

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SPECIAL ISOTOPE SEPARATION PROJECT

IDAHO NATIONAL ENGINEERING LABORATORY
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO



November 1988

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

ERRATA SHEET

VOLUME 3

PAGE 31, LEFT HAND MARGIN,

FIRST REFERENCE NUMBER, 5.30.3.5 SHOULD BE 5.30.3.6

THIRD REFERENCE NUMBER, 5.30.3.4 SHOULD BE 5.30.3.5

FOURTH REFERENCE NUMBER, 5.30.3.3 SHOULD BE 5.30.3.4

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Volume 3
Oral Comments

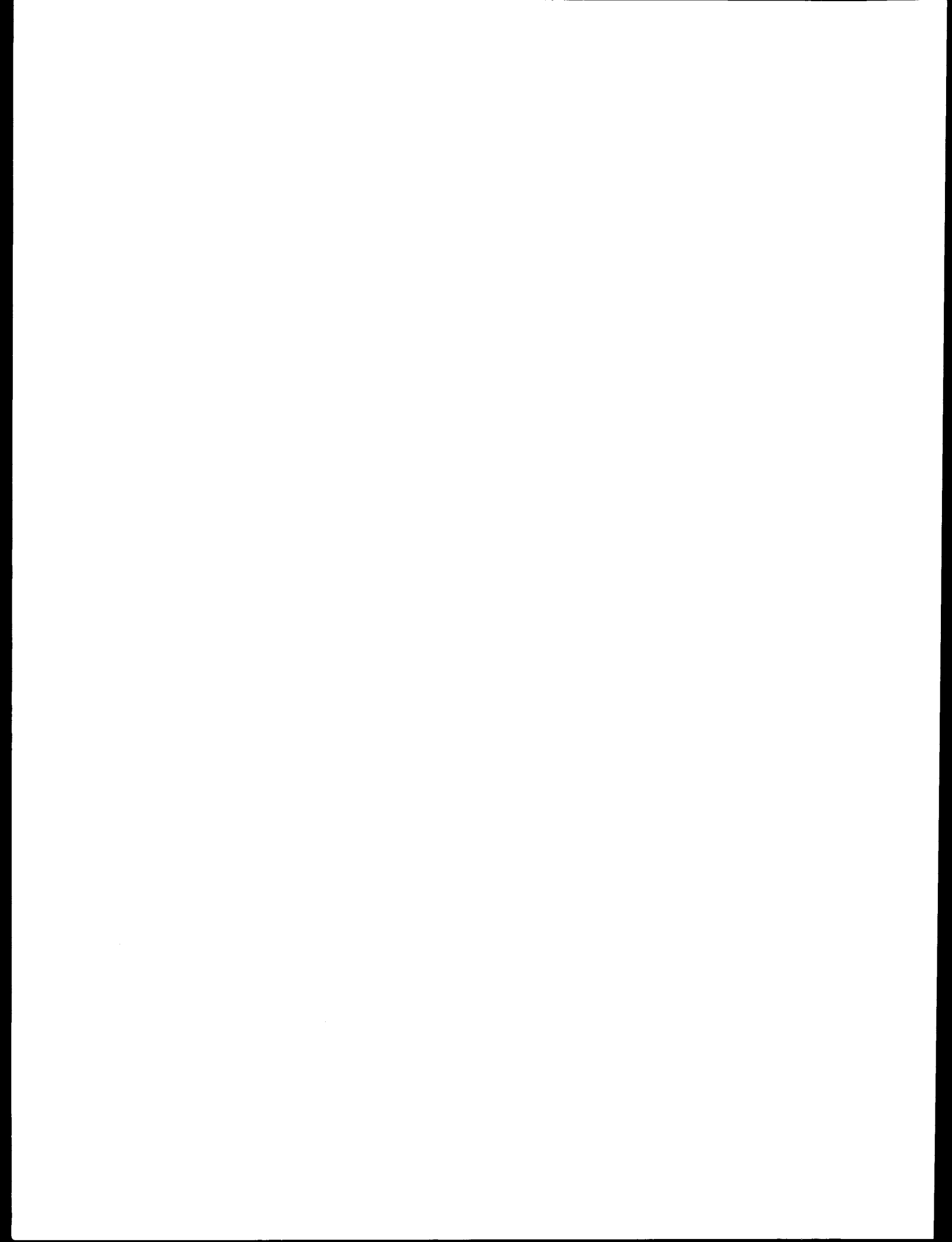
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COVER SHEET

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY: U. S. Department of Energy

TITLE: Final Environmental Impact Statement, Special Isotope Separation Project, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, Idaho Falls, Idaho

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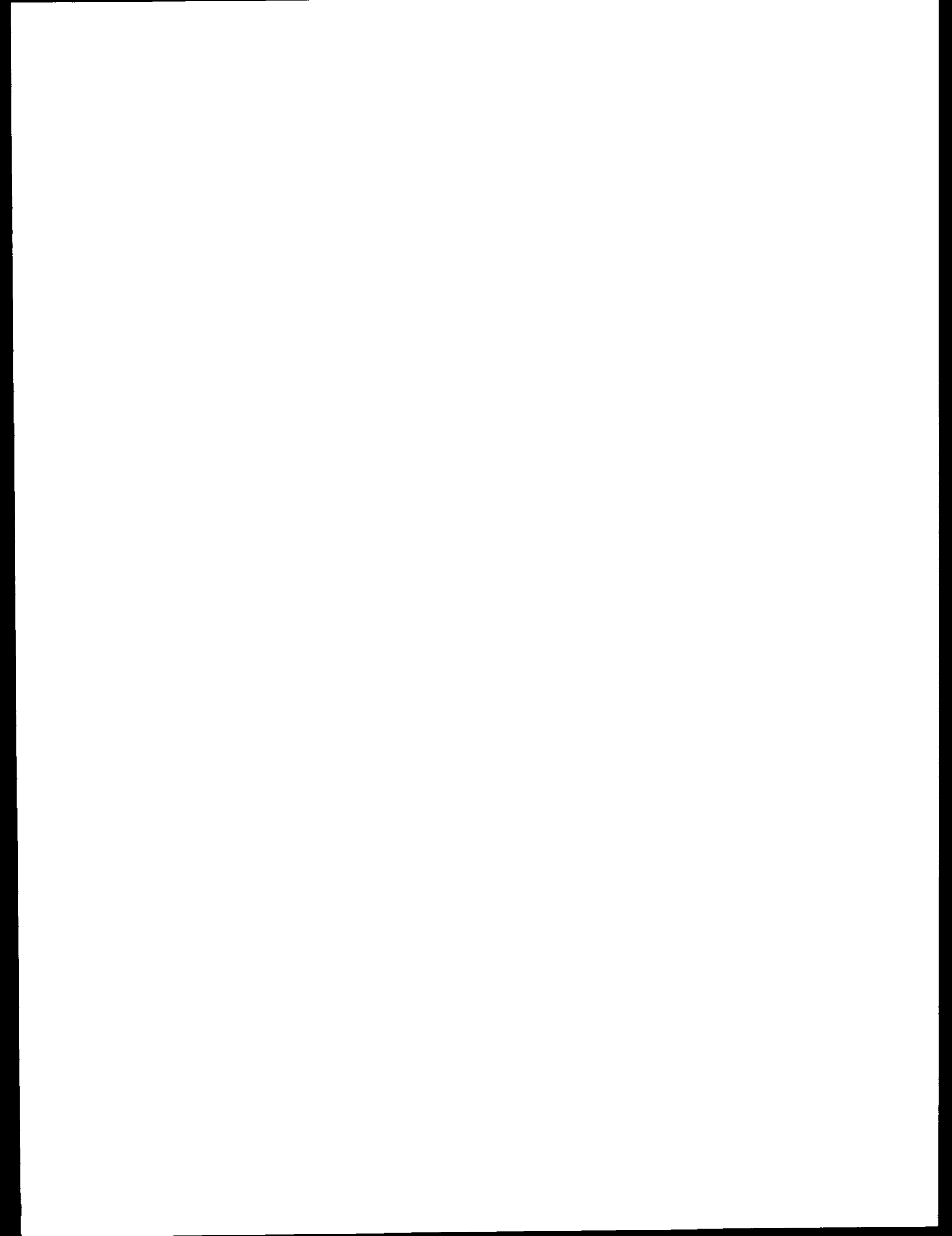
For general information on the Department of Energy's EIS process, contact:

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Environment, Safety and Health
U.S. Department of Energy
Attention: Ms. Carol Borgstrom (EH-25)
Director, Office of NEPA Project Assistance
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ABSTRACT: The purpose of this Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is to provide environmental input into a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) decision on the proposed construction and operation of a Special Isotope Separation (SIS) Project using the Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation (AVLIS) process technology and on the selection of a site for such a project. The SIS Project would provide DOE with the capability of segregating the isotopes of DOE-owned plutonium into specific isotopic concentrations. This capability is needed to provide a contingent capability in DOE's production of nuclear materials for national defense.

The alternatives considered in detail in this EIS include (1) constructing and operating the SIS Project at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) near Idaho Falls, Idaho; (2) constructing and operating the SIS Project at the Hanford Site near Richland, Washington; (3) constructing and operating the SIS Project at the Savannah River Plant (SRP) near Aiken, South Carolina; and (4) no action, or not constructing and operating the SIS Project.

This EIS includes discussion of the SIS facilities and processes; the environmental consequences of constructing and operating the facilities at the alternative sites; the environmental consequences of no action; and the potential environmental consequences caused by postulated accidents.



FOREWORD TO VOLUMES 3 THROUGH 6

The comment/response and comment (reproduced public input) volumes of the Special Isotope Separation (SIS) Project Final EIS have been prepared in compliance with the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations 40 CFR 1503.4 and 1506.6. These volumes contain the reproduced public input and DOE's responses to the comments received during the public comment period on the Draft EIS.

Notice of availability of the Draft EIS for the Special Isotope Separation (SIS) Project appeared in the Federal Register on February 19, 1988. The Federal Register notice invited comment on the Draft EIS within the 60-day comment period, which ended April 21, 1988. Six public hearings were held, as follows:

Idaho Falls, Idaho	March 25 and 30, 1988
Twin Falls, Idaho	March 28 and 31, 1988
Boise, Idaho	March 26 and 29, 1988

At the beginning of the public comment period, a procedure was established to receive, document, identify, and prepare responses to public comments. Each comment (written, oral, or an exhibit) was assigned an identification number and is reproduced in Volumes 3 through 6 of the Final EIS.

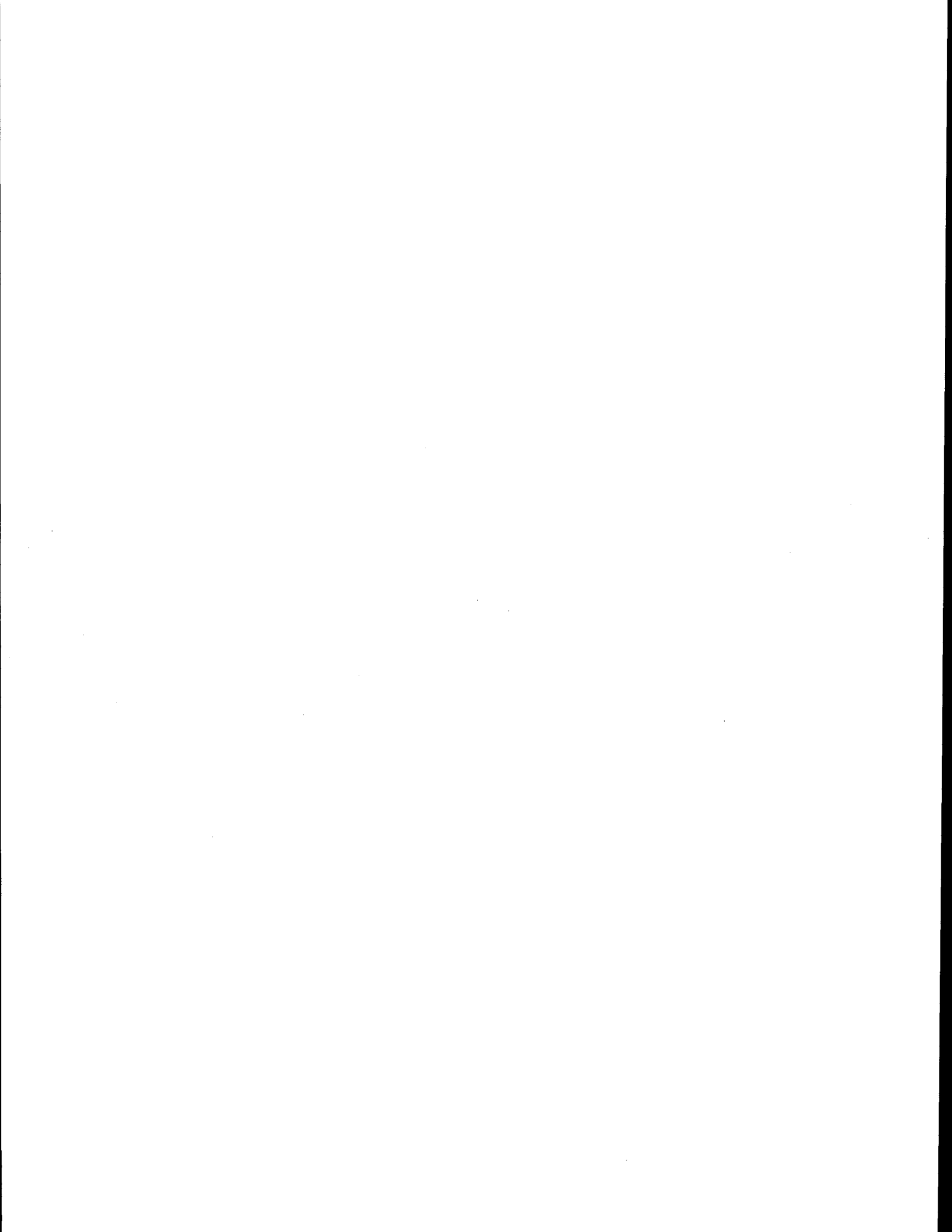
The identification numbers assigned were as follows:

IXXX = Oral testimony given at the March 25 Idaho Falls hearing.
ISXX = Oral testimony given at the March 30 Idaho Falls hearing.
TXXX = Oral testimony given at the March 28 Twin Falls hearing.
T5XX = Oral testimony given at the March 31 Twin Falls hearing.
BXXX = Oral testimony given at the March 26 Boise hearing.
B2XX = Oral testimony given at the March 29 Boise hearing.
WXXX = Written testimony sent to DOE during the comment period.
EXXX = Exhibits (i.e., written testimony, letters, pictures, poems) submitted at the hearings.
XXX = Number designating order in which the testimony was received.

Note: The Moscow City Council Commission on Health and the Environment held a public hearing to obtain comment on the Draft EIS for the proposed SIS Project. The transcripts and exhibits received by DOE from this hearing have been entered into the record as written comment W284.

All letters, transcripts of oral testimony, and accompanying exhibits were photostatically reproduced and are included in Volumes 3 through 6 of the Final EIS. Specifically, Volume 3 contains transcripts of the oral testimony, Volumes 4 and 5 contain exhibits submitted during the public hearings, and Volume 6 contains written comments received by DOE. Volume 2 addresses the specific comments contained in Volumes 3 through 6 designated by a comment summary number placed in the margins next to the testimony, as applicable. This number refers to the associated Volume 2 comment summary and response. The introduction in the front of Volume 2 contains guidance for locating specific public testimony, summary comments, and the associated responses to the comments. Appendices A through E at the end of Volume 2 provide cross-references between the reproduced public input contained in Volumes 3 through 6, and the corresponding summary comments and responses comprising Volume 2.

In reviewing the unedited transcript of the oral testimony, DOE has exercised its judgement to interpret the intent of the comment when the transcription is obviously in error (e.g., RIFT is interpreted to mean WIPP on pages 310-313, Melinda Kassen's name was misspelled on pages 320-323, etc.)



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1 BOISE, IDAHO, SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1988, 2:00 P. M.

2
3 MR. EIGUREN: Good afternoon, ladies and
4 gentlemen. I will now formally commence this public
5 hearing concerning the review of the Draft Environmental
6 Impact Statement relative to the United States Department
7 of Energy's proposed Special Isotope Separation Project.

8 This proceeding is officially designated
9 as the Boise, Idaho public hearing, under Department of
10 Energy Document No. DOE/EIS-0136 held on the 26th day of
11 March, 1988, commencing at 2:02 p.m. in the afternoon, in
12 Boise.

13 My name is Roy Eiguren; I am the Hearing
14 Officer for this and subsequent public hearings held to
15 receive comments on the Draft Environmental Impact
16 Statement in the proposed siting, construction and
17 operation by the Department of Energy of a Special
18 Isotope Separation Project, utilizing Atomic Vapor Laser
19 Isotope Separation process technology. I will refer to
20 this and in subsequent proceedings as the DOE/DEIS Public
21 Hearings on the SIS Project.

22 I'm an attorney engaged in private practice
23 here in Boise. I have been retained by the Department of
24 Energy to conduct this series of public hearings as an
25 independent and unbiased party to assure the opportunity

1

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1 for all interested organizations and individuals, the
2 opportunity to comment on the DEIS. Accordingly, I am not
3 the advocate for or against the proposed position taken
4 by the Department in this proceeding; rather, I am a
5 neutral third party who has coordinated the development
6 of the procedures to be followed in the conduct of these
7 hearings, and will conduct all the hearings in these
8 proceedings.

9 The issue that is the subject of this
10 proceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct
11 and operate an SIS facility at one of three locations
12 in the United States: The DOE's Idaho National Engineering
13 Laboratory near Idaho Falls, the DOE's Hanford Reservation
14 near Richland, Washington, or the DOE's Savannah River
15 Plant near Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three
16 sites is designated as an alternative as considered in
17 the DEIS.

18 The fourth and final alternative under
19 consideration in the DEIS is the No Action Alternative,
20 which would be a departmental decision not to site,
21 construct and operate an SIS facility.

22 As stated in the DEIS, the Department's
23 preferred alternative is to site, construct and operate
24 the SIS Project at the Idaho National Engineering
25 Laboratory.

2

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1 To put this hearing in perspective, I think
2 it's important that you first understand the key elements
3 of the federal law that requires that the Department's
4 final decision in this matter be preceded by a
5 comprehensive review of the environmental factors
6 associated with each of the alternatives being considered
7 by the Department.

8 The National Environmental Policy Act of
9 1969, Public Law 91-910, generally known as NEPA, requires
10 that all federal agencies develop procedures that "ensure
11 environmental amenities or values are given appropriate
12 consideration in federal government decision making, along
13 with technical considerations."

14 This law also requires recommendations for
15 major federal actions significantly affecting the quality
16 of human environment be first preceded by the development
17 and completion of an Environmental Impact Statement, or
18 EIS, that fully and carefully examines the potential
19 environmental impact of the proposed federal action.

20 The Department of Energy has determined that
21 its proposed action in siting, constructing and operating
22 an SIS Plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA,
23 requires the development and completion of an EIS.
24 Accordingly, by publication on October 31, 1986, a notice
25 of intent to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register was

1 denominated as 51 FR 39765.

2 The Department of Energy has commenced the
3 process that has led to the development and publication
4 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement that is the
5 subject of this hearing. The DEIS was prepared by the
6 Department with the assistance of an independent
7 contractor, the NUS Corporation, after an extensive process
8 of receiving public comment through scoping, or the
9 initial input phase of this EIS development proceeding.

10 During scoping, public comment on the scope
11 or magnitude of issues to be addressed in the EIS was
12 received, as well as specific comment on particular issues
13 themselves. Scoping included receipt of extensive
14 written public comment as well as oral comments from two
15 lengthy public meetings or hearing, one held in Idaho
16 Falls, Idaho on February 24th, 1987, and one held here
17 in Boise on February 26th, 1987.

18 As a result of the input received during
19 scoping, the following issues were analyzed in the DEIS
20 relative to each of the alternatives identified above:
21 Off-site general population radiological and
22 nonradiological effects resulting from potential accidents
23 at an SIS facility.

24 Issue No. 2, The effect on the general
25 population from emissions of radiological and

1 nonradiological releases caused by normal operations at
2 such a facility.

3 Issue No. 3. Exposure of operating personnel
4 to radiological sources and nonradiological releases
5 during normal operations of an SIS Plant.

6 No. 4. Incremental differences, involvement
7 or impacts between the operation of the existing chemical
8 processing facilities and the proposed action
9 alternatives.

10 Issue No. 5. Effects on air and water
11 quality and other environmental consequences during
12 construction and operation of an SIS Facility.

13 Issue No. 6. The cumulative effects of
14 operation of such a facility, including changes in
15 support operations related to it.

16 Issue No. 7. The on-site and off-site
17 transportation impacts of nuclear materials.

18 Issue No. 8. An analysis of applicable
19 federal, state and local regulations applying to the
20 construction and operation of an SIS Plant.

21 Issue No. 9. Decontamination and
22 decommission of such a plant.

23 Issue 10. Irretrievable and irreversible
24 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials and
25 scarce materials relative to the plant.

1 And, finally, Issue No. 11: Mitigation
2 measures necessary to respond to any environmental
3 consequences associated with each of the alternatives.

4 The EIS preparation review process is
5 governed by federal regulations established by the Council
6 on Environmental Quality, or CEQ, an agency within the
7 Executive Office of the President of the United States,
8 and by the Department of Energy's own guidelines.

9 The Council on Environmental Quality
10 regulations that govern these proceedings are found in
11 40 Federal Regulations, Part 1500 through 1508. The DOE
12 guidelines are found at 45 Federal Register 20694.
13 These regulations and guidelines have been previously
14 marked by me as Exhibit 1 and have been introduced
15 formally into the record of this proceeding.

16 The relevant CEQ regulations require that,
17 and I quote, "After preparing a Draft Environmental
18 Impact Statement and before preparing a Final Impact
19 Statement, a federal agency must first obtain comments of
20 any federal agency which has jurisdiction by law or
21 special expertise with respect to any environmental
22 impact, and request the comments of appropriate state and
23 local agencies which develop and enforce environmental
24 standards, also obtain the comments of Indian tribes and
25 the public, with a particular obligation to affirmatively

1 solicit comments from persons or organizations who may
2 be interested or affected by the proposed federal
3 decision. Public meetings or hearings are to be held
4 where the Department determines that substantial
5 environmental controversy exists concerning the proposed
6 action."

7 Accordingly, today's hearing, as well as
8 the other hearings in this series, are being held pursuant
9 to these regulations that I just quoted.

10 The purpose again is to receive public,
11 Indian tribe and governmental comment on the various
12 issues identified in the Draft Environmental Impact
13 Statement.

14 Notice of these public hearings are provided
15 in the Federal Register notice dated February 19th, 1988,
16 and denominated as 53 FR 5032, and on March 4th, 1988,
17 which is listed in the Federal Register as 53 FR 7227.

18 Additional public notice was provided in
19 publication in numerous newspapers throughout the state
20 of these hearings. The Federal Register notices, the text
21 of the newspaper notices and the publication dates of
22 each has been marked as Exhibit 2 in this proceeding and
23 and has been submitted for the record by me.

24 The public comments on the Draft
25 Environmental Impact Statement will be received through

1 this and subsequent hearings held next week in Boise
2 again, Twin Falls and Idaho Falls. Written comments,
3 which receive the same weight and consideration by the
4 Department in this proceeding, may be submitted by the
5 public to me today and at the subsequent hearings, or may
6 be mailed to Mr. -- to Dr. Clay Nichols, the SIS Project
7 Manager at the Idaho Operations Office of DOE. We
8 can provide to you, if you'd like, the address is in the
9 back of the room.

10 Oral and written comments will be compiled
11 into a comprehensive record and in turn will be considered
12 by the Department in making a final decision in this
13 matter.

14 CEQ regulations that I referenced earlier
15 also provide that comments on Environmental Impact
16 Statements or on a proposed action "shall be as specific
17 as possible and may address the accuracy of the proposed
18 Environmental Impact Statement or the merits of the
19 alternatives or both."

20 Although the Department has determined in
21 this proceeding that certain issues such as the need for
22 an SIS Project are beyond the scope of this environmental
23 proceeding, I will allow comments on that issue as well
24 as other issues related to the project individual
25 commenters feel are relevant. However, as the Hearings

1 Officer, I do reserve the right to ask commenters to keep
2 their comments relative to the subject matter of this
3 proceeding when determined necessary to do so.

4 Moving on to the process. After reviewing
5 the record that we're compiling here in this hearing as
6 well as the other hearings, the Department then may choose
7 to modify, supplement or reissue the Draft Environmental
8 Impact Statement prior to issuing a final EIS. It may
9 also choose to issue the DEIS as written as the final.

10 The Record of Decision which will identify
11 the environmentally preferred alternative chosen by the
12 Department, along with any practical means to avoid or
13 minimize environmental harm in the alternative selected,
14 will also be issued subsequent to the issuance of the
15 final EIS.

16 The Department, as a matter of federal
17 regulation, cannot proceed with its proposed action as
18 identified in the Record of Decision until a minimum of
19 30 days has passed from the date of issuance of the final
20 EIS.

21 Under current schedules, the Department of
22 Energy intends to issue a final EIS and a record of
23 decision later this summer, tentatively the month of
24 August.

25 To govern the conduct of this and subsequent

1 hearings in this proceeding, I have developed several
2 procedures, in consultation with the Department of Energy
3 as well as representatives of public interest groups who
4 have either participated in the public scoping meetings
5 or have indicated their desire to participate in these
6 hearings.

7 These procedures were finalized between and
8 amongst the various parties on March the 24th and have
9 been distributed to interested parties along with a list
10 of organizational representatives and individuals who had
11 registered to comment at these hearings prior to March 18,
12 1988 -- this is the deadline for the close of
13 preregistration. These procedures have been marked as
14 Exhibit 3 and were previously submitted for the record.

15 Also previously submitted for the record by
16 me as Exhibit No. 4 was a complete listing of all public
17 involvement activities engaged in by the Department of
18 Energy relative to the development of this Draft
19 Environmental Impact Statement.

20 At this point, I would briefly now like to
21 turn to the procedural guidelines that we are following
22 not only in this proceeding but also in the other hearings
23 in this series. I will be very brief and go through them.
24 I think most of you are already aware of them, but I think
25 it's important to note them once again for the record.

1 Other than my opening statement, which I am
2 preparing -- presenting at this time, and aside from
3 remarks received yesterday evening from Mr. Troy Wade, the
4 Assistant Secretary of Energy for defense programs, there
5 will not be any other opening remarks or other remarks
6 by the Department of Energy or its contractors in this
7 proceeding.

8 However, I would like to reference the
9 fact that senior departmental staff is present, including
10 Mr. Don Ofte, who is the Idaho Operations Manager for
11 the Department of Energy. Mr. Ofte and his staff are
12 seated in the front of the room.

13 Comments in this proceeding will be
14 received in the following order: Elected and appointed
15 federal, state and local governmental officials will
16 present their comments, followed by representatives of
17 national, state and local organizations who are
18 participating in the proceeding, followed by members of
19 the public who were preregistered to speak prior to the
20 end of business on March 18th, 1988.

21 As opposed to preregistration, the order
22 of public commenters was randomly chosen by a computer,
23 and those lists of commenters are published in the back
24 of the room on the sheet.

25 Finally, we will accept comments from

1 members of the public who register at the door at this
2 and subsequent hearings.

3 Organizational representatives and officials
4 will be allowed 10 minutes for oral comment. Individuals
5 will be allowed five minutes. I am the timekeeper in
6 these proceedings, so I'm the official judge as to how
7 long you have. I have been asking people to keep within
8 the strict guidelines I have listed, because we have at
9 this point over 832 total commenters in this series of
10 hearings.

11 To assist you in planning your time, I have
12 a series of signaling devices here in the front. If you
13 are an organizational commenter and you have spoken for
14 nine minutes, we'll give you a green light, and at 10
15 minutes or close of comment, we'll give you the red light.
16 If you are an individual, we'll give you a green light
17 at four minutes and the red light at five. If you keep
18 talking past the red light, many terrible, horrible things
19 will happen to you.

20 Due to the significant number of commenters
21 who have registered to speak, once again I reiterate,
22 please keep within the allotted time periods.

23 I would also once again mention the fact
24 that if you have written comments, you may submit those
25 for the record, and we will actually appreciate that. It's

1 of great assistance to us, because oftentimes people will
2 summarize written comments and not give us the entire
3 text of their material. So if you have written comments,
4 please bring them forward to me and I'll mark them as an
5 exhibit, and they will be included in the record.

6 To accommodate the exceptional number of
7 individuals who have requested to provide oral public
8 comment, and given the Department of Energy's continued
9 commitment to allow all interested individuals and
10 organizations the opportunity to meaningfully comment in
11 this EIS development proceeding, this afternoon's session
12 as well as this evening's hearing will recess at 11:00 p.m.
13 and will resume at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively
14 on the following date, that is to say, what we're doing
15 is resuming both the Idaho Falls as well as the Boise
16 hearings.

17 So those of you that have signed up today
18 or are preregistered to testify and have not been
19 accommodated the opportunity to publicly offer oral
20 comment, you will automatically be registered to speak
21 at the continuation of this hearing, which will commence
22 next Tuesday, March the 29th, at the Red Lion Riverside
23 Hotel, at 2:00 o'clock and also again at 7:00 o'clock in
24 the evening.

25 Any individual who is preregistered to

1 comment at this or any of the hearings or is registered
2 at the door at this or any other hearing and has not had
3 the opportunity to comment by 11:00 will in fact be given
4 the opportunity to comment either today, if we can
5 accommodate you, or, if not, next Tuesday here and next
6 Wednesday in Idaho Falls.

7 We are going to receive questions from those
8 of you in the audience who would like to ask the
9 questions. Due to limitation of time, we can't take oral
10 questions, unfortunately, so we do have question cards
11 that are in the back of the room, and there are
12 departmental folks in the back that can help you with
13 these, if you would fill out your name and what group you
14 are representing, plus give us your address, and write
15 out your question as concisely as you can, and we will
16 provide a written response back to you at a later date.
17 All questions and answers will be included in the formal
18 hearing record in this proceeding.

19 Finally, in terms of decorum that we're
20 going to follow in these meetings, I would ask you wherever
21 possible to be as quiet as you can. This is a fairly
22 small room, and noise carries rather easily. So, to the
23 extent that you can, please be quiet.

24 We are not going to allow any combining of
25 speaker time. If you have an allotted time to speak,

1 that's your time solely for you to speak, and we're going
2 to leave it that way. You can't combine with someone
3 else.

4 If you have charts or other visual aids that
5 you want to use, you may do so, provided that you have
6 that same material that's on the chart in a form that we
7 can accept here for the record, because, after all, this
8 is a record, and it's not going to do much good to refer
9 to a chart if you can't get it into the record.

10 Finally, as I mentioned, this is a record
11 proceeding. Everything that is said is being recorded,
12 and accordingly when it comes your time to comment, we're
13 going to ask you to step forward here at the podium, speak
14 clearly into the microphone after first giving your name
15 and address for the record.

16 If you should have any questions or comments
17 about the procedures we're going to follow, there are
18 departmental spokesmen and departmental people in the back
19 of the room who can help you with any questions you may
20 have.

21 We will periodically be taking breaks
22 throughout the course of these hearings, and if you have
23 any questions, you may step forward and ask them.

24 With that, that closes my opening comments.
25 So at this point we'll go ahead and turn to our speaker

1 list for our afternoon session. And the first commenter
2 today is the senior United States Senator from the State
3 of Idaho, the Honorable James McClure.

4 Senator McClure?

5 SENATOR MCCLURE: Thank you very much,
6 Mr. Chairman. I would be very brief, because I understand
7 that this hearing is designed to allow the Department to
8 hear comments from people with respect to what should be
9 done on the SIS Project. And the Department well knows
10 what my views are.

11 But this is a unique responsibility for me
12 as well as an opportunity, because as a member of the
13 Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and as a member
14 of the Defense Subcommittee, the Appropriations Committee,
15 I have been exposed, perhaps, to a broader range of
16 material over a longer period of time than most of the
17 witnesses who will testify.

18 And I think, too, the people of Idaho are
19 entitled to understand, at least in part, what my reasoning
20 is and why I made the decisions that I have and why I make
21 the statement I make.

22 Mr. Eiguren, I ask that my prepared
23 statement be made a part of the record in full.

24 MR. EIGUREN: It will.

25 SENATOR MCCLURE: And let me summarize as

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1 best that I can in the time that is available. First of
2 all, the SIS will be built, in my view, because it is
3 needed, not because it is needed to create jobs in Idaho,
4 which it will do, but because it is needed, re: defense
5 for our country. And those are inexorable facts solicited
6 from a whole range of testimony over the last several
7 years, that there is a need for plutonium producing
8 facilities in the United States.

9 I don't know whether Secretary Waite
10 told you or not that he was at -- left the hearing
11 yesterday morning -- a classified hearing before the
12 Appropriations Committee, on the very subject of whether
13 there is need. And he left that before the end of the
14 proceedings, because he had to catch the plane to come to
15 Idaho to testify.

16 But I want -- I use that as a means of
17 saying that the information is current; it is not
18 something that is derived from five or six or seven years
19 ago; it is current information.

20 There are a number of people that have
21 suggested that with the revision of the defense budget,
22 with the negotiation of new agreements with the Soviet
23 Union, and with the hope that indeed we will have further
24 agreements with the Soviet Union with respect to nuclear
25 weapons, that the need for a plutonium producing facility

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1 is somehow so drastically changed that there is no reason
2 now to invest the money in production facilities.

3 I'm here to tell you that based upon
4 everything that I know and everything that I have been
5 told and everything that I believe, a plutonium production
6 facility is necessary for the security of this country,
7 and as a result it will be built.

8 The second question that must necessarily
9 be addressed is "Why Idaho?"

10 Well, because Idaho's the best site, that's
11 why. And it isn't just my pride in Idaho or the people
12 that are involved in Idaho, it is because that's the
13 official evaluation which confirms what many of us
14 believe about the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

15 The safety record at INEL is better than the
16 national average, three times better. It is exemplary in
17 the approach to the problems that are confronted in
18 technologies, that are inherently difficult to work with.
19 And yet it has a fine record of safety, and that's one of
20 the reasons why INEL was chosen initially.

21 I want to talk a moment about the hazards,
22 because I think they were overstated by those who fear,
23 and I think they are also overstated by those who don't
24 want us to have a nuclear weapons program, for the results
25 they hope to achieve rather than for the reasons which

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1 they state.

2 There is no danger to the aquifer, there is
3 no danger to the aquifer from this particular installation.
4 I would also like to indicate that certainly transportation
5 is a matter of concern -- has to be, anytime you're
6 transporting anything. Very recently we had two events
7 in Idaho that should underscore something about
8 transportation of nuclear materials.

9 One was when a truck carrying some
10 radioactive material went into the Snake River. Now,
11 there was a great deal of concern almost immediately that
12 there was going to be widespread devastation as a result
13 of it. The only contamination from that particular
14 accident was oil from the crankcase -- the only
15 contamination.

16 Recently we had a truck carrying agricultural
17 chemicals that went into the Middle Salmon River, and
18 there was widespread damage downstream from that rather
19 ordinary daily occurrence.

20 If you want to put your concerns, let's
21 order them in the priorities that really are justified
22 by the dangers which are inherent. And let's recognize,
23 yes, indeed, radioactive materials have peculiar hazards,
24 and because they have peculiar hazards, they have very
25 special safety requirements and safety steps taken to

1 ensure the safety of the public.

2 Mr. Eiguren, I want to conclude, knowing
3 that you have a very long schedule ahead of you, and being
4 somewhat familiar with long hearing schedules, I'll not
5 burden you unduly, but I want to assure the people of Idaho
6 that this Senator would not vote in favor of anything that
7 I thought had a hazard for the State of Idaho that did
8 not also have a tremendous demand from national security.

9 I am a fiscal conservative, and I think
10 most people know that, and I would not casually vote for
11 the expenditure of up to \$1-billion of taxpayers' funds
12 unless I thought that expenditure was necessary for this
13 nation. Surely this project does have economic benefits
14 to Idaho, but that alone is not the reason to support the
15 SIS in Idaho. We're not doing this to create jobs; we're
16 doing it because it's necessary for national security and
17 its siting in Idaho has benefits to Idaho's economy, and
18 it's in that order and in that context that we ought to
19 continue the discussion about the trade-offs.

20 Very honestly, I'm very proud of the men
21 and women that work at INEL, I'm very proud of the
22 tradesmen, the craftsmen, the laborers that contribute to
23 the labor pool in the construction facilities, and of
24 those who operate those facilities. We have an unmatched
25 record anywhere in the world for achievement in safety

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1 and for doing what is necessary and right for the
2 taxpayers of this country, and I commend this particular
3 project and hope there will be many more.

4 Thank you very much.

5 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Senator. Your
6 written comments have been received as Exhibit No. 160
7 for inclusion in the record as having been received by us.
8 Thank you for coming.

9 (Exhibit No. 160 was marked and entered.)

10 MR. EIGUREN: At this point, I'll go off
11 the record.

12 (Discussion off the record.)

13 MR. EIGUREN: We're back on the record.

14 At this point, I would like to recognize the
15 fact that the junior United States Senator from the State
16 of Idaho, Steve Symms, is here with us in the front row.
17 Senator Symms spoke yesterday at the Idaho Falls hearing,
18 and his written comments were entered into the record as
19 Exhibit No. 82 of the Senator's -- for the first
20 alternative, which is to site, construct and operate the
21 facility at INEL.

22 Our next commenter this afternoon will be
23 the Congressman from the First District of Idaho, the
24 Honorable Larry Craig.

25 Congressman Craig?

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1 CONGRESSMAN CRAIG: Thank you very much,
2 Mr. Eiguren. I would first of all like to associate myself
3 with the remarks of Senator McClure. I am Larry Craig,
4 representing the First Congressional District of Idaho.
5 I appreciate the opportunity to be here today, to testify
6 on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the
7 Special Isotope Separation Project.

8 As we are all aware, the Draft Statement
9 was designed to determine the environmental impacts of the
10 Department of Energy's proposed action to construct the
11 SIS at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

12 As we also know, the DOE's preferred
13 alternative is to build the project at INEL rather than
14 the two other locations studied -- both the Hanford site
15 and the Savannah River Plant, as you mentioned in your
16 opening remarks, Mr. Eiguren.

17 My Senator outlined very clearly the
18 advantages of why Idaho deserves to be the location for
19 the siting of this project. Not only have we a historic
20 record of the type of quality of work and production, most
21 importantly, the safety records that have gone on at INEL,
22 but a record that I think all of us can be proud of.

23 It is an important component in our defense
24 arsenal to have a new facility in the refinement of
25 plutonium. We believe, based on all the possible knowledge

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1 that's available, that it's clearly in this nation's best
 2 interest to proceed with this project.

3 Recognizing the time factor involved and
 4 all of the people that are here to testify today,
 5 Mr. Chairman, I would ask unanimous consent that my entire
 6 statement be entered into the record. And I would only
 7 conclude by saying that of all of the sites, Idaho and
 8 the reputation of the INEL clearly demonstrate the decision
 9 that the first alternative for siting in the Idaho Falls
 10 area on that site is clearly to the advantage of the
 11 ensurance of a safe operating project for the employees,
 12 but certainly for a quality production facility that only
 13 Idaho is known for.

14 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Congressman.

15 The written comments of Congressman Craig
 16 will be included in the hearing record as Exhibit No. 161
 17 as previously provided to us.

18 (Exhibit No. 161 was marked and entered.)

19 MR. EIGUREN: I note, Congressman, that one
 20 of the nice things of the executive branch as opposed to
 21 the congressional branch is that it doesn't require
 22 unanimous consent to introduce it on the record; it only
 23 requires my consent. We are officially at that point.

24 At this time, I would like to call our next
 25 commenter, who is the Attorney General of the State of

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1 Idaho, Mr. Jim Jones.

2 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, My
 3 name is Jim Jones. I'm the Idaho Attorney General.
 4 Presently I live here in Boise, originally from Eden,
 5 however, if anybody knows where that is.

6 Mr. Chairman, I have reviewed the Draft
 7 Environmental Impact Statement for the Special Isotope
 8 Separation Project and find it to be a reasonable and
 9 credible piece of work, particularly as it pertains to the
 10 preferred location at the Idaho National Engineering
 11 Laboratory.

12 It appears that construction and operation
 13 of the project in accordance with the proposed procedures
 14 and safeguards set forth in the Draft EIS would not pose
 15 serious health and safety consequences for Idaho citizens.
 16 Therefore, I would urge that the EIS be finally approved
 17 and adopted and that the project move forward at the INEL.

18 As Idaho Attorney General, I have taken an
 19 active interest in nuclear transportation, safety and
 20 storage issues over the last several years. For a period
 21 of two and a half years, I served as chairman of the
 22 Energy Committee of the National Association of Attorneys
 23 General. As a result, I became acquainted with
 24 transportation procedures required under federal law for
 25 transportation of high level and transuranic nuclear

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1 wastes and with issues relating to high level waste
2 storage.

3 While I have generally been a supporter of
4 the nuclear industry, particularly the work at the Idaho
5 National Engineering Laboratory, I have also been concerned
6 with safety issues. When it appeared that the proposed
7 Hanford high level waste repository might pose unacceptable
8 risks both from the transportation and storage standpoint,
9 my office instituted litigation against the Department of
10 Energy to bring about a reconsideration of the Hanford
11 site.

12 We also intervened in a lawsuit filed by
13 the Environmental Policy Institute against the Department
14 of Energy, called the Guideline Suit, challenging the
15 nuclear waste repository guidelines and urging that they
16 be reconsidered.

17 I have appeared before the United States
18 Senate to present testimony on the Price-Anderson Act and
19 to urge that federal activities, particularly waste
20 repository activities by the federal government and
21 transportation activities by the federal government, be
22 covered under the liability provisions of the
23 Price-Anderson.

24 This background is provided to indicate that
25 I have reviewed the Draft EIS with a critical eye towards

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1 safety issues. My review of the Draft EIS indicates that
2 construction and operation of the SIS facilities at the
3 INEL in accordance with the proposed procedures and
4 safeguards would not pose serious health and safety risks.
5 It appears that adequate safeguards are proposed for
6 handling and transportation of nuclear materials and for
7 disposal of waste products.

8 I note that the amount of transuranic waste
9 that would be generated each year by operation of the SIS
10 would represent a maximum increase of 10 percent of the
11 volume of transuranic waste presently generated at the
12 INEL. The report states that under normal transuranic
13 waste handling, processing, and storage conditions, the
14 potential environmental consequences of the additional
15 quantity of transuranic waste generated by SIS operation
16 would be negligible. The report indicates that a maximum
17 of nine additional rail shipments per year of transuranic
18 waste would be transported from the INEL to the WIPP
19 storage facility in New Mexico.

20 The EIS indicates that there would be no
21 significant expose of Idaho citizens to risks either from
22 operation of the SIS facilities or from transportation
23 of materials to or from the INEL. My review of the
24 document leads me to concur.

25 Going beyond the safety considerations,

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1 however, and I think that has to be the primary
2 consideration, but going beyond those, it appears that the
3 construction and operation of the SIS facilities at the
4 INEL would produce significant benefits for Idaho.
5 Estimates indicate that it would provide up to 400 jobs
6 during the peak construction phase. It is predicted that
7 plant operation will provide 410 direct jobs and 340
8 support positions.

9 The project would add a new dimension to
10 technological advancement at the INEL, putting Idaho
11 in a leadership position in the application of this
12 advanced laser technology.

13 So, Mr. Chairman, based upon my review of
14 the matter, I would support proceeding with the SIS Project
15 at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Mr. Attorney
18 General. Your written comments will be entered into the
19 record as Exhibit No. 162.

20 (Exhibit No. 162 was marked and entered.)

21 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
22 is the President Pro Tem of the Idaho State Senate,
23 Senator James Risch. I understand he will not be here
24 but has a written statement for the record.

25 Thank you.

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1 The written statement of the President
2 Pro Tem of the Senate will be marked as Exhibit No. 163
3 and included in the record.

4 (Exhibit No. 163 was marked and entered.)

5 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
6 is the Majority Leader of the Idaho State Senate, the
7 Honorable Mark Ricks.

8 MR. RICKS: Mr. Chairman, our national
9 congressional delegation, ladies and gentlemen. I would
10 like to express my appreciation to you for this opportunity
11 to appear at this forum and express my views.

12 I commend the Department of Energy for
13 establishing and implementing procedures to assure that
14 the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act
15 are adequately addressed at this public forum.

16 It is my belief that Idaho people have
17 pursued the benefits at INEL because there is a history
18 of safe and responsible management of nuclear activities.
19 There is a proven track record of INEL's ability to meet
20 the demanding requirements while maintaining the highest
21 standards of safety and reliability.

22 It is also my belief that those high
23 standards of safety and reliability not only include
24 activities at INEL, but also in transportation of
25 materials to and from the INEL site. The primary goal, I

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1 believe, of the transportation system is public safety.
 2 I've been impressed with the cooperation between the
 3 Department of Energy, the Department of Transportation,
 4 as well as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.
 5 Transportation safety records are excellent and clearly
 6 show to me that the protection of the public and the
 7 environment is of utmost importance.

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8 I know that liaisons have been maintained
 9 with state police organizations for years. And now as
 10 the transportation safeguard systems have expanded and
 11 more formal arrangements were established at the Governor's
 12 office level and the staffs, as well as the staff of our
 13 Idaho State Police, escorts are armed and trained to
 14 specific criteria. I have been impressed with the
 15 tracking system, the qualified carriers, the rigorous
 16 maintenance and emergency response.

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17 INEL has been a good neighbor and citizen
 18 for about 35 years. They have often played the part of the
 19 "good samaritan" in a variety of ways. They have responded
 20 as a good neighbor, for example, on highway spills, even
 21 though they were not involved, but responded to requests
 22 for help because of their expertise.

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23 INEL has responded to government and civic
 24 organizations with orientations and training programs. The
 25 INEL is an outstanding partner. And I am impressed by the

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1 openness of INEL management with data that is requested
 2 from them.

3 I am confident that INEL can handle this
 4 SIS Project. I commend and recommend and encourage the
 5 siting of this project and that the Department of Energy
 6 is required (sic) to designate Idaho as the location for
 7 the facility at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Senator Ricks.
 10 Your written comments will be entered into the record as
 11 Exhibit No. 164.

12 (Exhibit No. 164 was marked and entered.)

13 Our next scheduled commenter is the Majority
 14 Leader in the House of Representatives, the Honorable
 15 Jack Kenneville.

16 MR. KENNEVILLE: Mr. Eiguren, ladies and
 17 gentlemen. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on
 18 the Environmental Impact Statement on the SIS Separation
 19 Project being considered by the U.S. Department of Energy.

20 I support Alternative No. 1, as stated in
 21 the Executive Summary. This alternative would place the
 22 project at the INEL laboratory near Idaho Falls. The
 23 existing facilities at the site have been a positive
 24 factor in the community and the state. We value the
 25 expertise and the social concerns of the professionals

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2 I feel that the SIS Project would be a
3 contribution to stability and growth of our state's
4 economy. Of the estimated \$937-million budget, the actual
5 facility cost is projected at \$505-million. The estimates
6 are that a peak construction work force of 440 direct and
7 indirect personnel would be required. Since Idaho can
8 readily supply this work force, the in-migration of
9 construction workers would not be necessary.

10 It is my understanding that the construction
11 of this project would entail a Laser Support Facility
12 consisting of a Laser Support Building, a Dye Pump
13 Building, a Load Center Building, a Plutonium Processing
14 Facility with a Plutonium Processing Building and an
15 Administration Building.

16 Idaho welcomed the initial research
17 facilities many years ago and was proud to be the location
18 for the first production of electricity from nuclear power.
19 We have found the safety level enforced at INEL in both
20 construction and operations superior to the national
21 averages for construction of nuclear industries,

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22 We would be pleased for the opportunity to
23 participate in the development of this project. The
24 economic benefits and the scientific information that will
25 be gained from the various components of the project will

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1 have a beneficial impact for many years. I encourage
2 the selection of Idaho as the site for this project.

3 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

4 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. The written
5 comments of Representative Kennebeck will be entered into
6 the record as Exhibit No. 165.

7 (Exhibit No. 165 was marked and entered.)

8 MR. EIGUREN: At this time I would like to
9 call Idaho Senator Ann Rydall.

10 MS. RYDALCH: Mr. Chairman, ladies and
11 gentlemen. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity in
12 this forum to express my opinion.

13 Idahoans, for the most part, I believe, have
14 always been proud concerned citizens. We have played an
15 important role in the development of many firsts. That
16 role has been led by a work force that is second to none.

17 The Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
18 contractors in eastern Idaho are the largest private
19 employers in Idaho, and a total work force of somewhere
20 in the neighborhood of 10,000-plus people work at INEL --
21 keeping in mind that's about two and a half percent of
22 Idaho's total work force.

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23 And if I may, Mr. Chairman, I would like to
24 point out a bit more as to jobs, and that the commerce
25 end, as I do chair the Commerce-Labor Committee in the

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1 Idaho State Senate, that was one of my primary goals is
2 the concern for jobs. Approximately \$50-million annually
3 is awarded by DOE in construction contracts to Idaho firms.

4 EG&G Idaho, the largest site contractor,
5 spends about thirty and a half, thirty and a half million
6 dollars annually with 900 Idaho businesses and individuals.

7 The SIS Project is expected to require a
8 peak construction work force of about 440 persons and a
9 long-term operating work force of about 750 people.
10 Becomes an even more important factor when you stop and
11 think that during the past few years, some of the major
12 projects at the site have been completed without follow-on
13 major projects to take their place. Needless to say, that
14 does cause concern and does cause the potential for loss
15 of a significant number of jobs.

16 One of the foremost concerns of many
17 Idahoans is the creation and retention of job opportunities.
18 The atomic vapor laser isotope separation process used in
19 the SIS Project is a new high technology with potential
20 commercial application which could be transferred to
21 industry in Idaho and other states.

22 Lasers are not new. We know that. Lasers
23 were invented in 1960. However, the research and
24 development seems to be taking giant steps. Over a
25 billion dollars was spent on laser research and development

1 in 1985. We all see lasers at work today -- supermarket
2 scanners, laser printers, missile guidance, cornea shaping,
3 repairing detached corneas, repairing detached retinas,
4 compact audio disc players -- just to mention a few.

5 What all is in store for this type of laser
6 or its spinoffs? We know a few of the answers, but I
7 suspect we don't know them all.

8 I suspect when the PBF Reactor was first
9 built years ago at the INEL, they did not know that it
10 would be eventually used for the BNCT Project, which is
11 a possible brain cancer radiation therapy that just may
12 have the potential for saving thousands and thousands of
13 lives every year.

14 Idaho and INEL have a strong reliable
15 partnership. It is my belief that INEL will do anything
16 and everything to make sure a strong partnership is
17 maintained. And equally, I believe Idaho will do anything
18 and everything to make sure a strong partnership is
19 maintained.

20 I am confident INEL can handle this SIS
21 Project. I recommend and encourage the siting of this
22 project and that the Department of Energy is requested to
23 designate Idaho as the location for this facility at the
24 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

25 Thank you.

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1 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Senator. Your
2 written comments will be entered into the record as
3 Exhibit No. 166.

4 (Exhibit No. 166 was marked and entered.)

5 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
6 is State Senator Lee Staker.

7 Senator Staker?

8 He is not here?

9 Our next scheduled commenter will be Idaho
10 Representative Con Mahoney.

11 We are told that Representative Mahoney is
12 ill and will not be able to be present.

13 The next scheduled commenter is Joanne Wood,
14 member of the State House of Representatives. Is
15 Representative Wood here?

16 Representative Wood is apparently not here,
17 so that concludes the list of all the elected officials
18 who have preregistered to testify this afternoon.

19 Ladies and gentlemen, we're going to go in
20 recess for about five minutes to take care of a couple
21 of quick matters. We'll resume in five minutes.

22 (A short recess was taken.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: I will call this public
24 hearing back to order at this particular point in time.

25 Before we proceed further, I do want

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1 everyone to clearly understand that because of the
2 extraordinary number of people that have signed up to
3 comment, we are going to accommodate all of you. The
4 way we're going to do that is at the end of the
5 organizational representatives' comments which we're
6 going to now, we'll start down the speakers' list as it's
7 published on those sheets in the back of the room.

8 It's my intent to continue this afternoon's
9 session until the hour of 6:30. We'll take a brief recess
10 and then resume again at 7:00.

11 To the extent that you have been
12 preregistered to speak this afternoon and have not been
13 accommodated by 6:30, we will accommodate you on a priority
14 basis this evening. So you would go on right after the
15 evening organizational commenters speak, and there are
16 only six of them. So there is a decided possibility that
17 a great number of our afternoon commenters here will have
18 a chance to comment this evening.

19 Now, in addition to that, to the extent that
20 you have either preregistered or signed up at the door to
21 comment at this hearing or the evening hearing, and you
22 have not been accommodated by 11:00 o'clock tonight, you
23 will automatically be registered to comment at the
24 continuation of this hearing that begins next Tuesday at
25 2:00 p.m. at the Red Lion Riverside. We'll go from 2:00

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1 until 6:30, if necessary, and from 7:00 until whenever,
2 to accommodate all of our speakers.

3 So those are the rules of the game. Our
4 intent is to accommodate everybody that wants to comment.
5 The only thing is, if you do want to comment and you have
6 not yet registered, you need to do that. We will not be
7 taking sign-ins at the door on Tuesday.

8 So with that, we'll go ahead and resume our
9 list of commenters this afternoon. Before we do that,
10 it's awfully noisy up here. Can we have quiet, please?
11 I may ask that the door be closed in the back. It's
12 difficult to hear.

13 Thank you.

14 Due to a scheduling conflict, Dr. Jackson
15 Davis of the Environmental Studies Institute, who was
16 scheduled to speak as our 20th commenter this afternoon,
17 has requested that he be brought up in time. And I have
18 discussed that with the next commenters, and that's
19 agreeable to them.

20 So at this point we'll have Dr. Jackson Davis
21 present his comments. Dr. Davis is representing an
22 organization. He's entitled to up to 10 minutes for
23 comment.

24 DR. DAVIS: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.
25 I appreciate your flexibility in accommodating my airline

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1 schedule.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Jackson
3 Davis. I am a professor at biology at the University of
4 California at Santa Cruz, where I am also the co-founder
5 of the university's Nuclear Policy Program.

6 The Nuclear Policy Program is a collection
7 of faculty and students who are concerned about the
8 scientific and technical aspects of nuclear issues insofar
9 as they relate to policy questions. I have a long
10 background in nuclear issues. I have testified before
11 Congress on numerous occasions, I have served as scientific
12 advisor to numerous heads of state throughout the Pacific
13 region on nuclear issues.

14 Because of this long involvement with nuclear
15 issues, I've been asked to comment on the Draft
16 Environmental Impact Statement that has been prepared for
17 the Special Isotope Separation Technology by the Department
18 of Energy.

19 I would like to emphasize that the analysis
20 which I performed, which I have here and would like
21 entered into the written testimony, Mr. Chairman -- I will
22 deliver this to you at the end of my testimony -- is
23 entitled Safety Issues Related to Special Isotope
24 Separation Technology, and subtitled A Critical Analysis
25 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement Prepared by the

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1 U.S. Department of Energy.

2 I want to emphasize that this report was
3 prepared independently of my affiliation with the
4 University of California. I mentioned my affiliation
5 only by way of description of my background and
6 qualifications in this area.

7 My analysis of the Draft Environmental
8 Impact Statement focused upon health and safety issues
9 and also upon environmental issues. To summarize my
10 conclusions, I find that the Draft Environmental Impact
11 Statement is an inadequate assessment of the potential
12 environmental health, safety and economic consequences
13 of this facility to the people of the State of Idaho.

14 I would like to document this general
15 conclusion by describing for you three specific
16 conclusions that my analysis has led me to. First, the
17 SIS technology and in particular the Draft Environmental
18 Impact Statement I analyzed does not make clear that the
19 proposed facility is based on a technology that is only
20 partially developed and is highly experimental in nature.

21 The technology would entail the handling of
22 large quantities of highly toxic plutonium by untested
23 technologies in an experimental context. In my judgment,
24 the intrinsic level of hazard with a facility like this
25 is substantial, I would estimate substantially greater

1 than, for example, with mature nuclear technologies such
2 a nuclear power generation.

3 Secondly, the second general criticism of
4 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement: The Impact
5 Statement relies upon design basis accidents, DBA's, as
6 one of its principal methods for methods of assessing the
7 impact of possible accident scenarios. A design basis
8 accident is one that can be controlled within the design
9 and engineering criteria of the plant in which the process
10 technology takes place.

11 The fact is that the design basis accident
12 cannot be analyzed properly for the SIS facility because
13 engineering criteria do not presently exist. So to base
14 an analysis upon design basis accidents is at best
15 speculative and at worst misleading.

16 Thirdly, and most importantly, my analysis
17 shows that the number of assumptions which underlie the
18 Department of Energy's analysis significantly understate
19 potential risks of this facility. And I would like to
20 list just a couple of these highly nonconservative
21 assumptions.

22 A nonconservative assumption is one that
23 does not adequately incorporate safety features. First
24 of all, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement assumes
25 that only 25 kilograms of plutonium at most will be

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1 available for dispersion in the event of a significant
2 accident. 25 kilograms, that's about 60 pounds of
3 plutonium, is a tiny fraction of the total plutonium that
4 would have to be in process in such a facility.

5 Just as a basis for comparison, a typical
6 nuclear power reactor contains roughly 350 kilograms, or
7 eight or nine hundred pounds of plutonium. A mixed oxide
8 fuel fabrication plant contains 1,000 to 3,000 kilograms
9 of plutonium -- that's perhaps 2,200 to 6,600 pounds of
10 plutonium, of which perhaps half is in process and about half
11 of that again is subject to dispersion in the event of an
12 accident.

13 So to claim that 25 kilograms is the maximum
14 amount that could be dispersed in the event of an accident
15 is, in my view, not credible.

16 Furthermore, the Draft Environmental Impact
17 Statement relies upon release fractions that are abnormally,
18 I would say absurdly, low -- in some cases a fraction of
19 a millionth of a percentage. In fact, the largest percent
20 release that is considered in the Draft Environmental
21 Impact Statement is 25/1000ths of one percent.

22 I went to the trouble of looking back into
23 the documentation upon which these release fractions are
24 allegedly based and discovered in that documentation that
25 the range of release fractions considered credible by the

1 industry range from .01 percent to 100 percent, depending
2 upon the particular form that the plutonium is contained
3 in that. So to claim that the release fraction would be
4 25/1000ths of a percent is, in my view, again highly
5 nonconservative in the sense that it understates the
6 potential hazard associated with this facility.

7 There are a number of other nonconservative
8 assumptions upon which the Draft Environmental Impact
9 Statement is based. For example, propagated accident
10 sequences are omitted on the basis of unattributed,
11 uncited and unmentioned studies. The propagated accident
12 sequence is one in which one event triggers a second,
13 which triggers a third.

14 The SIS technology would entail a number of
15 subtechnologies under the same roof, each of which have
16 their own potential for accident. For example, the
17 hydriding and dehydriding processes that would remove
18 plutonium from the collector plates involve large
19 quantities of hydrogen gas. Hydrogen is very explosive,
20 and it would be in the same facility as large quantities
21 of plutonium. The possibility of an explosion which
22 releases lot of plutonium, followed by a fire, is just
23 one example of a propagated accident sequence which has
24 been dismissed in the Draft Environmental Impact
25 Statement.

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1 Another significant omission is the
2 inadequate consideration of external initiators. An
3 external initiator is something that is outside of the
4 process technology which triggers an accident, such as a
5 tornado, an earthquake and so on. The fact is that an
6 earthquake of Richter magnitude 7.3 took place within 60
7 miles of this facility 15 years ago. If such an earthquake
8 were to happen at INEL when an SIS facility were
9 constructed there, the resulting ground shear could
10 destroy the facility and result in a facility-wide fire,
11 which in turn would have untold environmental, health and
12 environmental impacts upon the State of Idaho.

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13 Owing to the what in my judgment are
14 inadequate analyses of the potential hazard of this
15 plant, I performed a preliminary and very brief analysis
16 which utilizes the same exact dispersion and consequence
17 methodology that was allegedly used in the Department of
18 Energy's report. This methodology is a methodology
19 developed and promulgated by the Nuclear Regulatory
20 Commission of the United States, well established, first
21 published in the Rasmussen Report (WASH-1400; 1975) and
22 has since been refined and updated.

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23 I used the same methodology to calculate
24 the potential impacts of an accident using conservative
25 assumptions rather than the nonconservative ones that are

1 used in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and I
2 found that the surface deposition from fallout that would
3 result from such an accident -- I assumed that there was
4 a hundred kilograms of plutonium available for release,
5 and that of this amount, five percent is released to the
6 environment in the form of a cloud following a fire.

7 I then assumed prevailing wind directions.
8 The most common direction was to the northeast of the
9 INEL facility. I calculated the deposition, the surface
10 deposition of fallout of plutonium onto the ground
11 following such an accident. What I found was that the
12 level of contamination would exceed existing NRC maximum
13 permissible concentrations by up to 1,000 times up to
14 30 kilometers -- that's roughly 18½ miles -- from the
15 site of the accident.

16 I found that there would be significant
17 contamination, almost a hundred times the NRC limits, up
18 to 60 miles from the site of the accident. That would,
19 therefore, include the cities, if my measurements are
20 right, the cities of Rexburg, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls and
21 a variety of other cities which are within range of this
22 kind of an accident.

23 I found that significant contamination from
24 this accident scenario would take place up to 160 miles
25 from the source of an accident. Should such an accident

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1 take place, all farmland in the path of the radioactive
2 cloud would have to be either abandoned or decontaminated.
3 Ski resorts in the path of such a cloud would have to be
4 abandoned or decontaminated. Cities in the path of such
5 a cloud would have to be abandoned or decontaminated, or
6 both.

7 The economic costs of these activities are
8 not taken into account in the Draft Environmental Impact
9 Statement, and I think that they should be before it's
10 considered.

11 And I see that the red light is up. So,
12 in lieu of something terrible happening to me, I would
13 like to relinquish the floor and hand over this document
14 for inclusion in the written record.

15 Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Dr. Davis.

17 The document referencing Dr. Jackson Davis'
18 oral comments will be marked as Exhibit No. 171 and will
19 be included in its totality in the record.

20 Thank you.

21 (Exhibit No. 171 was marked and entered.)

22 MR. EIGUREN: At this point, I would like to
23 indicate to you that yesterday at the Idaho Falls hearing,
24 Governor Andrus testified. His written comments were
25 entered into the record as Exhibit No. 5. He indicated

1 that he had assigned to various state departments the
2 task of reviewing the DEIS as required by the CEQ
3 regulations that I spoke of earlier. To present the
4 findings from the state and present comments in that
5 regard are the four directors of the departments the
6 Governor assigned to review the DEIS: the Departments
7 of Commerce, Health and Welfare, Transportation, Law
8 Enforcement. We'll call upon each of those directors in
9 turn for their comments.

10 First will be the Director of the Department
11 of Commerce, Mr. Jim Hawkins.

12 MR. HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
13 My name is James V. Hawkins, Director of the Idaho
14 Department of Commerce; and I reside in Boise, Idaho.

15 The economic impact of the SIS Project
16 appears predominantly positive. The project will create
17 new markets and opportunities for Idaho that will reach
18 into the next century. Success in these markets will go
19 a long way toward making Idaho a competitive player in the
20 arena of world technology.

21 The SIS Project will produce many jobs and
22 opportunities for business, education, research, and
23 vocational training. Conservative -- I underline the
24 word conservative -- estimates show the following on-site,
25 and I add to it off-site regional employment gains: During

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1 the annual construction period -- or on an annual basis
 2 during the construction period, there will be between 350
 3 and 650 employed both on-site and off-site, with an
 4 annual payroll to exceed \$8-million.

5 During the operation of the SIS, there will
 6 be somewhat over 1,000 employed on-site and off-site,
 7 with an annual payroll to exceed \$23-million.

8 We also estimate there is a potential for
 9 increased technology support and spin-off business that
 10 could lead to additional regional employment of 600 jobs
 11 with an annual payroll of \$20-million by the year 2000.

12 To realize these opportunities, the
 13 Department of Commerce will pursue cooperative arrangements
 14 between the private sector and government at all levels.

15 The Department of Commerce continues to
 16 enjoy a true spirit of cooperation with the INEL. This
 17 relationship will have positive results in enhancing the
 18 economic development and technological diversification
 19 efforts for the State of Idaho.

20 And in closing, I would like to say that
 21 prospects for substantial employment should not detract
 22 from the efforts to alleviate environmental concerns. I
 23 am certain my colleagues from other state departments
 24 will assure these efforts are successful.

25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

2 The comments of Mr. Hawkins will be
 3 included in the record as Exhibit No. 172.

4 (Exhibit No. 172 was marked and entered.)

5 MR. EIGUREN: The next one called is the
 6 Director of the Department of Health and Welfare, which
 7 includes the Division of Environmental Quality,
 8 Mr. Richard Donovan.

9 MR. DONOVAN: Thank you, Mr. Eiguren.

10 Good afternoon. My name is Richard Donovan.
 11 I'm here in my capacity as Director of the Department of
 12 Health and Welfare for the State of Idaho. My comments
 13 today will cover the issues related to public health,
 14 the environment, as they pertain to the proposed
 15 Special Isotope Separation Project at the INEL.

16 The Department has not analyzed alternative
 17 sites or the option of not building the facility, because
 18 we believe and know that those are federal responsibilities.

19 I would like to offer some preliminary
 20 findings and observations from the Department. We are
 21 planning to submit a more detailed comment that will be
 22 available on or before April 21st.

23 We have some concerns, and our concerns lie
 24 in three major areas. Those are emergency planning and
 25 response, SIS monitoring and oversight, and the need for

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1 technical and financial assistance.

2 In reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact
3 Statement, we have identified many questions and concerns
4 about emergency planning, training and response.

5 We are particularly concerned about the need
6 to coordinate and develop appropriate responses to
7 potential off-site accidents and off-site impacts from
8 on-site incidents. Response plans should involve federal,
9 state and local personnel. That may require an explicit
10 SIS agreement for training and response to incidents
11 inside and outside the boundaries of INEL.

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12 Likewise, there should be comprehensive
13 monitoring on and around the site during each phase of
14 the SIS Project. The Division of Health is concerned
15 about ongoing exposure to radiation and its cumulative
16 effects. We need assurances that releases do not
17 exceed projections. Regular monitoring of animals,
18 aquifer, vegetation, emissions and discharges will be
19 required to provide that assurance.

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20 State staff will seek maximum involvement
21 in monitoring every phase of this project, both on- and
22 off-site. In addition, we will seek maximum disclosure
23 of information and data for our staff and for the public.

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24 If the SIS Project is approved, it will
25 place a great demand on all state agencies. We will need

1 to negotiate agreements for technical and financial
2 assistance from the Department of Energy.

3 I have given you an overview. Now I will
4 turn to more specific concerns. In the environmental
5 area, we think waste minimization is an essential
6 management policy for the SIS. Reducing the amount of
7 wastes generated must be emphasized over waste disposal
8 and storage.

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9 Other issues still under scrutiny include
10 routine and accidental atmospheric emissions, by-product
11 storage, aquifer contamination, mixed wastes, percolation
12 ponds and injection wells. We believe every effort should
13 be made to preclude any future use of injection wells.

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14 The Department of Agriculture has brought
15 another omission to our attention. The Draft EIS does
16 not contain enough information about the effect of
17 radionuclides on animals, birds, and fish in the areas
18 around INEL. There is some question about the impact on
19 people who would eat these animals.

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20 Plans for monitoring domestic and wild
21 species in the INEL impact area could allay that concern.
22 Those plans should be spelled out in the Final EIS.

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23 At this point, I would like to take a
24 minute to mention something that I know the Governor
25 attested to yesterday. He would like to emphasize that

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1 we think the Department of Energy should consider the
2 establishment of a permanent commission that will enable
3 the state to be a full partner in managing the potential
4 environmental and health consequences of this particular
5 project.

6 What I have given you today is merely an
7 outline of how we view the Draft EIS at this time. As
8 you can see, we will continue to scrutinize this project.
9 We will pay close attention to the information presented
10 in these public hearings, and we will be in close contact
11 with DOE as the project develops.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Mr. Donovan.

14 The written comments of Mr. Donovan will
15 be included in the record as Exhibit No. 173.

16 (Exhibit No. 173 was marked and entered.)

17 MR. EIGUREN: At this time, we would like
18 to call upon the Director of the Idaho Department of
19 Transportation, Mr. Kermit Kiebert.

20 MR. KIEBERT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 Ladies and gentlemen, my name is
22 Kermit Kiebert, and I'm here to testify on behalf of the
23 Idaho Department of Transportation. My testimony will
24 reflect the Department's response to the Draft
25 Environmental Impact Statement regarding the Special

1 Isotope Separation Project proposed for the Idaho
2 Nuclear (sic) Engineering Laboratory. The Draft
3 Environmental Impact Statement for the Special Isotope
4 Separation Project in general has provided a good analysis
5 of the transportation element of the subject project,
6 and it identifies the stringent safety precautions to be
7 followed.

8 The movement of transuranic waste and high
9 level material does not appear to pose a greater risk
10 to SIS over the activities that currently are associated
11 with the INEL. The calculated radiological risk involved
12 with the transportation element of SIS is extremely low.

13 However, there needs to be a commitment to
14 support additional emergency planning and preparedness,
15 particularly in the area of the first responder training
16 of state and local transportation officials. The
17 training should not only address the potential radiological
18 hazard, but also measures to minimize any safety hazard
19 with deterrent devices used in the safe and secure
20 transport.

21 This concludes my remarks, Mr. Chairman,
22 and I appreciate the opportunity to testify.

23 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

24 The final commenter on behalf of the state
25 will be the Director of the Department of Law Enforcement,

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1 Mr. Mack Richardson.

2 MR. RICHARDSON: Mr. Chairman, ladies and
3 gentlemen. As the Director of the Department of Law
4 Enforcement, I submit the following statement: Upon
5 review of the Environmental Impact Statement prepared by
6 the Department of Energy, and speaking on behalf of the
7 Idaho Department of Law Enforcement, our interests are
8 limited to the transporting of hazardous materials and to
9 the training of law enforcement personnel as first
10 responders to any accident involving these materials.

11 It appears the track record established thus
12 far by DOE is impeccable. There have been no major
13 problems, and we would have no reason to anticipate any.

14 Should this facility be located in Idaho,
15 the Department of Law Enforcement will be consulting with
16 DOE on the following:

- 17 1. Information on DOE transportation routes
- 18 within Idaho;
- 19 2. Information regarding trip schedules;
- 20 and
- 21 3. Information on training for Idaho State
- 22 Police and local agencies that may be required to respond
- 23 to an accident involving a transporter.

24 It is understandable that DOE's response to
25 the first two points may be sketchy because of security

1 compromises. This is acceptable and we will be quite
2 willing to work with DOE relative to maintaining security
3 of routes and trip schedules.

4 Familiarization and response training for
5 state police and local agencies is of great importance.
6 We believe it is essential to provide expertise which
7 could be called upon in the event of an accident;
8 to educate local response units to the actual risks
9 involved in responding to such an accident; to reduce
10 panic in event of an accident by making people aware of
11 the way they can help themselves; and provide an
12 opportunity to "de-mystify" some of the rumors regarding
13 DOE transport activity.

14 Should this facility be located in Idaho,
15 the Department of Law Enforcement would expect to maintain
16 an ongoing work relationship with DOE authorities toward
17 development of further safeguards in transport of these
18 materials.

19 Mr. Chairman, that concludes my remarks.

20 MR. FIGUREN: Thank you, sir.

21 The written comments of Mr. Mack Richardson,
22 Director of the Department of Law Enforcement, will be
23 included in the record as Exhibit No. 174.

24 (Exhibit No. 174 was marked and entered.)

25 MR. FIGUREN: We would like to thank all

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1 four directors for being here today to provide the
2 requested comments as provided by the CEQ regulations
3 I spoke of earlier.

4 That concludes the comments from members
5 of the federal, state and local governments that we've
6 asked to comment on this particular document.

7 At this point, we will now turn to the
8 comments which will also be up to 10 minutes for various
9 organizations who are participating in the proceeding.
10 The first organization representative who will be here
11 is Mr. Chuck Broschious, who represents the Idaho
12 Organizations for Nuclear Safety.

13 MR. BROSCIOUS: My name is Chuck Broschious;
14 I live at 64 Whitepines Flat Road in Troy, Idaho. I am
15 a board member and representative for the Idaho
16 Organizations for Nuclear Safety, or IONS. It's a
17 coalition of organizations that's dedicated to nuclear
18 safety issues in Idaho. There are seven member
19 organizations. They include CANWE in Coeur d'Alene,
20 Idaho, Groundwater Alliance in Ketchum, Idaho, Moscow
21 Chapter of the Idaho Conservation League, Moscow,
22 Palouse-Clearwater HANFORD WATCH, Moscow, also, the
23 Snake River Alliance, the Wood River Chapter of the Idaho
24 Conservation League, and the Palouse-Clearwater
25 Environmental Institute in Moscow.

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1 Northern Idaho is very much affected by
2 INEL operations environmentally, economically and
3 politically. The Department of Energy refused to grant
4 a hearing in northern Idaho, and this ignores the fact
5 that even the effects of the INEL operation have
6 anything to do with the northern part of the state. The
7 fact is that the way the water systems operate in the
8 state, the water tends to flow north, and we are very
9 much concerned about it.

10 The Environmental Protection Agency has
11 determined that the INEL has contaminated the Snake River
12 aquifer. The Snake River aquifer provides the entire
13 flow of the Snake River during the summer west of
14 Twin Falls, because the flow upriver east of Twin Falls
15 is diverted for irrigation. The Snake River is an
16 essential part of northern Idaho's economy.

17 The city of Moscow sponsored an SIS hearing
18 on March 10th. They formed a panel of 10 regional
19 elective officials and government officials to receive
20 public testimony. The City Council chambers were packed,
21 and even after extending the time period for an additional
22 hour, there still was not enough time to receive all the
23 testimony.

