director for Nuclear Programs at INL

Mrs. Trina Pollman 1425 Higham St Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 360-2621 tpollman@northwindgrp.com I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

Dear Chairman Sayer & Members of the Commission -

Thank you for your time on this important matter. As Idaho looks to economic develop and recovery, we need leadership on this important topic. The work at INL is a \$3.5 billion industry in Idaho - that affects the entire state of Idaho. We should give this the same attention and focus we would give any \$3.5 billion industry in our state! We cannot afford to take what we have for granted at this time. We are the leaders in nuclear energy. We have the workforce expertise, the infrastructure capabilities, and work force training and research and development expertise through higher education that is second to none. We must be ready to build off of

that historic investment and continue to lead in future nuclear mission. It is time for the state to devote resources to developing future opportunity..

Furthermore, we need to promote all Idaho capabilities as “regional” assets to Wyoming, Utah, Montana, etc. to help build strength in the INL/CAES mission and hopefully be a catalyst to other partnerships – including private sector in neighboring states.

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric.

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the State should be very focused on. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement (such as Small Modular Reactors) and finding ways to be the demonstration and R&D state for this technology. If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states. Lets devote resources and get serious!

Idaho’s Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed.

To ensure INL’s valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing all mission, including potential interim storage. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored. The State should identify a business model that most benefits the State in a private sector opportunity - lets think of negotiating terms and requirements that benefit Idahoans for the long term. We retain control, if the benefits don't meet our demands, we decide where to go next. Lets demonstrate leadership on this issue, let's open the door to studies and new forward thinking dialog. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

There are numerous electric industry reports that capture future energy demands and need for development of all resources to meet those demands. We need nuclear - emission free baseload to continue to grow our economy in this Country, particularly as we contemplate decommissioning significant megawatt coal plant generation. We need safe and secure nuclear generation for our future and future generations. Idaho should lead!

I support the draft recommendations of the LINE Commission report and encourage the Governor and Legislature to act on the recommendations.

Michael Spears
PO Box 2195
Idaho Falls ID 83403

Mr. Colin Hart 394 10 Street Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 520-7042 me@colin-hart.com I strongly agree with the subcommittee's recommendations regarding the important strategic role that the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future, as well as in Idaho's future. Idaho would be devastated economically without continued funding for INL and without INL's influence, our schools and citizens will continue to fall further and further behind.

Our planet needs Idaho National Laboratory to continue its work to provide our planet with a potential part of the solution for slowing down global warming. All options must continue to be explored. Finally, if not Idaho, then where? Idaho is the perfect geographic location for pursuing this nuclear energy research. We have the infrastructure, body of knowledge/memory, and the workforce in place.

Mr. Robert Hoover 1901 S. 4th Ave Apt 25 Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 301-4469 tbor13@hotmail.com Dear Chairman Sayer:
I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

Mr. Michael Spears PO Box 2195 Idaho Falls, ID 83403

(208) 851-1140 theplumberllc@yahoo.com

Dear Chairman Sayer & Members of the Commission,

Thank you for your time on this important matter. As Idaho looks to economic development and recovery, we need leadership on this important topic. The work at INL is a \$3.5 billion industry in Idaho - that affects the entire state of Idaho. We should give this the same attention and focus that we would give any \$3.5 billion industry in our state! We cannot afford to take what we have for granted at this time. We are the leaders in nuclear energy. We have the workforce expertise, the infrastructure capabilities, and work force training and research and development expertise through higher education that is second to none. We must be ready to build off of that historic investment and continue to lead in future nuclear mission. It is time for the State to devote resources to developing future opportunity.

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear material and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric.

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well as opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting these opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the State should be very focused on. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement and leading the demonstration and development for this technology. If Idaho as a State does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other more aggressive states. Let's devote resources and get serious!

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this State can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed.

To ensure INL's valuable designation as the nation's leading nuclear lab is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today, bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the State, ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense, and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The State should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing all missions. The State should have a seat at the table and work to promote private sector interests, including willingness to explore different business models that most benefit the State as opportunities are developed and explored. Let's demonstrate leadership on this issue, let's open the door to studies and new forward thinking dialog. As a State, retain control, if the benefits don't meet our demands, we decide where to go next. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and continue to build the nuclear industry in Idaho. Let's continue what we have started with opening the door to Areva and other private sector opportunities.

There are numerous electric industry reports that capture future energy demands and need for development of all resources to meet those demands. We need nuclear energy - emission free baseload energy - to continue to grow our economy in this Country, particularly as we look to taking coal plants off line. We need safe and secure nuclear generation for our future and future generations. Idaho should lead!

As a native eastern Idahoan, I support the draft recommendations of the LINE Commission report and encourage the Governor and Legislature to act on the recommendations.

Mr. Dutton McCauley 5333 So 45 E Idaho Falls Id 83406 Idaho Falls, ID 83406

(208) 680-1400 dmccauley@ptius.net I do support your Recommendations

Dr. Supathorn Phongikaroon 744 11th Street Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 716-3110 Supathorn_p@hotmail.com To whom it may concern,

I agreed with the subcommittee's recommendation. I think the nuclear science and technology are vital for the state of Idaho and especially Idaho Falls not only for the energy concern but future paths in sustainable energy and education. Without nuclear theme, knowledge will be lost and our future will not be in the envisioned path toward renewable energy.

Sincerely,

Supathorn

Dr. Roger Mayes 307 Homestead Lane Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 524-7091 mayerroger@gmail.com January 4, 2013

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093
Dear Chairman Sayer:

Comments are provided regarding the seven issues identified in the Draft LINE Commission report dated December 3, 2012:

1. The experience and knowledge amassed by researchers and staff at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) during its long history of nuclear (and other energy) research is a national asset and treasure that needs to continue to be utilized to address difficult energy-related issues for the country. In particular, as the nation's lead nuclear research lab for the Department of Energy (DOE), the INL should continue to conduct critical research in areas such as nuclear fuels development, nuclear safety, and the back-end of the fuel cycle, including recycling of used nuclear fuel and methods of storage. The unique experience, infrastructure and secure, remote location of the INL also make it well-suited as a site for a new, advanced-concept reactor (e.g., one of the proposed designs for a small modular reactor). The Advanced Test Reactor and proposed upgrade and restart of the TREAT Reactor provide unparalleled capabilities in materials research and testing. Current programs in cyber security and infrastructure protection should also be continued to contribute to more secure energy infrastructure systems. The INL also makes vital contributions in other energy-related areas such as wind, biofuels, and advanced vehicle testing to name just a few. Some of the clean-up and radioactive waste treatment technologies utilized in remediation programs at the INL are also applicable to other sites. In addition, other companies in the state (some spinoffs from the INL) provide capabilities in research, consulting, manufacturing and isotope production that also that are unmatched elsewhere in the country. The State of Idaho must increase its efforts to support and advocate for continuation of these programs and more openly acknowledge the economic and strategic importance of these industries, not only to southeastern Idaho, but to the rest of the State and the nation.
2. There will continue to be pressure on DOE and other Federal budgets in coming years, and there will be increased competition among National Laboratories for these shrinking funds. Without increased support from the Governor's office and the State Legislature (and each member of our Congressional delegation) the INL stands to lose funding for existing programs, risk obtaining funding for new programs in the future, and the possibility even exists of terminating the Lab. This would have a tremendous economic impact on the entire State. The Governor's office, State legislators, and other State agencies (Commerce?, Labor?) need to be stronger, more visible advocates for the INL (and other energy-related industries) with the DOE, other Federal agencies (e.g., the Nuclear Regulatory Commission), and the U.S. Navy (whose Naval Reactors Facility at the INL still provides many jobs). The Governor's office or the Department of Commerce should consider developing programs, policies, and personnel that can actively promote Idaho's nuclear capabilities in ways similar to the promotion of other Idaho industries (e.g., high tech, famous potatoes, etc.)
3. Standards and practices employed at the beginning of the nuclear age resulted in environmental degradation and contamination at the INL and other DOE sites that were unacceptable. The site clean-up contractors have made great progress in removing no longer needed facilities, remediating contaminated areas and shipping waste off-site as required by the 1995 Settlement Agreement and other requirements. As regulations, standards, knowledge and instrumentation applicable to nuclear industries evolved over many years, operating principles and practices at nuclear facilities also evolved. Today, operations at the INL and other sites are conducted in compliance with applicable regulations and result in projects and programs that are safe for workers and that protect the environment. The INL and clean-up contractors operate a variety of waste management and processing facilities (including dry cask storage of used nuclear fuel), nuclear reactors, hot cells and post-irradiation examination facilities, plus many nuclear and non-nuclear research buildings. All of these operate in compliance with all applicable regulations and requirements, whether Federal, State, or local. These operations are routinely reviewed by regulators. The INL has a long-standing environmental monitoring program (including off-site sampling locations) and of course the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality conducts an INL Oversight program as well. These activities demonstrate that INL environmental impacts are minimal, are in compliance with regulations, and are protecting the Eastern Snake River Plain aquifer. Any proposed new facilities or major programs would be subject to INL and DOE review requirements, including the National Environmental Policy Act, and any other applicable Federal or State permit reviews (which also provide opportunities for public review and comment). INL and other nuclear industries operate as safely (if not more) than other industries such as mining, logging, agriculture and manufacturing. The State of Idaho should take a more active role in publicly acknowledging the safe and environmentally protective operations that are conducted at the INL site.

4. Although the growth predicted for the commercial nuclear industry a few years ago has slowed (partially due to extremely low natural gas prices afforded by the controversial process of hydraulic fracturing), the latest projections from the Energy Information Administration still show nuclear contributing 17% of our country's electricity production in 2040. There will be a continued need for research programs in life extension of current plants, and in development of new technologies to make nuclear power more economically competitive (more efficient fuels, advanced reactor concepts, small modular reactors, better waste storage and recycling, etc.). These are the types of research being conducted or proposed for the INL. And as we move toward a greater understanding of the need to decrease our use of carbon-emitting fuels, more people will conclude that the most reliable means of producing carbon-free baseload power is through nuclear generation. Thus the need to advance nuclear research and technologies will be even more important. The State of Idaho needs to be more proactive in demonstrating the value of the INL in meeting critical future energy needs of the country. Other states with similar research facilities and capabilities appear to be more aggressive in promoting those facilities and trying to attract new programs and industry.

5. The 1995 Settlement Agreement has been a very successful instrument for defining and tracking the progress of remediation and treatment and off-site disposal of wastes from the INL. The vast majority of the milestones have been met as the DOE and its contractors have shown good faith in implementing (and funding) the terms of the Agreement. The State should recognize that good faith and tremendous progress, and if technological or funding difficulties cause milestones to be not be met, the State should be willing to negotiate reasonable terms that are in the best interests of the State and DOE. Given the status of our nation's high level waste and spent nuclear fuel disposal program, the Settlement Agreement should not be used to restrict the INL's ability to conduct research and interim storage demonstration projects (even if that means allowing the limits of the Agreement to be re-negotiated) that are needed to help solve this national problem. The State should remain engaged in discussions suggested by the Blue Ribbon Commission and be open to ideas that may not be supported by the anti-nuclear everything groups but that nevertheless may be in the best interests of the citizens of Idaho and the nation.

6. Idaho's educational institutions are currently engaged in INL research programs through internships, joint research projects with INL researchers (some funded through the Nuclear Energy University Program), INL staff serving on students' research committees, INL staff having joint appointments with universities, etc. The Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) is a wonderfully successful example of the cooperation of Idaho's three research universities with the INL. State funding for some CAES programs has been essential. In addition, Eastern Idaho Technical College and ISU's Energy Systems Technology & Education Center provide a workforce specifically trained to fill certain INL positions. Many students in these programs are from southeastern Idaho and would like to remain in the area to raise their families, but that means there must be jobs here when they complete their education or training programs. State funding for CAES and advocacy for INL and other nuclear industry jobs will help keep those students in Idaho for rewarding careers.

7. The U.S. nuclear industry has spent a good deal of effort (time and money) in evaluating and learning from the Fukushima-Daiichi accident and has already begun to implement Nuclear Regulatory Commission recommendations to further enhance the safety margin of its operating reactors. While currently low natural gas prices have slowed the projected growth of the commercial nuclear industry, utilities still have great interest in expanding. Five reactors are in some stage of construction in this country and many more worldwide. Many currently operating reactors have received or are applying for additional 20-year licenses and others are in the process of uprating (increasing capacity). Our country's electricity demand will continue to grow and nuclear generation will continue to be a carbon-free source to meet part of that demand. These actions ensure that there will be a vibrant nuclear industry for years to come. There will also continue to be a need for continued research in many areas (effect of radiation on materials as plants age, more robust and efficient fuels, advanced reactors that minimize waste generation, used fuel storage or recycling, enhanced plant security, replacement of analog with digital instrumentation and controls). The INL (along with clean-up contractors and other industries in the State) has facilities, personnel and experience that should enable it to continue in its role as DOE's lead nuclear lab well into the future. However, as federal budgets for research and development are likely to be reduced, it will be harder and harder for INL to maintain that role (and with it well-paying jobs) in the face of increasing competition for those shrinking funds. Therefore, it is imperative that the State of Idaho helps promote the capabilities of the INL and expands its effort to attract nuclear projects and industry to the State.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. I strongly support the efforts of the Commission to further the much needed conversation about nuclear technology within the State of Idaho and I encourage you in your efforts to consider all pertinent comments before making your final recommendations to the Governor.

Roger Mayes, Ph. D
Idaho American Nuclear Society (Vice Chair/Chair Elect) Partnership for Science & Technology

Mr. Mike Field 3673 S. Basilica Way Meridian, ID 83642

(208) 867-2004 mikeacefield@gmail.com I have worked with and been around the Idaho National Laboratroy for the past 35 years. They are one of Idaho's great success stories. We are fortunata that past Governor's and Federal Elected Officials have been able to work in a proactive and possitive way with leaders at the Lab. Not only has the Lab been a leader world wide in nuclear power but the INL researches have worked on a multitude of projects in multiple areas of benefit to the citizens of Idaho. These projects have allowed for the transfer of technology to business and industry not only in Idaho but nationwide. I have witnessed INL's committed to rural commuities in our state as ell. The people of Idaho are better for having this incredible resource in our state and the value to the citizens will only increase over time. I hope our leaders will continue to support INL. It a resourse we cannot afford to loose. Mike Field

Mr. Dave Ferrin 488 Delbert Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 521-9591 davalv@cableone.net I agree with the subcommittee's recomendations.

Mr. Mark Holbrook 5299 Shadow Creek Rd Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 351-9858 mrholbrook30@hotmail.com I strongly endorse the Subcommittee recommendations and would like to emphasize the following points:

1. The INL is DOE's lead research laboratory for nuclear energy research and is key to helping to secure the country's energy future and to conduct fuel cycle research as identified in the Blue ribbon Commission's recommendations.
2. The Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) is a national key assess and the State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future.
3. The State should recognize the economic impact that the INL has on the entire State and to take actions to invest in promoting the nuclear industry and to be a catalyst to other partnerships- including private sector in neighboring states.
4. I believe that the INL can execute it's various missions in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health.
5. Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL Such as Small Modular Reactors) as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities.
6. I believe that the Settlement Agreement has be good for the State, but also understand that it should be reviewed to ensure that it supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

7. I strongly agree that the State should be open to those that would pursue interim storage outside the INL.
8. I also strongly support efforts to increase the existing coordination between several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.
9. Nuclear power is our only non-CO2 emitting source of base load electricity. It is an absolutely fundamental part of our energy mix. There is no one resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.
10. Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.
-

Mr. James Clovis 1020 E. Washington St. Boise, ID 83712

(208) 921-3876 JayClovis1@u.boisestate.edu Depending on nuclear energy for economic growth is not a feasible plan, and can crate harmful consequences for the citizens of Idaho. As mentioned in the LINE Commission's recommendations, there has not been a new nuclear reactor built in America in decades. This is a result of the extremely large cost required to build these reactors. Recent projects have been delayed and gone largely over budget, such as the Olkiluoto Plant in Finland which is six years behind schedule in its construction. The two plants proposed in Georgia are already facing delays and legal difficulties. With each nuclear reactor taking many years to complete, we cannot rely on this energy source to reduce the dangerous effects of climate change in a timely manner.

