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Have you ever turned on the television, light bulb, or microwaved a hot dog? How would you like it if this were not possible not only for you, but for your children and grandchildren as well? Part of the electricity used to cook that hot dog, power the T.V., and light the light bulb comes from nuclear power. Isn't it interesting one nuclear reactor provides more power per day than all the hydroelectric dams on the Snake River combined, without damaging the habitat of the fish?

Idaho doesn't have to become a waste repository. What Idaho needs to become is a leader concerning the future of spent nuclear fuel. With your knowledge about the subject, surely you can see that the only feasible solution is to reprocess this spent fuel at the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant. There is one catch however, in order to process this spent fuel, there needs to be a waste repository site. There are sites already waiting to be opened at WIPP and Yucca Mountain. As Idaho was one of the leaders in the forefront of shutting these projects down, Idaho needs to be a leader in the reopening of these waste repositories. Then we can deal with Idaho's main concern: spent nuclear fuel being stored at the INEL. 1/08.03.01

The spent fuel will not go away, however the implementation of WIPP and Yucca Mountain, along with the restart of the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant, will provide a solution for the nuclear waste issue. What the Department of Energy needs to do is to implement a complete nuclear fuel cycle and, at the same time, show the American public the benefits of nuclear energy. If these two sites were operational, the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant could start up again and reclaim the fuel. Uranium is a natural resource that is NOT renewable and needs to be recycled. 2/15.00.00

There are people who would like the general public to believe that the nuclear industry is not safe. This is just not true! With the stringent guidelines implemented by both the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy, we are safer today than we have ever been. There is

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08 03 01 Comment Number 1

The Department of Energy acknowledges the commentor's support for new missions at INEL. Decisions on storage and disposition of weapons-usable fissile materials will be based on environmental analyses, technical and economic studies, national policy considerations, and public input. However, the President's Nonproliferation Policy says the United States will not recycle Pu. The operation of the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant (ICPP) is beyond the scope of this PEIS.

15 00 00 Comment Number 2

Idaho National Engineering Laboratory is one of six candidate storage sites considered in the PEIS. DOE will base its final decisions on the results of environmental analyses, information from technical and economic studies, national policy objectives, and public input. Decisions regarding potential repositories for transuranic (TRU) waste, HLW, and spent fuel will be made by DOE pursuant to separate NEPA reviews. DOE is committed to removing spent nuclear fuel from INEL by 2035, although such spent fuel is beyond the scope of this PEIS. Similarly, the operation of the ICPP, and associated socioeconomic benefits, is beyond the scope of this PEIS.

greater probability for accidents involving automobiles than in the nuclear industry. I'll bet you don't see people protesting against automobiles! There are also people who would like the public to believe the nuclear industry releases tons of pollutants into the atmosphere. This also is a complete fabrication. Whenever radiation is released accidentally, it is true that the measurement is in curies. However, when radiation is released on purpose, the measurement used is microcuries.

Go up Taylor Mountain in Idaho Falls early one morning and take a good look around, the haze you see is us, slowly killing the environment as well as ourselves. Each year over two hundred million tons of pollutants are introduced into the atmosphere by coal fired power plants! Of this two hundred million tons, there are significant quantities of radiation being released into the environment, including Radium-226! Are we supposed to bury our heads in the sand and do nothing about this? My answer is ABSOLUTELY NOT!! If we don't press forward with safe, clean, high efficient power plants, whether they be nuclear or not, I see nothing but a bleak future for generations to come.

Are you aware of the economic benefits spent nuclear Navy fuel has upon our state? By allowing spent nuclear Navy fuel shipments into Idaho along with the start up of the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant, we would be able to offset some of the layoffs that employees of the INEL have been suffering. This would contribute greatly to the economy of Eastern Idaho as well as the rest of the state. As Idaho's third largest employer, the INEL provides thirteen percent of the tax base. Where is that thirteen percent going to be cut from the budget? Who is going to take responsibility, and provide for the families of the workers who have lost their jobs!? 2/15.00.00 cont.

The public is not educated well enough about the nuclear age to feel safe about it. In lieu of this, I encourage you to visit one of the Radiation Safety Programs at the Eastern Idaho Technical College in Idaho Falls, or at Idaho State University in Pocatello. I would be very interested in hearing your feelings and policies concerning the nuclear industry and specifically, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

Sincerely,

Casey Burns
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