24 Not one single individual spoke in favor
25 of the SIS. The testimony was recorded and sent to the

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1 Department of Energy as official public comment on the
 2 SIS. Clearly northern Idaho does not want the SIS.
 3 Northern Idaho is already downwind of Hanford and we're
 4 downstream of INEL. Both DOE reservations have
 5 unconscionable records on their emissions. The Department
 6 of Energy promised to run its nuclear weapons production
 7 facilities safely. They promise in the SIS Environmental
 8 Impact Statement that the health and safety of the
 9 general public and facility workers will be protected.

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10 The truth of the matter is that the federal
 11 government established the Atomic Energy Act, which
 12 exempts them from any liability due to injuries sustained
 13 by their nuclear weapons production and testing. The
 14 Price-Anderson legislation goes on to exempt contractors
 15 working for DOE from liability even if injuries are caused
 16 by gross negligence or failure to follow safety
 17 regulations.

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18 Witness the Tenth U.S. Circuit Court of
 19 Appeals' decision to overturn U.S. District Judge
 20 Bruce Jenkins' finding in 1984 that the government
 21 negligently failed to warn or educate downwind residents
 22 of radiation hazards from tests conducted by the Atomic
 23 Energy Commission at the Nevada Test Site from 1951 to
 24 1962. Jenkins' earlier ruling came after a trial of
 25 24 "bellwether" claims which represented nearly 1,200

1 plaintiffs suing the government for some 500 deaths and
 2 injuries.

3 There was no question that the government
 4 was negligent in conducting the tests and that it gave
 5 false and misleading information at the trials. The
 6 legal bottom line is that Congress created laws which
 7 specifically exempt the government and any contractors
 8 who work for the government from liability.

9 Radiation victims from INEL can find no
 10 compensation for their injuries. Not only can they not
 11 sue the government or the contractors whom they work for,
 12 but Idaho law does not recognize long-term radiation
 13 injuries. Typically it takes 10 to 20 years for
 14 radiation-related injuries to surface after exposure.
 15 Again, the legal bottom line exempts even the state
 16 Workmen's Compensation Commission from covering long-term
 17 radiation injuries.

18 Promises made in the SIS Draft Environmental
 19 Impact Statement must consequently be viewed as hollow
 20 promises. Individuals or communities have no legal
 21 standing in court. Safety would by definition have a
 22 low priority because there is no accountability.
 23 Production goals for the government and profits for the
 24 contractors will dominate the priority lists.

25 High level nuclear wastes will be transported

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1 from Hanford to INEL for processing at the proposed SIS
 2 facility and then on to Colorado's Rocky Flats. Idaho
 3 is not prepared today to deal with existing hazardous
 4 materials on its roads, despite some of the earlier
 5 testimony that's been given. Emergency Response Teams
 6 with adequate training and equipment are virtually
 7 nonexistent in Idaho. Due to powerful trucking and
 8 industry lobby, the state is unable to generate hazardous
 9 materials permit fees to provide funding for appropriate
 10 enforcement or emergency response services. The state
 11 has seen a dramatic increase in hazardous materials
 12 accidents.

13 The SIS would dramatically increase
 14 hazardous materials traffic without any DOE provision
 15 for increasing the safety net necessary to protect the
 16 general public. The casks the DOE uses to transport
 17 plutonium and other radioactive materials have flunked
 18 even the lenient Department of Transportation and Nuclear
 19 Regulatory Commission criteria. DOE continues to use the
 20 casks because by law it is not required to comply with
 21 any other agency regulations. Even if one percent of the
 22 contents of one irradiated fuel cask were to escape in
 23 respirable form in an urban area, according to the latest
 24 and most authoritative federal health effects studies,
 25 thousands of latent cancer fatalities could result, as well

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Line 25:
de facto
(is two words)

2 High level nuclear wastes used and
 3 generated by the SIS must be transported either by rail
 4 or by road. To date, DOE has not been able to build a
 5 cask that will pass any criteria other than its own.
 6 Included is its most recent \$100-million Trupact design
 7 which gradually leaks gases which build up due to
 8 radiological bombardment within the wastes.

9 The DOE's actions expose its dangerous
 10 and mistaken view that the nuclear transportation issue
 11 is not a serious issue. Such an agency cannot be allowed
 12 to oversee the next generation of cask design, testing
 13 and handling, as delegated under present policy. It
 14 is essential that all cask certification powers be removed
 15 from DOE and vested in the NRC, the Nuclear Regulatory
 16 Commission, to avoid repetition of these dangerous
 17 events.

18 Similarly, the SIS must not be built until
 19 such transportation risks are adequately addressed for
 20 both road and rail shipments and a final geologic
 21 repository is built and tested to receive the wastes.
 22 DOE's waste management practices at INEL are incredible.

23 Due to recent failure of the Waste Isolation
 24 Project in New Mexico, which was to receive SIS wastes,
 25 the INEL will presumably continue to be a de facto nuclear

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1 dump. One-fourth of all military nuclear wastes are
2 dumped at INEL as well as all of the Three Mile Island
3 contaminated reactor components. Over 7.1 million cubic
4 feet of radioactive waste has been dumped here on top
5 of the Snake River aquifer. Over 69 billion gallons of
6 radioactive water was injected directly into the aquifer
7 between 1953 and 1974. These discharges contained 7,577
8 curies of radioactive materials, according to federal
9 reports. Officials estimate that .008 of a curie would
10 kill a person within a month if ingested.

11 Even the timid Environmental Protection
12 Agency was forced to find INEL in violation of the
13 Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, which was
14 originally established to police private industry waste
15 management. Substantive corrective action is yet to occur
16 because EPA will not shut down any INEL facility.

17 Consequently, violations are interpreted
18 as a peer review without being binding. No civilian
19 industry would be allowed to operate a single day under
20 the current federal environmental law using INEL waste
21 management practices.

22 MR. EIGUREN: The comments, the written
23 comments, I'm sorry, by Mr. Chuck Broschious on behalf of
24 the Idaho Organizations for Nuclear Safety will be marked
25 as Exhibit No. 175 and submitted to the record.

1 (Exhibit No. 175 was marked and entered.)

2 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
3 is Mr. Greg Casey, President of the Idaho Association of
4 Commerce and Industry.

5 MR. CASEY: Mr. Chairman, my name is
6 Greg Casey, and I'm President of the Idaho Association of
7 Commerce and Industry, and I reside right here in Boise.

8 By way of explanation, IACI is a state-wide
9 business organization formed in 1974 by the merger of the
10 State Chamber of Commerce, the Associated Industries of
11 Idaho, the Idaho Safety Council and the Idaho Potato
12 Processors Association.

13 Today our membership, excluding associations,
14 chambers and trade groups, employs roughly, directly
15 employs roughly 70,000 Idahoans with an annual Idaho
16 payroll of roughly \$2-billion. In 1986, the Idaho-only
17 economic activity of our IACI membership was \$7-billion,
18 which is roughly equivalent to 50 percent of the annual
19 sales activity in the state, as estimated by the Department
20 of Commerce.

21 In March of 1987, our board voted without
22 dissent to endorse and actively support location of the
23 SIS facility at the INEL, barring any unforeseen major
24 problems that might arise from the DEIS.

25 Subsequent to the issuance of that report,

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1 we have reviewed the DEIS and now support the project's
2 location at the INEL without reservation. I am here today
3 to represent that on behalf of IACI.

4 We have not been an idle bystander in this
5 process. Last summer IACI formed a Technology Committee
6 that, among other things, visited the site and reviewed
7 the entire project. We have also attended briefings
8 regarding the transportation of material to and from the
9 site and have appeared at public forums regarding the SIS
10 that were organized by both opponents and proponents.

11 And our rationale is this: The National
12 Weapons Stockpile Memorandum submitted by the Secretaries
13 of Defense and Energy to, and subsequently approved by,
14 the President of the United States, addresses the need
15 for additional, non-reactor redundancy in the production
16 of weapons grade plutonium.

17 Based on the findings of that classified
18 document, the U.S. Congress has authorized and appropriated
19 moneys to further that project.

20 Therefore, it is our belief that the question
21 is not whether to build the SIS, but where. Questions
22 dealing with the findings of that memorandum would seem
23 outside the scope of these hearings.

24 After a careful review of the DEIS, it seems
25 clear to us that the Department of Energy's preferred

1 choice of the INEL for the SIS is both environmentally
2 and economically sound.

3 Naturally, we are very enthusiastic about
4 the economic benefits to be derived by location of this
5 project in Idaho. The INEL has long been one of Idaho's
6 largest and most stable employers. This project will
7 continue to afford us that employment stability and add
8 that stability to our Idaho tax base.

9 We see very minimal, if any, economic ill
10 effects relating to the location of the SIS at the INEL.
11 Environmentally, the site is well suited for location of
12 the project. Its obvious advantages are also enhanced
13 by the relatively small surrounding population.

14 We have also determined that the non-reactor
15 nature of this project, combined with the relatively
16 small amounts of plutonium used at any one time, and the
17 impressive nature of the containment procedure, means
18 the addition of this project to the INEL poses little
19 additional on-site dangers to either the environment or
20 the work force.

21 Our concerns regarding the transportation
22 of material from Hanford to the INEL, or from INEL to
23 Rocky Flats in Colorado, have been minimized by a better
24 understanding of the procedures already in use by the
25 Department of Energy. It is evident that transportation

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1 of this material is something that the Department must
2 deal with effectively no matter where the SIS might
3 eventually be located. We are satisfied that all that
4 can be done to ensure safe transportation is being done.
5 Also, it seems evident to us that the material will
6 occasionally be transported through Idaho even if the
7 SIS were to be built elsewhere.

8 We are also excited about the downstream
9 potential of this project on the state's economy and the
10 educational system. The technology that accompanies the
11 SIS will no doubt bring with it additional scientific
12 and educational spin-offs beyond that that the state or
13 the INEL can presently provide.

14 For that reason, we think the alarm expressed
15 by some at the relatively short project duration is,
16 itself, shortsighted. For example, the Boron-Neutron
17 Capture Therapy, presently under development at the INEL
18 site, uses facilities never intended for use in furthering
19 medical research or treatment. We think the SIS holds
20 potential for similar opportunities downstream.

21 And if there is anything that Idaho needs
22 right now, it's increased opportunities.

23 We believe the DEIS makes appropriate and
24 adequate use of the existing NEPA regulations in
25 developing this document, and the drafters are to be

1 commended for providing a DEIS that is clear, concise and
2 understandable. We are deeply troubled by attempts by
3 some to propagate rumors that the addition of the SIS to
4 the INEL will damage the reputation of Idaho's
5 agricultural crops. There is absolutely no evidence
6 that would justify that assertion.

7 In conclusion, let me again state that the
8 Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry and those
9 we represent, urge that the SIS be built and be built at
10 the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory near Idaho
11 Falls.

12 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
13 Mr. Casey will be included in the record as Exhibit
14 No. 176.

15 (Exhibit No. 176 was marked and entered.)

16 MR. EIGUREN: An organization entitled
17 Health Care Professionals for Social Responsibility have
18 requested the opportunity to comment this afternoon.
19 However, they have yet to provide me the name of the
20 individual to comment for them.

21 Is there anyone here representing the
22 Health Care Professionals for Social Responsibility?

23 We are informed by Liz that they will be
24 here later. We pass them over at this point.

25 We call upon Mr. Jim Kerns, who is the

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1 President of the AFL-CIO.

2 MR. KERNS: Mr. Hearing Officer Eiguren,
3 good afternoon. My name is James E. Kerns, and I reside
4 here in Boise, Idaho, and I'm an Idaho native. I am
5 here representing the 16,126 union members who belong
6 to 117 local unions and councils that have joined together
7 to establish the Idaho State AFL-CIO, and I am its
8 elected President.

9 Our federations of unions support the siting
10 of the Special Isotope Separator (SIS) at the Idaho
11 Nuclear (sic) Energy (sic) Laboratory (INEL) in
12 southeastern Idaho. The Department of Energy has
13 designated the INEL as its preferred site for the SIS
14 production facility.

15 As you have heard and seen today, and
16 yesterday, and certainly next Monday and the hearings to
17 follow, the siting of the SIS in Idaho is an emotional
18 issue, and being such an emotional issue, I believe it
19 is important for the committee and for the public to
20 understand how the Idaho trade union arrives at our
21 policy decisions.

22 Each year, delegates representing their
23 own unions and councils attend the Idaho State AFL-CIO
24 convention. At these conventions, resolutions are
25 introduced and assigned to the germane committees where

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1 hearings are held on these resolutions. After the
2 hearings, the committee chairs report to the convention
3 floor the resolutions with recommendations; the
4 recommendations being do pass, no recommendation or
5 do not pass. The resolutions are then debated on the
6 floor of the convention until the issue is voted upon.
7 A majority of votes either passes or rejects the
8 resolution.

9 The Idaho State AFL-CIO has passed and
10 adopted resolutions supporting the siting of additional
11 projects at the INEL, including the SSC Project, which
12 Idaho was unsuccessful in attracting, and the SIS. Again,
13 with the DOE designating the INEL as the preferred site
14 for the SIS facility -- we believe we have a chance to
15 win the project for Idaho -- and we urge the DOE to
16 award the project to the INEL with the proper funding.

17 It has been said by some that labor supports
18 the SIS because of the construction jobs, the operation
19 and support personnel jobs and the spin-off jobs from
20 laser technology to additional service jobs that will be
21 created on the short term and long term. So, it should
22 come as no surprise to anyone -- organized labor in Idaho
23 is for good paying jobs, safe jobs and union jobs.

24 We are for jobs that pay well enough so that
25 Idaho working families can have a sense of financial

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1 security; we are for safe jobs so that the agony of injury
2 or death does not stop the worker in the family when
3 that worker goes to work; we are for union jobs that
4 insures and supports the previous two job requisites and
5 gives the worker a solid and loud voice in determining
6 their working conditions.

7 We believe the long track record of
8 excellent labor/management relations at the INEL between
9 Idaho contractors and Idaho workers reinforces our
10 support for the SIS facility to be sited in southeastern
11 Idaho.

5.27.11.3

12 Experienced and competent Idaho contractors
13 are already in place and can do the job safely. A pool
14 of highly skilled and trained Idaho workers are available
15 to man the project and can do the job safely.

16 A stable relationship exists, and has for
17 years under a stabilization agreement between labor and
18 management at the INEL. This stable relationship does
19 not exist everywhere in Idaho -- and I can say with some
20 confidence -- that if this project was going to be built
21 in -- let's say, Boise -- Boise, Idaho trade unions
22 probably would look at this project with somewhat of a
23 jaundiced eye,

5.27.12.6

24 Let me draw you a comparison between
25 construction projects in Boise and those at the INEL, over

1 the past several years.

2 Now, before I am accused of starting a
3 sectional conflict between southwestern and southeastern
4 Idaho -- I will tell you that there are highly skilled
5 and trained workers in Boise ready to do the job -- and
6 to do the job safely -- in fact many of the workers in
7 Boise and those at the INEL attend the same apprenticeship
8 schools, funded by the workers and their employers at no
9 cost to the state.

10 But, the construction philosophy in Boise,
11 over the past two years, has been to hire out-of-state
12 contractors, using predominantly out-of-state workers and
13 paying non-union substandard wages. The result -- five
14 construction workers are dead -- and many injured, some
15 permanently disabled -- in fact a Boise City building
16 inspector fell 15 feet through a hole and injured his
17 back last week at one of the construction sites here in
18 Boise.

19 As I said earlier, organized labor in Idaho
20 wants good paying jobs, safe jobs and union jobs. Almost
21 none of the requisites exist at these current construction
22 sites in Boise for the past two years.

23 What's the record at the INEL for the past
24 five years, where we have Idaho companies employing Idaho
25 workers?

5.24.23

1 Not one construction death -- one death did
2 occur to a protective force employee when his weapon
3 accidentally discharged.

4 Has there been accidents at the INEL?
5 Certainly, construction work is dangerous work, but death
6 and injuries do not have to be cold-bloodedly added into
7 the cost if proper care, consideration and enforcement of
8 safety is a priority -- as it is at the INEL. The lost
9 workday accidents at the INEL is 1.1 per 200,000 man-hours
10 worked -- compared to 3.6 lost workday accidents in the
11 industry, nation-wide.

12 The Idaho State AFL-CIO firmly believes the
13 priority of safety will remain number one at the SIS site
14 and at the INEL.

15 We believe, since the DOE has selected the
16 INEL as the preferred site, it should be built there.

17 We believe the current labor/management
18 relations will continue.

19 We believe this new project at the INEL
20 will provide good paying jobs, safe jobs and union jobs
21 for Idaho workers.

22 In conclusion, Mr. Hearing Officer, it has
23 been my honor and privilege to address you and the public
24 and to urge you to convey to Congress and to the President
25 of the United States that Idaho's union workers recommend

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1 that the SIS be properly funded and built at the INEL
2 in southeastern Idaho.

3 Thank you very much.

4 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Mr. Kerns. Your
5 written statement will be included in the record as
6 Exhibit No. 177.

7 (Exhibit No. 177 was marked and entered.)

8 MR. EIGUREN: At this time, I am informed
9 that the spokesman for the Health Care Professionals for
10 Social Responsibility is here. His name is Dr. Thomas B.
11 Eschen of Boise.

12 Dr. Eschen, you have 10 minutes, sir.

13 DR. ESCHEN: Thank you.

14 Mr. Hearing Officer, friends, I am Thomas B.
15 Eschen, M.D., Ph.D. I am here representing Idaho Health
16 Professionals for Social Responsibility. We are a local
17 organization with 56 members. I am also here representing
18 Physicians for Social Responsibility, which has 50 members
19 state-wide in the State of Idaho.

20 We are affiliated with the International
21 Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, which is
22 the single largest medical organization world-wide.

23 I speak in opposition to the SIS. I'm coming
24 to you as a physician, and in my practice I deal mainly
25 with the problems of substance abuse and mental health.

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1 And there are a couple things that come out of that
2 practice that I would like to share with you this
3 afternoon.

4 The first big problem that I deal with when
5 I talk to a patient is denial. Basically I'm talking to
6 good people, honest people who have a disease that they
7 don't want to face up to, and it doesn't -- this disease
8 disturbs their thinking to the point that they don't want
9 to recognize that it's there, and the disease may be
10 alcoholism, it may be depression, it may be schizophrenia,
11 it may be other drug abuse, it could be a whole spectrum
12 of things. But for some reason they are unwilling to face
13 it. So my job is to find a way to help that person
14 realize that the disease is there and that there is a form
15 of treatment that gives some hope for a better future.

16 The second thing I do when I deal with such
17 a patient is work with a risk/benefit decision. I often
18 offer medicine. Medicine is poison, it changes the way
19 the body works. And I have to work out with that patient
20 a judgment as to whether the treatment is more dangerous
21 or less dangerous than the disease that they are trying
22 to deal with. And I would like to apply those two themes
23 to the current situation that we are looking at.

24 The nuclear arsenal of the United States
25 is already sufficient to completely disrupt the ability of

1 our enemies to support an army. We will completely
2 destroy with the arsenal we have their transportation,
3 their communication, their manufacturing. The Soviet
4 Union has the capability today to do that to us as well.
5 Indeed, if we and the Soviet Union were to use the weapons
6 we have already, we would probably end up with a war
7 between weapons and computers. It is questionable whether
8 there would be anybody left to know who won.

9 But those alive would be struggling with
10 starvation, disease and social integration to a level
11 never seen before, and that they really wouldn't care who
12 won because it would be a whole new world.

13 In addition, if they would face the problems
14 that have been described by Carl Sagan and others in
15 The Nuclear Winter that the dust and smoke from these
16 bombs would circle the world and completely change our
17 climate for an unknown period of time.

18 Now, when we look at this particular
19 project, let's look at the environmental impact. That's
20 the kind of thing that I do when I go to a patient and
21 look at the impact of the medicine that I am offering.
22 And when I do it, I look at the benefits versus the
23 problems that might come with that. And let's do the
24 same thing with this project we're looking at today.

25 We are talking about a facility for the

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1 separation of plutonium-239, which has a half-life of
2 24,390 years. It will be brought across Idaho in the
3 form of plutonium oxide and transported out, apparently,
4 as plutonium metal.

5 The major health threat of this is from
6 inhalation, causing lung cancer and deposition in the
7 bones after transportation from the lungs, causing
8 osteogenic sarcoma. The major concentration of this,
9 of course, will be at the site. There is a potential of
10 it getting into our aquifer, there is a potential for
11 volcanism in the air spreading it around, it will
12 certainly be transported on our highways.

13 Now, we know that there's been an extensive
14 and well intentioned plan developed to present any -- to
15 prevent any accidental spread of this dangerous material
16 into our environment. But, what is the benefit of having
17 this in our environment, even though they have minimized
18 the potential for cost and problems? Environmentally, as
19 best I can tell, the benefit is zero, if not negative.
20 Indeed, militarily we have enough weapons to destroy our
21 enemy. The only thing that will happen with additional
22 weapons is that we will overkill, and the fallout and dust
23 from the weapons that we use on the other side of the
24 world will circle the globe and come back and attack us.
25 These weapons will not be used to kill our enemies, although

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1 may attempt to do so; these weapons will come back and
2 get us.

3 Now, my friends, as I see it, there are no
4 environmental benefits; there are only dangers to us from
5 the materials in our state, on our highways and our water.
6 They will be used to produce weapons which are not needed
7 in addition to those which we already have, and if used
8 would produce materials that would circle the world and
9 attack us.

10 It seems to me that recovery and recycling
11 of the already existing weapons grade plutonium is a
12 preferred alternative listed in this Environmental Impact
13 Statement.

14 As a physician, environmentally it seems to
15 me that to proceed with this project is insane.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. EIGUREN: We will include in the record
18 as Exhibit No. 178 a series of references used by
19 Dr. Eschen in his comments to us today.

20 (Exhibit No. 178 was marked and entered.)

21 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
22 is Mr. Robert Terry Hatch, who represents Local 764 of
23 the I.B.P.A.T. Is Mr. Hatch here? Mr. Hatch?

24 Pass him over for the moment and call
25 upon Miss Lindsay Audin of the Plutonium Challenge

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5.2.15

1 Coalition.

2 MR. AUDIN: That's Mister, by the way.

3 MR. EIGUREN: I apologize. It's Mr. Lindsay
4 Audin, obviously.

5 MR. AUDIN: A common error of a unisex name.

6 My name is Lindsay Audin. I am a mechanical
7 engineer employed by a New York City consulting firm. I
8 am testifying today on the transportation of nuclear
9 materials as it relates to the Special Isotope Separation
10 Plant.

11 I've been involved in the handling and
12 shipping of nuclear materials as a consultant to members
13 of Congress, several states and to the federal office
14 of technology assessment. I co-authored a book on the
15 subject in 1983 and presently contracted to the State of
16 Nevada and to Clark University as a consultant on this
17 issue.

18 I speak to you today as a member of the
19 Plutonium Challenge Coalition, which consists of several
20 national citizens groups concerned about plutonium
21 production.

22 Members of the coalition include The Natural
23 Resources Defense Council, Federation of American
24 Scientists, Union of Concerned Scientists, Environmental
25 Policy Institute, Greenpeace, Energy Research Foundation,

1 Physicians for Social Responsibility and Environmental
2 Action.

3 I have read the review of the Draft
4 Environmental Impact Statement with regard to the
5 transportation of plutonium outside into the INEL and
6 plutonium metal in transuranic wastes out of INEL. In
7 general, I am disappointed at the lack of depth of
8 information on the basics of nuclear transportation,
9 but I'm more seriously concerned about possible technical
10 deficiencies in its analysis.

11 Such deficiencies are discussed at length
12 in my written testimony. They fall into three general
13 categories.

14 The first item that concerns me is the
15 amount of shipping that would occur if the SIS were to
16 exist at INEL. My calculations indicate that the national
17 shipment rate for plutonium could increase by 50 percent,
18 but it would be concentrated on only one or two corridors
19 in the Northwest states.

20 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
21 never addresses this fact and also fails to realistically
22 assess the potential number of shipments from such sources
23 as decommissioning of a facility, a weapons cleanup
24 program, use of other fuel stockpiles, and cleanup of
25 any accidents that occur at the plant itself.

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1 I believe the DEIS significantly
2 underestimates the total number of shipments likely to
3 result from the SIS. Such an underestimation then
4 impacts on overall risk calculations, while misrepresenting
5 the challenges to emergency preparedness and accidents
6 happening that this venture may create.

5.29.38

7 The second problem area concerns the
8 containers and the vehicles to be used in shipping
9 plutonium. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
10 claims that only safe, secure transport trucks, called
11 SST's, will be used. And why the DOE can make such
12 claim is that it is under no requirement to do so, and
13 other demands for such vehicles may not allow it.

5.29.110

14 The same holds true for the claim that only
15 containers approved by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
16 or the federal Department of Transportation will be used.
17 Nothing requires that DOE utilize only those containers.
18 It may not do so. And there are questions about the
19 safety of those containers.

5.29.42

20 Now, one might ask, "Why doesn't the DOE
21 use containers that DOE certifies? It has the power to do
22 so." There is a very good reason why no DOE approved
23 containers will be used, and that's because virtually all
24 of them were recalled for safety defects in the last three
25 years. Now, nothing bars DOE from certifying those

1 recalled containers again and reusing them.

5.29.38

2 Since many of the assumptions regarding
3 accident consequences only involve use of the SST, some
4 of the assumptions are made about containers. The DEIS
5 is deficient because it does not analyze situations
6 involving standard trucks, which are often used to move
7 plutonium, and does not address the past problems with
8 those plutonium containers that it discussed.

5.29.42

9 There are many problems involving those
10 containers, not just the ones that I was discussing about
11 the DOE's own, but also others. One of the Nuclear
12 Regulatory Commission's own containers was also recalled
13 for defects. In 1979, all plutonium shipments were
14 suspended because of a near miss.

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15 There are also apparent discrepancies and
16 omissions in the crush and criticality analysis of the
17 6M container which is discussed in the DEIS.

18 I should discuss very briefly why the DOE's
19 containers were recalled. I first became involved in
20 this issue in 1974 when the Department of Energy was
21 allowing plutonium to be transported in one of those
22 containers through New York City, after being flown into
23 the United States from Belgium.

24 We made quite a ruckus about that because
25 we didn't appreciate the shipments going across the center

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1 of Manhattan -- it's a very urban sensitive area. We
 2 were assured again and again that there was no chance of
 3 anything happening, and absolutely no chance of a nuclear
 4 reaction. Even I believed them. They were wrong.

5 The reason that the LLD-1 container was
 6 recalled after being used for over 18 years was because
 7 if involved in a crush environment -- a vehicle crashing
 8 into another vehicle, crashing into a wall, whatever, it
 9 would be possible for enough containers to be crushed for
 10 a nuclear criticality to occur, causing the containers to
 11 explode. That's why they were withdrawn.

12 But human error entered into it in a very
 13 interesting way. The DOE never notified all of its
 14 facilities to withdraw the containers, so they continued
 15 using them for 19 months after they were recalled. I
 16 personally verified nine shipments involving 170 packages
 17 with the LLD-1. It was withdrawn in 1982 officially; it
 18 was not finally withdrawn until 1986.

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19 The third problem area involves the General
 20 Risk and Consequence Assessments. Human error has been
 21 found to be a significant problem in nuclear energy
 22 operations. You all recall Chernobl, and the Three Mile
 23 Island accident. But it's completely ignored in the DEIS.

5.29.81

24 Similarly, potential damage from plutonium
 25 dispersement is discussed only with reference to health

1 effects. Other studies done by DOE's own labs of
 2 radioactive contamination plus actual incidents indicate
 3 that the cost and problems associated with accidents can
 4 go far beyond death and injury. Property may be
 5 rendered valueless, lands and buildings abandoned, water
 6 resources poisoned, and essential services cut off.

7 Now, those other studies done by DOE were
 8 never utilized or even referenced in the DEIS. Such
 9 damages that do not cause health effects should be
 10 addressed, because much of the plutonium movement will pass
 11 through sensitive urban and resource areas. (Sic)

12 The DEIS also underestimates, according to
 13 a past DOE study, the amount of plutonium powder that
 14 could be released in breathable size range -- that's
 15 10 microns or under. That means that more could be
 16 breathed in and cause human damage than is estimated in
 17 the DEIS.

18 Now, while it may not be appropriate to an
 19 Environmental Impact Statement, there is also a need for
 20 attention to one more issue. I've talked a little bit
 21 about that already, and that's DOE's track record on
 22 handling of radioactive materials. It includes some
 23 disturbing evidence of disdain for safety rules.

24 Not only did DOE utilize potentially
 25 dangerous containers for many years before finally

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1 recalling them, but it has resisted efforts to oversee
2 and critique its activities. This problem has now become
3 of sufficient concern to, at my urging, to prompt the
4 Federal Department of Transportation two weeks ago to
5 consider a formal audit of all of DOE's transportation
6 activities.

7 All such questions should be dealt with
8 and resolved before DOE can be allowed to significantly
9 increase the volume and hazardousness of those activities.
10 I personally believe that the only way to assure adherence
11 to minimally accepted standards is to place all of DOE's
12 transportation activities under the control of the
13 Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

14 Similarly, there is a need for oversight by
15 state agencies in the areas of routing, vehicle
16 maintenance, shipping conditions and emergency
17 preparedness. States should consider levying shipping
18 fees on the Department of Energy for such services as
19 has been approved in the rulings by the Federal Department
20 of Transportation.

21 In conclusion, the DEIS fails to meet even
22 minimal requirements for transportation analysis. A major
23 effort is needed to address these deficiencies before the
24 document can be taken seriously.

25 The people of Idaho don't need a Chernobl

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1 in their own back yard.

2 Thank you.

3 MR. EIGUREN: The complete text of
4 Mr. Audin's comments has been submitted to the record as
5 Exhibit No. 179. I would note that a rather extensive
6 study, apparently, has been submitted for the record.

7 (Exhibit No. 179 was marked and entered.)

8 MR. EIGUREN: The next organization that is
9 scheduled, or requested to be scheduled, for the
10 organizational time slot is Students for World Peace.

11 Is there anyone here on behalf of that
12 organization, Students for World Peace?

13 Just a moment. We need to take a break for
14 the Court Reporter.

15 (A recess was taken.)

16 MR. EIGUREN: The Court Reporter has
17 indicated we're ready to go back on the record.

18 Gentlemen, before we begin, I would like to
19 have each of you introduce yourselves for the record. I
20 assume you're all speaking for the same organization?

21 MR. ESCHELIN: We are.

22 My name is Chris Eschelin. I live here in
23 Boise. I go to Boise High School and I am a member of
24 Students for World Peace, which is a club recently formed
25 there.

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5.24.18

1 MR. DAVIS: My name is Spencer Davis from
2 Boise High. I am from the same organization.
3 MR. FARBER: I'm Jason Farber. I'm from
4 the same organization.
5 MR. ESCHLIN: We are the students, the
6 future generation of America. I see many times, looking
7 back on it, how things were in the '60s. So I tried to
8 think, "How can I help influence these things and really
9 try and get the voters and the people that know about
10 this?"
11 So I looked up, I found this Impact Statement
12 put out by the Department of Energy, and I was very
13 astounded when I found this statement. This is a quote
14 from the specific safety issues: "Because the technology
15 is in the development stage and the SIS facility has not
16 yet reached the design stage --" it's saying it's not
17 even in the design stage yet "-- the risks associated
18 with the facility cannot be predicted with the quantitative
19 accuracies suggested by the DEIS."
20 All those figures and facts that you heard
21 earlier today, we don't know, they're just thoughts, they
22 don't know that for sure. I was quite surprised that they
23 were putting out all those figures earlier, when they
24 couldn't even base them upon anything, and they really
25 contradict themselves by putting out this report.

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1 So then I started thinking, "Why are we
2 building this? To make more money."
3 It seems to most people that Idaho wants
4 jobs, Idaho wants the economy, that's a great idea. Why
5 not put the money into education? What would \$4-billion
6 do for the Idaho education? It would not only help us
7 out now so that to make a lot more jobs and a lot more
8 teaching positions, but help us in the future. We don't
9 need a bunch more bombs; we need education. All that
10 money that's going into the bombs is being wasted. And
11 why not just take it into education?
12 Thank you.
13 MR. EIGUREN: Re-introduce yourself for the
14 record. Remember, this is going into the record. So your
15 name again when you speak.
16 MR. DAVIS: My name is Spencer Davis.
17 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. Go ahead.
18 MR. DAVIS: I'm not as familiar with the
19 SIS program as I would like to be, but I was reading the
20 text that Chris was just talking about, and a fact came
21 up that kind of startled me, that 6.6 pounds of plutonium
22 would, if evenly distributed between every member of the
23 United States, it would be enough to kill the entire
24 American population. And I don't want this kind of power
25 in my back yard.

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1 I speak for a lot of other young people in
2 saying that. And there are a lot of better things we can
3 do with the money.
4 So that's all. Thank you.
5 MR. ESCHELIN: Just one more statement. We
6 had a petition that went around Boise High, and we had
7 about 250 people that came over and signed that, 250
8 students that were against that. We only had it out for
9 one week and about a fifth of all the kids in Boise High
10 are against it.
11 So please consider the children.
12 MR. FARBER: My name is Jason Farber. Okay.
13 I would like to start by saying I'm against the SIS
14 program. And I wrote a poem to summarize my feelings
15 on it -- it's entitled Our Last Land of True America:
16 "This deadly gas is of no use, instead of
17 Apocalypse, we ask for a truce. Useless triggers fill
18 our state; after Idaho there is no escape.
19 "What about the produce, mountains and
20 trees? What about our most majestic peace?
21 "The habitats are stricken and poisoned,
22 poisoned with dump from this unwanted curse.
23 "The deer, the antelope, the bald eagle,
24 all the animals sick by useless technology.
25 "Roads and trails like to high mountain

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1 lakes, this is what the money should go to.
2 "Silent majority sit and wait, trying to
3 figure out why this is needed.
4 "Authority figures not caring about the
5 people's voices, using this newfound destruction for the
6 sole reason that it exists."
7 Thank you.
8 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, gentlemen.
9 Our final organizational commenter this
10 afternoon is representing the Church Women United,
11 Marilyn Bowman.
12 MS. BOWMAN: Church Women United is a peace
13 and justice movement within the Christian congregation,
14 24 Protestant and Catholic faith groups.
15 Our 48-year history includes the adoption
16 by the Common Council of State Presidents of more than
17 25 separate policy statements calling for an end to the
18 production, testing, deployment and exportation of atomic
19 and nuclear weapons.
20 Our first statement was drafted in 1946.
21 Additionally, we advocate in behalf of a clean and safe
22 environment through the development of benign energy
23 resources.
24 Today we say "No SIS in Idaho or Tennessee
25 or Washington or anywhere." Excessive expenditures on

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1 weapons systems and its proliferation causes world-wide
2 suffering, and the division of United States money from
3 social programs creates increasing numbers of children
4 and their families living with hunger, homelessness and
5 inadequate medical care.

6 The human cost connection between the
7 Arms Race and poverty among the world's children has been
8 well documented.

9 And the poor child no longer lives "over
10 there." One of every three children in the United States
11 is poor, because their family is poor. America's women
12 and their children are full of rage over the nation's
13 priorities. Is this poverty and this rage in the best
14 interests of our national security?

15 So now, under the guise of the Department
16 of Energy, our military wants taxpayers to bribe Idahoans
17 with dollars and a few temporary jobs, to accept a
18 plutonium reprocessing plant, to be located on an
19 earthquake-prone rift, a natural sieve of fractured
20 basalt, above one of the greatest underground aquifers
21 in the world.

22 Where were the geologists when INEL was
23 positioned over this liquid gold? There is much
24 tragic-comedy in the reported plan of Superfund
25 Expenditure of Thirty Million or So Dollars to Clean Up

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1 the Soil and Groundwater Pollution from INEL's Past
2 Projects. We should invite the world, and charge
3 admission, to view this futile venture.

4 There is no evidence that the nuclear
5 industry, the DOE or the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
6 knows what it is collectively doing. Like a crazed
7 carrier of a deadly disease, it has run amuck contaminating
8 every partner with which it becomes intimate. Now the
9 sick partners know the truth, nuclear condoms leak! The
10 offspring of these sick alliances are being kept alive
11 on the Department of Energy respirator of government
12 subsidies in outright bribes of money and jobs to a
13 state willing to prostitute themselves and their
14 environment.

15 The government-granted immunity from
16 liability through the Price-Anderson Act, and the
17 classified status of information for government and
18 proprietary industrial projects, tells us that our
19 government knows that it is up to its ears in dangerous
20 business, that would be scrapped if only the public knew.

21 The Governor of Idaho has suggested that we
22 might have some consideration given to us for independent
23 oversight of the DOE's activities. That has not happened
24 in Washington state. They have been lobbying for many
25 years, not only for oversight but for some cleanup moneys

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1 which have been -- to clean up the dumps that have been
2 placed on their reservation.

3 The probable risks, redundancy safeguards
4 and all the other prognostications are conceded by many
5 to be invalid in the light of antiquated DOE military
6 reactors, poorly trained managers, and the Department's
7 absence of requirement of industry liability.

8 Policies of ignoring scientific criticism
9 even from its own members and Senators. Probable risk
10 assessments and other predictions by experts have been
11 blown out of the water by the "man made, man-machine
12 interface," accidents assume catastrophic proportions
13 because all the negative aspects of reactor design can be
14 brought about by the operators.

15 U.S. and German government sponsored studies
16 estimated that with the expected 500 nuclear reactors in
17 place by 1990, we could expect one core-damaging
18 accident every 20 years. That estimate has been revised
19 upwards to one every eight years.

20 Swedish and West German scientists estimate
21 a 70 percent probability that another Chernobyl will occur
22 in the next 5.4 years.

23 We are being held hostage by the Department
24 of Energy. There is an adverse relationship between
25 liability or responsibility, those who have the least to

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1 say, have wound up paying the most.

2 Based upon the legal experiences of Three
3 Mile Island, in the event of a major nuclear accident in
4 Idaho, the involved corporations can bankrupt each other
5 to recover losses, but the public is strictly denied the
6 right to sue anyone.

7 The State of Idaho has a history of
8 advocacy in behalf of its people and resources. Today
9 we have confidence in our better judgment and ask that we
10 not be forced to sell our environment for a "redundancy."

11 Senator McClure, a ranking member of the
12 energy committee, puts more value on unneeded weapons
13 programs for the DOE than on Idaho's resources, its
14 water, land and people.

15 Idahoans have a habit of denying,
16 restraining the policies and actions of those who would
17 manipulate the biocommunities in such a way as to injure
18 them. Therefore, we can act politically, and it appears
19 that we will have to act as the people of Idaho,
20 certainly the congressional delegations and the agencies
21 of Idaho are not speaking for the people. You will have
22 to speak for yourself.

23 Idaho people do not even know where their
24 nuclear children are; 52 reactors, who has used them? And
25 for what purpose? Who is using the 15 that are active

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1 now?

2 I made two trips to INEL; I don't have a
3 clue. I maybe know five. And what harm is being created
4 on our soil, above our precious water? Whose children
5 will be killed by products made in our state? Our
6 children? Our enemies' children? Does it really matter?

7 Church Women United in Idaho and in the
8 United States say, "No to SIS."

9 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
10 Marilyn Bowman in her capacity as northwest regional
11 coordinator for Church Women United will be entered in
12 the record as Exhibit No. 180.

13 (Exhibit No. 180 was marked and entered.)

14 MR. EIGUREN: At this time, ladies and
15 gentlemen, it's the chair's intent to take a five-minute
16 recess. Before we do that, you need to understand how
17 we're going to proceed when we come back.

18 We now have had all of our organizational
19 representatives speak, as well as the elected officials.
20 We will now go into the next phase and receive the public
21 comments.

22 Anyone who has preregistered or registered
23 at the door, as I've said many times before, will have
24 the opportunity to comment. You'll have up to five
25 minutes.

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1 What we would like to do is have you during
2 the recess take a look at the list that's posted on the
3 wall over there, which is the order of speakers, or you
4 can come up here and talk to one of us, and see where you
5 are at on that list. If you are anywhere between
6 Order No. 1 or 50, let's say 1 to 50, I ask that you would
7 assemble back up here when the recess is over, so that we
8 can move through this process more rapidly.

9 Thank you. We are in recess for five minutes.

10 (A recess was taken.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: I would like to call this
12 hearing back to order, please.

13 We are now formally back on the record.
14 At this point in time, we will commence with the receipt
15 of testimony from individuals who have preregistered to
16 speak at this afternoon's public hearing.

17 I've been informed during the break that
18 through oversight, Dr. Monte Wilson, who is a member of
19 the Snake River Alliance's SIS Technical Review Board,
20 was not included with the list of organizational speakers.
21 However, I am told that he is able to keep his written
22 comments, his oral comments within the five-minute time
23 limitation.

24 So in order to accommodate him, we'll bring
25 him to the top of the list at this point, and have

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1 Dr. Monte Wilson, who is a member of the Snake River
2 Alliance SIS Technical Review Board, present his comments.
3 Dr. Wilson?
4 DR. WILSON: Thank you. I am Monte Wilson.
5 I reside in Boise, Idaho. I was asked to review the
6 Draft Environmental Impact Statement with regard to the
7 completeness and accuracy of the geological information.
8 I find several shortcomings in the Draft EIS
9 and I'd like to verbally mention four of them and request
10 that my entire review be entered into the permanent
11 record.
12 MR. EIGUREN: It will.
13 DR. WILSON: The first point I would like
14 to make --
15 MR. EIGUREN: Excuse me, Dr. Wilson. I'm
16 sorry. Let me take away from your time here.
17 Can we close the door, please? It's very
18 distracting.
19 Thank you. I appreciate that.
20 DR. WILSON: The first point I'd like to
21 make is that the Draft EIS includes an unrealistically
22 low estimate of potential impact of earthquakes. There
23 is a substantial risk of high magnitude earthquakes along
24 the major faults which bound mountains north of the
25 Snake River Plain and extend southeastward beneath the

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1 INEL. Epicenters of such earthquakes could in fact be
2 very close to the proposed SIS facility.

3 The Design Basis Earthquake used in the
4 DEIS is unrealistically low, in light of the fact that
5 those fault zones extend beneath the Snake River Plain
6 and have been determined to be the source of volcanic
7 activity, and probably also the source of micro seismic
8 activity.

9 The second point I would like to make is
10 that the unprecedented 1981 downgrading of the Uniform
11 Building Code Seismic Risk Zone for the INEL from Zone 3,
12 which is a zone with major risk, to Zone 2, which is a
13 zone with moderate risk, is inappropriate in light of the
14 seismic risk in the area.

15 This unprecedented change of the Uniform
16 Building Code Seismic Risk Zone was done in response to
17 a request by EG&G personnel. But I think in the interest
18 of public safety and in the interest of fiscal
19 responsibility, the Department of Energy should manage
20 the INEL as being in seismic risk Zone 3 and should
21 therefore reevaluate whether the Special Isotope
22 Separator should in fact be built in a zone of major risk,
23 or risk of major seismic damage.

24 The third point I would like to make is that
25 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement understates and

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1 misrepresents important facts and interpretations
 2 relative to the volcanic hazards at INEL. The area in
 3 which the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory is
 4 located has experienced a great deal of volcanic activity
 5 in the very recent geologic past and it will almost
 6 certainly be the location of future volcanic eruptions.

7 It is not acceptable that on one page of
 8 the Draft EIS that the facility is proposed to be sited
 9 on top of a pile of bedrock that is a result of recent
 10 volcanism, and on the following page point out that
 11 because of the location of the facility, volcanic hazards
 12 are not to be expected.

13 Additionally, within a restricted area of
 14 the eastern Snake River Plain, known as the Arco Big Seven
 15 Butte area -- and this is the area in which the SIS is
 16 proposed -- the frequency of volcanism has been determined
 17 to be one eruption every 3,000 years, or one eruption
 18 every 2,000 years.

19 The Draft EIS states that the frequency of
 20 volcanic eruption is one eruption every 30,000 to
 21 100,000 years. That is an error by a magnitude of at
 22 least 10 and clearly should be a drastic difference in
 23 deciding whether or not to put long half-life and
 24 radioactive materials in such an environment.

25 The final point I'd like to make is that it

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1 is not acceptable that the Draft Environmental Impact
 2 Statement and the supporting documents do not realistically
 3 evaluate the volcanic hazards nor do they even develop
 4 a volcanic "accident" scenario.

5 If the Department of Energy builds the
 6 proposed SIS facility at the site, it will be subjected
 7 to major volcanic hazards, and these hazards include lava
 8 flows, violent steam eruptions, clouds of steam, hot ash
 9 and cinders. These hazards could cause explosive
 10 dispersal of radioactive materials and they could cause
 11 severe pollution of an extensive area.

12 In addition, the DEIS states that radioactive
 13 waste may be stored, at least on an interim basis, at
 14 INEL. The possible consequences of an earthquake or a
 15 volcano on a waste facility must also be examined.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. EIGUREN: The entire written text of
 18 Dr. Monte Wilson's comment will be included in the record
 19 as Exhibit 181.

20 (Exhibit No. 181 was marked and entered.)

21 MR. EIGUREN: Very briefly, during the
 22 recess the chair received a number of written comments of
 23 individuals that asked to be included in the record, and
 24 I will read those in the record at this point.

25 The written comments of Marsha and Robert

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1 Lucchesi, of Boise, Exhibit 167.
 2 The written comments of Karen L. Silva,
 3 of Boise, will be Exhibit 168.
 4 The written comments of Alvin Joslyn,
 5 of Meridian, Idaho, Exhibit 169.
 6 The written comments of Dr. Charles M.
 7 Fisher, is Exhibit 170. Dr. Fisher is from Boise.
 8 Exhibit 182, the written comments of
 9 Kermit Leir, Twin Falls, Idaho.
 10 In addition to that, we have some other
 11 ones here very quickly.
 12 Written comments of Matthew C. Mathias,
 13 of Boise, Exhibit 183.
 14 The written comments of Paul Montgomery,
 15 of Boise, Exhibit 184.
 16 The written comments of Virgil Lee Jones,
 17 of Boise, Exhibit 185.
 18 And the written comments of Patricia Corke,
 19 of Boise, Exhibit 186.
 20 (Exhibits Nos. 167 through 170; and
 21 Exhibits Nos. 182 through 186 were marked and entered.)
 22 At this time I will go ahead and go down
 23 the witness list of public commenters this afternoon.
 24 As I call your name, I would ask you to step forward into
 25 the microphone, state your name and address for the record,

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1 and at that point we will begin the time.
 2 Mr. Bob Stauts.
 3 MR. STAUTS: I am Robert Stauts of 3317
 4 Morris Hill here in Boise, Idaho.
 5 As a Boise businessman and Idaho resident,
 6 I would like to go on record as opposing construction of
 7 the SIS at INEL and favoring a no action alternative.
 8 The areas of my concern are many. The ones
 9 I wish to address here now primarily deal with safety.
 10 First is the transportation of feed
 11 plutonium into Idaho and waste and product material out
 12 of Idaho. This, I feel, is the time of greatest exposure
 13 to accidents. The name coined by DOE for its
 14 transportation vehicle, the SST or Safe Secure Transport
 15 has a nice ring to it, but so did the name Titanic, a
 16 name that gave its passengers a truly false feeling of
 17 security.
 18 Accidents are just that, unpredictable
 19 happenings. With SST vehicles traveling the roadways
 20 shared by a huge cross section of drivers with varying
 21 driving skills, the DOE driver's skill alone is far too
 22 narrow a margin of insurance against the many possibilities
 23 for accidents. Causes ranging from a sleepy commercial
 24 trucker to a DUI motorist veering off course to
 25 weather-related accidents all could bring about a worst

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1 case scenario.

2 In my next area of concern, I direct you to
3 the EEIS itself, Section 3, Characterizations of the
4 INEL, subheading Seismic and Volcanic Activity on
5 Page 11, the second paragraph. I quote: "Because the
6 INEL is located in a province built principally by
7 volcanic eruptions, there is a potential for the
8 resumption of volcanic activities. Volcanic processes
9 that might affect facilities at the INEL are lava flows,
10 earthquakes associated with volcanism, ground deformation,
11 explosive eruptions."

12 Then in the summary sentence of the
13 following paragraph it says, "Safety-related problems due
14 to lava flows are not anticipated."

15 The next paragraph ends stating,
16 "Safety-related problems due to sympathetic tectonic
17 earthquakes and earthquakes due to magma movement are
18 not anticipated."

19 Must we test Mother Nature's patience by
20 not anticipating safety-related problems caused by her
21 always unpredictable nature?

22 With a DEIS document which sports a
23 disclaimer for complete, accurate or useful information
24 printed inside its very cover, how can the DOE expect us
25 to hold it as a credible source for safety predictions?

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B023

1 I urge those persons in our government with
2 decision-making powers to consider the testimony of
3 concerned citizens vying for the no action alternative.

4 In closing, let us Idahoans not forget that
5 a nuclear weapons production facility such as SIS at INEL
6 places us in the enemy's crosshairs as a strategic
7 target for nuclear aggression.

8 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
9 Mr. Bob Stauts will be included in the record as
10 Exhibit 187.

11 Thank you, sir.

12 (Exhibit No. 187 was marked and entered.)

13 MR. EIGUREN: The next commenter is
14 Ms. Lois Bauman.

15 How are we going to do this?

16 MS. BAUMAN: They're my exhibits.

17 MR. EIGUREN: Are they going to speak?

18 MS. BAUMAN: No.

19 I'm Lois Bauman. I'm here for two reasons,
20 Valerie Bauman and Tamara. I want them to grow up. Please
21 don't build the SIS.

22 MR. EIGUREN: Next on the speaker's list is
23 Ms. Ruth Hemingway. Ruth Hemingway?

24 Again I'll note for the record that just
25 because I've called your name does not mean that you have

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1 lost the opportunity to comment. Our assumption is that
2 if any of these commenters whom I've called do not step
3 forward, they will be commenting at Tuesday's continuation
4 of this hearing.

5 Ms. Ruth Herrington. Ruth Herrington?

6 Beth Cogswell. Beth Cogswell?

7 Jason Farber. Jason Farber?

8 Carol Bachelder. Could you state your name
9 and address for the record, please?

10 MS. BACHELDER: Street address or just Boise?

11 MR. EIGUREN: Whatever you'd like.

12 MS. BACHELDER: My name is Carol Bachelder
13 and I reside in Boise.

14 I don't want this SIS in southern Idaho and
15 I don't want the nuclear cargo being transported across
16 our state. The proposed SIS facility is one more step
17 in what I call the militarization of Idaho.

18 Gowen Field has its grand expansion
19 schemes, Mountain Home has its sophisticated over the
20 horizon radar system, and now we might have the SIS at
21 the INEL. What is happening to our pristine state?

22 If I weren't so horrified, I would almost
23 be amused at this attitude. We don't need any more
24 wilderness area in Idaho, but if you want to build a
25 nuclear weapons fuel plant here, that's okay.

1 Idaho is being ushered, or should I say
2 pressured, into the Arms Race. Maybe the powers in
3 Washington, D.C. figure that the rest of the country
4 doesn't even know where Idaho is, so all this military
5 hardware will be safe here. But I would like to
6 concentrate for the moment on how much all this nuclear
7 military activity is costing.

8 All these projects are paid for with
9 millions of taxpayer dollars. Have you ever noticed the
10 extravagance of the conservatives when it comes to
11 national defense? Their motto seems to be "Spare no
12 expense for national defense." Conservatives give the
13 military blanket approval for everything they say, do,
14 build or deploy. I am beginning to see the military as
15 a gigantic form of national welfare, or should I say
16 warfare?

17 The constructional jobs that would result
18 from building the SIS would be paid for with red
19 dollars. I don't mean Communist dollars, I mean deficit
20 dollars. We have in this country a three trillion dollar
21 deficit. We have lost control of our national budget, and
22 still we give the military a blank check. SIS today,
23 SDI tomorrow.

24 Everyone seems to be intimidated when it
25 comes to standing up to the military, but I am like the

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1 little child who said, "The Emperor doesn't have any
2 clothes on." I am saying we don't want, don't need and
3 can't afford the SIS. Half the reasons for wanting to
4 build the SIS in Idaho have to do with national defense,
5 and the other half of the reasons seem to have dollar
6 signs in them.

7 Until the necessity for building the SIS
8 is established beyond the shadow of a doubt, I would
9 urge you to exercise restraint in spending and not
10 continue to blindly support the military in everything
11 they say, do, build or deploy.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

14 The chair is now in receipt of an additional
15 set of written comments from Mr. Glenn Starkey of Nampa,
16 Idaho. We'll mark that as Exhibit No. 188 for inclusion
17 in the record.

18 We have also received comments from
19 Agnes Burkholder from Boise, and we'll mark that as
20 Exhibit 189 for inclusion in the record.

21 (Exhibits Nos. 188 and 189 were marked and
22 entered.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: Moving down the witness list
24 for this afternoon, we call Ed McLuskie.

25 MR. McLUSKIE: My name is Ed McLuskie, and

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1 I live at 1919 Corona Lane.

2 The Department of Energy needs to know, and
3 I think they know, that the people of Idaho see SIS in
4 terms of issues these hearings define as irrelevant. The
5 press is loaded with comments concerning the moral
6 issue of nuclear proliferation.

7 Secondly, the necessity issue, in the wake
8 of disarmament and the federal deficit.

9 And third, and perhaps the most politicized
10 in the last two weeks, the jobs issue.

11 On safety issues, I'll have something to
12 say at the end of my time here today. But I urge you to
13 take this message to Washington, that the people of Idaho,
14 no matter where they stand on the issues I've mentioned,
15 consider the scope of these considerations to be all too
16 narrow and to be missing the mark.

17 Whether for or against arms stockpiling, this
18 issue animates the natives of Idaho. Whether we accept or
19 reject Senator Symms' argument that he knows better than
20 the rest of us about the nature of deterrence and the need
21 for deterrence, this issue animates the natives of this
22 state. Whether we accept or reject the argument that
23 Idahoans will have jobs thanks to SIS, this issue
24 animates the natives and their representatives.

25 So while these hearings in this state deal

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1 with environmental impact in perhaps the narrowest of
2 possible senses, please let your colleagues know that
3 Idaho citizens and their representatives will continue
4 to act in ways that will determine the scope of these
5 hearings to be irrelevant.

6 In other words, the people of Idaho are
7 sending this message to Washington: We, not the
8 Department of Energy, not the Department of Defense, not
9 the Department of Transportation, will continue to
10 determine for ourselves just what the issues are.

11 So here are some of these things that are
12 defined as irrelevant by the Draft Environmental
13 Statement:

14 First, the moral issue. The moral issue
15 as it's been called is the ultimate environmental impact
16 issue, in my opinion. While INEL awaits Superfund money
17 to clean up earlier hazardous wastes, me and my 11-year-old
18 daughter face the prospect of a nuclear winter. That,
19 to me, is an ultimate environmental impact. It's wrong
20 and even mean spirited to suppose that arguments against
21 nuclear war and preparation for such warfare are not
22 arguments about environmental impact.

23 The Environmental Impact Statement,
24 regardless of who is in charge of its scope, is
25 fundamentally flawed for ignoring concerns about the

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1 consequences of arms buildup. So don't mistake our
2 representatives' votes on the arms reduction treaty to
3 be the expression of the will of Idaho citizens.
4 Opposition to the Arms Race and SIS's role in it is
5 growing in this state, and I am convinced we can count on
6 it.

7 The second issue, necessity, just won't go
8 away. I call on the DOE to recommend further study
9 beyond these hearings, at least until your department has
10 a new chief executive in Congress. In Idaho, we are
11 asking you to redefine your concept of risk. Is the risk
12 of transporting, refining and storing plutonium a risk
13 worth taking when we're clearly on the path of arms
14 reduction? Is it a risk worth taking when the next
15 President and Congress are at least 50 percent likely to
16 say, "This production of the most deadly of elements is
17 unnecessary, maybe even a threat to further arms reduction
18 talks"?

19 Third, jobs. My colleague at Boise State,
20 Chairman of the Economics Department, Chuck Skoro, has
21 said in many forums this week that, based on his analysis
22 of the jobs promised for SIS, we know that over 400 of
23 those 750 jobs will go to out-of-staters. We know that the
24 rest will go to food services and other very low wage
25 jobs. We know that if SIS happens, our opponents, who

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1 wanted SIS, will suffer once again from high hopes now
2 broken.

3 I'm just saying that I'm not willing to have
4 my life threatened, my daughter's life threatened, over
5 300-plus odd jobs, low wage temporary jobs, the price of
6 which is the risk of the half-life of 24,000 years.

7 As to the scope of your hearings, I have
8 just a couple of things to say.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Sir, make it very brief.

10 MR. McLUSKIE: Real quick.

11 First, your Department of Transportation
12 transport vehicles, in spite of the containers hauled,
13 carry dangerous weapons, M-16's, I'm told, and an equally
14 dangerous license to kill, even our own state's officials.
15 What's going to happen if there's an accident and, for
16 example, a Caldwell cop stops one of those commercial
17 vehicles in the course of performing his duties? What if
18 the Department of Transportation's crack shooters think
19 that the accident is a fake, when it isn't? I think the
20 hazards of transportation extend beyond plutonium.

21 MR. EIGUREN: You have gone well beyond five
22 minutes. I'm sorry. I hate to cut you off.

23 MR. McLUSKIE: Okay.

24 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
25 is Richard Platt.

1 MS. SHELLEY RUSSELL: Richard Platt was
2 unable to come, and asked me to speak in his place.

3 MR. EIGUREN: State your name and address
4 for the record, please.

5 MS. RUSSELL: Shelley Russell, McCall, Idaho.

6 MR. EIGUREN: You may proceed.

7 MS. RUSSELL: In 1808, Thomas Jefferson said,
8 "The care of human life and happiness, and not their
9 destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of
10 good government."

11 What we are considering in the SIS cannot
12 be judged to be a decision in the interests of the life
13 and happiness of the people. It is economically tenuous,
14 environmentally hazardous, psychologically harmful and
15 morally wrong.

16 Each of us must struggle throughout our
17 lives with what is good or bad, what is right or wrong.
18 Often we must take a closer look when we make decisions.
19 It may seem good for the economy to have a billion dollars
20 added to Idaho. And it may seem good to have these jobs
21 available for the unemployed. It may seem good, but only
22 at a first and cursory glance.

23 In the private sector, \$1-billion could mean
24 59,000 jobs instead of a few hundred. Not only is the
25 SIS a temporary and short-ranging boost, it jeopardizes

2.7.2

6.2

4.13

2.7.4

2.1.2

1 Idaho's two strongest economies because it is an accident
2 waiting to happen, either at the site or on the highways.
3 So, it may seem good to have this money spent here, but
4 looking closer, it is not good.

5 Not only is it not good, it is morally
6 wrong. To manufacture more plutonium for weapons when
7 we already have enough to destroy the entire creation
8 forever, to fund an Arms Race in the face of growing
9 problems and opportunities for advances in medical and
10 social arenas, this is wrong. We are not a strong
11 country when we divert funds from social programs, we're
12 not a strong country when our people are hungry and
13 homeless.

14 We have an incredible federal deficit,
15 mainly due to the demands of security hunger that is out
16 of control, and that will not be satisfied by more nuclear
17 weapons.

18 We are not a strong country when we ignore
19 the eternally disastrous effects on the global
20 environment. The DEIS indicates wishful thinking that
21 borders on deceit when it suggests that the risks of
22 transporting, processing and storing plutonium contaminated
23 material are minimal, and then suggests that they are
24 statistically insignificant and within the acceptable
25 range.

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1 Clay Nichols states the SIS is "like a
2 hospital, not a grubby factory." Mr. Nichols, what are
3 you thinking of -- a Nazi hospital, where patients were
4 experimented with regardless of their unwillingness to be
5 there, to die? This is a very peculiar comparison, I
6 think -- one that endeavors to conceal the nature of this
7 factory of war and death, a production plant with one
8 purpose: Producing the deadliest component of nuclear
9 weapons.

10 It is not at all like a hospital, it is only
11 a death factory, an industry that we don't need. We
12 already have enough nuclear weapons to destroy all of life,
13 all of us, all of our children, all of the Russians, all
14 of their children, all people on earth, all of the children
15 of earth, all animals, all plants and all life.

16 Please don't pretend to yourselves that
17 using one billion dollars in Idaho and creating a few
18 hundred temporary jobs is worth adding to the already
19 intolerable burden of fear that we have created with our
20 misguided priorities.

21 The DOE could live up to its name --
22 Department of Energy -- and spend a billion dollars in our
23 state on renewable energy research, contribute to a future
24 for our state and for our children, and avoid the risk
25 of permanent contamination of our environment and answer

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1 with confidence to the moral imperative of living in the
2 nuclear age.

3 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
4 Shelley Russell will be marked as Exhibit No. 190 and
5 included in the record as such.

6 (Exhibit No. 190 was marked and entered.)

7 MR. EIGUREN: She has also provided for the
8 record statements from the following individuals, and
9 we'll mark them in sequence:

10 Dee Brazil, McCall, Exhibit 191.
11 Richard Platt, from McCall, Exhibit 192.
12 The joint comments of Robert Newcomer and
13 Emily Newcomer, from McCall, Exhibit 193.

14 (Exhibits Nos. 191 through 193 were marked
15 and entered.)

16 Our next scheduled commenter is Ann Hausrath.

17 MS. HAUSRATH: I am not an expert. I am a
18 mother of three children and I am here today because of
19 them. We are a conservative family. Like all mothers, I
20 want to keep my children safe. I worry about things like
21 whooping cough when they're little and drugs when they
22 get older.

23 We are opposed to the SIS for many reasons,
24 and I'll mention two important ones. Plutonium is an
25 extremely hazardous substance. We don't want it being

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B028

1 trucked across our wonderful state. Suppose there's
2 an accident? We are told it would be transported safely,
3 to trust the new technology. But what about the supposedly
4 safe vaccines that maim, the colored TV that explodes,
5 and the new car that malfunctions and parts have to be
6 recalled? What about the Challenger explosion or Three
7 Mile Island? Most of those mistakes, while tragic,
8 affected only a few individuals. An accident with
9 plutonium would risk generations of Idahoans for more than
10 24,000 years. That's so long, it's impossible to imagine.

11 I am opposed to the SIS for another,
12 deeper reason. I am a Christian and my faith causes me
13 to seek peaceful, non-violent solutions to conflict. I
14 cannot support any project which proposes to improve the
15 short-term economy of our state through production of
16 material whose only goal is the total destruction of
17 everything I hold dear -- my children, the entire human
18 race, and indeed perhaps our life on this planet.

19 MR. EIGUREN: We will include in the record
20 as Exhibit 194 the comments of Ann Hausrath.

21 (Exhibit No. 194 was marked and entered.)

22 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
23 is Keith Tackman.

24 MR. TACKMAN: My name is Keith Tackman; I
25 live at 7701 Ustick Road, Boise, Idaho. I am a child of

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6.1.1

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5.29.85

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1 God. SIS means producing more plutonium. This means
2 making more nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons are immoral.
3 These weapons will one day destroy all life. Therefore,
4 these weapons must be destroyed, not made.

5.24.27

6.1.5

5 Handling plutonium is very dangerous. One
6 particle of plutonium can kill you -- just ask the
7 residents who live near Rocky Flats in Colorado who are
8 dying of cancer, whose children are born deformed.

5.29.87

9 You propose transporting this plutonium
10 from Hanford to INEL on Interstate 84. What happens if
11 there is an accident near Boise? Do you evacuate the
12 city? Do we become another Chernobl?

5.27.7.4

13 I would like to point out to the
14 construction industry in Idaho that SIS is a federal
15 project. If this facility is built, an out-of-state
16 contractor does not have to use Idaho construction
17 workers. Case in point -- the Broadway-Chinden Connector
18 here in Boise. The Salt Lake contractor is using mostly
19 its own people from Salt Lake on the job. Let me remind
20 you that Idaho is a right-to-work state.

1.1

21 I urge the Department of Energy not to
22 build this project anywhere. SIS is one step closer to
23 nuclear war, not peace. And in the words of the singer,
24 John Denver, I would like to sing this:

25 "Tell me what are we making weapons for?"

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B029

1 Have we forgotten all the lives that were given, all the
2 vows that were taken? Say never again.

3 "Now for the first time, this could be the
4 last time.

5 "If peace is our mission, then let us begin."

6 Thank you.

7 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Mr. Tackman.

8 Our next commenter is Dr. Ron Balsley.

9 DR. BALSLEY: My name is Ron Balsley. I'm
10 here today because I was on jury duty yesterday and also
11 tomorrow. I was unable to testify there.

12 The Draft Environment Statement for the SIS
13 Project is concerned with economic, environmental, and
14 safety concerns. I am satisfied with the conclusions in
15 that document. In addition, I am in favor of siting the
16 SIS Project at the INEL for the following reasons:

17 The legislative and executive branches of
18 the federal government have determined that needs for
19 additional military plutonium exist. The AVLIS process,
20 which the SIS is a special case, is the least expensive
21 method we have of providing for that need.

22 The INEL contractors over the past 40 years
23 have amassed an excellent record for safety in their
24 handling of nuclear materials. I believe that the
25 contractor will manage the SIS Project with the same or

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1 greater degree of concern and safety. Furthermore, the
2 project represents only a small increase in the amount and
3 burden of nuclear materials handled at the site.

5.27.12.5

4 The jobs represented by the operating staff
5 of the SIS will, as has been stated, in the main, be
6 replacements for jobs that are being phased out as the
7 projects end. Without the SIS, total employment at the
8 INEL will continue to decrease and the already depressed
9 economy of southeast Idaho will suffer.

5.27.12.8

10 The SIS offers a significant opportunity for
11 the manufacturing economy of the region. Many of the
12 parts and subassemblies for the project are within the
13 current capabilities of the state's firms. With this
14 opportunity, and with federal and state cooperation and
15 assistance, Idaho vendors can upgrade their capabilities
16 to supply more, not only for this project but for others.

5.29.9.2

17 Laser isotope separation, upon which the
18 AVLIS technology is based, holds great promise for
19 industrial and commercial use. This project represents
20 the first use of the technology in a production situation.
21 Individuals and organizations involved at this early
22 stage should have a significant competitive advantage as
23 the technology grows towards commercialization.

24 Thank you very much.

25 MR. EIGUREN: The comments of Ron Balsley

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1 of Pocatello, Idaho will be included as Exhibit No. 195
2 in the record.

3 (Exhibit No. 195 was marked and entered.)

4 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
5 is Jim Ballantyne.

6 MR. HAUDER: My name is Larry Hauder. I'm
7 standing in for Jim Ballantyne, who is unable to be here.

8 MR. EIGUREN: Would you give your name and
9 address for the record, please?

10 MR. HAUDER: Larry Hauder, 2028 North 16th,
11 Boise, Idaho.

12 I do not come to these hearings today to
13 speak about the economic impact nor the environmental
14 effect of the SIS Project to the State of Idaho. Neither
15 do I come to bear testimony as to the military relevance
16 of SIS to the national security of the nation. Rather,
17 I come to bear testimony to the impact of this project
18 on the soul of the nation and of the state.

19 The soul is that moral fiber which binds
20 people together. It is that communal sense of right and
21 wrong which we believe in as a society. To "sell one's
22 soul" as the cliché goes, implies that one has lost or
23 given up the integrity of choosing rightness and
24 wrongness. It is the soul or the conscience which is
25 violated when certain atrocities are committed such as

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2.7.2

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1 child abuse, violent killings, or gross negligence in
2 business when environmental concerns are ignored.

3 I believe very deeply that the construction
4 of this plant, with its primary purpose being to further
5 the proliferation of nuclear arms, will be a deadly blow
6 to the soul of our state.

7 No person can, with integrity and conviction
8 and faith in a divine creator, argue for the production
9 and deployment of nuclear arms. There is a fundamental
10 contradiction in the terms between saying "I have faith
11 in the divine" and building one more nuclear weapons
12 facility.

13 This contradiction is no more plainly
14 exhibited and evident than in the insignia printed on our
15 coins -- and each one I spend daily. It says "In God we
16 trust." It is a bold reminder to where our national
17 security is supposed to be placed, and yet in the reality
18 it seems to be "In nuclear weapons we trust."

19 When a nation and a state lives with this
20 contradiction, there begins to be a loss of the integrity
21 of the soul.

22 The passion by which proponents argue for
23 the need of SIS production can be compared to the passion
24 by which Hindus in Benglidesh (sic) worship their primary
25 God, Vishnu. The dedication to this God is so great that

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1 a huge replica was built and mounted on huge wheels, and
2 devotees tug and pull this replica around shouting
3 praises and paying homage to it. All is fine until Vishnu
4 and this huge wagon begins to rise to the top of the hill
5 and begins to roll down, and hundreds are crushed under
6 its wheels. But that's okay, since it is a sacrifice to
7 the God of protection, Vishnu. Most of us look at this
8 as primitive.

9 The reality is that this worship of Vishnu
10 is a direct parallel to our own national obsession with
11 security and preservation through nuclear arms.

12 Arnold Toynbee has said "The cult of
13 national sovereignty has become mankind's major religion.
14 Today the national state is God."

15 Military strategists, like worshipers of
16 Vishnu, are perfectly willing to offer up lives of the
17 innocent to the God of military preparedness. Terms such
18 as "acceptable losses" are used to describe the thousands
19 who will innocently die in a nuclear war.

20 We have become dehumanized and have lost
21 the elementary sense of horror and anguish that nuclear
22 war could bring to this country and to the world.
23 Psychologists would call this failure to look realistically
24 at our condition as "denial." Most of us have a mental
25 block to the reality of the consequences of an SIS Project

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1.1

1 and its link to nuclear war.

2 Thirty years ago a huge tidal wave
3 approached the Hawaiian Islands. People were warned of
4 a great -- of a 30-foot wave that was going to approach.
5 Many fled. But many stayed behind, refusing to believe.
6 In fact, one school teacher even took her children to
7 the water's edge to watch it come in.

8 I get the distinct feeling, when I hear
9 of the great resources this plant will have to Idaho,
10 that people are refusing to listen to the voice of
11 their soul and are rushing to the water's edge of
12 nuclear disaster. Does Idaho want to be a part of
13 this tidal wave and rolling jagernaut (sic) of
14 nuclear proliferation. I, for one, do not, and neither
15 do many of the people in the Christian tradition which
16 I represent.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, sir.

19 Our next scheduled commenter is A.J. Burnes.

20 Excuse me, sir. The written comments of
21 Larry Hauder will be Exhibit 186 in the record -- 196.

22 (Exhibit No. 196 was marked and entered.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. Burnes, you may proceed,
24 sir.

25 MR. BURNES: My secular name is A.J. Burnes,

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1 and my vocational name is Sergus (phonetics), I am a
2 native born American and staunch anti-Communist, and I
3 think it's a wonderful thing that a person like myself
4 can stand here only a few hours at the same podium where
5 stood before international civil terrorists, like
6 Senator Symms and Senator McClure, and not be shot.
7 Because up until five years ago I used to be the same
8 kind of international civil terrorist -- wealthy executive,
9 senior executive in the military industrial complex. And
10 as I think you now can see, I am not that anymore.

11 There is only one way that you can argue
12 against the precise and detailed nature of the SIS Project.
13 Take it from one who has been there. You'd have to be
14 associated directly with the plutonium bomb factory, you'd
15 have to violate your oath of secrecy, you'd have to
16 violate your vow not to tell the people of this great
17 democracy what is really going on. And if you are part
18 of the propaganda effort, like in the Environmental Impact
19 Report, you say "The SIS is safe and it's good for jobs
20 and for the economy," and you damned well better not put
21 your career on the line.

22 But if you're like most of the rest of us
23 plain citizens, you cannot oppose SIS on technical
24 grounds. You don't have access to the precise classified
25 information. No matter how hard you try, no matter how

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3.2.2

1 earnest you are, you can't make a compelling rational case.
2 And the whole thing is just Catch-22, it's just that
3 simple.

4 But suppose we the people, including the
5 ones on this side who clap at different times than I do,
6 took a different tack. Suppose we said forget that the
7 site for SIS was actually settled more than two years ago,
8 and forget that this meeting is simply an empty ritual,
9 suppose we said that instead what really matters is if we
10 have adequate reason to trust the people who will lead
11 and run the SIS Project, trusting them, let's say, first
12 with our democratic heritage, trusting them with our
13 constitutional rights; and then if we absolutely knew that
14 we couldn't trust them with these things, could we trust
15 them in anything else? Would we trust them, for example,
16 with our own personal safety or with the health and
17 genetic legacy of our loved ones or with the posterity
18 of this world?

19 Now, I came prepared to make more accusations
20 based on fact. But since I came here, I've been told that
21 there were no moral crimes, that there were no moral
22 defects, that it all was an accident. Let me tell you
23 what the accident was. It was an accident that people
24 in SIS, in the project, having a non-violent peaceful
25 protest letter in hand, secured the unlawful cooperation

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1 of the Boise city administration and police, including,
2 by the way, Christian police chaplains, and sponsored
3 a criminal investigation, in open disregard for the
4 First Amendment of the United States Constitution, total
5 disregard for the civil rights provisions of the
6 42 U.S. Code 1983 -- postal privacy of a person entirely
7 unrelated to the protest was violated.

8 The person who wrote the letter was
9 interrogated in the street by the police in plain sight.
10 A religious sanctuary was violated by police banging on
11 the door at great length. Neighbors to the sanctuary were
12 interrogated at length about those who resided there. All
13 of this being done by means often used to suppress lawful
14 dissent as is guaranteed by the Constitution of the
15 United States.

16 And had that been acceptable to my genetic
17 forbearers, I would be living today in the Soviet Union.
18 And in the last week of February, I have a distinct
19 feeling that I was.

20 So this was all an accident with our
21 heritage and constitutional rights. If you can't trust
22 the people with our heritage and constitutional rights,
23 are you going to trust them with weapons grade plutonium?
24 And if we don't help ourselves, God help us. Amen.

25 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter

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1 is Margaret Hulme. Margaret Hulme?

2 Gail Kirgis.

3 MS. KIRGIS: My name is Gail Kirgis, and
4 I am a resident of Boise, Idaho.

5 I have a riddle for you: What one word
6 would Idahoans respond to, almost automatically? My
7 answer is, "Jobs." And after reading the Draft
8 Environmental Impact Statement and listening to the
9 public relations work the Department of Energy has been
10 doing in the past few weeks, I have to think that the
11 Department of Energy answered the riddle that way.

12 Jobs -- yes, our state economy is depressed
13 right now. We all know that agriculture, lumber, and
14 mining has been hit hard. And so when someone wiggles
15 the offer of jobs in front of us, we tend to act like a
16 trout going for a fly. However, as those of you who are
17 fishermen -- or fisherwomen -- know, a smart trout is
18 a wary and suspicious creature. So we would do well to
19 look at the supposed job opportunities from the SIS
20 Project like a trout inspecting a fly, and ask some
21 questions.