It is also not responsible to view nuclear energy as an economic savior when the industry has only been able to survive through extensive government subsidies. Beginning in the 1950's, government subsidies have been crucial to the construction and maintenance nuclear reactors in the United States. The owners of these plants are also only held responsible for a small portion of the damages that would result if a disaster occurred. So, for generations taxpayers have been forced to bankroll this industry which would never exist if it had to provide for itself. These subsidies are often worth more than the value of the energy produced by the nuclear plants they go to support.

Coupled with the nuclear industry's lack of economic future, the waste nuclear energy creates is extremely harmful. Idahoans have already experienced the damaging effects of nuclear waste through the poisoning of the Snake River Aquifer. The irresponsible actions of past decades have greatly harmed the eastern Idaho landscape, as cleanup efforts have yet to be completed. It would be extremely detrimental to the people of Idaho to accept more nuclear waste into the state, and insulting to those who made their voices heard in the 1995 settlement agreement.

There is no plan for a permanent geological repository for nuclear waste in the United States. As a result of the huge costs associated with building these geological repositories it is likely that the federal government would be more than content to let any waste accepted into Idaho for temporary storage stay here permanently. Allowing the INL to become a "Pilot US Regional Interim Storage Facility" would likely result in permanent storage. Overturning the 1995 settlement agreement by threatening the livelihood of those working at the Idaho National Laboratory is not a legitimate form of consent - it is coercion. The citizens of Idaho have already voiced their opinion on nuclear waste in their state. We value our health and the health of the environment over an economic pipe dream which has no basis in reality.

Mr. Ammon Williams 414 Energy Dr. #2 Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 569-5578 will1713@vandals.uidaho.edu To whom it may concern,

I am a PhD student at the University of Idaho in Idaho Falls and my area of study is nuclear engineering. Much of the research opportunities and funding to the Idaho Falls campus comes from the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). My funding comes through an INL program. Also, I work at the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) which is a partnership between the INL, Idaho State University, Boise State University, and the University of Idaho. INL is an important member of this partnership. The INL provides great educational opportunities directly through CAES and the other universities. Taking the INL out of the picture would impact higher education in Idaho.

In addition, the INL provides jobs to highly educated and trained citizens of Idaho. Without the INL, these educated and trained individuals would be forced to seek employment elsewhere, at Idaho's loss.

I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and feel that with the governors support INL funding will continue to enrich Idaho.

Ammon Williams
Graduate Research Assistant
University of Idaho in Idaho Falls

Mr. Stephen Poulsen 1164 Saddleback Ridge Court Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 535-8305 steve@eiradio.com Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

This effort is extremely important to all of Idaho and especially East Idaho.

Sincerely,

Stephen Poulsen

Mr. Gerald Williams 1212 Barney Dairy Rd. Rexburg, ID 83440

(208) 359-5353 gwilliams@grwei.com Splitting wood doesn't meet our energy needs. Neither does all the other non-nuclear energy sources at this time. We need to split atoms and continue research on fusing them for future energy needs. I'm an Idahoan for nuclear energy.

Gerald Williams, P.E. (Professional Civil Engineer)

Mr. Brent Moore 433 Sue Road Pocatello, ID 83204

(208) 604-0719 bgmoore@q.com Dear Chairman Sayer:

I strongly agree with the subcommittees recommendations listed in the report. I firmly believe Idaho must protect and promote the INL as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy in the nation.

The State of Idaho should recognize the economic impact that the Idaho National Laboratory has on the entire State and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing the nuclear industry in Idaho. The

Governor and the Idaho State Legislature should show their strong support and promote new and existing missions at the INL.

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this is not the case. The INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. The State of Idaho should be more proactive in identifying new missions at the INL as well as opportunities for private sector work.

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. Idaho should continue to push to have all the terms of the agreement completed. In those areas where it is unlikely that the deadlines can be met, Idaho should work to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement. These terms should reflect the needs and challenges of today and bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state along with ensuring cleanup proceeds, but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense and supports research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Mrs. Niki Jensen 1704 Olympia Drive Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 604-3247 nikibjensen@gmail.com We support INL Research for spent fuel. The INL is an important part of our community, and they do a great job. They put safety first.

Dr. Michael Lineberry 7392 S. Bowman Lane Idaho Falls, ID 83406

(208) 547-7840 mjl@isu.edu I strongly agree with the thrust of the subcommittee's recommendations on nuclear energy. In fact they are far more important to the economic health of this State than those associated with any other energy technology. This shouldn't all be brought down to a popularity contest-- most people are unqualified to "vote" on the merits or demerits of energy technologies as a whole.

Ms. Donna Boe 226 South 16th Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 233-5651 donnaboe@cableone.net I urge the LINE Commission to uphold the 1995 Settlement Agreement and reject commercial nuclear waste being stored in Idaho. We should continue the clean up process at the INL. I don't believe that nuclear research hinges on accepting nuclear waste. Finally, I ask that the work of the Commission be transparent so that we can follow the proposals, facts, and recommendations. Thank you.

Mr. William Lapsansky 270 Lost Trail PI Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 522-4640 bilmar@cableone.net Dear Chairman Sayer, I strongly agree with and support the subcommittee's recommendation. As a former Naval Nuclear Submarine operator and later as a Nuclear programs consultant to the DOE Nuclear industry, including the INL, I have no concern regarding safety and risk with increased nuclear activity at the INL. The business of nuclear research and operations locally and nationwide is far more controlled now than the days when even the Idaho Settlement Agreement was signed and, therefore, it should not be a roadblock for the future success of the INL or this great nation. I firmly believe that the future success of our country will be largely dependent on advanced research in nuclear energy and it would be a travesty to this country and economic success of Idaho to sit back and later have to say "I wish we had that research in Idaho" several years from now because we were too unwilling to take on additional and controllable risk. We need to take advantage of the wisdom and lessons learned gained from years of success and failure to establish a brighter and prosperous future for Idaho while being a leader for the rest of the nation. Either that or all become sheep that are herded by those still tainted by the past and

unwilling to change for the future. And before being swayed by pure numbers that may seem to indicate this great State of Idaho should not advance its nuclear posture, perhaps it is because those doing all of the writing are not the ones doing all of the work to keep this State afloat. Thank you for your time and service to our State.

Ms. Karen Bass 2308 Brookcliff Dr. Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 520-9886 karensbass1@gmail.com I approve of the recommendations in the LINE Commission's report. Nuclear energy is vital to the future of the world, not just Idaho. The Idaho National Laboratory should be at the forefront of nuclear energy research. If the state of Idaho fails to encourage continued nuclear energy research at INL, other states and national laboratories will take up the slack and we in Idaho will lose out.

Mr. Brandon Lee 9120 West Pocatello Creek Rd N/A Pocatello, ID 83201

(208) 232-5780 brandonandsherrie@yahoo.com I just wanted to say that I appreciate the work and effort that the LINE Commission has put into the recommendations to be submitted to Governor Otter. I believe the strong work ethic of Idahoans and the concentration of personnel that in one way or another work in the nuclear industry is invaluable to our countrys future energy future.

Mr. Dean Groetzinger 2225 W Broadway Suite C Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 521-1739 dgroetzinger@alleghenyst.com "I agree with the subcommittee's recommendations." - and the INL needs to stop being it's own worst enemy. Get rid of the people that have been holding it back for decades and participate with other National Laboratories. And stop pretending that IRON actually connects to anything. The INL needs to hook into the Ultra-science Net. Now - and should have done years ago.

Mr. Michael bailey 2888 lianne Idaho falls, ID 83402

(208) 243-1834 bailmich@hotmail.com nuclear power is vital to Idaho's future

We support the LINE Commission recommendations. We would like to see more energy security in Idaho for growth and stability. If that included a small modular reactor to handle baseload for our local power company, at a reasonable price, that would be an excellent step into the future.

Also, the INL has a great economic impact in eastern Idaho. They have demonstrated that they are knowledgeable, experienced, and competent to handle these materials. While we definitely want to have the R&D activities to be conducted here, we think interim storage of spent fuel could be safely handled, tested, and ultimately shipped to a more permanent site.

We should not be out-manuevered by other states to take advantage of the Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations. If there are counties like Butte or Bingham that have expressed interest, or passed resolutions or zoning to accommodate interim storage facilities - Idaho & DOE should work with and support them.

Idaho/INL has the infrastructure and facilities that should not be replicated elsewhere at an exorbitant cost to the US taxpayer. We should enumerate, prioritize, and leverage the facilities and capabilities that we currently possess.

We support the colleges and workforce training institutions that enable people to get and keep excellent jobs in the energy industry. We think the international internship programs thru CAES is an excellent opportunity to expand the nuclear industry worldwide. We would like to see more public/private collaboration here with

energy industry leaders like AREVA, Babcock & Wilcox, GE, and Westinghouse, to name a few.

Thank you for your draft report, and we look forward to seeing the Final report, and expect to see immediate progress on the implementation of its recommendations.

Mr. & Mrs. Martin
Idaho Falls, ID
Lm_octagon@hotmail.com

Mrs. Katherine Williams 414 ENERGY DR APT 2 IDAHO FALLS, ID 83401

(208) 351-2739 kathy_walker@hotmail.com Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission c/o Idaho Department of Commerce P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093 Dear Chairman Sayer:

I appreciate the opportunity for my voice to be heard on the topic of nuclear energy in Idaho. I am a stay-at-home mom with a Bachelor's degree in biology. I support nuclear energy, not only for myself, but also for my beautiful daughters. I would like to acknowledge that I very strongly endorse the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to reviewing the final report.

I believe that the energy demands of today will not be met by the energy sources of yesterday. Our coal reserves are limited, our wind and solar power is insufficient, and we can only build so many dams in our waterways. Every attempt at harnessing energy has some negative impact on our environment. I understand that there is a stigma attached to nuclear energy especially in light of the recent disaster in Japan. I think that this perception of nuclear energy is harmful because it disallows people from recognizing nuclear energy for what it is an efficient source of energy that needs to be well regulated. This regulation and efficiency is continuously being improved by the research done at the Idaho National Lab.

The Idaho National Lab is a great asset to our community. It provides more than 4,000 Idahoans with stable jobs. That is a big deal in today's economy. It also offers many fantastic educational opportunities by partnering with universities in Idaho to provide some really amazing programs. It also draws highly educated people into Idaho's communities. Educated people make better citizens, better homeowners, better neighbors, and better families. These are people that add an educational maturity in the students at local schools because they understand that education is important. The employees at INL are citizens that reinvest time, energy, and money into Idaho communities where they live. And if nothing else employed people are better tax payers.

I think it is important that we remember that energy demands are not going to decrease and that coal, wind, and water power will not be able to meet future demands. It is important to remember that INL does not just deal in energy research, but also in community dynamics. I love Idaho because of the wonderful neighbors that educated people make. I endorse the recommendations to continue nuclear research in Idaho. Please assess carefully whether any negative feedback on nuclear energy is near-sighted fear from people that have trouble weighing the facts. This is important to me and important to Idaho.

Ms. Sara Moore 158 S Corner AV Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208) 705-6781 saralmoore158@gmail.com I support and endorse all the recommendations listed in the LINE report. The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) is the country's leading research laboratory in nuclear energy. If our country is going to continue to move forward in becoming energy independent, nuclear energy is going to have to be used to generate the energy our country needs to continue to forge ahead.

As an Idaho native, I have observed the long and safe history of nuclear power and research in Idaho. We need to continue to move forward exploring and researching new ways to continue to generate nuclear power

safely and efficiently. We need to ensure that all testing of nuclear materials is done in a safe and controlled manner while ensuring that the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer remains free of nuclear materials.

Clean up at the site needs to continue but in a prioritized fashion. I would like to see more research be put forth on taking the current nuclear waste and finding ways to harness it to create more energy and decrease its half life. Additional research and development needs to continue on Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

The Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) is comprised as a collaboration of the Federal Government (INL), and the State of Idaho (ISU, BSU, and UI). These collaborating entities work well together to identify, staff, and fund research in nuclear energy as well as other energy avenues. This is a partnership that truly has the energy concerns of the country first and foremost in its collaborative mission. It allows the State of Idaho and its residents to continue to lead the nation and the world in energy research and development. With the increase in projected energy needs, we must continue to pursue different avenues of energy development. Nuclear energy is a part of Idaho. I would like to see all the recommendations listed in the LINE commissions report come to fruition. I believe these recommendations are made for Idaho and the Nation.

Mrs. Tami Sherwood 4415 Sutter Lane Idaho Falls , ID 83404

(208) 521-4589 imatzu@msn.com Response to question #1. While the science behind the nuclear industry is mature, on going research and development in materials testing; continue research and development improving the efficiency of fuels is imparitive for our nations energy portfolio and energy security. For future generations and for the environment in the long run we need to continue to pursue R&D specifically, closing the nuclear fuel cycle. Like oil, uranium is not a renewable resource. Improving the efficiencies of fuel, and closing the fuel cycle will prove to be enviornmentally resposible for generations to come in addition to providing affordable reliable energy to future generations. We should also support opportunities in the Small Modular Reactor R&D. As well as, R&D to reduce the amount of water necessary for cooling. Clean accessable water will contiinue to be an issue in developing countries and geographically dry areas.

Question #2. The economic impact of the INL is significant, not only in eastern Idaho but throughout the entire state. Reduced funding and a reduction in missions will also have a significant economic impact that will ripple throughout the entire state. The INL has historcally provided R&D in nuclear energy but also has played a vital role in nuclear defense and the security of this country. Idaho State officials as well as the citizens of this state need to consistenly support the lab and it's assets. In response to funding for clean up-- all of the labs throughout the DOE complex will see reduced funding. Most of the milestones under the 1995 Settlement Agreement have been met. We should therefore seek to support those remaining miles stones that present the highest risk. i.e. the completion of IWTU and treating the sodium bearing waste. We also need to support and advocate for funding for the capitalization projects underway for the Navy that they may continue their work through and beyond 2035.

Question #3. I am a member of the INL CAB. I was a skeptic. How clean is clean? Are we doing the right thing with our limited resources? Are we being responsible to the environment and future generations of Idahoans? I attended the 2010 Waste Management Conference. While we don't have all the answers for the future, we are indeed using the best technology available and using best practices. The 1995 Settlement Agreement is accomplishing what it set out to do "protect the SRA, the enviroment and Idahoans". Current technology is mitigating risk to the public and the enviornment.

Ms. Marisue Smith 1311 Ada St. Boise, ID 83702

(208) 514-6879 marisue@live.com To: LINE commission
RE: Opposition to the efforts to life the ban on commercial radioactive waste into Idaho

As a native of Idaho I am pleading with you to reject the recommendation of the Technology Subcommittee that INL become the nuclear waste dump for this part of the country. Idaho does not have the technology to contain the waste and INL lies in a critical snake river aquifer that could so easily be contaminated by the dumped waste. Much of Idaho depends upon the water in the aquifer including the agricultural industry in eastern Idaho. I also wish to encourage you to continue funding for INL clean up program and to recognize that INL's future is not solely dependent on more nuclear waste coming to Idaho. Finally I would like to ask that you provide the public access to the LINE COMMISSIONS DISCUSSIONS to winnow down the recommendations that go to the Governor - thank you for your consideration for the future of Idaho.

