



Operable Unit 3-14 (Tank Farm Soils) Proposed Plan

Alternative 2b-Capping and Monitoring

The Department of Energy's (DOE) preferred "Alternative 2(b) Capping and Monitoring" causes some concern. Capping may not completely inhibit the recharge in this area. Even though the recharge zone near the tank farm will be capped and monitored, there is also a possibility of recharge upstream of the cap. There are some seasons when heavy snows and spring thaws present the possibility of overflows of the Big Lost River north of the Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (INTEC) Facility. This overflow recharge could spread contaminated soils or contaminated plumes. We would like to see information which addresses this concern.

With this preferred alternative, we would also like to see periodic reporting to determine if it has minimized or stopped the spread of contamination. If the capping and monitoring fails to prevent or stop the spread of contamination, then a review needs to be performed to determine if there is new or other technology available to accomplish the task.

Further, we would like periodic updates from DOE regarding the status of the contaminated plumes.