22 Questions like how many jobs will this
23 project really open up for Idahoans?

24 Well, the DEIS says that at peak construction
25 time they will require about 440 workers, and one-half, or

1 220 of those, will be skilled construction workers. So,
2 for those in the construction trades, electricians,
3 carpenters, SIS offers about 220 jobs for about two years.
4 And they estimate that about one-fourth of those will be
5 brought in from out of state. Now that leaves us with
6 165 jobs -- for about two years.

7 For the rest of the time, the rest of the
8 time being seven or eight years, since that's the expected
9 life of the SIS Plant, SIS would employ about 150 workers
10 in construction -- and when we subtract the out-of-state
11 workers, that leaves with 112 jobs for about seven or
12 eight years.

13 So what does SIS really offer the
14 construction workers of Idaho? 165 jobs for two years
15 and about 112 jobs for about seven years.

16 Well, what about the operating personnel
17 when the SIS is up and running? In the DEIS, they
18 estimate that plant operation will require 440 people.
19 And guess what -- they estimate in the DEIS on Page 4-6
20 that all, every one, of those jobs will be filled by
21 out-of-state people.

22 Well, the SIS promoters have also been
23 telling us to consider all the jobs that will be created
24 because of the economic boom started by the SIS. The
25 number used by the DOE to guess how many extra jobs will

5.27.7.3

5.27.7.4

5.27.1.5

5.27.1.4

5.27.7.3

1 be created is, in fact, a most hopeful if not totally
 2 inaccurate figure. I won't bore you with statistics --
 3 that was my major in college but I've come to appreciate
 4 that not everybody is fascinated by statistics -- let me
 5 just say, that the number DOE uses to produce their
 6 figure on new jobs might be the right one if -- and only
 7 if -- the Idaho Falls area has no available housing, had
 8 already crowded schools, and had shopping and service
 9 industries just barely adequate for the people who
 10 already live there. And that isn't the case.

11 So when we look carefully and a little
 12 suspiciously at the SIS proposal, it appears to offer
 13 us slightly over 100 jobs for about seven years, and
 14 perhaps between 100 to 200 more service jobs for that
 15 period of time. As Senator Symms has often said, there
 16 aren't any free lunches around here. So what do we have
 17 to give up in order to get these jobs?

5.27.6.11

18 Well, as taxpayers we have to help pay for
 19 this plant -- at the moment, the price tag is set for
 20 about \$1-billion. And considering the size of the national
 21 deficit, building the SIS Plant makes about as much
 22 economic sense as a family buying a Ferrari on their way
 23 to bankruptcy hearings.

6.1.1

24 And, more importantly, we Idahoans have to
 25 be willing to expose those who live in the INEL area, as

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1 well as those who live along the transportation route
 2 used to carry the plutonium feed and plutonium-contaminated
 3 wastes to all the possible dangers that come with working
 4 with plutonium. We have to be willing to risk losing our
 5 recreational industry in southern Idaho if there is only
 6 one trucking accident like the one last year near Riggins.

7 We have to be willing to risk losing our
 8 agricultural industry if there are any contamination
 9 accidents. And we have to pray for a very long time, like
 10 about 20,000 years, that there are no more severe
 11 earthquakes in the INEL area.

12 Well, the trout who lives long knows he
 13 doesn't have to go for every fly he's offered. And
 14 frankly, this is one Idahoan who is willing to take the
 15 time to search for some other offers that look a little
 16 less poisonous and are perhaps a little more honestly
 17 dressed.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 20 Gail Kirgis will be included in the record as Exhibit 197.

21 (Exhibit No. 197 was marked and entered.)

22 MR. EIGUREN: The next witness on our
 23 scheduled commenter list is Ms. Raven Gudgell. Raven
 24 Gudgell?

25 MS. OSTERMILLER: I have her testimony.

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5.27.2

1.1

1 MR. EIGUREN: While you're getting that,
2 we'll go to the next witness.

3 Walt Mattell?

4 MR. MATTELL: I'm Walt Mattel of Idaho City.
5 We've heard people testify here today about the incredible
6 hazards of plutonium, about terrorist sabotage, because
7 they can use the plutonium to build crude and effective
8 atomic bombs.

9 You have heard about INEL very gradually,
10 very gradually becoming another Hanford, de facto nuclear
11 waste dump. And, of course, we've heard about the
12 insanity and immorality of continuing to build more and
13 more and more nuclear weapons.

14 Others have testified today about Idaho's
15 poor economy, and they see the plutonium refinery, the
16 SIS, bringing more jobs to our state. I agree that we
17 need more jobs, but it's likely that the plutonium
18 refinery in Idaho would actually decrease the total number
19 of jobs in the state. Why? Because, once the word gets
20 out that Idaho is where plutonium is refined and processed,
21 and certainly once there is an accident. And the
22 insurance companies will testify to that.

23 Why is it that my homeowner's policy does
24 not insure against nuclear hazards of any kind, whether
25 controlled or uncontrolled? Why does the federal

1 government set a \$500-million liability on any sort of
2 damages paid to people who are affected by nuclear power?
3 Or specifically in this case by a Department of Energy
4 nuclear contract? Why does the Department of Energy
5 indemnify its contractors so that if there were an
6 accident, the \$500-million would be paid out of the
7 taxpayers' pockets? That's not an incentive for safety
8 whatever.

9 Anyway, once there is an accident -- and I
10 think the Challenger and Chernobyl incidents will tell us
11 that there can be accidents involving high tech -- then
12 who's going to eat Idaho's hot potatoes? Who's going to
13 want to ski at nearby resorts? What companies want to
14 relocate to Idaho? (Indicating.)

15 Seven and a half billion dollars was spent
16 in -- was spent in 1987 by the Department of Energy for
17 nuclear weapons. That's 56 percent of their total
18 budget. General science and research got 5.3 percent.
19 The Bonneville Power Administration got 3.2 percent.
20 Energy conservation got 1.7 percent. Emergency
21 preparedness got 5/100ths of one percent of their
22 budget. That indicates the screwed priorities of this
23 government.

24 If we want real jobs, jobs that are life
25 affirming in Idaho, we've got to rearrange our priorities.

3.6.1

5.27.2

6.3

5.27.4.4

5.27.7.17

6.3

1.1

1 Imagine all the jobs at INEL and elsewhere if these
 2 billions were spent on superconductivity, alternative
 3 energy, pollution solutions, renewable energy, instead?
 4 Today it would do us well to heed the words
 5 of Dwight David Eisenhower -- for some of us who are too
 6 young to remember, he was President of the United States --
 7 who, in 1953, said, "Every gun that is made, every
 8 warship launched, every rocket fired signifies in the
 9 final sense a theft from those who hunger and are not
 10 fed, from those who are cold and are not clothed."
 11 This world, in arms, is not spending money
 12 alone; it is spending the sweat of its laborers, the
 13 genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.
 14 Therefore, I say yes to the no action alternative, and
 15 no to the plutonium refinery at INEL, Hanford, Savannah
 16 River or anywhere else.
 17 Thank you.
 18 MR. EIGUREN: I called earlier the name
 19 of Raven Gudgeon. And I understand there is someone here
 20 who has a statement.
 21 MS. OSTERMILLER: My name is Lisa
 22 Ostermiller, and I'm from McCall, Idaho, and I am speaking
 23 for Raven Gudgeon.
 24 MR. EIGUREN: All right.
 25 MS. OSTERMILLER: Her daughter had a

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1 tonsillectomy last night, so I'm here in her place, and
 2 we both have a testimony later to make. We are both
 3 against the SIS Project.
 4 MR. EIGUREN: Excuse me just for a moment.
 5 Are you going to be reading her testimony?
 6 MS. OSTERMILLER: I am reading her testimony.
 7 MR. EIGUREN: Okay, fine. Go ahead.
 8 MS. OSTERMILLER: Raven says: "I'm in
 9 strong opposition to the SIS Project. My reasons are
 10 many and the time is short, so I will mention only a few."
 11 She says, "Just one mistake, one accident,
 12 and it will be forever. Idaho's highways are in need of
 13 repair in order to provide safer travel for domestic
 14 needs, rather than for materials of a catastrophic
 15 nature. Idaho welcomes thousands of tourists each year
 16 to her pristine forests and abundant lakes and waterways.
 17 They come to fish, hunt and enjoy what they might not
 18 have in their state or country. How will these people
 19 feel about a project such as the SIS?
 20 'Until we can safely neutralize toxic
 21 waste, why support it? Is the short-lived economic
 22 boost worth the overall cost to us as a people of one
 23 earth? I hope and pray the people who will make this
 24 decision on the SIS have the integrity and the guts to
 25 say 'not in Idaho.'"

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1.1

5.29.63

5.27.3.3

5.30.3.1

6.2

1 "Let the people of our state live in
2 pride, knowing we are contributing to world peace, and
3 for the world to know that Idaho remains beautiful and
4 safe for generations to come."

5 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
6 is Dorothy Hansen.

7 MS. HANSEN: I'm Dorothy Hansen of Boise,
8 speaking in cposition.

9 The nuclear genie has been out of the bottle
10 for a long time. No one is going to put it back in.
11 The quest for scientific knowledge, however, should be
12 encouraged by society. On the other hand, as citizens
13 we do have the obligation and the right to question the
14 uses that the knowledge is put to.

15 SIS is a production facility to produce
16 weapons grade plutonium. At the present time we are told
17 there is a glut of plutonium in the United States. If
18 we limit the number of strategic weapons by treaty, there
19 will be even more plutonium available. If the facility is
20 to be in admitted redundancy, why build it?

21 The nuclear genie has not been trained to
22 handle its own waste effectively. If, as our state
23 officials tell us, "Idaho is too great to litter," then
24 why are they willing to litter it with nuclear by-products?
25 I don't want Idaho to become an ever-expanding waste dump

1 location for some of the nastiest stuff on the face of
2 the earth.

3 If the materials are not stored in Idaho,
4 then they will be traveling our highways along with the
5 plutonium oxide raw material from Washington state and
6 the weapons grade plutonium going to Colorado or
7 elsewhere. A highway accident could have serious
8 environmental impacts.

9 The earth is an enclosed system where
10 everything we do affects not just ourselves but the entire
11 system.

12 We need to look beyond what is good for
13 Idaho Falls, for the State of Idaho, toward what is good
14 for the entire world. The Chernobyl disaster showed us
15 that we can be affected by a disaster half the world away.
16 Nationally we are cutting funding for social programs in
17 order to balance the budget. Can you justify the
18 expenditure for SIS in terms of long-term benefit to
19 civilization through improved quality of life, scientific
20 advances, protection from death in a nuclear war? Is
21 the short-term financial gain for the State of Idaho worth
22 the possible long-term cost?

23 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
24 Dorothy Hansen will be included in the record as
25 Exhibit 198.

5.29.85

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3.2.1

1 (Exhibit No. 198 was marked and entered.)
 2 The next scheduled commenter is Patricia
 3 Clark.
 4 MS. CLARK: I am Patricia Clark. I live at
 5 2415 Mountain View Drive here in Boise.
 6 I am here to testify against the SIS. But
 7 first of all, I'd like to say I'm very disappointed that
 8 our public officials, our elected officials who were here
 9 didn't elect to stay and hear what we had to say.
 10 First of all, we don't need any more
 11 plutonium. According to Newsweek, we're awash in the
 12 stuff now. The U.S. and Soviet agreement, of course,
 13 further reduced the need.
 14 I hate to be redundant, but since redundant
 15 seems to be a good word now, this economic development
 16 carrot is loaded with hazards and a staggering price tag,
 17 of course, of \$1-billion.
 18 Money doesn't seem to be any problem at the
 19 Department of Energy. For example, an assistant
 20 comptroller general of the U.S. General Accounting Office
 21 said, "Cleaning up the Energy Department's existing
 22 nuclear production plants may cost as much as
 23 \$100-billion."
 24 Joseph Salgado, Undersecretary of the
 25 Energy Department said, "This figure is probably in the

1 ballpark."
 2 Whose ballpark? Not mine. Where do you
 3 put the waste? The salt caverns in New Mexico are leaking
 4 water. The DOE's plan to store 125,000 barrels there
 5 has been scaled back to one-fourth of that amount.
 6 And speaking of waste, all of the Three Mile
 7 Island waste will be in Idaho in one more year, all
 8 150 tons of it, coming by train over 2,000 miles. This
 9 will cost about \$965-million, a mere bagatelle, and this
 10 is for temporary storage.
 11 This project should have a national EIS,
 12 the impact is national. Along with the dangers of
 13 transportation, waste aquifer contamination and possible
 14 accidents, the product itself and its purpose is the
 15 biggest threat of all.
 16 The SIS shouldn't be built here or anywhere.
 17 These ongoing projects of the Department of Energy will
 18 bankrupt the whole country, not protect it. It's time
 19 to get our priorities straight. The SIS is no bonanza --
 20 it's a bomb.
 21 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.
 22 Our next scheduled commenter is Edie Myers.
 23 Edie Myers?
 24 Jerry Carter.
 25 MR. CARTER: My name is Jerry Carter, and I

5.30.2.1

5.30.3.6

5.29.78

1 live here in Boise.

2 I would like to thank you, Mr. Eiguren, for
3 being here. And again echo Pat's statement about the
4 rest of the panel. I think it's an injustice that they
5 departed without their presence (sic). It's fortunate
6 that this forum was mandated by law; otherwise, I doubt
7 that we would have the opportunity to be here.

8 I would like to read a quote from the Draft
9 EIS: "If the SIS Project is not constructed and operated,
10 the flexibility and contingency in the production of
11 weapon-grade plutonium that would be provided by the SIS
12 Project would not be achieved. The operation of DOE's
13 nuclear materials production complex for weapon-grade
14 plutonium would continue to be delineated on an annual
15 basis. The no action alternative would not result in
16 changes to continuing operations at the Hanford site,
17 the Savannah River Plant, or any other DOE site.

18 "Blending fuel-grade plutonium with newly
19 produced plutonium of higher than weapon-grade purity
20 would continue to provide an option for the production
21 of weapon-grade plutonium irrespective of whether the SIS
22 Project is constructed and operated."

23 It seems to me that when the Department of
24 Energy lists no action as a viable option, it is beyond
25 me why we need the SIS. Again, redundancy. I just can't

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1 understand it. Are there no other outlets in our
2 country to spend \$1-billion, or \$900-million, as a quote?
3 Not to mention any cost overruns. Are there no more
4 useful projects for scientific minds under our employ
5 than to develop a technology whose only use can result
6 in death and destruction?

7 Are we as a nation so paranoid and insecure
8 about our national security and defense that we have to
9 bury ourselves in the rut of nuclear proliferation in
10 our world?

11 If anyone can answer yes to any of those
12 questions, we might as well all jump out the window now,
13 because our situation is totally hopeless.

14 Our Governor as well as our entire
15 congressional delegation backs the SIS Project as some
16 sort of golden egg for our state, forgetting it seems
17 the morality behind what this stands for and the potential
18 for disaster, as well as the short-term benefits for the
19 state compared to the long-term drawbacks.

20 Organized labor backs this project trying
21 to regain some dignity after the right-to-work slap in the
22 face, and seeing only their own narrow benefits which
23 will fail to help any other people outside their group in
24 the state.

25 I must applaud the Department of Energy's

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6.3

3.4

6.2

5.27.6.2

5.2.6

4.7.3

1 attempt to reassure an unjustly, I'm sure, hypersensitive
2 public that there is no danger in transportation across
3 our roads of one of the most deadly agents known to
4 mankind. In fact, the risk of radiological exposure from
5 these shipments is less than 1/1000ths of a percent of
6 an annual dose from natural background radiation.

7 Under ideal conditions, that sounds very
8 safe, but what worries me is the conditions that happen
9 beyond DOE's control. Also, their policy to proceed at
10 all costs of the Safe Secure Transports and the
11 accompanying couriers.

12 It's enough to think about sharing the road
13 with plutonium, but when the Department of Energy can
14 operate above the law with license to kill to insure that
15 these transports proceed, there is something deadly wrong
16 with such policy and practices.

17 I don't feel safe for myself or my family --
18 I would have my kids here, but they wouldn't stand and
19 endure the process. And given the past history of the
20 Department of Energy and our shadow government, I can't
21 feel safe knowing that their interests are in agreement
22 with my own, whether they be legal or safe.

23 I am vehemently opposed to the construction
24 of the SIS Project, with hopes that, for a change, reason
25 will win out. I had intended before I came to cut off my

1 hair just to dramatize the point of what happens when
2 people are poisoned by radiological wastes. I didn't have
3 time, or else I would have.

4 But again we can't forget that the issue
5 here is not jobs, it's not security, but it's of morality
6 and what's right and what's wrong, not only for the
7 people of this state but for the country and for the
8 people of the world.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
11 Jerry Carter will be included in the record as Exhibit
12 No. 199.

13 (Exhibit No. 199 was marked and entered.)

14 MR. EIGUREN: Moving on. Dee Brazil.
15 Dee Brazil?

16 Mary McMurtrie?

17 MS. McMURTRIE: I'm Mary McMurtrie, I live
18 in Eagle, Idaho.

19 A poem for public hearing.

20 "12 and 13 year olds file into my classroom
21 every day.

22 "150 or so of them.

23 "We study words, ideas and ideals.

24 "We look at the world around us, past and
25 present. We try not to look too closely at the future.

2.7.2

5.29.111

3.2.2

1.1

1 "A simple unit of study called, 'Earth as
2 Home' -- required for the 7th grade.
3 "Yes, they say, it is our home, but we're
4 afraid to live in it.
5 "Yes, they say, we know we share it with
6 the creatures, but they don't seem to be surviving.
7 "And what of us? they ask. Can we survive?
8 "Is this really home?
9 "They ask the questions, but not too loudly.
10 "They turn instead, to the newest hair-do
11 or shade of denim,
12 "And talk of movies and music and parties.
13 "Want to take the pulse of America tomorrow?
14 "Live in an adolescent classroom today.
15 "Notice the skeptical expression of a
16 distrusting generation.
17 "We teach them about the Constitution and
18 the Bill of Rights.
19 "We read to them from the great thinkers
20 and writers of the world.
21 "We ponder the poetry of visionaries.
22 "They look up from their books and ask,
23 "Why, then, do we build the bombs to blow it?
24 "We stand with lesson plans at the ready -
25 ready to move on to the next chapter.

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1 "We dare not stay too long to ponder those
2 questions.
3 "We don't have the answers.
4 "They see and smell our fear . . .
5 "Then return to the hair-do,
6 "The movies and the parties.
7 "They do not believe in preparing for the
8 real world. It is too fantastic.
9 "They are not concerned with the future.
10 They are not convinced there is one.
11 "And all this time,
12 "They know there is nothing they can do
13 about it.
14 "It doesn't matter how many spelling words
15 they memorize,
16 "The isotopes still are separated.
17 "The algebraic formulae seems to make a
18 clear difference,
19 "But what difference can it make
20 "Compared to water we can't drink!
21 "They listen to our lectures on drug abuse
22 and overuse
23 "Then turn to see us pollute their home.
24 "They know there is nothing they can do
25 about it,

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B039

1 "And they don't see that any of us is
2 trying."
3 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
4 Mary McMurtrie will be submitted for the record as
5 Exhibit No. 200.
6 (Exhibit No. 200 was marked and entered.)
7 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
8 is Suzanne Lewis.
9 MS. LEWIS: I'm Suzanne Lewis. I live in
10 Boise, Idaho. I'm a fifth generation Idahoan.
11 As a wholistic health therapist, I assist
12 individuals to take responsibility for their personal
13 well-being. I speak today to ask that the government,
14 which represents the people, take responsibility for this
15 good earth's health and well-being.
16 In my studies and training, I have been
17 greatly influenced by the earth and its healing capacity.
18 In fact, I call Idaho the healing state. Why? Because
19 of its waters. The native American went so far as to
20 indicate that we're all the earth's family, the rocks,
21 the water, the trees, the two legged, the four legged,
22 the wind, the rocks. We're all family. Cellularly we are
23 common.
24 Currently at the INEL location, nuclear
25 wastes are not being disposed of properly. We have a lot

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1 of chiefs who want to use only their brains to understand
2 the impact of nuclear systems, but few, few conscientious
3 cleaner-uppers actually removing the dangers from our
4 precious water systems.

5 The simple location of the INEL site over
6 our vital water aquifer should automatically necessitate
7 relocation of such earthly hazards, not building them up.

8 As a health consultant, I know of the ills
9 plaguing many of our two-legged brothers and sisters
10 which directly relate to impure waters. Why are we so
11 unable to have hindsight? Our waters must be protected
12 now.

13 As a fifth generation Idahoan whose roots
14 stem to southeast Idaho, I know of the psychological
15 wounds which were incurred by many of my peer group as a
16 result of seeing the nuclear mushroom in the skies over
17 Nevada as a young child.

18 The nightmarish rememberings hurt still.
19 Children today are waking, startled with preoccupied
20 thoughts of nuclear-type wasting of this earth.

21 I have to breathe deep, otherwise I get
22 nervous.

23 We should view our land and the waters
24 below as sacred. One further insight to intelligence
25 concerns the fact that the INEL is located on an

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5.30.4.1

2.7.2

5.10.7

5.30.4.5

6.4.3

6.3

6.2

5.12.1

1 earthquake fault line. Our water quality is of primary
 2 importance to all of us.

3 As you consider assigning the responsibility
 4 for active creation of a substance that indiscriminately
 5 kills . . . all the earth's family . . . study the
 6 statistics of wife abuse, sexual misconduct with children
 7 in our southeastern counties, study the suicide rate, and
 8 the depression, and the rage that is down there right
 9 now. If we have extra moneys, let's start healing the
 10 people who tend that precious land around INEL and around
 11 it.

12 People who are sensitive, patriotic,
 13 freedom lovers feel with the earth, with the violence
 14 related product, that it's one natural phenomena white man
 15 cannot control. If it's jobs and money that equates
 16 acceptance of the SIS, it's not enough. Wholistically
 17 it is imperative to feel what it's like not to be able
 18 to drink the waters.

19 Some say we have inherited this land from
 20 our parents; but that's mistaken. Actually we are
 21 borrowing it from our children. We are responsible for
 22 tomorrow. We cannot live without clean water.

23 For health's sake, say no.

24 MR. EIGUREN: We'll include in the formal
 25 record as Exhibit 201 the written comments of Suzanne Lewis

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B040

1 of Boise.

2 (Exhibit No. 201 was marked and entered.)

3 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
 4 is Dianne Ronayne.

5 MS. RONAYNE: My name is Dianne Ronayne.
 6 I live at 746 Santa Paula Court, Boise.

7 I'm against construction of the Special
 8 Isotope Separator anywhere in the United States, but
 9 especially at the INEL in Idaho.

10 During my working week, I promote the State
 11 of Idaho as a place where people come to live because
 12 of the outdoors, because of our fabulous hunting and
 13 fishing, and the opportunity to enjoy these activities
 14 in a clean, pristine state. How can we expect Idaho's
 15 tourism and outdoor recreation economy to grow as it has
 16 been in the past few years, while other aspects of our
 17 economy have been declining, if we have radioactive
 18 wastes contaminating our rivers and streams from spills
 19 or leakage into the underground aquifer? How can we tell
 20 people it's safe to eat the fish from these waters or
 21 the water fowl that swim on the surface? How can we
 22 expect tourists to want to share highways in most areas
 23 with truckloads of radioactive waste?

24 Mr. Ron Balsley just said, and I quote,
 25 "This will be the first use of laser technology in a

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1.1

5.27.3.3

5.27.2

5.24.18

B041

6.2

4.15.4

1.1

5.27.6.1

5.27.7.16

1 production state. How do the engineers know that this
2 process will be safe? The few construction jobs that
3 will be given to Idahoans are not enough to offset the
4 long-term loss to the state's prominent image as the
5 undiscovered America that people come to get away from
6 it all?
7 "Since there is no need for more nuclear
8 armament capability, it's foolhardy to risk the clean,
9 safe environment we already have."
10 Reject the SIS.
11 Thank you.
12 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. The next scheduled
13 commenter is Cory Bartholomew.
14 MR. BARTHOLOMEW: Hi, my name is Roy
15 Bartholomew. That's Roy with an R, and not Cory.
16 I am for the SIS. That's right. Yes, yes,
17 SIS. The SIS Project will bring close to 1,200 jobs to
18 the State of Idaho.
19 At the INEL site, this is the only thing
20 that is keeping east Idaho going at the time.
21 We're having a hard time in Idaho right now
22 and we need the money and we need jobs in Idaho.
23 This is where I live and this is where I
24 want my kids to live, this is where I want my grandkids
25 to live.

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B042

5.27.15.1

1 I don't want Idaho to fall off the map.
2 Besides all of this, the SIS has many
3 possibilities that will keep Idaho going for my kids and
4 for my grandkids to have a good education and a job in
5 Idaho.
6 Thank you.
7 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
8 Roy Bartholomew will be included in the record as
9 Exhibit 202.
10 (Exhibit No. 202 was marked and entered.)
11 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
12 is Allison Sedgwick.
13 MS. SEDGWICK: I'm addressing this -- my
14 name is Allison Sedgwick, and I'm addressing these
15 remarks to the representatives of the United States
16 Department of Energy. You have accepted a really
17 horrendous responsibility. Your decisions will be
18 evaluated by generations and generations yet to come.
19 My elected government representatives do
20 not represent me on this issue that we are discussing
21 today. We all recognize the politicians become addicted
22 to living in Washington, D.C., and the use of the pork
23 barreling technique helps them buy votes to subsidize
24 their addiction.
25 In order to help us make a wise decision

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1 today, we can benefit from reviewing past history. The
 2 United States has had two presidents named Roosevelt --
 3 both very dynamic leaders. Franklin Roosevelt for over
 4 50 years, who was -- finished his term 50 years ago, who
 5 was President for over 50 years (sic) -- sponsored the
 6 New Deal, which created a large number of socialized
 7 control entitlements.

8 The New Deal programs have created ever
 9 growing government controls and ever growing numbers of
 10 citizens who constantly chant "I'm entitled, I'm entitled,
 11 I'm entitled to that." The dedication to this "I'm
 12 entitled" has created a decadent nation that we are
 13 recognized as being in today.

14 The other Roosevelt, of course, was
 15 Theodore Roosevelt. Probably the far most reaching
 16 influence of his administration is the input that
 17 Theodore Roosevelt gave to the conservation of natural
 18 resources in forests, water power and other national forms
 19 of wealth.

20 I want to quote a statement that he made
 21 in a message to Congress on December the 3rd in 1907,
 22 which is most appropriate to what we are discussing today,
 23 in which he said, "To waste, to destroy our natural
 24 resources is to skin and exhaust the land instead of using
 25 it so as to increase its usefulness. It will result in

1 undermining in the days of our children the very
 2 prosperity which we ought by right hand down to them
 3 amplified and developed."

4 I hope that you will seriously consider
 5 what we are all doing. What we are all doing can
 6 undermine the prosperity of your children and your
 7 grandchildren and my children and my grandchildren.

8 I am vehemently opposed to the building
 9 of SIS anywhere, and particularly in Idaho, because I
 10 live here.

11 Thank you.

12 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
 13 is Nelle Tobias.

14 MS. TOBIAS: I'm Nelle Tobias, McCall, Idaho.

15 It is reported that there is enough
 16 available plutonium to trigger the planned nuclear
 17 weapons, of which the world is trying to rid itself. So
 18 why are we even considering this dangerous SIS facility?
 19 Regardless of where it would be built, the nation would
 20 be contaminated by it. There is no such thing as "away."

21 The INEL, reportedly operating for peaceful
 22 purposes, would be violated by this munitions factory,
 23 the research having been done elsewhere.

24 Last fall the town of Riggins lost tourist
 25 dollars when there was a chemical spill in the Little

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5.27.7.4

5.27.10

1 Salmon River. Idaho's tourist industry is thriving and
2 we look forward to continued growth, but what tourist
3 would willingly put himself or herself and family in
4 jeopardy from radiation mishaps, and mishaps there are.
5 Mishaps grew from over 2,300 in 1979 to
6 over 5,000 in 1983. Since that time, the operating
7 groups are permitted to report only those mishaps they
8 see fit to consider serious. I have learned to have no
9 faith in these self-serving evaluations. We are all at
10 risk as this material is hauled in unmarked vehicles
11 on secret various highway routes and wasted into our
12 streams and aquifers.

13 It is beyond reason that the submitted DEIS
14 would ask us to accept as "insignificant" its predicted
15 increase in radioactive vapors and waste, along with
16 increased transportation of this material with a killing
17 half-life of 24,000 years.

18 To offer the SIS as beneficently lucrative
19 to community and state amounts to camouflaged lure to
20 hook the jobless and those predators with dollar signs
21 in their eyes. Only a small proportion of the jobs would
22 go to new local people and the "boom," if any, would
23 repeat the "boom and bust" cycle of other short-term
24 projects.

25 People deplore the threat of AIDS. They go

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B044

1 to great lengths to promote the "Right to Life" and dig
2 deep for a cancer cure. To reward their concern for life
3 by fouling their nest with the SIS is a savage way
4 to solve the over-population problem.

5 MR. EIGUREN: Marked and put into the
6 record as Exhibit 203 will be the written comments of
7 Nelle Tobias.

8 (Exhibit No. 203 was marked and entered.)

9 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
10 is Luis Galindo. Luis Galindo?

11 Steve Neff.

12 MR. NEFF: My name is Steve Neff, I'm from
13 Boise, Idaho.

14 As a combat disabled veteran of the Vietnam
15 War and Life Member of the Disabled American Veterans,
16 I was thinking about this SIS Project the other day. Why
17 do we need it, if we do, and what is the purpose of all
18 these nuclear weapons we are building? Is it to protect
19 us from the Soviet threat that we perceive? Is it to
20 retaliate in case of an attack from some nation that we
21 are not getting along with? Why would we need all of
22 these missiles, when we already have enough to kill the
23 world many times over?

24 It has caused me some sleep loss worrying
25 about how we can afford to spend \$101-billion on it. We

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4.13

6.3

1 cannot afford to take care of the vets we have now, yet
2 we have the money to create massive amounts of new ones.

3 I've got a pair of spurs at home. They
4 aren't fancy or nothing; they're just some plain pewter
5 jobs. But one of my kinfolk from Culpeper, Virginia
6 wore them at Valley Forge with General Washington. I
7 wonder how he'd feel about what's going on today?

8 We had some peace for a while and then the
9 Great Civil War came along again. And my clan once again
10 ran out and enlisted. My great granddaddy Tawny died
11 at Gettysburg fighting for the North. My great
12 granddaddy Cole died in a place called Vicksburg, fighting
13 for the South. They both died fighting for belief in a
14 cause that could not be settled by diplomatic means. They
15 weren't famous men, by historical standards, but I looked
16 up to them for years. What would they have thought of
17 all of this?

18 Some of my kin joined Teddy Roosevelt's men
19 and fought in the Spanish-American conflict. Now we find
20 it was a newspaper war that got all of those folks killed
21 for nothing. What would they think about today?

22 In 1917, my granddaddy's brother joined the
23 American expeditionary force and sailed off to France to
24 fight for freedom once again. After he came home, he
25 coughed out his lungs from some newfangled stuff called

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1 mustard gas that was being used over there. What would he
2 think about what's going on today?

3 Then World War II came along and my kin
4 once again ran out and joined up. They felt they could
5 help keep the world free and to help our allies in need
6 across the great water. My dad fought as a tailgunner
7 in a B-17 over Germany. He flew 25 missions, including
8 the Schweinfurt ball bearing oil field raids, and the
9 shuttle missions to North Africa, and many others. He
10 earned the Distinguished Flying Cross. He also learned
11 what it was like to have five planes shot out from under
12 him. He was one of the lucky ones, in that he came home
13 in one piece. He still can't talk about it because of
14 the tears and the emotional blocks.

15 My uncle Norm joined the Army as a flame
16 thrower operator, and to this day he throws up if he
17 smells a piece of burnt meat.

18 My uncle Dick joined the Navy and fought on
19 a destroyer. He died a few years ago. Him and I shared
20 a time at the VA Hospital together. He should have been
21 thinking of retiring instead of dying from war wounds.

22 My uncle Bill was also a sailor. He still
23 has coral scars on his legs where he had to crawl over the
24 stuff to get to land after his ship was sunk during the
25 night battles of Midway. I've never heard him say one

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1 word about what it was like to be shot out of the water
2 on a dark night by a Jap battleship.

3 My uncle Pete fought in Korea with the Army.
4 He said it wasn't bad. If it wasn't so bad, why won't he
5 talk about it? I can still remember when he come home from
6 there: drying dishes at night, listening to the radio
7 broadcasts wondering how he was doing. He's a third
8 generation dairy farmer now and his boys are taking over.

9 Then came Vietnam. I guess it was my turn
10 to be a fish. It was my turn to go and I joined the
11 Marines. I went in-country in Vietnam in 1965. I served
12 for 14 months as a radio operator, part of the time as a
13 recon team. After coming home, I found I couldn't deal
14 with life back home very well. Three marriages later
15 and a hundred different jobs, I found out my mind hadn't
16 dealt with the horror of war very well. I finally
17 figured out why my kinfolk wouldn't talk about the wars
18 they had been involved in. It was too terrible to recall.
19 All of the lost lives and friends that came home all
20 messed up. I know what I think about nuclear war. No
21 one would be safe from the effects.

22 The one thing that we all had in common
23 before was that we believed, rightly or wrongly, that our
24 families were safe at home while we did the fighting in
25 some far-off place, but not with nuclear weapons.

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1 My kinfolk have been fighting this country's
2 wars for 200 years and have never questioned the validity
3 of our doing so. We have always taken great pride in
4 the fact that we went to do our country's bidding. But
5 what is there now? There are no more great causes. Our
6 country has lied to us and cheated us for many years.
7 We have bled for a financial consideration.

8 In the Guadalcanal campaign, the Navy ships
9 that shelled the beach for the Marines ended up paying
10 Goodyear Rubber millions of dollars for the trees that
11 they blew up, while everyone else was making sacrifices
12 at home and abroad.

13 In Vietnam, I rode shotgun on convoys that
14 had no purpose except to guide Shell Oil trucks safely
15 up and down Route 1. The Johnson family owned 51 percent
16 of all the Shell Oil rights in southeast Asia and it was
17 cheaper to let American soldiers and Marines guard the
18 trucks than to pay taxes to the Viet Cong.

19 Well, you have lied to us before, and I am
20 convinced you are lying to us now as to the need for this
21 SIS plant. All we, as taxpayers, are doing is to allow
22 a few more rich people make a few more bucks on our
23 misery.

24 I for one am saying no to you and your
25 project. We do not need more nuclear weapons, nor do we

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1 need more projects like this one.

2 If the best this country can do to create
3 jobs is to spend \$350-million per job, then there is
4 something we as citizens aren't doing right. We cannot
5 continue to fund these pork barrel extravaganzas at this
6 rate. It is a sham and a shame to have this country
7 continue to not be able to provide jobs for people that
8 want them, clothe people that need clothes, feed people
9 that are hungry, and to eliminate the hugest debt this
10 country has ever seen.

11 I personally --

12 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. Neff, how much do you
13 have?

14 MR. NEFF: I've just got about a paragraph
15 left.

16 I personally am ashamed of my country. We
17 need jobs very badly in this state and you people are
18 well aware of it. You manipulate these facts to your
19 own benefit.

20 My son has decided not to serve his country,
21 and I'm damned glad. My country doesn't deserve him.

22 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. Neff's written comments
23 will be submitted for the record as Exhibit No. 204, and
24 the comments of his wife, Rickie Neff, will be submitted
25 as Exhibit No. 205.

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B045

1 (Exhibits Nos. 204 and 205 were marked
2 and entered.)

3 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
4 is Becky Nebelsick-Carter.

5 MS. NEBELSICK-CARTER: My name is Becky
6 Nebelsick-Carter. I live at 1224 East Bannock in Boise.
7 I'm a bookkeeper and a homemaker.

8 I'm here today thankful that I can
9 participate in these hearings and thankful that I can
10 live in a country where these proceedings can happen.

11 I was hoping, like some others of you, that
12 I would have the elected officials here to hear me, but
13 we'll move on.

14 I thought before I came up here that I would
15 like to bring my children up to introduce you. I have a
16 son, Gabriel, he will be seven in April, and Rachel, who
17 is one and a half. And they are my reason for being here
18 today.

19 I am opposed to building the Special
20 Isotope Separator because, in part because of them, and
21 in part for other reasons.

22 Yes, arms are for hugging; yes, the nuclear
23 legacy is too great already; yes, children shouldn't have
24 to live in the shadow of nuclear war, in fear of nuclear
25 war.

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1 But my children have taught me a more
2 basic, much more basic and much more common sense but
3 very important lesson.

4 I said before that I am a homemaker. I
5 take, I choose to be very serious in my pursuit of
6 building a happy, safe and secure home for my children.

7 And as chief engineer on-site, my motto is
8 "safety first." But try as I may, accidents do happen.

9 Even in the best of circumstances with the
10 best laid plans, with the most carefully chosen toys,
11 accidents do happen.

12 Why? Because even under very controlled
13 situations there are variables.

14 Now, generally accidents on the home site
15 can be dealt with in one way or another and usually
16 without major ramifications that only affect the general,
17 the immediate family.

18 But we are all members of a larger family,
19 that need to honestly look at all the variables that this
20 plant holds in its proposed form, not to mention the
21 variability; variability if this were to be built.

22 Let me mention a few:

23 Transportation of plutonium across our
24 highways --

25 Adequately trained emergency response

1 personnel, something that needs to be addressed very
2 importantly.

3 Decaying roads and bridges.

4 Drunken drivers.

5 Trucks, are they always in good repair?

6 Truck drivers using controlled substances.

7 Disposal site for waste from this plant:

8 A site that -- there is no site right now
9 that is secure nor is it likely to be in the future.

10 Again, transportation questions for moving
11 this waste.

12 Existing unresolved storage problems at INEL.

13 The nuclear waste pile in this country is
14 already at levels beyond our ability financially or
15 otherwise to deal with.

16 Money to build this plant:

17 Are we going to deficit spend again to
18 build this plant?

19 What is the true price tag?

20 I keep hearing many different figures for
21 it. If these variables are not sufficient reason for us
22 to choose the fourth alternative of no action on this
23 plant, of course, there is the nuclear weapons issue,
24 which we can probably stand around and talk about that one
25 for a while.

5.29.64

5.30.2.1

5.25.4

5.30.3.1

5.30.4.14

5.27.6.11

B046

B047 B048

4.14

1 Let's not do exactly what we accuse other
2 countries of doing. Let's not talk peace on this hand
3 while this hand is building the nuclear arsenal in our
4 country.

5 Let's be honest with ourselves about this
6 DEIS and look at it clearly and let's choose no action on
7 this proposal.

8 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
9 Becky Nebelsick-Carter will be included as Exhibit
10 No. 206 for the record.

11 (Exhibit No. 206 was marked and entered,)

12 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
13 is Don McClaran.

14 MR. McCLARAN: Thank you for the opportunity
15 to speak. My name is Don McClaran and I live in McCall,
16 Idaho. Let the record show that I'm against SIS in Idaho
17 and anywhere on this planet, for that matter. There are
18 good reasons -- well, reasons for and against SIS. The
19 yes proponents strike me as shortsighted, interest in
20 short-term gains and totally void of any concern for a
21 safe future.

22 The elected officials in this state I don't
23 believe are a true barometer of our feelings as Idahoans.
24 This present administration is one that is geared toward
25 short-term gains and very limited long-range goals and

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1 visions. Politicians, of course, need these gains, even
2 at the expense of our future.

3 The no SIS proponents are making a more
4 difficult choice. These people are willing to say no in
5 spite of the obvious potential for direct and indirect
6 gains.

7 So the facts are that we have nine tons of
8 plutonium -- a cupful makes a bomb, and about 20 or 30
9 cups destroys the world as it is. So we need more?

10 I take issue with Senator McClure, with all
11 the knowledge that he possesses, that we need more
12 plutonium. I say enough is enough. I say no more
13 plutonium, and I say let Idaho take a stand against
14 plutonium and the SIS mentality.

15 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
16 is Lois Young.

17 MS. YOUNG: I'm Lois Young, 3100 Crescent
18 Rim Drive, Boise.

19 It's been said so logically and so well by
20 so many, and I just want to add my "no SIS."

21 MR. EIGUREN: Tim Brewer.

22 MR. BREWER: Good afternoon. My name is
23 Tim Brewer. I am a resident of Boise, Idaho.

24 My testimony will be fairly short and to
25 the point, much like its author.

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4.15.2

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As a businessman and taxpayer, I support the creation of new jobs in our state. Our own Department of Commerce has made some good headway in bringing in new outside companies. Currently about a dozen companies have chosen to site themselves in Idaho, probably with about 12 or 13 more very near being signed up.

However, I would like to go on record as being very much against the construction of the Special Isotope Separation Project. And many objections can be raised concerning the social, environmental, psychological, moral and ethical issues of this proposal. We have heard numbers of those this afternoon.

But from an economic viewpoint, the question is not whether to locate the project in Idaho, Washington or South Carolina, but rather, why do we need it at all? The answer lies in an analysis of the supply and demand of weapons grade plutonium.

The U.S. currently has approximately 120 tons of weapon grade plutonium with a shelf life of over 20,000 years.

We currently have 25,000 nuclear weapons, enough to destroy the world several times over.

Also, the Department of Energy publicly admits that there is no current demand for this plutonium. With such strong efforts to reduce the budget deficit, we

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should not pour American taxpayers' dollars into manufacturing a product with no current demand.

Not only is there no current demand for this product, but we are actively engaged in arms negotiations to reduce the number of nuclear weapons.

There is no public information supporting the theory of an increased need for plutonium in the future.

In essence, we are working towards reducing the future demand for this product.

Obviously, by applying a simple supply and demand approach to this proposal, it is obvious that we will be producing a product that is high in supply, low current demand, and has a future outlook of further reduction in demand. So the SIS Project makes no economic sense. The Department of Energy should choose Option No. 4 and not build the project at all.

In fact, I believe that the American people are sick and tired of having our taxpayer dollars spent on governmental boondoggles that benefit no one.

It's time for our government to become more fiscally responsible and stop throwing money down a hole.

Yes, I'm for more jobs in Idaho, but production of nuclear weapons is not an industry that is welcomed in our state.

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B049

1 Thank you.

2 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. The written
3 comments of Tim Brewer will be admitted into the record
4 as Exhibit No. 207.

5 (Exhibit No. 207 marked and entered.)

6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
7 is Rick Anderson. Rick Anderson.

8 Deanah Liebenthal.

9 MS. LIEBENTHAL: My name is Deanah
10 Liebenthal, and I live in Boise. I'm not here as an
11 engineer or biologist or an economist; I'm here simply
12 as a concerned citizen and a parent.

13 I find it very disturbing that we are here
14 at all having to debate this issue. But like so many of
15 you others have stated, I'm more concerned that our
16 elected officials have deemed it unnecessary to stay and
17 hear the opinions of their constituents, either pro or
18 con.

19 I've been offered many issues -- we all
20 have been offered many issues -- with which to consider.
21 And because of conflicting information, I feel that in
22 the data and the opinion offered, that we should at
23 least have cause to doubt, at least doubt the SIS and
24 the proposal and the DOE statement and all that.

25 As I said before, I'm a parent. I have one

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1 of the most beautiful four-year-old daughters, and I'm
2 trying to teach my daughter non-violent methods of
3 conflict resolution. I'm trying to teach her that she is
4 to share and respect other human beings. And it's my
5 opinion that my beautiful four-year-old daughter is
6 acting with more maturity than our 200-year-old-plus
7 government. Our government seems more concerned, in my
8 opinion, with public image, with some macho need to be
9 better and more powerful, than with human lives. And
10 to me that's the issue -- human lives. How many human
11 lives are going to pay for this project?

12 I am very much opposed to this proposal,
13 this SIS construction. We have, as was so clearly
14 articulated earlier, so many bombs in our nuclear arsenal,
15 enough to kill every child, every woman, and every man --
16 who, in my opinion, are the major proponents of bomb
17 production -- in the entire world. Bombs don't create
18 peace -- they create panic and paranoia. And I'm afraid.

19 Yes, the SIS may create some jobs. But I
20 was outside earlier, and somebody was carrying a sign
21 that said something to the effect of, "SIS will create
22 jobs." But so did the Nazi death camps. It is my
23 opinion that we should give peace a chance, we should try
24 it just once, for a change, and we should put our
25 children, yours and mine, before any dollar signs and

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B050

1 before any pride.

2 I want my daughter to grow up in a world
3 that's free and peaceful and one that's not full of
4 conflict and hypocrisy.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
7 is Jean Odmark.

8 MS. ODMARK: I'm Jean Odmark and I'm from
9 McCall, Idaho.

10 I am very appalled that the politicians
11 that I have worked so hard to elect seem to apparently
12 be selling Idaho and Idaho's image down the drain for
13 a few jobs.

14 I will not reiterate what has already been
15 said already. I object to the SIS Project. It's been
16 said very well by many. I'm going to take a short minute
17 to make two economic points, one at the national level
18 and one at the Idaho level.

19 With the return of plutonium-filled arms
20 from Europe and the proposed reduction in this country's
21 need for nuclear weapons, it is not proven that the
22 production of more plutonium is needed. The national
23 debt has now reached two and a half trillion dollars, and
24 I object to the additional spending of \$1-billion for
25 the construction of a controversial nuclear facility in

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B051

1 this state or any state.

2 The tourist industry is one of Idaho's, is
3 one of our brightest economic hopes. The advertising
4 and pursuit of the tourist has been done by creating the
5 image of our quality of life in a pristine area. The
6 image of nuclear waste, potential storage and/or
7 accident problems, along with the use of our highways for
8 the shipment of lethal substances, is a negative approach
9 to a long-term economic investment plan for Idaho's
10 future development.

11 I wonder, have any of you ever thought of
12 spending a vacation boating or fishing near Three Mile
13 Island?

14 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. We'll mark as
15 Exhibit 208 for inclusion in the record the written
16 comments of Jean Odmark.

17 (Exhibit No. 208 was marked and entered.)

18 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
19 is Woody Hesselbarth.

20 MR. HESSELBARTH: I'm Woody Hesselbarth from
21 McCall, Idaho. I'd like to thank the DOE and my tax
22 dollars for this opportunity to testify.

23 I would like to preface my remarks by saying
24 that I oppose the proposed SIS facility being built at
25 all. Anywhere. I do so on moral grounds as an evangelical

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5.27.3.3

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1 Christian. My understanding of the call of Jesus, to
2 be peacemakers precludes supporting the construction
3 and use of a facility that is dedicated to the production
4 of components for nuclear weapons.

5 As I said, I'm concerned that the backers
6 of the SIS are selling Idaho short in the realm of
7 economics. The proponents say that the project will
8 consume about one billion taxpayer dollars over its
9 operating life. That works out to about 1.3 million
10 dollars expended for each job supported by the plant when
11 it is functional.

12 It is a fact that fewer jobs are created
13 by moneys spent on capital intensive defense related
14 projects than by the same amounts spent outside that
15 industry. As one currently unemployed, who has spent
16 the past 25 years working in the outdoor recreation and
17 natural resource fields, I'm outraged at the suggestion
18 that the SIS will help the people of Idaho economically
19 in the long run.

20 In fact, the potential damage to our
21 traditional industries of tourism, agriculture, and
22 forest products would be devastating should a plutonium
23 related accident occur or even be rumored to have
24 occurred. No one wants to play in a contaminated
25 landscape, eat radioactive food, or build with forest

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6.1.5

1 products they fear are potentially deadly. Having lived
2 downwind of your Rocky Flats plant, I know what kind of
3 damage plutonium leaks are capable of creating. A single
4 plutonium related transportation accident in the
5 vicinity of my town, McCall, would turn it into an
6 economic ghost town.

7 Please do not build this plant. Select
8 Alternative 4.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
11 Woody Hesselbarth will be included in the record as
12 Exhibit 209.

13 (Exhibit No. 209 was marked and entered.)

14 We will take one additional commenter before
15 we break, and that will be Maria Eschen. And after that
16 I will explain what some of the options the rest of you
17 have to testify in Boise.

18 MS. ESCHEN: Thank you very much. I am
19 Maria Eschen, and Boise has been my home for the last 10
20 years. My Ph.D. degree is in public health and human
21 ecology. And my hat is off to those people who oppose
22 the SIS.

23 I see no greater threat to the health of
24 the human species than a nuclear arms race. Using
25 probability theory alone, we can calculate the chances of

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5.1.36

5.27.6.5

5.1.40

5.29.14

4.15.5

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1 an accident, of a nuclear confrontation as they increase
 2 every year with every new method designed to produce
 3 plutonium. Likewise, the probability of accidents in
 4 Section 4.1.3.3 on RADTRAIN III in your text does not
 5 include cumulative risks and discussion of probability
 6 over a period of the future. You talk about annual events
 7 and how incorrectly estimated the danger and risk to the
 8 future.

9 How foolish of us to produce new plutonium
 10 when the DOE now admits that our stockpile already meets
 11 existing needs. I'm in favor of no action and I oppose
 12 the construction of the SIS in Idaho or anywhere. I
 13 oppose the insanity of building and testing nuclear
 14 weapons systems, knowing that there are only 2,300 cities
 15 on this planet in excess of 100,000 people. Using the
 16 arsenals of the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. and give two nuclear
 17 weapons to each city, every city could be destroyed,
 18 leaving 20,000 strategic nuclear weapons left over.
 19 Nothing is said about the 35,000 tactical weapons that
 20 would be left over in a confrontation such as that.

21 Never has humankind held in its control
 22 the existence of the species and the extinction of the
 23 species. You know, as I was looking through the Death
 24 Valley Gateway Gazette, a newspaper of our neighboring
 25 state, I came across some information I would like to share

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1 with you. The editor had the following to say, as we
 2 consider our relationship with DOE. "It seems to us that
 3 DOE owes to us, both the government and the public, some
 4 straight answers to a lot of unanswered questions in
 5 the months ahead." He was discussing two weeks ago the
 6 Yucca Mountain situation.

7 An additional headline in the Las Vegas,
 8 Nevada Sun talks about "dangled Fed bait, Fed nuclear
 9 bait. Just more broken promises."

10 Governor Richard Bryant has appealed to
 11 President Ronald Reagan to hand over reports critical of
 12 the Yucca Mountains becoming this country's high level
 13 nuclear waste dump. Those who think that that's far
 14 fetched should take a look at New Mexico. Bryant
 15 requested government studies criticizing Nevada's volcanic
 16 mountain after he unveiled a Department of Energy report
 17 in January that said Yucca cracks might force water inside
 18 the depository to corrode nuclear casks.

19 Then he wrote to Secretary John Herrington
 20 and asked for other studies critical of Yucca Mountain's
 21 ability to contain radiation for 10,000 years. But
 22 Herrington didn't send documents or explanations as
 23 required under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. So Bryant
 24 sent his request to the President.

25 There was a similar request from Governor

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5.27.1.1

1 Gary Carothers of New Mexico. Carothers threatened to
2 sue the federal government, delaying the opening of the
3 Waste Isolation Pilot Plant Project near Carlsbad if
4 several administrators did not stop their squabbling over
5 who's paying for the broken land.

6 I just offer these to you as considerations
7 from our neighboring states.

8 Third, your EIS statement is woefully
9 deficient in its socioeconomic analysis, as mentioned by
10 others, and Section 3.1.5.3 fails to list the human species
11 as one of those threatened and endangered.

12 Finally, I would like to say that this time
13 is the exact time two weeks ago I was in handcuffs in a
14 bus. I was under arrest. I had been arrested at a
15 nuclear test site in Nevada. I trespassed, along with
16 about 13 other individuals, who felt that the testing of
17 nuclear weapons is wrong. And this was our way to cast
18 our votes.

19 I and others will continue to risk personal
20 comfort and cast our votes against the means of nuclear
21 war. We will speak up again and again and again, until
22 our government hears us.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. FIGUREN: Thank you. We are now at
25 Order No. 41 on the afternoon session speakers list. We

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1 have in total on our preregistered list 131 commenters.

2 Our intent at this point in time would be
3 to recess for half an hour, return at 7:00 o'clock, at
4 which time I will once again go through my opening
5 statements.

6 We have seven individuals who are speaking
7 on behalf of organizations, so we'll take all or most of
8 the time left to them. That should put us into the next
9 session about 8:15, 8:20.

10 At that point, it would be my intent to
11 resume taking speakers at Order No. 41 on the afternoon
12 session and continue to work forward through that as late
13 into the night as we can possibly go. It will probably
14 be about 11:00 o'clock.

15 As I mentioned earlier, for those of you
16 who have preregistered or registered at the door, to
17 the extent that we can't accommodate you by 11:00 o'clock
18 tonight, we will include you for either the afternoon or
19 evening session that is the continuation of these
20 hearings scheduled for next Tuesday, the 29th of March,
21 at the Red Lion-Riverside.

22 If you have a particular preference as to
23 the continuation, that is to say, that it looks probable
24 that you will be heard at the continuation of these
25 hearings, and you would like to speak at the afternoon

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1 session versus the evening session, or vice versa, please
2 so indicate on one of these forms which we have out at
3 the desk so we can accommodate you in that regard.

4 If you are here at this point and you would
5 like to leave and have a written statement, I would be
6 glad to have you step forward at this point and include
7 it for the record. If not, we'll go ahead and resume at
8 Order 41 at or about 8:15 this evening.

9 Is there anyone here that has a written
10 statement you would like to submit for the record? If
11 you do, please step forward. Just give us your name, and
12 we'll assign you an exhibit number.

13 MR. AIRHART: David Airhart.
14 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 210.
15 MS. DURBIN: Elaine Durbin.
16 MR. EIGUREN: Elaine Durbin, Exhibit 211.
17 MS. DURBIN: Thank you.
18 MR. CRAM: Ole Cram.
19 MR. EIGUREN: 210 -- 212. Excuse me.
20 MS. DeFOGGI: Virginia DeFoggi.
21 MR. EIGUREN: Virginia DeFoggi, 213.
22 MR. DOW: Barry Dow.
23 MR. EIGUREN: Barry Dow, Exhibit 214.
24 MS. CHASE: Patsy Chase.
25 MR. EIGUREN: Patsy Chase, Exhibit 215.

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1 MS. RONAYNE: Dianne Ronayne.
2 MR. EIGUREN: Dianne Ronayne, Exhibit 216.
3 MS. PYLE: Barbara Pyle.
4 MR. EIGUREN: Barbara Pyle would be 217.
5 MS. WILLIAMSON: Darcy Williamson.
6 MR. EIGUREN: Darcy Williamson, Exhibit 218.
7 Is there anyone else? Okay.
8 MR. MILLS: David Mills.
9 MR. EIGUREN: David Mills, 219.
10 Anyone else?
11 With that, we'll stand in recess until
12 7:00 p.m.
13 (Exhibits Nos. 210 through 219 were marked
14 and entered.)
15 (A recess was taken.)
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1 BOISE, IDAHO, SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1988, 7:00 P. M.

2
3 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and gentlemen; I will
4 now formally commence this public hearing concerning the
5 review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
6 relative to the United States Department of Energy's
7 proposed Special Isotope Separation Project.

8 This proceeding is officially designated
9 as the Boise, Idaho public meeting, public hearing under
10 Department of Energy Document No. DOE/EIS-0136, held
11 on the 26th day of March, 1988 and commencing at 7:05 p.m.
12 in the evening.

13 My name is Roy Eiguren; I am the Hearing
14 Officer for this and the subsequent public hearings held
15 to receive comments on the Draft Environmental Impact
16 Statement in the proposed siting, construction and
17 operation by the Department of Energy of a Special
18 Isotope Separation Project utilizing Atomic Vapor Laser
19 Isotope Separation process technology. I will refer to
20 this and in subsequent proceedings as the DOE/DEIS public
21 hearings on the SIS Project.

22 I am an attorney engaged in private practice
23 here in Boise. I have been retained by the Department of
24 Energy to conduct this series of public hearings as an
25 independent and unbiased party to assure the opportunity

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1 for all interested organizations and individuals to
2 comment on the DEIS. Accordingly, I am not an advocate
3 for or against the proposed action taken by the Department
4 in this matter. Rather, I am a neutral third party who
5 has coordinated the development of the procedures to be
6 followed in the conduct of the hearings, and will also
7 be the Hearings Officer for all the hearings in this
8 series.

9 The issue that is the subject of this
10 proceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct
11 and operate the SIS facility at one of three locations
12 in the United States; The Department of Energy's Idaho
13 National Engineering Laboratory located near Idaho Falls,
14 the DOE's Hanford Reservation near Richland, Washington,
15 or the DOE's Savannah River Plant near Aiken, South
16 Carolina. Each of these three sites is designated as
17 an alternative as considered in the DEIS.

18 The fourth and final alternative under
19 considering in the DEIS is the No Action Alternative,
20 which would be a departmental decision not to site,
21 construct and operate an SIS facility.

22 As stated in the Draft Environmental Impact
23 Statement, the Department's preferred alternative is to
24 site, construct and operate this facility at the Idaho
25 National Engineering Laboratory.

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1 To put this hearing in perspective, I think
 2 it's important that you first understand the key elements
 3 of the federal law that requires that the Department's
 4 final decision in this matter be preceded by a
 5 comprehensive review of the environmental factors
 6 associated with each of the alternatives being considered
 7 by the Department.

8 The National Environmental Policy Act of
 9 1969, Public Law 91-910, generally known as NEPA, requires
 10 that all federal agencies develop procedures that "ensure
 11 environmental amenities or values are given appropriate
 12 consideration in federal government decision making."

13 This law also requires that recommendations
 14 for major federal actions significantly affecting the
 15 quality of human environment be first preceded by the
 16 development and completion of an Environmental Impact
 17 Statement, or EIS, that fully and carefully examines the
 18 potential environmental impacts of the proposed federal
 19 action.

20 The Department of Energy has determined that
 21 its proposed action in siting, constructing and operating
 22 an SIS Plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA,
 23 requires the development and completion of an EIS.
 24 Accordingly, by publication on October 31, 1986, a notice
 25 of intent to prepare an EIS in the Federal Register was

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1 found at 51 FR 39765.

2 The Department of Energy commenced the
 3 process that has led to the development and publication
 4 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement that is the
 5 subject of this hearing. The DEIS was prepared by the
 6 Department with the assistance of an independent
 7 contractor, the NUS Corporation, after an extensive
 8 process of receiving public comment through scoping, or
 9 the initial input phase of this EIS development proceeding.

10 During scoping, public comment on the scope
 11 or magnitude of the issues to be addressed in the EIS was
 12 received, as well as specific comment on particular items
 13 themselves. The scoping included receipt of extensive
 14 written comment as well as oral comments from two
 15 lengthy public meetings or hearings, one held in Idaho
 16 Falls, Idaho on February 24th, 1987, and one held here
 17 in Boise on February 26th, 1987.

18 As a result of the input received during
 19 scoping, the following issues were analyzed in the DEIS
 20 relative to the alternatives identified above -- that is
 21 to say, the issues that are in the scope of this DEIS are
 22 the following:

23 Issue No. 1. Off-site general population
 24 radiological and nonradiological effects resulting from
 25 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

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1 Issue 2. The effects on the general
2 population from emissions of radiological and
3 nonradiological releases caused by normal operations of
4 an SIS facility.

5 3. Exposure of operating personnel to
6 radiological sources and nonradiological releases during
7 normal operations of an SIS facility.

8 Issue 4. Incremental differences and
9 involvement or impacts between operation of the existing
10 chemical processing facilities located at the site and
11 the proposed action alternatives.

12 Issue 5. The effects on air and water
13 quality and other environmental consequences during
14 construction and operation of an SIS plant.

15 Issue No. 6. Cumulative effects of
16 operation of such a facility, including changes in
17 support operations related to it.

18 Issue 7. On-site and off-site transportation
19 impacts of nuclear materials.

20 Issue 8. An analysis of applicable federal,
21 state and local regulations applying to the construction
22 and operation of an SIS plant.

23 Issue 9: Decontamination and decommissioning
24 of such a facility.

25 Issue 10. Irretrievable and irreversible

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1 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials,
2 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other resources
3 related to the construction as well as the operation of
4 such a facility.

5 And, finally, Issue 11. Mitigation measures
6 necessary to respond to the environmental consequences
7 associated with each of the alternatives.

8 The EIS preparation review process in the
9 United States is governed by federal regulations
10 established by the Council on Environmental Quality, CEQ,
11 an agency within the Executive Office of the President
12 of the United States, and in this case official
13 regulations -- excuse me -- guidelines of the Department
14 of Energy.

15 The Council on Environmental Quality
16 regulations are found at 40 Federal Regulations, Parts
17 1500 to 1508. The DOE guidelines that apply are found at
18 45 Federal Register 20694. These regulations and
19 guidelines have been previously marked by me as Exhibit 1
20 and have been included in the formal record in this
21 proceeding.

22 The relevant CEQ regulations require that
23 after first preparing the Draft Environmental Impact
24 Statement and before preparing a Final Environmental
25 Impact Statement, a federal agency must first obtain the

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1 comments of any federal agency with jurisdiction by law
 2 or special expertise with respect to any environmental
 3 impact, and also request the comments of appropriate
 4 state and local agencies which develop and enforce
 5 environmental standards, as well as comments from Indian
 6 tribes and the public, with particular obligation on the
 7 agency to affirmatively solicit comment from persons or
 8 organizations who may be interested or affected by the
 9 proposed federal decision.

10 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
 11 where the Department determines that substantial
 12 environmental controversy concerning the proposed action
 13 exists.

14 Accordingly, today's, as well as the
 15 subsequent hearings, as well as the one yesterday, are
 16 being held pursuant to these regulations to receive public,
 17 Indian tribes and governmental comments on various issues
 18 identified in the DEIS.

19 Notice of these public hearings was
 20 provided in the Federal Register by notice dated
 21 February 9th, 1988 as found in 53 FR 5032, and on
 22 March 4th, 1988, as found in 53 FR 7227.

23 Additional public notice was provided
 24 through publication in numerous newspapers throughout the
 25 state. The Federal Register notices, the text of the

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1 newspaper notices and publication dates of each have been
 2 marked as Exhibit 2 in these proceedings, and I have
 3 previously entered them into the record.

4 Public comment on the Draft Environmental
 5 Impact Statement will be received through this and
 6 subsequent hearings held next week in Boise, Twin Falls
 7 and Idaho Falls. As I mentioned, there were public
 8 comments heard yesterday at hearings conducted in Idaho
 9 Falls. Written comments will receive the same weight
 10 and consideration by the Department in this proceeding
 11 and may be submitted by the public to me today at this
 12 proceeding and at subsequent hearings, or may be mailed
 13 to Clay Nichols, the SIS Project Manager, at the Idaho
 14 Operations Office of DOE. If you would like to mail
 15 written comments, you may do so. As I mentioned, we do
 16 have the address at the back of the room.

17 The close of comment in this proceeding, as
 18 I mentioned, will be April 21, 1988. So if in fact you
 19 do intend to provide written comments, you need to do so
 20 before that date. Oral and written comments will be
 21 compiled into a comprehensive record and in turn will be
 22 considered by the Department in making its final decision
 23 in this proceeding.

24 The CEQ regulations that I had mentioned
 25 earlier provide that comments on an Environmental Impact

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1 Statement on a proposed action shall be as specific as
2 possible and may address the accuracy of the statement,
3 of the proposed EIS or the merits of the alternatives
4 proposed.

5 Although the Department has determined in
6 this particular case that certain issues such as the
7 need for the SIS Project are beyond the scope of the
8 EIS proceeding, I will allow comment on that issue as
9 well as other issues related to this project individual
10 commentors feel are relevant. However, as the Hearings
11 Officer, I do reserve the right to ask commenters to keep
12 their comments relative to the subject matter in the
13 proceeding when I determine it necessary to do so.

14 Moving on to the process. After the
15 Department reviews the record that we're compiling in
16 these proceedings, the Department may choose to modify,
17 supplement or reissue the DEIS prior to issuing the final
18 Environmental Impact Statement. It may also choose to
19 issue the DEIS as a final EIS without modification.

20 The Record of Decision will identify the
21 environmentally preferred alternative chosen by the
22 Department, along with any practical means to avoid or
23 minimize environmental concerns in the alternative
24 selected.

25 The Department, as a matter of federal

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1 regulation, cannot proceed with its proposed action,
2 which will be contained in the Record of Decision, until
3 a minimum of 30 days has passed from the date of issuance
4 of the final Environmental Impact Statement.

5 Under current schedules, the Department of
6 Energy intends to issue a final EIS and a Record of
7 Decision later this year, tentatively scheduled for the
8 month of August.

9 To govern the conduct of this and subsequent
10 public hearings as well as the ones held yesterday, I
11 have developed a number of procedures, in consultation
12 both with the Department of Energy as well as
13 representatives of various public interest groups who
14 either have participated in the scoping meetings in this
15 process or have indicated their intent to participate in
16 these hearings.

17 The procedures, the hearing procedures we're
18 following were finalized on March 24th, earlier this week,
19 and in turn were distributed to interested parties, along
20 with a list of organizational representatives and
21 individuals who had registered to comment at these
22 hearings prior to March 18th, 1988, which was the deadline
23 set for the close of registration. These procedures have
24 been marked as Exhibit 3 and have been submitted for the
25 record.

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1 I have also submitted for the record as
2 Exhibit 4 the total list of the DOE public involvement
3 activities related to the development of this DEIS.

4 Now, turning to the procedural rules that
5 we'll follow this evening as well as the subsequent
6 hearings. Let me briefly go through them. First and
7 foremost, I would like to indicate, other than my opening
8 statement, aside from remarks received yesterday from
9 Mr. Troy Wade, Assistant Secretary of Energy for Defense
10 Programs, there will not be any remarks by the Department
11 of Energy or its contractors in the proceedings.

12 I will, however, reference the fact that
13 the senior Department of Energy staff are here, including
14 Mr. Don Ofte, who is the Idaho Operations Officer for
15 the Department of Energy. They are here to listen to
16 your comments.

17 The comments will be received in the
18 following order: Elected and appointed federal, state
19 and local government officials. As a practical matter,
20 that will not be applicable tonight. I take it back. We
21 do have one public official speaking. I'm sorry.

22 Following the public officials are
23 representatives of national, state and local organizations
24 who are participating in this proceeding. What we did is
25 we simply went through the list of those organizations

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1 that had preregistered to participate and asked that they
2 identify an individual to speak on behalf of their
3 particular organization. And we have given those
4 individuals on behalf of the organizations 10 minutes in
5 which to comment.

6 Following that, we'll have members of the
7 public who have preregistered to speak prior to the end
8 of business on March 18th, which was the close of
9 preregistration. The order of public commenters was
10 randomly chosen by computer, actually chose not to put
11 them in any particular order.

12 Finally, we will accept comments from
13 members of the public who have registered at the door at
14 this hearing. Let me indicate that the organizational
15 representatives and public officials are going to be
16 allowed to speak 10 minutes, and individuals will be
17 allowed five minutes. I am the timekeeper, and I'm
18 asking people to keep within the time limits because of
19 the large numbers of individuals as well as organizations
20 who are participating.

21 I have a signaling device up here that will
22 help you in terms of keeping track of your time. At the
23 end of four minutes, for individuals, there will be a green
24 light, and if you are speaking for an organization, it
25 will be at the end of nine minutes, and when time is up, I

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1 will give you the red light. Again I'd ask that you
2 strictly adhere to the time frame.

3 We also strongly urge you to submit any
4 statements that you have in writing if you have them with
5 you. So we'd like you to use your oral comment time to
6 summarize those and then hand in for the record as an
7 exhibit the written comments in total.

8 Speaker lists are posted in the back of
9 the room alongside here as well as the front. They give
10 the approximate times when you're to speak. And because
11 of the significant number of individuals who have signed
12 up, we are currently at a point where we're still trying
13 to accommodate this evening individuals who were signed
14 up to speak this afternoon.

15 As a consequence of that, it may be
16 difficult, if not impossible, to get to those individuals
17 who were preregistered to speak this evening. In order
18 to accommodate the exceptional number of individuals who
19 have requested, to provide for all public comment, the
20 Department has decided to continue this hearing until
21 next Tuesday to allow interested individuals or
22 organizations the opportunity to meet and comment in the
23 EIS development proceeding.

24 So the rule basically is going to be that
25 if we have not been able to accommodate those who

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1 preregistered to speak this afternoon or this evening,
2 or those who have signed up at the door today by 11:00
3 o'clock, we will go ahead automatically and include you
4 in the hearing scheduled for next Tuesday, to begin at the
5 same hours, 2:00 in the afternoon and 7:00 in the evening
6 at the Red Lion-Riverside.

7 As I mentioned, any individual who was
8 preregistered to come in at this or any of the hearings
9 or who registered at the door at this or other hearings,
10 will be given the opportunity to comment either here in
11 Boise, if you so desire, or if you so choose, in Idaho
12 Falls. There will be a continuation of the Idaho Falls
13 hearing on Wednesday, March 30th, at the University Place.

14 Because of the large number of commenters,
15 we've not been able to allow for any time during the
16 meeting or the hearing for questions to be asked orally
17 and responded to orally. But in order to accommodate
18 those of you who may have a question about any part of the
19 project or the environmental process that pertains to it,
20 we do have public hearing question cards that are
21 available at the registration desk.

22 If you would like to ask a question, please
23 fill this out with your name and address and write down
24 your question as succinctly as you can. Written answers
25 will be provided at a later date by the Department to those

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1 questions, and the questions and answers will be included
2 in the hearing record of this proceeding.

3 Finally, in terms of procedures, I would
4 indicate that we're not allowing individuals to combine
5 speaking time. The time that's been assigned to you is
6 for your use only. If you have charts or other visual
7 aids that you want to use, that's fine, provided that you
8 can include that material in the public record in some
9 meaningful way and it is not particular disruptive.
10 However, the setup time you need to put together your
11 charts and whatnot will be taken against your speaking
12 time.

13 Finally, this is a record proceeding.
14 Everything you say is being recorded by the Court Reporter
15 here in the front. Accordingly, if you are going to
16 comment, we need to have you come to the podium here in
17 the front and speak clearly in the microphone after first
18 giving your name and address for the record.

19 If you have questions about the procedures
20 or other issues, there are departmental people in the
21 back of the room here. Seek one of them out, and they'll
22 be glad to respond to your questions.

23 We take breaks throughout the course of the
24 hearing, and if you have questions of me, please step
25 forward and introduce them at that time.

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B053

1 So, thank you for your patience in
2 listening to the opening comments.

3 At this time we'll go ahead and begin the
4 receipt of public comment for this evening's session. We
5 have seven organizational speakers who we will accommodate
6 at this point. They will have 10 minutes in which to
7 present their comments.

8 Following that, we'll go back to the list
9 of the afternoon speakers. The first commenter this
10 evening will be Mr. Carl Budell of the Nampa Chamber of
11 Commerce.

12 MR. BUDELL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I
13 have a letter written March 22nd, 1988, directed to
14 Dr. Clay Nichols, Idaho Operations Office, U.S. Department
15 of Energy, from the Nampa Board of Directors and general
16 membership of the Nampa Chamber of Commerce.

17 The Nampa Chamber of Commerce Board of
18 Directors went on record June the 3rd, 1987 in unanimous
19 support of the Special Isotope Separation Project being
20 located at the Idaho Falls, at the Idaho National
21 Engineering Laboratory in Idaho Falls.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. EIGUREN: We will receive the resolution
24 of the Nampa Chamber of Commerce and mark it in the
25 record as Exhibit No. 227.

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(Exhibit No. 227 was marked and entered.)

MR. EIGUREN: My list indicates that Senator William Rinker of the Idaho State Senate was scheduled to speak, and I don't see the Senator. I assume he's not going to be here. We'll accommodate him when he shows up.

The next commenter is Mary Butters of the Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute.

MS. BUTTERS: On March 14th, two weeks ago, the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry sent a letter to Chambers of Commerce throughout Idaho. It said "Help! Your assistance is requested. The SIS Project needs your help." Enclosed was an SIS "Myth versus Reality" fact sheet contributed by Senator Steve Symms.

One of Mr. Symms' myths was "Transportation of wastes will be a danger to our highways."

His reality rebuttal was "Nuclear material will be transported to a repository in heavily shielded metal casks. In the event of a severe accident, the exterior of the cask may be slightly damaged. However, little if any radioactivity would be released. There are two drivers at all times who are especially trained in safety and emergency procedures. Because of the weight, the seal plug on each cask would be impossible to remove in the event of a hijacking or terrorist attack."

If the SIS is built in Idaho, plutonium must be shipped safely to and from the SIS. Most of the plutonium needed will come from Hanford in Washington state, and thus travel through Idaho.

Mr. Symms' reality is faulty for four reasons:

First. To date, DOE has been unable to even build a cask that will pass anyone else's criteria other than its own.

Second. In the last year, Idaho has seen a 70 percent increase in hazardous materials accidents. Very few shipments of spent fuel and almost no shipments of high level nuclear liquid waste have been made in the U.S. The vast majority are stored on site. So, the experience basis is too slim to say "Look, we haven't had any accidents."

SIS will increase the transportation of plutonium and increase the chance of an accident.

Third. According to federal health studies, if even one percent or, as Mr. Symms points out, "However, little if any," if even one percent of the contents of the cask was to escape in an urban area, thousands of latent cancer fatalities could occur, with a \$2-billion price tag for cleanup.

Fourth. Local emergency response personnel

5.29.42

5.29.98

5.29.84

5.29.33

5.29.89

5.29.81

5.29.66

5.7.1

1 are clearly not prepared for hazardous materials
 2 accidents, let alone radioactive emergencies. Let me
 3 tell you why I know this. One week after the truck
 4 accident that occurred this year on the Little Salmon
 5 River, a meeting was called in New Meadows. Thirty
 6 people were in attendance. The 30 included all good
 7 people who responded to the wreck, the deputy who was
 8 contaminated, the ambulance drivers, the police officers,
 9 fire fighters, county commissioners, Environmental
 10 Protection Agency, one evacuee and myself.

11 As they looked back and critiqued their
 12 response to this spill that killed all the fish in the
 13 river, they openly and honestly said, "We were not
 14 prepared. We are still not prepared. We had and still
 15 have no system for evacuation. Our communication system
 16 wouldn't work in the canyon bottom. We couldn't decide
 17 who was in charge, and we still can't. There were too
 18 many boxes and conflicting instructions. Hours later
 19 we were still unsure what the chemical that turned the
 20 river red even was."