Marisue Smith

Mr. Leah HARDY Shoshone-Bannock Language & Cultural Preservation P.O. Box 306 Fort Hall, ID 83203

(208) 478-4041 lhardy@sbtribes.com The protection of our natural and cultural resources are of great concern to the Shoshone and Bannock people of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation. The area in question is and will always remain the territory of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and to disregard our sacred ties to land over monetary gain is senseless and a travesty to the human race. What occurs now carries on tomorrow, and no amount of money can bring back what is lost forever.

Lisa Young
12614 N Schicks Ridge Rd
Boise, ID 83714
(208) 841-8587
lisagreenyoung@gmail.com

To the Idaho Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission members:

Thank you for taking the time to read my input on your Progress Report regarding this Commission's recommendations to Governor Otter. This little textbox is a little bit awkward to submit formal comments in (no functions for bullet points or bold or italic or character count or spelling check, etc), but I'll do my best to convey my input as clearly as I can.

As an Idaho citizen, I find the results of your research to be very troubling. Bringing together so many bright and engaged individuals, I'm puzzled by the fact that the Commission was able to accept the premise that the nuclear industry will actually play a significant and potentially leading role in meeting our future energy needs, and that the Idaho state government can have an impact on bolstering its success and its growth. Every empirical indication says otherwise. What is the use of discussing possible research projects for reactors and waste developments of the future, when it is clear that there is little chance that they will be economically competitive and environmentally safe? I understand that the governor directed you to create recommendations within this nonsensical realm, but it would not be shameful for you to conclude, after performing your research, that these pursuits are simply irrelevant to the larger questions about our energy future and the future of jobs in Idaho. This would, in fact, be an honest and noble conclusion for the Commission to stand behind, and I urge you to reconsider the scope and substance of many of the recommendations you've drafted in the context of the current state of the nuclear industry.

The nuclear industry is, and always has been, a very dirty and dangerous business. There is no getting around this. What makes this industry unique among other similarly hazardous industries is the material that focuses its work around: radioactive rock. Radiation damages living cells. Period. This kind of material, for the sake of protecting living things, needs to remain DISPERSED and UNDERGROUND where it originates. Yet, we have been bringing this harmful material ABOVE ground and CONCENTRATING it, exposing lifeforms to it and its radioactive byproducts, with no way of "putting it back" underground the way it

was before. As I said before, there is no way around this. ANY kind of nuclear fission developments being proposed will continue to run into this problem of working with toxic material that poisons whatever it touches and has the potential to leach into environmental streams such as air and water to eventually "touch" even more lifeforms and cause even more widespread harm. The focus needs to be not on the future of nuclear energy in this country and around the world, but the future of halting this dangerous form of energy production and safely securing the high-level waste in an appropriately sited deep geologic repository, isolated from the biosphere (the best we can) for the next 100,000 years that it remains highly radioactive. ANY talk about future nuclear reactors or reprocessing the waste to reuse again (which is proven to produce MORE waste and more MOBILE waste than leaving the spent fuel alone and finding a permanent home for it - when you take solid spent fuel and dissolve it in liquid acid, it creates a much bigger waste issue than you had to begin with, let alone the proliferation issue of concentrating Plutonium)) is a waste of time, is not founded in reality, and is not taking the real health and environmental risks seriously.

I was disappointed to see that this Commission of experts actually entertained ideas that would aid the development of future reactor models and would aid the nuclear energy industry. This industry is fading, as has been acknowledged by leading energy experts and even former industry CEOs themselves, and its continued role in our world is not in the interest of ANY living being, including the human race. The only "good" that the nuclear industry brings the world is the production of electricity, which we know very well how to do (especially now in the 21st century) with SEVERAL other technologies and several other resources. We don't NEED to sacrifice our health and well-being for the sake of producing electricity. We have other energy resources that we can turn to, and we can safely say "goodbye" to the failed 20th century mistake of nuclear energy production (several prominent studies have shown that future energy needs can be met without nuclear power as part of the mix).

And, this far into my comments, I've only really touched on the health impacts of nuclear energy and why the risks simply aren't worth the electric output - I won't even delve into the economic reality that nuclear power is not and will likely never be competitive (contrary to what this Progress Report states) with the costs of other energy sources. This is a reality that every U.S. utility company is openly acknowledging. And it's plainly clear that this is an energy source that, after over 50 years of government subsidization, still NEEDS subsidies to be financially viable! It's an undeniably EXPENSIVE and RISKY investment, and that's not likely to change anytime soon. Again, even if it did, that still wouldn't solve the problem of health risks inherent in the fuel, so it would still be against the public interest to continue to develop.

With this context, I urge you to question the backdrop you were asked to generate recommendations within and consider the broader implications of continuing to pursue (and put state resources into) a withering industry that extracts poison from the ground and makes it even more poisonous and mobile as an effort to do something that can be done in several other, safer fashions (while also producing material that can be used as a devastating weapon). This is not something that the human race should pursue, and certainly not my home state of Idaho. I do not support my tax dollars being used to aid this effort.

The Idaho National Lab is a NATIONAL lab and receives funding from the federal government. There is little the state can do to impact the agenda of the national government in terms of its nuclear research priorities and use of the Idaho National Lab. Revising the 1995 Settlement Agreement with the DOE would be detrimental to the CRITICAL cleanup process that is taking place at the lab. This needs to remain a priority for the lab and the DOE, and the Agreement ensures it stays a priority and continues to receive the adequate funding it needs to continue to completion. Idahoans have already said that we will not accept shipments of commercial radioactive fuel for storage or disposal. This is hazardous material that deserves no place in our state and certainly not in light of the very obvious fact that it would likely remain here for a VERY long time ("interim" is until this country builds a permanent geologic repository, which will most definitely not be for another century, at least). INL already has access to "research quantities" of this waste if it needs it for research. There is no reason why Idaho needs to open its doors to storing high-level radioactive waste, especially when it has an agreement with the federal government not to and citizens of Idaho have openly opposed such a move. This shouldn't even be on the table.

The question of job creation in Idaho is a big one, and a very important one, but the question CANNOT revolve around a single industry. It's a ridiculous framework to brainstorm in. If the future of jobs at INL is in question, then the state of Idaho needs to looking at other sectors where job growth CAN occur, and build from there. Trying to create and save jobs in a dying and toxic industry is simply irresponsible. The truth of the current situation of the nuclear industry and federal funding need to be acknowledged, and job creation for Idaho citizens needs to be addressed within that context.

Thank you for letting me, an Idaho citizen born and raised that cares deeply about the future of this state, comment on your Progress Report toward recommendations to Governor Otter. I look forward to reading the comments from my fellow Idahoans and other experts in the days ahead, as I assume these will be collectively posted online for all to see, as with most official public comment proceedings. I appreciate your effort to open this issue up for input by members of the public through your open meetings and this public comment period, although I don't think your subcommittee meetings were very transparent, which is where you actually created these draft recommendations for the governor. Please ensure that future meetings of this committee are open and transparent to the public, especially in your final efforts to compile information for the full report to the governor.

I wish you luck in the weeks ahead taking comments like mine into consideration as you hone your list for your final report.

Mr. Deborra Bohrer po box 606 ketchum, ID 83340

(208) 726-2525 deborra.bohrer@gmail.com Stop the nuclear waste fro entering Idaho. The Batt agreement prevented the waste from staying in Idaho. Stop being manipulators of nuclear energy.

Mr. Darrin Smith 2853 North Barnes Way Idaho Falls, ID 83401

(208) 522-9784 darrinbsmith@gmail.com We as a state and community need any and all work the INL can provide. We need to allow any spent fuel private, DOE, and DOD sent to Idaho. We also need to allow any other nuclear material to be brought to Idaho to ensure work now and in the furture. We need to start building new facilities at the INL to ensure we have work. Right now there is no really long term work at the INL. Once the clean up is completed unless we start now the INL will countine lose employee's and no real furture for the INL. Let's do all we can to ensure work at the INL. Thank You..

Mr. Gary Goodson 1140 County Cork Lane Idaho Falls, ID 83404

(208) 419-3301 wgarygo@yahoo.com I wholeheartedly agree with the subcommittees recommendations

Mr. Kai Friedrichs 44 Rogers Ln McCall, ID 83638

(208) 315-0834 ahikanakakai@gmail.com To whom it may concern:

There has not been adequate public disclosure regarding your plans. Furthermore the number and quality of public comments should be a matter of public knowledge; what effects the people of this state and nation is not for closed-door bargaining between politicians and business interests.

I recall hearing many months ago that our governor wished to develop additional nuclear power plants in Idaho. At the time I thought it inconceivable that progress would be made toward such a short-sighted goal.

Numerous Idahoans and other Americans recognize the incompatibility of nuclear fission with a healthy ecosystem and along with coal see nuclear fission as a dead option for additional energy generation in the future.

Clean "alternative" energy options exist and it is time to adopt them. Only the will is lacking. Some wind generation capability is now in place, notably in southern Idaho, and should be augmented with solar and geothermal technologies.

Time to stop clinging to the past and embrace the future. The future of nuclear fission for energy generation is dead. As in the past, the public will rise together to stand against a toxic legacy of nuclear waste here in our state, or there in any state.

Sincerely,

Kai Friedrichs

I ask that Idaho and INL not become the "pilot" nuclear waste dump for the region. I also ask that you protect the funding for INL's cleanup as outlined by the Superfund agreement and the 1995 Settlement Agreement. It is clear that tying INL's future to accepting = more nuclear waste coming to Idaho is a political threat, not a true necessity. This notion must be rejected.

Lastly, the public must participate in and access to the LINE Commission's discussion to winnow down the recommendations that go to the Governor. It is our state, our homes, our families that are affected.

Leslie Manookian
Ketchum, ID
neilandleslie@me.com



December 31, 2012

Sent via Email 1/4/13

Mr. Jeffery Sayer
Chair
Leadership In Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o ID Department of Commerce
POB 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

We would like to thank you, and all of the Commission members, for their time and efforts to create a path to success which capitalizes on Idaho's assets for the nuclear industry. Upon review of the Draft Commission Report, we would like to offer our input to the seven questions for the final report.

I. What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

INL-DOE is recognized as the lead nuclear laboratory. In this capacity, INL conducts research and development on nuclear fuels and materials, including spent nuclear fuels or other radioactive substances. This ongoing research benefits the entire nuclear industry, through things like increasing the efficiencies of different fuel types or developing better and safer design functions of power plants themselves. With its experienced workforce and unique capabilities and infrastructure, INL is the perfect place for *continued* research, development, demonstration, and deployment for *all facets* of the nuclear industry.

II. In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and clean up funding?

Eastern Idaho is home to capabilities and infrastructure that can play a major role in providing a solution to national energy and security problems. In these

151 North Ridge, Suite A, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
PH: 208-522-2014/FX 208-522-3824/Toll Free 800-900-2014
www.growidahofalls.org

economic times, it makes sense to leverage extensively the significant investments already made by DOE, businesses, and taxpayers. We have INL and its related energy missions, but we also have established industries and education institutions, along with effective waste management and cleanup programs, and a strong experienced workforce.

Idaho needs to consistently support INL, and enumerate its assets and capabilities which currently exist here. In addition, we should discourage replicating or creating redundant facilities elsewhere at significantly higher cost to US taxpayers.

The Idaho Cleanup Project has completed 959 of the 963 enforceable milestones under the 1995 Settlement Agreement. This is a major testament to the skills and the leadership of our contractors and their employees to be able to successfully manage these hazardous substances. It is essential to build upon our success to maintain a consistent level of funding to complete the remaining clean up priorities.

Combined with its ongoing research mission and completing the cleanup commitments, Idaho and the INL are poised to take on new missions, such as small modular reactors. The question to be asked is not “Why should Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) be engaged in activities at INL?” but rather “*Why aren’t* SMRs being demonstrated/researched at INL?”

We suggest that the remaining cleanup work be prioritized; putting resources to the highest risk cleanup project first. For example, because calcine poses little to no environmental risk this deadline should be changed in the Settlement Agreement. Higher risk projects such as treating the liquid waste and removing the identified buried waste should be adequately resourced.

In addition, we need to protect the relationship Idaho has with the Navy. The Navy performs important national work in Idaho, and the work they do should be valued. If the Navy has a desire to continue their mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, we need to ensure the Navy has the tools and support it needs to continue their activities at both the Naval Research Facility and their research at INL.

III. What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

The cleanup methods currently being utilized at the INL site, clearly demonstrate that these hazardous radioactive substances can be altered, dried, handled, packaged, encased, stored, and/or shipped safely. The INL and the contractors do it every day.

151 North Ridge, Suite A, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
PH: 208-522-2014/FX 208-522-3824/Toll Free 800-900-2014
www.growidahofalls.org

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. INL can play a role in testing technologies and nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner, with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities and not be fearful of it.

IV. Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

We need to clearly designate our assets for the nuclear industry, and actively promote those capabilities. Their important facilities and activities are focused on:

- World-class research capabilities;
- The Idaho Cleanup Project;
- The Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project;
- The Naval Reactors Facility;
- The Materials & Fuels Complex;
- The Research & Education Campus, and
- The Advance Test Reactor complex.

We should initiate and foster contacts with the private industry nuclear giants such as Babcock & Wilcox, AREVA, NuScale, GE, Westinghouse, etc. Several of these companies are involved with the development of Small Modular Reactors. SMRs could be a great answer for baseload power for smaller metropolitan areas, military installations, or remote locations.

Energy security and cyber security are major capabilities at the site. We should capitalize and build relationships with other government agencies, as well as private industry to expand this expertise. We should expand the energy mission not only for INL and the Department of Energy, but to open the door for more businesses related to the energy sector. Our broad experience and skills could be utilized to nurture the nuclear industry in Idaho.

INL was able to come to the aid of Fukushima with safety protocols and specialized equipment. This illustrated that INL provided immediate assistance for such a remote event, and reduced even larger negative impacts to Japan, its population, and the whole industry. INL and the Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) are uniquely qualified to lead national and international discussions to promote safety from the aspect of the running of a nuclear plant to handling the spent fuel or waste.

V. Given the Blue Ribbon Commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's

151 North Ridge, Suite A, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
PH: 208-522-2014/FX 208-522-3824/Toll Free 800-900-2014
www.growidahofalls.org

1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

We can all agree that protection of the aquifer is a foremost consideration. The Settlement Agreement has clearly helped critical milestones to have been met, and we should push to have all tasks completed. Risk to the aquifer has been reduced significantly by the work conducted by cleanup operations. Present day regulations ensure that the aquifer will be protected. If that is not the case, the work should not be conducted.

We also need to bear in mind that the 1996 referendum vote did not say “no to nuclear” but it did reject that “the acceptance and storing of nuclear waste in Idaho had to be approved by... a vote of the people”. In other words, the rejection of Proposition 3 enabled our elected officials to negotiate for us, while not being subject to a general vote.

We recognize that the issue of private interim storage is not part of the LINE Commission's charter. However, we encourage the commission to not limit its comments to areas included within the Settlement Agreement. We further encourage the commission to provide a general sense of its attitude toward the possible development of private interim storage that would benefit from the INL's location and the expertise of its management and staff.

It has been reported that other states are maneuvering to raise money, hire lobbyists, and buying/optioning land specifically suited for interim storage facilities. Has the LINE Commission considered potential partnering opportunities with INL and any of these other states (e.g., leverage the capabilities and infrastructure already in place in Idaho for research that benefits safe interim storage in another state)? We would not want to overlook an opportunity for, or an impact to, the state that should be considered.