21 The one evacuee in attendance also works
 22 as a rural mail carrier for that area. After the wreck
 23 she was told that she shouldn't go home. She was told to
 24 hurry home and shut all her doors and windows and not to
 25 drink her water. She was then later told to leave

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1 immediately. She was still a week later very upset about
 2 the confusion and lack of proper equipment and
 3 instructions.

4 After much discussion about how they would
 5 respond next time, she asked at the end of the meeting,
 6 "Okay, then, next time who will be in charge? The EPA
 7 or the county?"

8 Both the EPA and the county simultaneously
 9 pointed to each other. To this, the evacuee responded,
 10 "My God. What if this had been something radioactive?"

11 Just how safe are these shipping casks that
 12 the DOE and Mr. Symms have so much confidence in? Eleven
 13 types of spent fuel and plutonium shipping casks have
 14 been suspended after serious questions were raised about
 15 their safety. The casks were licensed by the U.S.
 16 Department of Energy, which has jurisdiction over
 17 containers serving federal nuclear laboratories and
 18 nuclear weapons facilities. The recalls covered virtually
 19 all spent fuel casks certified solely by the Department
 20 of Energy. Most were designed and manufactured in the
 21 early or mid 1970's and have been used in hundreds of
 22 shipments throughout our country.

23 The safety problems came to light when the
 24 Department of Energy requested the Nuclear Regulatory
 25 Commission approval of the containers so that they could

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1 be used by Commission licensees, primarily private and
2 university research reactors.

3 The Commission refused, citing numerous
4 deficiencies in cask designs, testing and/or documentation.

5 The Department of Energy was unable to
6 fully answer the Commission's questions, and in mid 1983
7 the two agencies agreed to drop the matter. The Department
8 of Energy withdrew its request for approval, and the NRC
9 said no more about its concerns.

10 A year later, however, Citizens Against
11 Nuclear Trucking, CANT, came across a memo discussing the
12 casks, when it was investigating a particular type of
13 cask slated to move shipments through New York City.
14 CANT exposed the problems with the casks at a public
15 hearing in late 1984. The cask was then modified and
16 the Department of Energy began using it in January 1985,
17 despite outstanding questions raised by the NRC.

18 Five months later, continued pressure by
19 New York City and congressional representatives resulted
20 in the suspension of the cask by the U.S. DOT, Department
21 of Transportation, which has final authority over all
22 hazardous materials containers.

23 The Transportation Department did not,
24 however, take any action on the other 10 casks, believing
25 instead that the Department of Energy had voluntarily

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1 stopped using them after the New York City cask was
2 suspended.

3 The cask problems were brought before a
4 congressional committee by the group CANT in August of
5 1985. Despite strenuous attempts by the U.S. Department
6 of Energy to block their testimony, over the next 16
7 months the Department of Energy officials began slowly
8 terminating the licenses of some of the casks, until
9 January 1987, wherein three casks were terminated,
10 followed by another in April and the last in mid 1987.

11 Incredibly, up to that point, the Department
12 of Energy had continued using at least two of the casks,
13 despite potential safety problems and despite what it
14 told the Department of Transportation.

15 One potentially defective container was used
16 79 more times. The plutonium container in question
17 continued in use for 18 months between 1982 and '84,
18 after the Department of Energy told its laboratories to
19 discontinue its use.

20 During that period, at least nine shipments
21 involving 170 containers were made. A similar disregard
22 for safety was evidenced by the Department of Energy's
23 recent attempts to skirt regulations requiring no release
24 of radioactive materials from transuranic waste
25 containers in transit.

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5.29.45

1 The Department of Energy handled
2 transuranic contaminated wastes which contained plutonium
3 and similarly dangerous isotopes originating in weapons
4 fabrication. To dispose of them in its waste isolation
5 project plant in New Mexico, the Department designed
6 something called Trupack, a container with vents which
7 gradually leaks gases that build up due to radiological
8 bombardment within the wastes.

9 The U.S. Department of Transportation rules
10 do not allow such releases, so the Energy Department
11 tried to obtain a special waiver so as to be able to use
12 Trupack,

13 Technical questioning by New Mexico
14 environmental officials and citizen activists drew so
15 much attention to this ploy, however, that transportation
16 officials backed away from granting the request.

17 The Department of Energy then abandoned
18 the \$100-million Trupak design and is now starting over
19 again, this time seeking a design that won't leak.

5.29.49

20 While the Department of Energy has stated
21 that it will only use casks certified by the NRC, a
22 Commission legal opinion indicates that the Energy
23 Department is not bound to do so by any law.

24 The Department of Energy issued a similar
25 opinion in 1980. At this time it was seeking to continue

1 a particular plutonium cask after it was suspended by
2 the NRC because of a near miss involving improper
3 packaging. The Energy Department's action -- I think
4 my time is up.

5 I think it's time for Mr. Symms, our
6 Senator, to begin to protect and look out for Idahoans,
7 all Idahoans, not just those who want a few short-term
8 jobs. Senator Symms needs to face up to true reality
9 and get his mythologies right.

10 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Mary.

11 Our next scheduled organizational commenter
12 is Mr. Shine Henslee. Shine Henslee?

13 He's not here. Pass him over for the
14 moment and go to the next commenter on our list.

15 Pat Hall, Ada County Citizens for Peace and
16 Justice.

17 MS. HALL: Distinguished panel, ladies
18 and gentlemen; my name is Patricia Hall, and I live at
19 410 Parkway Drive, Boise, Idaho. I am here representing
20 Ada County Citizens for Peace and Justice.

21 I read in the current Treasure Valley This
22 Week an article concerning the SIS hearings. It stated,
23 "Idaho is considered a leading contender in the Department
24 of Energy's search for a home for the SIS, in part
25 because of the existing support facilities at INEL and in

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1 part because of the lack of any significant anti-nuclear
2 movement in the state."

3 I would like to point out to our
4 distinguished hearing panel that there is a very
5 significant grassroots anti-nuclear movement in Idaho.
6 Idahoans not only support Snake River Alliance, but such
7 organizations as Beyond War, Physicians for Social
8 Responsibility, Better World Society, Sane-Freeze,
9 Ground Zero, Nukewatch, American Peace Test, Plowshares,
10 and many other church and socially concerned endeavors
11 that promote peace and justice.

12 Ada County Citizens for Peace and Justice
13 has a mailing list of 250 supporters.

14 The possibility of a nuclear weapons
15 plant in Idaho raises serious moral and ethical questions
16 which I will attempt to address. If you will reflect
17 for a moment, you will realize all living things are
18 inter-connected and inter-related through our planet home.

19 We all have the same life support system.
20 No matter what culture, religion or political beliefs,
21 all humanity survives because we breathe the air
22 surrounding our planet, drink the earth's water and live
23 from our world's resources.

24 There now exists the real possibility of
25 alternate human and ecological disaster -- through the

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1 impending use of nuclear warheads. We have enough to
2 destroy our world many times over. The stockpiling of
3 these weapons has created the real potential for the
4 death of our Mother Earth, her total destruction.

5 We continue to strive for our rights and
6 freedoms. Our most fundamental right is the right for
7 continuing life, which is totally tied to the survival
8 of our earth. The proliferation of nuclear arms threatens
9 this right. We must vigorously demand our right to life
10 and strive to nurture it, so we can realize our goals for
11 the future -- a dignified existence for all humankind,
12 with adequate food, housing, clothing, medical care and
13 educational opportunities.

14 This goal can be obtained by acting on the
15 positive human qualities of generosity, goodwill, wisdom,
16 compassion and love. The antithesis of these qualities
17 are greed, paranoia, ignorance and hatred. We know that
18 each person has the potential for all these qualities.
19 We need to strengthen the positive side of our nature and
20 to recognize the negative for what it is.

21 I believe the nuclear weapons proliferation
22 is an expression of our negative qualities. The continued
23 development, production and testing of these deadly bombs
24 is a crime against humanity and our beloved earth. We
25 have a moral obligation to resist the forces that

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1 perpetuate these activities.

2 We need to recognize the complexity of our
3 humanness and understand our limitations and shortcomings,
4 as well as our strengths. We need to recognize that we,
5 as taxpayers, are responsible for supporting the nuclear
6 weapons buildup and the possible eventual demise of our
7 planet.

8 Those we place in political leadership are
9 also responsible. Some use their power for questionable
10 motives instead of the greater good. Some think primarily
11 of short-term economic gains rather than the welfare of
12 future generations.

13 Norman Cousins, a professor of medical
14 humanities at the University of California said, "The
15 weapons merchants have a strong hold on U.S. policy. They
16 have an open channel to the U.S. Treasury and have no
17 intention of letting go."

18 The SIS will cost we taxpayers \$862-million.
19 I believe our tax money would be better spent on
20 humanitarian projects.

21 According to Dan Reicher, a project attorney
22 for the National Resources Defense Council, "SIS is
23 perhaps the poorest alternative available to meet
24 whatever need for weapons grade plutonium that may exist.
25 There are other alternatives cheaper and safer . . .

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1 Plutonium is an extremely toxic material and risks of
2 radiation exposure to workers and the public may be
3 relatively high because it is difficult to handle and
4 process . . . Plutonium reacts with both air and water
5 to form oxides which can easily enter the environment."

6 The serious danger to the environment is
7 addressed by Liz Paul, Director of the SIS Education
8 Project in Ketchum. She says, "The marketability of our
9 agricultural products will be threatened because of a
10 world market that is increasingly sensitive to low level
11 radioactive contamination. Tourism, one of Idaho's few
12 growth industries, will be adversely affected by the
13 proximity of a nuclear weapons factory. Craters of the
14 Moon National Monument, 20 miles from the INEL boundary, is
15 on Highway 20, which will be heavily traveled by
16 plutonium transport vehicles. World famous Sun Valley
17 is just 60 miles from the INEL.

18 I don't think we need a plutonium factory.

19 "The Reagan Administration's budget requests
20 \$8.2-billion for developing new nuclear weapons. Spending
21 for nuclear weapons systems has more than doubled since
22 Reagan took office. The Administration has received
23 congressional approval for a new \$1.9-billion program
24 to expand and upgrade the nuclear weapons production
25 facilities. This program lays the foundation for building

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1 more and more bombs for decades to come. The Pentagon
 2 is planning to produce 17,000 new nuclear bombs in the
 3 next 10 years." I have this information from Committee
 4 for a Sane Nuclear Policy.

5 No one will survive a nuclear holocaust.
 6 It would mean the extinction of our species. Millions of
 7 people would be destroyed in a fraction of a second, the
 8 remaining would die slowly and painfully of radiation
 9 sickness. The entire life support system of the planet
 10 would be destroyed. We must stop playing this suicidal
 11 game. The thinking that has created this reality is
 12 absolutely insane. What can we do to put a stop to it?

13 We can say no to the plutonium refinery in
 14 Idaho. My friend Kerry Cook said it so well, "By saying
 15 no to the SIS, we are saying that we will not accept
 16 a polluting industry that is risky to human and
 17 environmental health, grossly expensive, and an escalation
 18 of the nuclear Arms Race."

19 Thank you.

20 MS. MATZEK: I urge you to say "insane." I
 21 want you good people to know I got out tonight to speak
 22 in favor of the EIS by the NUS for the SIS. I just love
 23 those S's.

24 My name is Betty R. Matzek, and sometimes
 25 I live at --

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1 MR. EIGUREN: Ma'am.

2 MS. MATZEK: 798 Dolsen Lane, Eagle.

3 MR. EIGUREN: Ma'am. You're out of line.

4 Excuse me.

5 MS. MATZEK: I am?

6 MR. EIGUREN: You are.

7 Our next scheduled speaker is Ms. Gwynne
 8 McElhinney of the Boise Peace Quilt Project.

9 The written comments of Patricia Hall will
 10 be marked as Exhibit 228 for the record, included as
 11 received.

12 (Exhibit No. 228 was marked and entered.)

13 MS. McELHINNEY: Distinguished panel, ladies
 14 and gentlemen; my name is Gwynne McElhinney. I am a
 15 representative of the Boise Peace Quilt Project, as are
 16 these women and men here with me. We come tonight to
 17 express our unqualified opposition to the proposed SIS
 18 Project. We stand united in affirming our common
 19 responsibility for bequeathing a positive legacy to
 20 future generations. The inheritance we wish to leave
 21 includes: fertile soil, clean air, pure water, and a
 22 balanced, healthy ecosystem. We wish to leave safe
 23 highways, a sound economy, and peace of mind -- the peace
 24 of mind that comes with the global security created by
 25 de-fusing nuclear arsenals.

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1 Six years ago, a small group of us began to
2 wage peace from the quilting frame. Now, 18 quilts later,
3 hundreds of local quilters share our commitment to create
4 a peaceful and secure future for our children.

5 We had hoped to have with us tonight the
6 actual joint Soviet and American children's quilt.
7 Unfortunately, it's en route at this time from Los Angeles.
8 In the slides, you will see one of our peace quilters
9 with Ambassador Max Kappelman. This quilt was taken to
10 Geneva in the spring of 1986 and presented to the joint
11 arms negotiators.

12 This quilt represents an international
13 cooperative effort. Those are the faces of real Soviet
14 and American children you see. Women carried this quilt
15 to Geneva to speak to the negotiators, and when they made
16 their presentation, the quilt went on an international
17 tour. It has been seen by literally hundreds of thousands
18 of individuals around the world within the past two years.
19 It has hung in as lofty a setting as Westminster Abbey
20 and in tiny country churches as well. Everywhere it has
21 been seen, we have discovered women and men who share our
22 concern for the physical and psychological well-being
23 of our children.

24 With this background in mind, let me
25 describe to you why we members of the Boise Peace Quilt

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1 Program adamantly oppose the SIS Project. We object to
2 construction of the SIS because it is antithetical to
3 all we cherish as worthy of our children's inheritance.

4 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We affirm our
5 children's right to inherit fertile soil which will
6 produce abundant nutritious food.

7 MS. McELHINNEY: The SIS Project threatens
8 contamination of agricultural products and the very soil
9 from which they spring.

10 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We affirm our
11 children's right to inherit clean air to breathe and
12 pure water to drink.

13 MS. McELHINNEY: The SIS Project could
14 jeopardize both of these natural resources. Across the
15 country other communities which host DOE sites are
16 discovering contamination rates which cause increased
17 cancer incidence and higher mortality rate.

18 The DEIS does not adequately address waste
19 disposal for the SIS Project itself. In addition,
20 locating the SIS here in Idaho could cause Idaho to
21 become the permanent toxic waste dump for other national
22 facilities. The INEL proposed site of the SIS is located
23 directly above the Snake River aquifer, the major source
24 of drinking water and irrigation for southern Idaho and
25 our entire agricultural industry. Based on their record,

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5.27.3.1

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1 the DOE cannot be depended upon to protect these vital
2 natural resources. We must do it ourselves.

3 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We affirm our
4 children's right to inherit a balanced and healthy
5 ecosystem, which can only be guaranteed if adequate
6 protection for soil, air and water quality are maintained.

7 MS. McELHINNEY: The SIS Project
8 destabilizes all of these critical parameters. The DOE
9 has a poor safety record at sites nationally. The INEL
10 is no exception. Millions of curies have been released
11 into the air, ground water and soil in eastern Idaho
12 to date.

13 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We affirm our
14 children's right to inherit a sound economy that affords
15 reasonable growth without sacrificing the quality of life
16 which we treasure here in Idaho.

17 MS. McELHINNEY: The SIS Project would
18 induce a boom-bust economic cycle which would not be in
19 the best interest of Idahoans. An influx of people would
20 cause taxes to go up to support additional public services,
21 including expanded school systems. Yet, the limited seven
22 to eight-year life of the SIS Project would preclude any
23 lasting economic benefit to the state.

24 The impact of the SIS shutdown on local and
25 regional economies would be undoubtedly negative.

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1 Additionally, the DEIS does not address the potential
2 cost of lost economic opportunities for Idaho because
3 of the presence of a nuclear bomb factory. We feel the
4 DEIS has failed to support its claims that the SIS could
5 provide economic spin-offs or technology transfer.

6 The editors of the Wood River Journal have
7 stated it well: "What's left is the question of whether
8 the 750 jobs created by the SIS are worth furthering the
9 Arms Race and changing the role of the INEL from
10 scientific to military . . . What's left is for the people
11 in this financially-strapped region to acknowledge that
12 there is such a thing as 'bad jobs' and that the DOE is
13 offering a handful of them to Idaho at a very high price."

14 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We affirm our
15 children's right to inherit an Idaho upon whose highways
16 it is safe to travel.

17 MS. McELHINNEY: The SIS Project would
18 threaten the safety of Idaho's highways because the DOE
19 has said that every road between Hanford and the INEL is
20 a potential plutonium highway. Had the truck spill of
21 Vitavax into the Little Salmon River last December been
22 plutonium, Riggins' water would not have been fit to drink
23 for 240,000 years and the fish kill could have extended
24 throughout the entire Salmon and Columbia Rivers.

25 Liz Paul, Project Coordinator of Life Guard

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1 Idaho, makes a compelling observation when she states,
2 "750 eight-year jobs is an impoverished prosperity indeed
3 when the potential cost is 240,000 years of dead fish
4 and bad water."

5 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We affirm the right
6 of our children to inherit the peace of mind which comes
7 from the global security of de-fusing existing nuclear
8 arsenals.

9 MS. McELHINNEY: The sole mission of the SIS
10 is the production of plutonium for use in nuclear
11 weapons. If constructed, the SIS would transfer the INEL
12 from a facility focused on peaceful research to a factory
13 producing bombs capable of destroying the earth. The
14 DEIS does not address the moral and psychological impact,
15 especially on children, of living in a state or
16 community which is built around weapons production.

17 Children should be free of nuclear
18 destruction and contamination. Our children can never
19 know peace of mind if they are living in a nuclear
20 shadow cast by the SIS.

21 The children pictured on this quilt and all
22 of their brothers and sisters deserve to inherit a world
23 in which they can develop to their full potential. This
24 can only happen if cooperative efforts such as this quilt
25 are nourished and allowed to bear fruit.

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1 President Reagan and Secretary Gorbachev,
2 backed up by their people's desire for accord between
3 the superpowers, have given us hope that one day we will
4 develop more sane and secure methods for resolving our
5 conflicts. Even if deterrence remains an issue, the
6 White House and the DOE, in a press release on February 17,
7 1988, stated that adequate supplies of plutonium for
8 future strategic defense needs exist at present, without
9 the development of the SIS Project.

10 We of the Boise Peace Quilt Project are
11 here to bear witness for the inheritance of our children.

12 PEACE QUILT MEMBERS: We charge you and all
13 the men and women who will decide the fate of the SIS to
14 reject construction of this project in Idaho or anywhere
15 else; as unnecessary, unwarranted and immoral.

16 MS. McELHINNEY: Protect our children and
17 this precious planet.

18 Serve the generations of our future, the
19 life blood we cherish.

20 Transform your power to preserve the earth
21 in its wholeness and beauty.

22 Heal a race torn by warfare and the
23 machinery of death.

24 We each -- we all must meet the wise eyes
25 of our children.

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1 We share this responsibility.
 2 The children are waiting.
 3 MR. EIGUREN: The receipt of the written
 4 testimony of Gwynne McElhinney on behalf of the Boise
 5 Peace Quilt Project, we will mark it as two exhibits,
 6 Exhibit 229 will be the actual written text of what you
 7 just heard, including the subparts, as I follow along,
 8 that was included here; and secondly, we do have for the
 9 record as Exhibit 230 a document which represents the
 10 quilt, a picture of the quilt, which we will put in the
 11 record.
 12 (Exhibits Nos. 229 and 230 were marked and
 13 entered.)
 14 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled speaker
 15 is the Reverend Bud Kline of the Peace and Justice
 16 Committee. Reverend Bud Kline?
 17 Finally, our last scheduled organizational
 18 commenter is Maggie Coon, from the Boise Chapter of the
 19 Idaho Conservation League.
 20 You have 10 minutes.
 21 MS. COON: Ladies and gentlemen of the
 22 panel; I would like to begin by expressing my deepest
 23 appreciation to the Boise Peace Quilt Project for
 24 expressing many of the emotions that I, too, feel.
 25 My name is Maggie Coon. I am here today

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1 representing the Idaho Conservation League, a state-wide
 2 conservation organization with about 1,200 members. I
 3 hold a Bachelor of Science degree in geology and
 4 geophysics from Yale University and a Master of Forestry
 5 degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental
 6 Studies.

7 For the past 10 years, I have worked as a
 8 natural resources consultant in the Pacific Northwest,
 9 with a special focus on water quality issues.

10 I would like to discuss two major flaws
 11 of the Draft EIS including, first, its failure to meet
 12 full disclosure requirements of the National Environmental
 13 Policy Act and, second, its failure to acknowledge the
 14 true uncertainties and hazards associated with transuranic
 15 waste disposal.

16 The Idaho Conservation League stands for
 17 the right of all Idaho citizens to a healthful
 18 environment. We also firmly uphold the importance of
 19 informed decision making. Congress passed the National
 20 Environmental Policy Act in 1969 to ensure that full
 21 disclosure. By requiring the "responsible official" to
 22 prepare an Environmental Impact Statement, Congress
 23 clearly meant to give lay persons as well as technical
 24 experts the basis for intelligent comment on a proposed
 25 action.

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1 The document now before us falls far short
2 in its failure to take responsibility for an unnecessary
3 and dangerous project.

4 Attached to the Draft EIS is an unprecedented
5 disclaimer, the likes of which I have never seen in all
6 the time I have worked with such documents. This
7 disclaimer states, among other things, that neither the DOE
8 nor any other federal agency is responsible for the
9 accuracy of the EIS. It also says that the document does
10 not necessarily represent the views of any federal agency.

11 Incredibly, the public is being asked to
12 comment on an EIS for which there is no responsible
13 agency and to accept as factual several hundred pages of
14 information for which no one is answerable.

15 What is the DOE hiding? In my view, this
16 disclaimer invalidates the entire document as satisfying
17 requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

18 Secondly, I would like to address the
19 question of the need for the project. The most
20 egregious omission of data from the EIS is openly admitted
21 by the DOE. Failing completely to explain the need for
22 the SIS Project, the agency relies on the classified
23 nature of the Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memorandum in the
24 following vague and contorted statement, and I quote from
25 the EIS, which says:

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1 "The SIS Project is needed by DOE to
2 provide redundancy in production capability and
3 technological diversity with respect to the current
4 dependence on weapon-grade plutonium production . . .
5 and to provide a timely response to potential increases
6 in approved needs for weapon-grade plutonium in the
7 period commencing in the mid 1990's."

8 This is just a fancy way of saying "We want
9 to have more weapon-grade plutonium around in case we
10 decide to build more nuclear warheads." Surely the public
11 is entitled to a more thorough explanation than this.
12 After all, the decision to build the SIS would
13 dramatically influence decisions to construct more
14 nuclear warheads.

15 At a minimum, the EIS should include
16 reference to a classified appendix which addresses in
17 detail the question of need for this facility. Congress
18 at least should have access to this information in
19 deciding whether or not to fund the project.

20 Lastly, I would like to address the failure
21 of this document to acknowledge waste disposal plans
22 and hazards.

23 In terms of the long-term safety of the
24 proposed SIS, one of our organization's gravest concerns
25 centers around waste disposal. According to this

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1 document, an unspecified amount of very concentrated
2 plutonium by-products (primarily Nos. 238, 240 and 241)
3 must be dealt with. This extremely toxic by-product
4 material would be stored on-site in special stand-alone
5 storage vaults "until such time as DOE evaluates its
6 potential applicability for other possible missions."

7 If the DOE discovers no other use for them,
8 these wastes are supposed to be deposited at the Waste
9 Isolation Pilot Plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico, along with
10 other transuranic wastes. In effect, the DOE is asking
11 the public to sanction proliferation of some of the most
12 dangerous substances known to mankind without even telling
13 us their eventual destination.

14 INEL has long been the recipient of other
15 types of transuranic wastes from around the country and
16 now holds huge quantities in supposedly temporary storage.
17 These await shipment to the New Mexico facility. If the
18 SIS is built, it would add an estimated 440 tons annually
19 to this stockpile. Yet the New Mexico plant is not even
20 in full operation and is suspected to have serious
21 leakage problems.

22 From our perspective, de facto long-term
23 storage of both the highly concentrated and other
24 transuranic wastes at INEL is totally unacceptable. First
25 of all, this scenario is not discussed as part of any

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1 alternative in the EIS. Nevertheless, there's plenty of
2 evidence to show the folly of this action. The document
3 admits major earthquake activity (ranking as high as
4 7.3 on the Richter scale) that has been experienced as
5 recently as 1983 in an adjacent seismic belt just 40
6 miles from the site. This was close enough to cause
7 perceptible tremors at INEL.

8 Situated in a region built by volcanic
9 action, INEL has the potential to reexperience earth
10 movements at any time. Brushed aside as "low magnitude"
11 and "localized" in the EIS, these dangers remain latent
12 in the terrain.

13 Even if transport of wastes to a facility
14 of uncertain safety in New Mexico were possible, it solves
15 nothing. It merely translocates a terrible hazard from
16 one state to another, with a deadly trail in between,

17 The Idaho Conservation League believes the
18 DOE should know with certainty how wastes will be disposed
19 of before turning a single spade of earth for new facility
20 construction. Neither Idahoans nor New Mexicans nor
21 Washingtonians nor Georgians can accept the undocumented
22 assumptions on which this ill-conceived project is
23 founded.

24 Thank you very much for this opportunity to
25 comment.

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5.30.3.1

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1 MR. EIGUREN: The chair will note that the
2 written comments of Maggie Coon, made on behalf of the
3 Idaho Conservation League, will be entered into the record
4 as Exhibit No. 231.

5 (Exhibit No. 231 was marked and entered.)

6 MR. EIGUREN: The chair would also note that
7 the same issue relative to the disclaimer of the EIS, the
8 DEIS, was raised yesterday by Mr. Riker from NRDC.
9 Based upon discussions with Department counsel, it
10 appears the disclaimer was included in the document by
11 inadvertency, and it should not be there.

12 (Public commotion.)

13 MR. EIGUREN: Enough, please.

14 We have no other organizational speakers
15 scheduled at this point. I will call their names one more
16 time to see if they're here.

17 Senator William F. Riker?

18 Mr. Shine Henslee?

19 Reverend Bud Kline?

20 They are not here. What we'll do now is go
21 back to the afternoon schedule. I'm going to take a brief
22 recess and ask those of you who are preregistered to speak
23 this afternoon and didn't have a chance to be heard, to
24 come to this station right over here so we know how many
25 commenters we have from that group.

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1 We will be in recess for five minutes.

2 (A recess was taken.)

3 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at No. 41 in the
4 order of speakers from this afternoon's session. As I
5 mentioned at the outset of this hearing, we're going to
6 try to accommodate all of those from the afternoon session
7 that didn't have a chance to comment. I have asked all
8 those people to sit in this area so we have an idea as to
9 the numbers that we're going to deal with. It appears as
10 though we have about 15 or so individuals.

11 What I'm going to do is start at Order No. 41
12 on the speakers list from the afternoon session and call
13 out names. And if you hear your name, please step forward,
14 restate it for the record and give us your address, and
15 then you'll have five minutes to comment.

16 At the conclusion of going through the
17 afternoon list, I will then go to the top of the evening
18 list, and we'll go to 11:00 o'clock.

19 It will also be the intent of the chair at
20 or about 10:30 or 10:45 this evening, those folks who
21 are here that have written statements and that would like
22 those included in the record, you may do so. And that
23 way you won't have to come back at a later date here to
24 testify.

25 Now starting with individual No. 41 on the

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1 afternoon session, Mr, Bob Kiel,
 2 Fuji Kreider? Your name and address, please,
 3 for the record.
 4 MS. KREIDER: My name is Fuji Kreider, and
 5 I live at 2204 Gekeler Lane, LaGrande, Oregon.
 6 Back in February 1986, I lived in Boise.
 7 I testified at your scoping hearings. Myself and others
 8 from the Snake River Alliance, the Coalition for the Safe
 9 Transportation of Nuclear and Hazardous Materials, and
 10 Idaho Organizations for Nuclear Safety all addressed and
 11 requested that you research transportation safety and
 12 routes, emergency response preparedness, and medical
 13 facilities capabilities to deal with accident victims in
 14 Idaho and anywhere in the United States where
 15 transportation would occur for the SIS Project.
 16 I believed in NEPA and the democratic
 17 process at those scoping hearings, and contrary to my
 18 colleagues, I really felt you would use our input as a
 19 framework in the research. Well, I was either naive or
 20 on the wrong side of the issue, because I'm appalled at
 21 the research done regarding these issues in the Draft
 22 Environmental Impact Statement.
 23 People's health, security, livelihood,
 24 environment are all at stake when you prepare an Impact
 25 Statement. This is why it is imperative that your research

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1 must be the most thorough and realistic, practical and
 2 technical study as possible.

3 Using your computer model to determine the
 4 probability of transportation accidents may be fun -- and
 5 I was pleased that the chance is low -- but the model
 6 is flawed because it only considers probability. First
 7 it presumes that the casks are safe. The Department of
 8 Transportation has not approved the cask design for the
 9 shipment of transuranic wastes, and until they do, how
 10 can you truly assess the probability?

11 Second. The model presumes that there is
 12 adequate emergency response personnel which have adequate
 13 equipment and training, and presumes that these first
 14 responders know what they're dealing with, it presumes
 15 that there will be adequate and cohesive coordination
 16 among inter-governmental agencies handling an accident.

17 Now, let's talk the reality of research in
 18 emergency response. For example, investigating the route
 19 between Hanford and INEL, one would simply need to research
 20 what the emergency response preparedness situation is for
 21 a 12 county area, and could the medical facilities in
 22 these counties handle accident victims?

23 You're relying on these counties'
 24 cooperation and resources for transportation and emergency
 25 readiness essential for the SIS; yet you won't rely on

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1 a phone call or a letter to determine if they can handle
 2 an accident? Are you afraid of the answer you will
 3 receive? Or do you know that the worst case "postulated
 4 accident" cannot be cleaned up?

5 I am sorry to report that according to our
 6 Emergency Response Manager in Union County, Oregon, where
 7 I currently live, the emergency response personnel will
 8 not be able to handle even the smallest amount of
 9 plutonium released from an accident, and other hazardous
 10 materials cleanups are even questionable.

11 Not only are they not trained and prepared --
 12 they did not even know this process was occurring. It
 13 was me, a former Idaho citizen, who informed the County
 14 Commission, the City Council people, and emergency
 15 response personnel that this DEIS was conducted.

16 Now, was that a guarantee, or a probability,
 17 that there would be inter-governmental cooperation?

18 Let's face it; the researchers never left
 19 their office or their computer terminals. They never even
 20 lifted up the phone.

21 Let's talk practicality about medical
 22 treatment facilities. The only medical facilities
 23 discussed in the DEIS were near the site. Again, there
 24 was a lack of reality here. How do you intend on
 25 initially treating and then transporting hundreds, dozens,

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1 or even one person, to the Idaho Falls medical facility
 2 when the accident occurs hundreds of miles or so from
 3 the site?

4 So you see, I am frustrated. Your
 5 conclusions are based on one big probability. A technical
 6 study, yes -- a practical study, no.

7 This probability is costing us a guaranteed
 8 \$862-million, not to mention the inevitable cost overruns.
 9 Plus, the probability of additional costs of a
 10 transportation or site accident, such as cleanup and
 11 decontamination, emergency response, effects on
 12 industries, health costs and liability to workers,
 13 community members and their dependents, for their health,
 14 loss of wages, livelihoods, land, mental anguish, and
 15 on and on, which were not calculated in the DEIS. Or
 16 is the DOE not going to accept this liability?

17 Granted, our national policies value
 18 national defense, but they are also trying to balance
 19 the budget. The SIS Project is tugging on both of these
 20 political values.

21 So we do our best assessment possible --
 22 technical folks like yourselves would probably do a
 23 cost-benefit analysis.

24 When I weigh the costs of the project, the
 25 actual and the probable, and weigh these against the

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1 probability of a full scale nuclear war where we would
2 need more stockpiles of plutonium because we ran out of
3 our weapons, I would be quite puzzled. Why?

4 Well, for one, I can't imagine us running
5 out of weapons, but also because all of the alternatives
6 being weighed in the cost-benefit analysis are
7 probabilities. All -- except one -- the no action
8 alternative. The no action alternative is the only
9 alternative with sure economic facts and complete health
10 and transportation risk data.

11 So according to my "probable cost-benefit
12 analysis" which takes in more probable data than the
13 DOE's, there is only one choice -- the no action
14 alternative -- Idaho's choice, which many citizens of
15 the Grande Ronde Valley of Oregon also choose.

16 Here are the voices of another 32 eastern
17 Oregon citizens who could not be here today (indicating).

18 We are the citizens along the transportation
19 route who have not been notified of this process, who
20 have plenty to lose and do not have one tax dollar to
21 gain.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. FIGUREN: The written comments received
24 from Fuji Kreider as well as the additional documents she
25 provided for the record will be labeled as Exhibit No. 236

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B059

1 and included in the record as such.

2 (Exhibit No. 236 was marked and entered.)

3 For the purpose of keeping the record
4 accurate, I need to go back and mention that we up at
5 the front here have received the following comments from
6 these individuals and have been marked as exhibits:

7 Exhibit 220, Carlyle Briggs.

8 Exhibit 221, David Simmonds.

9 Exhibit 222, Daniel Ostermiller.

10 Exhibit 223, Connie McClaran.

11 Exhibit 224, Lisa Ostermiller.

12 Exhibit 225, Raven Gudgell.

13 Exhibit 226, Don McClaran.

14 Exhibit 232, Roger Rosentreter.

15 Exhibit 233, Robert Sutton.

16 Exhibit 234, Paul Montgomery.

17 Exhibit 235, Robert Koger.

18 (Exhibits Nos. 220 through 226; and Exhibits
19 Nos. 232 through 235 were marked and entered.)

20 MR. FIGUREN: Going back to our commenters
21 list from this afternoon, Order No. 43, Barbara Pyle.

22 Order No. 44, Joey Pietri.

23 Chuck Skoro.

24 MR. SKORO: My name is Chuck Skoro; I live
25 at 416 Ada Street here in Boise. I am the chairman of the

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1 Economics Department, Boise State University. Of course,
2 I'm not here speaking for the University; I'm speaking
3 for myself.

4 I am a native Idahoan, graduated from Boise
5 High. I hold a Bachelor's and Master's and Doctorate
6 degree from Columbia University. I taught for six years
7 at Rutgers University, before joining the Economics
8 Department at Boise State University. I talked to you
9 about my qualifications because I think they'll help you
10 understand why I was asked to be one of the people who
11 would put together the socioeconomic impact statement for
12 this Draft Environmental Statement. I agreed immediately,
13 because I thought it would be very interesting and very
14 useful for the people of Idaho to participate on this
15 need. And secondly, frankly, because it was a very large
16 amount of amount of money that I could earn in a very
17 short time.

18 Then I began thinking about why I should be
19 able to earn that much money in such a short time, so I
20 called the contact person back and said, "Well, of course,
21 we'll consider in this, won't we, the danger to Idaho
22 agriculture? We'll consider in this, won't we, the
23 danger to Idaho tourism? We'll consider in this, won't
24 we, the socioeconomic and moral effects on the people
25 in the local community who get up every morning and go to

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1 work preparing for World War III; we'll do all that,
2 won't we?"

3 I never got a return call.

4 My worst fears about the socioeconomic
5 impact part of this statement have been realized -- it's
6 simply an exercise which confirms what the people who
7 hired the socioeconomic impact statement team wanted to
8 hear. It doesn't address the real issues, it's an
9 incompetent and incomplete statement.

10 1. The job benefits alleged in the
11 statement are overestimated. They are overestimated
12 largely because of a thing called a multiplier that was
13 used to estimate the spin-off job effects. The number
14 2.36 was taken by a study that had been done for INEL by
15 some researchers at ISU. More recent work by the federal
16 government would put the number, a multiplier, closer to
17 something like 1.9. I realize that this is kind of
18 technical for people who are not into multipliers, but
19 that would reduce significantly the number of spin-off
20 jobs that would be produced by this process. But neither
21 of those are the proper number to use. They're both
22 what economists call averages.

23 The proper number to use is what's called
24 a marginal number, the number that would say, "How many
25 additional jobs would come when additional jobs are put

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2.2.1

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6.1.2

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5.30.2.5

on the INEL site?" Those numbers are certainly a lot smaller than the 1.9 that is a more reasonable number than the number that was used here. And I would point out that few of the jobs, especially the jobs in operations, would go to Idahoans at all. The jobs that would go to Idahoans from this are low wage, service sector jobs, flipping hamburgers at McDonald's.

If we are going to sell out, it seems to me at least reasonable to sell out high. Whatever costs we have to bear are going to come at a very small benefit.

What costs do we have to bear or might we have to bear? A competent socioeconomic impact statement would have addressed the issue of transporting this waste through the largest population centers in Idaho or through the biggest industrial area in Idaho or through, most important, the agricultural areas in Idaho. It would have addressed the process of these materials at the top of the Snake River system. It would have addressed the possible consequences of any kinds of releases or accidents in terms of billions of dollars lost to farmers, billions of dollars lost to other industries, billions of dollars lost to the tourism industry.

These issues are not addressed at all. In addition, a competent socioeconomic impact statement would

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have addressed the problem of storing waste for long periods of time when the alternative waste storage places were not available.

Finally, a competent socioeconomic impact statement would have addressed the issue that I brought up a moment ago: Many, many organizations, including the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, have called into question whether any person of conscience can participate in any way in the manufacture, deployment, or use of nuclear weapons.

The generations since World War II have been under more stress than any other generation before, and this is easily documented by psychologists, as they wonder about whether they will have a future at all.

Will the local communities suffer the results of the increased stress? That is, higher drug abuse, higher child abuse, higher marital dissolutions, more suicides. Those are reasonable questions to ask about an area where people are going to participate in the construction of nuclear weapons. Those questions weren't asked. They weren't asked, because this economic environmental impact statement has not researched -- it's so ritual. And as a ritual, it simply reflects incompetent work.

I would suggest that at least the

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1 socioeconomic part be redone from the ground up.
 2 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
 3 is Richard Hahn. Richard Hahn?
 4 Dan Parker? Dan Parker?
 5 Mike Estes. Mike Estes?
 6 Ben Walker. Ben Walker?
 7 Barbara Harper. Barbara Harper?
 8 Darcy Williamson. Darcy Williamson?
 9 Jane Leeson. Jane Leeson?
 10 Patsy Chase. Patsy Chase?
 11 Lisa Dennis. Lisa?
 12 MR. SUTTON: I'm speaking in place of Lisa
 13 Dennis.
 14 MR. EIGUREN: Can we have your name, sir,
 15 for the record?
 16 MR. SUTTON: Bruce Sutton, and you already
 17 have my name. It was under Robert B. Sutton.
 18 MR. EIGUREN: Right.
 19 MR. SUTTON: I see I have some friends out
 20 there.
 21 I would like to address my remarks to
 22 Ron and Steve and Jim McClure, and in particular to the
 23 INEL professionals, engineers and scientists. My name is
 24 Bruce Sutton, and I'm a Boise businessman. I work with
 25 management in engineering. I am in private practice. My

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1 background is research and statistics. I have 24 years'
 2 experience in this field, and believe me, it's hard work.
 3 My son Scott, who is a graduate in chemistry
 4 and physics from the University of Washington, has helped
 5 me prepare my written statement which I have submitted,
 6 and has assisted me in preparing my thoughts.
 7 Since I contract with clients, I want to take
 8 you inside my brain when I'm sitting in front of a client
 9 negotiating. Let us suppose that the client is possibly
 10 the DOE, the Department of Energy, the United States
 11 Department of Energy.
 12 The things I look for when I am negotiating
 13 with a contract, contract with a client, are quite simple:
 14 Among others:
 15 1. Written goals, which translates into
 16 policy, policies. No. 1, written goals.
 17 No. 2. A desire to improve their product.
 18 No. 3. A real commitment to solve problems.
 19 Now, those are very important to me. Why?
 20 Because, you see, if the client does not make improvements,
 21 the consultant is often blamed or said to be ineffective.
 22 I am the consultant. See? Okay.
 23 Now, if the client fails to move forward, I
 24 am unsuccessful. If that continues, I am soon out of
 25 business. Do you remember, you're inside my head and we're

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3.2.2

1 sitting in the office negotiating with a possible contract
2 with a client, and the client may or may not be the
3 Department of Energy. Hmmm! Okay.

4 You see, these are very important things to
5 me, because if I don't have all three of those written
6 goals -- policies, desire to improve the product, a real
7 commitment to solve problems -- I am not going to succeed.
8 That is, the client is not going to succeed. And if the
9 client doesn't succeed, I don't succeed. I'm soon out of
10 business. I have to go back to the steel mill in
11 Cleveland, and you can tell I'm not really in any shape
12 for that.

13 Okay. I'm very serious about this, although
14 my presentation, hopefully, is in a humorous mode. My
15 feeling is that the DOE does not seem to be able to manage
16 their own business. My reading tells me that the DOE
17 would be, indeed, a very difficult client for me to work
18 with. And I consider myself to be very good at my trade.
19 I have a lot of references locally, all the way coast to
20 coast. I am doing quite well.

21 But in spite of that, and as you can tell,
22 I lack not self-confidence. But I still consider the DOE
23 would be a very difficult client.

24 My written statement which I have submitted
25 is a criticism of the DOE in four areas:

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1 I've been in Boise 16 years and I have a lot
2 of friends in this room. Most of you know that I am not
3 a negative person. I am very proud to be from an Italian
4 heritage -- we laugh, we sing, we eat lots of spaghetti,
5 and occasionally drink wine. And I'm known as a very
6 positive person. But in this case, I'm afraid I have to
7 speak out as a citizen. Okay?

8 My written statement is a criticism in four
9 areas, it's not technical. We won't go into any of the
10 probability statements that you may or may not have made.
11 I'll take that up at a later time.

12 First of all, scale. The size of the scale
13 of a nuclear reactor is very significant as regards costs,
14 operating costs, and safety. The American reactor
15 builders have never gone through the early stages of
16 perfecting their craft at the small scale, as have the
17 French and others. Okay? Y'all haven't done your
18 homework, number one.

19 Standardization. Y'all haven't done any
20 work in standardization. There are hardly two of those
21 things out there that are made alike, so how could you
22 expect to have standards in terms of safety and policies --
23 okay? -- when every time you have an itch, you scratch it
24 with a different reactor?

25 (Audience laughter.)

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6.5.8

1 MR. SUTTON: No, no, that's not at all
2 funny. In engineering we look for standardization, it's
3 an absolute must, especially if you're going to minimize
4 costs and if you're ever going to know how to handle
5 safety. Okay? Because, if you don't have standardization,
6 you're always starting from zero. Every time you have a
7 new design, it's "Well, I wonder what could go wrong this
8 time?" You can't ever learn from your past, because
9 you're always creating something new.

10 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. Sutton?

11 MR. SUTTON: Yes.

12 MR. EIGUREN: I'm going to ask you to bring
13 it to a close.

3.2.2

14 MR. SUTTON: And the last two are -- I got
15 carried away, it's my Italian nature -- the safety record
16 and the policy are all tied together. The SIS is a bad
17 business venture. If I was a banker, I wouldn't lend
18 you guys a dime.

19 MR. EIGUREN: We are in receipt of
20 Dr. Skoro's written comments, and they will be
21 Exhibit No. 237 in the record. Thank you, Dr. Skoro.

22 (Exhibit No. 237 was marked and entered.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: Our next commenter is
24 Pam Conley. Pam Conley?

25 MS. CONLEY: My name is Pam Conley. I live

1 at 917 W. Highland View Drive, Boise, Idaho.

2 I would like to see an expansion of the
3 fourth option, that is the no action on SIS, in the final
4 EIS. Many factors concerning this option and how it
5 compares to the others were left out. And I would like
6 to go through some of those.

7 The first would be the health of the workers.
8 It must do something to a person's mind to work on a
9 project that has the potential to destroy themselves,
10 their loved ones and the world. The anguish and stress
11 they must undergo to accept such a job, and the more
12 accepting they will be if it's the only job around,
13 should be researched. This mental state doesn't occur
14 under the option of no action on the SIS. And if you
15 want a group of people to research, you might go to the
16 Tri-Cities and check that out.

17 If jobs are the main push for Idahoans to
18 accept SIS, a better approach would be to have INEL study
19 and develop ways to decommission the present nuclear
20 plants that we have, process and contain nuclear wastes,
21 and study safer transportation of wastes.

22 Secondly, there is no mention of how option
23 no action on SIS would help encourage and support our
24 national effort to rid the world of nuclear weapons, which,
25 supposedly, President Reagan is working on right now. The

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1 environmental impact of this would be world-wide, and
 2 it would be of world-wide environmental benefit.
 3 Thirdly, there would be no new radioactive
 4 wastes to deal with at INEL or on our roads, with the
 5 no action alternative. The DOE's -- their track record
 6 for dealing with nuclear wastes is not a good one. In
 7 1985, I had an opportunity to see how DOE operated its
 8 nuclear waste dump site at Hanford. It was appalling
 9 with its half-buried and corroded jumble of barrels. It
 10 turns out that no government agency has the authority to
 11 oversee DOE's dumping operations, unlike the private
 12 sector that is more closely monitored.

13 I don't trust DOE to be any more
 14 conscientious at INEL. With INEL already a probable
 15 Superfund site, I don't trust the DOE to protect the
 16 Snake River aquifer, no matter what the DEIS says. We
 17 will be sorry if we do.

18 So it stands on the benefits of option
 19 no action on the SIS and then compare the other options to
 20 it, and no action on SIS will stand out as the clear
 21 winner for a livable, economically stable and safe Idaho.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 24 Ms. Conley will be Exhibit 238 in the hearing record.
 25 (Exhibit No. 238 was marked and entered.)

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1 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 2 is Barry Dow. Barry Dow?
 3 Leonard Nolt.

4 MR. NOLT: My name is Leonard Nolt. I live
 5 at 3016 Arthur Street in Boise.

6 An article in yesterday's Idaho Statesman
 7 commented on the large number of children receiving DPT
 8 shots in Ada County. There is an epidemic of whooping
 9 cough in this area, and responsible parents are acting
 10 to protect the health of their children by having them
 11 immunized against that potential killer.

12 There is also an epidemic of nuclear
 13 weapons in the world, and responsible citizens everywhere
 14 are acting to protect the health of their generation and
 15 of future generations by saying "No" to the production
 16 of more.

17 Idahoans also must say "No" to those who
 18 practice the idolatry of trusting in nuclear weapons for
 19 their security. There is no cure for nuclear war. Like
 20 AIDS, it can only be avoided or prevented. Only a couple
 21 hundred warheads are needed to wipe out every large city
 22 on the earth. The U.S., allegedly a civilized, Christian
 23 nation, already has over 25,000. If nuclear warheads are
 24 such a great source of security, why do we need so many?
 25 If, as the number we have suggests, they don't provide

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1 much security at all, why do we want to make more?
 2 Members of the Idaho congressional
 3 delegation are stumbling all over themselves in their
 4 eagerness to give the military industrial complex another
 5 blank check of the taxpayers' dollars. I don't believe
 6 that the taxpayers of this country owe the people of
 7 eastern Idaho government jobs. But if we do, as those
 8 who argue in support of SIS because of the jobs it will
 9 provide are implying, let's pay them to do something that
 10 supports and nurtures human life rather than something
 11 that threatens to destroy life. Let's pay them to do
 12 something that enhances the process of arms control
 13 instead of work that undermines the credibility of recent
 14 arms control agreements that the U.S. and the Soviet Union
 15 have signed.
 16 If no such jobs are available, I would still
 17 rather see my tax dollars go to pay them to do nothing --
 18 somewhat like we pay our Senators and Representatives --
 19 rather than produce a product that, if it's never used,
 20 will still be an ongoing threat to the health and security
 21 of our nation and its people, and if it is used, it will
 22 bring about the end of civilization as we know it.
 23 Thank you.
 24 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 25 Leonard Nolt will be marked as Exhibit 239 and entered

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1 into the record.
 2 (Exhibit No. 239 was marked and entered.)
 3 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 4 is Laura Carson. Laura Carson?
 5 Jenny DeFoggi. Jenny DeFoggi?
 6 Claire Turner. Claire Turner?
 7 Jennie Thomas. Jennie Thomas?
 8 Mike Blain.
 9 MR. BLAIN: My name is Michael Blain; I live
 10 in Boise, Idaho at 1012 Fort Street. I am a sociologist
 11 and a concerned citizen. I would like to comment on the
 12 DEIS from both perspectives.
 13 Most of my research as a sociologist, I do
 14 rhetorical studies of political propaganda. And in my
 15 judgment, this DEIS is political propaganda. It is not
 16 a real rational, realistic effort to assess the effects
 17 of this program. That's my conclusion, to start with, as
 18 a sociologist.
 19 As a concerned citizen, I have done a lot
 20 of reading on the health effects of radiation and
 21 radionuclides on human beings, and I would like to address
 22 that point tonight.
 23 Last spring I asked that the DEIS address
 24 three different areas of radiological impact: on the
 25 wildlife, on the workers, and on the public. The DEIS

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1 doesn't address the radiological impacts on the animals
 2 at all, in spite of the fact that I have tables from the
 3 scientific, scientific documents published in Health
 4 Physics, Journal of Wildlife Management, which shows that
 5 the animals -- pronghorn, jack rabbits, birds, everything --
 6 have been exposed at INEL and are permanently exposed
 7 because the environment of INEL is permanently exposed
 8 to plutonium and radioiodine for the next 15,000,000
 9 years. We already know that from the past. There is no
 10 assessment of that impact in the DEIS.

11 I would like to see an assessment of the
 12 radiological impact on the wildlife downwind of the SIS
 13 done.

14 Secondly, on the workers. They did do
 15 a health analysis on both workers and the public. In
 16 fact, I would argue that this is the most technologically
 17 difficult part of this DEIS to come to terms with. But
 18 I recommend all of you go to the appendix of this document
 19 and make the effort, because you can find some things,
 20 some interesting things to note about their analysis.
 21 And I would like to spend some time with the public health
 22 analysis with you, just to give you an idea.

23 These two models to analyze the radiological
 24 impacts to the health. First of all, you have to have a
 25 model on the migration of the radiation from the plants

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1 to the population. So they used a model called
 2 "AIRDOS-EPA." It's a very sophisticated model. They have
 3 a computer program for it. I would submit to you that we
 4 as citizens trying to come to terms with this DEIS
 5 document have not had a fair amount of time to do the
 6 same kind of analysis that took the Department of Energy
 7 to do for a year, and I'm expected to try and understand
 8 this model in a month, and I'm trained in the sciences
 9 and so on, and it's very difficult without access to
 10 computer models and the data that are used, which are not
 11 provided to the public to use to see if the numbers are
 12 right.

13 Who knows? Maybe their names are wrong.
 14 They should be checked out, they should be checked out
 15 independently.

16 Secondly, when we look at the assumptions
 17 that the models that they use on dose-response, you know,
 18 how much radiation do you have to be exposed to before
 19 you get cancer. Right. They make all kinds of
 20 assumptions. They use the assumptions that are built into
 21 the BEIR-III Model, biological effects of ionizing
 22 radiation, the report produced by the National Academy
 23 of Science in 1980. It's outdated, it's a sham.

24 The model, the assumptions they use don't
 25 even take into account the effects of radiation on

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2.4

2.13.13

5.13.4

5.13.2

5.13.1

5.13.12

5.13.13

1 children, for example, from one to ten years of age.
 2 They're the most radio-sensitive of all of the human
 3 beings that are going to be exposed to this operation.
 4 So they claim, they go on to make the claim, they imbed
 5 their argument that this is a healthy, safe, kind of
 6 report or program, using assumptions that don't even take
 7 into account the effects of radiation on the young. Okay?
 8 That's just one area.

9 If you look at the assumptions that they
 10 talk about -- and an earlier person mentioned this, but
 11 I want to mention this again -- their health risk analysis
 12 only takes into account one year of exposure. Okay? One
 13 year of exposure. And then they run it out over 50 years,
 14 "Well, if you were exposed for one year, this is what
 15 the probabilities would be for 50 years." Okay. I could
 16 go on. There are at least two or three more thoughts.

17 This is an incompetently done health
 18 assessment by contemporary epidemiological standards.
 19 And I recommend you all look in the Journal of Epidemiology
 20 over the last year to find studies that show there have
 21 been health effects all around Hanford -- congenital
 22 health effects on the young around Hanford, and also an
 23 excess of a variety of kinds of cancers in people who
 24 work in these facilities.

25 Thank you very much.

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B064

1 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. Blain's extensive written
 2 comments and critique will be included in the record
 3 as Exhibit No. 240.

4 (Exhibit No. 240 was marked and entered.)

5 MR. EIGUREN: Moving on down the list.

6 John Harms. John Harms?

7 Jane Holt. Jane Holt?

8 Mr. Richardson. Mr. Richardson?

9 Ed Wardwell.

10 MR. WARDWELL: My name is Ed Wardwell; I
 11 live at 9721 Telfair Drive here in Boise. I am a school
 12 teacher and have taught science and social studies.

13 My purpose here tonight in speaking is to
 14 hopefully inspire DOE to listen to those of us who
 15 believe that there is a higher purpose in life than to
 16 make more nuclear triggers.

17 The Pentagon and the DOE remind me very
 18 much of the drug addicts -- their rationale of the
 19 consequences of their actions. Just like the addict, the
 20 Pentagon and the DOE face their addictions on a lack
 21 of self-assurance and the fear of the unknown. The
 22 perceived security is reflected by the current perverted
 23 level of nuclear weapons, a fear as that of the
 24 so-called "Evil Empire" which Ronald Reagan is about to
 25 visit.

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3.4

5.27.7.2

2.1.2

3.2.14

2.3

1.1

1 The military-industrial complex continues
 2 to feed its addiction of insecurity and fear with a new
 3 dose of short-term jobs. This addiction saps our moral,
 4 our social, our economic strength. In order to get the
 5 next on weapons, he has misled us in this DEIS about the
 6 needs, economics and safeguards for the public.

7 The DOE and the military-industrial complex
 8 is pushing this SIS like -- it's like the addict that
 9 will lie, cheat and steal for its selfish purposes. The
 10 one bright note, as it is with any addict, is the call
 11 for help -- your disclaimer statement did such a thing.
 12 It says that you are not responsible for the accuracy of
 13 the DEIS contents in this report. A Freudian slip as it
 14 might be, we take it as a call for help. We are here to
 15 help you. Just say no.

16 Thank you.

17 MR. EIGUREN: We have marked as Exhibit 241
 18 the written comments of Mr. Ed Wardwell.
 19 (Exhibit No. 241 was marked and entered.)
 20 MR. EIGUREN: Moving on down the speakers
 21 list. Warren Cornwall. Warren Cornwall?
 22 Mike Hughes. Mike Hughes?
 23 Ole Cram. Ole Cram?
 24 Margaret Keener.
 25 MS. KEENER: I'm Margaret Keener; 3423 North

1 39th, Boise, Idaho.

2 Native Idahoan, former school teacher, a
 3 housewife and gardener.

4 I am opposed to the construction of the SIS.
 5 When I received the big Impact Statement book for study
 6 with my name printed in it, I tried to figure out why.
 7 Was it because I went on the Church Women United tour of
 8 the INEL? But, it seemed that none of the rest of the
 9 ladies got one. I decided it was because I chaired the
 10 Peace and Justice Committee of the Boise First
 11 Presbyterian Church. Our group had studied the issue
 12 and written a letter to the INEL executive voicing our
 13 opposition.

14 Our National Presbyterian General Assembly
 15 had just made a clear statement against diverting our
 16 manpower and resources from constructive use, risking
 17 the annihilation of mankind.

18 As I was studying the manual, my husband
 19 called my attention to a little blurb on the bottom of
 20 the inside cover saying that the government takes no
 21 responsibility for anything printed inside this book.
 22 That really did it for me. I put it down and picked up
 23 the latest Nation magazine, and there was an article
 24 entitled "While the EPA fiddle-diddles, the town of
 25 Jacksonville, Arkansas is being poisoned -- only a wire

5.10.7

1 fence that divides a school ground from the most toxic
 2 dump -- 2,800 barrels of unused Agent Orange in uncovered,
 3 leaking barrels. The suffering and death those citizens
 4 in Arkansas have endured is unbelievable. A study
 5 suggests it may take \$22-billion to clean up our dumps
 6 around the United States."

7 A few years ago my husband was deer hunting
 8 in the INEL-Arco area when the earthquake struck and
 9 killed a child. How can we even think of placing the
 10 most toxic chemical known to mankind on an earthquake
 11 fault?

12 One of the enjoyable parts of my life is
 13 seeing the wonders of growing plants in our garden. I
 14 know what even pesticides can do to ruin plants. I also
 15 know the wind and the water carry poisons and vapors. I
 16 want our generation to enjoy the wonders of God's creation.
 17 Idaho has such nature that few other states can boast.
 18 Let's keep it that way.

19 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 20 Margaret Keener will be entered into the record as
 21 Exhibit No. 242.

22 (Exhibit No. 242 was marked and entered.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: Moving down the witness list.
 24 Jean Boyles?

25 Lest you all be concerned, this is already

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B066

1 cleared with the chair.

2 First state your name and address for the
 3 record.

4 MR. BAKER: Yes. My name is Dick Baker,
 5 and I live at 417 North Garden, and I am a professor
 6 of sociology at Boise State University, and have been
 7 there for 15 years.

8 You might think these creatures alongside
 9 of me are workers from the INEL, but I would like to make
 10 a modest proposal -- I would like to make a proposal to
 11 an alternative to the SIS, that there is really a more
 12 serious danger to American society.

13 Scientists and astronomers have found in
 14 a distant galaxy a planet called Vermiculus, and on the
 15 planet Vermiculus, these creatures have destroyed their
 16 own environment and now are looking for a new place to
 17 live. These two were captured in Wyoming. We have been
 18 investigating them for some time, and the most terrible
 19 thing about them is that they eat human beings.

20 Now, luckily, at the Willy Wonka laboratory
 21 in Willy, Wyoming, we have been trying to find a solution
 22 to this problem; and we have a proposal for the Department
 23 of Energy: We have a prototype. We have developed a
 24 new Mini Laser Cannon Missile, and we propose that the
 25 Department of Energy use the MMLCM to build the VKD at the

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1 INEL. The VKD is the Vermiculus Kani Destroyer.

2 Now, one might think that we can just use
3 the nuclear bombs from the SIS to stop these Vermiculus
4 Kanits as they try to enter our planet and take over the
5 planet earth. But, in our research we have found that the
6 Vermiculus Kani in fact eats plutonium as a vitamin
7 supplement.

8 Now, we propose, the Willy Wonka research
9 team proposes to put at the INEL a hundred thousand of
10 our missile cannons and shoot our lasers into outer space.
11 But to do that effectively, Willy Wonka had to find
12 something that was effective to eliminate them, and I have
13 it here with me -- the acronym is SPUD, and it is in fact
14 the Idaho potato (indicating).

15 Now, if you're with me, the proposal that
16 I have is that the INEL shoot off hundreds of millions
17 of potatoes into outer space for the next five years.
18 And look at the advantages of this proposal over the SIS:

19 It will create twice as many jobs. Some
20 of my colleagues met this afternoon with Senator Symms
21 and -- what's our other Senator -- McClure, and with
22 Craig. And it's only rumors now, but we told them we
23 have the VKD and would employ twice as many people.

24 And they said, "Say no more. We're for it."

25 Symms had one condition -- he said you have

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1 to teach them to speak English and then kill them."

2 Can you picture this? Next week I'm going
3 over to Idaho Falls; I plan to have a rally. I'll have them
4 marching them down the streets of Idaho Falls saying,
5 "Yes, yes, VKD."

6 There's some other important aspects that
7 we should take more seriously, and one of those that is
8 the most serious is that the Russians are far ahead of us
9 -- they have bigger lasers, they have bigger missiles.
10 And so, we're in very serious trouble on that count. And
11 one of the things that's really an advantage of our
12 program is that we'll have some endless technological
13 spin-offs: We'll have the potato soft drink, potato
14 jello, potato fudge, and you might be able to think of
15 several more.

16 Now, there may be some doubters, "This is
17 going to cost too much. It's a waste of our tax dollars.
18 It's a waste of our resources. It's going to kill the
19 deficit."

20 But, remember, all of that applies to the
21 SIS.

22 Now, some of you may think that this
23 proposal is foolish, and dumb, and silly. But I'm telling
24 you, to me it makes a hell of a lot more sense to shoot
25 millions of potatoes into outer space than to have those

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5.27.6.11

B067

1 crackpots build the SIS.

2 MR. EIGUREN: Dick, do you want to introduce
3 your two assistants?

4 MR. BAKER: I only have Vermiculus Kanits.
5 This is my wife, Alicia, and my son, Nicholas.

6 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. I do appreciate
7 the fact you kept it within five minutes.

8 Our next commenter is Rocky Carpenter.

9 MR. CARPENTER: Howdy! I'm Rocky Carpenter
10 and I am opposed to the SIS Project. I have lived in
11 Idaho all but the first six months of my life, and that's
12 40 years now.

13 I make my livelihood by being a contractor,
14 and I love jobs, and I love big jobs because they give
15 me security and pay for all the things that I like and
16 need.

17 Being in the construction business now since
18 1975, you will find my ads in the Yellow Pages, the
19 Statesman, and several other areas of advertising. I
20 like exposure. I like jobs.

21 What I have experienced is this, that I have
22 not been called once to bid on any of the many big jobs
23 that are now going on in the Boise area. Having talked
24 to the owner of a local lumber company recently, I asked
25 if his business had picked up. And his response was that

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1 the big jobs were awarded to out-of-state contractors,
2 and they order most of their materials from out of state.
3 The bulk of the labor force is also brought in.

4 So, as you can see, the construction of the
5 SIS more than likely will do very little to help the
6 local workers, the ones that are needing the work and
7 money. In fact, yesterday, as I got this paper out of
8 my mailbox dated March 23rd, 1988, on the very front page
9 I noticed "Local workers miss out on jobs." This is in
10 reference to the Broadway-Chinden connector.

11 But I would like to quote in here that
12 Mark Briggs, who serves as the head of the local
13 Carpenters Union and who handles much of the building
14 trade business for the local AFL-CIO office said,
15 "Out-of-state contractors are not even hiring Idaho
16 workers, whether they are members of the union or not."

17 He also goes on to say, "So I guess the
18 thing that really burns me up is them using Salt Lake
19 City workers, who are going to be sending the vast bulk
20 of their paychecks back to Utah, while we've got people
21 right here who need work," both union and non-union.
22 "The local economy is being ripped off big time.

23 "I know for a fact," he says, "a lot
24 of the carpenters who tried to get on there, but they
25 just didn't get hired."

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5.27.7.3

5.27.7.4

1.1

5.27.12.8

5.29.85

1 I am also opposed to the SIS Project because
2 I see no reason to transport the hazardous wastes from
3 all over the country. The experts say that everything
4 will be okay, but isn't that what they have told us all
5 along about toxic waste.

5.29.80

6 Remember the toxic spill that occurred last
7 December on the Salmon River. What if that had been
8 plutonium not sealed properly? Human error happens. It
9 happens every day. That's what happened to the Challenger
10 and her crew. It could happen here in Idaho with
11 plutonium or its waste products.

5.1.37

5.30.2.5

12 The long-term dangers are: Idaho could
13 become an endangered state by storing plutonium wastes.

5.29.63

5.29.88

14 An accident en route is likely to happen as we witnessed
15 with the Salmon River spill. Our Snake River aquifer
16 could very easily become contaminated and therefore affect
17 most of southern Idaho's farmers and their crops. Tourism
18 would cease because of the contaminated waterways. The
19 dangers far outweigh the short-term monetary pocketbooks
20 that only a very few individuals would experience.

5.27.2

6.2

5.29.86

21 I don't want plutonium shipped into Idaho
22 from all over the country. I don't want plutonium
23 shipped through Boise. I don't want plutonium recycled
24 into any more warheads that this world does not need.
25 Let us here in Idaho be an example to the rest of the

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B068

1 world and not prostitute ourselves for the short-term
2 money. Let us enjoy our pristine Idaho. Idaho needs
3 clean industry, not plutonium industry. Idaho should not
4 be labeled as the state that has a lot of land and
5 therefore should be a storage place for plutonium waste.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. EIGUREN: Included in the record will
8 be Exhibit 243, which is the written comments of
9 Rocky Carpenter as well as the newspaper article he
10 referenced in his comments.

11 (Exhibit No. 243 was marked and entered.)

12 MR. EIGUREN: Moving on down the witness
13 list.

14 John Stinson-Wilge. John Stinson-Wilge?
15 John Dadaby.

16 MR. DADABY: My name is John Dadaby; and I
17 live here in Boise at 2005 North 17th. I have a family.
18 I'm a businessman, and I need more jobs. I am a
19 taxpayer. I am for no SIS action.

20 From 1963 through 1965, I lived in a small
21 town in the north Indian state of Punjab, India, near
22 the border of Pakistan. A war was in progress between
23 these two countries, and tension and hatred ran hot.
24 Indians against Pakistanis, Moslems against Hindus, Sikhs
25 against the Indian government. I am not a war veteran,

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5.27.7.17

5.30.2.5

1.1

1 but as a child living here in a war zone, this experience
2 gave me a real aversion to war.

3 These people still hate each other today.
4 The war did not solve anything. India has the bomb;
5 Pakistan probably has the bomb. Can you imagine Iran
6 and Iraq today with the bomb? The powerful countries of
7 the world have become addicted to a very dangerous drug
8 called "plutonium." And like most junkies, they always
9 have an excuse as to why they cannot kick the habit.

10 How long are we going to listen to their
11 empty promises to quit the habit? When will they get an
12 overdose?

13 We need to spend our resources, our tax
14 dollars on rehabilitation of our dangerous national habit.
15 I'm not an economist, but I do know that plutonium and
16 nuclear weapons do not produce goods and services needed
17 for a healthy economy. They sit in storage, waiting for
18 the day they will be used.

19 If you are an Idahoan with any moral
20 integrity at all, you cannot support the SIS Project
21 anywhere on our beautiful planet.

22 MR. EIGUREN: We're at Order No. 77 on the
23 afternoon list.

24 Ms. Beverly Miller. Beverly Miller?

25 David Mills. David Mills?

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1 Janet Cosho. Janet Cosho?

2 David Douglas.

3 MR. DOUGLAS: Here.

4 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

5 MR. DOUGLAS: My name is David Douglas; and

6 I live at 3025 Hillway Drive, Boise. I speak from my --
7 I would like to comment on my impressions here. I thought
8 I'd sit here. I saw no need to speak. But I found that
9 I can only feel humble before the efforts of so many
10 people to put over, to cooperate with the Department of
11 Energy. I've been entertained, educated, impressed, I
12 think convinced, and I hope that at least to some degree
13 the Department of Energy people have the same reaction.

14 I am here to voice my objections to the
15 SIS Project now being proposed to be located in Idaho.
16 I don't pretend to be an expert on atomic matters, but I
17 am here as a concerned Idaho citizen worried that the SIS
18 scheme brings closer to my home even more of the problems
19 of the atomic arms industry.

20 The very fact that this widespread and well
21 advertised series of hearings sponsored by the Department
22 of Energy are being held convinced me that the problem
23 is not of the run of the mill variety but one of such
24 magnitude that responsible people in high places want
25 input from such as me.

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1.1

2.13.3

1 And further, it is not only because it is
2 required by law, but because they are wary if the proposed
3 SIS Project is the proper step to take.

5.24.27

4 In order to proceed with the plan, it is
5 necessary to bring quantities of plutonium into our
6 community. Experts assure us that precautions are in
7 place to permit safe transport, holding, and processing
8 of this recognized, extremely dangerous material.

5.31.12

9 The very elaborateness of their efforts to
10 assure reasonable safety in this enterprise raises more
11 questions in my mind than it answers.

6.1.1

12 It is evident many others have the same kind
13 of questions as there does not seem to be the usual
14 scramble among states and cities to locate the SIS
15 installation in their community. As far as I know, the
16 Department of Energy has never considered placing the
17 plant close to any densely populated areas.

4.14

18 I have lived long enough to know that life
19 for individuals and communities is filled with risks.
20 The question then is, do the risks taken promise a better
21 future for you and yours?

22 In view of the already agreed upon Arms
23 Control Treaty and the promise in the near future of a
24 more far-reaching control treaty and the consequent
25 redundancy of existing bombs, the need to add bomb-quality

B070

1 plutonium to our existing stores is less than zero in the
2 view of many experts.

5.30.3.1

3 Indeed the problem now is what to do with
4 the tons of plutonium we now have on hand. Were the
5 Department of Energy to launch a real serious program to
6 put plutonium back where it came from, it would entail
7 the spending of billions of dollars, creating hundreds or
8 thousands of jobs, and taking enormous risks, which I for
9 one would be only too willing to take.

6.3

10 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
11 David Douglas will be marked as Exhibit 244 and entered
12 into the record.

13 (Exhibit No. 244 was marked and entered.)

14 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at Order No. 81
15 on the afternoon witness list.

16 Alvin W. Joslyn. Alvin W. Joslyn?

17 Order No. 82 has already been passed over;
18 that was Monte Wilson who spoke earlier.

19 83, Mr. Paul B. Pulsy. Paul B. Pulsy?

20 Order 34, Chris DuPont. Chris DuPont?

21 Shirley Stetson. Shirley Stetson?

22 Randy Stoltz.

23 MR. STOLTZ: Ladies and gentlemen, my name
24 is Randy Stoltz. I live at 1515 Campus Lane, Boise. I am
25 22 years old and a senior at Boise State University.

6.1.1

5.30.4.14

Two years ago I did a term paper for a geology class on the impact of the Hanford Nuclear Reservation on the ground water of the Columbia River Basin. Based on that research and on my knowledge of INEL and Savannah River, I have serious concerns about the effect of the Special Isotope Separator on the health and safety of the people of southern Idaho.

I would like to take a moment and recount a few of the more infamous moments in U.S. nuclear history.

Accidental emissions from the Hanford Reservation have been contaminating the Columbia Basin for nearly half a century. 25 years ago a series of mishaps at the Hanford Complex may have released up to 1,200 curies of radioactive material apiece according to Hanford records. By comparison, Three Mile Island emitted 12 to 16 curies.

In 1973, a sustained leak in liquid storage tanks at Hanford totaling 115,000 gallons went undetected for 55 days even though levels in those tanks were being recorded daily. No one compared current readings with those from the previous day.

Last year it was reported that the location of 55 nuclear waste dumps on the Hanford Reservation remain a mystery due to missing maps, careless disposal practices, and missing signs. In one case a dump site

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was found under a parking lot when excavation began for some power poles. The missing dump sites contained undetermined amounts of plutonium, cesium, strontium and uranium.

The ground water at the Savannah River Plant in Macon (sic), South Carolina, is so contaminated with tritium that the plant will have to be kept off limits to the public for at least 100 years. Strontium 90 contamination adds another 200 years, and is creeping into surface streams at concentrations 42,500 times the EPA standards and about 1,000 times the DOE standard.

Due to the Savannah River Plant, the Tuscaloosa aquifer, one of the nation's most important, is contaminated.

Contractors are often unchallenged by the DOE. For example, the draft performance assessment of the DuPont-operated Savannah River burial ground showed that every theoretical prediction of the migration of radionuclide contamination in ground water made by DuPont was in error.

For example, in 1977 DuPont predicted that tritium leaks from buried radioactive materials downward into the ground water would not outcrop into a surface stream for 70 years, and when it did outcrop, it would be very diluted and quite safe. The first outcrop actually

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3.2.8

5.12.1

6.2

1 occurred one year later at a concentration 300 times the
2 EPA drinking water standards.

3 DuPont found out in 1981 that the ground
4 water around the Savannah River Plant was contaminated,
5 but it kept this information from the DOE, from its own
6 employees until an investigation by the South Carolina
7 Health and Environmental Control led to shutting down
8 four drinking water wells.

9 Toxic waste pollution is extremely hazardous
10 to the food chain. According to former DOE waste
11 management specialist William Lawless, "Hanford has the
12 worst soil contamination problem in America, and
13 radioactive contamination of ground water is staggering."

14 Such contamination in agricultural areas
15 affects the populace of entire regions. For example,
16 most of the alfalfa grown in the Columbia River Basin goes
17 to feed dairy herds west of the Cascades. The milk from
18 these cows fed tainted hay is then sold in urban areas
19 like Seattle and Portland.

20 Pollution from the SIS obviously would
21 pose a threat to the Snake River aquifer and the entire
22 southern half of the state. We are told that the jobs
23 Idaho would get from this project are worth the risks to
24 our quality of life. I could not disagree more.

25 The state of the art in the nuclear industry

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B071

1 still encompasses too many unknowns. I don't believe
2 the unknowns provide any greater margin of protection
3 from human error now than they did 10 or 15 years ago.
4 People make mistakes. They did 20 years ago, they do
5 today, and they will continue to tomorrow. SIS represents
6 another round in the game of nuclear roulette.

7 Today in The Statesman there was an article
8 about a survey showing that Idaho has the fourth largest
9 rate of out-migration in the country. SIS proponents
10 claim their pet project would reduce this trend. But
11 I believe that turning Idaho into the armpit of the
12 21st century would increase the likelihood of people
13 leaving.

14 Ladies and gentlemen, as a lifelong Idahoan,
15 I argue that we should reject SIS because the risks
16 outweigh any foreseeable benefits. There are better
17 projects out there.

18 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
19 Randy Stoltz will be included in the record as
20 Exhibit No. 245.

21 (Exhibit No. 245 was marked and entered.)