VI. How can Idaho's universities influence, support, and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which can complement the work at the INL and at CAES. Expanding the opportunities for our institutions should be a top priority. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in eastern Idaho. Perhaps some funding through IGEM could be used for research and development.

All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the cleanup contractors. In addition, ISU has several operating accelerators, the Research Innovation in Science & Engineering complex (RISE), the Energy System Technology & Education Center (ESTEC), and they have research assets within their Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics departments.

The University of Idaho grants Masters of Science and Ph.D. degrees through the Graduate Nuclear Engineering Program. Many of their full-time students are based at CAES. Also, they have expanded their international outreach through internships at CAES.

VII. Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Nuclear currently supplies about 20% of the nation's electrical power supply. This represents a stable, baseload power source. Right now natural gas has expanded its supply, but it is still a commodity subject to supply and demand pressures. And there are concerns about the fracking process, and if it would negatively impact fresh water supplies.

The US needs to have a diverse power supply portfolio, e.g. nuclear, natural gas, coal, hydro, biomass, and wind. In Idaho, we are not power generation sufficient, and hydro-power cannot easily meet our baseload needs. Despite conservation measures, the demand for power increases. EPRI reports indicate an "all of the above" strategy to meet US power supply needs.

It might be beneficial in the future for Idaho to have a nuclear power plant, even if it may be a SMR. The key would be the size and pricing of the SMR, i.e. can a 25 MW unit be sufficient for a smaller city at a reasonable price per kilowatt hour? Or would the unit need to be 100 MW? A 100 MW unit may not be as easily deployed to smaller cities because of cost.

Also the INL has promoted energy systems that would include nuclear with another power resource, aka "hybrid energy systems." This could represent many opportunities for collaboration between INL/CAES and private industry.

There is widespread support for the nuclear industry, INL, DOE, and the LINE Commission in Idaho. We need this continued support as we may face reduced federal funding, and perhaps even the risk of "BRAC" type hearings and closures for national laboratories. We need to keep our skilled workforce employed, and occupied with important national missions in the energy field.

151 North Ridge, Suite A, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
PH: 208-522-2014/FX 208-522-3824/Toll Free 800-900-2014
www.growidahofalls.org

The **economic impact of the energy industry and INL in Bonneville, Jefferson, Bingham, and Butte counties is \$1.8 Billion**. The overall economic impact of INL on the **state of Idaho is \$3.5 Billion** according to a 2010 Boise State University study. This should illustrate the need to move forward to ensure that we look at all assets, public and private to protect, defend, enhance, and sustain this industry *in our state, not somewhere else*.

Sincerely,

Grow Idaho Falls, Inc. Officers:

Damond Watkins, President; Melaleuca, Inc.

Ann Riedesel, 1st VP; North Wind Inc.

Dale Lundblade, 2nd VP; S. M. Stoller

Teri Tengaio, Secretary; Intermountain Gas

Kevin Koplín, Treasurer; Cooper Norman

Steve Frei, Past President; Idaho Business Properties

Linda Martin, CEcD, CEO



December 31, 2012

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

As the Leadership in Nuclear Energy (LINE) Commission develops the final report to Governor Otter, the Partnership for Science and Technology (PST) appreciates the opportunity for public comment. PST is an Idaho based nonprofit organization advocating for the advancement of science, energy, and environmental initiatives that are in the public interest.

PST has fully supported the mission of the LINE Commission from the beginning, knowing that your work is vital to the future role that the INL will play in the economic, environmental, and security interest of our state. We applaud the State for putting the necessary focus on retaining and growing this *\$3.5 billion industry* in the State. We encourage you to continue to pursue economic development opportunities related to the nuclear industry by being more proactive on securing mission opportunities as opposed to focusing on decade's old issues with minimal relevance today. We believe now is the time for the State to dedicate resources to advancing our leadership role in the nuclear industry.

PST believes this report is the first step in the process to ensure that the Idaho National Laboratory continues its leadership role in advanced nuclear energy research and development activities and continues as a major economic driver in the state.

We keep hearing the federal budget is unsustainable and spending will be cut. In light of this we are concerned where the INL and the Idaho economy will be in 10 years. The cleanup work will largely be complete; the cleanup contractors are already 95% there. What then? Will we close the lab and accepting losing the *\$3.5 billion industry*? Or will we continue building off of those key foundational pieces that we have invested in - public/private partnerships and business networks, infrastructure assets, workforce, and educational programs to continue to build workforce capacity going forward – to continue to lead in Nuclear Energy? We believe the LINE Commission has the ability to draft a plan that will demonstrate Idaho's support for the successful future of the INL and provide new opportunities for private nuclear energy related business to come to the state.

The PST is offering comments on all of the key recommendations of the progress report in the attachment to this letter. In closing, we would note again that the PST has fully supported the mission of the LINE Commission from the beginning and, furthermore, stands ready to assist with the continued actions of the Commission as we move past the final report and towards

implementation of specific measures. We would also like to offer our congratulations to you and all the Commission members as well as the sub-committee members for their time and efforts to produce this Progress Report. We strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

Sincerely,

Lane Allgood, Executive Director

PST Officers

Jackie Flowers, President, General Manager, Idaho Falls Power

Mike Hart, President Elect, President, Communication Designs

Captain Robert Skinner, Vice President, U.S. Navy, (Retired), INL Waste Manager (Retired)

Greg Crockett, Secretary, Senior Partner, Hopkins, Roden, Crockett, Hansen & Hoopes, PLLC

Robb Chiles, Treasurer, President/CEO, Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce

Steve Laflin, Past President, President, International Isotopes

Attachment

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

We strongly advocate for the continued leadership role by the INL in advanced nuclear energy research and development activities because it already maintains extensive infrastructure and capabilities for testing and evaluating nuclear fuel and materials. These unique capabilities represent a substantial financial investment on the part of American taxpayers that should not be duplicated.

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy. INL's research capabilities are unmatched in the United States and there is an important research role INL can play to secure the country's energy future and can help conduct back of the fuel cycle research as identified in the Blue Ribbon Commission's recommendations.

Idaho should recognize the uniqueness of the workforce and their knowledge of nuclear fuels, waste, and safety. This workforce has been committed to completing a mission safely and with protection of Idaho resources being front and center. This workforce sets Idaho apart in terms of our ability to lead towards solutions on many issues facing the industry. That coupled with strong partnerships and developing programs with higher education in Idaho show that Idaho is prepared to build a future workforce as the current workforce transitions towards retirement. This country has limited capability to build that workforce due to a stagnant nuclear industry in the U.S. over the past couple of decades.

PST fully endorses the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. Specifically those facilities and capabilities include:

- Advanced Post-Irradiation and Characterization Facility
- Transient Testing Reactor Restart
- Used Fuel Storage Demonstration
- Pilot US Regional Interim Storage Facility
- Nuclear Hybrid Energy demonstration at the Site or Hybrid Demo Using a Non-nuclear Heat Source
- High performance Computing Center

PST also encourages the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. This valuable asset, previously developed and maintained by taxpayer dollars, should have a clearly defined mission in continuing to advance the future of nuclear research. We recommend that the State work with the Department of Energy to explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future.

We agree with the recommendation that EM managed facilities on the INL desert operations may have future relevance for INL's ongoing nuclear energy research mission. Specifically the facilities at the Idaho Nuclear Technology & Engineering Center could be used for repackaging of spent fuel prior to transport to a repository. This has already been done for the calcine where DOE has decided to reuse the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit facility following the Sodium bearing Waste campaign for this purpose. The use of the FAST Basin for this purpose could also provide a viable facility for continued thermal decay of ATR fuel into the future.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

It has become obvious that due to continuing decreases in federal funding, the only National Laboratories that will survive are those that will adapt to a changing environment. The INL is positioned to do just that with stakeholder and State of Idaho support. Without strong support from the Governor's office and the Idaho State Legislature it will be impossible to attract new work (and possibility continue existing missions) at the INL. Idaho needs to consistently support the INL where it is unable to promote itself and enumerate its current assets and future capabilities.

It is recommended that the State prioritize the cleanup work that remains, with prioritization given to the highest risk cleanup projects, and actively work to secure funding necessary to complete these priorities. Higher risk projects, such as treating the sodium bearing liquid waste and completing the buried waste cleanup at the RWMC, should be the priority of declining resources. That said, the State must continue to educate Idahoans that not all wastes that remain pose the same environmental or public health risks. For example, the solid calcine waste is currently in a State of Idaho permitted storage facility and pose minimal risk. Priority should continue to be given to the higher environmental such as buried and liquid waste at the INL. If declining federal resources limit the ability of Idaho to secure acceptable deadlines for these higher risk projects, Idaho should diligently work to leverage circumstance to advance Idaho mission in new technology or opportunities.

The State must recognize the economic impact that the Idaho National Laboratory has on the entire State of Idaho and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing that industry. The State's investment in CAES is a prime example of the type of investment that can help retain and advance the INL mission. We need to continue to support that effort and build off of it with like efforts. We need to promote the capabilities of CAES, INL, and Idaho higher education to neighboring states that do not have competing lab capabilities. We need to promote these capabilities as "regional" assets to Wyoming, Utah, Montana, etc. to help build strength in the INL/CAES mission and hopefully be a catalyst to other partnerships – including private sector in neighboring states.

The State also needs to protect the relationship it has with the U.S. Navy. The Navy performs important national work in Idaho and the work they do should be valued. If the Navy has a desire to continue their mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, then Idaho should work to ensure that it has the tools and support needed to continue their activities at both the Naval Research Facility and their research at INL.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric. Often lost in the conversation is acknowledgement of the depth and knowledge of our existing clean up and craft/trade professionals. Without expanded mission, this workforce with its unique capabilities will be lost. As with the unique infrastructure that exists in Idaho, there are also environmental management and remediation professionals as well as building and construction craft personnel who possess specialized training involving nuclear related materials that cannot be duplicated. As Idaho completes the clean-up mission moving to more R&D and recruiting private sector opportunities, we should strategically plan to tap into this workforce for program development, future workforce training, and construction/research opportunities.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area in which the State should be very focused. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement (such as Small Modular Reactors) and finding ways to be the demonstration and R&D site for this technology.

Idaho should catalog assets in terms of ability to meet new missions and prepare the “Why Idaho” tour of economic development recruitment. This will require a full court press to the DOE as well as nuclear energy vendors and manufacturers for recruiting economic development opportunities (both private and public sector) related to new technology (such as Small Modular Reactors).

Idaho has the ability to lead national and international discussion on nuclear safety and security from both plant and waste perspectives. Idaho should step up to that role and continue to build relationships to assist in advancing national and international industry in a safe and secure manner. This is particularly true with developing or less sophisticated countries that are rapidly pursuing nuclear energy. If these countries fail to advance nuclear energy in a safe and secure manner, the entire industry suffers. We have resources – both private and public – to secure these opportunities.

If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission’s focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho’s 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state’s interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho’s Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been completed. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for milestones remaining to be completed.

An update to the Settlement Agreement is critical in order to ensure that INL’s valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government. Changes or clarifications to the Settlement Agreement have occurred three times in the past. This process is working, so there is no reason to close the door on additional changes to the agreement if needed. While INL’s interest is focused on conducting research that would involve bringing small amounts of research materials, the State should specifically recognize this is not the same as interim storage. However, the state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing interim storage outside the INL boundary. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored. The State should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

The State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission “consent based” siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

How can Idaho’s universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.

ISU has over 7 operating accelerators, the Research Innovation in Science & Engineering complex (RISE), the Energy System Technology & Education Center (ESTEC), and they have research assets within their Nuclear Engineering and Health Physics departments.

The University of Idaho grants Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees through the Graduate Nuclear Engineering Program. Many of their full-time students are based at CAES and they have expanded their international outreach through internships at CAES.

Eastern Idaho Technical College has historically offered several associates degree and certificate programs in support of the mission of the INL. Current offerings include an eleven month certificate program in Radiation Safety and qualifications-driven training to over 6,000 incumbent workers at the INL.

The existing workforce and workforce development training programs provide an advantage to the State in recruiting private sector opportunities. The State should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho's position as a nuclear energy lead. Perhaps some funding through IGEM could be used for research and development as well continuing to support these programs. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Currently nuclear power supplies almost 20% of the nation's electrical power supply. EPRI reports demonstrate that an "all of the above" energy strategy is necessary. There is no one resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.

The U.S. Department of Energy projects that US electricity demand will rise 22 percent by 2035, about one percent each year. That means our nation will need hundreds of new power plants to provide electricity for our homes and continued economic growth. Maintaining nuclear energy's current 20 percent share of generation would require building one reactor every year starting in 2016 or 20 to 25 new units by 2035, based on DOE forecasts. If decommissioning of coal plants continue as projected, it is believable that nuclear (a baseload emission free resource) will have to provide for more than 20 percent of the generation.

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.

January 1, 2013

LINE Commission Report Comments
700 W State St.
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID
83720-0093

SUBJECT: Encouragement for the LINE report to strongly recommend that Governor Otter renegotiate the Batt Agreement

Gentlemen;

I strongly support the preliminary LINE report and I encourage the committee to finalize its recommendations to modify the Batt agreement. Your report must emphasize this point -- nuclear waste and its management is the key element to not only the INL but also to the future of US nuclear power. Without a strong waste program, Idaho's dreams of a strong INL, vibrant associated universities and industries, and the corresponding economic benefits to the State, collapse into nothing. Your report should emphasize this point.

The INL is dead without waste management. It is that important. INL once had 12,500 of the highest paying jobs in Idaho. Businesses in surrounding cities and counties benefited and flourished and Idaho tax revenue profited immensely. INL jobs have now dropped to less than 3900. Last year the INL lost 160 jobs and this year another 300 to 450 will be cut. This continual cutting is symptomatic of an institution struggling to do too much with too little. Further evidences of this overload are the recent safety notices and increasing accidents at the INL. This is evidence that shortcuts are causing a decrease of planning, training and resources. Governor Otter and others must clearly recognize the INL death spiral. Your report and recommendations must show that the only way to keep the INL alive and vibrant is to accept waste and profit from it.

And profits there can be. The world desperately needs comprehensive safe waste storage research and facilities design. After a year of Japan's nuclear power shutdown, their wiser economic and political leaders see nuclear power as the only way for their economy to fully recover. They will gradually restart many of their nuclear power plants. Additionally, climate change is bringing increasing recognition of the huge contribution that nuclear energy must make in the next half century. The world desperately needs huge amounts of cheap, consistent, reliable, carbon free, no-emission electricity produced on a small secure footprint. Successfully reducing greenhouse gases and global climate change depends on more nuclear power which, in turn, depends greatly on the management and control of nuclear waste. All of this waste research and design should be done in Idaho.

THE PAST SUCCESS OF IDAHO'S NUCLEAR PROGRAMS

Idaho produced stunning successes with its previous nuclear programs. These successes produced tremendous economic, scientific and engineering achievements that have benefited the entire world. For example, Idaho previously made huge contributions to nuclear propulsion that allow US and allied

navies to protect the free world. Furthermore, Idaho also spearheaded the development of nuclear electricity now used by a billion people and which powers economies around the world. Additionally, Idaho also spearheaded nuclear waste management procedures for safe cleanup and storage procedures used by companies and nations around the world. Each of these three world-changing contributions was developed here in Idaho.