22 MR. EIGUREN: We're now at Order 87 in the
23 afternoon session list,

24 Marshall F. Priess. Marshall F. Priess?

25 Order 88. Lind Bjornsen.

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5.1.37

5.27.4.4

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4.13

1 MASTER LIND BJORNSEN: My name is Lind
2 Bjornsen, and I live at 707 O'Farrell in Boise.
3 I am against the proposed SIS for several
4 reasons. The first starts out in Hanford, Washington
5 where semi's are loaded with plutonium and then these
6 semi's travel on open roads where they are susceptible
7 to road hazards, or other vehicles wrecking into them.
8 If they were to have an accident similar to the herbicide
9 accident on the Little Salmon River, then there would be
10 lethal amounts of plutonium in that river for 250,000
11 years.
12 If the plutonium were to successfully reach
13 the SIS, there is an earthquake risk. A few years back
14 the seismic zone was changed from 3 down to 2. It is the
15 policy of the Department of Energy not to build in
16 seismic zones of 3 or more. This was the first downgrade
17 of a seismic zone in history.
18 Then in 1983 there was a serious earthquake.
19 Another such quake could potentially release airborne
20 plutonium, which is its most dangerous state.
21 If it got by all of those risks, then it
22 would travel to Rocky Flats, Colorado where they would
23 make it into nuclear bombs. Even though the United States
24 already has 25,000 nuclear warheads.
25 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of

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B072

1 Lind Bjornsen will be included in the record of
2 Exhibit No. 246.
3 (Exhibit No. 246 was marked and entered.)
4 MR. EIGUREN: Order 89 in the afternoon
5 list. Lynn Ellis. Lynn Ellis?
6 Paul Montgomery. Paul Montgomery?
7 Tim Teater.
8 MR. TEATER: I would like to thank the DOE
9 for allowing me to be here. Five minutes is certainly
10 better than Senator McClure's two-minute Democracy in
11 the Wilderness Hearings.
12 The first thing I would like to say is that
13 I simply can't see any rational justification for further
14 weapons grade plutonium. The current supply is
15 stunningly adequate for the destruction of our planet.
16 I am not indifferent to the defense needs
17 of America. As a combat vet, I have a sensitivity to
18 that concern. However, our reliance on a defense system
19 that is useful only for self-destruction is not in the
20 best interests of this country.
21 It would seem that if there is a weakness
22 in our nuclear defense, it would be in the area of our
23 mutual inability to negotiate an effective nuclear arms
24 treaty with the Soviet Union.
25 Secondly, I absolutely do not want plutonium

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5.27.7.4

1 transported over Idaho roads. The constant series of
2 jackknifed semi-trailer trucks every winter on
3 Interstate 84 and the recent pesticide spill illustrates
4 some of the dangers of this practice. Further, the idea --
5 excuse me. Further, has the idea of plutonium theft from
6 a terrorist hijacking been given consideration? I know
7 it has. It's a rhetorical question. The proposed long
8 interstate transport of weapons grade plutonium presents
9 a very real danger of this happening.

10 Third, while I think that a severe accident
11 at the SIS facility is fairly unlikely, the fact that the
12 INEL is over the Snake River aquifer should negate any
13 further development at the site. In the event of an
14 accident resulting in plutonium in the aquifer, the
15 consequences would be devastating to Idaho.

16 While there have been no catastrophes of
17 this nature, the number of close calls and the fact that
18 the DOE cannot account for all the plutonium it has
19 already produced gives me little comfort in the DOE's
20 ability to conduct these activities safely.

21 Finally, jobs are cited as a benefit of
22 this project. I am unconvinced. First, there is no
23 guarantee that the construction firms will be from Idaho
24 or that many or any of the construction jobs will be given
25 to Idahoans. As the gentleman previously had mentioned,

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1 you can go right out here and look at the overpass
2 construction, and unless I'm mistaken, Utah is not part
3 of Idaho.

4 As I understand it, the useful life of the
5 project is seven or eight years. Then what happens to the
6 people that are idled out there? Will the DOE help pay
7 the unemployment benefits?

8 In any event, no amount of jobs can justify
9 this ill-conceived and dangerous project. After all, we
10 could set people to work growing coca leaves and opium
11 poppies but, of course, that is pretty unacceptable. So
12 is the SIS.

13 Just one thing I would like to say about
14 this. I know that this get into a pretty emotional
15 thing, but as it's been stated, we've got 22- or 25,000
16 nuclear warheads. I can't help it. This is total,
17 complete and utter insanity. What in the name of God do
18 we need more nuclear warheads for?

19 You know, I would just like to say that I
20 hope that Senator McClure's comments this morning, which
21 were like his comments in the Wilderness Hearings, are
22 not going to be the way it is, and that is, "It will be
23 built, and it will be built in Idaho." I hope to God
24 that there is some democracy in this country and that the
25 will of the people is going to be heard. You might take

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5.22.4

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1 notice of the fact that it is the people that are speaking
2 here, the people that live in Idaho are opposed to it.

3 The military-industrial complex,
4 Senator McClure, Senator Symms and his cronies are for
5 it, but the people don't want it.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. EIGUREN: Marked and entered into the
8 record as Exhibit 247 will be the written comments of
9 Timothy Teater.

10 (Exhibit No. 247 was marked and entered.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: We are at Order 92 on the
12 afternoon witness list.

13 Joanne Cannon. Joanne Cannon?

14 Lisa Ostermiller. Lisa Ostermiller?

15 Eloise Eccles.

16 MS. ECCLES: Hi. My name is Eloise Eccles;
17 I'm an engineer for the City of Boise, and I speak for
18 myself.

19 One of my duties for the City is the review
20 and approval of industrial accidental spill prevention
21 plans. So I reviewed the portion of the Draft EIS which
22 dealt with facility accidents at the INEL. The
23 introduction listed different categories of accidents
24 which might occur. Among them was a category called
25 Accidents of External Origin. This category was

1 conspicuously omitted from the final analysis of the
2 supposedly worst case accidents. The analysis focused
3 on only four postulated accidents including: a fire,
4 a nuclear criticality, an uncontrolled chemical reaction,
5 and an earthquake.

6 The analysis also included a fifth case
7 called a "Severe Facility Accident" in which some
8 selected safety features were assumed to fail. The
9 analysis of the other four postulated accidents assumed
10 that critical safety systems were to fulfill their
11 safety functions and maintain their integrity.

12 Predictably, the reported effect of these
13 postulated accidents on people outside the facility was
14 negligible, with calculated radiation releases at levels
15 less than one-millionth of normal annual background
16 radiation for the surrounding population -- which was
17 amazing.

18 So basically the DOE is claiming they will
19 build safety features into the SIS facility which will
20 provide essentially complete protection to the public in
21 the event of one of their five postulated accidents. But,
22 do these postulated accidents represent the worst case
23 scenario of all the possible accidents which could occur
24 having comparable probability of occurrence? I don't
25 know, and neither does the DOE.

5.1.34

1 I request that the final EIS include an
2 analysis of an explosion of external origin, with failure
3 of all, rather than selected safety features. Results
4 should be tabulated in numbers of dead, injured, or
5 birth defective people. We deserve to know the
6 consequences of such an accident even though the DOE may
7 estimate its probability to be very low, because that
8 probability is based on a series of assumptions --
9 informed guesses -- and there is too much at stake here
10 to rely on that.

5.24.27

11 I believe that once the consequences of
12 such an accident are publicized, people will decide in
13 their own self-interest that plutonium is not just a
14 material with peculiar hazards as described by
15 Senator McClure. Rather, it is a material with
16 unacceptable hazards in these quantities.

4.13

17 There is one thing we can say with
18 certainty of the SIS Project and its effect on the
19 probability of a catastrophic accident, regardless of
20 where it is built. It will enable the United States to
21 build more nuclear weapons. Each additional nuclear
22 weapon built will increase the probability that one will
23 be accidentally detonated someday. Each additional nuclear
24 weapon built will shorten the length of time we can
25 expect to play the game of global nuclear roulette. This

5.1.44

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B074

1 is the overriding environmental issue here and it is
2 very relevant to this EIS. This is why I believe the
3 no action alternative should be chosen.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. EIGUREN: Marked as Exhibit 248 for
6 the record will be the written comments of Eloise Eccles.

7 (Exhibit No. 248 was marked and entered.)

8 Order 95 on the witness list. Terry Dennis.
9 Terry Dennis?

10 Connie McClaran. Connie McClaran?

11 Thomas B. Eschen. Thomas Eschen spoke
12 earlier today.

13 MS. LOFT: I think that I took his place.

14 I'm No. 97.

15 MR. FIGUREN: And your name is?

16 MS. LOFT: Andrea Loft. I live at 1513
17 N. Front Street, here in Boise.

18 I think there's some serious questions that
19 have not been answered in the DEIS. I don't think that
20 the adequacy of the containment really has been delved
21 into. We've had all sorts of trucking accidents here.
22 I don't know that the ability of the emergency response
23 people here can deal with plutonium accidents. We have
24 some pretty substantial windstorms, and we saw in the
25 paper about some telephone poles being blown down. What

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1 if this blows a truck carrying this plutonium, blows it
2 into a bridge? Is it possible to explode that? I know
3 that I at least understand that DOE is already auditing
4 their containment procedures, because they are recalling
5 many of them for repair.

6 If there was one of these windstorms and a
7 container broke open, how far would this contamination go?
8 Chernobl contaminated Lapland so that the people can't
9 even eat their reindeer anymore. How far would this
10 contamination go?

11 I am concerned that it's built at an
12 earthquake zone. It also seems to me that this is a fairly
13 short project, over five or seven years it's supposed to
14 be built. It's going to be funded year by year. We're
15 going to have people that say, "Oh, yes, we want jobs.
16 We are going to buy a house, we're going to buy a new
17 refrigerator" on time. All of a sudden it's not funded
18 for the second or third year, and they can no longer
19 afford these things. Are they going to lose everything
20 that they've already put down into it? The boom or bust
21 economy, that worries me, too.

22 I was especially impressed with the need
23 or the reason to build the SIS, that it's a redundancy
24 factor. That means there is already plenty of supplies,
25 and we already know we can kill the earth however many

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B075

1 times over. There will certainly be plenty of plutonium
2 around at least for the next 25,000 years, already. We
3 do not need a so-called flexibility of producing on
4 demand such a deadly toxin. We have plenty already.

5 It seems like it's been tacitly assessed
6 that we are expected to annihilate one another in the
7 future. We can see that assessment of annihilating life
8 on earth in the Impact Statement.

9 I would like to be on record that the no
10 build option is the only viable option, viable for life
11 on earth and viable in terms of ever increasing federal
12 deficit. We can't afford to build this, we don't need it.

13 Thank you.

14 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at witness
15 Order 98. Cynthia Brownsmith.

16 DR. BROWNSMITH: My name is Dr. Cynthia
17 Brownsmith; I live at 2801 White Pine Lane, Boise. I'm
18 a mother, I'm a clinical psychologist, and I have to come
19 to talk to you as both.

20 I have read the Environmental Impact
21 Statement from the Department of Energy, and there is one
22 glaring omission from the EIS, and it is the issue of
23 the psychological and sociological impacts on people. I
24 don't know if the psychological health of the public is
25 irrelevant to the DOE, or they don't care about it, or

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4.7.2

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2.7.2

1 they're so naive as to think that the mental health of
2 Americans is not jeopardized by the production of nuclear
3 weapons.

4 Since the DOE has failed to completely
5 address the emotional and mental health issues of all of
6 us, I would first of all call for a complete revision of
7 the Environmental Impact Statement, which takes into
8 account not only the myriad safety concerns which have
9 been woefully and inadequately addressed, but also the
10 issues of mental health of the people -- that's us.

11 I'm here to represent to you that the
12 American Psychological Association, the American
13 Psychiatric Association, the American Orthopsychiatry
14 Association, and the National Association of Social
15 Workers have taken very strong positions some years ago
16 opposing the development of nuclear weapons.

17 And now I would like to talk to you for a
18 few minutes about the psychological aspects of building
19 nuclear weapons. First, I would like to talk to you about
20 how we are being seduced into a false sense of security
21 with nuclear weapons. There is an ever escalating
22 production of nuclear arms, and it arises from a deep
23 sense of fear in the people and a desperate need for power
24 in our leaders. The need for power in our leaders is
25 so glaringly apparent to you that I'm not going to comment

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1 about it, except to say obviously it's there and you
2 should look at it.

3 The fear is quite another issue, since we
4 all have that. Fear is perhaps the most negative,
5 corrosive, pervasive force on this earth. If there is
6 an enemy in all of us, it is our fear. It's maintained
7 by a delusion about how to achieve national security.

8 It's widely accepted that the U.S. has the
9 power to virtually destroy Russia, and vice versa. We
10 have sought a balance of not power but terror in the
11 production of nuclear weapons. We reassure ourselves
12 of our safety by continuing to produce nuclear weapons,
13 so we will have the power to retaliate in case of a
14 surprise attack.

15 There is a difference between a balance of
16 terror in which one side can obliterate the other, and
17 one in which both sides can do so. It is not the balance
18 or equality in such a situation that constitutes a
19 deterrent to nuclear war, but is in fact the stability of
20 the balance that is the deterrent. If indeed stability
21 of this balance of "power" or terror, as I refer to it,
22 is the only security we have in preventing a nuclear war,
23 then we are literally self-destructing to allow the
24 ever increasing production of nuclear arms. The Arms Race
25 is obviously a tension-increasing spiral of terror.

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2.7.2

1 In our delusion that we are protecting
2 ourselves, we are in fact assuring our own destruction
3 by destabilizing the balance and increasing the fear.
4 And now I'd like to turn to the actual
5 psychological impact on the people of Idaho. Research
6 has shown that when people think of nuclear war, they
7 say they do not expect to survive it. They report
8 feelings of fear, of terror, of worry, of sadness. Women
9 show higher levels of anxiety than men. However,
10 tragically, our children show the highest level of
11 anxiety of all.

12 Surveys on the effects of seeing the film
13 The Day After showed that people felt disturbed,
14 frightened, depressed, numb; some people said they were
15 worried and felt a sense of hopelessness about the world.
16 If a single viewing of a movie can produce such negative
17 pervasive emotions which were reported to last for up to
18 two weeks, one can only guess at the ongoing effects on
19 the workers, the community and the people of the State of
20 Idaho when actually being confronted daily with weapons
21 production.

22 The increase in stress for the workers, for
23 the adult community, and the tortuous effects on our
24 children, are inescapable. The terror exists among
25 children world-wide.

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B076

1 And now I'm going to review for you some
2 statements from a study published in the Journal of the
3 American Orthopsychiatry Association by Russian children.
4 These are not children who live in a community where
5 nuclear weapons are produced; they are just Russian
6 children. Eleven-year-old Sveta may have been referring
7 to civil defense instructions that she had received, and
8 that she maintains that she did not believe in, when she
9 said, "They told us what we could do to save ourselves,
10 but I think you can try, but you won't be saved from
11 nuclear war."

12 Another child named Sveta, age 11, in a
13 translated media account about the personal threat of
14 nuclear war said, "I watch films or listen to radio. I
15 can imagine how bombs will fall on my village, and
16 sometimes at night I cover myself with blankets because
17 I am afraid."

18 I do not believe the children of Idaho or
19 this world should be subjected to such nightly terror.

20 Both as a mother and as a psychologist, I
21 don't want the children of this world to go to bed at
22 night to cover themselves with blankets and with sleepless
23 fear in the dead of night.

24 MR. FIGUREN: Speaker Order No. 99.

25 Debra Roberts.

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2.7.2

1 MS. ROBERTS: My name is Debra Roberts;
2 I live at 1815 Good in Boise. I am here as an individual
3 and not as a representative of any group or organization,
4 but I'd like to speak as a member of several groups:
5 The first one, all of the creatures that live on the face
6 of the earth. I really don't think we have the right
7 to pollute Mother Earth that sustains us and gives us
8 life.

9 Secondly, I would like to speak as a mother.
10 I don't like it that my children live in fear of nuclear
11 war. But, listening to the testimony today, I thought
12 over and over of what unique contribution can I give to
13 this hearing? And I was reminded of my job -- I'm a
14 student at Boise State University, I will be an historian
15 when I graduate. I have been offered and allowed the
16 unique opportunity to work in the Frank Church Senatorial
17 Collection.

18 Due to my feelings about the nuclear Arms
19 Race, the nuclear industry, I was allowed to process the
20 section of Senator Church's papers which covered the
21 development of the National Reactor Testing Station,
22 which grew up to be INEL. I watched the development of
23 the Atomic Energy Commission. I saw the separation into
24 URDA, Energy Research and Development Administration.
25 I watched the Nuclear Regulatory Commission evolve. I

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1 even watched when Jimmy Carter made the Department of
2 Energy.

3 But what I want to talk about today are
4 the file after file, letter after letter that I read in
5 those papers, that talk about promised jobs to Idahoans
6 at INEL that didn't materialize, people who wrote their
7 Senator because they were broken promises. People had
8 promised them jobs, they had promised them contracts,
9 they were going to build the facility at INEL, and Idaho's
10 going to get the job. And it didn't happen. Where are
11 the guarantees of these promised jobs for Idahoans? I
12 haven't seen any.

13 The third group, the last group that I want
14 to include myself in and voice my feeling for, is as an
15 Idahoan. I'm a native Idahoan, I was born and raised in
16 Idaho. Please, don't turn my home into a bomb factory.
17 Exercise Option 4.

18 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at witness
19 Order No. 100 on the afternoon session list. We are
20 going to recess for five minutes.

21 (A recess was taken.)

22 MR. EIGUREN: We're going to resume at
23 witness Order No. 100 in the afternoon session. We're
24 back on the record.

25 The next scheduled commenter is Mr. Mike

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5.27.7.6

2.2.10

1.1

1 Jones.

2 MR. JONES: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
3 Friends, I believe there's something ominous about me
4 being the 100th speaker. I recall a book I recently
5 reviewed again, it's called The Hundredth Monkey.
6 Hopefully, I am the hundredth monkey.

7 My name is Michael Jones, and I reside at
8 5686 Bonnie Lane in Boise, Idaho.

9 I wish to assure you that I'm an Idahoan,
10 an Idaho native, with friends in Moscow, Idaho, not
11 Moscow, U.S.S.R. Maybe someday we can all have friends
12 in the U.S.S.R. But I'm here to speak about morality,
13 common sense, fiscal and environmental responsibility.
14 In other words, I'm here to discuss those things which
15 the SIS Project is not.

4.15.4

16 If this SIS were truly needed for national
17 defense, were clearly environmentally safe, and really
18 provided safe and long-term economic growth for Idaho,
19 I would fully support the SIS. But SIS is not needed,
20 it is not clearly safe, nor does it provide for a stable
21 economy. Look at the boom and bust of Hanford,
22 Washington.

23 To say that SIS provides all these things
24 is a myth. And at the risk of being didactic, I wish to
25 share with you another myth, a myth I remember from my

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1 childhood. It's most reminiscent of what we are
2 experiencing as an American nation in our nuclear madness
3 that we are facing.

4 The myth is about the Phrygian King, King
5 Midas, and his desire for a secure and prosperous and
6 wealthy kingdom. You may recall the King's wish was
7 granted, and the King was able to turn everyday objects
8 into gold by his touch. His Midas touch provided wealth
9 and prosperity, until that one fateful day, the day when
10 his golden touch destroyed his most precious treasure,
11 his daughter, his future youth. His golden touch turned
12 her into gold.

13 The powerful atom and nuclear physics are
14 much like the Midas touch -- initially promised, it
15 provided us with security, peace and prosperity. However,
16 it was a fairy tale. We were awakened and found this
17 truth was only a myth. We are not living happily ever
18 after.

19 Nuclear weapons, the unleashed power of the
20 atom, can and does kill. Look what occurred at Chernobl,
21 a peaceful use, and again at Nagasaki, a defensive use.

22 The sole purpose of the SIS is to create
23 bombs. The SIS Project is "needed by DOE to provide a
24 redundancy in the production capacity and technological
25 diversity with respect to the current dependence of

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4.1

1 weapons grade plutonium production on the reactor
2 availability to provide a timely response to potential
3 increases in approved needs for weapons grade plutonium."

4 How awful and terribly frightening are
5 these words in this statement! What a prospect. The
6 SIS is insupportable. There is no documented need for
7 SIS.

5.30.1.13

8 I have reviewed and I have read the
9 Environmental Impact Statement or its draft; I find it
10 is myopic in its failing to address key items. It fails
11 to adequately address the long-term difficulties of
12 disposing of hazardous wastes, let alone the transport
13 of this material through several states.

5.24.26

14 It fails to provide assurance of the ability
15 of DOE to contain a nuclear incident. There is little
16 in the document to support a conclusion that there are
17 existing safeguards in place or even possible to protect
18 the Snake River aquifer or the Columbia Basin. There is
19 no empirical data provided regarding earthquake, volcanic
20 studies or activity.

5.10.1

5.10.14

21 INEL is not the site for SIS, nor is Hanford,
22 or Savannah River. Each of these sites have the same
23 environmental concerns, each suffers the same fatal
24 flaws. SIS is simply unneeded, it is an unreasonable
25 risky business. In other words, SIS is totally

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1 irresponsible, it is immoral, and it is wrong.

2 I further question if the envisioned
3 appropriation of DOE in the Department of Defense which
4 may extend for more than two years may fatefully and
5 fully be inconsistent with Article 1, Section 8, Clause
6 12 of the United States Constitution.

7 I ask that to see if anybody from DOE has
8 done that. I think it's subversion on the part of the
9 Department of Defense to circumvent the United States
10 Constitution. The only supportable item contained in the
11 EIS, and there is something to support in the EIS draft,
12 and it is presented on Page 1.4, and it's labeled
13 Item 3: Take no action.

14 I believe no action is the best action, it
15 is the only action in the best interest of all parties
16 concerned -- entire humanity.

17 No draft or final review or revision of
18 the SIS document or the EIS is acceptable. Don't even
19 consider it.

20 I'm afraid we may soon be known as the
21 people who committed mass suicide by destroying our
22 world. Let us all remember that all that glows is not
23 gold.

24 Wouldn't it be far wiser to spend the untold
25 millions of dollars that this project would incur on

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6.3

6.2

1 something that would benefit most Idahoans? Wouldn't it
2 make better sense to do something most Idahoans would
3 support? Wouldn't it be far better to have the Department
4 of Energy cooperate with the Department of Transportation,
5 for instance, rather than the Department of Defense?
6 Wouldn't it be far wiser and fiscally more defensible and
7 prudent to spend millions of dollars improving Idaho's
8 Highway 95?

9 I know I'd rather have good highways and
10 the ability to swim in the clean waters of the Snake and
11 the Columbia Rivers than swim in the nuclear wasted
12 dollars that the SIS Project would needlessly expend.

13 I request you as intelligent individuals
14 that you will reconsider and review your process. I
15 request that our congressmen who support this dump hole
16 reconsider their support of this continued nuclear
17 madness. We must avoid nuclear destruction as an addict
18 must avoid poisonous drugs. And like any nuclear addict,
19 we must heed the first lady's advice and "Just learn to
20 say no." And today I say no, no to SIS. And I ask all
21 of you to say no to SIS.

1.1

22 Thank you very much.

23 MR. EIGUREN: We're in receipt of the
24 written comments of Michael Jones. They'll be marked
25 as Exhibit 251 for the record.

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1 (Exhibit No. 251 was marked and entered.)
2 MR. EIGUREN: Also handed to me by Mr. Jones
3 is the written statement of Helen Ostrogorsky,
4 O-s-t-r-o-g-o-r-s-k-y, of Boise. We'll mark that as
5 Exhibit No. 252 and put it into the record.

6 (Exhibit No. 252 was marked and entered.)

7 MR. EIGUREN: We're now at witness Order 101,
8 Virginia Bennett. Virginia Bennett?

9 Daniel Fell. Daniel Fell?

10 Ann Hutchinson. Ann Hutchinson?

11 Mike Kobe. Mike Kobe?

12 Kate Parkin.

13 MS. PARKIN: Here.

14 MR. EIGUREN: Please step forward.

15 MS. PARKIN: My name is Kate Parkin; I live
16 at 1905 Dora here in Boise. And I am totally opposed to
17 the building of the SIS here in Idaho. Actually, I dare
18 to hope that it will not be built at all, ever.

1.1

19 The risks from transportation, refinement
20 and storage of plutonium and its waste products are
21 unacceptable. The fact that the DOE wants to make fuel
22 for nuclear weapons in my home state is unacceptable.

6.1.2

23 If the SIS is built here, I fear for our
24 air, our soil, and ground water. I fear for our health,
25 safety, and peace of mind. I fear for our agricultural

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5.27.6.9

6.3

6.1.8

1 and tourism industries.

2 It is a sorry piece of politicking when the
3 promise of jobs is used to gain the support of
4 economically troubled people for an unsupportable
5 project. The needs of these people are real. However,
6 it's much less apparent that the need for an SIS is real.

7 \$900-million could be used to develop and
8 sustain many more long-lasting, socially and
9 environmentally enhancing jobs than this project ever
10 will.

11 DOE wants us to risk permanent environmental
12 and economic damage, and relinquish another chunk of
13 our state's rights and more of our personal security for
14 very short-term and questionable economic gain. I find
15 this to be a horrifying proposition and say, "No thanks,"

16 MR. EIGUREN: Marked as Exhibit No. 253
17 for the record is a written comment of Kate Parkin.

18 (Exhibit No. 253 was marked and entered.)

19 MR. EIGUREN: Moving on to witness Order
20 No. 106, David Emberton. David Emberton?

21 Order 107, Jane Houston.

22 (A discussion was had off the record.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: Please state your name and
24 address for the record.

25 MS. CASLER: Sally Casler, Boise, Idaho. My

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1 testimony says good afternoon, but I'll say good evening.

2 As a partner in a small business in Boise,
3 I have some concerns about the existence of the SIS. I
4 have some personal concerns and I have some that go beyond
5 the parameters of my life and business. I am speaking
6 today from the point of view of a businesswoman choosing
7 to be in Idaho and being a part of creating Idaho's
8 future. My business supports and promotes two of Idaho's
9 strongest resources: agriculture and tourism.

10 Our nation is experiencing many changes and
11 because of these changes, there is probably not one facet
12 of our lives that is not affected. Just a few days ago,
13 I received an issue of a nationally-circulated magazine
14 in which an article appears on "The Rise of New America."
15 Within this lengthy article is a map carefully dissecting
16 and rating sections of our nation according to the
17 strongest long-term growth in the decades ahead and the
18 quality of life which will emerge in them.

19 I was pleased, yet not surprised, to
20 discover that many large sections of Idaho rate the
21 highest and most ideal for the future migration of
22 individuals from declining suburbia to rural sections
23 of the country with high potential.

24 Idaho's geography, history and growth
25 patterns have protected it from having to make quick

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6.5.2

1 decisions. The people of Idaho have worked very hard to
2 promote and maintain a state with high quality
3 agricultural products and tourism opportunities. I am
4 not denying that Idaho does not have problems, but
5 fortunately, much of the pristine Idaho is still in
6 existence.

7 I have some questions to ask the people of
8 Idaho: "What will make Idaho attractive to individuals
9 living outside of our state so that they will want to
10 vacation here or bring their talents and skills and live
11 here?" Aside from the many potential hazards, I also ask,
12 "What would just the mere placement of a plutonium plant
13 do to that hard-earned reputation? Why do we want to
14 jeopardize what many individuals and other states wish
15 they still had?

16 "Why does it seem so easy to select demise
17 rather than life-giving options with a potential of
18 building health and prosperity? Why is it that as a
19 people we continuously choose solutions that tempt
20 self-destruction? Why not build on the fabulous resources
21 we have and attract activities that will assist in that
22 building process rather than to destroy? Why is there
23 even a question of what to do?"

24 The SIS is an economic as well as a moral
25 issue, but I see Idaho grasping for economic solutions in

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1 the name of "JOBS." Unfortunately, in my opinion, the
2 SIS is a hasty solution. I also view the SIS as a
3 solution for the Old American Way of solving things. I
4 hear people justifying their support saying, "Let's do
5 it because it is an economic opportunity, no matter what
6 the cost" or "Let's make the big stick of deterrence
7 bigger."

8 The people of Idaho have an opportunity to
9 make a choice of building its future with the resources
10 it has now. Part of the New America is having a vision
11 of what our existence could be and taking steps toward
12 that dream. This might range from picking up litter,
13 speaking more kindly to another person, and giving
14 something no longer needed to someone else, to not having
15 a plutonium plant in Idaho's back yard.

16 It is very simple. Why can't Idaho carry
17 the dream of being an attractive, thriving and prime
18 resource for this nation?

19 Unfortunately, part of the legacy of
20 building a new, alive America is also carefully weighing
21 our decisions. We can no longer get away with quick
22 decisions and justifying that we just have to suffer the
23 consequences or that the short-term gain will help for
24 the time being. We can no longer keep patching the holes.

25 If we remove the labels we call ourselves,

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2.7.2

1.1

1 and each other, and our ways of organizing, and our
2 justifications for the choices we make, what we simply
3 are are human beings living on this planet, consuming and
4 abusing the resources that this land provides. As humans,
5 we have no problem to be the caretakers of our homes,
6 our personal property, our children, our cars, et cetera;
7 but we often forget that we are also caretakers of the
8 earth. As a whole, we are doing a pretty poor job of it.

9 As political figures, business people,
10 residents, children, we are all human beings who must make
11 our daily decisions with a conscience. I cannot afford
12 the SIS. Idaho cannot afford the SIS. American cannot
13 afford SIS.

14 MR. EIGUREN: Marked as Exhibit No. 254 for
15 inclusion in the record will be the written comments of
16 Sally Casler.

17 (Exhibit No. 254 was marked and entered.)

18 MR. EIGUREN: We're at witness No. 108,
19 Chuck Hansen. Chuck Hansen?

20 Kit Bradley. Kit Bradley?

21 Mark Torf.

22 MR. TORF: Good evening. My name is
23 Mark Torf; I reside in Boise, Idaho. I appreciate the
24 opportunity to present a list of concerns and questions
25 regarding the Draft EIS for the Special Isotope Separation

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1 Project.

2 I am a consultant emphasizing hazardous
3 materials management. Formerly, I was the Compliance
4 Section Manager for the Idaho Department of Health and
5 Welfare's Hazardous Materials Bureau. My responsibilities
6 included managing the Bureau's permitting and enforcement
7 of radioactive materials and hazardous waste.

8 Prior to this, I was employed by the
9 State of Idaho as a Senior Water Quality Specialist and
10 of the State of Ohio as the lead chemist for the Ohio
11 Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Emergency
12 Response.

13 Further, I have initiated and managed the
14 cleanup of contaminated soil and ground water at numerous
15 governmental and private facilities. Thus, I am very
16 familiar with state and federal environmental laws
17 concerning waste generation and management.

18 I will focus my testimony on some of the
19 environmental and regulatory consequences of siting the
20 Special Isotope Separator at the INEL, and emphasize
21 issues which should be reexamined in finalizing the
22 Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

23 The SIS facility would discharge an
24 additional 70,000,000 gallons of waste water annually to
25 the existing Chemical Processing Plant percolation ponds,

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5.21.4

5.21.6

1 according to the DEIS. Section 4.5.1.3 includes the
2 waste water discharge in a list of possible cumulative
3 impacts on ground water. This represents a 12 percent
4 increase in the total volume of waste disposed in these
5 ponds.

6 In the past, the U.S. DOE has repeatedly
7 stressed that the percolation ponds were constructed
8 simply as a temporary alternative to deep well injection
9 of radioactive and chemical wastes. Yet, construction
10 of the SIS would increase reliance on these ponds.

11 Currently, approximately 10,000 gallons
12 of waste water containing radioisotopes and residual
13 chemicals are combined with nearly 2,000,000 gallons of
14 relatively clean waste water and dumped into the pond
15 each day. Even with this massive dilution, the waste
16 water seeping toward the aquifer still exceeds the
17 State of Idaho's proposed ground water protection
18 standards. The addition of SIS waste water could
19 complicate matters further.

20 Downward percolation of waste water has
21 likely dispersed contaminants through the soil and
22 fractured rock toward the aquifer. Chemicals bound to
23 the soils could be dispersed further with the addition
24 of SIS waste water to the ponds, depending on the
25 ultimate characteristics of the waste water. A similar

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5.30.4.14

1 plume has already been identified beneath the TRA
2 radioactive waste percolation ponds at the INEL.

3 In effect, while public concern may have
4 been minimized by substituting the percolation ponds for
5 well injection, the ponds have created a larger zone of
6 contamination. The waste simply takes longer to reach
7 the aquifer.

8 The U.S. DOE has not specifically
9 characterized the nature and concentrations of
10 radioisotopes and chemicals expected in the SIS liquid
11 waste water. According to the DEIS, the effluent would
12 fall below federal standards for radionuclides in drinking
13 water and chemicals defined as hazardous wastes. This
14 does not mean the effluent is not radioactive or does not
15 contain hazardous constituents. A more detailed
16 description of the SIS waste water constituents should
17 be provided in order to evaluate possible cumulative
18 impacts from combining SIS effluents with those from the
19 Chemical Processing Plant.

20 What if the proposed SIS waste water
21 treatment is less effective than expected? Will SIS
22 waste water simply be diluted and discharged to the
23 percolation ponds like the Chemical Processing Plant
24 waste water?

25 The U.S. DOE discounts the cumulative impact

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5.30.5.14

5.21.4

5.18.2

5.18.5

5.21.2

1 of adding SIS waste water to the percolation ponds,
 2 noting that a new waste water evaporator is planned for
 3 the CPP. This will reduce the total volume of waste
 4 water by only 10,000 gallons per day. While it could
 5 reduce the concentration of contaminants discharging to
 6 the percolation ponds, it will not significantly reduce
 7 the volume of waste water disposed in the ponds.

8 The SIS, alone, would contribute 200,000
 9 gallons per day. Further, the proposed evaporator has
 10 not been approved or funded, nor has the design been
 11 finalized. What if the evaporator is not built or
 12 delayed? The U.S. DOE should clarify the possible
 13 cumulative impacts imposed by SIS generated waste water
 14 given a functioning and nonfunctioning CPP evaporator.

5.30.5.8

15 According to the U.S. DOE, the SIS would
 16 produce 220 cubic meters of transuranic radioactive waste
 17 annually. In 1986, the most recent period for which
 18 data is available, the INEL generated only about 8.2 cubic
 19 meters of transuranic waste. This represents a 2,700
 20 per cent increase. Slightly different from what was
 21 discussed earlier.

5.30.2.5

5.30.2.1

22 While a transuranic waste disposal
 23 facility is scheduled to open near Carlsbad, New Mexico,
 24 serious engineering questions have been raised which could
 25 slow or halt its use. The long-lived radioactive waste

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B081

1 could be left to accumulate at the INEL with no other
 2 disposal options. Construction of the SIS should be
 3 contingent upon a fully operational transuranic waste
 4 disposal facility. The disposal facility should be shown
 5 to be environmentally sound prior to generating or storing
 6 more transuranic waste in Idaho.

7 A fuller summary of my comments will be
 8 included in my written testimony.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. EIGUREN: The chair is in receipt of the
 11 written comments of Mark Torf. As he mentioned, they are
 12 rather extensive and deal with the various issues.

13 We'll mark those as Exhibit No. 255, to
 14 be included in the record as received.

15 (Exhibit No. 255 was marked and entered.)

16 MR. EIGUREN: We'll move on down the list.
 17 We're now at witness Order 108.

18 Sir?

19 MR. VAN VALKENBURGH: I'm for Chuck Hansen.
 20 My name is Jack Van Valkenburgh.

21 MR. EIGUREN: Please step forward. Go ahead.

22 MR. VAN VALKENBURGH: For a number of
 23 reasons, I believe the no action alternative is the best
 24 of the five alternative possible courses of action
 25 identified by the Department of Energy in its February

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5.30.2.5

1.1

2.13.17

1 1988 Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the SIS
2 Project.

3 Actually, better alternatives exist -- some
4 very popular and pragmatic alternatives which the DOE
5 failed to consider in the DEIS. Chief amongst these is
6 the proposal of nine national membership organizations.
7 These organizations include as members many eminent
8 scientists, lawyers, statesmen, and Americans of virtually
9 every walk of life.

10 The proposal is dubbed "The Plutonium
11 Challenge." It is offered by the Environmental Policy
12 Institute, the Energy Research Foundation, the Federation
13 of American Scientists, Friends of the Earth, Greenpeace,
14 the National Resources Defense Council, Physicians for
15 Social Responsibility, and the Union of Concerned
16 Scientists.

17 Signatories also include William Colby,
18 former Director of the CIA, retired Vice Admiral John
19 Marshall Lee, and Ambassador Gerard Smith, Chief of the
20 SALT I delegation and former Ambassador to the
21 International Atomic Energy Agency.

22 Very simply, "The Plutonium Challenge" is
23 to declare an immediate two-year moratorium on the
24 further production of plutonium for nuclear weapons.
25 In addition, it would challenge the Soviet Union to

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1 negotiate a bilateral, verifiable cutoff of the production
2 of plutonium -- as well as highly-enriched uranium -- for
3 nuclear weapons.

4 There are good reasons to believe that the
5 Soviets would be responsive to an American initiative.
6 In recent years, the Soviets have indicated an interest
7 in a cutoff. They too have aging production reactors and
8 heightened awareness of their hazards in the wake of
9 Chernobyl. The Soviets also have demonstrated a new
10 openness towards the presence of American and international
11 inspectors to monitor nuclear weapons activities.

12 Not many years ago, The Plutonium Challenge
13 would have been considered unrealistic. Neither the
14 Soviet Union nor the United States showed willingness
15 to budge from seemingly irreconcilable positions as to
16 the size of their nuclear arsenals.

17 Now that has changed. Recently the Soviet
18 Union and the United States have agreed to a significant
19 arms reduction treaty, and there are now beginning dates
20 for talks between our respective leaders to further
21 reduce what we all agree are excessive nuclear stockpiles.

22 Idaho should be in the forefront,
23 encouraging such peace-promoting possibilities. The INEL
24 facility should be exclusively operated for non-military
25 research and development purposes. Job creation,

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3.3.3

2.7.6

1 especially long-term steady employment, would be best
2 promoted by such an exclusive dedication of INEL for
3 civilian research purposes. The state's reputation would
4 be enhanced and its waters and people protected from the
5 real possibilities of contamination by plutonium.

4.3

4.2.1

6 But the DEIS evidences no consideration of
7 this alternative. The DOE proposes to transform INEL
8 from a facility primarily devoted to peaceful applications
9 of nuclear technology to a facility principally involved
10 with nuclear weapons production.

11 The DOE's preferred alternative is offered
12 despite the fact that the signing of the INF Treaty will
13 free up two tons of weapon grade plutonium and, as
14 reported in the March 14th issue of Newsweek, that the
15 United States is already awash in plutonium. If current
16 negotiations on a 50 percent strategic force cutback are
17 successful, plutonium equaling eight times the amount to
18 be produced by the SIS will be made available for new
19 weapons production.

5.26.2

20 The only way the SIS could continue to
21 provide weapon grade plutonium after six to eight years
22 of operation is if plutonium recovered from commercial
23 nuclear power plant spent fuel were used as feed. This
24 would violate the spirit of the Nuclear Nonproliferation
25 Treaty and set a dangerous world precedent.

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B082

3.3.1

1 In effect, the DOE proposes to make Idaho
2 the vehicle for international treaty violations. For
3 Idaho to be so used, simply for the unnecessary, costly
4 and dangerous production of additional nuclear weapons --
5 is an outrage.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
8 Jack Van Valkenburgh will be included in the record as
9 Exhibit 256.

10 (Exhibit No. 256 was marked and entered.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: Turning to the afternoon
12 session witness order, speaker order, we're now at
13 Speaker No. 109, Kit Bradley.

14 I called Mark Torf.

15 Alan Leisk.

16 MR. LEISK: My name is Alan Leisk. I am a
17 labor relations consultant and I reside at
18 3105 Fallingbrook Lane, Boise, Idaho 83706.

19 My career in labor relations in the
20 construction industry has given me the opportunity to be
21 indirectly or directly involved with the INEL site for
22 the last 25 years. From this vantage point, I have been
23 able to observe many positive changes in the construction
24 labor relations at the INEL complex.

25 During the past decade, the construction

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5.27.12.6

1 labor disputes between management and labor and the
2 jurisdictional disputes between unions, which often
3 resulted in disruptive work stoppages, have totally
4 disappeared.

5 This improved labor relations climate has
6 been due to the execution and implementation of an
7 excellent labor agreement -- known as the Site
8 Stabilization Agreement -- which covers all construction
9 at INEL, the employment of the site labor coordinator,
10 a professional who adjudicates jurisdictional disputes
11 and administers the Site Stabilization Agreement, and
12 the formation and participation of the labor/management
13 committee, a forum composed equally of labor and
14 management representatives, which meets regularly to
15 resolve problems and to promote mutual cooperation.

16 The effectiveness of these cooperative
17 efforts is evidenced by the fact that during the last
18 two years there have been 52 contractual and
19 jurisdictional disputes resolved without a single work
20 stoppage.

5.24.23

21 Another important statistic is the high
22 level of safety which is enforced and maintained on
23 construction operations at the INEL site. This is
24 demonstrated by the fact that the severity rate for
25 construction at INEL is 33.2 compared to 134.5 for all

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B083

1 U.S. construction, as reported by the Bureau of Labor
2 Statistics. These figures indicate INEL is a very safe
3 place to work.

4 In addition, I have observed that there is
5 a strong work ethic present in the labor forces employed
6 at INEL which results in above-average productivity.

7 For the reasons of labor stability and
8 cooperation, an excellent safety record, and a productive
9 labor force, I feel that INEL is the ideal site for the
10 SIS facility.

11 I appreciate having the opportunity of
12 testifying on this matter, and I would like to leave a
13 printed copy of my oral testimony for the record.

14 Thank you.

15 MR. EIGUREN: Written comments of Alan Leisk
16 will be included in the record as Exhibit 257.

17 (Exhibit No. 257 marked and entered.)

18 MR. EIGUREN: We are at witness Order 112.

19 Rebecca Finn. Rebecca Finn?

20 Karen Edwards. Karen Edwards?

21 Michael Peck. Michael Peck?

22 Lorraine Gunderson. Lorraine Gunderson?

23 Karen Silva.

24 MS. SILVA: My name is Karen Silva; I live
25 at 504 Warren Street, Boise. I'm not a professional about

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5.27.12.2

1.1

6.2

5.27.7.17

6.3

1.1

1 nuclear proliferation; I'm just speaking as a mother and
2 Idahoan, and I'd like to stress that in Idaho we have a
3 quality of life here that few people in other states
4 enjoy.

5 I know that many people say that jobs are
6 really important and that we really need this project for
7 jobs. I agree that jobs are important, but I don't feel
8 that our quality of life, to endanger it is worth the
9 cost of a few short-term gains. I think that we can
10 spend our money more effectively and create jobs in other
11 areas.

12 The cost of \$1-billion to fund this project
13 paid by taxpayers is money that can be used for many
14 other purposes, such as health care for the elderly,
15 education for our youth, and helping the homeless and
16 other social concerns as that. I feel that with the
17 budget deficit that we have, that we cannot afford to
18 spend this kind of money on a project that is not needed,
19 that is destructive to humanity, and it will likely
20 endanger our quality of life that we enjoy.

21 I don't want to live near a nuclear
22 refining plant, and I don't think many people here do.
23 I would like to go on record as objecting to the SIS, and
24 I feel that it should not be put at INEL or anywhere else
25 in this country.

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B084

1 Thank you very much.

2 MR. EIGUREN: We're at Order 117 on the
3 speakers list, J.J. Dion. J.J. Dion?

4 David Simmonds. David Simmonds?

5 Valerie Galindo. Valerie Galindo?

6 Patsy Corke. Patsy Corke?

7 Nancy Brossman. Nancy Brossman?

8 Greg Sali.

9 MR. SALI: My name is Gregory Sali and I am
10 a physicist and I have worked in the nuclear business for
11 a number of years. I have worked at the Savannah River
12 Project. I was on all of the different areas of the site.
13 I was the site superintendent for the diffusion plant
14 at Portsmouth, Ohio. I saw 42,000 people hired at the
15 Savannah River Project. I saw the benefits that came
16 there. I saw 27,000 people hired at the Portsmouth
17 plant -- and incidentally, that plant was finished within
18 budget and three months ahead of schedule. I've worked
19 in Rickover's Nuclear Navy. I was the Superintendent of
20 Plant Engineering and Testing on the SLC Hunter Killer
21 Submarine nuclear reactor. So I think I know something
22 about what happens with projects of this type of the SIS
23 when they come into an area and what can happen in that
24 area with its benefits.

25 It's a terrible thing that we have to build

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6.2

1 weapons at all. I would say this to you, that our
2 adversary position in the world today is the reason that
3 we are here today to talk about the SIS program. I stand
4 for bringing you the SIS program into Idaho. I believe
5 the scientific developments that have been made in the
6 laser technology, et cetera, go far beyond any of the
7 things I've heard here today about death and destruction,
8 et cetera.

9 I believe that plutonium is as dangerous
10 as anyone has said here today, but I don't hear anybody
11 say how we're going to get rid of it. Everything that's
12 been said is "Don't build another facility so that we
13 can purify for nuclear warheads."

14 I ask all of you to support me in a program
15 where we can get rid of all nuclear warhead materials in
16 all the world. Then we can have a reasonable chance at
17 peace in the future for ourselves and our children and
18 their children and those yet to come. We can't do it by
19 just being in opposition. We have to have a plan on what
20 we're going to do with the nuclear warhead materials.

5.28.6

21 And I say to you this: That the technology
22 that's involved in the SIS program is the greatest
23 advancement for getting rid of those materials that the
24 humanity can possibly have, and that's why it needs to be
25 built in Idaho at the INEL. That facility should be

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1 expanded not just to do plutonium isotope separation,
2 because you can separate the isotopes of every element
3 in the Periodic Table. Therefore, the future of high
4 technology is involved. And if we don't do it, then
5 Japan will, and Germany will, and Russia will, and God
6 knows that we want them to have that kind of capability,
7 when we need to take leadership action, so that we have
8 a facility so we can get rid of all of the nuclear
9 warhead materials in the world. Then we won't have to
10 worry about it, because the SIS facility will do several
11 things:

12 It will not only bring us into the new era
13 of the third leap of technology by separating the new
14 materials of our future technological age, but it can
15 help us be the facility for getting rid of the nuclear
16 warhead materials and putting them behind us, once and
17 for all. And that's a greater task, that's a greater
18 challenge than anybody here has stated today. The SIS
19 has that technological capability, and I urge you, I beg
20 you to join together so that we can take the advantages
21 of the SIS facility and its technology, and we expand it
22 so that we can indeed be a part of the leadership that
23 gets rid of all the nuclear warhead materials. The
24 advantage of this facility -- oops. I'm going to run
25 over.

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1 There are four reasons that we should do
2 this:

3 No. 1 is, of course, so we can have a
4 facility that's expanded so we can get rid of the warhead
5 material.

6 No. 2 is so we can have the advantage of
7 the technology of isotope separation. Remember, every
8 element of the Periodic Table has already been separated
9 into its isotope. That research work has already been
10 done. This will be the forerunner of the technological
11 capability of making the materials for our third leap
12 technology. We cannot afford to miss that.

13 The next reason is that the jobs that will
14 be made in the industrial and commercial complex that will
15 be associated with these new materials in our high
16 technology future will provide the kind of jobs I hear
17 the Governor talking about, I hear everybody talking
18 about. I hear everybody talking about what we can do for
19 our children.

20 A PUBLIC WITNESS: Not everybody.

21 MR. EIGUREN: Quiet, please.

22 Mr. Sali, could you bring it to a close?

23 MR. SALI: Yes.

24 So I urge you to join me, join together with
25 me in a high technology valley association so we can get

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B085

1 rid of the warhead materials and enter into the third
2 leap of technology and provide jobs for our children and
3 education for our children, because it can all come with
4 the SIS Project.

5 A PUBLIC WITNESS: Where do you live?

6 MR. EIGUREN: We don't need any comments
7 from the audience. We'll let the commenters speak.

8 Our next commenter is Chris Eschen.

9 MR. MCGLINSKY: I'm taking the place of
10 Chris Eschen. My name is Alfred M. McGlinsky. I have
11 taken the place of Chris.

12 While I have worked and lived near Nampa,
13 Idaho for 10 years, I have also lived in Idaho Falls, where
14 for eight years I worked as a physicist at the INEL. Out
15 on the desert, the SPERT Project provided employment for
16 about 100 of us. We were involved in conducting safety
17 studies on a variety of reactor types. We did that in
18 some cases by carefully approaching and, eventually,
19 exceeding the damage thresholds for either reactor
20 components such as fuel rods and assemblies or, in
21 several experiments which have received much publicity
22 world-wide, even for entire reactors themselves. Some of
23 you may remember the destructive testing of the SPERT 1
24 reactor in the mid 1960's in which the reactor was
25 intentionally "blown up."

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1 Our mission in these experiments was to
2 provide experimental data which could be used to test
3 calculational models being developed for predicting the
4 behavior of the reactors which might depart from normal
5 to accident conditions.

6 I have bothered to mention all of this at
7 this hearing only because it relates to one of two
8 concerns I wish to address in conjunction with the
9 Special Isotope Separation Project. It may help us think
10 critically about work and working and jobs, which have
11 all been mentioned as important reasons for encouraging
12 the construction of the SIS Project at the INEL.

13 However, it is not enough to be working
14 for work's sake. We must bring those jobs to Idaho which
15 allow us to do work that is important to do. We have the
16 potential to work in ways that not only enhance our
17 lives in a monetary sense but that also enhance the lives
18 of others now and those who will live after us on this
19 beautiful planet. A few illustrations of jobs which fail
20 in this regard will help me make my point more clear.

21 Example No. 1: The Nazi guards who
22 marshaled Jews into incinerators at Auschwitz and
23 elsewhere during World War II were on the payroll, but
24 none of us, I suspect, would envy them because of the
25 nature of their work. It lacked worthwhile purpose -- it

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1 was morally corrupt.

2 Example No. 2: While most of us believe
3 in the free expression of ideas and are tolerant of those
4 with views quite different from our own, we each tend to
5 draw the line at some point, even if it costs us to do so.
6 We tend to exercise such restraint at the state level too:
7 Witness the reluctance to permit a state-run lottery as
8 a means to create both revenue and jobs. And how many of
9 us would encourage, say, legalized gambling or legalized
10 prostitution in Idaho or proclaiming that the state should
11 become a welcoming haven for Neo-Nazis? Yet any of these,
12 it could be argued, might bring new jobs and income to
13 help relieve our state's financial needs. But there are
14 some things that we would not do. We need income, yes.
15 We need jobs, yes, and the independence that comes from
16 working, you bet. But we need to be proud of ourselves
17 and of our work, too.

18 Unfortunately, the idea of building the SIS
19 Project is not one that can honestly fill us with pride,
20 though it can be argued it would bring dollars into the
21 state -- like legalized gambling or prostitution could.
22 As far as I know, the work being done at the site during
23 my days of working there was related to the peaceful uses
24 of the atom. The SIS departs significantly from that.

25 My two daughters used to greet me when I got

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1 off the bus coming back from the desert and ask me what
 2 I had done that day. I have to say I'm glad that I
 3 didn't have to explain to them that I had helped build
 4 new triggers by building triggers for nuclear bombs
 5 which kill people. They would know that. I can think of
 6 no answer that could be given truthfully about the need
 7 for an even larger stockpile of bombs, especially as we
 8 continue to negotiate for further arms reduction.

9 Yet there are dozens of scientific questions
 10 of critical importance to man's survival on this planet
 11 which we are not pursuing because of a lack of funding.
 12 And how can we think of spending precious tax dollars on
 13 warheads in the face of the shortages faced by the
 14 homeless people living in the streets? There is no sense
 15 and no pride in that.

16 I, for one, am even ashamed that we find
 17 ourselves here today having to protect ourselves from
 18 such misdirected intention on the part of our government.
 19 That leads directly to my second major concern.

20 My hope, of course, is that you who are
 21 charged with these processes, are sincere in wishing to
 22 hear from the public in order to make a better decision
 23 for all of us. But I'm skeptical. The reason for my
 24 skepticism is that I have read quite carefully the Draft
 25 Environmental Impact Statement, and I find that it is not

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1 an unbiased document as I believe it should have been.
 2 Rather, its intent is on finding the INEL the best place
 3 to construct the project. That's just not good science,
 4 as we all deserve. This is pork barrel politics, pure
 5 and simple, offered up as science.

6 I have some other statements, but I'm not
 7 going to have time to read them. But I want to move on
 8 down. I was the co-author of several publications
 9 describing the reactor safety work we were doing at the
 10 site. I assure you -- I'm thinking about the disclaimer
 11 that's in the front of the document -- I assure you that
 12 accuracy and completeness were our goals in writing and
 13 producing publications for sharing our efforts with the
 14 regulating and scientific communities who depended on our
 15 work.

16 To conclude. Yes, Idaho needs jobs and
 17 employment opportunities. But we need also to be honest
 18 with ourselves about our intentions and our motives.
 19 We must be able to justify the expenditures of scarce
 20 tax dollars at all levels. We must be able to look
 21 ourselves and our children directly in the eye and be
 22 proud of the choices we have made in allocating precious
 23 resources. A billion dollars to build the SIS in Idaho
 24 or anywhere at this time cannot be justified, in the face
 25 of far more pressing needs.

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1 There are many jobs that we could bring to
2 Idaho, even to Idaho's INEL, that are worth doing. Let's
3 work towards them, and avoid the risks of trucking
4 plutonium across our highways, of accidental releases
5 of this extremely toxic substance into an already
6 burdened environment, only to add to the stockpile of
7 nuclear weapons we are trying hard to eliminate.

8 Yes, stop this charade, please.

9 Thank you.

10 MR. EIGUREN: Alfred M. McGlinsky's written
11 statement will be entered into the record as Exhibit
12 No. 259.

13 (Exhibit No. 259 was marked and entered.)

14 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at Order 125,
15 Heidi Read.

16 MS. READ: I am gratified to see so many
17 people awake and alert after my bedtime.

18 My name is Heidi Read and I am opposed to
19 the construction of the SIS Project.

20 As I understand it, the sole purpose of
21 this proposed facility is to refine weapons grade
22 plutonium for use in a nuclear arsenal already poised
23 to destroy the earth over and over and over again. The
24 destructive potential of our already existing stockpile
25 of weapons must call every person who loves life on this

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1 beautiful planet to the work of reclaiming true global
2 security constructed of cooperation and mutual
3 understanding rather than a security blanket of nuclear
4 warheads which we are waking up to find an uncomfortably
5 insecure substitute.

6 Even those still deriving comfort from the
7 nuclear arsenals feel we have more than enough plutonium.
8 The White House and the Department of Energy issued a
9 joint press release on February 17th of this year
10 stating that adequate supplies of plutonium for future
11 defense needs already exist without the development of
12 the SIS. DOE Secretary Herrington, speaking before the
13 Department of Interior and Related Agencies Committee
14 hearing on the 1989 appropriations, asserted also in
15 February, "Plutonium. We're awash in plutonium. We have
16 more plutonium than we need." There is no justification
17 for the construction of a dangerous and deadly facility
18 in our state.

19 I am proud to be an Idahoan and I am
20 particularly opposed to the idea of an SIS here. I feel
21 the many facets of the SIS threat to the environment have
22 not been adequately considered. The threat to the prime
23 water source and the rich soil are heightened by the
24 history of earthquake and volcanic activity in this area.

25 I reject the unconscionable transportation

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of toxic wastes on our public highways.

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In addition, the SIS promises increased dangers of air pollution at INEL and attendant health hazards posed to the surrounding community in terms of the increased cancer rates, higher mortality rates, lung disease and other statistically significant problems that have been experienced at other DOE sites.

On a broader scale, I feel the DEIS did not pay adequate attention to the fact that the eventual use of the nuclear warheads that the SIS would help create would have a naturally catastrophic and lethal effect on our entire environment. When we support the machinery of death with our tax dollars, our land, and even our passive lack of opposition, we must be prepared to deal with the results of a nuclear holocaust and the loss of all that we hold dear.

5.30.1.4

I am particularly concerned that the

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problem of waste disposal has not been adequately addressed. New Mexico's Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, the DOE's hope for a place to safely house the nuclear wastes from the SIS, has sprung a leak, and this failure, in the absence of other DOE alternative plans, could leave Idaho the dumping ground for the entire nation's plutonium waste, with a noxious and terrifying radioactive life of over 240,000 years.

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How many of us would like to vacation near the Chernobyl accident site? Why should we want to import a facility pregnant with similar disaster to our backyard? The 750 jobs for a total of seven to eight years are a laughable benefit when compared to 240,000 years of radioactive tap water, radioactive campgrounds, radioactive Idaho spuds.

I remember driving through Idaho in the mid '60s, an easterner drinking in the beautiful emptiness and wild west wonder. The Stinker Stations had placed huge billboards out in the middle of nowhere with simple unadorned messages like: "Idaho sagebrush. Take some home to your mother-in-law."

Another sign in a forsaken spot with nothing but the rhythmically dipping phone lines to keep a traveler company announced: "Lonely Hearts Club picnic area." I believe the SIS could make that last sign tragically true for all of Idaho.

I stand for an Idaho with a safe and healthy future. I stand against construction of the SIS.

MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of Heidi Read will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 260.

(Exhibit No. 260 was marked and entered.)

MR. EIGUREN: We are at commenter Order

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6.1.8

1 No. 26, Wayne Morris. Wayne Morris?

2 Roger Rosentreter. Roger Rosentreter?

3 Jim Kreider. Jim Kreider?

4 Lee Scharf. Lee Scharf?

5 Dan Ostermiller. Dan Ostermiller?

6 Susan Eastlake. Susan Eastlake?

7 MS. EASTLAKE: My name is Susan Eastlake;

8 I reside at 1107 North 18th Street in Boise.

9 Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to
10 express my views on this important topic.

11 I am a certified public accountant. I am
12 married. I have three teenaged children. My husband,
13 Bill, is an economist for the Idaho State Department of
14 Water Resources. My son Dane turned 18 this month and
15 registered for the Draft. He and my 19-year-old daughter,
16 Liesl, will vote this year in their first presidential
17 election. My family has lived in Idaho since 1969. We
18 have worked and studied and played in Idaho.

19 We fish the Boise River, the Payette River,
20 the Henry's Fork of the Snake, Silver Creek, the Big Wood,
21 and many, many others. We walk and ski the hills of
22 Boise and McCall and Ketchum and Island Park. Our trips
23 to Yellowstone Park or Island Park or the Henry's Fork
24 are always traveled by way of Highway 20 through the Idaho
25 desert and Arco. We often discuss the amazing fact that

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1 Arco was the first city in the world lighted by nuclear
2 power. It always reminds me of the incredible
3 accomplishments that we human beings have made toward
4 improving the quality of life.

5 The possibility that this Idaho city may
6 be seen by future generations as the site of a nuclear
7 weapons production facility makes me very sad. From the
8 height of human accomplishment to the depth of human
9 devastation, all with the same small atom and the same
10 small Idaho town.

11 I ask the Department of Energy to prevent
12 this tragic occurrence. Please select the "no action"
13 alternative. Allow Arco to remain a monument to the
14 peaceful use of the atom.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
17 Susan Eastlake will be included in the record as
18 Exhibit 261.

19 (Exhibit No. 261 was marked and entered.)

20 MR. EIGUREN: At this point in time we have
21 now gone through the entire list of afternoon public
22 commenters. Of the 131 individuals who have preregistered
23 to comment, we have received comments from 78. Those
24 individuals whose names we called but were not here, we
25 will call again at the continuation of this hearing which

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1 is now scheduled for next Tuesday, the 29th of March,
2 being at 2:00 p.m. at the Red Lion-Riverside.

3 In addition to that, we will add to this
4 list any of the names of any of the individuals who signed
5 up at the door of this afternoon's session as well as
6 this evening session.

7 What we will do with the list of speakers
8 who are scheduled to comment this evening is, we will
9 hold it over to the continuation of this hearing which
10 will begin at 7:00 p.m. next Tuesday, March 29th at the
11 Red Lion-Riverside.

12 What I would like to do at this point in
13 time is ask anyone here in the room who has written
14 comments who does not plan to attend any of the
15 continuation of these hearings to step forward, and we
16 can include your written comments for the record, if
17 you would like.

18 I should also first ask, is there anybody
19 here who was scheduled to comment this afternoon that
20 has not had a chance to do so?

21 Would you please step forward and give us
22 your name for the record, and we'll mark your written
23 comments as an exhibit.

24 MS. MOORE: My name is Colleen More and
25 I am a Student for World Peace at Boise High School. I

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1 live at 1819 North 11th Street. I feel there is a moral
2 obligation --

3 MR. EIGUREN: I was asking for written
4 comments.

5 MS. MOORE: Oh, I'm sorry. All rightee.
6 So I can't testify?

7 MR. EIGUREN: Well, go ahead.

8 MS. MOORE: Okay. Sorry about that.

9 I feel there is a moral obligation to
10 stop the SIS from coming to Idaho or any other state.
11 The U.S. currently has 25,000 nuclear weapons. The
12 warheads aboard just one Trident sub have enough power
13 to destroy every major city, every major city in the
14 northern hemisphere. The U.S. currently has a hundred
15 tons of weapons grade plutonium. Plutonium for nuclear
16 warheads and weapons can be used from stockpiled plutonium.
17 We can maintain deterrence indefinitely with the current
18 stockpile of plutonium.

19 Any economic benefit of the SIS would be
20 localized and short lived. The SIS may boost part of
21 Idaho's economy temporarily. The mission of the plant
22 will only last seven to eight years, which will create a
23 boom and bust syndrome and have an overall negative effect
24 on the economy.

25 Two of Idaho's strongest industries, tourism

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1 and agriculture, could be ruined in an accident at the
2 SIS plant or transporting plutonium on the highways. They
3 could be ruined.

4 The negative public image associated with
5 weapons production can also have an adverse effect on the
6 industries, on these two industries. These two industries
7 contribute \$3,425,000,000 annually to Idaho's economy.

8 The SIS is not only a plutonium refining
9 plant, but a fear production plant. We are defeating our
10 own purpose if the plutonium we refine scares off any
11 aggressor while destroying future generations.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. EIGUREN: Is there anyone here that has
14 a written statement they would like to submit at this
15 time for the record?

16 Sir, would you please step forward and give
17 us your name for the record, and we'll mark it as an
18 exhibit. Just give your name.

19 MR. CAMPBELL: My name is Robert Campbell;
20 I live at 2119 Sunset here in Boise.

21 I'm going to submit my statements for the
22 record. And for the record, I'm opposing the SIS.

23 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. Mr. Campbell's
24 statement will be marked as Exhibit 262 and included in
25 the record.

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1 (Exhibit No. 262 was marked and entered.)

2 MS. EVANS-CAMPBELL: My name is Athena
3 Evans-Campbell, and I am also opposing the EIS.

4 MR. EIGUREN: Athena Evans-Campbell's
5 comments will be Exhibit 263 for the record.

6 (Exhibit No. 263 was marked and entered.)

7 MR. WRIGHT: My name is Eugene Wright, Boise.
8 And I'm in support of the SIS.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. Wright's comments will be
10 included as Exhibit No. 264 for the record.

11 (Exhibit No. 264 was marked and entered.)

12 MR. WRIGHT: Are there others who wish to
13 submit written comments for the record at this point?

14 I would indicate that of the past 34 hours,
15 I've been conducting these hearings for about 18 hours.
16 However, given the fact there are still some individuals
17 here who want to comment, is there anybody who
18 unequivocally, unreservedly, without question, beyond the
19 shadow of a doubt, can't be at the Tuesday hearing?

20 Could you identify yourself? Thank you.

21 I appreciate your patience and your goodwill
22 and your attention throughout this long hearing.

23 As I mentioned, everyone who has
24 preregistered for either the hearing today or who
25 registered at the door will be accommodated at the

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1 continuation of this hearing which is scheduled to
2 commence at 2:00 next Tuesday, the 29th of March, at
3 the Red Lion-Riverside.

4 Thank you very much. Good evening.

5 (Exhibits Nos. 249, 250 and 258 were marked
6 and entered.)

7 (The hearing adjourned at 11:00 p.m.)
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1 AUTHENTICATION

2
3 This is to certify that the foregoing
4 proceedings held in the matter on Draft Environmental
5 Impact Statement Regarding The Special Isotope Separation
6 Project, commencing at 2:00 p.m., on Saturday, March 26,
7 1988, at the Boise City Hall, City Council Chambers,
8 Boise, Idaho, is a true and correct transcript of said
9 proceedings and the original thereof for the file of
10 the Department of Energy.
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Frank P. Ciccarello

FRANK P. CICCARELLO
Certified shorthand Reporter

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AUTHENTICATION

BEFORE THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

IN THE MATTER OF THE DRAFT)	
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT)	Boise
REGARDING THE SPECIAL ISOTOPE)	Public Hearing
SEPARATION PROJECT)	

BEFORE


ROY EIGUREN
Hearing Officer

PLACE: Red Lion Riverside
29th & Chinden Blvd.
Boise, Idaho

DATE: March 29, 1988

VOLUME I - Pages 1 - 257

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1 BOISE, IDAHO, TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1988, 2:00 P.M.

2
3
4 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and Gentlemen, I will
5 now formally commence this public hearing concerning the
6 review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
7 concerning the United States Department of Energy's
8 proposed Special Isotope Separation Project. This is
9 a continuation of a public hearing that was commenced here
10 in Boise last Saturday and continuing on today, and so
11 we're not really having an additional public hearing, but
12 rather just a continuation of the previous public hearing
13 commenced at that time.

14 I'm Roy Eiguren. I am the hearings officer
15 for this and the other public hearings in this series of
16 hearings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for
17 the proposed siting, construction, and operation of a
18 Special Isotope Separation Project that will utilize the
19 Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation process. I will
20 be referring to this and the other proceedings in this series
21 as the DOE's DEIS public hearings on the SIS project.

22 I am an attorney here in Boise. I have
23 been retained by the Department to conduct these hearings
24 as an independent and unbiased party to assure the
25 opportunity for all interested organizations and individuals

1

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1 the opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental
2 Impact Statement. Accordingly, I am not serving as an
3 advocate for or against the proposed action taken by the
4 Department of Energy. Rather, I am a neutral third party
5 who has coordinated the development of the procedures to
6 be followed and will also conduct the hearings themselves.

7 At issue in this proceeding is a simple
8 single issue, essentially, and that is the siting,
9 construction and operation of an SIS facility at one of
10 three locations in the United States -- the DOE's Idaho
11 National Engineering Laboratory near Idaho Falls; the
12 DOE's Hanford Reservation near Richland, Washington; or
13 the DOE's Savannah River Plant near Aiken, South Carolina.
14 Each of these three sites has been designated as an
15 alternative that is being considered in the Draft
16 Environmental Impact Statement. The fourth and final
17 alternative under consideration in the DEIS is the No
18 Action Alternative, which would be a departmental decision
19 not to site, construct and operate an SIS facility. As
20 stated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the
21 Department's preferred alternative is to site, construct
22 and operate the facility at the Idaho National Engineering
23 Laboratory.

24 The particular law that mandates that this
25 hearing be commenced is the National Environmental Policy

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1 Act of 1969, Public Law 91-910, generally known as NEPA.
 2 It requires that all federal agencies develop procedures
 3 that ensure "That environmental amenities or values are
 4 given appropriate consideration in federal government
 5 decisionmaking." This law also requires that
 6 "recommendations for major federal actions significantly
 7 affecting the quality of the human environment" be first
 8 preceded by the development and completion of an
 9 Environmental Impact Statement or EIS, that fully and
 10 carefully examines the potential environmental impacts of
 11 the proposed action.

12 The Department of Energy has determined that
 13 its proposed action to site, construct and operate an SIS
 14 plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA, requires
 15 the development and completion of an EIS. By the
 16 publication on October 31, 1986, of a Notice of Intent to
 17 Prepare an EIS in the Federal Register, the Department
 18 commenced this process that has led to the development and
 19 publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 20 that is the subject of this hearing. The DEIS was
 21 prepared by the Department, with the assistance of an
 22 independent contractor, NUS Corporation, after an extensive
 23 process of receiving public comment through the "scoping"
 24 portion of these proceedings. During scoping, public
 25 comment on the scope or magnitude of the issues to be

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1 addressed in the EIS was received, as well as specific
 2 comment on particular issues themselves. Scoping
 3 included the receipt of extensive written public comment
 4 as well as oral comment from two lengthy public hearings
 5 that were held in Idaho last year -- one in Idaho Falls
 6 on February 24th and one in Boise, actually in this room,
 7 on February 26th.

8 As a result of that, 11 different issues
 9 were identified for review in the Draft Environmental
 10 Impact Statement. Those particular issues are contained
 11 in the DEIS as well as the Executive Summary that's
 12 available at the door. Among other issues that are being
 13 considered in the EIS are the Offsite General Population
 14 Radiological and Nonradiological Effects Resulting from
 15 Potential Accidents at an SIS Facility.

16 The effects on the General Population from
 17 Emissions of Radiological and Nonradiological Releases
 18 Caused by Normal Operations.

19 Exposure of Operating Personnel to
 20 Radiological Sources and Nonradiological Releases During
 21 Normal Operations.

22 The effects on Air and Water Quality and Other
 23 Environmental Consequences Associated with the Construction
 24 and Operation of a Facility.

25 The Onsite and Offsite Transportation Impacts

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1 of Nuclear Materials.

2 And an Analysis of Applicable Federal, State
3 and Local Regulations that Apply to the Construction and
4 Operation of Such a Facility.

5 This particular process as well as the
6 entire Environmental Impact Statement preparation and
7 review process is governed by a series of federal
8 regulations established by the Council on Environmental
9 Quality, or CEQ. CEQ is an agency with the Executive
10 Office of the President of the United States. In addition
11 to that, the Department of Energy has its own guidelines
12 governing these types of proceedings. The CEQ regulations
13 that guide this proceeding are found at 40 Federal
14 Regulations Part 1500 through 1508. The DOE guidelines are
15 found at 45 Federal Register 20694. These particular
16 documents have been previously marked as an exhibit and
17 are in the formal record of this proceeding.

18 The relevant CEQ regulations that govern
19 this proceeding require that "after preparing a Draft
20 Environmental Impact Statement and before preparing a
21 final Environmental Impact Statement" a federal agency must
22 first obtain the comments of (1) any federal agency which
23 has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect
24 to any environmental impact. (2) Request the comments of
25 appropriate State and and local agencies which develop

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1 and enforce environmental standards. (3) Indian tribes
2 and (4) the public, with an obligation to affirmatively
3 solicit comments from persons and organizations who may
4 be interested or affected by the proposed federal decision.
5 Public meetings or hearings are to be held where the
6 Department determines that "substantial environmental
7 controversy concerning the proposed action" exists.
8 Accordingly, pursuant to these regulations, these hearings
9 that are being held today as well as the previous ones and
10 subsequent ones, are held pursuant to these regulations
11 for the purpose of receiving public, Indian tribe and
12 governmental comment on the various issues identified in
13 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Notice of these
14 hearings was provided as required by federal regulation on
15 different dates that have been marked and included in
16 Exhibit 2 of the of the hearing record. As I mentioned,
17 public comment is being received at this hearing, We've
18 had additional hearings throughout the state, including
19 hearings previously held in Idaho Falls and Twin Falls.
20 Because of the large number of commenters that have
21 expressed interest in this subject, the Department decided
22 to extend the original hearing dates into the hearings
23 that we are now having. So today is a continuation of
24 the Boise hearing that was held on Saturday. Continuation
25 of the Idaho Falls hearing that was held on Friday will

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1 start tomorrow in Idaho Falls. And finally, the Twin
2 Falls hearing which we held yesterday will be continued
3 over until Thursday.

4 I would like to add that the CEQ regulations
5 I spoke of, they provide that "comments on an Environmental
6 Impact Statement or on a proposed action shall be as
7 specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the
8 statement or the merits of the alternatives or both."
9 The Department has determined that certain issues are
10 beyond the scope of this particular EIS. One of those
11 issues includes the need for the SIS project itself.
12 However, as the hearings officer throughout the scope of
13 these hearings, I will allow comment on that issue as well
14 as other issues the parties feel are relevant, to be
15 included in their discussion of the Draft Environmental
16 Impact Statement.

17 What will happen after we conclude these
18 hearings is, a complete record of the proceeding, which
19 will include all the oral comments and the written
20 comments, will be compiled, and that's the reason why we
21 have the court reporter here to assist us in that task.
22 Once the record is compiled it will go to the Department,
23 and from that record a determination will be made as to
24 whether or not the Department will modify, supplement or
25 reissue the Draft Environmental Impact Statement prior to

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1 its finalization. It may also choose to reissue the
2 Draft Environmental Impact Statement as the final EIS
3 without modification. A Record of Decision will identify
4 the environmentally preferred alternative, along with any
5 practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm
6 from the alternative selected. It will be included in a
7 Record of Decision. The Department, as a matter of
8 federal regulation, cannot proceed with its proposed action
9 in this or any other proceeding which will be contained in
10 the Record of Decision until a minimum of 30 days has
11 passed from the date of issuance to the final EIS. Under
12 current schedules, the Department hopes to issue a final
13 EIS as well as a Record of Decision in August of this year.

14 We have developed specific procedural
15 guidelines that we have followed in all of the hearings
16 to date. Those procedures were developed by myself in
17 consultation with the Department of Energy and various
18 environmental and special public interest groups who
19 participated in the proceedings. Those procedures were
20 marked as an exhibit previously and included in the
21 record. We also included in the record of this proceeding
22 a list of all Department of Energy public involvement
23 activities associated with this DEIS.

24 What I would like to do at this point is
25 briefly go through the procedural guidelines that we're

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1 following in all of these hearings so that you'll know
 2 what the rules of the game are. And then at that point
 3 we'll go ahead and turn it over to public comment. Aside
 4 from my comment here today, the Department of Energy will
 5 not be making any comments or remarks in this proceeding.
 6 However, I will reference the fact that senior DOE staff
 7 are present and have been present at all the hearings to
 8 listen to public comment firsthand.

9 Comments have been received in the following
 10 order and will be received in the following order today:

11 We'll first ask any elected and appointed
 12 federal, state and local governmental officials for their
 13 comments.

14 Following that, we'll have representatives
 15 of national, state and local organizations who are
 16 participating in the proceedings.

17 Following that, we'll have members of the
 18 public who preregistered to speak prior to the end of
 19 business on March 18th, which was the close of
 20 preregistration.

21 And finally, we will accommodate all members
 22 of the public who registered at the door at the
 23 commencement of this hearing on Saturday.

24 Organizational representatives have 10
 25 minutes with which to speak -- individuals have 5 minutes.

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1 Because of the large number of commenters
 2 we have been strictly adhering to these timeframes. In
 3 order to assist you in trying to keep track of your time,
 4 we have a signaling device up here. If you have 5 minutes
 5 to speak, I will turn on the green light at four minutes,
 6 which signifies that you have a minute remaining. And
 7 when the red light goes on, your time is expired. For
 8 organizational commenters it would be at 9 minutes and,
 9 of course, 10 minutes. Also indicate for the record that
 10 if you would like to submit written comments, we would
 11 greatly appreciate it and we will include those in the
 12 record. You can give them to me here at the desk during
 13 the breaks or, if you would like, you can mail those to
 14 the Department of Energy at Idaho Falls. We have an
 15 address where you can mail those in the back of the room.