Some of the brightest and inventive scientists and engineers the world has ever known dreamed and accomplished tremendous breakthroughs, right here in Idaho -- then went elsewhere. Companies capitalizing on these breakthroughs went elsewhere. And the multibillion dollar wages, and corporate profits, and the tax base went elsewhere. Huge amounts of nuclear energy are used in numerous industries to generate profits -- but not here. Salaries, taxes, dividends, profits, subcontractor affiliations and commercial networks result -- but not here. Idaho no longer profits from its own successes. Today, any nuclear breakthroughs are made in Japan, France, and elsewhere. A few of us sadly watched as thoughtless Idaho leaders allowed these stunning business opportunities to migrate elsewhere. Now we are stuck with the waste, the Feds have no money to clean it up, and even if they manage to find some, there is nowhere to ship it. Those who think funding is hard to acquire now should look into the future to 2035 and calculate how hard funding issues will be when deficits and taxes are even far higher than they are now. The Federal government must, by default, default on the Batt Agreement. Any hopes that Idaho will be able to enforce the agreement or even expect any payment for Federal default is foolish.

This is what will happen in twenty two years when the Federal government defaults. The main reason the Federal agreements will be negated will be that the necessary waste disposal sites will not exist. The courts may rule in Idaho's favor that the Feds technically broke the agreement but the courts probably will also contend that the damage to Idaho is nonexistent because there will be no nuclear contamination in the aquifer, there will be no demonstrable economic or environmental impact of keeping Idaho's waste in place, there will be no competing uses for the existing land and, therefore, the courts must side with the Feds who will contend that any remaining monies must be spent for more urgent programs. Idaho will still be stuck with the waste.

Again, this is why the INL must lead with nuclear waste management. Everything else the INL currently does can be duplicated in other labs **EXCEPT** the ability to manage and store waste. This is the only program which CAN NOT be done safely at any other lab. Waste is not just a part of INL future, it is the core element. Again, we must capitalize on our only strength -- waste.

The Batt agreement was not the only thing that has strangled Idaho's nuclear development. Congressional delegations lacked the willpower and the political power to acquire major projects and drive DOE funding to the INL. Even today, as additional job cuts are announced, our delegations bellow their strong support for the INL and roar their pride in hosting the "lead nuclear laboratory." But that designation is nothing but a cheap shiny bauble for children's amusement if there are not meaningful projects with adequate funding. The job cuts keep coming but the funding never does. In addition to the congressional delegation's neglect, DOE policy was sometimes duplicitous, frequently surly and unimaginative, and always condescending to the larger Labs. They refused to give Idaho its due. Even today, far too many projects that should belong to INL as the "lead laboratory" are quietly being "shared" with other Labs.

Idahoans must make our own future. The Governor, our congressional delegation, universities and industries must turn the INL into the lead laboratory that it must become if it is to survive. Idahoans

should force the Governor and the congressional delegation to work together to expand the INL. The existing approach our leaders are now using gives INL a title, but no projects or funding. Current levels of funding will result in a further drawdown of jobs for the near future and total lab shutdown between 2015 and 2020. And, without being too repetitious, Idaho will still be stuck with the existing waste.

OUR ALTERNATIVES

The Governor can select from three alternative actions each, of which, has a vastly different outcome.

First, there is the 'do nothing' option that is well described in a recent Idaho Statesman article. This option recommends that the current Batt agreement is in the best interests of Idaho. It keeps new waste out of the State. Those who consider this to be a 'win' must reconsider. This alternative will result in the eventual death of the INL, and Idaho will be stuck with the existing waste.

Second, there is the 'little bit' option which allows the Governor to renegotiate the Batt agreement and allow acceptance of a small amount of additional waste to store and with which to conduct additional research. The benefit of this alternative is that it gives a limited increase in funding and jobs for the INL and possibly a small expansion of opportunity for universities and industries in Idaho. This is essentially an option that will still leave Idaho with the existing waste as well as a small amount of new waste. But it also will give Idaho a narrow path forward to better things.

Third, there is 'BHAG' option of a big hairy audacious goal that will result in truly making the INL a lead energy lab. It can lead to a stunning expansion of the INL, of affiliated universities and industries, and the economy of Idaho. It is the necessary element for regaining Idaho's rightful place as a world leader in energy technologies.

So, this is the big hairy audacious goal for consideration. Because Idaho will be stuck with the wastes that are already here, bring all of the commercial spent fuel waste to Idaho in return for the \$27 Billion already set aside for them. Build a huge state-of-the-art triple containment above ground facility to store – not dispose -- of all commercial waste fuel. In return the State of Idaho gets the \$27 Billion. Idaho will also receive all future funding from the continuing growing spent fuel reserve in payment for interim storage – repeat, not disposal – until the government and environmental groups agree on a permanent means of disposal.

Initial public objection to the "BHAG" option will be strong but most Idahoans will stop and rethink their opposition when they consider the benefits.

- No State income tax for any resident of Idaho
- No sales tax for any resident of Idaho
- No property tax for any resident of Idaho
- No vehicle registration fees for any resident of Idaho
- No school fees or tuition for any resident of Idaho
- No State business taxes or fees for any business registered in Idaho
- No hunting, fishing, recreational taxes or fees or license costs for any resident of Idaho
- No State taxes on fuels, beverages or tobacco products

The \$27 billion dollars already exists in the fund paid for by nuclear power producers. This will entirely replace existing State revenues for the next twelve to fifteen years. The Department of Energy and the Department of Defense have additional funds that can be added. During those next twelve to fifteen years, of course, the electric power annual waste fees will continue to build, thus forever extending the length of time the fund can benefit Idahoans. Some official acts and laws must be modified to allow this change in the use of existing funds. But most members of Congress will be happy to accommodate a State that provides interim management for the ever growing nuclear waste issue.

In return for solving the waste storage problem, and in addition to receiving all the commercial waste fees, Idaho must require that all nuclear waste research, power, and much of the alternative energy research will be given to Idaho. INL will develop new computer programs to calculate, model and design the next generation of environmentally sound storage facilities, safe waste management practices, foolproof disposal criteria, and accident free reprocessing methods.

This third alternative will take time and a lot of effort to develop and to convince most Idahoans that this alternative would be in their best interest. It will require extensive discussion between members of the public, Federal, State, and local leaders, universities, and industries. Such a change would require the modification of Federal and State laws. But the end result of this work would be of great benefit to Idaho. It will establish the INL as not only the lead nuclear lab but would, in fact, elevate it to being the nation's leading energy laboratory. Idaho is the best place in the world for research on solar and wind farms, for biofuels, for transmission lines, for smart-grids, and transmission corridors, for clean coal, for geothermal, and all other types of mainstream and alternative energy production.

RECOMMENDATION

For these reasons, I recommend that you encourage the Governor to go with Alternative number two -- the modification of the Batt agreement. But you should also present the benefits and the vision of Idaho eventually moving on to Alternative three. Even if the LINE Report rejects the third option, Governor Otter and the congressional delegation, and Idaho industries, and the public must work together to achieve a modification of the Batt agreement **IN RETURN** for full funding of all lead nuclear lab work **AND** its proportional share of all other alternative energy research also.

You must emphasize to Governor Otter the tremendous opportunities that Idaho once before flushed away. Idaho could have become a vastly more prosperous and economically sound state than it is today if that future had been recognized and State and congressional leaders done more to protect it. Idaho has one last chance to redeem all of those mistakes.

CONCLUSION

The ghosts of Governors past should not be allowed to hinder the stunning economic and energy future of Idaho. We must realize that when the 2035 waste agreement defaults both Governors Andrus and Batt will only be portraits on the Capital wall. But Idaho will still be stuck with its existing waste. The Feds, the courts, and other states, not only don't care, they are very happy the wastes are here and it is in their best interest to have them stay here. Your report must provide Governor Otter with an alternative path toward a return to success for the otherwise soon to be shut down INL. The correct course of action for Idaho requires three steps. Renegotiate the Batt Agreement, but be smart about it, and get full value for Idaho in return.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul B. Blacker". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, flowing letters.

Paul B. Blacker, Ph.D.
378 W Indian Rocks St.
Meridian ID, 83646
208-871-9951

BINGHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Cleone Jolley, Chairman

A. Ladd Carter

Whitney Manwaring



Lynette George, Commission Clerk
501 N. Maple #204
Blackfoot, ID 83221
Phone: 782-3013
Fax: 785-4131

January 2, 2013

LINE Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P O Box 83720
Boise, ID 83702-0093

Members of the LINE Commission,

The Idaho National Laboratory has been an important part of Bingham County for over fifty years. The work and research done at the INL is world renowned and is helping the United States meet its energy demands. The lab and the people who work there not only have a tremendous effect on the area's economy but they also have a positive effect on all aspects of the county's day to day well being.

As County Commissioners we are supportive of the work that is being done at the INL. Again the work is critical to developing our nation's energy needs while protecting the environment. Over the years the lab has strived to make sure that the safety of its employees, the safety of our community, and the safety of the processes it uses and develops are top priorities. The INL understands that protection of Idaho's land, water, and air are important and their efforts to clean up and address waste issues from the past is commendable.

The state of Idaho has recently completed the LINE Commission report. We feel the report has laid out a path that merits not only more discussion but also presents a plan to move forward with continued work at the INL. This work includes energy development, waste management, safety, environmental, and other related research of all types. The lab has a growing effect on high-tech entrepreneurship, technology transfer and expanding private energy development in Idaho and the nation.

Bingham County has supported the INL and its mission throughout its history and continues to do so today. We have zoned areas of county for nuclear related work and look forward to developing private industries that utilize and enhance the INL. We are supportive of the efforts of cleaning up legacy waste issues at the lab. We feel that the "Andrus/Batt" agreement on nuclear waste has served the state well. We also strongly feel that the agreement should be reviewed and possibly modified to address current issues and new technologies. Particularly we would like to explore the opportunities for developing a temporary repository for the storage of and reuse of nuclear cores from private energy utilities located in the United States. This could be developed as a private industry with a strong relationship with the INL.

The INL is an important part of our community. We are supportive of the lab. Protection of Idaho's water, land, air, its people and its sovereignty are paramount to us. We support moving forward with the recommendations in the LINE report. Continuing the work and relationships we have at the lab with federal, state, local, universities and expanding the opportunities for private development is important to us. Again let's move forward and let us know how we can help.

Sincerely,

"Potato Capital"

Cleone Jolley
Cleone Jolley, Chairman

A Ladd Carter
A. Ladd Carter, Commissioner

Whitney Manwaring
Whitney Manwaring, Commissioner

TIME RECEIVED
January 4, 2013 8:13:27 AM MST

REMOTE CSID
2085241411

DURATION
121

PAGES
5

STATUS
Received

01/04/2013 08:09 2085241411

INTERNATIONAL ISOTOPES

#7978 P.001/005

fax

TO: Mr. Jeffery Sayer

FROM: John J. Miller

FAX: (208) 334-2631

PAGES: 5 including cover

PHONE:

DATE: 1/4/2013

RE: LINE Commission report comments CC:

Comments:

Attached is a letter providing comments to the Line Commission Subcommittee Recommendations progress report.

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Subject: Comments to the Leadership in Nuclear Energy (LINE) Commission Progress Report

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I have read the LINE Commission's *Progress Report: Subcommittee Recommendations* and found the report to be an informative composition highlighting the important roles the State of Idaho and the INL has played and continues to play for the nuclear industry. I fully support the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the publication of the final report. I also appreciate the opportunity to provide comments pertaining to the seven issues you have identified in your December 3, 2012 letter.

1. What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

The INL is a world class laboratory that is well suited as the leading laboratory in the development of new and improving existing technologies utilized in nuclear power generation. In order for INL to remain a leader in nuclear energy development, the citizens of Idaho and our elected officials must fully support this mission. In addition the INL has the facilities, infrastructure and expertise to lead in the development and improvements of alternative energy sources such as wind, solar and bio-fuels, efforts should be made to expand the INL's research and development role in alternative energies so that the country's future energy portfolio is diverse and robust.

2. In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Federal spending cuts are certain and when INL missions are completed or become unfunded lay-offs will result unless a new mission takes its place. I believe it is necessary that the State and local cities engage with the Department of Energy to promote their continued willingness to support the role of the INL as a leader in nuclear energy development and to investigate other opportunities that could result in additional government funding or commercial interests that may buffer a reduction in federal spending at the INL.

3. What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

Most everything we do in life poses a risk. So there are certainly environmental and public health risks associated with nuclear technologies. These risks are addressed by the Government through regulation and mitigated by the nuclear industry through robust environmental health and safety programs that take these risks into account. Facilities are designed and constructed to withstand natural phenomena hazards and design basis accidents. The effectiveness of these programs and the robust design of the US nuclear power fleet in addressing and mitigating these risks is evident by an exemplary environmental protection and safety record. However, in an effort to push their anti-nuclear agenda forward, anti-nuclear advocates fail to acknowledge the benefits to society that nuclear technologies provide and downplay the positive environmental safety and health record associated with the nuclear industry. Unfortunately the inability of our legislators and policy makers to identify and agree on a long-term solution to the back end of the fuel cycle provides anti-nuclear advocates with a convincing argument against the future of nuclear energy. I think it is imperative that the citizens of Idaho and our elected officials are willing to consider technologies that could address the issues associated with the long term management and subsequent disposal of spent fuel. I believe the INL could play a lead role in this effort.

The appropriateness or reasonableness of a mitigation technique is difficult to define. I believe it is best to ensure risk assessments, probability analyses, and mitigation strategies are applied in a realistic and effective manner so that current applications of nuclear technologies continue to be viable and that unnecessary barriers to future applications in nuclear technologies are not introduced.

4. Where is the nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

There is no denying the beneficial role nuclear power and radioisotopes play in modern society. Nuclear power is a clean energy source that produces approximately 20% of the USA's electricity. The US Navy maintains the world's most advanced fleet of nuclear powered ships and submarines. Radioisotopes are utilized in nuclear medicine to diagnosis and treat diseases, in industry to sterilize medical products, to irradiate foods killing harmful bacteria, the list goes on. I believe that nuclear technology will continue to move forward and at the very least simply to keep pace with the growing needs of our society. INL should position itself as the lead national laboratory to address this growing need. The INL's role to improve on existing or develop new

technologies in nuclear power and isotope production should be support by the citizens of Idaho as well as our elected officials. The Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) is an often overlooked resource that has logged over 40 years of safe operations. While the progress report (Page 6) recognizes the ATR's "unique capabilities and abilities to perform advanced fuel testing" it fails to acknowledge the ATR's isotope production capabilities and the fact that the ATR is the only domestic supply of high specific activity Co-60 utilized in medical applications such as stereotactic radiosurgery. The State should engage with the Department of Energy to ensure the production of Co-60 continues and to evaluate the role the ATR can play in providing additional radioisotopes. State, local and regional economic development counsels should consider incentives to attract businesses that can support efforts in sustaining and growing the nuclear industry in Idaho.

- 5. Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INEL and complete the cleanup mission?*

It is clear that a long term strategy to address the back end of the fuel cycle is necessary to ensure the continued progress in nuclear technologies. The Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success, as your report illustrates, the majority of the milestones laid out in the Agreement have been met. A significant amount of resources has been expending to meet the terms of the Agreement and efforts to complete remaining milestones should continue. The State should, however, consider renegotiation the terms of the Agreement for uncompleted milestones to ensure the INEL remains a leading laboratory in research. The State and local communities should engage with the private sector to explore the feasibility of interim-storage of radioactive materials and wastes at facilities owned and operated by private industry licensed or certified by the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. The State should also remain active in discussions regarding the Blue Ribbon Commission "consent based" siting process to so that the State may communicate matters that the citizens of Idaho consider important.

- 6. How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?*

Eastern Idaho is fortunate to have several educational institutions that offer two year, four year and post graduate degrees and technical certifications that are vital to nuclear industry. Many of these institutions offer flexible programs of study that support the schedules of adult learners. Many young students are given the opportunity to work as internists at the INEL and in local

business where they gain hands-on experience working in scientific and engineering fields. It is important that these programs keep up with any foreseeable growth, (locally, regionally or nationally) in the nuclear industry. The State must continue to invest in Idaho's universities and technical colleges and develop synergistic partnerships with the INL and private sector to ensure a reliable nuclear workforce is available to support advancements in nuclear technologies and growth in the industry.

7. Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

The Fukushima Dai-Ichi accident illustrates the need for an accurate assessment of a facilities design-basis accident and rigorous safety systems at nuclear power reactors that rely on a defense-in-depth strategy to mitigate risk. This accident, along with an increase supply in domestic natural gas may have slowed the resurgence of nuclear power generation but the industry still grows.

In February and March of 2012, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission granted combined construction and operating license for four reactors and is actively reviewing 10 combined license applications for 16 nuclear power plants. Nuclear power will continue to play an important role in electrical power generation in the U.S. The State of Idaho should emphasize the importance of the existing nuclear workforce and infrastructure that resides within the state and the citizens of Idaho and our elected officials should encourage the Department of Energy to invest in the INL, so that it can take the lead in developing new technologies in nuclear energy and improve existing technologies so that Nuclear Energy continues to provide a reliable and affordable source of electricity in this country today and well into the future.

Sincerely,



John J. Miller, CHP

4730 E. Comish Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83406

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

RECEIVED
JAN 7 - 2013
IDAHO DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy. INL can play to secure the country's energy future and can help conduct back of the fuel cycle research as identified in the Blue ribbon Commission's recommendations.

I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Without strong support from the Governor's office and the Idaho State Legislature it will be difficult to attract new work (and possibility continue existing missions) at the INL.

The State should recognize the economic impact that the Idaho National Laboratory (a \$3.5 billion industry in Idaho) has on the *entire* State and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing that industry. We need to promote these capabilities as "regional" assets to Wyoming, Utah, Montana, etc. to help build strength in the INL/CAES mission and hopefully be a catalyst to other partnerships – including private sector in neighboring states.

The State also needs to protect the relationship it has with the U.S. Navy. If the Navy has a desire to continue their mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, then Idaho should work to ensure that it as the tools and support needed to continue their activities at both the Naval Research Facility and their research at INL.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the State should be very focused on. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement (such as Small Modular Reactors) and finding ways to be the demonstration and R&D state for this technology.

If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should to gain benefit beyond the limited financial penalties of the agreement. Consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for milestones remaining to be completed.

To ensure INL's valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Although INL's interest is focused on conducting research that would involve bringing small amounts of research materials, recognize this is not the same as interim storage. However there

may be interest in Idaho outside the boundaries of INL. Regarding interest outside INL, Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing interim storage. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored (such as a location that does not have aquifer concerns and ways in which the state can retain control). The state should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

The State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission “consent based” siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

How can Idaho’s universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.

The existing workforce and workforce development training programs provide an advantage to the State in recruiting private sector opportunities. The State should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho’s position as a nuclear energy lead. Perhaps some funding through IGEM could be used for research and development as well continuing to support these programs. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation’s energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Currently nuclear power supplies almost 20% of the nation’s electrical power supply. EPRI reports demonstrate that an “all of the above” energy strategy is necessary. There is no one resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.

The U.S. Department of Energy projects that US electricity demand will rise 22 percent by 2035, about one percent each year. That means our nation will need hundreds of new power plants to

provide electricity for our homes and continued economic growth. Maintaining nuclear energy's current 20 percent share of generation would require building one reactor every year starting in 2016 or 20 to 25 new units by 2035, based on DOE forecasts. If decommissioning of coal plants continue as projected, it is believable that nuclear (a baseload emission free resource) will have to provide for more than 20 percent of the generation.

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.

Armed Mitchell
428 Sidney Creek
Idaho Falls
ID. 83404

RECEIVED

JAN 7 - 2013

IDAHO DEPT. OF COMMERCE

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I strongly endorse all of the recommendations listed in the report and look forward to the final report.

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy. INL can play to secure the country's energy future and can help conduct back of the fuel cycle research as identified in the Blue ribbon Commission's recommendations.

I fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report. I also encourage the LINE Commission to add a section on the future of the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR); specifically, the National Scientific User Facility and Advanced Fuel Testing as well as Isotope Production. The ATR is regarded as one of the nation's key nuclear assets. The State should explore and secure future missions for this valuable asset to play a role in the nation's nuclear energy future.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Without strong support from the Governor's office and the Idaho State Legislature it will be difficult to attract new work (and possibility continue existing missions) at the INL.

The State should recognize the economic impact that the Idaho National Laboratory (a \$3.5 billion industry in Idaho) has on the *entire* State and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing that industry. We need to promote these capabilities as "regional" assets to Wyoming, Utah, Montana, etc. to help build strength in the INL/CAES mission and hopefully be a catalyst to other partnerships – including private sector in neighboring states.

The State also needs to protect the relationship it has with the U.S. Navy. If the Navy has a desire to continue their mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, then Idaho should work to ensure that it as the tools and support needed to continue their activities at both the Naval Research Facility and their research at INL.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the State should be very focused on. Idaho needs to be actively engaged in pursuing technology advancement (such as Small Modular Reactors) and finding ways to be the demonstration and R&D state for this technology.

If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should to gain benefit beyond the limited financial penalties of the agreement. Consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for milestones remaining to be completed.

To ensure INL's valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Although INL's interest is focused on conducting research that would involve bringing small amounts of research materials, recognize this is not the same as interim storage. However there

may be interest in Idaho outside the boundaries of INL. Regarding interest outside INL, Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing interim storage. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored (such as a location that does not have aquifer concerns and ways in which the state can retain control). The state should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

The State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission “consent based” siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

How can Idaho’s universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.

The existing workforce and workforce development training programs provide an advantage to the State in recruiting private sector opportunities. The State should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho’s position as a nuclear energy lead. Perhaps some funding through IGEM could be used for research and development as well continuing to support these programs. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation’s energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Currently nuclear power supplies almost 20% of the nation’s electrical power supply. EPRI reports demonstrate that an “all of the above” energy strategy is necessary. There is no one resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.

The U.S. Department of Energy projects that US electricity demand will rise 22 percent by 2035, about one percent each year. That means our nation will need hundreds of new power plants to

provide electricity for our homes and continued economic growth. Maintaining nuclear energy's current 20 percent share of generation would require building one reactor every year starting in 2016 or 20 to 25 new units by 2035, based on DOE forecasts. If decommissioning of coal plants continue as projected, it is believable that nuclear (a baseload emission free resource) will have to provide for more than 20 percent of the generation.

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.

Rusty Broughton, President

Interpersonal Dynamics, Inc.

Past District Governor, Rotary International

2295 E. Bellerive Dr.

Idaho Falls, ID 83404

LINE Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
700 W State St
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0093

January 3, 2012

Distinguished Members of the LINE Commission:

The subcommittee's recommendations are all spot on. I would add that even though INL is the DOE's lead nuclear laboratory, the lab's existing infrastructure is a far cry from its former self. The vast majority of nuclear reactors and critical experiments that made INL the envy of nuclear research the world over are all but gone. The existing reactors have either already been or are scheduled to be converted to low enriched uranium, drastically reducing their capability to operate. We need the Idaho federal representatives to do everything in their power to fight against the RERTR program mandate to convert our research reactors to LEU. I understand this is no easy task, but what has compliance gained us? Does either Iran or North Korea really care about complying with programs like this? Did we ever seriously think someone would try to steal phenomenally radioactive fuel from the core of a university research reactor, let alone from the Advanced Test Reactor? If we continue on this path of self-righteous politics, we will lose our edge in nuclear research.

I believe wholeheartedly that the Batt agreement needs to be nullified and the subcommittee needs to seriously engage the people of Idaho to find a site in Idaho for a geologic repository of spent fuel. We need a real dialogue about the safety of spent fuel and why the people of Nevada and Senator Reid made a huge mistake by not moving forward with Yucca Mountain. The subcommittee should hold several forums around the state in the same fashion they just did in the last year to discuss this subject. I would gladly be a part of that debate. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Brian J Gross

4080 Steeplechase Ln

Idaho Falls, ID 83402

(208)656-7694

bjamesgross@gmail.com



Environment

IDAHO COUNCIL ON INDUSTRY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

January 3, 2013

Mr. Jeffery Sayer
Chair
Leadership In Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o ID Department of Commerce
POB 83720
Boise, ID 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

Thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the LINE Commission's Progress Report. The Idaho Council on Industry and Environment's (ICIE's) mission since its founding in 1989 is to support factual discussions on environmental issues, and to facilitate the use of sound science and facts in shaping public policy on these issues. That mission caused ICIE to be very involved in public efforts to educate the voting public about the realities surrounding the Proposition 3 initiative that was placed on the general election ballot in 1996.

Following are ICIE's comments on the specific issues as requested:

I. What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

INL has been designated the lead nuclear laboratory in the U.S. In this capacity, INL has proven its ability to safely conduct R&D on nuclear fuels or materials, including spent nuclear fuels or other radioactive substances. This research resulted in breakthroughs in technology, has provided safety enhancements to current commercial reactors, and has led to discoveries in new materials and more efficient fuels. There are, however, further discoveries that will result from continuing research. INL has the staff and infrastructure in place to pursue research safely and securely that can result in solutions to national problems. Idaho should be a partner with INL to ensure its research mission continues and is secure.

II. In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Eastern Idaho is already home to capabilities and infrastructure that can play a major role in finding solutions to national energy and security problems. In these economic times, we need to use the significant investments already made by DOE and the Navy in Idaho. This includes work done for the Department of Defense, Department of Energy, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and industry.

The work done at INL by and for the Navy must continue. The Navy performs important national work in Idaho and its work should be valued. If the Navy has a desire to continue its mission beyond 2035 in Idaho, then Idaho should work to ensure the Navy has the tools and support to continue work at both the Naval Reactors Facility and its research with INL.

We have many important nuclear assets in Idaho. They include university and college programs, industries focused on cutting-edge technology and manufacturing, world-renowned waste management and cleanup programs, and a strong, experienced labor and workforce.

We need to continue Idaho's support of INL and promote its current assets and capabilities. Common sense tells us that as a government we should not waste taxpayers' dollars to replicate or create redundant facilities. Such redundancy would come at a significantly higher cost to U.S. taxpayers.

The cleanup work that remains needs to be given priority. Resources should be applied toward the highest-risk cleanup projects first. For example, funding should continue to be applied toward treating the liquid waste and removing the identified buried waste as the top priorities, followed by continued decontamination and decommissioning of surplus facilities and then lower environmental risks such as processing the solid calcine waste.

III. What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

Idaho has a long and safe history of storing, handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. INL can play a role in testing technologies and nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. We Idahoans need to look at the facts and science when reviewing future opportunities. We should take pride in what has already been accomplished. The state has developed environmental and regulatory standards to ensure that before new missions or activities happen, on or off INL property, those activities are safe and protective of the environment. There is also a very involved public process prior to final decisions being made on new activities.

We must continue to educate Idahoans that not all wastes that remain pose the same environmental or public health risks. For example, the solid calcine waste is currently in a State of Idaho permitted storage facility and poses minimal risk. Priority should continue to be given to the higher environmental risks such as buried and liquid waste at the INL.

The cleanup work at INL completed by the two cleanup contractors (CWI and ITG) has been successful. The most recent 5-year review has indicated the cleanup choices and actions have been successful and are working to reduce risk to the aquifer and environment.

IV. Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

Idaho and INL should position themselves to attract businesses interested in a variety of new opportunities including: small modular reactor development, storage and repository research, fuels research, manufacturing and materials research, nuclear space programs, and isotope manufacturing and research. Idaho should establish a task force that focuses on the nuclear industry and targets key companies, states, and countries interested in growing their nuclear business, and encourage these companies and organizations to set up shop and expand in Idaho.

V. Given the Blue Ribbon Commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

The Settlement Agreement has clearly helped meet critical cleanup milestones but also allowed for waste to come to Idaho for research and treatment. It has allowed certain quantities of materials to come in for research. As the country moves forward in its decisions to deal with nuclear waste, there will be a need to conduct more research to ensure the safest transportation methods are selected, the best storage facilities are available, and a final repository is chosen that will store our nation's nuclear waste permanently. INL can play an important role in conducting research in these areas. To conduct the best research possible, it is likely more quantities of research material will be required to come to INL than what is allowed by the current terms of the Settlement Agreement. We are not asking that INL be an interim storage site. That's in our past. Idahoans should acknowledge what has already been done under the agreement and should trust and allow the signatory parties to the Settlement Agreement to discuss potential changes and reach resolutions that make sense and allow for the mission of INL to continue without compromising cleanup activities. Changes or clarifications to the Settlement Agreement have occurred three times in the past. This process is working, so there is no reason to close the door on additional changes to the agreement if needed.

VI. How can Idaho's universities influence, support, and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho which can complement the work at INL and CAES. Expanding the opportunities for our institutions should be a top priority. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center at ISU, and Eastern Idaho Technical College. Other states and other countries have expressed a good

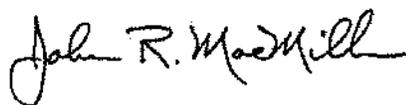
deal of interest in our nuclear-related educational programs, and serious attention by the state to those opportunities should be considered.

VII. Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

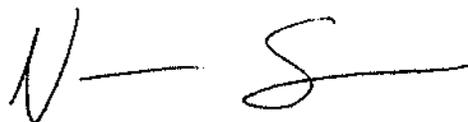
The majority of North America is geologically stable. We have come a long way since the first waste was brought in 55 gallon drums and cardboard boxes. Science and technology have advanced as a result of the efforts to clean up the legacy waste at INL that was required by the Settlement Agreement. We should look to nuclear energy to expand the electric power generation base as part of a long-term energy development model. Those states that support nuclear production, materials storage safety research, as well as the management of nuclear materials storage, will be in the forefront of eligible funding candidates. INL, university and industry collaborators can identify strategic research issues for future energy policy debates and capture a greater share of funding based on the infrastructure and expertise that we already have available.

Thank you for considering our input regarding this critical asset to Idaho and the nation.

Sincerely,



Randy MacMillan
Clear Springs Foods
ICIE President



Norman Semanko
Idaho Water Users Association
Chairman, ICIE's Environmental and
Regulatory Affairs Committee



Environment

IDAHO COUNCIL ON INDUSTRY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

ICIE 2012/2013 Board of Directors and Officers

Board Members

Trent Clark

Monsanto Company, Soda Springs

Joan Cloonan

RBC Polycomposites, LLC, Boise

Neil Colwell

Avista, Boise

Steve Cory

Engineering Consultant, Boise

Dave Doeringsfeld

Port of Lewiston, Lewiston

Roy Eiguren

Arkoosh Eiguren, PLLC
Boise

Todd Flick

Dupont-Pioneer Hi-Bred, Nampa

Rich Garber

College of Agriculture & Life
Sciences, U of I, Boise

Dave Hutchison

CH2M-WG, Idaho, LLC, Idaho Falls

Clarence Jones

Banking consultant, Meridian

Linda Jones

Holland & Hart, Boise

Travis Jones

Idaho Grain Producers Assn., Boise

Becky Johnstone

Knipe Land Company, McCall

Kent Lauer

Idaho Farm Bureau, Boise

Amy Lientz

Idaho National Laboratory,
Idaho Falls

Jim Little

Van Deusen Ranch, Emmett

Randy MacMillan

Clear Springs Foods, Buhl

John McCreehy

Amalgamated Sugar Co., LLC, Boise

Alan Prouty

JR Simplot, Boise

Norm Semanko

Idaho Water Users Assn., Boise

Dave Shaw

ERO Resources, Boise

John Tippets

Agrium, Inc., Soda Springs

Gene Wisniewski

Consulting Engineer, World Radio
Link, Twin Falls

Jane Wittmeyer

Wittmeyer & Associates, Boise

2012/2013 Officers/Executive Committee

Randy MacMillan--President

Clear Springs Foods, Buhl

Steve Cory--Vice President

Engineering Consultant, Boise

Travis Jones--Sec./Treasurer

Idaho Grain Producers Assn., Boise

Joan Cloonan--Past President

RBC Polycomposites, LLC, Boise



Environment

IDAHO COUNCIL ON INDUSTRY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The mission of ICIE is to facilitate the use of science and facts in shaping public policy on environmental issues.