16 Speaker lists are posted in the back --
 17 they are actually outside the room. They give an
 18 approximate time when you are to speak. We'll be trying
 19 to follow those -- we're going to be following those lists
 20 rather strictly today, given the nature of these hearings.
 21 Basically what we're going to do is, everybody who was
 22 preregistered to testify on Saturday and didn't have a
 23 chance to do that will be first called and we'll go through
 24 the list several times. And then at that particular point
 25 in time when we've concluded receiving comment from all

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1 the preregistered speakers, we'll go to those folks who
2 signed up at the door on Saturday.

3 Our intent is to go till 5:00 o'clock today
4 and once again resume at 7:00. If we still have commenters
5 here at 5:00, we could go past that point in time -- but
6 it appears as though we won't have to do that.

7 Questions are solicited from you, and we
8 do have written forms in the back of the room where you
9 can write out your question. We'd ask that you simply give
10 us your name and address and write out your questions as
11 succinctly as possible. Written answers will be provided
12 to you at a later time by the Department. Those written
13 answers will be mailed to you at the address you provide.
14 Questions and answers will be included in the formal
15 hearing record.

16 Finally, I would like to indicate that this
17 is a record proceeding. Everything that is being said
18 is being taken down by the court reporter, so when it
19 comes your time to comment, we'd ask that you would step
20 forward to the podium here, speak clearly into the
21 microphone, first give your name and address for the
22 record. If you do have questions about any of these
23 procedures, feel free to ask me any time during the breaks
24 that we're going to have intermittently throughout the
25 course of the proceeding. There are also Departmental

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1 folks back at the desk who can respond to questions that
2 you have.

3 So with that, we'll go ahead and commence
4 our receipt of public testimony at this point in time.

5 What I'll do is simply go through the list
6 of preregistered speakers from last Saturday. When you
7 hear your name called, step forward and come to the
8 microphone, the podium. I understand quite a few of
9 these folks will not be here, so what we'll do is go
10 through the list at this point and I'll go ahead and call
11 these names a little bit later in the hearing.

12 The first preregistered speaker is
13 James Risch, President Pro Tem of the Idaho State Senate.
14 Lee Staker, member of the Idaho State Senate.
15 Con Mahoney, Idaho House of Representatives.
16 Joanne Wood, a member of the Idaho House of
17 Representatives.

18 Robert Terry Hatch, IBPAT, Local 764.

19 At this point we will accommodate an
20 organizational speaker who is registered to speak, and
21 that is Mr. Mark Falconer of the Greater Boise Area
22 Chamber of Commerce.

23 MR. FALCONER: Thank you, Mr. Eiguren.

24 I stand before you this afternoon on behalf
25 of the Boise Area Chamber of Commerce to endorse the Draft

12

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5.27.12.4

1 Environmental Impact Statement for the Special Isotope
2 Separator Project and to express our support for
3 construction of that project at INEL.

4 The Boise Chamber of Commerce is a
5 privately-funded business federation representing 1,100
6 firms in the Boise area. My name is Mark Falconer. My
7 address is Post Office Box 2368, Boise, 83701. I serve
8 as Governmental Affairs Manager for the Boise Chamber of
9 Commerce.

10 The importance of INEL to the Idaho economy
11 and particularly to the communities of southeast Idaho
12 has been well documented for several years. In 1985,
13 10,100 jobs at INEL resulted in the provision of nearly
14 24,000 jobs in Idaho. Approximate INEL payroll during
15 fiscal year 1985 was \$285-million and INEL program costs
16 totalled nearly \$600-million. That amount, \$600-million,
17 just barely exceeded the size of the Idaho State General
18 Fund budget. The facility is extremely important to
19 Idaho's economy and it is an extremely important component
20 of Idaho's tax base. As we enter the 1990's, we must not
21 lose sight of the fact that new projects at INEL will keep
22 INEL a viable facility.

23 An obvious question is whether the SIS is
24 the type of new project which should be located at INEL.
25 We as an organization firmly believe if the SIS is built

13

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1 anywhere, it should be built at the preferred site -- the
2 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

3 The economic impact of the project is no
4 secret:

5 440 construction workers expected to be
6 employed.

7 410 permanent plant employees expected to
8 be employed.

9 Total project cost of \$937-million with
10 an actual facility cost projected at \$505-million.

11 The fact that the project will utilize
12 existing infrastructure of INEL is a big plus for the
13 project. The project has the potential of generating
14 far-reaching business opportunities, educational
15 development and support research and technology surrounding
16 the project. The project will put Idaho on the leading
17 edge in the application of advanced laser technology with
18 the potential for many high-tech spin-off industries.

19 The Department of Energy should continue
20 its efforts on addressing environmental and safety concerns
21 related to this project. The debate concerning these
22 issues is healthy because it will ultimately lead to
23 better efforts, two that I would like to mention now:

24 Assurance that safer transportation of
25 hazardous materials to and from INEL would take place.

14

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5.27.6.1

6.4.1

5.24.6

5.24.30

1 And secondly, assuring the safer operation
2 of the project including proper storage of lower-level
3 waste at INEL.

4 In the course of this debate, however, we
5 must be careful to communicate an accurate and balanced
6 message that Idahoans support construction of the SIS
7 project at INEL.

8 I want to thank you, Mr. Eiguren, for
9 the opportunity to share our position.

10 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

11 That concludes our list of organizational
12 commenters for this afternoon's session. We'll now hear
13 from our preregistered commenters who are speaking as
14 individuals.

15 Ruth Hemingway. Ruth Hemingway.

16 Ruth Herrington. Ruth Herrington.

17 Beth Cogswell. Beth Cogswell.

18 Jason Farber. Jason Farber.

19 Margaret Hulme. Margaret Hulme.

20 Edie Myers.

21 MS. MYERS: My name is Edie Myers. I
22 live at 2102 North 26th Street in Boise, 83702. I have
23 lived in Idaho for 17 years. I am a registered nurse,
24 and I stand here to speak against the construction of the
25 Special Isotope Separation Plant in Idaho or anywhere else.

15

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1 The United States does not need any more
2 weapon-grade plutonium. We already have enough plutonium
3 to last for 20,000 years. We also already have about
4 25,000 nuclear weapons. Surely this is enough to maintain
5 deterrence as well as to destroy any adversary, along
6 with the entire earth, many times over.

7 So-called waste disposal and safety plans
8 for this project are inadequate. There are as yet no
9 acceptable designs for nuclear waste storage or
10 transportation. Plutonium has already contaminated
11 sediment beds 230 feet below the temporary storage site
12 at INEL, which sits over the Snake River Plain Aquifer --
13 the source of fresh water for much of southern Idaho.
14 The spread of contaminated agricultural products from
15 this area could affect the entire Northwest. The
16 possibility of a trucking accident on Idaho highways and
17 freeways, and of possible terrorist activity, cannot be
18 discounted.

19 The release of plutonium into groundwater
20 or into the air would be disastrous. Plutonium lasts
21 for 250,000 years. Is our civilization prepared to take
22 responsibility for this long? Obviously not. Exposure
23 to large amounts of plutonium causes immediate death.
24 Exposure to even microscopic amounts is a serious health
25 hazard, causing cancer, genetic damage, and birth defects.

16

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5.30.3.1

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6:2

1 No amount of economic gain can be worth this risk.

2.7.8

2.7.2

2 The underlying assumption of the SIS plant
3 is what is most disturbing. The only use of plutonium
4 239, the only product of this plant, is as an explosive
5 in nuclear warheads. The health hazards and catastrophic
6 environmental effects of nuclear war are terrifying to
7 contemplate. The Environmental Impact Statement makes
8 no mention of these effects. Neither does it address the
9 effects on the mental health of residents of the state
10 of living where this facility is materially contributing
11 to the reality of nuclear warfare.

12 As a concerned professional speaking for
13 human and environmental health, as a mother speaking for
14 the right of my children to a viable and, hopefully,
15 peaceful future, and as a human being speaking for the
16 welfare and future of planet earth, I urge the Department
17 of Energy to make the only rational choice on this issue --
18 no action.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. EIGUREN: The Chair will note that the
21 written comments of Mr. Mark Falconer on behalf of the
22 Greater Boise Area Chamber of Commerce will be marked
23 and included in the record as Exhibit No. 597.

24 Exhibit 598 are the written comments of
25 Edie Myers.

17

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1 (Exhibits 597 and 598 marked and
2 entered.)

3 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
4 is Dee Brazel. Dee Brazel? I'm sorry, it's being
5 substituted.

6 Lyn McCollum is substituting for Dee Brazel.

7 MS. MCCOLLUM: My name is Lyn McCollum;
8 I live at 1110 Warm Springs Avenue. I am a wife, mother
9 and a free-lance writer.

10 I am opposed to the Special Isotope
11 Separator Project because:

12 The technology, described by the DOE as
13 state-of-the-art, is new and untested. I certainly don't
14 want my state to serve as the first demonstration site
15 for using high-energy dye lasers to separate plutonium
16 isotopes for even microscopic particles of this material
17 are extremely toxic.

18 Mr. Nichols suggests that the final
19 disposition of the SIS wastes would probably be at the
20 Department of Defense Carlsbad Cavern Nuclear Waste
21 Depository, not even yet opened -- but already leaking.
22 The AP reported March 11th in The Idaho Statesman that
23 the magnitude of the clean-up of existing nuclear weapons
24 production plants is "staggering." One expert estimated
25 the clean-up for all the federal facilities at \$100-billion.

18

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5.30.4.14

6.3

1 The U. S. military industry is gigantic.
 2 If it were a national economy, it would be the 13th
 3 largest in the world. I resent my tax dollars subsidizing
 4 their high profits and low risk, and I'm skeptical that
 5 we need all the weapons they insist we buy. They wrap
 6 their industry in patriotism to disguise their greed.
 7 The SIS project demonstrates, in my view, the inefficiency
 8 of government management with the profit motives of
 9 private enterprise, illuminating the worst of both worlds.

5.27.6.9

10 The SIS would temporarily boost parts of
 11 Idaho's economy while greatly increasing risk to farmland,
 12 tourism, wildlife and drinking water of many communities.

5.27.6.11

13 The SIS would cost \$1-billion, a
 14 boondoggle that would significantly boost our trillion
 15 dollar national debt.

4.2.1

16 In today's Statesman Rep. Bustamante from
 17 Texas, a member of the House Armed Services Committee,
 18 plans to introduce a bill this week to kill the SIS
 19 project, for he feels other defense projects are more
 20 essential. Energy Secretary John Herrington said recently
 21 that the nation is "awash in plutonium already."

22 I have lived the first half of my life
 23 in Wyoming, the second half in Idaho. My husband moved
 24 here when he was two years old. All three of our children
 25 have been born here. We've chosen Idaho for our home and

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1 know our stolid mountains, the expansive prairie I never
 2 call "desert," the native plants and animals, the strong,
 3 independent people. I'm proud of our American democracy
 4 that provides this opportunity for me to raise my voice
 5 and pen to try to do what I can to protect the quality of
 6 life in the state I venerate.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 599 is the written
 9 comments of Lyn McCollum from Boise, Idaho.

10 (Exhibit 599 was marked and entered.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 12 will be George Bennett. George Bennett.

13 Luiz Galindo. Luiz Galindo.

14 David Keyes.

15 MR. KEYES: My name is David Keyes, and
 16 I am the minister of the Boise Unitarian Universalist
 17 Fellowship, and I reside at 3326 Whistler Lane in Boise.

18 I am quite concerned about the lack of jobs
 19 and economic opportunity in Idaho. It is a sad thing that
 20 I see among members of my own congregation who are
 21 unemployed or who are underemployed, and this suffering,
 22 real suffering because of the lack of economic opportunity,
 23 is a great concern to me, as I know it is to many of those
 24 who are here with us today. It is a painful human waste.
 25 And yet, I think there are some other painful kinds of

6.1.2

5.24.30

4.13

1 wastes that we have to be more concerned about: The
2 waste of our children's birthright, the waste of our
3 health, the very right to life. These things, I think,
4 are threatened along with so much of our environment, so
5 many of the things that are precious to us are threatened
6 by this proposed project.

7 I'm convinced from what I know that the
8 production and transportation of plutonium is a very serious
9 health threat, and the very purpose of this production is
10 nothing, absolutely nothing other than to kill innocent
11 people, because that is the only use of nuclear weapons.
12 We produce plutonium to produce nuclear weapons to drop on
13 innocent people. And as sad as the lack of jobs and
14 unemployment is, that sort of proposal for massive
15 destruction of the earth is much sadder. This is the time
16 of year when those of us in our churches are very much
17 interested in re-living the story of the last days of Jesus.
18 And there is one character from the last days of Jesus who
19 comes especially to mind, and that is Judas -- Judas, who
20 betrayed everything in which he believed, for 30 pieces of
21 silver. And that's what I see going on at these hearings,
22 as leaders of our labor movement and our politicians very
23 much concerned about their 30 pieces of silver, are willing
24 to betray the rank and file members of the unions, are
25 willing to betray the people who have elected them to

21

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1 office -- for 30 pieces of silver. The labor union
2 leaders not concerned with the health and long-term
3 well-being of their members, but concerned with their
4 own jobs, jump on the bandwagon. The politicians
5 concerned with their own jobs, their re-election, their
6 30 pieces of silver. The fellow from the Chamber of
7 Commerce who just spoke, a very nice fellow, I'm sure,
8 he's gotten his 30 pieces of silver to say what he said.
9 There are those of us in Idaho who are very tempted to
10 sell out for those 30 pieces of silver, but I don't think
11 we will. From what I know of the folks in this state,
12 there's one aspect of environmental impact that the
13 Department of Energy should consider very carefully,
14 and that is, that if attempts are made to build this
15 facility, the environment will be cluttered with the
16 bodies of those of us who do not intend to betray our
17 children's birthright. We will stand in the way of the
18 construction equipment, we will challenge this project at
19 every step of the way. And it would not be respectful
20 to be making threats here, so let me offer this as a
21 promise.

22 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
23 is Bob Kiel. Bob Kiel.

24 Barbara Pyle. Barbara Pyle.

25 Mark Seiler. Mark Seiler.

22

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4.15.1

5.27.9.5

3.2.21

1 Roger Burgess.

2 MR. BURGESS: Mr. Eiguren, friends and

3 neighbors, my name is J. Roger Burgess. I reside at

4 1008 North 16th, Boise, Idaho. I have long been concerned

5 about nuclear war, about manufacture of nuclear weapons,

6 and about nuclear accidents. I am concerned about the

7 effect on our environment of toxic wastes, both nuclear

8 and non-nuclear.

9 I would question the need for additional

10 nuclear weapons-producing facilities. Existing facilities

11 are quite capable of processing existing stockpiles of

12 material to refine plutonium and meet demands in the

13 foreseeable future.

14 As for the much-publicized economic

15 spin-offs and benefits of laser research at this plant,

16 they are non-existent. According to the report at the

17 scoping hearings and the impact statement, the SIS would

18 be built solely for the purpose of plutonium production.

19 Laser research has been and would continue to be conducted

20 at the Livermore Lab.

21 All of DOE nuclear facilities have become

22 cesspools of contamination. Information as to leaks of

23 radiation has been withheld from the public, and when

24 word finally leaks out, the DOE insists that no harm has

25 been done. DOE brushes off studies by other sources as

1 inconclusive. Even its own studies that do not support

2 its position become inconclusive. We know better than

3 that. Here in Idaho we have waged a long and hard battle

4 at INEL to stop dumping nuclear waste directly into the

5 aquifer. INEL engineers and experts insisting no harm

6 could come of it. We know better than that. We must do

7 our own thinking. Experts, you know, have vested

8 interests in continuing a situation that affords their

9 income and prestige, and feeds their egos.

10 I am attaching an article from

11 The Idaho Statesman of 3-22-88 and datelined Twin Falls,

12 in which a spokesman for INEL says that INEL could be

13 added to the Superfund list for toxic clean-up. He also

14 says such clean-up would cost \$30-million and probably

15 take 30 years. Also a news release of three workers

16 injured from radioactive exposure, supposedly, long-range

17 effects on workers -- oh. Supposedly, no serious results

18 were found. However, DOE does not follow up on long-range

19 effects on workers and residents in the area of nuclear

20 facilities, such as for 10 or 20 years or longer. Or if

21 they do have such information, it is a closely-guarded

22 secret.

23 SIS will not be a good neighbor. Our state

24 officials should be putting pressure on INEL to remove

25 the nuclear waste that was supposed to be stored on a

5.30.4.1

3.2.4

5.30.4.12

5.1.46

5.13.15

5.30.1.14

5.29.33

1 temporary basis. Better our officials put pressure on in
2 this respect, than to greet the SIS with open arms.

5.29.73

3 I am concerned about accidents on our
4 highways. SIS will generate a tremendous volume of
5 nuclear traffic on Idaho roads. This has not been
6 adequately addressed by the impact statement. One thing
7 we do not need is the specter of giant armed trucks
8 accompanied by armed guards, that feel no need to comply
9 with any state regulations as to highway speed and safety.

5.29.85

10 Already there has been reports of confrontations and
11 near-confrontations between such trucks and police, even
12 to the point of interfering with police handling of
13 traffic, and so forth, as a result of accidents on our
14 national highways. A nuclear mishap could be a major
15 disaster for Idaho.

6.2

16 The SIS has been heralded as creating jobs.
17 I have been a working man all of my adult life. I
18 understand the need for industry and jobs. But this is
19 too big a price to pay for a job.

20 It is true that Idaho is too great to litter.
21 In conclusion, I would like to add that "Idaho is too great
22 to become a nuclear sewer."

23 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
24 Roger Burgess will be included in the record as Exhibit
25 No. 600.

25

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1 (Exhibit 600 was marked and entered.)
2 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
3 is Richard Hahn.

4 MR. HAHN: Thank you, Mr. Eiguren. My
5 name is Richard L. Hahn. I am the manager of Industrial
6 Development for Idaho Power Company. My business address
7 is 1217 West Idaho, in Boise, Idaho.

8 On behalf of Idaho Power Company, I have
9 several comments concerning the Special Isotope Separation
10 Project which is proposed for siting at the Idaho National
11 Engineering Laboratory, the Department of Energy's
12 preferred location.

13 First, I would like to thank the DOE for
14 their efforts in providing information to the public on
15 the SIS project. Not only is this information important
16 to understanding what the SIS project is, and is not, but
17 it also demonstrates the commitment and emphasis DOE places
18 on ensuring that their activities or project proposals
19 operate in a safe manner as well as utilize all practical
20 means to preserve the environment. For these efforts,
21 you are to be commended.

22 I have reviewed the Draft Environmental
23 Impact Statement on the SIS project. I believe that this
24 Draft EIS adequately addresses the issues raised during the
25 EIS scoping hearings last year.

26

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2.13.8

2.1.1

5.29.2

Two major conclusions can be reached after reviewing this Draft EIS:

1) That the DOE has considered all practical means to ensure safe transportation of hazardous materials to and from the SIS, and that the SIS will be operated in as safe a manner as possible, which includes proper storage of lower-level waste at INEL.

5.24.21

DOE's objective to construct and operate the SIS in a safe and environmentally-acceptable manner will be enhanced by locating the project at the INEL. For the past 39 years, the INEL has developed a history of safety as well as responsible management of their nuclear activities. This leadership demonstrated at INEL will insure (sic) that the SIS projects will be constructed and operated in a safe and environmentally-acceptable manner.

5.24.23

During the past several years, the industries that traditionally have been the mainstay of Idaho's economy have been in the doldrums. Agricultural, timber, mining, and to some degree our electronics industry has been affected by a recession, resulting in decreased employment and a reduced value of production. But even during this economic downturn, Idaho still had several bright spots -- one of these being the operation at INEL.

INEL is very important to Idaho's economy,

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5.27.12.4

and particularly to the communities in southeastern Idaho. The SIS project, if located at INEL, will be a positive economic benefit to the state.

5.27.6.1

This \$500-million project will employ 400 construction personnel. A significant number of these personnel will be from Idaho, which will be a great benefit to the state's construction industry. Additionally, it is likely a large percentage of the construction materials will be supplied by or provided through Idaho businesses.

Once completed, the SIS will employ an operating staff of 750 with annual operating costs of \$54-million.

Not only will this project benefit the state's economy during construction, but it also will provide over 700 employment opportunities for Idaho's citizens which, based on the state's total employment, is a significant increase. But the SIS project has additional positive economic benefits. Siting the SIS adjacent to the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant will result in maximum utilization of the existing infrastructure that provides supporting services. This maximum utilization will enhance the ability of INEL to avoid or minimize any negative impacts to the region's economy should certain DOE programs be reduced or eliminated.

5.27.12.5

Another benefit is the SIS technology itself.

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1 If the SIS is located in Idaho, our state will be on the
2 leading edge in the application of advanced laser
3 technology. What can this mean to Idaho? The SIS
4 technology has the potential to be transferred to high-tech
5 industries. This technology transfer can also be extended
6 to Idaho's universities and colleges, providing a
7 tremendous support network between INEL, higher education
8 and business. The result may be many technology-based
9 satellite industries locating in southeastern Idaho as
10 well as in other areas of the state. The SIS technology
11 can literally provide the impetus to take Idaho's economy
12 into the 21st century and beyond.

6.1.2

13 I am confident the SIS project will be
14 safely operated, environmentally acceptable and a tremendous
15 benefit to Idaho's economy. Idaho Power is proud of the
16 relationship we have had with DOE as their primary
17 electricity supplier since 1951. Idaho Power supports
18 locating the SIS project at INEL and we will assist in
19 any way that is appropriate to accomplish this goal.

1.1

20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. That is the
21 position of the Idaho Power Company.

22 MR. EIGUREN: We will accept the company's
23 written statement for the record and mark it as Exhibit
24 No. 601 as the official comment of the Idaho Power Company.

25 (Exhibit 601 marked and entered.)

1 MR. EIGUREN: Going down the list at this
2 point.

3 Mike Estes. Mike Estes.

4 Candice Anderson. Candice Anderson.

5 Barbara Harker.

6 MS. HARKER: My name is Barbara Harker; I
7 live at 3512 Windsor Drive, in Boise. And I have to make
8 a comment. First, I'm not a public speaker, and I just
9 arranged with someone if I fall over from fright, they're
10 to come pick me up and read my paper.

11 I'm married into an INEL family. My
12 father-in-law was a machinist at the INEL for many years,
13 and I have a brother-in-law that works there now. We
14 were very well educated into the benefits and the safety
15 of the nuclear industry, and I bought it totally. My
16 husband was concerned about the amount of radiation shown
17 on the badges of the people in his family. I thought
18 only liberal rabblers were concerned about such things,
19 and I was very conservative.

20 Some years back my husband and I hosted
21 the Western Governors' Conference, along with Governor Evans
22 and his wife. There we met Governor Robert List, a very
23 nice person. He talked about the horrors of transporting
24 nuclear material through his state. He even complained to
25 a House Interior Committee hearing that "simple tape" had

5.13.16

1 been used to seal a metal container containing liquid
 2 waste from a Michigan reactor into his state. The tape
 3 had been painted over to conceal the problem. But the
 4 cask was dripping and may have contaminated roads for
 5 more than 1,000 miles. This was his testimony. I
 6 respected him, but, boy, I wasn't going to change my
 7 position. Anything nuclear was great -- that is, until
 8 Chernobyl.

9 I was ill at that time, very ill. And my
 10 physician told me I was in one of the high-risk groups
 11 for possible ill effects from low-level radiation. He
 12 thought that I might want to learn more, so I started
 13 studying. During the fallout time from Chernobyl, daily
 14 I kept in touch with the Departments of Radiation in
 15 Idaho, even with those in Utah, Oregon and Nevada. I
 16 began contacting scientists and people who worked at the
 17 Center for Disease Control in Atlanta so that I could
 18 learn more about the health effects and safety regulation.
 19 And I began reading books and documents regarding
 20 accidents and casualties of production, transportation
 21 and storage of nuclear material.

22 The government agencies concerned with the
 23 different aspects of the nuclear industry had led us to
 24 believe:

- 25 1) That only major disasters were

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1 dangerous and that we were protected from those. I found
 2 out that low-level radiation poses serious health effects;
 3 and that scientists are not sure at what level there are
 4 no ill health effects; and that government agencies have
 5 admitted that they have put safety standards too low.

6 I learned that safety records for production
 7 facilities were bad. In one year, for example, a fire
 8 at the AEC's Medina Works in San Antonio, touched off
 9 120,000 tons of explosives and sent a uranium cloud into
 10 the environs of one of Texas' largest cities. At least
 11 two major explosions also ripped through the AEC's
 12 Burlington, Iowa, bomb assembly plant. And the AEC's
 13 hydrogen bomb fabrication plant at Pantex, Texas, was
 14 severely damaged by a freak hailstorm, despite its
 15 supposed invulnerability to enemy attack. Rocky Flats
 16 has been plagued with uncontrolled radiation emissions
 17 and has had two major fires.

18 The Department of Energy and the Department
 19 of Transportation have led us to believe that nuclear
 20 material can and has been transported safely. I learned
 21 from my studies and talking to people that there were many
 22 mishaps. Every year, the NRC and the DOT have lost
 23 several thousand movements of radioactive waste. One year,
 24 when the American Atomics tritium was moved to Flagstaff,
 25 122 nuclear-related transport accidents were reported,

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1 including at least 17 that resulted in environmental
 2 contamination. How many went unreported remains unknown.
 3 But, in November of 1980 the GAO warned that the agency,
 4 the Department of Transportation, could not "determine
 5 the extent of the problems involved in transporting
 6 hazardous materials," let alone solve them.
 7 Because of what I have learned personally,
 8 I feel that the government agencies have only told us
 9 half of the story concerning nuclear safety. Because of
 10 what I have found out, I feel its history of possible
 11 cover-ups and denials and because of the safety records and
 12 because of the real health effects that I have found out,
 13 I have changed my opinion. I am no longer an INEL family
 14 member who believes what the INEL talked. I am totally
 15 against the SIS proposals.
 16 Thank you.
 17 MR. EIGUREN: Included in the written
 18 record as Exhibit No. 602 will be the written comments
 19 of Barbara Harker of Boise.
 20 (Exhibit 602 was marked and entered.)
 21 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 22 is Jane Leeson.
 23 MS. LEESON: I am Jane Leeson; I reside at
 24 310 Resseguie, in Boise, and I am here to state my
 25 opposition to the construction of this plutonium processing

1 project. I believe it is simply too dangerous for those
 2 of us living today and imposes too great a threat to
 3 those yet unborn.

4 The process is experimental. Its existing
 5 safeguards and precautions are inadequate.

6 This country cannot afford to pursue a
 7 project such as this that could contaminate if not all,
 8 at least certainly large regions of this planet. There is
 9 no need. We cannot afford to apply some of our best minds
 10 on a counter-productive project. We cannot afford the
 11 initial economic contribution it would take from the rest
 12 of our economy. We cannot afford to jeopardize our
 13 regional population and environment.

14 If the DOE persists on continuing with this
 15 project, I believe they should not build it at INEL. The
 16 site at INEL is near the headwaters of one of the greatest
 17 water systems in this country; it is adjacent to an
 18 earthquake zone, and it is hundreds of miles from its
 19 feeder source. There is no nearby or any existing storage
 20 facility that is adequate.

21 We have to be smarter than this plan
 22 indicates that the DOE is. If the DOE can't find a safer
 23 environment than INEL, how can we trust them to manage
 24 something as potentially catastrophic as plutonium?

25 I would like to address what I think are

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1 certain failures of this document and the DOE's application
 2 of the NEPA process today. On the record I would like to
 3 state that I found the language of the scoping officials
 4 and documents to be inappropriate. At that scoping
 5 meeting both officials and documents treated this project
 6 as if it were a "done deal." It makes a mockery of the
 7 ecosystem process, and I think something as dangerous as
 8 a plutonium project heightens the need for the NEPA
 9 process to be strictly complied with, and I would like to
 10 be on the record at this point to object to that treatment
 11 of this project.

12 In regard to this Draft EIS, I would like
 13 to identify a number of problems that I think should be
 14 corrected and amended:

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15 Specifically, the transportation risks that
 16 were addressed in this project only dealt with those in
 17 this region; it did not deal with the transportation risks
 18 associated with transporting of radioactive wastes and
 19 refined plutonium after they had been completed at the
 20 SIS facility. These risks were not compared to parallel
 21 risks that might be associated with production if the plant
 22 were at Hanford or at Savannah River.

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23 Secondly, the comparative risks were not
 24 described for Hanford and Savannah in regard to earthquake.
 25 When I was looking at the draft, I could not find a

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1 comparative analysis of the alternatives that show that
 2 the risks at Hanford from earthquake were less than those
 3 at INEL.

4 I found that the worst case scenarios
 5 overall were inadequate. The majority of that section
 6 dealt with the design and construction provisions that
 7 would make catastrophic events unlikely, and a very small
 8 percent of those sections actually dealt with the real
 9 risk that might exist. The DOE was responsible for
 10 presenting to the public a picture of what might happen
 11 if in fact the design and construction failed, if in fact
 12 the filter systems did not work. Nowhere in the document
 13 did the people get a real picture of the risks from
 14 exposure and contamination to the environment. In fact,
 15 I believe that an independent research effort should be
 16 conducted in regard to worst case scenarios. The DOE is
 17 a self-monitoring agency and much of the hard facts were
 18 cloaked in the need to keep the information from the
 19 public because of national security. I think that this
 20 poses a very serious problem in the public believing the
 21 veracity of this document.

22 I also found that this document failed to
 23 meet NEPA standards that the information be available to
 24 the public. Part of the definition of that availability
 25 is that the language be in language that the general

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5.1.21

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1 public can understand. Yet, in the case of the worst
 2 case scenario situation, the risks of exposure were
 3 described in charts of mathematical references, and there
 4 was no adequate narrative description given of what these
 5 mathematical references meant. Therefore, I think that
 6 it precluded the information being available to the public.

7 And finally, I can't help but believe that
 8 there are hidden, there are items on a hidden agenda. I
 9 understand that the plant at Hanford may be permanently
 10 closed and there'll be a need to build another plant
 11 somewhere. I wondered if there are any research or
 12 speculative documents that such a plant might be built at
 13 INEL. I find it suspicious that the legislation that
 14 precludes commercially-generated nuclear waste will
 15 expire about the same time that defense nuclear wastes
 16 runs out. I find it suspicious that there is a connection
 17 between one of the by-products from this processing
 18 system and the eradication of food -- irradiation of food,
 19 and that this area may be used as an experimental area
 20 for this.

3.2.2

21 I think some of these concerns exist in
 22 the public and they should be addressed, and adequately.
 23 And until a plan is developed that evidences that the DOE
 24 is smart enough to deal with this project, then I believe
 25 we are left with no option but the "No Action Alternative."

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1 Thank you.

2 MR. EIGUREN: Before taking a short recess,
 3 I would like to announce the following statistics. We've
 4 had several members of the public as well as the media
 5 asking about these hearings.

6 To date, we've had approximately 30 hours
 7 of hearings, including the hearings in Idaho Falls, Boise,
 8 and Twin Falls. When complete we anticipate that we'll
 9 have somewhere between 55 and 60 hours of hearings. The
 10 total number of commenters who have preregistered to speak
 11 at this series of hearings is 832. To this point in time
 12 we've had approximately 430 commenters participating in
 13 the proceedings.

14 We have received for the record 602 exhibits.
 15 Those exhibits include both written comments from
 16 individuals who did testify as well as written comments
 17 from individuals who attended the hearing but chose not
 18 to orally comment. In addition to that, it also includes
 19 petitions and other types of documents that have been
 20 submitted for the record.

21 With that, we'll go ahead and take a
 22 five-minute recess.

23 (Recess was had.)

24 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and gentlemen, we're
 25 ready to once again resume our public hearing.

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1 The next scheduled commenter is Patsy Chase.
 2 Patsy Chase.
 3 Dan Harker. Dan Harker.
 4 MR. HARKER: My name is Dan Harker; I
 5 reside at 3512 Windsor Drive, Boise.
 6 The First Amendment to the Constitution of
 7 the United States guarantees us the freedom of speech,
 8 the right of the people to assemble peacefully, and to
 9 petition the government for a redress of grievances.
 10 And here we are here today, exercising
 11 these rights, so for my sake and yours, I hope these
 12 people are listening.
 13 I'm speaking for a lot of people in my
 14 generation who care, but are afraid to state their
 15 opinions. And we want to be heard, because this issue
 16 affects our generation as much or more than any.
 17 If you do not care about the health and
 18 safety of your generation, please listen to what I have
 19 to say, for the sake of our generation.
 20 I share the theory of Steven Hawkins, who
 21 is one of the world's finest physicists, and is rated
 22 equal to Einstein in intelligence. He lectures on the
 23 folly of building nuclear weapons. He states: "We have
 24 the equivalent of four tons of high explosives for every
 25 person on earth. It takes a half a pound of explosives

1 to kill one person, so we have 16,000 times as much as
 2 we need."

3 Why expose ourselves to the possibility of
 4 accidents in transport, production, and storage of
 5 nuclear material when we already have 16,000 times as
 6 much as we need to kill every man, woman and child on
 7 earth?

8 Why would Idaho choose to provide 750
 9 jobs, against these staggering figures. For this reason,
 10 aside from the possible health effects, I am emphatically
 11 against the building of the SIS project.

12 I would also like to add that I am a very
 13 health-conscious individual and I don't take drugs, and
 14 I am not promiscuous in any way. But I have control of
 15 these things. But I have no control over dying slowly
 16 from radiation, low-level radiation contamination. And
 17 I don't think that's fair.

18 MR. FIGUREN: The written comments of
 19 Dan Harker will be included in the record as Exhibit
 20 No. 603.

21 (Exhibit 603 was marked and entered.)

22 MR. FIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 23 is Barry Dow. Barry Dow.

24 Laura Carson. Laura Carson.

25 I understand that Mr. Barry Dow's physician

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1 will be substituted by Ruth Hemmingway.
 2 MS. HEMINGWAY: I'm Ruth Hemmingway from
 3 Boise, Idaho, and I am opposed to building the SIS project
 4 not only here in Idaho but anywhere.
 5 According to the paper today, Energy
 6 Secretary John Herrington says that there is plenty of
 7 plutonium available and we don't need any more. I'm
 8 hoping that by the middle of the 1990's we will be in a
 9 more peaceful world and we won't need to be worried about
 10 building bombs. Let's create jobs by feeding the hungry
 11 people of the world.
 12 Thank you.
 13 MR. EIGUREN: Laura Carson.
 14 Jenny Defoggi.
 15 Clair Turner.
 16 Jennie Thomas.
 17 John Harms.
 18 DR. HARMS: My name is Dr. John Harms. I
 19 was born on the great Snake River Aquifer 68 years ago
 20 next month. I've seen a part of the Snake River Plain
 21 which many of you couldn't believe. I presently live at
 22 6116 Edgewater Drive in Boise.
 23 I have for you today a story about The
 24 Dromedary and The Nomad -- A Fractured Fable for Our Time.
 25 Once upon a time, a long time ago, a nomad

1 pitched his tent during a sandstorm. His dromedary
 2 sheltered in the lee of the tent; but, he said to the
 3 nomad, "The sand is blowing into my nose and into my eyes.
 4 If I could just put my head in the tent everything would
 5 be much better."
 6 Soon the dromedary said, "Things are pretty
 7 cold out here. If I could just get my shoulders into the
 8 tent I would be warmer."
 9 In a little while the dromedary said,
 10 "Things are really getting cold out here, if I could just
 11 get my hump into the tent then everything would be just
 12 hotsy-totsy,"
 13 When the camel tried to bring his hump
 14 into the tent it was too much and everything collapsed.
 15 Once upon a time, a long time ago, God
 16 made Idaho and said, "This is good." And then He laid
 17 it out-of-doors. God made man and said, "This is Idaho.
 18 You take care of it."
 19 Man saw Idaho and said, "Oh, what a good
 20 weapons-testing station."
 21 And then the dromedary said, "If I could
 22 just get my shoulders into the tent we could study the
 23 peaceful uses of the atom." Then the dromedary said,
 24 "If I could just get my hump into Idaho you can look at
 25 scenery in Alaska and raise potatoes in Maine."

3.3.1

5.30.3.1

1 The Department of Energy has not
 2 acknowledged that they have solved the problem of spent
 3 reactor fuel; but they think that they have an
 4 unacknowledged solution. While Congress struggles over
 5 which leaky salt dome or Bull Frog County to bless with
 6 perennial radiation, DOE slyly thrusts its hump into the
 7 INEL. Maybe the tent will be big enough. Congress has
 8 yet to legislate a dry salt dome, so Idaho received the
 9 radioactive materials from the Three Mile Island disaster
 10 "temporarily."

5.30.3.6

11 Now, the Department of Energy proposes that
 12 proposed missile reduction required the proliferation of
 13 bomb-grade plutonium. DOE proposes that to get such
 14 enriched plutonium we will build an atomic vapor laser
 15 isotope separator to reprocess a limited quantity of spent
 16 fuel-grade plutonium for a few years and to store the
 17 radioactive residue in Idaho "temporarily" until Congress
 18 can legislate a leak-proof salt dome.

5.30.3.8

19 Can we really believe that we are really
 20 to store "temporarily" just a few years' production
 21 of radioactive residue from a limited quantity of
 22 spent fuel when we have access to all of the spent
 23 fuel-grade plutonium in the western world? INEL has not
 24 been legislated to be the recipient of all radioactive
 25 residue; but, if it is processed through the atomic vapor

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1 laser isotope separator it can hold the radioactive
 2 residue of the entire western world "temporarily."

3 The question rises, "Will there be room
 4 enough for man and radioactive residue both in Idaho's
 5 tent?"

6 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Dr. Harms.

7 Our next scheduled commenter is Jane Holt.

8 Dr. Harms' written comments will be marked
 9 and entered as Exhibit No. 604 for the record.

10 (Exhibit 604 marked and entered.)

11 MS. HOLT: I'm Jane Wells Holt; I live at
 12 2113 Division, Boise.

13 While I can think of any number of reasons
 14 to oppose the Special Isotope Separation Project such as
 15 the lack of need for an additional supply of plutonium,
 16 the manufacture of weapons-grade plutonium itself would
 17 violate the spirit of the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty
 18 and set a dangerous precedent, the number of Idaho people
 19 who would benefit from the jobs has not been established,
 20 the U. S. has an adequate stockpile of plutonium to meet
 21 the national defense needs. The reason I chose to address
 22 today is the lack of safety in the transportation of
 23 plutonium on Idaho's highways and other transportation
 24 routes. As I understand it, the plutonium would be
 25 transported as a powder from Hanford, Washington, to INEL.

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1 The comment I heard was "No accidents had happened -- yet."
 2 With a half-life of 24,000 years, can you imagine what
 3 would happen to our beloved state and to the people if
 4 just one keg was punctured by an accident? It's a
 5 horrifying thought and one that should give any proponent,
 6 especially those state officials elected by the people,
 7 of this insane plan, pause.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 10 Jane Holt will be marked as Exhibit No. 605 for the
 11 record.

12 (Exhibit No. 605 was marked and entered.)

13 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 14 is a Mr. Richardson. Mr. Richardson.

15 Mike Hughes. Mike Hughes.

16 Ole Cram. Ole Cram.

17 John Stinson-Wilge. John Stinson-Wilge.

18 Beverly Miller.

19 MS. MILLER: My name is Beverly Miller;
 20 I live at 417 North Atlantic Street here in Boise. I've
 21 lived in Idaho for nearly 20 years now, and I'm here to
 22 speak against the SIS.

23 The Department of Energy demands that we
 24 set aside our moral concerns and listen instead to the
 25 promises they make about the SIS project: Promises of

1 jobs, promises of safety, promises that the environment
 2 will be respected. But they also ask that we offer our
 3 lives, those of our children, and those of generations
 4 unborn, as collateral on these promises.

5 How good are these promises? Despite
 6 the fact that DOE hired a team of 29 out-of-state experts
 7 (at a cost to the taxpayer I shudder to contemplate) to
 8 draw up the wish list they call a Draft Environmental
 9 Impact Statement, the disclaimer inside the front cover
 10 makes it clear that no one is willing to stand behind
 11 their promises: Not the government, not the authors,
 12 not the Agency.

13 Early in this report, we are told the DOE
 14 wants to build SIS in order to create a condition they
 15 call plutonium production capacity redundancy. In my
 16 dictionary, redundancy is defined as "superfluous or
 17 excessive and unnecessary duplication." That sounds a
 18 lot like what we Idahoans condemned a few years back as
 19 the fat in federal spending. They have already admitted
 20 they don't need the SIS to maintain an adequate supply
 21 of nuclear materials for the nation's defense.

22 In creating the existing supply, however,
 23 the government has left behind dangerous reservoirs of
 24 radioactive wastes, which it admits it doesn't know what
 25 to do with. Nuclear wastes produced 35 years ago are

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5.30.4.1

1 still sitting over the Snake River Aquifer awaiting final
2 disposal, and this report makes it clear that SIS-generated
3 wastes would join them. But we are told not to worry,
4 because the government has a committee looking at the
5 problem. That is not an original solution.

3.2.1

6 Meanwhile, the committee that created this
7 report alleges that the DOE can construct a system here
8 which will be a federal first: There would be no
9 unanticipated exigencies, only what are called in the
10 report "best management techniques" would be used. There
11 would be no accidents or snafus of any kind allowed.

12 We are told we are supposed to be grateful
13 that the government wants to construct this perfect system
14 in our state. And I would be, if they would test this
15 perfect system first on the IRS or the Postal Service,
16 some government agency that does not deal in lethal
17 "whole body doses" and other horrors. But until then,
18 Idaho is still at risk from government promises made in
19 the past. And until then, we would be foolish to invest
20 our trust, our land, our future to any more empty promises
21 made in a book written by a committee appointed by a
22 bureaucracy.

23 Thank you.

24 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 606 in the record
25 will be the written comments of Beverly Miller from Boise.

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1

(Exhibit 606 was marked and entered.)

2

MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter

3

is David Mills. David Mills.

4

Janet Cosho.

5

MS. COSHO: My name is Janet Cosho; I live

6

at 1700 Sunrise Rim, Boise, Idaho.

7

I am a retired senior citizen who would

8

rather not get involved in issues any more, but I feel

9

so concerned for today's and future generations that I

10

feel I must leave my warm, comfortable house and come out

11

to testify against the SIS and the production of more

12

plutonium. People seem to favor the SIS because it will

13

bring more jobs to Idaho. But what about the product

14

that brings the jobs? Is it worth it when there is a

15

real potential of contaminating the Snake River Plain

16

Aquifer and really affecting our lives? When I drive

17

through Julia Davis Park, I can't help but notice an old

18

steam engine all wrapped up in plastic because of the

19

danger of asbestos around the boilers polluting our

20

environment. Why is it that we can see this small danger,

21

but we can't see the greater danger in producing plutonium

22

which would give 44 tons of radioactive waste with a

23

half-life of 24,000 years that just can't be wrapped up

24

safely in plastic? Do we really want Idaho or any state

25

polluted with more radioactive material? I think not. So

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1.1

5.12.1

5.30.3.1

1 I favor option No. 4, not to build the SIS anywhere.
 2 Thank you.
 3 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 4 Janet Cosho will be included in the record as Exhibit
 5 No. 607.
 6 (Exhibit 607 was marked and entered.)
 7 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 8 is Alvin W. Joslyn. Alvin Joslyn.
 9 Paul B. Pulsy.
 10 Chris DuPont.
 11 Shirley Stetson.
 12 Marsha F. Priess.
 13 Lynn Ellis.
 14 Paul Montgomery.
 15 Joanne Kennon.
 16 Lisa Ostermiller.
 17 Dorothy Strait.
 18 MRS. Strait: Mr. Chairman, Ladies and
 19 Gentlemen; I'm Dorothy Strait; I live at 304 Driftwood,
 20 Boise, Idaho.
 21 I am representing Citizens for Energy and
 22 the Environment who in 1982 obtained more than enough
 23 signatures for a pro-nuclear initiative to be placed on
 24 the Idaho ballot which passed by more than 60 percent.
 25 We are privileged to live in a wonderful

1 country where we have something called "freedom." While
 2 we do not think much about it, people in many parts of
 3 the world look at us with envy. Some, perhaps, have never
 4 heard of freedom and do not realize that it exists. This
 5 freedom gives us the privilege to think as we please,
 6 and, unfortunately, in some cases, to express opinions
 7 publicly and privately, without basis of fact. People
 8 in Communist nations do not have this privilege. They
 9 do not even have the freedom to leave the Communist
 10 country in which they live. Many risk their lives to
 11 escape to freedom.
 12 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory has
 13 published the Executive Summary from the Draft
 14 Environmental Impact Statement, Special Isotope Separation
 15 Project wherein INEL has listed the factual information
 16 on AVLIS concerning:
 17 Availability of workers within a 50-mile
 18 radius;
 19 Adequate services, housing, and schools;
 20 Safety of transportation, drinking water,
 21 and handling of waste; radiation at INEL is less than many
 22 other things including natural resources; no problems
 23 with atmospheric emissions, health, earthquake, tornado,
 24 flood, or accidents.
 25 However, there are those who are using the

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1 freedoms of our United States of America to try to merge
 2 us with the Communist nations, whose people know no
 3 freedoms. They discount the INEL factual statements as
 4 false and dwell on "what if" fears which have already
 5 been scientifically addressed by the INEL, proving
 6 the "what if" fears to be unfounded.

7 None of us want nuclear war or any war.
 8 All war is terrible. But the way to avoid war is to be
 9 strong enough that no other nation would dare attack.
 10 No doubt, most people have heard that Stalin said, "The
 11 ultimate goal is the United States of America which would
 12 fall like a ripe apple from a tree." The goal of the
 13 Soviets, who are responsible for millions of deaths of
 14 their own people and others, hasn't changed, in spite of
 15 what some may think now. The "anti's" some of them
 16 unwittingly, are aiding the goal of the Soviets by
 17 opposing progress in the United States.

18 Yes, we would all like to have peace by
 19 talking and "Thinkpeace." Some think friendship gesturing,
 20 by making Washington and Moscow sister cities, cooperative
 21 projects, and merging clubs, groups, and so forth, will
 22 bring peace. House Speaker Jim Wright, has designed a
 23 crossed-flag button of the United States flag and the
 24 Soviet flag. For those who believe that this is the way
 25 to peace, ask the people of Poland, Afghanistan, Hungary

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1 and Czechoslovakia, and other Communist countries, if this
 2 is the answer. They no longer have freedom, and neither
 3 would we.

4 A better, easier, and surer way to peace
 5 is to stop supporting the Soviets and other Communist
 6 nations. According to Rep. Roth, "The West is supplying
 7 the Soviet bloc roughly \$1-billion every month in new
 8 loans. Every day, every day, Western commercial banks
 9 send \$33-million to the Soviet bloc." This is in hard
 10 currency dollars which the Soviets can use to pay for
 11 anything ranging from their financial obligations to Cuba,
 12 to acquiring illegal sophisticated Western high technology.

13 I listened to the impassioned pleas of
 14 the "what ifs" with the frightening imaginary happenings
 15 that could deprive their children of a safe place in which
 16 to grow up. INEL has been in existence in Idaho for many
 17 years with an unsurpassed safety record. Wood stoves
 18 have caused more pollution, fires and deaths than the
 19 nuclear industry.

20 I prefer freedom and the means to maintain
 21 that freedom by supporting the building of AVLIS at INEL
 22 for defense of our country and for other uses of the
 23 plutonium.

24 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 608 for the written
 25 record will be the written comments of Dorothy Strait of

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1 304 Driftwood, Boise, Idaho. Appended thereto is
 2 documentation that she referenced in her oral testimony.
 3 (Exhibit 608 marked and entered.)
 4 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 5 is Terry Dennis. Terry Dennis.
 6 Connie McClaren. Connie McClaren.
 7 Debbie Roberts. Debbie Roberts.
 8 Virginia Bennett.
 9 MS. BENNETT: My name is Virginia Bennett.
 10 I am a native Idahoan and I am opposed to the construction
 11 and operation of the SIS in Idaho. It is my feeling that
 12 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and the proposed
 13 project in general has failed to adequately address the
 14 safety issue posed by siting the project here in Idaho.
 15 Chief among my concerns is the lack of training by Idaho's
 16 emergency personnel, police, firefighters, and ambulance
 17 crews, to deal with an accident during the transportation
 18 of these lethal materials from the Hanford Reservation to
 19 the INEL site in eastern Idaho. As illustrated by the
 20 large number of toxic spills that have already occurred
 21 on Idaho's roads, our transportation system in this state
 22 is antiquated. Much of our major highway system consists
 23 of narrow switchback roads with sheer drops on one side.
 24 The weather conditions often make these roads treacherous.
 25 Any route between Richland, Washington, and the INEL site

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1 near Idaho Falls takes the deadly cargo through small
 2 towns and cities where the local emergency personnel are
 3 in no way equipped to deal with an accident and its
 4 consequences. The fact that the route and the schedule
 5 of this convoy is a military secret, compounds the problem.
 6 This Draft Environmental Impact Statement totally fails
 7 to describe the type of emergency response that would be
 8 needed to deal with an accident that involved the release
 9 of plutonium. I feel that this project cannot go forward
 10 until these issues are satisfactorily addressed.
 11 Thank you.
 12 MR. EIGUREN: Marked as Exhibit 609 for
 13 the hearing record will be the written comments of
 14 Virginia Bennett of Boise.
 15 (Exhibit 609 marked and entered.)
 16 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at commenter order
 17 No. 55. Daniel Fell.
 18 Anne Hutchinson.
 19 Mike Kobe.
 20 David Emberton.
 21 Kit Bradley.
 22 Rebecca Finn.
 23 Karen Edwards.
 24 Michael Peck.
 25 Lorraine Gundersen.

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1 MS. GUNDERSEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
 2 Ladies and Gentlemen; I'm Lorraine Gundersen. I've spent
 3 most of my life in Oregon, half of it, and half in Idaho,
 4 near the rivers which I love and the land which I love.
 5 And I am testifying against the SIS.
 6 A great evil is planned for Idaho by siting
 7 the Special Isotope Separator in the state. Indeed, a
 8 great evil will ensue if such a plant is sited anywhere
 9 on Planet Earth. The SIS will refine plutonium for use in
 10 nuclear weapons, as you've heard testified so much today.
 11 Plutonium creates the explosive force for detonating a
 12 hydrogen bomb.
 13 Because the United States has nearly
 14 25,000 nuclear weapons and 100 tons of weapon-grade
 15 plutonium, the argument for more stockpiling is a specious
 16 one.
 17 Plutonium causes cancer and genetic damage
 18 resulting in birth defects. It's virulence remains
 19 active for some 24,000 years, as projected.
 20 The SIS will rest on top of Idaho's best
 21 source of water, the Snake River Plain Aquifer. And it
 22 will be near to the epicenter of the Borah Peak earthquake
 23 area.
 24 The arguments for more defense weapons and
 25 for jobs wanes when one faces the possible unleashed

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1 destructive power of the SIS.

2 Idaho should continue to share the Arco
 3 desert with the native coyotes and jackrabbits, because
 4 they are far better neighbors.

5 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 6 Lorraine Gundersen will be included in the record as
 7 Exhibit No. 610.

8 (Exhibit 610 was marked and entered.)

9 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 10 is J. J. Dion. J. J. Dion.

11 David Simmonds.

12 Commenter 66, Valerie Galindo.

13 Patsy Corke.

14 Nancy Brossman.

15 Wayne Morris.

16 Roger Rosentreter.

17 Jim Krieder.

18 Dan Ostermiller.

19 I'll go back through the list one more time.

20 I assume that there are individuals who have not commented
 21 and that want to comment.

22 There is one? Okay.

23 Rather than going back through the entire
 24 list, it might be easier just to -- well, let's go off the
 25 record for a moment.

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1 (Discussion was had off the record.)
 2 MR. EIGUREN: In order to accommodate
 3 those individuals who are here this afternoon who are
 4 scheduled to testify this evening, we'll allow them to go
 5 ahead and testify at this point. And once again ask that
 6 they give their name and address for the record.
 7 Thank you, sir.
 8 MR. HEBERGER: My name is Roy Heberger.
 9 I reside in Boise, Idaho.
 10 Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen,
 11 members of the staff, the Department of Energy: I am
 12 a citizen of the State of Idaho and of the United States.
 13 My testimony is presented on behalf of myself and my
 14 family. I have a wife and two teenage daughters.
 15 My formal training is in science. I have
 16 three college degrees, two of which are from the University
 17 of Michigan. While my education has had its focus in
 18 the natural sciences, my degree requirements included a
 19 firm basis in the physical sciences. In graduate school
 20 I added to that base with additional training in nuclear
 21 radiation biology.
 22 While I mention my formal training in an
 23 effort to establish a certain level of credibility, I am
 24 not an expert in any of the physical sciences. I try to
 25 be an informed citizen.

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1 Given that background, I am here to testify
 2 in opposition to SIS.
 3 SIS -- Special Isotope Separation -- a
 4 simple euphemism for a process designed to isolate and
 5 refine weapons-grade plutonium from other fission products
 6 of uranium. I will present arguments in opposition from
 7 four perspectives: Technical, ethical, fiscal, and moral.
 8 The technical perspective: In March of 1982
 9 Senator James McClure of Idaho issued a special report on
 10 nuclear waste in which he proposed that, "The safe
 11 disposal of radioactive waste is an urgent national
 12 priority." It is unfortunate that six years have passed,
 13 and the complex problem of safe and sane nuclear waste
 14 disposal is still before us. We have been unsuccessful
 15 as a nation in the development of a rational policy on
 16 the development, use and disposal of our nuclear resources.
 17 Some progress has been made. I think we are finally
 18 beyond the out-of-sight/out-of-mind mentality of the last
 19 three decades. Maybe not. We now have SIS before us.
 20 Plutonium is one of the most deadly of
 21 substances known to man. It has an exceptionally high
 22 rate of emission of alpha particles, and the element is
 23 readily absorbed by bone marrow -- one of the body's
 24 blood-forming organs. While it exists in trace quantities
 25 in naturally-occurring uranium ores, it is mostly a product

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1 of neutron irradiation of natural ore. In 1982 plutonium
2 was being produced by nuclear power reactors throughout
3 the world at a rate of about 20,000 kilograms per year.
4 I cite a reference here for that.

5 Plutonium 239, the naturally-occurring
6 or otherwise available form, has a half-life of 24,360
7 years. Thus there is substantial cause for public concern
8 in the critical areas of human and environmental health.

9 The people are totally dependent upon the
10 federal government to regulate use, handling, storage,
11 and disposal of radioactive materials and to provide
12 absolute safeguards against accidental exposure. The
13 Nuclear Regulatory Commission has as one of its
14 responsibilities the protection of the people and the
15 environment from contamination. This leads me to the next
16 aspect of my testimony.

17 An ethical perspective: There is a
18 serious problem in this country today with an apparent
19 lack of credibility in government. The people are better
20 informed than ever before, and official answers to
21 serious questions, however, are met with skepticism. The
22 people simply do not believe much of what they are being
23 told.

24 The case in point is a radiological health
25 issue. I am very concerned that the public receives

1 patronizing responses to its concerns about the apparent
2 lack of a rational federal policy concerning radiological
3 health, and national security. I don't believe that there
4 is a safe level of exposure to radiation beyond that
5 which is considered as background radiation.

6 I see I've got the green light already.

7 Since my testimony was prepared in writing
8 and has been submitted, I merely wish to add that there
9 are serious ethical considerations here. There are, I
10 believe, serious fiscal considerations here, and I'm very
11 concerned that the NEPA process, since this is a process
12 of merely disclosure, that the people understand that all
13 the federal government has to do is disclose the impact.
14 The NEPA process is not used to stop a process from going
15 forward. If they do an adequate job of disclosure, they
16 will have done their job. They should not, however, have
17 done a prior commitment of resources prior to making a
18 decision, at least on the record. And I'm very concerned
19 that that has not happened yet, and I am very concerned
20 that you're listening to what I think, from the testimony
21 I heard today, is the preponderance in opposition to the
22 process.

23 I wish to thank you for the opportunity;
24 I am very pleased to have had it.

25 Thank you.

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1 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
2 Roy Heberger are marked as Exhibit No. 611 for the record
3 and will be included as received.

4 (Exhibit 611 marked and entered.)

5 MR. NELSON: My name is Martin Nelson. I
6 am a retired builder. I am a native of Idaho and a native
7 of Boise.

8 I am opposed to the SIS facility being
9 built anywhere on this planet.

10 I believe we are here because of the
11 self-interest concerning the SIS monetary gain, jobs,
12 patriotism, defense, survival.

13 We as unions should be more discriminating
14 about the nature of the jobs we endorse. I was a member
15 of Local 635, the Carpenters & Joiners of America, for 19
16 years.

17 I suspect there would be more concern over
18 the construction of a new plant to produce Agent Orange
19 or napalm. But we have come to accept the production of
20 the most deadly substance known to man.

21 Our minds seem to have been numbed by the
22 substitution of the word "defense" for the more easily
23 understood term "war." Let me repeat that, please. Our
24 minds seem to have been numbed by the substitution of the
25 word "defense" for the more easily understood term "war."

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1 I am sure George Orwell would understand
2 such an example of doublethink or doublespeak. At a time
3 when we are negotiating a 50 percent reduction in
4 long-range missiles and the ratification of the INF Treaty,
5 it seems inappropriate, even stupid, to simultaneously
6 be constructing an SIS plutonium factory facility in
7 Idaho or anywhere else. SIS will surely create distrust
8 and 'chill the efforts to phase down and reduce the level
9 of nuclear weapons.

10 Give peace a chance.

11 Seldom does one discover a poem which so
12 aptly reflects an issue; "I Am a Nuclear God" does
13 precisely that.

14 I AM NUCLEAR GOD

15 "I rode the winds

16 Across the ocean in Enola Gay

17 Shadowing the children

18 Playing in Hiroshima.

19 I am sleeping

20 In the MX missile, the ICBM's, the SS20's,
21 and

22 In the President's plans for star wars.

23 I cause fear in the hearts

24 Of those aware of my existence.

25 I crave the lazy apathy

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4.14

1 Of those ignorant and complacent.
 2 I eat trillions of dollars
 3 While children starve in third-world
 4 countries
 5 And live without hope in U. S. ghettos.
 6 I must be produced forever and ever.
 7 I am the cold war, the rumors, and rumors
 8 Of war.
 9 The world has given me 50,000 Altars.
 10 I am Nuclear God.
 11 Conceived for mutual-assured destruction
 12 Designed in diabolical darkness.
 13 I wait
 14 To annihilate a living planet.
 15 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 16 Martin V. Nelson of Boise will be marked as Exhibit No. 612
 17 and admitted in the record as received.
 18 (Exhibit 612 was marked and entered.)
 19 MR. EIGUREN: Patrick Moore.
 20 MR. MOORE: My name is Patrick Moore, and
 21 I live at 1517 1/2 Division in Boise.
 22 Everyone knows we are faced and threatened
 23 by virtually inexpressible budget deficit, and everyone
 24 probably knows, at least Newsweek does, that we are awash
 25 in plutonium. It would seem to me that the logical thing

1 to do would be not to build the SIS. I don't know a whole
 2 lot about aquifers or employment multipliers, but I do
 3 know of the Department of Energy's record in dealing with
 4 weapons-grade or weapons plutonium plants. And I have
 5 heard the expert testimony of those who doubt this
 6 Environmental Impact Statement and have even called it a
 7 sham. I'm inclined to believe them.

8 About the only thing I can object to this,
 9 it's really, you probably haven't heard before, is that I
 10 am new to Idaho. I came up here about a year ago after
 11 I was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps. I came
 12 up here because it was pristine, and I can assure you I
 13 probably wouldn't have come up here if there was a
 14 nuclear bomb factory up here. I came up here to pay
 15 out-of-state tuition at BSU -- kind of makes you wonder
 16 how many jobs spun off of that. And I wouldn't have gone
 17 to the University of Hanford.

18 The Department of Energy says that one of
 19 the considerations they have for this, for building this
 20 plant in Idaho, is that a lack of an anti-nuclear movement
 21 here, a favorable political climate. Well, I rode my
 22 bicycle through the snowstorm to get here today, and if
 23 they build that plant up there and God hope they don't,
 24 I'll ride my bicycle up there through the snow in protest
 25 up there.

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1 Thank you.

2 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and Gentlemen, I'll

3 now go to the list of individuals who registered at the

4 door at the beginning of this hearing which was held on

5 Saturday. I'll go through the list once, and then at

6 that time we'll go ahead and include anyone else.

7 Brian Conner.

8 Angie Blain.

9 Chris Griffin.

10 Richard Forney.

11 Athena Evans Campbell.

12 John S. Kriz.

13 Gary Sandusky.

14 Gayle Heylman.

15 Sandi Larsen.

16 Rita Sellers Hoffman.

17 Michelle Morrison.

18 Wanda Nelson.

19 Tom Sipes.

20 Mark Sprague.

21 MR. SPRAGUE: Hello. My name is

22 Mark Sprague, and I live here in Boise. I'm not much of

23 a public speaker.

24 I would like to read to you some of the

25 things that were said by what I believe to be one of the

1 greatest teachers that the world has ever known, who is

2 Jesus Christ.

3 He said something here that I think is very

4 applicable to this situation, and this is what He said:

5 "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would

6 that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for

7 this is the law and the prophets. Enter ye in at the

8 strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way,

9 that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go

10 in thereat:

11 "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is

12 the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that

13 find it.

14 "Beware of false prophets, which come to

15 you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening

16 wolves.

17 "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do

18 men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

19 "Even so every good tree bringeth forth

20 good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

21 "A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit,

22 neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

23 "Every tree that bringeth not forth good

24 fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

25 "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know

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1 them."

2 And I think this SIS is not a good work.

3 I think that people talk about a need for jobs. And I
4 looked around and I see a lot of things that need to be
5 done, and I think that wherever there is a need there is
6 a job. It may not pay quite what people want to get paid.

7 Jesus also said, "Lay up for yourself
8 not treasures here on earth, but lay up for yourself
9 treasures in heaven."

10 And he said, "Your heart is where your
11 treasures are."

12 And it seems like to do this and to put
13 your heart into a missile is, doesn't seem quite right
14 to me. To do it for money and put money into a bank and
15 put your heart into a little vault seems somewhat like
16 death to me.

17 I want to read you another passage here
18 from Revelations. It says here:

19 "And the four and twenty elders, which sat
20 before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and
21 worshipped God,

22 "Saying, we give thee thanks, O Lord God
23 Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because
24 thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and has reigned.

25 "And the nations were angry, and thy wrath

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1 is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be
2 judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy
3 servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that
4 fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy
5 them which destroy the earth."

6 This project, as far as I'm concerned, is
7 meant for nothing but destruction, and I think that's
8 very applicable there.

9 And another passage here from Deuteronomy,
10 it says, "See, I have set before thee this day life and
11 good, and death and evil;

12 "In that I command thee this day to love
13 the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his
14 commandments and his statutes and his judgments, that
15 thou mayest live and multiply: and the Lord thy God
16 shall bless thee in the land whither thou goest to
17 possess it.

18 "But if thine heart turn away, so that
19 thou wilt not hear, but shalt be drawn away, and worship
20 other gods, and serve them;

21 "I denounce unto you this day, that ye
22 shall surely perish, and that ye shall not prolong your
23 days upon the land, whither thou passest over Jordan to go
24 to possess it.

25 "I call heaven and earth to record this day

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2.7.9

1 against you, that I have set before you life and death,
2 blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both
3 thou and thy seed may live."

4 And I think this SIS is choosing death,
5 not only for you but for your seed, which is your
6 children. And I feel kind of bad. Sometimes I'm ashamed
7 to be an American because of the way our government has
8 used this power, this military power, to oppress people
9 in foreign countries for special interests, for people
10 who have no concern about these people, like people in
11 Nicaragua who are just trying to live. Why go down there
12 and treat them like dirt? Rape their women, kill them.
13 I'm kind of ashamed of that. In fact, I would like to
14 apologize to these people.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: We have been informed that
17 one of our preregistered speakers, Mr. George Bennett,
18 is now here. He was called earlier.

19 Would you step forward, sir?

20 (Discussion was had off the record.)

21 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
22 George A. Bennett will be included in the record as
23 Exhibit No. 614, and additional written comment provided
24 by Mr. Bennett to us from Steven Pitino, P-i-t-i-n-o, of
25 Boise, Idaho, will be included in the record as Exhibit

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B110

1 No. 615.

2 (Exhibits 614 and 615 were marked and
3 entered.)

4 MR. BENNETT: I am George A. Bennett,
5 Lieutenant Colonel, Air Force (Retired). I have resided
6 in Idaho since 1966. I reside at 5368 Latigo, Boise,
7 Idaho.

8 I retired in July, 1970, with almost 30
9 years' active duty, including overseas service in all
10 three wars this country has been involved in, beginning
11 with World War II. I am a graduate of the Air Force
12 Senior Staff Officers Nuclear Weapons Course.

13 I have studied the Draft Environmental
14 Impact Statement concerning the Special Isotope
15 Separation project and consider it to be an accurate
16 analysis of the facts concerning this project with
17 particular reference to construction at the INEL facility
18 here in Idaho.

19 Siting and construction of the SIS project
20 here at INEL would be a sound decision, totally positive
21 in effect. It makes sense from an economic viewpoint,
22 both nationally and as far as Idaho is concerned. The
23 beneficial spin-offs to this state are almost endless
24 while negatives are essentially non-existent.

25 National security dictates that construction

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1 begin at the earliest possible date. Time is crucial to
 2 our national posture of preparedness and the nationwide
 3 sabotage of our nuclear power generating capability by the
 4 same breed of anti-nuclear activists that we find here
 5 today has denied a reasonable alternate source for
 6 plutonium 239.

7 Since the Jane Fonda's of this nation made
 8 treason fashionable during the Vietnam War, our nuclear
 9 capabilities have been under a barrage of attack,
 10 intentionally based on misinformation provided by persons
 11 of questionable loyalty and parroted by the uninformed.
 12 God forbid that our defense needs be determined by such as
 13 these.

14 I strongly support the SIS project with
 15 siting at INEL.

16 MR. EIGUREN: We'll return to the -- at the
 17 door registration list we have left off with
 18 Mr. Mark Sprague.

19 Beginning at order No. 17 I will resume and
 20 call the following names:

21 James Wood.

22 Martin V. Nelson.

23 Irene H. Culver.

24 Al Fothergill.

25 MR. FOTHERGILL: Here.

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1.1

1 My name is Al Fothergill. I have no
 2 written submission for you. I reside at 9220 West Wright
 3 in Boise, Idaho. I'm opposed to the SIS project. In my
 4 opinion, it should not be placed in Idaho or at any other
 5 site. No action is my recommendation. Part of the foreword
 6 of the Executive Summary is Construction. This is a
 7 quote:

8 "Construction and operation of the SIS
 9 project would be conducted in accordance with all applicable
 10 laws and applications intended to protect the environment
 11 and safety and health of workers and the public."

12 These words, or others like them, always
 13 seem to be used to mitigate the concerns of people about
 14 potential dangers from nuclear involvement or nuclear
 15 facilities. I want to relate to you just a few of my
 16 experiences in my little life. I'm not Jane Fonda,
 17 incidentally.

18 In the early 1950's I went to work in the
 19 uranium mines of the Colorado Plateau. My home was in
 20 Grand Junction, Colorado; I worked out at Uravan; I didn't
 21 work at it very long. But about 25 years later I saw a
 22 report, and 74 percent of the men who worked in those mines
 23 had cancer. I guess nobody thought about that.

24 I also have a house in Grand Junction,
 25 Colorado. At one time not too many years ago, why, the

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1 the basement started, the concrete in the basement began
 2 to crumble, buckle. I had to have new concrete poured.
 3 So, I hired a contractor, got some concrete in the basement
 4 of my house. And a few years later, why, the DOE came
 5 and wrote me a letter -- I'm living in Idaho, now -- they
 6 wrote me a letter saying that they've made a preliminary
 7 examination, and they have found that the radiation levels
 8 in my house exceeded the background level, and could they
 9 put a test monitor into the house?

10 And I wrote back and said yes.

11 Last year, why, they sent me a notice and
 12 said they tested it for a year and it was correct, the
 13 background levels in the house exceeded, the levels of
 14 radiation in the house exceeded the background levels,
 15 normal background levels. They said if I would sign a
 16 piece of paper, why, they would come and fix it: They
 17 could take the concrete out of the basement and replace it
 18 with some more concrete.

19 Well, the irony of that is that the concrete
 20 in my basement was made from the dump at the AEC plant,
 21 the DOE plant in Grand Junction, Colorado. And it wasn't
 22 just my house; it was all over the city of Grand Junction,
 23 30,000 people, where new houses, new homes, new houses,
 24 old houses, back porch stopes and all sorts of things were
 25 made out of the slag heap of the atomic energy plant, the

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1 Benefication plant in Grand Junction, Colorado. But
 2 nobody thought about that, I guess.

3 I also have a little farm, sort of a high
 4 desert farm in Nevada, southeast of Ely. And a few years
 5 back, why, the people started getting sick because they --
 6 they attributed it to the explosions down on Yucca Flats
 7 and the Ground Mercury there. And we kind of passed it
 8 over. But it turns out that sometime later, why, the
 9 incidence of that was found in St. George, Utah, where the
 10 winds had blown nuclear dust into the, across the desert
 11 over to St. George, and people had a lot of cancer there,
 12 but nobody thought about that.

13 Similarly, and this is my last example, I
 14 lived in Boulder, Colorado for two years and traveled
 15 between Golden and Boulder quite often through the Rocky
 16 Flats plant there, went by it on the road, and I didn't
 17 think much of it, except I knew what it was. But after
 18 we left there, why, it turns out that the nuclear, some
 19 nuclear waste had seeped through and into the reservoir
 20 of Bloomington, which is a large urban area, like a
 21 residential area, north of Denver. But apparently, nobody
 22 thought about that. That's my great concern of this
 23 project, is that the -- the people, whoever is doing this,
 24 won't think about all the consequences, and we're going to
 25 be in a lot of trouble.

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1 Thank you very much.

2 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Mr. Fothergill.

3 Our next scheduled commenter is Alicia Baker.

4 MS. BAKER: I'm Alicia Baker; I live at

5 417 North Garden, in Boise.

6 My primary concern with the SIS project is

7 that plutonium production is a morally repugnant endeavor --

8 it's to be used in nuclear warheads. Why? Because if

9 those warheads are ever used, they will kill hundreds of

10 thousands of people.

11 Secondly, building nuclear bombs instills

12 and legitimates values of violence and aggression. If

13 our politicians and government officials say it's okay to

14 build warheads to kill hundreds of thousands of people,

15 I don't think we should be surprised to find that children

16 and women are abused in our homes.

17 Finally, how is it that politicians have

18 found the money to build nukes, when they haven't been

19 able to find the money for education, for poverty, for

20 hunger? Their moral amnesia strikes me as a malaise that

21 will destroy us all.

22 SIS is bad jobs. It's immoral to produce

23 instruments of death. SIS is moral degradation.

24 Isn't it a perverse irony in seeking an

25 environmentally safe way to produce a product which, if

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B113

1 ever used, will destroy our environment.

2 MR. EIGUREN: We're at commenter order

3 No. 22. Janet Celick.

4 MS. CELICK: My name is Janet R. Celick, Major,

5 U. S. Air Force (Ret.). I live at 9201 Zuni Drive, Boise,

6 83704.

7 I exercise my right as a citizen soldier

8 in a democracy to promote and to speak out when my

9 conscience is in trouble. In the material that we were

10 given I select Option 5, which is Option 4, No Option,

11 plus the added indignity of reduced armament. I choose

12 to believe Professor Jackson Davis of the Environmental

13 Studies Institute who spoke as No. 7 on Saturday. I was

14 so sorry that most of our elected officials left the room

15 before he spoke. He said that the SIS will use presently

16 untested technology, that the engineering criteria does

17 not exist, that the assumptions are wrong, the estimates

18 absurdly low, the worst of the worst case scenario was

19 omitted, and external initiators such as tornado or

20 earthquake omitted. So if we look at the other options,

21 let's see. I grew up in northern Idaho and eastern

22 Oregon, and I love this side of the continent. I don't

23 really want to mess up where we live or the Snake River

24 Aquifer.

25 How about Hanford? I don't know. I was

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1 stationed in Washington state a couple of years. My
2 brother has lived there since the end of World War II.
3 It's a larger population in a smaller area. We don't want
4 to mess up Hanford any worse than they are.

5 How about South Carolina? Oh, boy. I was
6 stationed in Alabama and Virginia and Maryland and
7 Massachusetts. I don't want to wreck the East. I love
8 the whole nation. I'm a citizen of this nation, not just
9 of Idaho, and I don't want to wreck it.

10 How about our allies? Maybe France. I
11 don't know. I was stationed in Germany many years, and
12 our heritage comes from all over Europe. I don't want to
13 ruin everything over there -- it's already in trouble.

14 How about these little Gooks off on the
15 other side? Oh, I don't know. I was stationed in Asia
16 two years and Southeast Asia one year, and I don't want to
17 give them any more trouble than we already have. I'm
18 totally embarrassed about what we've already done to them.
19 Now they're getting back at us with their Japanese cars
20 and computers.

21 I think that everyone who worked on this
22 study was well meaning and trying to carry out the will of
23 the public, and they've used all that they could to make
24 it right. Maybe they covered up a little here and there
25 to satisfy a boss, but they don't seem to realize how many

1 slips can occur between the design and the carrying out.

2 I know. We built a house once and we hear
3 the sneers between the builder and the contractor. "Oh,
4 this architect just puts a little black square in the
5 corner and calls that a heating plant. Now, how are we
6 going to put all these vents and ducts and everything in
7 here on this four-level split-level house?"

8 And then you hear them talk about the
9 building of nuclear power plants. Well, common sense is
10 a good thing; it's not always common, but sometimes it's
11 not as practical as it sounds. We've seen people who are
12 building a nuclear power plant specify one kind of material,
13 and the builders substituted another because it's cheaper.
14 Why not? They just don't know the physics that they've
15 messed up, and nobody can see the difference. So it may
16 be years before they realize that they've got a danger
17 right here. You can see maybe why Utah or whoever comes
18 in to build this SIS would like to use their own people
19 as contractors instead of Idaho. They want someone they
20 can trust, someone that will respect them and carry out
21 their wishes. But I don't know. I think we trust our own
22 at INEL better than those that they would bring in.