MEMBERS OF ICIE's ENVIRONMENTAL/ REGULATORY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

**Agribeef
Agrium, Inc.
Amalgamated Sugar
American Ecology
Avista
Batelle/INL
Brown & Caldwell
Centra Consulting
CH2M-WG Idaho, LLC
Clear Springs Foods
Joan Cloonan, Joan Cloonan Consulting
Arkoosh Eiguren PLLC
Hecla Mining
Holland & Hart, LLP
Idaho Eastern Oregon Seed Association
Idaho Farm Bureau Federation
Idaho Grain Producers Assn.
Idaho Groundwater Appropriators Assn
Idaho Mining Association
Idaho Sugarbeet Growers Association
Idaho Water Users Assn.
JR Simplot Company
Monsanto
Thompson Creek
United Water**

1-4-13

Mrs. Patti A. McGee
3657 Johnny Creek Rd.
Pocatello, ID 83204-4453

M

POCATELLO ID 832

02 JAN 2013 PM 11

Happy Holidays



Liberty

LINE Commission

c/o Idaho Dept. of Commerce
700 W. STATE ST.
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, ID. 83720-0093

63720+0093



1-213

To the LINE Commission,
as a lifelong Idaho resident
and Grandmother, with
many nieces and nephews, I
believe we must protect Idaho
agriculture, wildlife, great
beauty and it's environment.

I believe we must stick
with our "1995" Settlement
agreement, to complete the
cleanup mission at the INEL
and ensure that Idaho is
never considered as a site
temporary or permanent
for nuclear waste.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Patti McGee
3657 Johnny Crk. Rd.
Poc. ID. 83204

Just a note...



CH2M-WG Idaho, LLC
P.O. Box 2010
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403-2010
208-533-0411

January 3, 2013

CCN 314514

LINE Commission Members

CH2M-WG Idaho, LLC (CWI) appreciates the diligent work of the Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission in preparing its Progress Report, and we thank you for recognizing our efforts to clean up legacy wastes at the Department of Energy's Idaho Site. In addition to the individual LINE Commission members, CWI would also like to personally thank Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter and Department of Commerce Director Jeff Sayer for their vision and interest in ensuring the Idaho National Laboratory, and nuclear energy research and development in general, have a continued role in the state of Idaho.

The Atomic Energy Commission saw the value of locating the National Reactor Testing Station in the Arco Desert in 1949. Idaho has some of the hardest-working and skilled nuclear energy experts in the entire world. The Site has seen many missions and projects in its 60-plus year history, but its value to the nation and world is far from over. The LINE Commission recognizes this. It's now time to put these recommendations into action with the help of many of Idaho's political leaders, businesses, civic organizations, nuclear energy experts, and individuals.

CWI encourages the LINE Commission to continually seek input from the public as it moves forward on implementing its recommendations. It's important for the public to understand nuclear energy's history in our state as well as the potential for new missions and the scientific and economic benefits of that new work.

We participated in many of the LINE Commission meetings and a subcommittee meeting. Please let us know how we can help in the future as well.

CWI's comments on the Progress Report are attached.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas J. Dieter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, looping initial "T".

Thomas J. Dieter, President

Attachment

LINE Commission Report
January 3, 2013
CCN 314514
Page 2

cc: E. Simpson, CWI
CWI Correspondence Control
T. J. Dieter Letter File

CWI COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

- At Page 13, under the heading *Legacy Waste: Product of the Past*, recommend the following changes. 1st paragraph, 3rd and 4th sentences: “In Idaho, those prior practices created environmental issues that had to be addressed, including impacts to the Snake River Plain Aquifer. Past activities at the INL site that contributed to radioactive and hazardous waste releases to the aquifer were:”

Add (4) use of unlined ponds to dispose of wastewater containing mildly radioactive and hazardous constituents and heavy metals

1st paragraph, last sentence following bullet list: “As a result, contaminant concentrations within the aquifer continue to decline.”

- At Page 14, 4th bullet, second sentence, the 12/31/18 milestone in the Settlement Agreement applies to transuranic waste that existed when the Settlement Agreement was signed (i.e., legacy waste), not all transuranic waste at the INL Site today. Recommend: “Per the 12/31/18 milestone in the Settlement Agreement, all legacy transuranic waste will be removed from the state no later than Dec. 31, 2018.”
- At Page 19, first paragraph, first sentence, the 2012 milestone for treatment of sodium-bearing waste also comes from the *Site Treatment Plan* and *Notice of Noncompliance and Consent Order*. Recommend: The Settlement Agreement, the Site Treatment Plan and the Notice of Noncompliance and Consent Order require DOE to have all the remaining liquid waste in underground tanks treated by the end of 2012.
- At Page 20, first paragraph, buried transuranic waste is not necessarily receiving the highest priority for federal funding at this time.
- At Page 20-21, the table has several inaccuracies or generalizations that need to be corrected.
 - Buried and stored transuranic waste are lumped together. Both have different status and they each pose different risks. It would be better to present buried and stored contact-handled transuranic waste separately. We also recommend presenting remote-handled transuranic waste as a separate "waste form".
 - The >5,000 cubic meters presented in the first row of the table only applies to the buried waste exhumed and shipped. Stored contact-handled transuranic waste sent to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant is a much larger number. Recommend changing first word of 1st row “Status” statement to: “Exhumed”. Add: “An additional XX cubic meters of stored contact-handled TRU waste has also been retrieved, examined, packaged, and shipped to WIPP.”
 - TRU Risk - Buried transuranic waste poses much different risk than that presented (i.e., volatile organic compounds to the aquifer). If a separate category for buried transuranic waste is presented, the status would include vapor vacuum extraction technology.

- Organics – This status is incorrect -- Vapor vacuum extraction technology (i.e., organic contamination of the vadose zone) is not used to remediate solvents disposed of in injection wells. It is being used very successfully to remediate solvent vapors from beneath the buried TRU waste at the Subsurface Disposal Area. Remediation of the injection well at TAN is a much different remedy. Recommend splitting the Organics entry to address organics in buried waste and organic liquids disposed of in injection wells.
- At Page 33, #1, the recommendation speaks to creation of a focal point within the State for citizens to access information on, among other things, INL cleanup operations and environmental monitoring. The INL Oversight Office fulfills that function already.
- At Page 38, #11, the recommendation indicates that the State should closely monitor progress at IWTU and take firm action under appropriate agreements if start-up/processing doesn't proceed in 2013-2015. This is already occurring.
- At Page 38, #12, last sentence, the CERCLA 5-year review is designed to accomplish what is being recommended.
- At Page 42, #3, certainly the DOE should consider the use of EM-owned buildings for NE missions prior to decommissioning or demolishing the EM structures. This is done now. However, is it the proper role of state government to be involved in negotiations between two branches of DOE in determining the future use of EM-owned buildings?

January 3, 2013

R. S. Turner
307 N. Buchanan Ave.
Pocatello, ID 83204

LINE Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
700 W State Street
PO Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0093

LINE Commission:

I have read the Progress Report and attended LINE meetings and found that **no change in the 1995 Settlement is justified or recommended.** No spent fuel beyond what is allowed in the Batt Agreement should be approved. The Report, along with testimony from private corporations, refer to vague possibilities of increased DOE funding and economic development, if only the Settlement Agreement were to be relaxed to allow spent fuel into Idaho. However, Federal budget cuts are coming, and it is unrealistic to believe that accepting more spent fuel will magically provide eastern Idaho with a large or long-term boost to the economy.

Because there is not a national high-level waste repository, if Idaho accepts additional spent fuel shipments, the INL will end up the permanent location for high-level waste --but with an operational budget that is so limited that it may result in under-funded management of spent-fuel, resulting in increased risks to workers and risks of more HLW releases to the environment above the Snake River Plain Aquifer. The DOE has yet to clean up the high-level waste releases from the INL which occurred over 20 years ago.

Clean-up- A needed Priority: I agree with the LINE Report Section entitled: "Ongoing Funded Required to Complete Cleanup" (page 19). This section correctly reports that DOE must obtain appropriations to complete the clean-up of the INL; and correctly reports that Federal dollars must be competitively sought to complete clean-up. But since this is true, why does the report contain a long wish list of other projects that would be nice to be funded, as if all are of equal merit? There is nearly a million gallons of High-Level Sodium liquid waste above the Snake River Aquifer that has yet to be treated and made ready to ship out out. Not only should the LINE Commission prioritize clean-up at INL as number one in importance it should be realistic about the shrinking access to Federal dollars, and the possibility of reduced "competitiveness" in appropriations for this clean-up. Asking DOE for all sorts of project funding, including a new wave of fuel shipments, dilutes the importance of site clean-up, for which funding is of critical importance.

Batt Agreement and Clean-up – The LINE Progress Report barely addresses the issue that DOE will miss a critical time-line in the existing Agreement –the requirement to have treated the liquid Sodium Waste by the end of 2012. The Report states:

“As a result, DOE has notified the State of Idaho that it will miss a Settlement Agreement milestone. Efforts are being made to remedy the situation and DOE plans to complete the waste treatment as soon as possible while ensuring worker and public.”

The DOE allowed High-Level Waste to leak into the soils, and failed to meet the deadline to treat this waste, even though the State of Idaho gave them over 17 years to get it done.

The LINE Progress Report fails to mention that one of the biggest reasons for organizing the LINE Commission was this failure to meet the dead-line. But the Batt Agreement with the deadline, was approved for a very good reason: DOE's mismanagement created the waste, and this un-treated liquid Sodium HLW is a risk to the public health and environment.

Clean-up at INL: A Success Story - In this section of the Report, it is emphasized that the recent reduction in handling and producing nuclear waste, is a major cause of INL's recent "success story". The following statement from the Progress Report (page 17) States:

"Current INL activities are being managed under much higher environmental standards and are not producing new waste that poses significant environmental risk."

Environmental laws and protection is weaker since the 1995 Batt Agreement, not stronger – Since the Batt Agreement, the environmental laws are weaker, not stronger. Since the 1995 Batt Agreement, which is the primary time-period of interest, environmental laws are not more stringent today than they were in 1995. Since the Batt Agreement the State Legislature passed 39-107D. This bill provides that **State regulations cannot be more stringent than Federal ones**.

This has weakened environmental protection at the INL. In essence, nuclear waste management cannot be strengthened by State laws. This is ironic since EPA rules require states to have environmental laws at least as stringent as federal ones. The resultant regulatory framework, since the Batt Agreement, in Idaho, is weaker regulations for Nuclear and hazardous waste protection at the INL. This weakness was especially revealed by an investigation and report from EPA's Office of Inspector General (Report No. 2004-P-00006, 2004). This report makes the evaluation that **mixed waste is not being managed in an environmentally safe manner at the INL:**

"However, we found several areas of concerns, resulting in there being less assurance that hazardous waste is managed in an environmentally safe manner in accordance with RCRA."

At the federal level, the RCRA (Hazardous Waste Law) has had more waivers and exemptions added to it than more stringent ones.

With weaker regulations at the State and Federal level, the LINE Report proposal to allow more nuclear material into Idaho, is one that will increase risks to public health and the environment. The Batt Agreement, with its prohibition on receiving shipments of spent fuel, and with the requirement to treat HLW and shipping it out, is more important now than in 1995, and should be kept in place. That is, the Batt Agreement provides needed protection to Idahoans, not otherwise provided by current environmental laws.

Summary – The LINE Progress Report has provided no logical rationale for amending the 1995 Batt Agreement. With decreasing federal dollars, and no surplus in State funds available in the foreseeable future, there is little likely-hood that opening the door to more spent fuel storage at the INL will provide the economic development and jobs hoped for by the various corporations and government officials that testified at the public hearings. The premise that if the INL takes spent fuel at the "back-end" of the Nuclear industry, that it will automatically trigger more funding at the front-end (research funding), is not true. But the environmental risks as reviewed by the State prior to approving the 1995 Batt Agreement, remain at least the same, if not worse. Environmental laws in

Idaho have weakened since the Batt Agreement, and EPA's Office of Inspector General issued a report in 2004, that correctly pointed out that the State's RCRA (Hazardous Waste) program was weak at the INL. Consequently, the State of Idaho should continue with the existing Batt Agreement and focus on getting the High-Level Waste and spent Nuclear Fuel treated and shipped out.

Thank-you

R.S. Turner



www.idahoconservation.org

Idaho Conservation League

PO Box 844, Boise, ID 83701
208.345.6933

1/4/13

Jeffery Sayer, Chair
Idaho Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
PO Box 83720
Boise, ID. 83720-0093

Submitted electronically to:
megan.ronk@commerce.idaho.gov

RE: Idaho Conservation League comments on LINE Commission Progress Report: Subcommittee Recommendations

Dear Mr. Sayer;

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the LINE Commission's Progress Report.

As the Commission knows, the issues of nuclear energy, nuclear research and the handling of radioactive and related wastes are of tremendous importance to the people of Idaho. As Idaho's oldest and largest state-based conservation organization, the Idaho Conservation League represents members from across the State who are impacted by the past contamination of the INL site, the ongoing cleanup and the potential that future actions might cause additional environmental harm. Issues related to both current and future activities at the INL encompass not only the environment, but have social and economic impacts as well.

In reviewing the "Progress Report: Subcommittee Recommendations" it is clear that there are a diversity of opinions about what the future could hold for the Site. Some of the recommendations likely enjoy broad support while others are more controversial. Some recommendations represent a continuation of the current activities taking place at the Site, while others represent a significant and substantial deviation from the status quo.

At numerous points in the LINE Commission's report, it is stated that the 1995 Settlement Agreement between Idaho and the Federal Government is a very unique and powerful legally binding document. The importance of this agreement is clear; as is the fact that Idaho has benefitted (and continues to benefit) tremendously from the fact that Idaho alone has such a settlement agreement. The Agreement provides Idaho with the enviable assurance that the Federal Government will keep its pledge to Idaho to clean up

Page 1

*Idaho Conservation League comments on LINE Commission Progress Report:
Subcommittee Recommendations*

the hazardous wastes at the Site and that the Site will play a key roll in researching and developing our Nation's nuclear future.

Thus, after careful review, we believe that it is critical that Idaho not put forth any proposals that would substantively alter the 1995 agreement. This agreement is serving our State well and Idaho must do nothing to endanger this. Very pointedly, this means that the State of Idaho must not amend the agreement in any way that allows for Idaho to become a storage/disposal site for the Nation's commercial radioactive waste.

The LINE Commission has an important job – to determine what the State can do to support the long-term viability and mission of the INL. A thriving INL is good for Idaho's economy and good for Idaho's environment; for a robust future for INL means that cleanup work will remain a priority.

If the LINE Commission succeeds in developing an operable list of policies and actions then its report can play a driving role in helping best position the State to influence the future of the INL. However, if the Commission issues a final report that is not operable, then the Commission has forever squandered this opportunity.

The crafting of the 1995 Agreement, the subsequent ballot measure that overwhelmingly supported the Agreement, and recent statements by former Governors Andrus and Batt, and current Governor Butch Otter, make it very clear that the People of Idaho and the State of Idaho are not interested in becoming a radioactive waste storage or disposal site.