23 I keep thinking, though, of when my husband
24 worked at the laboratory he directed in Sacramento as they
25 were testing the soil from Anewetok, many, many years after

1 World War II, and telling the natives, "No, you don't want
2 to move back there yet."

3 Where shall our next Anewetok be? Right
4 here? At Hanford? Or in South Carolina?

5 MR. EIGUREN: We're at order No. 23 with
6 the at-the-door registration list. Carol McMunigal.

7 We've gone through the full list. I assume
8 we still have individuals here wanting to comment.

9 Sir, in the blue coat, would you step
10 forward and give us your name and address?

11 (Inaudible.)

12 MR. EIGUREN: Would you step up to the
13 podium, sir, and give that again for the court reporter?

14 MR. GARVIN: My name is Chuck Garvin, I
15 reside at 1224 North Hartman, and I represent the Laborer's
16 Local Union 155, in Boise.

17 I'm here to speak in favor of building the
18 Special Isotope Separator at the Idaho National Energy (sic)
19 Laboratory site in southeast Idaho.

20 The SIS would contribute strongly to the
21 stability and the growth of both southeast Idaho and the
22 state economies. Of the \$937-million project budget, the
23 actual facility cost will be \$505-million. Construction
24 is scheduled to start in June 1989. At this time, there
25 would be a peak construction force of 440 direct and

1 indirect personnel; these workers would be supplemented
2 by approximately 610 supporting jobs in the local area. A
3 large in-migration of construction workers is not expected
4 since many of the construction workers are already
5 available in the surrounding region. The supporting
6 spin-off jobs also would be filled by local building
7 trade personnel.

8 Because the 440 construction workers who
9 will be required to build the SIS project are readily
10 available in south Idaho, there will be no adverse impact
11 on the schools or other elements of the local
12 infrastructure. Social and economic impact resulting
13 from any in-migration is expected to be small and would
14 constitute an equally small percentage of the average
15 annual increase in the population in the INEL region.

16 Plant operation is predicted at 410 direct
17 and 340 indirect permanent positions. Studies conducted
18 by Idaho State University indicate that the 750 permanent
19 jobs at the SIS facility would generate an additional
20 1,050 supporting jobs in the community at large. The
21 resulting total of 1,800 permanent jobs is something that
22 Idaho desperately needs.

23 The Special Isotope Separator project will
24 bring back to Idaho some of our hard-earned tax dollars,
25 and will help to bring back jobs and opportunities. The

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1 SIS will bring our state long and short-term employment,
2 a larger and more stable tax base, and more importantly,
3 provide our workers a chance to stay and to work in Idaho.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. EIGUREN: The comment of Chuck Garvin,
6 who is commenter No. 55 on the evening session, will be
7 listed as Exhibit No. 616 in the record.

8 (Exhibit No. 616 marked and entered.)

9 MR. EIGUREN: Yes, ma'am. Your name and
10 address for the record, please. You say you want to
11 speak this afternoon?

12 MS. HEYLMUN: My name is Gail Heylmun, and
13 I live at 924 West Fort Street, in Boise. I am a mother
14 of two small children. Many other people have spoken
15 better than I can about the moral question of nuclear
16 weapons, the question of need for the SIS, the problems
17 of environmental contamination, transportation safety,
18 and the economic impacts of the proposed SIS facilities.
19 I am here today because I have had the opportunity to
20 experience something many of you have not -- I have lived
21 in Denver and been a neighbor to another DOE facility,
22 the Rocky Flats plant. Before we in Idaho allow the
23 proposed SIS plant to be located in our beautiful state,
24 we all should know just what kind of neighbors the DOE are,
25 and what it's like to live on a transportation corridor for

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1 nuclear materials and weapons shipment.

2 Where I grew up, if a neighbor had a problem
3 that posed a threat to his neighbors, he would let them
4 know. If a house was on fire, everybody knew and was able
5 to protect themselves if it posed a risk to them. With
6 the DOE it's a different story. There have been two very
7 major fires involving plutonium at Rocky Flats, one in
8 1957 and one in 1969. Pounds of plutonium were burned
9 and released. The DOE really doesn't know how many. Did
10 the DOE warn their neighbors so that they could be
11 careful not to expose themselves to the radioactive
12 contamination? No. They gave no one any warning. For
13 the DOE, the natural security interests dictated that we
14 shouldn't let our enemies know of any weakness in our
15 weapons production systems. It didn't matter about the
16 risks to the area.

17 There hasn't been a health study on the
18 impacts with the contamination in Jefferson County,
19 Colorado. Carl Johnson, who was the former director of
20 the Jefferson County Health Department, stated that the
21 rate of incidence of leukemia doubled among children in
22 Jefferson County from 1957 through 1961, after the 1957
23 explosion and fire blew out the air filters and released
24 the plutonium into the atmosphere. As a result of these
25 fires and the ongoing plutonium releases, a large area of

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1 land around the plant is contaminated, as well as a large
 2 part of the local water supply. As a result of his
 3 examination of Rocky Flats' role in contamination of the
 4 Denver area, Carl Johnson became a political hot potato
 5 and lost his job. The DOE doesn't like to have local
 6 health officials questioning their priorities. Is this
 7 how we want our local officials to be treated by their
 8 neighbors?

9 I have many friends who still live in the
 10 Denver area. Two of them, Bob and Ann Cope, live in
 11 northwest Denver. They used to be avid gardeners. They
 12 gave it up after they had their soil tested for plutonium.
 13 They found out their yard is contaminated, contaminated
 14 with plutonium, an extremely poisonous and carcinogenic
 15 man-made element. Their samples showed that their soil
 16 has 10 times the background rate for the area. The
 17 government officials they contacted after they got the
 18 result back on their soil said it was simply from
 19 above-ground nuclear testing. That's not true. Background
 20 rate on many areas of our planet has increased due to
 21 nuclear testing, but the radiation didn't pick any one
 22 person's yard. They're high above background for that
 23 region of the country, and a lot of their neighbors are,
 24 too. There is no natural plutonium. It is simply a
 25 man-made element and it's spread out in rings of

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1 contamination from Rocky Flats. There's maps that show
 2 that, and I can provide one, if I can have the privilege
 3 of submitting written testimony that shows that.

4 MR. EIGUREN: Fine.

5 MS. HEYLMUN: Rocky Flats is regulated by
 6 DOE. There are limits for emissions of plutonium. The
 7 DOE says that there are strict limits. Well what does
 8 that really mean? In reality, these limits are exceeded
 9 frequently and consistently. When the sensors out in the
 10 field indicate that limits have been exceeded, health
 11 officials are not notified and reports are not filed.
 12 Instead, the plant carefully monitors and limits its
 13 emissions for the next few days or even weeks, so that
 14 the average emission rate is within the limits. That's
 15 all. There is no real maximum limit. It just gets fudged,
 16 and you make it come out, come out in the wash. Is that
 17 how we want our neighbors to behave?

18 I've talked a lot about the DOE as neighbors,
 19 but I haven't talked about them as drivers. They don't
 20 just sit still with plutonium; they move it around a lot.
 21 And their ratings as drivers isn't one that makes me feel
 22 confident. I'm alarmed and concerned.

23 Having federally-regulated nuclear and
 24 weapons shipments on our highways really changes the
 25 character of our highways into a potential war zone.

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1 I lived in Denver when, in 1984, a load of
 2 six of the largest non-nuclear torpedoes in use spilled
 3 in the middle of the intersection of Denver's two major
 4 Interstates. Local officials were not able to deal with
 5 the crisis. They needed help. What happened? The
 6 morning the accident occurred it was 5:00 a.m. It took
 7 the officials more than five hours, until 10:00 o'clock,
 8 before they could get any phone response from any of the
 9 officials who were supposed to help if there was a
 10 problem with the shipment. They tried all the emergency
 11 numbers, but no one was there. It was 10:00 o'clock
 12 before they got an answer and noon before anybody showed
 13 up on the site. This had real interesting effects on
 14 Denver's rush hour.

15 Another town, Chicota, Oklahoma, wasn't so
 16 lucky. They had a spill of weapons that were being
 17 transported through their town go over, and they took a
 18 long time to get any kind of settlement out of the
 19 government. They didn't feel that they were responsible.
 20 The just listed "other driver's fault."

21 I'm also concerned about the jobs that are
 22 being created. I know many people are greeting this
 23 project with open arms because of the jobs. But those
 24 jobs pose a threat to the safety of the workers, their
 25 families and communities. Health studies have indicated

1 that workers at Rocky Flats have a higher rate of brain
 2 cancer than normal. Two cases especially had damages
 3 come down through the courts, but the DOE considers that
 4 the rate of death and illness is too small to be
 5 significant. I doubt that the families of the workers
 6 who died think that it was too small to be significant.
 7 How about your family? How badly do we need these jobs?
 8 Enough to die for?

9 The thought of a nuclear war scares me as
 10 much as anyone else. But I see something happening here
 11 that scares me just as much. People are dying in this
 12 land, right now, already, from a war that has not been
 13 fought. The term "National Sacrifice Area" has been used
 14 for some parts of our country that are being contaminated.
 15 We don't need Soviet weapons to kill us. Our government
 16 and our weapons production system is doing it all by itself.
 17 The DOE has allowed the priority of weapons production to
 18 become an idol and at its feet are many priceless
 19 sacrifices --- our clean land, our clean water, our health,
 20 our safety, and our future.

21 I want my children to grow up and live
 22 happy, productive lives. There are problems enough in
 23 our world today. Let's keep SIS out of our neighborhood.

24 MR. EIGUREN: Written comments of
 25 Gail Heylman of Boise will be included in the record as

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B116

1 Exhibit No. 617.

2 (Exhibit No. 617 marked and entered.)

3 MR. EIGUREN: Your name and address for
4 the record, sir. Were you preregistered this afternoon?

5 MR. THOMPSON: No, I wasn't.

6 My name is David Thompson; I live at
7 8110 Brynwood in Boise.

8 Throughout the SIS hearings there's been
9 two prevailing themes: On one hand it's death and
10 destruction; on the other hand it's the dollar signs,
11 dollar signs from the labor unions, from the government,
12 from anybody else who thinks they're going to get a piece
13 of the pie.

14 On the other hand, death and destruction
15 is all we're going to get. There can't be any other
16 answer: Death and destruction.

3.4

17 Why are we building for war and hoping for
18 peace? That's stupid. We should not be building any kind
19 of weapons whatsoever, none for war or anything else to
20 be used. We have to build for peace, peace relationships,
21 peace in any form, any way we can get peace, and it's not
22 through weapons. It doesn't matter how many weapons we
23 stockpile, thinking that we're going to be safe because
24 we've got more weapons than the other guy. Weapons are
25 not going to fight our wars. Wars are going to be started

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B117

1 by the winds of a few individuals in high places. Somebody
2 is going to get ticked off about something and say, "Let's
3 go to war."

4 Sure we have safeguards that have filtered
5 down through our political system, checks and balances,
6 but that's not going to stop it. If we're going to go to
7 war, we'll go to war.

8 In closing, if the United States or our
9 government, not the people, want this plutonium to be used,
10 my solution is let's find an island out somewhere, far
11 away in the middle of the ocean, and put both a plutonium
12 plant there and the weapons, the bombs plant there, then
13 if they want to use it, let's fly up above and drop it
14 on that island.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

17 MR. EMBERTON: My name is David Emberton,
18 and I live here in Boise, 1605 North 7th, and I am a
19 building contractor.

20 On January 3rd, 1961, an explosion in the
21 SL-1 reactor at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
22 killed three young men with a blast radiation effect.
23 The 3,000-kilowatt experimental boiling-water reactor
24 blew up when a control rod was mismanaged, producing a
25 power surge in the reactor vessel. This accident was the

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1 first publicized in the U. S. involving fatalities,
 2 serving as a grim example that no man-made design is
 3 foolproof.

4 Now we are being asked, if not told, to
 5 placidly accept the addition of the SIS project to our
 6 already-troubled INEL site. The Idaho Statesman of
 7 Tuesday, March 22nd of this year ran two articles concerning
 8 an accident that contaminated three workers at INEL with
 9 a radioactive solution, as well as an article citing the
 10 possible addition of INEL to the national Superfund list
 11 of hazardous waste sites across the country. Clean-up of
 12 the site could cost \$30-million and take up to 30 years.
 13 There are already four Superfund sites in Idaho.

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14 One glaring example of simplemindedness in
 15 the Environmental Impact Statement of the SIS is the
 16 failure to adequately address waste disposal at the
 17 proposed SIS site. We already have a problem at INEL
 18 without a solution; to compound it with another one is
 19 generally insane. The placement of such a short-sighted
 20 and poorly conceived conglomerate of experimental
 21 technology, over a major aquifer that is geologically active,
 22 is an idea that doesn't deserve to be seriously entertained.
 23 It is a potential hazard too great to be ignored.

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24 Our vast federal deficit does not permit
 25 us to economically wander in the direction of the SIS

1 project, a project that leads nowhere. If something must
 2 be built, let it be confidence; confidence in a government
 3 that has lost sight of its pledge to protect its citizens
 4 instead of discovering new techniques to poison them
 5 through the water they drink or the air that they breathe.

3.2.2

6 Not only should the SIS project be shuffled
 7 into a receptacle containing other examples of federal
 8 indigestion, indeed, the INEL should go as well, leaving
 9 in its wake a testament to the myopia of the human race.

1.1

10 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you. The written
 11 comments of David Emberton will be included in the record
 12 as Exhibit No. 618.

13 (Exhibit No. 618 marked and entered.)

14 MR. EIGUREN: Do we have present any other
 15 individuals who wish to comment that are registered to
 16 do so?

17 There apparently not being any, but given
 18 the fact that we have served notice that we'll be here
 19 until 5:00, we'll take a recess until 5:00, at which time
 20 I'll go ahead and formally recess us until the 7:00
 21 o'clock session.

22 Thank you.

23 (Recess.)

24 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and gentlemen, if I
 25 could have your attention, please. We will now reconvene

1 this hearing concerning the United States Department of
2 Energy's proposed Special Isotope Separation Project.

3 For the record, I would like to indicate that
4 we are here in a continuation of the formal public hearing
5 that commenced here in Boise on this project on Saturday.
6 We had a continuation this afternoon of that hearing
7 which formally ended at 4:40 p.m. This proceeding is
8 officially designated as the Boise, Idaho, Continued
9 Public Hearing of the Department of Energy's document
10 DOE/EIS 0136, which is being held on the 29th day of
11 March, 1988.

12 My name is Roy Eiguren. I am the Hearing
13 Officer for this and the subsequent public hearings held
14 to receive comment on the Draft Environmental Impact
15 Statement for the proposed siting, construction, and
16 operation by the Department of Energy of a Special
17 Isotope Separation facility that will utilize the atomic
18 vapor laser isotope separation process technology.

19 I am an attorney from Boise here in private
20 practice. I have been retained solely for the purpose to
21 conduct this series of public hearings as an independent
22 and unbiased third party to assure the opportunity for all
23 interested organizations and individuals to comment on the
24 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Accordingly, I am
25 not an advocate for or against the proposed action proposed

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1 by the Department of Energy in this proceeding. Rather,
2 I am a neutral third party who has coordinated the
3 development of the procedures that we're following and
4 also will conduct the hearings themselves.

5 The issue that is the subject of this hearing
6 is the Department's proposal to site, construct and
7 operate an SIS facility at one of three locations in the
8 United States -- the DOE's Idaho National Engineering
9 Laboratory which is located near Idaho Falls; the DOE's
10 Hanford Reservation near Richland, Washington; or the
11 DOE's Savannah River Plant near Aiken, South Carolina.
12 Each of these three sites has been designated as an
13 alternative that is considered in the Draft Environmental
14 Impact Statement. The fourth and final alternative
15 under consideration in the DEIS is the No Action
16 Alternative which would be a Departmental decision not
17 to site, construct and operate an SIS facility. As
18 stated in the DEIS, the Department's preferred alternative
19 is to site, construct and operate the facility at the
20 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

21 To put this hearing in perspective before
22 you, I think it is important that you understand the key
23 elements of the federal law requires that the Department
24 of Energy, prior to making a final decision in this
25 matter, be preceded by a comprehensive review of the

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1 environmental factors that are associated with each of
 2 the alternatives that I've already mentioned. The
 3 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, or NEPA as it
 4 is known, which is Public Law 91-910, requires that all
 5 federal agencies develop procedures that ensure "that
 6 environmental amenities or values are given appropriate
 7 consideration in federal government decisionmaking along
 8 with technical considerations." This law also requires
 9 that "recommendations for major federal actions
 10 significantly affecting the quality of the human
 11 environment" be first preceded by the development and
 12 completion of an Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS,
 13 that fully and carefully examines the potential
 14 environmental impacts of the proposed federal action.

15 The Department of Energy has determined
 16 that its proposed action in siting, constructing and
 17 operating an SIS plant is a major federal action that,
 18 under NEPA, requires the development and completion of an
 19 EIS. Accordingly, by the publication on October 31, 1986,
 20 of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal
 21 Register, the Department of Energy commenced the process
 22 that has led to the development and publication of the
 23 Draft Environmental Impact Statement that is the subject
 24 of this hearing. The DEIS was prepared by the Department,
 25 with the assistance of an outside contractor, NUS

1 Corporation, after an extensive process of receiving
 2 public comment through the scoping or initial input phase
 3 of this proceeding. During scoping, public comment on
 4 the scope or magnitude of issues to be addressed in the
 5 EIS was received, along with specific comments on
 6 particular issues themselves. Scoping included both the
 7 receipt of extensive written public comment as well as
 8 oral public comment received at two lengthy public meetings,
 9 one held in Idaho Falls and one held in Boise. The Idaho
 10 Falls hearing was held on February 24th, 1987, and the
 11 one in Boise, on February 26th, 1987.

12 There are 11 separate matters or issues that
 13 are under review in this Draft Environmental Impact
 14 Statement. They are contained in the Draft Environmental
 15 Impact Statement itself as well as an Executive Summary.
 16 Some of the major issues that are under consideration out
 17 of this 11 are the following:

18 1) The off-site general population
 19 radiological and non-radiological effects resulting from
 20 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

21 The effects on the general population from
 22 emissions of radiological and non-radiological releases
 23 caused by normal operations of such a facility.

24 Exposure of operating personnel to
 25 radiological sources and non-radiological releases during

1 normal operations of an SIS facility.

2 Incremental differences in environmental
3 impacts between operation of the existing chemical
4 processing facilities and the proposed action and
5 alternatives.

6 The effects on air and water quality and
7 other environmental consequences during construction and
8 operation of an SIS facility.

9 The on-site and off-site transportation
10 impacts of nuclear materials.

11 An analysis of applicable federal, state
12 and local regulations that apply to the construction and
13 operation of an SIS facility.

14 Decontamination and decontamination
15 issues.

16 Also included would be, in this list of
17 issues, would be mitigation measures necessary to respond
18 to the environmental consequences associated with each
19 of the four alternatives. I should say the three
20 alternatives that would involve construction, siting and
21 operation.

22 The preparation of an EIS is governed by
23 federal regulations established by the Office of the
24 President of the United States: The Council on
25 Environmental Quality, in particular, is the agency within

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1 the Office of the President that promulgates regulations
2 that govern these types of proceedings. The Department
3 of Energy itself also has its own guidelines for the
4 preparation of EIS's. The regulations and guidelines
5 that govern this proceeding have been previously marked
6 by me as Exhibit 1 and have been included in the formal
7 record of this hearing.

8 The relevant CEQ regulations, the Council
9 on Environmental Quality regulations that govern these
10 proceedings require that "after preparing a Draft
11 Environmental Impact Statement and before preparing a
12 final Environmental Impact Statement" a federal agency
13 must first obtain the comments of 1) any other federal
14 agency which has jurisdiction by law or special expertise
15 with respect to any environmental impact and 2) request
16 the comments of appropriate state and local agencies which
17 develop and enforce environmental standards and 3) Indian
18 tribes and 4) and the public, with a particular obligation
19 to affirmatively solicit comments from persons or
20 organizations who may be interested or affected by the
21 proposed federal decision. Public meetings or hearings
22 such as the ones we're at tonight are held where the
23 Department determines that substantial environmental
24 controversy concerning the proposed action exists.
25 Accordingly, this hearing as well as the others in this

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1 series are being held pursuant to these regulations to
 2 receive public, Indian tribe and governmental comment on
 3 the various issues identified in the Draft Environmental
 4 Impact Statement. Notice of these public hearings was
 5 provided in the Federal Register on February 19th, 1988,
 6 and on March 4th, 1988. Additional public notice of
 7 these meeting was also provided through publication in
 8 numerous newspapers throughout the state. The Federal
 9 Register notices, the text of the newspaper notices and
 10 the publication dates of each, have been marked as Exhibit
 11 2 and included in the record.

12 Public comment on the Draft Environmental
 13 Impact Statement is being received through this and the
 14 other hearings held throughout the state on this project.
 15 We've held hearings already in both Twin Falls and Idaho
 16 Falls. As I mentioned earlier we held one prior hearing
 17 here in Boise, and this is the continuation of that hearing.
 18 Written comment, which receives the same weight and
 19 consideration by the Department in this proceeding, may
 20 also be submitted by the public to me today as the Hearings
 21 Officer, or you can mail it to the Department of Energy
 22 at an address that we can give to you at the back of the
 23 room at the registration table. The close of comment for
 24 this proceeding is the 21st of April, 1988. Accordingly,
 25 if you do want to provide additional written comment above

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1 and beyond anything you might provide tonight, you may do
 2 so by mailing it to the Department by the 21st of April.
 3 All of the oral as well as the written comment will be
 4 compiled into a comprehensive record of these proceedings
 5 that will be reviewed and considered by the Department in
 6 making their final decisions on the Environmental Impact
 7 Statement.

8 The CEQ regulations that I have previously
 9 cited also require that comments on an Environmental
 10 Impact Statement or on a proposed action shall be as
 11 specific as possible and may address the adequacy of the
 12 statement or the merits of the alternatives or both. So,
 13 accordingly, the regulations that we're following here
 14 this evening require that to the extent that you can be
 15 specific in your comments and direct them to the
 16 particular issues that are addressed in the Draft
 17 Environmental Impact Statement. Now, the Department has
 18 determined that certain issues, such as the need for an
 19 SIS project, are beyond the scope of the EIS. However,
 20 I will allow comment on that issue as well as other issues
 21 related to this project that those of you who are
 22 individual commenters feel are relevant.

23 After reviewing the record that we're going
 24 to compile in this proceeding, the Department may choose
 25 to either modify, supplement or re-issue the Draft

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1 Environmental Impact Statement prior to issuing the
 2 final EIS. It may also choose to issue the Draft
 3 Environmental Impact Statement as it is as the final EIS
 4 without modification. Now, in addition to that, a Record
 5 of Decision will identify the environmentally-preferred
 6 alternative chosen by the Department along with any
 7 practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm
 8 from the alternative selected will be prepared. The
 9 Department, as a matter of federal regulation, cannot
 10 proceed with its proposed action which will be outlined
 11 in the Record of Decision until a minimum of 30 days
 12 has passed from the date of issuance of the final EIS.
 13 That is to say, the final decision in this matter will
 14 not be made until at least 30 days have passed from the
 15 issuance of the final Environmental Impact Statement.
 16 Under current schedules the Department has adopted, it
 17 intends to issue a final EIS and a Record of Decision later
 18 this year, tentatively in the month of August.

19 To govern this public hearing as well as
 20 the others held in this overall proceeding, I have developed
 21 several procedures in consultation with both the
 22 Department of Energy as well as with public interest groups
 23 who are participating in these proceedings. We developed
 24 together the procedures that are being used governing the
 25 conduct of these hearings. These procedures were

1 finalized on the 24th of March and were distributed to
 2 interested parties along with lists of organizational
 3 representatives as well as individuals who were interested.
 4 These procedures have been marked as Exhibit 3 and have
 5 been included in the record. Also marked as Exhibit 4 in
 6 the record are all the public involvement activities the
 7 Department of Energy is engaged in relative to this
 8 Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

9 Now, briefly turning to the rules that we're
 10 going to follow at this public hearing: Other than the
 11 opening statement which I'm delivering at this point, the
 12 Department of Energy itself will not be presenting any
 13 remarks. The Department is here to listen to you, the
 14 public, on the issues you think are relevant in the
 15 Environmental Impact Statement. I would, however, notice
 16 the fact that senior Department of Energy staff are here
 17 in the front row and are listening to remarks.

18 We are going to receive comments in the
 19 following order:

20 To the extent that we have any elected and
 21 appointed federal, state and local government officials,
 22 we will receive their comments first. That will be
 23 followed by representatives of national, state and local
 24 organizations who are participating in the proceeding.

25 Following that, we will take comment from

1 members of the public who preregistered to speak prior to
2 the end of business on March 18th -- which was the
3 deadline for preregistration.

4 And following that we will take all the
5 sign-ups we received at the hearing on Saturday. I
6 anticipate that based upon what we saw this afternoon
7 and based upon the hearing list that we have here, that
8 we should easily accommodate everybody who wishes to
9 comment.

10 Those of you who are speaking on behalf
11 of an organization have 10 minutes within which to
12 present your oral comment; individual commenters will
13 have 5 minutes.

14 To assist you in keeping time -- and I should
15 first mention that I am the timekeeper -- to assist you in
16 keeping time, we have a signaling device up here at the
17 podium where you'll be speaking from. If you get 5
18 minutes, at the end of 4 minutes I will give you the
19 green light and at the end of 5 minutes I will give you
20 the red light, which means that your time is up.

21 If you are speaking for an organization,
22 we'll give you the green light after 9 minutes.

23 Because of the large number of commenters
24 that we've had -- we've had actually 832 individuals signed
25 up to comment in the proceedings -- we've asked individuals

1 to strictly adhere to the guidelines, in deference to
2 other people who may want to comment.

3 We also strongly encourage any of you that
4 have written comments to submit them to me when you come
5 up. We would like to include those in the record of this
6 proceeding.

7 In addition to that, as I mentioned, to
8 the extent that you would like to write additional
9 comment for tonight, you may mail it to the Department
10 by the 21st of April.

11 There is a speaker list that is posted
12 outside the hearing room that indicates what the sequence
13 of commenters will be. As your turn approaches, we'd
14 ask that you be prepared quickly to come up here to give
15 your comments.

16 We intend to close the Boise hearing at
17 or about 11:00 o'clock tonight, earlier if necessary, and
18 later if necessary. But our intent is to accommodate
19 everybody who's preregistered or signed up at the door
20 to comment.

21 I would like to indicate that questions
22 are welcomed by the Department; because of the time
23 constraints involved in these proceedings, we've not been
24 able to take oral comment from the floor, but we would
25 encourage you people to provide written comments to us if

1 you do have any -- excuse me. If you have questions, if
 2 you have any questions, a question sheet is provided in
 3 the back at the registration desk that could be given to
 4 you. Just fill that out and give your address and write
 5 down your question, and we'll provide an answer in writing
 6 and mail it to you. All questions and answers will be
 7 included in the hearing record.

8 A couple final matters. If you have charts
 9 or other visual aids, you may use them, but we'd ask that
 10 you have a small version of it or a version of what the
 11 graphic material might be and include it in the record
 12 for recordkeeping purposes.

13 Finally, this is a record proceeding.
 14 Everything that is being said is being recorded by the
 15 court reporter here in the front of the room.

16 To assist in developing a clear and concise
 17 record, we'd ask that you present your comments from the
 18 podium in the front of the room. We'd ask that you speak
 19 clearly into the microphone after first giving your name
 20 and address before you begin your comments.

21 If you have questions about any of the
 22 procedures or any of the issues involved in this proceeding,
 23 feel free to ask me at our next break, which will be in
 24 about a hour. Or if you do have questions prior to that,
 25 the Department of Energy people in the back of the room at

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1 the registration table can respond to your concerns.

2 With that, I'll move right into receiving
 3 public comment from those individuals who preregistered
 4 to speak.

5 What I will intend to do at this point --
 6 what I will do at this point is simply go down the list
 7 of commenters that I have in front of me. I will try to
 8 call everyone's name twice. When you hear your name,
 9 please step forward.

10 At the conclusion of that we'll go ahead
 11 and begin receiving comments from those individuals who
 12 have signed up at the door on Saturday.

13 Now beginning with our list of preregistered
 14 speakers, I'd call upon Senator William Ringert.

15 It's the Chair's information that Senator
 16 Ringert does not plan to testify. So we'll go ahead and
 17 pass him over.

18 The next scheduled commenter is
 19 Shine Henslee, NECA. Mr. Henslee?

20 The next scheduled commenter is the
 21 Reverend Bud Kline of the Peace & Justice Committee.
 22 Bud Kline.

23 We'll move on then to our individual
 24 commenters.

25 Gene Morthie. Gene Morthie.

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T8

1 Commenter No. 5, Jeff Johnston.
 2 MR. JOHNSTON: Here.
 3 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.
 4 MR. JOHNSTON: My name is Jeff Johnston;
 5 I reside at 5630 Randolph Drive, Boise, Idaho 83705.
 6 But you can usually find me down at Boise State University.
 7 I speak as a concerned citizen who has sat
 8 here and listened to expert testimony from engineers,
 9 biologists, and congressmen. I am also an idealist who
 10 wants to address four points at this hearing: The
 11 economical, environmental, moral, and idealistic. I'll
 12 start off with the idealistic.
 13 I believe as an idealistic person that
 14 non-violent conduct management is the only way to deal
 15 with stuff and as a warrior within you fight your wars.
 16 And going outward and trying to build a stronger defense
 17 is not where we find to fight our wars. We get to the
 18 point by being stronger on the inside, we will be more
 19 forceful on the outside in appearance, not by building
 20 more bombs does this make us look more, as a stronger
 21 nation.
 22 Economically. I believe in investing in
 23 education. The smartest thing we can do as a governing
 24 body, that the benefits from education extend far, much
 25 further, it benefits the community and will help Idaho

1 evolve into a more attractive marketplace. So I believe
 2 if we can take the same money and put it into education
 3 or research, that we would benefit everybody a lot more.

4 I also believe that this is nothing more
 5 than a waste of money. If we are honestly working towards
 6 nuclear reduction, and we're starting to build more arms,
 7 it sort of -- it's juggling books, it's trying to make
 8 something look better, it's not an opinion to where we're
 9 trying to reduce arms on one end and build arms on the
 10 other. I don't believe this is something we should do;
 11 it's a waste of money.

12 Now on to the environmental point. When I
 13 heard that the reason, one of the reasons for not building
 14 the plant at Hanford was that we needed a clean site,
 15 and I believe that is a quote, it's really, it just was
 16 shocking to me. I don't, I don't see how we can say that
 17 we need a clean site so we'll make Hanford look a little
 18 more attractive by transporting waste to the site. That,
 19 to me, is not the way for -- environmentally, that doesn't
 20 sound right.

21 "We have a dirty site over here, so let's
 22 go to a clean site and build something." Environmentally,
 23 that doesn't sound safe to me.

24 Now, my final point is morally. The
 25 disclaimer in there, how can anybody morally say this is

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1 all right. I mean if we're to this point that we have to
2 look inside ourselves and say, "This is right," because
3 the moral issue stand is -- sure, we're going to hand you
4 this Draft Environmental Impact Statement, but then we're
5 going to say we're not, we don't trust ourselves on this.
6 Well, if we can't trust ourselves on something that we
7 feel strongly about and put it in there in writing and
8 say, "What we say is right," then we're dealing with
9 something that should be researched more and we should
10 look into it more. So we shouldn't be starting to play
11 with toys that we don't know the consequences of. Toys
12 was a bad word.

13 And so that was mainly my four points --
14 economical, environmental, morally and idealistically.

1.1 15 And in conclusion, my only -- my belief is
16 that the only action to take on this is no action.

17 Thank you.

18 MR. EIGUREN: Ellen Jones. Ellen Jones?

19 Robert Rikoon.

20 MR. RIKOION: This is a written statement
21 by my wife and myself.

22 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

23 MR. RIKOON: My name is Robert Rikoon, and
24 I reside in Eagle, Idaho. I am an employee of one of
25 the largest banks here and am a bank trust officer.

1 I have been educated back East at Harvard
2 and have a Master's degree in business; in fact, I have
3 worked as a consultant to the Department of Interior and
4 the Bureau of Indian Affairs and also the Department of
5 Energy, Albuquerque office as a consultant.

6 That's my baby crying in the back, so you'll
7 have to excuse that.

8 First of all, I'd like to see the people
9 who are the Department of Energy employees raise their
10 hands just so they can identify themselves. Are those
11 the people here in the front? One, two, three. Anyone
12 else? Four. Any other Department of Energy employees
13 besides the security?

14 My comments will be mostly addressed to
15 you as employees, because I believe that the points made
16 previously concerning the inadequacy of the Environmental
17 Impact Statement is quite evident, that it's really an
18 unsatisfactory job and needs to be redone totally, both
19 from the economic point of view and in terms of the
20 impact on the state, given that tourism and agriculture
21 are basically Idaho's only mainstays of economy, besides
22 the retail that supports them, and the potential danger
23 to those two industries have not been adequately addressed.
24 And the environmental impact of waste, given that the
25 Department of Energy has been unable to adequately provide

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1 for the waste at other sites, that also is a glaring
 2 inadequacy in the performance of the Department to date.
 3 But that's not the point that I'd like to address to you
 4 all as employees. The issue really is, and the last
 5 speaker touched on this, is you as employees, what is
 6 your personal stand on this issue? How can you relate
 7 to it as individuals with hearts and minds and souls and
 8 caring people, because I know that you are caring people,
 9 and this is the level on which I would like to relate
 10 to you. Having worked in the industry somewhat myself and
 11 working in business and in institutions, I understand that
 12 the Department of Energy is working on behalf of the
 13 Department of Defense in the production of nuclear bombs,
 14 and that this may be as imperative as was the waste project
 15 in New Mexico. I lived in New Mexico for eight years and
 16 was in New Mexico when that project was being built. And
 17 really noted that the Department of Defense can roll over
 18 the public process, that is, that it is not responsible
 19 to the will of the people in any direct sense. And I'm
 20 wondering if this is the case in this situation as well
 21 where the Department of Energy is not really responsible,
 22 this is just a matter of course of these hearings, whatever,
 23 the decision has been made already and will roll on and
 24 maybe not. I don't have any idea. If there is an impact
 25 of this particular hearing and all the effort that everyone

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1 has put into it, considerable effort, is in fact real,
 2 then I ask you to look and say is this project someone's
 3 bailiwick, is this project someone's pet project that's
 4 going to go on? Or do you really have an impact, you
 5 three people or four people here in the front, actually
 6 have an impact on the decisionmaking process? And if
 7 you do, then listen with your hearts is what I can say,
 8 because the issue that I think is really important is
 9 "What do we have to gain from the production of materials
 10 to produce future bombs? Do we have a strategic advantage
 11 to gain from this?" There are enough nuclear bombs,
 12 obviously, to do away with the world. The Mutually
 13 Assured Destruction theory of military strategy has been
 14 reached, we have enough bombs to do that. In planning
 15 for future bombs, do we just think, "Well, we want to
 16 have that as a card in our deck." And is it worth the
 17 risk to the environment and to the state to do that? I
 18 think we're moving past that. Ronald Reagan, one of the
 19 big supporters of a program of arms build-up is now
 20 looking backwards and saying, "Let's talk about reduction."
 21 Your own Secretary of Energy has said we
 22 have enough plutonium. So it doesn't quite make sense
 23 that this project is still seriously being considered --
 24 from what information the public has, it doesn't make
 25 sense. And until it does make sense, you have serious

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1 people problems. The will of the people in the state of
2 Idaho will be a great problem and will be very expensive
3 to deal with.

4 . So what I can say is for yourselves to
5 look inside yourselves and say, "Do I feel the need for
6 this secret card, this control, this power that these
7 nuclear materials will perhaps provide us?" Is it
8 worth the money and the expense and is our country still
9 intent on dominating the world, in a sense, through being
10 the proctorate? Can we maintain the bombs to protect the
11 world? That's old thinking; we're moving on to new
12 thinking of cooperation. Those are the environmental
13 issues, and they need international cooperation, and this
14 is a movement away from international cooperation. It's
15 a movement, really in the past, the past mind set. So
16 I'm asking you to change your mind set. And what I can
17 say is that, in closing, since the time is just about up,
18 that I believe that the people of Idaho have a commitment
19 to life, that this is a global issue which is focused
20 on Idaho, and all the people in the audience here and now
21 who you've seen in the past will continue and will
22 snowball if the process goes on, and we will make it so
23 expensive in terms of time and money that we will delay
24 it and Congress will not, will not allow it to be built.
25 We will stop it through the power of delay that helped

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1 stop utilities in Seabrook and New Hampshire, and has
2 effectively put an end to development of American Nuclear
3 Power as a utility, because the proper energy and
4 resource and attention have not been paid to it as they
5 have in France, and as the Vietnam War was ended.

6 MR. EIGUREN: Your time is up.

7 MR. RIKOON: So, the people of Idaho will
8 have their power felt.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 619 will be the
10 written comments of Robert and Deborah Rikoon of Eagle,
11 Idaho.

12 (Exhibit No. 619 marked and entered.)

13 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled
14 commenter is Robert G. Koger. Robert G. Koger.

15 Kevin Clifford. Kevin Clifford.

16 Kit Bradley.

17 MS. BRADLEY: My name is Katherine Bradley;
18 I reside in Trailer No. 61 at the Redtop Meadows in
19 Ketchum, Idaho.

20 This testimony is a combined effort by
21 Katherine Bradley and Michael Kobe, because the date and
22 time were changed making it impossible for Mike to be here.
23 He's a civil engineer working in Ketchum.

24 My name is Katherine Bradley, and I'm a
25 graduate student studying architecture at Boise State.

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1 We object to the proposal to locate the
2 SIS project at the INEL site. We have categorized our
3 oppositions into the following groups: environmental,
4 economical, statistical and moral. The following is a
5 discussion of our objections.

6 In addressing the environmental impact of
7 the proposed SIS, we refer to Mel A. Kuntz who did a
8 previous geological survey of the site, reporting it to
9 be geologically active. The recent earthquake at Mt. Borah
10 is evidence of this. Fissure eruptions could occur
11 exposing waste on or near the fissure. Other types of
12 eruptions could also occur. The Waste Isolation Pilot
13 Project in New Mexico is inoperable, with no foreseeable
14 operating date. So the waste from the SIS would stay
15 at the INEL, exposing them to this activity. The Draft
16 Environmental Impact Statement does not devote enough
17 attention to this.

18 In addition to being prone to geologic
19 activity, the INEL site is directly above the Snake River
20 Aquifer which provides much of the Northwest both with
21 water for consumption and irrigation. It is said the new
22 facility will be safe, but the following incidents have
23 occurred recently that lead us to doubt this: The
24 chemical spill by a truck into the Salmon River, the
25 ruptured diesel fuel tanker which spilled oil into a

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1 major Eastern waterway, Three Mile Island, and Chernobyl.
2 It is obvious that accidents can happen. A recent issue
3 of Engineering News Record had an advertisement for a
4 foam product marketed by 3M that "smothers hazardous
5 vapors, dusts and odors." Several of the fastest-growing
6 companies on the New York Stock Exchange in 1987 were in
7 the business of "pollution control." Accidents, once a
8 rarity, have become big business. As we approach the year
9 2000, how much faith would you have in the present
10 containment of something buried at the time of Christ?
11 That would be a short burial for radioactive waste.

12 Now we will address some of our economic
13 concerns. Contrary to popular belief, this project is
14 not the result of our benevolent government coming to the
15 aid of the depressed Idaho economy. The SIS is not being
16 considered for construction to benefit the average
17 American or even the people of Idaho Falls. This project
18 is being lobbied for by big businesses, the kind that
19 "bring good things to life." This project is being backed
20 by the military industrial complex entrenched in this
21 nation. Projects like this drive the federal budget to
22 new highs and our after-tax paychecks to new lows. This
23 project is some of the fat that should be trimmed from
24 the federal budget and would be an important step toward
25 getting our national debt under control.

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1 It might be argued that we need this
2 facility for the jobs and the plutonium it could produce.
3 The DOE on Page S-1 of the DEIS states the primary basis
4 for the need of the project is "to provide a redundancy
5 in the production capacity of weapons-grade plutonium."
6 Webster's dictionary defines redundancy as an act or
7 instance of needless repetition; and redundant as that
8 exceeding what is necessary or normal. How can we be
9 expected to believe our tax dollars are being put to the
10 best use when this project, by definition, an unnecessary
11 repetition, is being considered? We contend that jobs
12 could be created that would be much more beneficial to
13 the economy of Idaho at a lesser cost to the environment.
14 Just the fact that accidents involving hazardous waste
15 have happened is the basis for our statistical objections.
16 On a recent trip into Nevada, we witnessed gambling on
17 a large scale for the first time. We constantly heard
18 about individuals who had overcome the odds to win sums
19 of money. We are not gamblers. We are conservative
20 people. The stakes involved here are too high. What
21 are the chances of future employees contracting cancer
22 due to exposure to radiation? What are the odds of a
23 transportation mishap? Could there be a waste leakage
24 under any circumstances? Could there be a major catastrophe
25 or melt-down? Will the nuclear warheads produced ever

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1 need to be fired? There are no acceptable odds, and any
2 risk of our invaluable resources is just too great.
3 Finally, our moral objections to the
4 construction of the proposed SIS. This country has gone
5 beyond the reaches of self-defense in terms of nuclear
6 bomb production. How many times over do we need to be
7 able to destroy the earth to feel safe? It is not logical
8 to feel safer as our government continues to produce that
9 which can only make the world uninhabitable. We have a
10 responsibility to all the future generations of the earth
11 to leave them with a place where they can live.

12 In summary: The proposed SIS site is
13 geologically unstable and directly above the water supply
14 for much of the Pacific Northwest. Our national budget is
15 over-stressed and would benefit by the deletion of this
16 costly and redundant project. To gamble with Idaho's
17 resources for a few jobs and plutonium that we do not
18 need is ridiculous. We do not accept this risk. We
19 request that this plant not be built at the INEL, and
20 further request that the No Action Alternative be taken.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 620 will be the
23 written comments of Katherine Bradley and Michael Kobe.

24 (Exhibit No. 620 marked and entered.)

25 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter is

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6.1.2

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6.5.5

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B204

1 Liz Warner.
 2 MS. WARNER: My name is Liz Warner and I
 3 live at 807 North 24th in Boise. And I am opposed to the
 4 SIS project in Idaho for many reasons, and one of which
 5 I want to bring out tonight is the possibility of accidents.
 6 There is no guarantee that the plutonium
 7 can be shipped in and out of Idaho safely. Accidents do
 8 happen. And no matter how carefully you plan something,
 9 people make errors. The trucks that are transporting
 10 plutonium will be sharing the highways with careless
 11 drivers, possibly drunk drivers, in good weather conditions,
 12 bad weather conditions, and the possibility of an
 13 accident is highly probable or possible. There are also
 14 the possibilities of accidents in the plant.
 15 Since plutonium is such an extremely toxic
 16 material with an active life of some 250,000 years, the
 17 release of this material from an accident into our
 18 environment would be devastating, and I don't think the
 19 DEIS covers this well. They do not tell us what kind of
 20 emergency response would be needed in the event of an
 21 accident.
 22 Idaho is a beautiful state to me, and I
 23 want to protect our wilderness, the rivers, the people,
 24 our agricultural lands. And I think the risk of losing
 25 any of this from contamination by radioactive material is

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B205

1 too great. We have a stockpile of plutonium for more
 2 weapons. We have a stockpile of already-made nuclear
 3 weapons. We don't need the SIS project in Idaho, and I
 4 don't think we need the SIS project, period.
 5 Thank you.
 6 MR. EIGUREN: Terry Cushing. Terry Cushing.
 7 Eugene B. Wright. Eugene Wright?
 8 Don Fotheringham. Don Fotheringham.
 9 Keith Patterson. Keith Patterson.
 10 Gregory Heaton. Gregory Heaton.
 11 Charles Coyle. Charles Coyle.
 12 Relay Attwood. Relay Attwood.
 13 Claire Turner.
 14 MS. TURNER: My name is Claire Turner,
 15 and I represent the Inter-Faith Peace Committee. In the
 16 past 40 to 50 years, we as a country have lived a quick,
 17 hard life. We are able to boast of much accomplishment
 18 in technology, science, and industry; we also are now
 19 able to see what these achievements have really cost us.
 20 For instance, all the hopes that were pinned on the
 21 discovery of the atom's power have been very much diminished.
 22 And for anyone who knows the story of how the atom was
 23 developed, there were many of its fathers who developed it
 24 never intended it for war, for what it is being used for
 25 now, to the extent that it is. We are no closer to world

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4.15.5

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5.30.4.14

1 peace and feel no more secure, even with an arsenal of
 2 tens of thousands of nuclear weapons and a vast array
 3 of nuclear weapons systems. Plutonium 239 is the fuel
 4 of much of what we have pinned all these hopes on. It
 5 is lethal, as we have heard, for 240 to 250 thousand
 6 years. One pound of this nuclear fuel is enough to
 7 destroy every living thing in our world today. We know
 8 that we have no less than 100 tons of this substance in
 9 our stockpiles today.

10 In order to produce what we have to date,
 11 massive wasteful by-products and contaminated parts of
 12 the processes have resulted. We now see the consequences
 13 of producing plutonium and other waste: contaminated
 14 rivers and streams that ran under or nearby the areas
 15 where the wastes were stored; open-air releases of
 16 plutonium that have caused genetic changes for nearby
 17 humans and animals. We only need to look at Hanford to
 18 see what they're finding in their fish in the Columbia.
 19 Workers with higher-than-normal rates of cancer; various
 20 environmental damages such as the loss of entire ecosystems
 21 due to the upheaval of millions of acres designated for
 22 production facilities and storage areas for wastes and
 23 weapons systems.

24 Of the looming costs that our past military
 25 mania has cost us as a community, the greatest effects are

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1 not for us today but for many generations of citizens to
 2 come. What we have done through massive spending and
 3 environmental harm is to burden our children and the
 4 children for years to come with the responsibility of
 5 spending their precious mental, physical, financial,
 6 emotional and technical means to clean up the situation
 7 they found themselves born into. Yet, we are only too
 8 aware of the challenges besides these that lay in store
 9 for those in the future.

10 There comes a time, and I believe we all
 11 know that the time is present, today, that we people of
 12 this country need to realize the end to the violence
 13 that has been woven into the fabric of our national scene
 14 today -- the environment, and especially that affecting
 15 the spirits of the young and old alike.

16 Let us spend our precious financial
 17 resources to begin remedying all the damage to our
 18 environment; building true security in all of our hearts,
 19 not a bunch of weapons that have caused us more insecurity;
 20 and finding alternatives to world peace that are lasting.
 21 (sic) The task also remains to be solved, that of finding
 22 a permanent way of storing the millions of tons of wastes
 23 currently in storage -- a spendy and awesome feat that
 24 has yet to be figured out by the most brilliant scientists
 25 today in a way that doesn't do our county in financially.

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6.5.5

6.3

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4.14

1 So, to the point of why we are here today.
 2 Do we need yet another plutonium-production factory,
 3 this Special Isotope Separator project? I believe firmly,
 4 as do many of the citizens of our country today, that we
 5 are at a point of building down our nuclear arsenals, not
 6 building up. We have seen clearly that we were misled
 7 about the wonders of the atom and now that our consciences
 8 require us to speak out against the injustices caused by
 9 our love affair with the atom. No. We cannot as a
 10 nation do any more damage to the future world by approving
 11 the SIS.

12 Thank you.

13 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 626 will be the
 14 written comments of Claire Turner.

15 (Exhibit No. 626 marked and entered.)

16 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 17 is Scott Kaye.

18 MR. KAYE: Well, first of all, so far what
 19 I've heard I think is right. I'm not a very good speaker,
 20 but I'll go ahead and give it what I can, my best shot.

3.4

21 I think higher common sense has dictated
 22 that nuclear deterrence is worse than conventional
 23 deterrence. For over 30 years peace-loving people have
 24 suffered through the lack of control over nuclear weapons
 25 in the hands of warring governments. But with the

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1 rekindling of the spirit, a lot has happened, and I'm
 2 kind of glad, you know. In late November when the
 3 Soviets and the Americans signed the treaty eliminating
 4 intermediate weapons, I think that's great. I think they
 5 will go further. I think they are going to eliminate the
 6 long-range ones. I don't see anything wrong with it.
 7 What's wrong with striving for peace?

8 So I have to say I'm against the SIS
 9 because anything plutonium, it's not safe. When they
 10 dispose of it, it's deadly. I don't deny -- I don't
 11 disapprove of nuclear energy, but anything that has to do
 12 with something that's going to destroy the environment is
 13 wrong. If they do eliminate nuclear weapons, it's going
 14 into industry, so it would be a dead industry, so it's
 15 going to be wrong. (sic)

16 What they could do, the plants now in
 17 operation, the jobs they have, they could, you know, the
 18 people could go to work to clean up the toxic wastes,
 19 they could find better sources of energy until they have
 20 corrected the problem of the plutonium. There's solar
 21 energy, there's -- they're smart, they'll find more.

22 And let's see. Okay. The next generation,
 23 I think they're smart. They know the facade of deterrence
 24 is really just a facade.

25 Government leaders can't control billions of

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5.24.27

5.30.5.1

2.2.11

B207

1 people. They can't make the mistakes for us.
2 So borders, border disputes, it just comes
3 down to mankind, cohabitation of people together.
4 That's all I have to say. It didn't come
5 out right, but thank you.
6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
7 is Brent Marchbanks. Brent Marchbanks?
8 Commenter 22 is Marti Hatch. Marti Hatch?
9 Commenter 23 is Chuck Vogel. Chuck Vogel.
10 Thank you.
11 MR. BARTHOLOMEW: My name is Roy Bartholomew.
12 Chuck Vogel was unable to be here today. He's out of
13 town, so he asked me if I would read this for him. You
14 have to consider I am only 21 years old and he's 43, and
15 this is his life story, so it's a lot longer than what
16 I've lived.
17 I am an Idaho native, and I would like to
18 speak in favor of SIS. As an Idaho native I remember the
19 pride of the atomic city being the first atomic-lighted
20 city. Later when I was in about the 8th grade we saw a
21 film in school about gamma rays being used to preserve
22 food, both these projects of the INEL have had far-reaching
23 benefits.
24 As a construction worker I know firsthand
25 how much SIS would mean to the economy of the state of

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B208

1 Idaho. Idaho cannot afford to pass up over 400
2 construction jobs and over 410 direct jobs and over 300
3 indirect permanent jobs. This would be a nice -- it would
4 be nice to see my friends working in Idaho instead of
5 having to leave the state to find work.
6 Thank you.
7 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
8 Charles Vogel of Nampa, Idaho, will be included in the
9 record as Exhibit No. 627.
10 (Exhibit No. 627 marked and entered.)
11 MR. EIGUREN: Next scheduled commenter is
12 Alvin Joslyn.
13 MR. JOSLYN: I'm not going to step up there
14 as lively as those people did.
15 MR. EIGUREN: Okay. Sounds fair.
16 MR. JOSLYN: First, I am Alvin Joslyn from
17 Meridian, Idaho, just a recent member or citizen of
18 Meridian. I lived in Glens Ferry for a good many years.
19 I'm a native Idahoan. I've been involved in city, county
20 and state government for 20 years. I was a five-term
21 member of the House of Representatives, starting in 1961,
22 from Elmore County.
23 On the day that I saw this advertisement in
24 the Statesman on the 16th, I was intrigued by the public
25 hearing notice. And right above it we find that the study

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5.27.7.16

5.9.3

1 finds unexpected ozone drop. So we can see, and this is
 2 just an illustration to me, that we are trying to solve
 3 one problem that we have created and, yet, we're starting
 4 another problem by building the SIS. Another thing that
 5 shows that this is a worldwide problem, and this is taken
 6 from the last issue of Time: "Drought stalks the mighty
 7 mile."

8 I would like to give these to you.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, sir.

10 MR. JOSLYN: The subject matter is Special
 11 Isotope Separator.

12 I am opposed to the construction of the
 13 SIS, in Idaho or any other place or location. I request
 14 that you consider my reasoning and those of others who
 15 are here to testify and decide against proceeding with
 16 the proposed SIS construction.

17 This is a complicated world and the problems
 18 increase daily in number and magnitude. Accordingly, I
 19 believe it is necessary to establish priorities that will
 20 better enable us to reach a proper decision as to the SIS,
 21 and its future or lack of a future. It is your
 22 responsibility to determine the environmental impact of
 23 the SIS.

24 Now let us consider the environmental
 25 impact from other areas as well as that of the SIS.

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5.9.3

1 I refer to this article in The Idaho
 2 Statesman in there. And what is the possible result of
 3 the unexpected drop in the ozone? Well, there's more
 4 skin cancer.

5 And there is famine in Ethiopia. Millions
 6 starving account drought caused by destruction of the
 7 watershed. (sic)

8 Large-scale cutting of timber and the
 9 destruction of the rain forests in South America. This
 10 is for land development. The result: Decreased rainfall
 11 and interruption of one link in replacing oxygen in the
 12 atmosphere.

13 I refer to these other problems in order to
 14 impress upon you that there is more than the problem of
 15 the SIS. The seriousness of pollution is far greater
 16 than we admit.

17 There are many other threats to the
 18 environment and each may have a legitimate reason for the
 19 act that created them. Many of these acts that have a
 20 hazardous effect on the environment apply to totally
 21 unrelated programs. Creation of jobs; land development;
 22 national defense; housing construction; industrial
 23 expansion and the profit motive. These are arguments for
 24 the development and expansion of many activities. There
 25 is nothing wrong with these goals, but they are rated too

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6.1.2

5.12.1

1 high when priority and importance is considered. We place
 2 a high priority on education, transportation, recreation,
 3 entertainment, health, and many others, but there are
 4 three things that are first on my list as being Number 1.
 5 These three things should be considered as one, for all
 6 three are of equal importance and are dependent one upon
 7 the other. They are clean air, pure water, and productive
 8 soil. Unless we protect and improve the air, water and
 9 soil, none of the other items mentioned can exist. The
 10 very future of the earth depends on clean air, pure water
 11 and productive soil. We have reached a point where I
 12 believe we have done more damage to the environment than
 13 we can afford. We should not permit any further destruction
 14 to the environment. Certainly the SIS does not promote
 15 clean air, pure water and productive soil.

16 Certain information from magazine
 17 articles leads me to believe that the SIS will eventually
 18 contaminate our underground aquifer. That aquifer is
 19 so important that we must not even think of endangering it.
 20 Now is the time to give clean air, pure water, and
 21 productive soil the Number 1 priority. Jobs, the stock
 22 market, transportation, education, health and all other
 23 endeavors that we accept as everyday occurrence depends on
 24 clean air, pure water and productive soil.

25 Forget the SIS. Just say no.

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B209

1 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 2 Alvin Joslyn as well as the supporting documents he
 3 handed the Chair will be marked as Exhibit No. 628 and
 4 entered into the record.

5 (Exhibit No. 628 marked and entered.)

6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 7 is Kerry Cooke.

8 MS. COOKE: I'm Kerry Cooke. I live at
 9 2424 Bella Street. I also speak for my two daughters who
 10 are glad I'm here tonight.

11 In my written testimony I point out a
 12 significant mistake in the DEIS concerning volcanism. It's
 13 a matter of the DEIS stating that a highly respected
 14 report says volcanism might occur every 30,000 to 100,000
 15 years at INEL, when in fact the report says that volcanic
 16 occurrence at INEL is more likely one in every 3,000
 17 years. That is a rather significant difference.

18 Why the mistakes? I'm afraid it is because
 19 the truth would not serve the DOE's purposes.

20 DOE scientists want their pet project, the
 21 SIS, out of their DOE lab and into the world. I can't
 22 blame them for that -- there's got to be a lot of pride
 23 and ownership in wanting that out. Unfortunately, we're
 24 the guinea pigs as this comes out in the world. So let's
 25 get past the technical talk and the acronyms, let's talk

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5.10.9

2.1.2

5.13.14

1 about the real cost of the SIS. This is what you are
2 trying to build: "At the same instance birds ignited in
3 mid-air, mosquitoes and flies, squirrels and family pets
4 crackled and were gone; the fireball flashed an enormous
5 photograph of the city at the instant of assimilation,
6 fixed on the mineral, vegetable and animal surfaces of the
7 city itself. A spiral ladder left its shadow in the
8 unburnt paint on the surface of a steel storage tank;
9 leaf-shielded reverse silhouettes on charred telephone
10 poles; a human being left a memorial of his outline in
11 granite on the steps of a bank; another, pulling a handcart,
12 protected a handcart and human-shaped asphalt from boiling.
13 The world of the dead is a different place from the world
14 of the living, and it's hardly possible to visit there.
15 That day at Hiroshima the two were very nearly converged.
16 The inundation with death at the area closest to the
17 hypocenter was such that if a man survived within 6/10ths
18 of a mile and was out of doors, more than 9/10ths of the
19 people around him were fatalities."

2.7.8

20 I say to you scientists who are working on
21 this project and are studying the DEIS, that's the
22 environmental impact that's missing from your DEIS. And
23 that's what the SIS is all about. So I appeal to you to
24 hear what Richard Roetz has said in his book The Making of
25 the Atomic Bomb. This is what he asked for scientists to

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4.13

1 do: "Science's response to the arms race has been to
2 continue to confront the nation's state with the facts and
3 probabilities it's discovered in the course of its daily
4 work. Nuclear winter, whatever its level of severity,
5 is one of these probabilities: damage to the ozone layer
6 is another; the likelihood of widespread epidemics after
7 a nuclear war and of mass starvation because of disruption
8 in food transport are two more. The nation's state may
9 have understood that nuclear weapons spoil war. The
10 continuing arms race, unfortunately, demonstrates that
11 they have not yet understood that the national system of
12 exclusion in international confrontation has now become
13 suicidal. Each new contribution to understanding, more
14 knowledge turned over to mankind, must further erode that
15 stubborn and potentially genocidal ignorance. Additional
16 knowledge will certainly continue to emerge. It is not
17 likely to prove massive armament a blessing."

3.4

18 Change is possible; change is possible
19 because the choice is bare -- change is the only alternative
20 to total death. The conditions have already been
21 established for the destruction of the human world or its
22 modification into some more collegial commonality.

23 The necessity now is to begin to dismantle
24 the death machine. The energies that rich and intelligent
25 peoples have squandered on the elaboration of death need to

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1.1

1 be turned to the elaboration of death -- excuse me -- of
2 life.

3 So I say to you, you rich and intelligent
4 people, please, no action, no SIS.

5 Thank you.

6 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 629 are the written
7 comments of Kerry Cooke.

8 (Exhibit No. 629 marked and entered.)

9 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
10 is Craig Gehrke.

11 Thank you. We'll mark your comments as
12 Exhibit No. 630.

13 (Exhibit No. 630 marked and entered.)

14 MR. GEHRKE: My name is Craig Gehrke. I
15 live at 1403 Grand here in Boise. I am a native Idahoan
16 whose family has been in the state for over three
17 generations. I'm here to testify against the location of
18 the SIS at the INEL site.

2.1.1

19 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
20 appears to me to be seriously flawed and inadequate. I
21 would like to thank and encourage the efforts of the
22 Natural Resources Defense Council in their efforts to
23 challenge this document.

1.1

24 I do not support the location of the SIS
25 in Idaho for a very basic reason: It is unnecessary and

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1 needlessly endangers my state and the citizens who live
2 here.

3 Rather than supplying a long-term boost
4 to the southeastern Idaho economy, SIS promises to be
5 nothing more than another boom and bust project, which
6 we've already had far too many times out here in the West.
7 It's been reported that the number of long-term jobs
8 created by SIS will mostly be low-paying service-type
9 jobs. It seems to me that these jobs are hardly worth
10 the type of environmental risks that we're undertaking in
11 this project.

12 I don't see any long-term benefits from the
13 SIS, but I sure see a lot of disadvantages to my state.
14 First of all, I think the INEL will receive a backdoor
15 designation as a nuclear waste dump. Waste from Hanford
16 is going to be shipped here and the SIS process itself
17 is going to produce additional wastes. The receiving
18 site in New Mexico is not yet operating, and there are
19 reports that it may be seriously flawed already and may
20 never enter operations. Since there is no alternative
21 waste site mentioned in the DEIS, it's not hard to imagine
22 who will be left holding the bag of nuclear waste -- that's
23 going to be Idaho.

24 Is the site of plutonium refinement and
25 transfer really the kind of image we want to push for the

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4.15.4

5.27.10

5.27.7.1

5.30.2.5

6.5.2

5.27.2

1 state of Idaho? How popular are our agricultural products
 2 going to be if the Snake River Aquifer is contaminated?
 3 How popular is Idaho going to be as a destination spot for
 4 vacationers if an accident occurs at the INEL site or
 5 during transportation? The bad publicity associated with
 6 an accident could be bad enough to cripple Idaho's
 7 recreation economy. Potential visitors are just going to
 8 hear about a nuclear accident "somewhere out in Idaho,"
 9 and may just suddenly decide that Montana or Oregon might
 10 be a better place to go for that vacation.

4.1

11 The DEIS does not specifically justify the
 12 need for more plutonium, or for that fact, the need for
 13 the SIS project in general. The SIS, it seems to me to
 14 be nothing more than another wasteful, foolish project
 15 picked from the Pentagon's "wish list." It depresses me
 16 to see Idaho's political leaders supporting this project.
 17 These leaders seem to know no restraints in their efforts
 18 to encourage any type of development within the state,
 19 regardless of all the unanswered questions regarding
 20 environmental safety and public health.

4.9.1

21 I urge that the plans to build the SIS
 22 facility at INEL be dropped, and that the DOE choose the
 23 No Action Alternative in the DEIS.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. EIGUREN: Commenter No. 27,

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1 John Barringer.

2 MR. BARRINGER: Mr. Eiguren, members of
 3 the Department of Energy; my name is John Barringer, I
 4 live at 7000 Bogus Basin Road, Boise 83702. I am an Idaho
 5 native. My father homesteaded in Idaho in 1900.

6 Some time ago I decided to testify against
 7 the SIS proposal because I had a gut feeling that this
 8 was a very bad idea.

9 Since then I have read the reports by the
 10 INEL, an advocate of the project, and listened to hours
 11 of oral testimony. The reports and testimony supporting
 12 the project were not convincing. A wealth of testimony
 13 opposing the project was informed, compelling, often
 14 eloquent and very convincing. In fact, some of the
 15 testimony has restored my faith in the human race. I
 16 won't be repetitive, but will briefly summarize my
 17 conclusions:

18 There is no demonstrable need for the
 19 plutonium now or in the immediate future -- there is no
 20 risk to our national security without it -- and absolutely
 21 no need for this haste.

22 There would be unacceptable risks in
 23 transport of material to and from the INEL and unacceptable
 24 risks at the INEL site during processing and for many years
 25 thereafter.

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4.15.1

6.2

6.5.1

3.4

1.1

1 Because Idaho has a small population it
 2 was no doubt assumed that there would be very little real
 3 opposition to this plan, and they could just stick it to
 4 us. I'm here to assert that I don't want this beautiful
 5 state polluted, endangered and sacrificed in exchange for
 6 a few dubious temporary financial advantages for a few.
 7 I might add that I was a World War II volunteer and I
 8 acknowledge that the A Bomb saved many, many thousands of
 9 our lives, possibly including even my own, and I once
 10 appreciated the importance of nuclear deterrence and
 11 therefore have never before taken a "no nuke" position.
 12 But this outrageous proposal is too much for me and is
 13 totally unacceptable, and I urge you to take no action.
 14 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 631 will be the
 15 written comment of John Barringer.
 16 (Exhibit No. 631 marked and entered.)
 17 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 18 is Mike Burkett. Mike Burkett?
 19 Next would be D. Alan Kofoed. D. Alan Kofoed.
 20 Number 30 is Glen Corbieal. Glen Corbieal.
 21 Commenter 31 is David Gutierrez.
 22 David Gutierrez?
 23 Commenter 32, Mrs. C. F. Larrabee.
 24 Mrs. C. F. Larrabee.
 25 Commenter 33, Warren Cornwall.

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B212

1 Warren Cornwall?
 2 Commenter 34, Timothy Culhane.
 3 MR. CULHANE: Good evening. My name is
 4 Timothy Culhane. I'm a carpenter, a student, computer
 5 programmer, and a father, and whatever else I can find. I've
 6 been an Idaho resident for about 12 years, and I currently
 7 live in Boise's exclusive North End with my two daughters.
 8 I've come here tonight to object to the DOE proposal of
 9 building and operating a Special Isotope Separator at the
 10 INEL plant near Idaho Falls.
 11 I have read the DOE's Draft Environmental
 12 Impact Statement. Many areas stand out as being
 13 inadequately thought out or ill defined. But I'll focus on
 14 only two.
 15 My first area of concern is the storage of
 16 plutonium-contaminated waste at the SIS site. As we in
 17 Idaho know, the proposed SIS site is close to the epicenter
 18 of the Mt. Borah earthquake. It's also sitting on top of
 19 the Snake River Aquifer, a water reserve that is becoming
 20 more and more important as a major water resource for
 21 communities throughout Idaho. The DOE's proposal states
 22 that the waste will be stored on an interim basis at the
 23 SIS site and then transported to the waste isolation pilot
 24 plant in Carlsbad, New Mexico. Recent investigations have
 25 shown that the Carlsbad storage facility is subject to

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1.1

2.1.1

5.30.3.1

5.30.3.8

5.30.2.1

5.30.2.5

4.15.5

4.3

1 water leakage. Since the DOE makes no mention of an
2 alternative dumping site, this leakage will, at the very
3 least, result in delays in removal of the waste from the
4 INEL site, and in the worst case, turn the INEL into a
5 permanent interim waste dump with a potential to ruin our
6 most important underground water reserve.

7 My second area of concern is the need
8 justification of the facility to make more bomb-grade
9 plutonium in the first place. I'll read an excerpt from
10 a document from Greenpeace: "The United States does not
11 need any more plutonium. Plutonium has a half life of
12 over 24,000 years. As a result, over 90 percent of
13 plutonium for new warheads is recycled from retired
14 warheads. Our already enormous plutonium stockpile
15 provides enough of this deadly material to ensure the
16 security of the U. S. indefinitely. This, combined with
17 additional weapons retired through arms reduction
18 agreements, suggests that the need for a new production
19 facility cannot be justified. Weapons recovered from the
20 INF Treaty alone will provide the equivalent of two years'
21 plutonium production at current levels."

22 Although I totally fail to understand why
23 the current administration feels that it must continue to
24 add to our arsenal of nuclear warheads when we already
25 have over 25,000, I fully agree with Greenpeace that no

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1 more weapons-grade plutonium is needed, and therefore the
2 need for the SIS is non-existent.

3 I appreciate the opportunity to express my
4 views and hope that what I've said will give the proponents
5 of this project second thoughts about its necessity and
6 about their own sanity.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. EIGUREN: We are now at order 35 on the
9 commenter list. Sheri Kranzler.

10 MR. ESCHEN: Ole Cram was going to take
11 her place, and he had to leave a little bit earlier; so
12 I'm here. My name is Chris Eschen, and I am here to read
13 his testimony.

14 He says: "Everyone is so happy about getting
15 jobs in Idaho that it has come to this. Now I am asking
16 questions to the people who are for this. Are you willing
17 to give up your innocent and fellow children for one job?
18 That is outstanding if you choose so. If you don't think
19 a leak will happen and if you don't think it will happen
20 and it does and comes down on your friends and wildlife,
21 bringing dying and babies becoming deformed, well, I can
22 say I told you so. (sic)

23 "To demonstrate how ludicrous the idea is
24 that we need more plutonium, I'd like to do a short
25 demonstration.

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4.15.1

1.1

1 The first sound you hear is the sound of
2 one BB, which represents all the fire power of World War II,
3 approximately three megatons. (Indicating.) This includes
4 all the rockets, all the explosive devices used, all the
5 firepower used in World War II.

6 Three BB represents all the weapons of one
7 Poseidon submarine, approximately three World War II's.
8 (Indicating.) This amount is enough to destroy over
9 200 of the Soviets' largest cities.

10 Eight BB's represents 24 megatons of
11 firepower of one new Trident sub, enough to destroy
12 every major city in the northern hemisphere. (Indicating.)

13 This next amount represents 100 megatons,
14 which is, which is approximately less than one percent of
15 the U. S. or Soviet arsenals. It represents the amount
16 necessary to bring on nuclear winter. The dust lofted into
17 the air by the explosion of this small amount would block
18 out the sunlight and make temperatures drop so dramatically,
19 that our planet would be uninhabitable for plants, animals
20 and humans. (Indicating.) That one percent is only a
21 small fraction of the total amount we have in the world.

22 I would now like to show you how many we
23 actually have. (Indicating.)

24 I submit that in the awesome face of
25 destruction the last thing we need here in Idaho is another

1 bomb plant.

2 MR. EIGUREN: Chris, may we have that?

3 Chris Eschen provided the written comments
4 of Ole Cram, C-r-a-m, for the record, as Exhibit 632.

5 (Exhibit No. 632 marked and entered.)

6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
7 is Brad S. Jones.

8 Eric Brandt.

9 Roger Hayes.

10 MR. HAYES: Here.

11 My name is Roger Hayes and I'm a building
12 contractor in Boise, so I make my living hammering nails
13 in the construction trades.

14 I got this book in the mail, and I thought
15 I might not be able to understand it. Well, I was wrong.
16 I went through it, and it was pretty easy to understand.
17 I write a lot of contracts with people because that's my
18 business. I've never yet included a disclaimer on the
19 front saying that the work is going to be, you know,
20 "your problem."

21 I have seven points here. I'm not going
22 to go through all of them, but I want to tell you I
23 wouldn't have bought this -- I wouldn't have bought this.
24 And I think you guys ought to take it back and rewrite it
25 and come up with something just a little bit more unbiased.

2.8.7

1 The next thing I want to have is more
2 hearings, and I know this is a really, boring process and
3 I really feel sorry for you all, but it's your job. And
4 I think that the hearings ought to involve places that
5 are going to be affected by putting the SIS in, and that
6 includes places along truck routes. A lady testified
7 the other day that no one in La Grande even knew this
8 was going to occur and they didn't know that the increased
9 plutonium shipments were going to come through their town.

4.1

10 And then also I think that the "need issue"
11 for making plutonium ought to be addressed in this, or
12 leastwise, somebody's going to have to let me know that
13 we really do need it. And I'm not convinced.

2.7.8

14 Also, too, I think the issue of nuclear
15 war ought to be addressed. I can't imagine an environmental
16 catastrophe worse than that, and I don't see any mention
17 in here of that.

6.3

18 The next thing I want to say, too, is that
19 this is \$930-million taxpayers' money. That's enough
20 money to run the state of Idaho for two years, that's
21 enough money to run every school, university, community
22 college in the entire state for ten years. We're having
23 trouble trying to find money enough to run the schools here
24 in the state, and you guys want to spend almost \$1-billion
25 over here building something that we're not even sure, one,

1 that we have a place to deposit the plutonium and two,
2 that we really do even need the plutonium and three, we
3 may reach an agreement with the Soviets which, I guess,
4 is our enemy, right? We may reach an agreement with the
5 Soviets, and we're going to have to start reducing. What
6 are we going to do with this stuff? You guys have wanted
7 to purify the plutonium down here at INEL? I don't know.

4.15.5

4.3

8 But, anyways, what we really need to do is
9 we really need to just cease and desist. Take this book
10 back and rewrite it, put in the different -- get an unbiased
11 group. What is this NUS? I don't know who they are.
12 They're somebody from back East, I would imagine. Sorry.
13 Regionalism.

2.1.2

14 Anyways, what they need to do is they need
15 to rewrite this thing and do it in an unbiased manner.
16 I wouldn't have bought this. When I'm doing my work, I'm
17 proud of the work that I do, and I can't believe you guys
18 sent this out. I just can't.

19 On this list here, I'm going to turn it in,
20 are the reasons why I think that the book needs to be
21 rewritten.

1.1

22 So, in conclusion, I have to support the
23 No Action Alternative, even though it means jobs for Idaho.
24 But, you know, I've got an idea -- SIS. It just hit me
25 just now, but I think we should go ahead and build the SIS

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5.22.2

1 anyhow, but I think we should build a Special Ice Skating
2 Rink, instead of an SIS. It's better, and it would last
3 longer. It's going to last maybe, you know, 50 years from
4 today people will still be ice skating. Seven or eight
5 years from today I don't think the SIS is going to be of
6 any use to any of us.

7 So thank you very much for your time and
8 goodbye.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 633 will be the
10 written comments of Roger Hayes of Boise.

11 (Exhibit No. 633 marked and entered.)

12 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
13 is Peggy Guiles.

14 MS. GUILLES: I was hoping you hadn't
15 changed the order.

16 My name is Peggy Guiles, and I live at
17 1414 North 8th in Boise.

18 I'm a mother, I'm a nurse and I am a
19 student, and I am adamantly opposed to the SIS project
20 on all levels. We don't need any more plutonium. We
21 don't need any more nuclear weapons. And we don't need
22 any more radioactive waste that we don't know how to take
23 care of.

24 I'll just keep it short and simple. Just
25 say no to SIS.

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1 MR. FIGUREN: Exhibit 634 will be the
2 written comments of Peggy Guiles.

3 (Exhibit No. 634 marked and entered.)

4 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
5 is Liz Merrill.

6 MS. MERRILL: Hello. My name is Liz Merrill.
7 I want to thank you, Department of Energy, and Mr. Eiguren,
8 for holding these hearings and being cooperative and
9 generous during the whole process of the time. It's been
10 a pleasure to work with you.

11 My name is Liz Merrill, as I said. I live
12 at 1309 Howard, and I am opposed to the SIS project. I
13 believe it's unnecessary, unsafe and uneconomical. And
14 I won't go into a whole list of reasons why, because you've
15 already heard a number of those.

16 I do, however, have the testimony of
17 several other people who are in opposition to this project,
18 and I would like to read their names into the record.

19 MR. EIGUREN: Sure.

20 MS. MERRILL: Cathy Spofford, Lisa Dennis,
21 Kathy Ring, Scott and Constance Merrill, John and
22 Jane McGrew, Laura Carson, Ellie Kiser, Katharine Yerrity,
23 Paul Castroville, Nancy Brossman, Barbara Skotte,
24 Abigail Thomson, Jack Taylor.