Inclusion of recommendations to allow large quantities of new waste into Idaho make the LINE Commission's final report inoperable. This issue is simply a non-starter here in Idaho. If the LINE Commission insists on advancing this recommendation it will undermine the credibility and potential of all of the other recommendations in the report, even the non-controversial recommendations.

To this end, we oppose the portions of the Subcommittee Recommendations that propose to allow large quantities of new commercial radioactive material into Idaho. We urge that these recommendations be stricken from the final version of the LINE Commission's report.

Notwithstanding the issue of importing large, new quantities of waste, beyond that which is allowed pursuant to the 1995 agreement, there are numerous recommendations in the Progress Report that deserve further action. However, the Commission's interest would be well served by revisiting the recommendations with an eye to helping the reader determine what is really important here.

The current list of recommendations reads like a poorly sorted laundry list of ideas. In some instances, recommendations listed in one subcommittee are clearly the purview of another subcommittee. And, in all instances, there is no way for the reader to determine what is a significant 'must have' priority verses a nice, but not necessary, wish.

So, for instance, there is a recommendation to “Assure the availability of a workforce that is well educated...” in the section on Safety and Environment. Perhaps this should be in the section on Education and Workforce. Similarly, in the section on Technology, there is a recommendation that the State provide “first responder training regionally to hospitals...” Perhaps this should be in the section on Safety.

With regard to priorities, the Commission would be well served by providing the Governor with some inclination as to what is really important here. For instance, in the section on Infrastructure, the first item on the list is to “develop a Science and Technology Park,” the second recommendation is to “protect INL desert operations site from noise-generating external infrastructure.” Not until recommendation 9 does the Commission recommend “[r]ecapitalization of Naval Reactors Facility in preparation for a future role in nuclear fuel research.” Since recommendation 8 is to “[c]ontinue efforts to establish air service between Idaho Falls and Boise,” the reader is left to make the logical conclusion that recapitalizing the Naval Reactors Facility must not be very important.

We are raising these issues not to be a nit-picky editor of the Commission’s report, but because we want the Commission to be successful. The Commission has an important role to play in charting the actions and policies that the State should pursue to ensure that the INL remains a robust, nationally recognized research center that benefits Idaho’s environment and its economy. Producing a tight report with well-articulated and prioritized recommendations will help the Commission to succeed.

By focusing on recommendations that capitalize on the Site’s existing strengths and facilities, proposing to develop better integration with Idaho’s Universities, and supporting and incentivizing technology and manufacturing spin-off opportunities, the State can help to ensure that the INL remains a source of jobs, innovation and pride for all Idahoans. Further, by taking advantage of the existing flexibility in the 1995 Agreement with regard to further research and development, based on naval material and new research quantities of commercial material, the State and the INL can forge a future role in Idaho for this advanced nuclear research. This can all be accomplished without compromising the existing 1995 agreement.

We wish the Commission good luck. And, in closing, we encourage the Commission to give further consideration to what the State should do in regards to the likely inability of the Federal Government to uphold its commitment to move certain wastes out of Idaho by 2035. The Administration’s decision to cease efforts to develop Yucca Mountain likely means that there will be no place to send this waste. What should the State do about this?

Sincerely,



Justin Hayes
Program Director



GREATER IDAHO FALLS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

January 4, 2013

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
Leadership in Nuclear Energy Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

As the Leadership in Nuclear Energy (LINE) Commission develops the final report to Governor Otter, the Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce appreciates this opportunity for public comment.

The Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce is a voluntary organization of individuals and businesses who have joined together to advance the commercial, financial, industrial, civic, and social interests of the greater Idaho Falls area. The Chamber of Commerce is a service institution and an action organization. It provides a medium through which people can take effective action for the progress of the community. It helps create job opportunities through stimulation of industrial and commercial growth. It seeks the improvement of community facilities; streets, highways, parks, schools, marketing facilities, and human resources. In all of these functions the Chamber of Commerce is serving as a department - a partner - of every business and every professional person in the area.

With that said, the chamber has thoroughly studied the draft report and strongly endorses all of the recommendations listed.

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

Idaho must protect and promote INL's role as the lead research laboratory in nuclear energy. INL can play to secure the country's energy future and can help conduct back of the fuel cycle research as identified in the Blue ribbon Commission's recommendations.

The Chamber fully endorse the recommendations highlighting the facilities, capabilities, and programs found on pages 35 and 36 of the Progress Report

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

Without strong support from the Governor's office and the Idaho State Legislature it will be difficult to attract new work (and possibility continue existing missions) at the INL.

The State should recognize the economic impact that the Idaho National Laboratory (a \$3.5 billion industry in Idaho) has on the *entire* State and come to the table prepared to invest in protecting and advancing that industry. We need to promote these capabilities as "regional" assets to Wyoming, Utah, Montana, etc. to help build strength in the INL/CAES mission and hopefully be a catalyst to other partnerships – including private sector in neighboring states.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

There is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. There are very few examples where this has not been the case. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance nuclear technologies. **Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?**

Idaho should be much more proactive in identifying potential new missions at the INL as well opportunities for private sector nuclear work and recruiting those opportunities. New technology in this industry is one area the State should be very focused on. If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should to gain benefit beyond the limited financial penalties of the agreement.

Consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for milestones remaining to be completed.

To ensure INL's valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Although INL's interest is focused on conducting research that would involve bringing small amounts of research materials, recognize this is not the same as interim storage. However there may be interest in Idaho outside the boundaries of INL. Regarding interest outside INL, Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing interim storage. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored (such as a location that does not have aquifer concerns and ways in which the state can retain control). The state should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

The State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission "consent based" siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robb Chiles". The signature is stylized and appears to be written on a grid of small squares, which is part of a larger graphic element.

Robb Chiles

President/CEO

Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce

Mr. Jeffery Sayer, Chairman
LINE Commission
c/o Idaho Department of Commerce
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho, 83720-0093

Dear Chairman Sayer:

I have read the Draft Report of the LINE Commission and strongly endorse all of the proposed recommendations. While I currently serve as the Idaho Area Administrator for Technology Ventures Corporation (TVC), and work very closely with the Idaho National Laboratory, as well as the other U.S. Department of Energy National Labs, my comments herein are made personally and should not be considered as representing the views of TVC or our parent organization, Lockheed-Martin Corp.

What is the strategic role the INL and Idaho's nuclear industry can play in the country's energy future?

The INL and Idaho's nuclear industry have earned a well-deserved status as the premier nuclear and energy research and development facility throughout the world. Nearly seventy years of experience, capital investment and innovation at the INL have not only impacted the development of nuclear energy in this country, but also the world. While both political and economic forces affect the popularity of nuclear energy, its continued existence as the primary source of power for many nations can be assured for the future. To relinquish our role, or reduce our capacity, to lead in the design, development, security, efficiency and safety of energy systems, would be a *global* travesty.

From an economic development perspective, we must be grateful for these incredible assets we have been blessed with and exercise a careful stewardship to expand upon them, rather than lose them to others because of our complacency. It isn't a question of whether nuclear energy will continue to exist, or be further researched, but rather, who will reap the benefits of the opportunities that will be a natural extension of its growth and development. The best type of economic development is "starting with what you have already got." Frankly, our failure to provide leadership will not only damage growth opportunities within the state, but it will also set back the energy development worldwide as it seeks to fill the gaps left by our malfeasance.

In light of reduced federal spending, what impacts might affect INL and what role can Idaho play to protect INL research and cleanup funding?

This is a prime opportunity to determine our own destiny. If Idahoans will embrace the potential inherent in our heritage, infrastructure and economy, then we can send a strong message that "Idaho is open for business." Both government and private business entities are understandably

reluctant to pursue any type of funding or enterprise development without strong support from the Governor's office, the Idaho State Legislature and our Congressional delegation, but more importantly, without strong support from the business community and the citizens of the state and region. It is clearly evident that small and large businesses within the nuclear energy industry would expand their presence in eastern Idaho, if only they would receive a heartfelt invitation. It makes good business sense to locate where there is the greatest concentration of intellectual and human capital, not to mention, unparalleled infrastructure. The current \$3.5 billion economic impact of the INL could be greatly expanded with the introduction of new, safe, energy research and energy production facilities, along with all the concomitant support businesses that such development will require. These types of jobs will typically be skilled and higher paying.

The reality is that other states have recognized the economic impact of a vibrant nuclear community and all of the additional energy and high-tech businesses it will attract. Interestingly, these states want to duplicate what we already have, but are failing to take advantage of. Why? Because they have examined the value proposition and found, despite the popular rhetoric to the contrary, there is little risk and a huge potential upside. Ultimately, this should be a "bottom-up" approach, lead by the business owners and the general populace of Idaho, but more particularly, eastern Idaho. Funding will always be an issue, but it can be dealt with most effectively through a "consent-based" approach. If Idaho's message is that we welcome the opportunity to use our resources to lead the energy effort, and resolve potential problems, then both public and private monies will flow to where it is needed and will produce the best return on investment. Here in eastern Idaho and the INL.

What broad environmental risks are posed by nuclear technologies and what mitigating steps are reasonable to protect public health and the environment regarding current and future applications of nuclear technology in Idaho?

Obviously, there have been a very few mistakes along the way, but more importantly, there is a long and safe history in Idaho of handling and transporting nuclear materials and wastes. INL can play a role in testing technologies and testing nuclear materials in a safe and controlled manner with no impact to the aquifer or public health. My continuing observations and education about the INL, and the broader nuclear energy industry as a whole, has revealed that it has the best safety record of any energy production industry. The regulatory controls exceed any other type of industry I can think of, and arguably, actually impede the implementation of even better designed, safer, and more efficient reactor designs. Novel advancements have and continue to be developed and implemented which mitigate, or in some cases, eliminate the risk of environmental contamination by spent nuclear fuel, or the risks of a nuclear "accident." While risks obviously do exist, the risks cannot ignore the incredible safety record over many decades, and the continued development and implementation of advanced safety and security systems. Idaho should take pride in taking on more opportunities that would advance technologies and not subscribe to the predictable anti-nuclear rhetoric.

Where is nuclear technology going and what role and/or opportunities exist for INL and Idaho companies in those technology developments?

While the United States is an energy resource-rich country, and has the benefit of many types of electricity production, nuclear still provides 20% of our production capabilities and does so in a safe, consistent and relatively inexpensive manner. Few countries in the world share our resource choices and depend on nuclear for the bulk of their electrical supply demands. As many countries develop, nuclear will be their primary source. Many new designs with increased production capacity, safety and security are awaiting conditions which will allow them to be developed. Small Modular Reactors (SMR) are among the potential innovations that can have major global and domestic impact. Idaho should pursue a partnership with the INL and major enterprises to implement a SMR Development project, with future opportunities for manufacturing and support services. We are all appropriately concerned with our safety and the continued environmental integrity of the great state in which we live. But nuclear energy will be developed and will continue to be utilized throughout the world. We can argue that others should take the risk of accidents, but the fact is that the INL and eastern Idaho have been living with the risk for nearly 70 years and we have built up the systems, capital, ingenuity, education and infrastructure to safely deal with it. Who would we trust to handle the future of energy, nuclear or otherwise, than the greatest experts in the world? (Who also happen to live here and would be at risk – but have enough confidence to remain!) Let's just be realistic. I trust us more than anybody else. There is much more that we can do for our benefit and for the world's benefit.

If Idaho as a state does not show that it values and wants to continue conducting research work at INL, the opportunity will quickly be lost to other, more aggressive states.

Given the Blue Ribbon commission's focus on consent-based siting and the suspension of the Yucca Mountain repository, in what way can Idaho's 1995 Settlement Agreement protect the state's interests to support and enhance research and development at INL and complete the cleanup mission?

**** (The remaining comments are attributable to Lane Allgood, but appropriately represent my views on these last three questions):**

Idaho's Settlement Agreement has been a great success of which this state can be proud. The majority of the milestones have been met. Tax payers have invested significant money in infrastructure and workforce to meet the terms of that agreement. Idaho should continue to push to have all terms of the agreement completed. In areas where it is unlikely that deadlines can be met, Idaho should to gain benefit beyond the limited financial penalties of the agreement. Consideration should be given to working to negotiate more favorable terms in the agreement for milestones remaining to be completed.

To ensure INL's valuable designation as a national lead laboratory in nuclear research is not compromised, an update to the Settlement Agreement is critical. It must reflect the needs and

challenges of today; bring clarity to the amount of research material brought into the state; ensure cleanup proceeds but on a prioritized timeline that makes sense; and supports, not discourages, research needs and opportunities of industry and government.

Although INL's interest is focused on conducting research that would involve bringing small amounts of research materials, recognize this is not the same as interim storage. However there may be interest in Idaho outside the boundaries of INL. Regarding interest outside INL, Idaho must acknowledge that the Settlement Agreement does not apply to lands not contained within the INL boundary. The state should remain open and actively engaged in any private sector interests in pursuing interim storage. The State should identify terms it would require should such opportunity be explored (such as a location that does not have aquifer concerns and ways in which the state can retain control). The state should identify a business model that most benefits the state in a private sector opportunity. The State should focus upon attracting private sector interests that can leverage a strong capable nuclear workforce and build the nuclear industry in Idaho.

The State should remain engaged in discussions around the Blue Ribbon Commission "consent based" siting process. Engaging in the conversation will allow Idaho to explore the capability to negotiate items that the State identifies as valuable.

How can Idaho's universities influence, support and participate in the future of nuclear energy, nuclear workforce development, and advancements in nuclear technologies?

We have several educational institutions in eastern Idaho, which currently compliment the work at the INL and at CAES. These institutions include: University of Idaho, Idaho State University, Brigham Young University-Idaho, Energy Systems Technology & Education Center, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Eastern Idaho. All of these institutions have programs for degrees or technical certifications to serve the needs of our existing companies, the INL, and the clean-up contractors.

The existing workforce and workforce development training programs provide an advantage to the State in recruiting private sector opportunities. The State should continue to develop opportunities for our educational institutions in order to maintain Idaho's position as a nuclear energy lead. Perhaps some funding through IGEM could be used for research and development as well continuing to support these programs. Continued partnerships between higher education, private sector, INL and CAES will promote program development that uniquely positions Idaho to lead in future nuclear technology.

Following the impacts of the Fukushima tsunami and the recent market impact of expanded natural gas supplies, what future role will nuclear energy play in the nation's energy policies and what can Idaho do to prepare for that future?

Currently nuclear power supplies almost 20% of the nation's electrical power supply. EPRI reports demonstrate that an "all of the above" energy strategy is necessary. There is no one

resource that will answer all energy needs and it is unrealistic to believe we can predict all the changes likely to occur to existing power resources including the future abundance and low cost of natural gas and/or the decommissioning of coal plants.

The U.S. Department of Energy projects that US electricity demand will rise 22 percent by 2035, about one percent each year. That means our nation will need hundreds of new power plants to provide electricity for our homes and continued economic growth. Maintaining nuclear energy's current 20 percent share of generation would require building one reactor every year starting in 2016 or 20 to 25 new units by 2035, based on DOE forecasts. If decommissioning of coal plants continue as projected, it is believable that nuclear (a baseload emission free resource) will have to provide for more than 20 percent of the generation.

Nuclear will play a role in the future-both in terms of existing nuclear fleet with expanded permit questions, and newly built reactors (including SMR's). Idaho has existing infrastructure and workforce to solve many of these challenges. Idaho should continue to promote INL/Industry collaboration for energy systems that include nuclear and other (such as hybrid energy systems) generation opportunities.

Shawn L. Perkins

2146 W. Robison Dr.

Rexburg, ID 83440