25 I also have here petitions of people who

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1.1

4.15.5

5.30.3.1

1.1

6.5.12

1 oppose this project. I believe by my count there are
2 8,001 names who oppose this.

3 Thank you very much.

4 MR. EIGUREN: She's not going to submit
5 the petitions for the record, but will submit the other
6 written comments for the record. We'll assign those an
7 exhibit number when we get them later.

8 The next scheduled commenter is
9 Dr. Dale O. Hall.

10 (Discussion off the record.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: Dr. Hall has asked me to once
12 again state for the record what I stated earlier in this
13 proceeding, and that is that it was brought to the
14 attention of the Department earlier on that the disclaimer
15 on the document may in fact be in error. And in the
16 discussion with the Departmental staff that appears to be
17 the case, that it was inadvertently placed in the Draft
18 Environmental Impact Statement. Once that is confirmed,
19 that will be provided in writing and included as part of
20 the record.

21 DR. HALL: Thank you.

22 My name is Dale Hall. I live at 410
23 Parkway Drive, Boise 83706. I've been an Idaho resident
24 and worker for 22 years. I have two children and two
25 grandchildren still living here in Idaho.

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1 I'd like to ask our panel how many of
2 you have actually seen the mushroom cloud, a real
3 mushroom cloud and not a photo of it? I have. I was
4 present for the first H Bomb test at Eniwetok in 1952.
5 Two Japanese fishermen were accidentally and fatally
6 irradiated from this test. The Air Force, supposedly,
7 scouted this area ahead of time and said there was no one
8 out there. The island was vaporized and biological
9 mutations continue in the ocean today.

10 I was a natural resource scientist, with
11 a PhD. and a researcher for over 30 years. I consider the
12 EIS-SIS, the environmental statement, a research project
13 to evaluate the environmental consequences of the SIS
14 project.

15 I believe the Draft EIS for this project
16 to be incestuous and, most likely, fraudulent.

17 Incestuous because the references cited
18 are all essentially from the agency family. My experience
19 tells me that when researchers cite only their own works,
20 the research is highly suspect.

21 Fraudulent because the vested interests
22 want the picture painted to be rosy and therefore
23 misleading of the public.

24 I find a complete lack of data from
25 qualified non-dependent sources. Why are there no

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2.5.1

2.5.4

5.1.12

1 significant references cited for a non-involved
 2 individual or agency for over 10 years?
 3 Why is there no reference to the
 4 well-documented accounts (science magazines) for the
 5 late 1950's accident in the Ural Mountains of the U.S.S.R.?
 6 Thousands irradiated. Entire communities vacated.
 7 Goodbye, Idaho Falls; Goodbye, Pocatello; Goodbye, Aiken;
 8 Goodbye, Hanford; Goodbye, Arco.

5.23.22

9 I find too much computer simulation without
 10 efforts to get real live or dead data. Calculated EDE
 11 in whole body dosages are not adequate. Leave the dumb
 12 computers (garbage in-garbage out) and go into the
 13 communities where real live and hurting people live and
 14 die. What about the reported high cancer incidence around
 15 Hanford, around INEL, around Murray, Utah? Where are
 16 those non-rosy studies cited?

5.13.13

17 Other flags I found during my research
 18 career were the absolutes: will, not, do, don't.
 19 "Plutonium will not reach the Snake River Plain Aquifer."
 20 On the face of it, this statement is suspect.

5.30.4.9

21 No mention is made of the high-level waste
 22 disposal, another implied "no." Does this mean that,
 23 although working with some of the most radioactive
 24 material known to man, no HLW will be generated for
 25 disposal? Come, now.

5.14.1

1 In conclusion, I find the Draft
 2 Environmental Statement for the Special Isotope
 3 Separation project to be totally inadequate. A sophomoric
 4 attempt at best. And, in all likelihood, a fraudulent
 5 attempt to deceive the taxpayers of Idaho, Washington and
 6 South Carolina -- and the U. S.

2.1.1

7 If project managers would allow such an
 8 inadequate publication to even appear, how can they be
 9 allowed to manage such an undertaking? All credibility
 10 is gone.

3.2.2

11 "To err is human." I'm afraid there will
 12 be no one to forgive us. Idaho is too great to irradiate.

13 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 635 in the record
 14 will be written comments of Dr. Dale O. Hall.

15 (Exhibit No. 635 marked and entered.)
 16 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 17 is John Kriz.

18 MR. KRIZ: John Kriz, 2121 Cinebar. Thank
 19 you for the opportunity to speak this evening. I'm a
 20 father of two boys, and a practicing dentist, and sort of
 21 interested in fishing and a little bit in archeology.
 22 Now, you would assume that I would be very pro the SIS
 23 because when accidents happen and when archeologists dig
 24 up things, the only thing that's left are teeth. And so,
 25 therefore, I would be in good shape, liking archeology and

1 being a dentist. That happens not to be the case.
 2 Recently I achieved a childhood goal in
 3 that I was able, had the opportunity to visit Calgary
 4 and see the Olympics, and while there, there were many
 5 people that were friendly, as all of us are in Idaho,
 6 and they asked, "Where are you from?"
 7 And my first answer proudly was, "Boise."
 8 And they said, "Yeah, Boise. That's Idaho."
 9 And so I thought, "Well, gee, everyone knows
 10 where Boise is."
 11 So I continued my days and met other people
 12 on the sea train there. And then I decided that maybe
 13 I'd say Idaho when they asked me where I was from. So I'd
 14 say, "I'm from Boise, Idaho."
 15 And they'd say, "Oh, Idaho."
 16 And then I met some people that weren't
 17 Canadian, and they were from across the sea. And I said,
 18 "I'm from Boise, Idaho, the United States of America."
 19 And it all of a sudden dawned on me that I
 20 should -- I'm a fairly open person, and I realized that
 21 my thinking was very provincial, and that I was not from
 22 Boise, Idaho, and I wasn't from the United States of
 23 America, and I wasn't from North America; I was a citizen
 24 of this planet and of the cosmos. And I've read these
 25 reports, and I've looked at them, and I've decided not to

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1 discuss them this evening because *line 1 - obvious the scales - possibly*
 2 obvious the scales.
 3 So all I can leave you with is when I try
 4 and make a life-threatening or a decision that's important
 5 to me, I make two lists, and one list has a lot of
 6 positives on it and the other may have negatives. And I
 7 come up and try and make a decision, because life is not
 8 simple.
 9 In this situation I made those lists and
 10 I had one sheet of paper that didn't have anything on it.
 11 And that side was the one that was pro the SIS, and I
 12 was astonished that I could not come up with a pro.
 13 So what I want to leave you with and leave
 14 me with is that I had the opportunity to testify, I also
 15 have the opportunity to say that I hope we're not
 16 provincial in our thinking of what needs to be done just
 17 now, but we're thinking in the future, as I'm thinking in
 18 the future for all of us. I thank you very much.
 19 MR EIGUREN: We're at order 43,
 20 Curtis Hamilton.
 21 MR. HAMILTON: My name is Curtis Hamilton,
 22 I live at 5935 Brighton.
 23 Gentlemen of the Department of Energy: One
 24 of my main objections to this project is the fact that you
 25 have not done what you stated in your last project -- the

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1.1

6.4.3

1 INEL. That is to only temporarily store the nuclear wastes
2 in Idaho and then remove them.

5.30.5.7

3 These nuclear wastes are still in Idaho
4 with no foreseeable change in your actions.

5 If it is so hard to remove these wastes,
6 then how are you going to manage with the considerable SIS
7 wastes on top of it?

5.30.2.5

8 As a citizen of Idaho, I do not want my
9 state to be a permanent nuclear waste dump.

5.30.5.1

10 I feel the nuclear wastes that have
11 accumulated at INEL should be completely cleaned out
12 before this project should be considered and then a
13 maximum amount and timetable should be established for
14 any future wastes.

15 This quantity and timetable chart should be
16 made into law by the Idaho Legislature before SIS is
17 allowed to break ground.

5.31.10

18 This is an unfortunate measure to take, but
19 I feel it is the only way to insure (sic) that the
20 Department of Energy lives up to its word.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 636 will be the
23 written comments of Curtis Hamilton.

24 (Exhibit No. 636 marked and entered.)

25 MR. EIGUREN: Order No. 44 is Mr. Rob Rikoon,

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1 who already testified.

2 Order 45 is Polly Spofford.

3 MS. SPOFFORD: My name is Polly Spofford.

4 I live at 1800 Shaw Mountain Road in Boise. I wrote my
5 testimony on Saturday morning, I think, and I thought I
6 had done a pretty good job. But most of it's been said,
7 so I'm going to summarize and read a couple of paragraphs
8 and then make one addition.

9 I mentioned the four ways that I thought
10 that this project might expose the people and the
11 environment of Idaho and elsewhere to the devastating
12 effects of plutonium, which is probably the most
13 dangerous, most poisonous substance on this earth.

14 None of these dangers appears to be
15 adequately addressed in the DEIS. But much is said about
16 the normal operations and normal atmospheric emissions.
17 Under normal conditions, nothing will happen. But plants
18 do not operate normally. In fact, nothing always, ever
19 happens normally. And the DOE does not have a good record
20 of preventing contamination of air, ground and water at
21 INEL or at its other facilities. Risks during transportation
22 are evaluated in relation to risks from natural background
23 radiation. But natural background radiation is a
24 continuous, very low level and unavoidable phenomenon, while
25 a transportation accident would be a one-time -- or more --

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5.24.27

3.2.5

5.23.16

5.1.42

1 very high-level release, the consequences of which could
2 be devastating, and which is avoidable by not building
3 the SIS. The risks to people in the area around the site,
4 "off-site societal consequences," in the event of an
5 accident are calculated as lower at INEL than at other
6 sites not because of greater safety but because of fewer
7 people. I for one don't want to expose any people to the
8 kind of contamination that has already been documented,
9 for example, in the area around Hanford.

4.15.1

10 Then I go on to talk about being told that
11 the need is not an issue. I think we've all -- much has
12 been said about the lack of need, and I agree with that.

5.27.7.4

13 Many people in Idaho see the greatest need
14 for the SIS in terms of its economics benefits to the
15 state, especially in regard to jobs. Leaving aside the
16 question of whether we really want jobs that may harm
17 ourselves and our children, proponents may not know that
18 the DEIS has stated that 100 percent of the permanent
19 jobs -- "permanent" -- since the plant will not probably
20 have work for very long -- jobs created by the SIS will
21 necessarily go to workers from outside Idaho. And we
22 should realize that much of the other money that is spent
23 on the project will go immediately to firms outside Idaho,
24 with little or none of the multiplier effect taking place
25 before it leaves. The economic benefits to Idaho seem to

1 have been overstated.

2 These are only a few of the reasons I
3 oppose the building of the SIS in Idaho or elsewhere. I
4 keep discovering more and more as I listen to testimony
5 and read more.

6 I want to add a comment that was made today
7 by someone who gave brief testimony on Saturday and
8 therefore can't testify again, but who has been thinking
9 a lot since Saturday and said that it seems the ideal thing
10 if we need to spend that \$1-billion, nearly \$1-billion,
11 in Idaho, that the thing to do would be to spend it on
12 finding out a safe way to dispose of all the nuclear
13 wastes that we already have here and elsewhere. And I
14 think that's a very good idea.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 637 for the record
17 will be the written comments of Pauline Spofford.

18 (Exhibit No. 637 marked and entered.)

19 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
20 is Joe Sirani. Joe Sirani?

21 Order 47. Lee Scharf.

22 MR. SCHARF: My name is Lee Scharf. I
23 live at 1244 Candleridge Drive.

24 The father of our nuclear navy,
25 Admiral Rickover, once stated that our nuclear submarines

1.1

5.30.5.1

3.4

1 had the ability to wipe Russia off the map. We don't need
2 more nuclear weapons. It doesn't strengthen us. In fact,
3 the military, by squandering our wealth, has bankrupted
4 our country. This big military build-up has made us weak,
5 morally and financially. The greatest nation in the
6 world cannot survive on its own. We need to borrow
7 foreign money to survive.

6.3

8 The people that would be killed by our
9 weapons are the victims of their military establishments.
10 They don't want their boys killed in Afghanistan, or
11 Angola, or Cuba. They would rather their country's
12 resources went for better food, clothes, and housing. The
13 people who hold the power are the enemy of the general
14 population. This is true in so many countries. Including
15 ours.

5.27.7.3

5.27.6.1

16 Many Idahoans have been duped by the
17 promise of jobs. Making weapons is a good moneymaking
18 business. Look at General Electric, they make more money
19 selling weapons than light bulbs. Reaganomics is causing
20 many more people to leave Idaho than come here. If our
21 elected officials really want to see us get back on our
22 feet, they should support us going to war. Going to war
23 rescued this country from its overwhelming problems 40
24 years ago. Making plutonium could only bring a few
25 hundred jobs. A good war could really generate jobs, just

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1 think of the spin-off industries and what a great broadening
2 of our tax base.

1.1

3 I'm opposed to the SIS being built here
4 or anywhere else. Most of the people concerned enough
5 to testify are against the SIS. Most Americans are
6 against the SIS.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 638 for the
9 written record will be the written comments of Lee Scharf
10 of Boise.

11 (Exhibit No. 638 marked and entered.)

12 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and gentlemen, we're
13 going to be in recess for five minutes.

14 (Recess.)

15 MR. EIGUREN: Ladies and Gentlemen, we're
16 ready to once again proceed. If we can get everyone to
17 come back in and take your seat, we'd appreciate that.

18 We're at 48 on the commenter's list.

19 Could we get everyone to take his seat?

20 We would like to go back on the record and call our next
21 commenter, Mr. Mark Kruskopf. You may proceed, sir.

22 MR. KRUSKOPF: My address is 5585 Ellens
23 Ferry Drive, Boise. I'm an engineer and I have a Masters
24 in mechanical engineering.

25 The SIS project has been very controversial.

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5.27.6.9

1 There are people concerned with environmental impacts,
 2 economic benefits, national security requirements and
 3 moral issues. I would like to briefly discuss these
 4 economic benefits.

5 Supposedly, the SIS would cost roughly
 6 \$9-million (sic) and employ 750 people for eight years,
 7 supply 400 construction jobs for roughly five years. I
 8 would like to put these numbers in perspective by
 9 comparing to some of the other benefits of other projects
 10 in Idaho. First there is a Tupperware plant in Jerome,
 11 Idaho, that at full capacity employed 750 people, and
 12 to replace it right now would cost around \$44-million.
 13 In other words, you could probably replace the Tupperware
 14 plant with a new facility for \$44-million, which means
 15 you could, in other words, you could build 22 Tupperware
 16 plants for one SIS project and employ over 15,000 people.
 17 The only problem I see here is the environment concern.
 18 We'd probably be up to our armpits in plastic containers.

19 The second project is the Boise Mall. We're
 20 all familiar with that one. When it's done -- it will
 21 average 500 construction workers there for a period of
 22 18 months. It will also employ between 15 and 16 hundred
 23 people, with a cost of roughly \$40-million. In other
 24 words, you could probably build 22 malls for one SIS
 25 project and employ roughly 30,000 people. The biggest

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1 problem I see with this is traffic problems with busloads
 2 of shoppers coming from Salt Lake and Portland trying to
 3 figure out why Idaho gets 22 malls.

4 We also have to look at the economic
 5 trickle-down factor with these projects. The Tupperware
 6 plant and the Boise Mall, products would go from the
 7 manufacturers to the distributors, and to retail outlets,
 8 and everyone could buy the products and use them to their
 9 benefit.

10 But the SIS project will be making
 11 plutonium pellets, sending them to Rocky Flats where they
 12 go into nuclear warheads, put them on missiles and then
 13 stick those 100 feet below the surface. Hopefully,
 14 they'll never be used.

15 The question is: "How does this benefit the
 16 people of Idaho?"

17 At least with the plastic containers you
 18 can stick your leftovers in them.

19 In conclusion, there's no doubt that the
 20 SIS project will produce jobs, money and high-tech to the
 21 state, but the price is high for the benefits received.
 22 If the voters are really interested in attracting industry
 23 to Idaho, there are many other alternatives that are less
 24 expensive and less risky. Let's set the SIS project aside
 25 for now and look at these alternatives.

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6.2

1 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, we previously had on
3 our list of commenters an elected official who couldn't
4 be here because the legislature was in session. He is
5 now able to be here, and to accommodate his schedule, he
6 would like to comment at this point, and that is State
7 Senator John Peavey, Democratic Caucus Chairman.

8 SENATOR PEAVEY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 I'm going to break my word. I think I
10 first knew Roy when he and I both arrived at the Idaho
11 Legislature at the same time, 1970. Roy was a page and
12 I was a freshman senator.

13 Like Roy said, I'm John Peavey. I
14 represent District 22. I was born in Idaho. I'm a father
15 and a rancher. I've run sheep and cattle on a thing
16 called the Kamima Desert for a great many years. The
17 Kamima Desert is a part of the Arco Desert which is just
18 south of the Craters of the Moon National Monument, it's
19 very, very close to the INEL, and we get much of our
20 stock water and domestic water out of the wells that are
21 way out beyond the farming project. So I'm sort of an
22 early-warning system out there as well. There is a well
23 out there called the Peavey Well. It's probably 15 miles
24 north of the major farming areas, and I expect if the
25 plutonium shows up anywhere, it will be in my well first.

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1 I think that's where my major concern is, is the water
2 quality. With our operation being close to the INEL,
3 I very early on became well schooled in the theories and
4 philosophies of why this plutonium being injected into
5 our aquifer years ago wasn't going to go anywhere, and
6 I was incredibly alarmed at the assumptions that the
7 USGS made in arriving at this wrongful conclusion. The
8 aquifer is a very complex mechanism, geological formation,
9 and there are many -- that whole desert is underlaying
10 with different lava formations, and there's tubes, and
11 some of them are connected. There's people who drilled
12 the first irrigation wells out north of Rupert and Burley
13 years ago, and they fall down in caves and can hear the
14 water running, running water if you will, two or three
15 hundred feet down inside the ground. When you drill a
16 well out there, it will suck air and blow air. We've
17 even drilled inlain pipelines for stock water tanks,
18 drilled with a pneumatic drill down through the lava rock
19 fairly close to the surface and had fence holes in that
20 lava suck and blow air. You can drop a handful of dust
21 on top of that hole and it will blow it right back out
22 at you. So there is a real complex system of caverns
23 and places where that water moves very, very rapidly.
24 The assumption that it's going to take hundreds of
25 thousands of years to migrate from where they used to

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5.30.1.3

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5.30.5.3

1 inject it into those injection wells down to Hagerman or
2 up to the Peavey Well or the Snake River, I don't think
3 are valid. I think there is a very, very grave danger
4 that that plutonium may show up much, much sooner.

5 Now, there is a false security in this
6 state about the -- because they quit using the injection
7 wells. They claim they're using things called evaporation
8 ponds. Well, evaporation ponds aren't really evaporation
9 ponds at all. Only about 20 percent of the moisture in
10 those ponds evaporates, and that leaves 80 percent to
11 migrate down into the aquifer once again. So they're
12 still injecting all the things, the by-products of the
13 processes out on that desert that are still going into
14 our potential drinking water some day in the future.

5.10.6

15 I think there are some other incredible
16 dangers out there. The USGS realigned the seismic line
17 a number of years ago and downgraded the danger zone
18 where the INEL is. I assume, I suspect in anticipation
19 of this project that we're discussing here tonight. The
20 old seismic line came right down through the Arco Valley,
21 or the Mackay Valley, the Big Lost River Valley, and
22 right straight across the desert. A number of years ago
23 they detoured it and took it around, oh, I think probably
24 came down across the desert somewhere east of Idaho Falls
25 and then on down towards Salt Lake. But whoever it was

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1 that scheduled earthquakes didn't get the word, because
2 about two years later there was an enormous quake out
3 there.

4 On one of the legislative tours I had
5 occasion to go out and go through some of the reactors
6 and in the control rooms. They're much as you saw in
7 the China Syndrome, and you saw one of the -- I had
8 occasion to talk to one of the operators, and he, honestly,
9 he looked exactly like Jack Lemmon's buddy in that movie.
10 And I asked him where he was the year of the big quake,
11 you know, when Mt. Borah shifted and the Mackay Valley
12 lifted up 12 or 13 feet -- quite an event. Anyway, I
13 asked this gentleman where he was when that quake hit,
14 and he pointed "right here." So I asked him what happened?

15 And he said, "Well, the machine started to
16 shut down, and I went across the room to see what was
17 going on. Before I could get back to my chair, I couldn't
18 stand up, it shook that hard."

19 And I asked him how he felt about it, and
20 he said he was terrified.

21 We got -- it's just incredible that we have
22 these operations going on up here with all this very,
23 very dangerous waste, not to mention the volcanic problems,
24 you know. We haven't seen one of those, but it was only
25 a thousand years ago that we had some very serious volcanic

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5.10.4

5.30.3.8

1 activity in that area.

2 And lastly I would like to talk about
3 another really very serious concern, is the storage of
4 all the nuclear wastes there. We're reading now and
5 learning that New Mexico won't be taking our storage into
6 a permanent kind of classification, permanent storage
7 which is supposed to be very secure, with the ability to
8 last hundreds of thousands of years so that we don't
9 have to worry about it. Well, temporary storage is a
10 whole lot less than that. It's usually stacked above the
11 ground. We have the worst of all worlds in that we have
12 "permanent temporary storage" at Arco. So, until we
13 solve some of these problems and really get serious about
14 looking at the dangers to the aquifer and the assumptions
15 that have been made and how complex that geological
16 formation is, I think we ought to not charge off and put
17 another installation up there like the SIS.

18 One of the things that really upset me,
19 I asked, when I got into this water thing and the aquifer,
20 I asked for the well logs of the injection wells and the
21 test wells; and they couldn't come up with the well logs.
22 They said, "Well, we used to -- some of the wells were
23 drilled with cable tool rigs, and I guess the well logs
24 on those kinds of wells are good, but a lot of them were
25 drilled with rotary rigs, so we don't really know where

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1 the aquifer is."

2 In other words, they could inject that
3 stuff -- this was years ago now, two or three -- at the
4 bottom of the aquifer, and the test wells could be
5 somewhere up above. I just think the state really needs
6 to get into the monitoring and not taking their word for
7 it, and go very, very cautiously on what proceeds out at
8 the site.

9 Thank you very much for the opportunity.

10 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Senator Peavey.
11 We appreciate your being here.

12 Our next scheduled commenter is
13 Mr. Scott Brown.

14 MR. BROWN: My name is Scott Brown. I have
15 come before this hearing as a lifelong citizen of the
16 Treasure Valley and a resident of Boise for over 30 of
17 my 35 years. As a local citizen and as a small business
18 owner, I strongly oppose the location of the proposed
19 special Isotope Separator, the SIS, within the state of
20 Idaho in particular, and question the need for such a
21 facility in general. I oppose the SIS plutonium production
22 facility for three main reason: 1) It is not needed
23 for the defense of this nation and the nation can ill
24 afford such spending.

25 2) Environmentally, any risk of radioactive

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5.19.6

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1 contamination of Idaho's air, soil or water is too great
2 no matter what its statistical significance or
3 acceptability.

2.7.2

4 And 3) Morally, as a self-proclaimed
5 Christian nation and as citizens of the world, it is
6 wrong for us to promote death and destruction.

2.1.2

7 As a small businessman it would be foolish
8 of me to spend my advertising dollars for something that
9 didn't promote my business. I think the Draft
10 Environmental Impact Statement is exactly the same for
11 the Department of Energy. It would be foolish of them
12 to hire someone to make a statement that did not give
13 the statement they wanted. That is the statement they
14 have given us. It is biased, it is flawed.

4.15.4

15 Is the proposed SIS plutonium production
16 facility needed for the defense of this nation? No. If
17 we are to believe our government, and let's pretend that
18 we do, the announcement from the Department of Energy
19 in the White House stating that "the government's
20 plutonium stockpile is sufficient to meet the foreseeable
21 demands for new weapons," and secretary, the Energy
22 Secretary, John Herrington's recent statement that the
23 nation is "awash with plutonium" proves that there is no
24 need. The projected \$1-billion price tag to the state for
25 this eight-year DOE project to the taxpayers of this

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1 country is yet another example of the government's
2 continued handouts to the industrial military complex that
3 President Eisenhower warned us about many, many years ago,
4 wasting not only our tax dollars but the best minds of our
5 science community.

6.3

6 And when has any project associated with
7 the military weapons and the nuclear industry not been
8 over budget? What could Idaho do with only the estimated
9 \$50-million construction cost for SIS? If only used for
10 highway and road construction and repair, that money
11 could provide many more local jobs and provide long-term
12 help to the economic development of the state and benefit
13 all, all Idaho citizens.

3.4

14 We, as taxpayers, must put a stop to the
15 build-up of nuclear weapons in the "Peace Through
16 Strength" farce led by President Reagan of which this
17 is a part. How strong are we as a nation when we are
18 afraid to disarm a small fraction of our nuclear arsenal
19 because our convention forces are thought insufficient to
20 meet a challenge? What strength has the \$1-trillion
21 military build-up during the Reagan years given us?
22 Idaho's Congressional Delegation would have us believe
23 we are stronger today than six years ago. Let us blow
24 away the smoke screen. The United States is fast
25 approaching a \$2-trillion debt. In 1985 the United States

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1 became a debtor nation for the first time since 1914,
2 owing over \$400-billion to foreigners. Our real standard
3 of living is going down, and we are no longer the
4 economic leader of the world. The weakness we are showing
5 at home far outweighs the strength we profess to have
6 with the nuclear weapons that we dare not use.

7 In short, the United States has much more
8 to fear from its own red ink than it does from the Red
9 Army. We must end the nuclear arms and weapons madness,
10 and not building the Special Isotope Separator anywhere,
11 especially not in Idaho, is a good place to start.

12 The proposed SIS production facility at
13 INEL changed the focus of INEL, will change the focus of
14 INEL from a research and development center, which has
15 served this nation well, to a link in the nuclear weapons
16 production chain. We hear the pleas of the manager at
17 INEL begging for new projects, as the government continues
18 to cut research money to counter the growing national debt.
19 Our elected officials need to present the false hope of
20 jobs as they seek upcoming election. We see many
21 construction projects in Boise today and notice how few
22 of those construction jobs have gone to Idaho workers.
23 This project will also provide few Idaho jobs.

24 And, finally, how can we morally, as a
25 so-called "Christian" nation, continue to produce weapons

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1 of all kinds, exported around the world, creating death
2 and destruction wherever they go? Is it any wonder that
3 we are hated by most of the world, including many of the
4 nations we seem to feel obligated to protect? If the
5 world is to survive, we must learn to solve our differences
6 through means other than violent measures.

7 Thank you.

8 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 654 will be the
9 written comments of Scott T. Brown.

10 (Exhibit No. 654 marked and entered.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
12 is William Hadgor. William Hadgor?

13 Commenter No. 51, Wayne Morris.

14 MR. MORRIS: My name is Wayne Morris, and
15 I'm relatively new to Boise. I'm not going to try to
16 convince anyone that I've been here a hundred years. I
17 came to Idaho because the area that I left was already
18 contaminated with garbage. I'm here to speak against SIS
19 and anything like it, to try and prevent that from
20 happening here. There's been -- in fact, most of the
21 points that I was going to discuss have been adequately
22 covered, so I'm not just going to stand up here and talk.
23 I'll try and be brief.

24 All the comments I've heard about the
25 safety of SIS, I've heard them on TV, I've heard them here,

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1 I can see people in the audience that have spoken in
2 favor of the safety. I went to a source that determined
3 safety, and I think their opinions are pretty well
4 unchallenged, and that's the insurance industry of the
5 United States and the world. Their opinion when someone
6 is employed at a facility of this type, they're uninsurable;
7 if they're driving vehicles that are containing any form
8 of nuclear activity at all, they're uninsurable.

9 Now, I'm not an expert in insurance. I
10 just called the people that I buy mine from, and they
11 called their friends, and they called their friends, and
12 their answer was simply "No." That's my opinion on SIS,
13 simply "No."

14 When we hear all the controversy, it leaves
15 us with a few alternatives: One, the insurance companies
16 have gotten together in a conspiracy to shut down our
17 nuclear industry and make our country unsafe in the world.
18 I don't think that's likely.

19 There's another alternative, and that's
20 that a few greedy people without thought for the future
21 or anyone other than themselves have conspired to
22 perpetrate a fraud. I don't like to think that that's
23 the case, either.

5.24.30

24 The most tragic of all possibilities --
25 these people really believe it's safe. With a 44-year

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1 history of nuclear energy, how can anyone expect a
2 25,000-year projection to even be remotely accurate?
3 There isn't enough history there. History is our greatest
4 teacher. I don't think we should ignore it, and we
5 certainly can't ask 40 years to project that far.

6 There's a few things here I'd like to
7 skip over because again, as I say, they were more than
8 adequately covered.

9 The one thing that irritates me probably
10 more than anything else is that we the people have hired
11 all of these experts as our employees. We hire Senators,
12 we hire Congressmen. It isn't they. It's us. We're
13 responsible. If these people respond in an irresponsible
14 manner, it's our obligation not only to stop the activity
15 but to fire the people. Get new ones.

16 The last point I'd like to make is that
17 Idaho has a unique opportunity, it's a beautiful state,
18 it's clean, the lands are precious, they're unspoiled.
19 The Economic Development Committee of this state is
20 trying to get international trade, we're trying to attract
21 those precious dollars from overseas that we've been
22 sending over for years and years. Has anybody given five
23 minutes to think about how the Japanese feel about nuclear
24 weapons? I deal directly with the Japanese. I made a
25 call to Tokyo and I asked. His answer was very simply "No."

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5.27.5.3

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1 If SIS gets built in any proximity to any area that we're
2 seeking Japanese involvement, I think the answer is already
3 well known -- they're going to say no.

4 In closing, I would like to make just
5 one simple comment. I don't think any rational human
6 being can justify putting a radioactive bandaid on a very
7 small economic cut.

8 Thank you.

9 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 655 will be the
10 written comments of Wayne Morris of Boise.

11 (Exhibit No. 655 marked and entered.)

12 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
13 is Patsy Corky. Patsy Corky?

1.1

14 MS CORKY: Hello. I'm Patricia Corky,
15 citizen of Boise City, Idaho, and a taxpayer. I am
16 against the SIS project proposed for Idaho, because Idaho's
17 roadways present a threat to the safe transport of toxic
18 materials, the risk of damage to the land from plutonium
19 and other materials is high, and I value highly the
20 natural beauty of Idaho and the health of myself and all
21 the creatures and plant life.

22 Idaho's network of roadways has been
23 neglected by the federal government whose responsibility
24 it is to, I believe, maintain transportation in a safe
25 and efficient manner. Many of our roads leading in from

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1 out of state, which would carry active materials from
2 all over the United States to the proposed SIS site, are
3 two-lane and especially dangerous in winter when they are
4 not salted sufficiently to prevent ice build-up and such
5 conditions. Due to inadequate federal funding for
6 maintenance and improvements, the roads are hazardous
7 any time of year, but especially in the winter. An
8 example is the recent accident in which toxic chemicals
9 dumped into the river, killing fish. What would plutonium
10 do?

11 It is my belief the United States prospers
12 by the individual's ability to own and develop land for
13 profit, prosperity and the pursuit of happiness. The
14 technology presently held is not sufficient to ensure
15 the land's protection from contamination from plutonium
16 and other radioactive products of an SIS project. The
17 site will become unusable for any development other than
18 toxic materials' storage. Once it is doomed that way,
19 perhaps it will become conveniently for other states and
20 the federal government a permanent toxic storage disposal
21 site well beyond the eight project years to, say, 250,000
22 years or so.

23 Idahoans won't get to utilize it. I keep
24 remembering that eight years is a relatively short period
25 of time, and that 250,000 years may be relatively short

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1 compared to the age of earth, but not to me.

2 Regarding Idaho's natural beauty and its
3 quality of life enjoyed by citizens and animals and plant
4 life, these concepts are fragile and currently exist,
5 encouraging tourism and growth independent of potential
6 warfare. To expose ourselves and our fellow life forms
7 to such a risk as I believe the SIS project is, is my
8 definition of a crime against nature.

9 In conclusion, I believe the SIS project
10 should not be located in Idaho, because of transportation
11 inadequacies, potential accidents and land exclusion to
12 the citizens and life of Idaho, and the threat to our
13 land's beauty and marketability.

14 Please imagine how your consciences will
15 accept a river spill, a project shutdown similar to many
16 nuclear energy plants which stand dormant and potentially
17 lethal, the further bankrupting of the federal government
18 which cannot even afford to improve our roads, and the
19 monetary costs which we will be forced to pay for clean-up,
20 because this project, once built, will be a permanent
21 fixture on Idaho land. It is our conscience which must
22 continually remind us of nuclear accidents and any failure
23 on our part to use this beautiful state and land for
24 productive and positive development -- Idaho is too great
25 to fritter.

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1 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.

2 Our next scheduled commenter is Pam Ivory.

3 Pam Ivory?

4 Commenter 54, Ron Mitchell. Ron Mitchell?

5 Commenter 55, Chuck Garvin, has previously
6 testified.

7 Commenter 56, Diane Crowe.

8 MS. CROWE: Thank you for listening to our
9 comments.

10 My name is Diane Crowe and I live at 2225
11 Cherry Lane in Boise. I'm opposed to construction of
12 the SIS project at the INEL site in Idaho or anywhere else.
13 No convincing evidence has been presented that shows a
14 need for more weapons-grade plutonium.

15 The need for jobs is cited as a justification
16 for spending \$1-billion or more of public monies for this
17 project. Yes, we need more jobs in Idaho. But this is
18 not the way to provide them.

19 There are many unmet needs in our society.
20 Some of those jobs can be providing comprehensive
21 medical care for all Americans, providing adequate food
22 and housing for all Americans, providing for clean-up of
23 toxic wastes, road and highway construction, improvement
24 in urban transportation systems. Money spent for these
25 and other purposes would add more to the real strength of

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1 our country than any project for added, though unneeded,
2 military power.

3 It is almost inconceivable that the
4 Department of Energy would consider this project for
5 construction at this time. Most major nations are now
6 actively working to reduce the level of danger from a
7 nuclear confrontation. The INF Treaty has been signed
8 by our President, important negotiations are proceeding
9 on other arms reduction agreements, and further nuclear
10 non-proliferation actions are contemplated.

11 The SIS project is a complete waste of
12 public resources. I am against it and we should not
13 permit it.

14 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 656 will be
15 the written comments of Diane Crowe.

16 (Exhibit No. 656 marked and entered.)

17 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
18 is Kevin Kavanagh. Ken Kavanagh?

19 MR. KAVANAGH: I'm Ken Kavanagh, Boise.

20 The government has failed to make a
21 compelling case for the absolute necessity for the building
22 of the SIS that a project so enormously expensive and so
23 dangerous to the people of this state would seem to require.

24 The March 14th issue of Newsweek magazine
25 contains an article describing our nation as being "awash

1 in plutonium," and goes on to report the serious
2 environmental problems created by existing plutonium plants.
3 The huge size and redundancy of our nuclear weapons
4 stockpile is public knowledge.

5 I share the concerns of people who worry
6 about the economic future of themselves and families. I
7 think, however, that the militarization of our national
8 economy is a major contributing factor in our present
9 economic and financial troubles.

10 I am thankful for being able to speak at
11 this hearing and would hope that this type of forum might
12 be used to solicit public testimony regarding more basic
13 issues of weapons research and development, and the
14 allocation of public resources.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 657 will be the
17 written comments of Ken Kavanagh of Boise.

18 (Exhibit No. 657 marked and entered.)

19 MR. EIGUREN: We're now at order 58 on the
20 commenter list. Stuart Yount.

21 MR. YOUNT: My name is Stuart Yount. I
22 live here in Boise. When I'm working, I am a mechanical
23 and popular designer for industrial firms. I am opposed
24 to the construction of the proposed Special Isotope
25 Separator at INEL, and I don't see much good reason to put

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1 it anywhere. There's a couple of reasons for this: There
 2 is no shortage of bomb-grade plutonium. And if the INF
 3 Treaty is passed, we're going to be flooded with the stuff.
 4 And plutonium is an extremely hazardous material. There
 5 is always the chance that it can escape into the environment
 6 either through an accident during transportation or when
 7 it's processed. And I think Murphy's Law is always in
 8 effect. And we can't afford the project, either. It's
 9 estimate to cost \$900-million, but that's just an estimate.
 10 And the design firm happens to be an outfit that has a
 11 pretty good history of cost overruns on federal projects.
 12 And, beside, the Pilot Plant, as I understand it, is the
 13 only operation where this laser method of separation has
 14 been tried, and that's not to say that it would be
 15 effective in a full-size plant.
 16 We know that we need the jobs in southeast
 17 Idaho, but this is not the way to get them. Our future
 18 generations have trillions of dollars of debt already, so
 19 why take a chance on adding more to the debt and messing
 20 up our environment?
 21 And I think the Department of Energy was
 22 a little bit lax in the way they named this thing in the
 23 beginning. They say Special Isotope Separator. Why didn't
 24 you call it "Plutonium Isotope Separator?" But that
 25 acronym would have been pretty gross, I guess.

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1 MR. EIGUREN: We're at order 59 on the list,
 2 Steve Pitino. Steve Pitino?
 3 Order No. 60, Mark Perry. Mark Perry?
 4 Order No. 61, Robert Rikoon. He previously
 5 testified, and Jeanette Ross substituted in his place.
 6 MS. ROSS: I am Jeanette Ross, 2824 Grandee,
 7 Boise, Idaho. I am speaking against the Special Isotope
 8 Separator project.
 9 I am a writer and an educator interested in
 10 looking at the long-term consequences of our actions.
 11 My first warning as to the dangers of this
 12 project came out of the impact statement itself. Although
 13 the statement assures us that dangers are minimal, the
 14 reasons for preferring the INEL site are, I quote, "No
 15 humans reside on the INEL site, and there is no population
 16 center larger than 50,000 persons within a 37-mile radius."
 17 And then it goes on to say, "Vegetation community consists
 18 primarily of sagebrush." Which means that we've got
 19 something not all that serious to waste.
 20 Water moves slowly through the Snake River
 21 Aquifer, they say, and so it is satisfactory to filter
 22 effluents with acceptable levels of radioactivity through
 23 the soil column. Stored wastes, those dangerous ones,
 24 will be kept in containers now believed to be safe.
 25 In other words, it is a preferable site

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1.1

6.1.6

6.5.3

5.27.6.9

6.5.5

3.4

1 because there are fewer of us to poison, water moves
 2 slowly, and sagebrush will eventually cover the vast
 3 underground caverns holding the more dangerous waste.
 4 For these potential dangers and others,
 5 no matter how minor the DOE believes them to be, we are
 6 gaining seven years of McDonald's and hamburger flippers,
 7 two years of peak employment, to quote the EIS again.
 8 We humans have been given a choice like
 9 this before. If we look at the Old Testament, we see
 10 that Esau sold his heritage for a mess of pottage -- we
 11 are selling ours also, we are selling the heritage for
 12 our children, for the land, our air, for a two-year mess
 13 of pottage. Like a monstrous snake we are creating
 14 deadly poisons, and then holding them to our bosom.
 15 The justification for this behavior is
 16 the argument that we must negotiate from strength. But
 17 we are in a world where we are all weak, we are all
 18 negotiating from a position of fear and weakness, because
 19 we are all threatening to destroy each other. We must
 20 cast the snakes out of our hearts, we must wean ourselves
 21 of our poisons, and we must learn to solve our conflicts
 22 without force.
 23 Let the Book of Genesis be our guide. Jacob
 24 came back to face his brother, Esau, that he had wronged.
 25 We must accept the facts that on this little, fragile

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1 earth -- as the Lakota people have told us -- we are all
 2 related.
 3 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 658 will be the
 4 written comments of Jeanette Ross.
 5 (Exhibit No. 658 marked and entered.)
 6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 7 is Duane Bloom. Duane Bloom.
 8 Commenter 63, Eugene Spencer Smith.
 9 Eugene Spencer Smith?
 10 No. 64, Tom von Alten.
 11 MR. VON ALTEN: My name is Tom von Alten.
 12 I live at 2824 Grandee, in Boise, and I am grateful for
 13 this opportunity to testify.
 14 I'm a mechanical engineer and a member of
 15 the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.
 16 In my work I use a variety of tools for
 17 analysis, computer modeling and optimization. In such
 18 work, there are two elements that are always critical to
 19 getting the right answer:
 20 First, asking the right question, and
 21 Second, testing analytical results against
 22 experience and common sense.
 23 I would like to apply these two tests to
 24 this impact statement: Did we ask the right question?
 25 And do the results make sense?

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4.15.5

4.3

6.3

4.15.4

1 Since World War II we have been involved in
2 an arms race, primarily with the Soviet Union. It has
3 been considered crucial that we stay ahead of them, and we
4 have done very well at that. We have successfully invented
5 and reduced to practice an awesome collection of weaponry.

6 At this point, however, I believe the right
7 question to ask is "What will best ensure our security as
8 we approach the next millenium?" I submit that "more of
9 the same" is a poor answer, at best.

10 I take issue with Senator McClure telling
11 us that he has classified information that we really do
12 need the SIS. As people have pointed out, between the INF
13 Treaty and existing sources, the evidence is that we have
14 much more than we really need.

15 Our country is falling deeper and deeper in
16 debt. In large part because of the money we spend on the
17 military. We count it as a success when we decrease the
18 rate at which we fall deeper in debt. We are finding it
19 harder and harder to be competitive in international
20 markets as well, and we use the same sort of measure of
21 success there.

22 The assumed "right answer" that is the
23 context for this Draft EIS -- that we need more and better
24 facilities for manufacturing weapons-grade plutonium -- has
25 precluded the application of a test of common sense to the

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1 result: We do not need, and can ill afford an SIS project
2 in Idaho, in Washington or in South Carolina.

3 Finally, the value of this document, I
4 think, is summed up on the inside front cover. The authors
5 disclaim any warranty to it being accurate, complete
6 or useful. As a professional, and as a private citizen, I
7 request that no action be taken unless and until an
8 accurate, complete and useful environmental impact
9 study is done.

10 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 659 will be the
11 written comments of Tom von Alten of Boise, Idaho.

12 (Exhibit No. 659 marked and entered.)

13 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
14 is Kelly Kitchens. Kelly Kitchens?

15 Commenter 66, John Clarke. John Clarke?

16 Commenter 67, Dalyn Chenowith.

17 Dalyn Chenowith?

18 The Chair is informed that commenter 68 is
19 not going to be here, and that's Colleen Moore.

20 Commenter 69, C. F. Larrabee. C. F. Larrabee?

21 Commenter No. 70, Bill Kornik. Is Bill Kornik
22 here?

23 Commenter 71, Chip Cole. Chip Cole?

24 Commenter 72, Joanne Cannon.

25 MS. CANNON: My name is Joanne Cannon, and

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1.1

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4.13

1 I reside in Boise.

2 I recommend no action on the proposed
3 construction of the SIS. Not only am I against building
4 the SIS at the Idaho INEL site, I'm against the South
5 Carolina site, the Hanford, Washington site, or any
6 other proposed site. I'm going to leave the technical
7 objections to the technician and I'm going to speak from
8 the best source that I know, and that's my heart.

9 I'm the mother of two beautiful daughters
10 and I'm soon to be a grandmother, and I want for them a
11 future free of any possibility of nuclear disaster. I'm
12 a lover of life, and I respect the God-given life of all
13 living things, and I believe that God put us here on this
14 planet to be all that we can be. But with the threat of
15 a nuclear winter or death because of either nuclear war
16 or a nuclear accident, we're selling ourselves far, far
17 short.

18 I've read and I've seen films about
19 what nuclear war can do and what nuclear waste does to
20 our environment, and I've learned that plutonium is the
21 deadliest substance in existence. And I feel that I've
22 been able to make up my mind clearly and fairly how I feel
23 about our country making more weapon-grade plutonium. And
24 now I want to state this opinion publicly how insane I
25 believe our government has become in believing that further

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B233

1 creation of this deadly substance will make us feel safe.
2 That's total madness. I believe that our policymakers
3 are not adequately providing for the common defense and
4 are not promoting the general welfare as required by the
5 U. S. Constitution when they approve, fund and carry out
6 the manufacture of a substance that can destroy life as
7 we know it or destroy the whole earth.

8 I cannot ignore the fact that economics
9 come into play in this issue, but I believe that our tax
10 dollars would be better spent on developing safe energy
11 technologies, on health, on education, on social programs
12 to feed and house the hungry and homeless, and to teach
13 peace, love and understanding of our fellow man, instead
14 of fear and distrust, a fear and distrust that appears to
15 be so great now that we become irrational and we seek to
16 destroy ourselves to alleviate it.

17 I repeat -- no action on SIS.

18 MR. EIGUREN: Commenter No. 73,
19 Andrea Jackson. Andrea Jackson?

20 MS. JACKSON: My name is Andrea Jackson, I
21 reside at 702 Ranch Road, Boise, Idaho. I am a student and
22 I am a citizen of the world.

23 I am here tonight to voice my opposition to
24 the SIS project in Idaho, or anywhere else, for that matter.
25 I am a native Idahoan, and I plan to raise my family here.

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6.3

1.1

4.2.1

6.5.5

5.27.2

5.27.7.4

6.3

1 I am going into education because I believe in the future
 2 of Idaho. I oppose the SIS project for many reasons,
 3 most of which have been stated tonight, so I'll be brief.
 4 First of all, I see no need for the project.
 5 As the Secretary of Energy himself has stated, the U. S.
 6 is awash in plutonium. There is absolutely no reason for
 7 developing more weapon-grade plutonium.

8 Plutonium has a half life of over 24,000
 9 years. Are we ready to leave this responsibility to our
 10 children, our grandchildren, their grandchildren? Are
 11 we going to be able to sell plutonium-grade potatoes if
 12 the Snake River Aquifer is contaminated? I, myself, don't
 13 believe anyone will be interested in buying agricultural
 14 products for consumption that glow.

15 As far as jobs are concerned, yes, there
 16 will be some construction jobs which may potentially go
 17 to Idahoans. But I don't see too many nuclear physicists
 18 standing in the unemployment lines in Idaho.

19 In conclusion, I would like to leave you
 20 with one thought: I would like to see the day when
 21 education had money to squander, and the military --
 22 Department of Energy included -- had to hold bake sales to
 23 raise money for bombs.

24 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 660 will be the
 25 written comments of Andrea Jackson of Boise.

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1 (Exhibit No. 660 marked and entered.)
 2 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 3 is Cathy Spofford. Cathy Spofford?
 4 Move to witness order 75, Trish Klahr.
 5 Trish Klahr?
 6 Commenter order No. 76, Robert D. Scott.
 7 Robert D. Scott?

8 Order 77, Rebeca Finn.

9 MS. FINN: My name is Rebeca Finn. I am
 10 17 years old and I just moved to Boise, Idaho, two years
 11 ago. I hope to be one of tomorrow's leaders. I suppose
 12 you can consider me one of the many "our children" that
 13 people talk about the future being passed on to.

14 I might become a good leader; I might not
 15 become a good leader. But I want the chance. And I don't
 16 think that SIS gives me the chance, because I don't think
 17 it promotes peace. And I think that, really, for me to
 18 have a future there needs to be peace. And when you think
 19 about it, weapons-grade plutonium, what can you do with
 20 weapons-grade plutonium besides build weapons? It's not
 21 exactly something like a baking ingredient.

22 I really feel that SIS is something that's
 23 totally, totally in opposition to peace, and I think that
 24 consider me one of the future generations and consider
 25 me a mother of a future generation, and give me a chance.

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4.14

6.5.2

1 And, in closing, I would just like to say
2 that the ironic thing is that at the close of this summer
3 I am going to be moving to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, site
4 of Three Mile Island.

5 Thank you very much.

6 MR. EIGUREN: We're at comment order No.
7 78, Teresa Jones.

8 MS. JONES: My name is Teresa Jones, I
9 live at 4445 Greer, in Boise.

10 I'm concerned about the possibility that the
11 INEL is being considered as a site for the Special Isotope
12 Separation project.

13 I do not feel comfortable that a nuclear
14 weapons plant will be built so close to my home. I feel
15 that this imposes increased dangers to the people,
16 environment and economy of Idaho. This would expose Idaho
17 to the increased possibilities of nuclear accidents in
18 the transportation and production of refined plutonium.

19 If an accident of any magnitude were to occur, major
20 impacts would be felt in all of Idaho's industries,
21 especially tourism and agriculture. The short-term
22 financial benefits that southeast Idaho may experience are
23 not worth the risks that the entire state must take with
24 this project.

25 I also do not feel that the SIS project

1 should be a national project. I am not convinced that
2 even more nuclear weapons are needed for national security.
3 Building more weapons will only encourage other nations
4 to increase their stockpiles; it is a never-ending process
5 of always trying to have more weapons than your enemy. I
6 do not feel safe at all with the abundance of weapons that
7 nations around the world have presently. Peace cannot be
8 attained by building bigger and more powerful weapons than
9 your neighbor. I think it only creates insecurity
10 between nations.

11 Our country has many more issues that our
12 tax dollars can be used for, which would provide a more
13 secure nation. We should be solving the current situation
14 with the homeless. We should be addressing the needs of
15 children who live in poverty. We should provide retraining
16 for the many unemployed workers who have been displaced
17 by new technologies in industry.

18 In summary, it is my hope that the SIS
19 project will not be built anywhere.

20 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
21 Teresa Jones will be included in the record as Exhibit
22 No. 661.

23 (Exhibit No. 661 marked and entered.)

24 MR. EIGUREN: While J. J. is setting up
25 here, we'll give you a couple of minutes.

4.15.4

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5.27.2

6.2

1.1

1 If there is anybody in the audience who
2 is desirous of leaving shortly and doesn't want to wait
3 to give oral comment but has a written statement, we'll
4 take those for the record at this point. I'd just ask
5 you to step forward and we'll read it into the record.
6 Is there anybody who would like to do that?
7 Okay. What I would like to ask you to do is
8 to step forward to the podium and just give us your name,
9 and we'll assign you an exhibit number.
10 Why don't you go ahead, sir?
11 MR. WRIGHT: My name is Richard Wright.
12 MR. EIGUREN: Okay. Exhibit No. 662.
13 MS. MCMUNIGAL: My name is Carol McMunigal,
14 and I am oposed to the SIS.
15 MR. EIGUREN: Your written comment is
16 going to be listed as Exhibit No. 663.
17 Is there anyone else that has a written
18 comment that they would like to submit for the record at
19 this point?
20 (Exhibits 662 and 663 marked and
21 entered.)
22 MR. EIGUREN: Okay. At this point our
23 next commenter is No. 79, J. J. Dion.
24 MR. DION: My name is J. J. Dion. I live
25 here in Boise at 3120 Woody Drive, and I am a part-time

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1 music teacher at Sacred Heart School and I go to BSU, and
2 I would like to express my opposition to the building of
3 the SIS through the following performance piece, with
4 sincere apologies to Rodgers and Hammerstein, Advocates
5 of Proper English Group for Grammatical Usage, and lovers
6 of good music.
7 Let's start at the very beginning - a logical
8 place to start.
9 When you read, you begin with A, B, C,
10 But when you're rappin' 'bout SIS, it's "DOUGH, RAY,
11 ME".
12 (Dough, ray, me?) Yes - Dough, ray, me!
13 The first three words just happen to be:
14 Dough, Ray, Me. Dough, Ray, Me, Fa, So, La, Ti...
15 To elaborate:
16
17 It's Dough, my dear, that brings them here;
18 There's gonna be a BOOM for six to eight years.
19 Than the rules say, "STOP! You can't make no more."
20 And that's when BUST comes knockin' at the door.
21
22 Ray is for RADIOACTIVE WASTE;
23 If it gets in the water, that's IT for THIS place!
24 ME and my family, livin' in fear;
25 Keep that Plutonium FA from here!

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1.1

5.27.10

5.12.1

5.29.85

5.27.2

4.14

4.4.2

1 SO they gotta transport it over our roads;
 2 I don't need to remind ya that's a deadly load,
 3 And you'll wonder where the Tourists went,
 4 If you ever have a "Publicized" Accident!
 5
 6 The LAw is God's: "Thou shalt not kill",
 7 (Like they're doin' to the schools with their
 8 funding bill...)
 9 How many jobs are worth the dues
 10 We'll pay if those Warheads ever get used?!!!
 11 T is for Total Annihilation - of all the People -
 12 of every nation,
 13 But the experts all pretty much agree -
 14 We've got all the Plutonium we need!
 15 While the leaders are tryin' to reDUCE the stores,
 16 The D.O.E. just wants to make more!
 17
 18 D.O.E., that spells DOE,
 19 And that brings us back to where we were befo'.
 20 Here's where I'll try to sum it all up;
 21 Please don't try to interrupt.

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B239

5.27.7.17

1 Now, I believe there's gotta be cleaner means
 2 To stimulate our economy -
 3 There's microchips and french fry machines;
 4 Plenty of ways to keep us in the green!
 5
 6 Can you look your children in the eye
 7 And confess you didn't even try
 8 To take a bite out of Nuclear Crime
 9 By speakin' out while there still was time?
 10
 11 Now, let the speeches continue, Ma'ams and sirs,
 12 I hope you weigh carefully all you've heard!
 13 And, did you catch my drift, blowin' in the wind,
 14 Or do I have to rap it to you all over again??
 15 MR. EIGUREN: J. J. Dion of Boise, Idaho,
 16 has provided the lyrics as Exhibit 664.
 17 I don't think, Mr. Reporter, we got the
 18 music part.
 19 (Exhibit No. 664 marked and entered.)
 20 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
 21 is Commenter No. 80, Noble Hardesty. Noble Hardesty?
 22 Order 81, Glenn Jones.
 23 MR. JONES: I'm Glenn Jones, I live at
 24 4445 Greer. I'm not a native Idahoan; my children are,
 25 and I consider Idaho my home now.

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1.1

1 I support the No Action Alternative regarding
2 the Special Isotope Separator project being constructed
3 at the INEL site in southeast Idaho. The No Action
4 Alternative means not building the SIS in Idaho or anywhere
5 else.

6.1.1

6 I have been a member of the Carpenters
7 and Joiners Union, Local 2816, since 1979. I'm a proud
8 union member, but I do not agree with Jim Kerns and the
9 AFL-CIO in their support of the SIS. I cannot compromise
10 my principles to support a few short-lived union jobs. I
11 realize the unions are struggling to stay alive in Idaho,
12 but supporting the construction of the SIS with so many
13 questions about health and safety unanswered, is terribly
14 wrong.

5.27.10

15 I also have doubts about the economic boom
16 that the SIS is supposed to bring to southeast Idaho.
17 What will happen when the SIS is scheduled to shut down
18 in six to seven years? Idaho must concentrate on
19 permanent jobs for the future, not just a few
20 highly-specialized jobs for a few years. Think about it.

5.27.2

21 I also have doubts and questions concerning
22 the safety of transporting highly radioactive wastes.
23 The SIS will generate 440 tons of radioactive wastes
24 every year. Just one accident has the potential to cause
25 irreversible harm to Idaho's two most prominent industries,

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1 agriculture and tourism. I personally do not want to eat
2 potatoes that glow in the dark. Another question of
3 safety concerns the contamination of the Snake River Aquifer.
4 An earthquake or accident again has the potential to
5 contaminate our source of fresh water for thousands of
6 years. Why must we live with this threat?

5.12.1

7 Finally, I cannot support any facet of the
8 nuclear arms race. Let's face it, the SIS is a bomb
9 factory that will manufacture plutonium, whose sole purpose
10 is to arm nuclear warheads. I find it reprehensible to
11 support the production of a weapon that has the potential
12 to destroy the earth and all of its inhabitants.

2.2.10

13 In conclusion, I would like to borrow the
14 popular phrase that we all have heard being used in the
15 anti-drug campaign, and direct it to the DOE regarding
16 their final decision on whether or not to build the SIS --
17 Just Say No.

18 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
19 Glenn Jones will be included in the record as Exhibit 665.
20 (Exhibit No. 665 marked and entered.)

21 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
22 is Claud Spears. Claud Spears?

23 Moving on to Commenter No. 83,
24 Christine Hatab.

25 MS. HATAB: My name is Christine Hatab,

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1 and I live at 2001 North 18th Street. I'm here to express
 2 my concerns about the SIS.

3 At every step of the way, this project does
 4 not make sense to me. I know you've heard a lot about
 5 the reasons, but I'll just be brief.

6 First of all, I question the need for the
 7 plutonium, especially when even President Reagan is
 8 trying to de-escalate our nuclear weapons.

9 I worry about transporting these materials
 10 through our towns and near our rivers. And if you're not
 11 from here, you might not realize that the roads here in
 12 Idaho are notorious for being in real bad shape.

13 I worry about the INEL site and how it is
 14 known to be geologically at risk.

15 I worry about the chances for leaking
 16 plutonium into our water, our air, and into us. I think
 17 you know it's a deadly substance at its worst, and it's
 18 a poorly-controlled poison at its best.

19 And I think you need to remember that its
 20 effects are cumulative, and we live here.

21 If jobs are the issue -- and I'm not really
 22 convinced that many Idahoans would really get these jobs --
 23 then I think it is our responsibility here in Idaho to
 24 create jobs for these people that make more sense.

25 I think it's easy these days to feel infinite

1 and untouchable, assuming that modern technology will take
 2 care of us with procedures for avoiding accidents or
 3 agencies for cleaning up spills. But I know that we are
 4 all really just finite human beings and that our earth
 5 can only take so much abuse.

6 I read the EIS, and the clear message given
 7 to me is that there are no real risks involved with this
 8 project. But I also hear from other experts who strongly
 9 dispute the EIS. Doesn't it at least bother you a little
 10 that there is such a difference of opinion about what the
 11 impact is really going to be in this area, in this project?
 12 I want to challenge you in the DOE to be open-minded
 13 enough to consider the possibility that you might be wrong.

14 I think we are being given an opportunity
 15 to exercise some good foresight here -- and I don't mean
 16 foresight for the next 25 years. I mean real foresight,
 17 looking ahead for generations. And my clear, gut feeling
 18 about the SIS, and projects like it, is that it is too
 19 risky and full of unknowns. And I don't see why we need
 20 to play Russian roulette here in Idaho or anywhere else.

21 Thank you.

22 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 23 Christine Hatab will be included in the record as Exhibit
 24 No. 666.

25 (Exhibit No. 666 marked and entered.)

2.10

6.5.5

1.1

1 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
2 is Pat Admire.

3 MS. ADMIRE: My name is Pat Admire, and I
4 live at 4678 Bluegrass, here in Boise. And this is my
5 daughter, Jeanine, and she is one hell of a good reason
6 for not building bombs.

7 Mr. Eiguren: May I open my remarks by
8 quoting from page S-1 of the Executive Summary regarding
9 the project, which states in part:

10 "This DEIS is being made available to the
11 general public and interested governmental agencies to
12 provide them with the opportunity to comment on the
13 adequacy of this DEIS and the merits of the alternatives
14 discussed."

15 Technological data, quantities, probabilities
16 and theories have all been quite thoroughly discussed
17 from both sides by people who are much more qualified to
18 speak on those subjects than I. However, like the
19 manipulation of figures by a shrewd accountant, I know
20 that the weight of "facts and figures" can be shifted from
21 side to side, depending on the purpose to be accomplished.
22 For example, our accountant may stress figures and
23 projections which reflect positive growth when the company
24 seeks venture capital. But he will stress its losses
25 when the time comes to report income tax obligations.

1 Unfortunately, I sense the same process is
2 taking place here. But with the SIS, we all have a great
3 deal more at stake. I contend that this Draft Environmental
4 Impact Statement is completely inadequate in its scope
5 regarding the merits of the alternatives discussed, for
6 it presumes that our "environment" is a piece of ground
7 upon which we stand, the air we breathe, the water we
8 drink, or supply-side economics.

9 Ladies and gentlemen, you and I both know
10 that our environment is so very much more. It is our
11 daily experiences, our focus of thoughts and priorities.
12 It is how we, as adults, handle problems and by our
13 example teach our children. In this environment, we still
14 seem to be teaching children that might makes right, or
15 that the country with the deadliest capability is right.

16 I believe I can best illustrate my point
17 by allegory -- that's a good way to teach children, a
18 good way to learn.

19 There were once two grand estates, peopled
20 by very large extended families. The Council of Patriarchs
21 of each estate felt it was their responsibility to protect
22 their respective families, so each invested in guard dogs.
23 But one Patriarch noticed the the guard dogs protecting
24 the other estate were larger than his. So he encouraged
25 his family to invest in more and larger dogs. The second

2.1.1

3.4

1 Patriarch decided to show his prowess at protecting his
2 family, so he switched from guard dogs to lions. These
3 big cats were very impressive. But not to be outdone,
4 the first Patriarch decided to add Siberian tigers to his
5 sizable pack of dogs.

6 Some members of both families expressed
7 growing concern about the unpredictable nature of these
8 guard animals, the occasional inadvertant destruction --
9 they caused, the trouble in feeding and maintaining them --
10 but their complaints were dismissed as the Patriarchs
11 reassured the people how safe they were. And the
12 complaints of the people subsided.

13 Beginning to fear that the Patriarchs with
14 the tigers might actually attack his estate, our second
15 Patriarch heard of a remote area setting where there had
16 been reports of Sabertooth tigers. He sent an envoy, and
17 successfully captured a pair of these immense and powerful
18 creatures. These animals too, were hard to handle and
19 extremely unpredictable. Well, not to be outdone, our
20 first Patriarch also captured a pair of these animals.
21 But the problems faced by all of the other members of both
22 families increased dramatically. They spent all their
23 time trying to feed and contain these animals. And when
24 one did escape, it did great damage to property and even
25 occasionally devoured a child or an adult of the estate.

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1 Still, the noble Patriarchs explained that
2 the losses sustained had to be tolerated for the benefit
3 of protecting the whole family. But finally, the pressure
4 of the wives and mothers who had felt the losses more
5 keenly, and the frustrated workers who had to tend to
6 these animals, forced the two Patriarch councils to meet
7 and agree to reduce these guard animals.

8 An agreement was reached and there was
9 great rejoicing throughout the land. But secretly, each
10 council fearing the integrity of the other, had heard
11 about a land where mastodons could be found.

12 To Steve Symms and our Governor and
13 Senator McClure and all of these people who believe that
14 they are representing the people of this state, I sadly
15 state that they are not. I am overjoyed at the outcoming
16 of young and old, rich and poor, educated and illiterate,
17 but people of courage to stand up and say how they feel.
18 And I think that our elected officials had better take
19 heed. I see a whole lot of young votes coming, and they're
20 not going to get them.

21 Please, have the courage to consider the
22 truth above the facts and to vote no.

23 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 667 will be the
24 written comments of Patricia Admire.

25 (Exhibit No. 667 marked and entered.)

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1 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
2 is at 85, Jeff Schiller. Jeff Schiller?

3 Commenter 86, Betty Matzek.

4 MS. MATZEK: My name is Betty Matzek, and
5 I live at 798 Dolson Lane, Eagle. I would like to
6 acknowledge Mr. Eiguren's seemingly tireless conduct of
7 these extended hearings.

8 Second, I'd like to say that since my
9 brief appearance here last Saturday night, I think I've
10 regained some of my sanity.

11 MR. EIGUREN: You were the one.

12 MS. MATZEK: Like many other people here,
13 I have the feeling that the SIS has taken on a life of
14 its own without any regard to changing conditions, reason
15 or logic. Like the ancient juggernaut, the SIS rolls on,
16 backed by quasi-scientific studies and heedless that there
17 are now less expensive techniques than laser separation.
18 In fact, I have begun secretly to wonder if perhaps
19 some people in high places are having a love affair with
20 laser technology, similar to their obsession with star
21 wars technology.

22 I was dismayed to see that a great many
23 of the references cited in the DEIS were published prior
24 to 1980. I am sure that since then there have been many
25 more recognized standards to be applied to nuclear

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1 technology. And one area of omission that concerns me
2 is that the study does not take into account the very
3 real probability of a long-term storage of nuclear waste
4 at the INEL. That is so because storage on-site is very
5 probable as states rise to protest the transportation of
6 toxic materials along their highways. If the INEL gets
7 to keep all the nuclear waste that it generates, there
8 will undoubtedly be still more jobs and benefits to Idaho's
9 economy, but we may not like what that does to our
10 beloved environment.

11 Saturday night, a physicist made a passionate
12 plea for the SIS in order to learn how to rid our world
13 of plutonium. That is a worthy purpose, but I think to
14 do that we need to build a research facility, not a
15 production facility.

16 Another person spoke with pride about the
17 excellent labor-management relations and the safety
18 record at INEL during past construction phases. I have
19 no reason to doubt that. But I think it is what happens
20 after construction phase at INEL that we Idahoans will
21 not be proud of. It should be obvious that I support
22 Option 4, do not build.

23 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 671 for the
24 written record will be the written comments of
25 Betty R. Matzek of Eagle, Idaho.

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5.30.2.5

1.1

2.11.5

1 (Exhibit No. 671 marked and entered.)
 2 MR. EIGUREN: We'll now move to Commenter
 3 No. 87, Dick Siever.
 4 MR. SIEVER: My name is Dick Siever, and
 5 I live at 4533 Bluegrass Avenue. As a note, I am a
 6 mechanical engineer, but I don't really wish to discuss
 7 the technical issues of the SIS. I think they've been
 8 adequately discussed.
 9 First of all, as I say, I am opposed to
 10 the construction of the Special Isotope Separator facility.
 11 The proposal for such a facility is symptomatic of a
 12 much larger problem; that is the notion that we need
 13 more plutonium to build more nuclear weaponry. The
 14 present situation is one whereby each of the Superpowers
 15 have enough arsenal, nuclear arsenals with enough
 16 destructive capability to render extinct all living things.
 17 It is an uneasy peace that we are enjoying
 18 knowing that at any time the U. S. and the U. S. S. R.
 19 are capable of destroying not just the opponent but the
 20 entire world. Carl Sagen, while addressing the United
 21 Nations in 1985, warned that an exchange of less than
 22 one percent of our nuclear arsenals, if directed at major
 23 cities, could trigger a nuclear winter. The smoke and
 24 ash from the burning cities would be sufficient to block
 25 the sun's light, causing a precipitous drop in the earth's

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1 temperature. Lakes and rivers would freeze, no crops
 2 could be grown. The survivors of the initial blasts
 3 would succumb to starvation. Clearly then, we have
 4 amassed a nuclear arsenal beyond any scope of reason. We
 5 are for the moment precariously surviving at the brink
 6 of extinction.

7 In 1945, the United States dropped the
 8 first nuclear bomb on Hiroshima. The bomb killed
 9 hundreds of thousands of people. It had a destructive
 10 power equivalent to about 14,000 tons -- excuse me, 15,000
 11 tons of TNT, or 15 kilotons. The nuclear arsenals have
 12 grown to such a point where their destructive powers are
 13 discussed in megatons -- a thousand kilotons to a
 14 megaton. There are 70 Hiroshima bombs in a megaton.

15 At present we have about 18,000 megatons
 16 of destructive power in the nuclear arsenals of the
 17 Superpowers. This would equal about 1.2 Hiroshima bombs
 18 (sic).

19 I was going to do the BB dropping.

20 The whole thing about what the SIS, the
 21 presumption is that we need more plutonium. It's
 22 ridiculous. You don't have to have a very high I.Q. to
 23 know that we're headed towards a very sick and dangerous
 24 direction. You ask any child, and there is a lot of
 25 wisdom in children, and they can tell you the answer --

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1.1

4.15.5

4.13

3.4

1 they are not cynical yet.

2 It's grimly ironic that the one creature
3 gifted with the greatest capacity for intellect and
4 reason has for the last 40 years set upon a path that will
5 most inevitably lead to its self-annihilation, unless
6 it changes. Building the SIS is yet another step down
7 that path of extinction. We must move to another path,
8 that of bilateral nuclear disarmament, before it is too
9 late.

10 Now, I've been at the Saturday testimony
11 and also here tonight, and from what I've seen there's
12 been over a hundred individuals testifying with respect to
13 the SIS, and right here in Boise there's not too many
14 people affiliated with the INEL, so most of the testimony
15 you'll see will be pretty more or less independently
16 formulated. It's not like they work at the company store
17 called the government. The message here is no SIS in
18 Idaho. No SIS in the United States. Let's build down,
19 not build up.

20 Now, to the people in Washington, D.C.,
21 you have to remember that Idaho is not what you call a
22 liberal place. In fact, I think the DOE knew that Idaho
23 is not very well, in their eyes, a particularly organized
24 place and the population density is very low. But what
25 you're seeing is an incredible outcry against SIS. If it's

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B244

1.1

1 bad in Idaho, it's bad everywhere. Don't build the SIS.
2 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
3 Dick Siever will be included as Exhibit No. 672 in the
4 record. He's from Boise.

5 (Exhibit No 672 marked and entered.)

6 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
7 is Mike Hamilton. Commenter No. 88, Mike Hamilton.

8 Commenter Order 89, Pat Moore. Pat Moore?

9 Commenter No. 90, Cees Hoefnagels.

10 MR. HOEFNAGELS: My name is Cees Hoefnagels,
11 I live in Boise, Idaho. I am not a native Idahoan, but
12 I am a native of this planet and ever since my graduation
13 from the Technological University of Eindhoven, the
14 Netherlands, I have been employed as an engineer or
15 engineering manager in high-tech industries, mainly in
16 processing industries such as electronic chip and magnetic
17 recording media manufacturing. I have participated in
18 the development of very exotic processes since 1965 when
19 I started as a young engineer with Philips
20 Gloeilampenfabrieken in the Netherlands. At the request
21 of a semiconductor company in California, I came to the
22 United States in 1967. I am now a citizen of the United
23 States of America.

24 During the years that I was involved in
25 process development, one thing became clear: Regardless

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5.24.18

1 of all the preparation that goes into the evolution of
2 a process and no matter how hard the brightest people
3 work to foolproof a complex technological system,
4 unforeseen circumstances always develop, often leading
5 to unexpected and sometimes dangerous results.

5.24.5

6 I do not want to address the potential
7 hazards of evaporating minikilograms of pyrogenic
8 plutonium in a vacuum or other technical or geological
9 dangers; I am sure that you have reasonable-sounding
10 rebuttals to all or most of them.

5.9.3

11 However, I do want to draw your attention
12 for a moment to a period of 10 to 20 years ago when anyone
13 who argued against the use of freon in cans of hairspray
14 was characterized as overzealous and preposterous.
15 Nobody could have foreseen that the decay of the protective
16 ozone layer in the stratosphere could lead to an increase
17 of skin cancer rates of more than 20 percent between now
18 and 1992. And we are just at the start of this latest
19 ecological disaster, and nobody knows how bad it is going
20 to become.

5.30.5.12

21 In short, I abhor the arrogance with which
22 we place on the shoulders of future generations the care
23 of radioactive wastes as well as the potential destruction
24 of large areas of land. Future generations, if there are
25 going to be any, will almost certainly curse the conceited

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B245

1 and self-centered people of the 20th Century. Let us
2 not add to our collective liability by building the SIS.
3 We do not want Idaho to earn name recognition the way
4 Three Mile Island or Chernobyl have earned their reknown.

5 Do not build the Special Isotope Separator.

6 Thank you.

7 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 673 in the
8 record will be the written comments of Cees Hoefnagels of
9 Boise, Idaho.

10 (Exhibit No. 673 marked and entered.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
12 is Virgil Jones. Virgil Jones.

13 Move to order 92, Cathy Kirkham.

14 Cathy Kirkham?

15 93, Wilhelm J. Anderson. Wilhelm J. Anderson?

16 Order 94, there's been a substitution. The
17 name I have is Valerie Galindo.

18 MS. GALINDO: My name is Valerie Galindo.

19 I live at 606 Iowa Street, Boise, Idaho. I feel obligated
20 to speak out on this issue, as I feel that the elected
21 officials of Idaho do not accurately represent the people
22 of Idaho or myself on this issue. I am opposed to the
23 construction of the SIS project anywhere in the United
24 States or in the world, but especially here in my home
25 state of Idaho. I am not convinced, and no amount of talking

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1.1

1.1

4.2.1

4.3

4.13

5.27.7.4

6.1.8

6.3

5.29.87

1 could ever convince me that more plutonium needs to be
 2 produced for our national defense. Even the Energy
 3 Secretary has indicated that we have more than enough.
 4 The Strategic Arms Reduction Treaties recently signed and
 5 those planned in the near future will further reduce the
 6 need for plutonium to construct nuclear warheads. Morally,
 7 I believe that we need to stop the production of nuclear
 8 weapons, as each one built brings us all closer to the
 9 chance of total annihilation.

10 The argument of economic benefits to
 11 Idaho in the form of jobs from the project has not been
 12 sufficiently proved. Many of the construction jobs, as
 13 the construction jobs here in Boise, will be contracted
 14 to out-of-state workers, and spin-off jobs will be mainly
 15 minimum wage service jobs. These can be produced elsewhere.
 16 Even the remote possible short-term economic gain cannot
 17 possibly be balanced against the possible contamination
 18 of fish, wildlife and humans from leakage into the aquifer
 19 or the atmosphere such as those accidents that have
 20 already happened, or the chance of a major disaster.
 21 In these times of huge national debt, the cost of nearly
 22 a billion dollars simply cannot be justified for this
 23 project. There are much, much better ways to spend this
 24 money.

25 The question of safe transportation of the

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B246

1 deadly cargo with no possibility of accidents has not
 2 been adequately thought out. The poor condition of Idaho's
 3 roads, old bridges, tired, overworked truck drivers, all
 4 of these factors, any of them, could lead to a spill
 5 which would take billions of dollars and years of time
 6 to clean up, if indeed such a spill could be cleaned up.

7 We must answer to our children for the
 8 choices we make today. We must, for once, take the long
 9 view instead of mere short-term gain and provide a safe,
 10 clean environment for them to live in.

11 The morality of providing fuel for nuclear
 12 weapons is wrong, and if we reject it by not funding the
 13 SIS project, we provide a cleaner, moral atmosphere for
 14 our children as well.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 674 will be the
 17 written comments of Valerie Galindo.
 18 (Exhibit 674 marked and entered.)
 19 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 20 is Commenter No. 95, Jon Knapp.
 21 Thank you. We'll mark your written comments
 22 as Exhibit 675.
 23 (Exhibit No. 675 marked and entered.)
 24 MR. KNAPP: Hello, my name is Jon Knapp.
 25 I am a senior at Centennial High School and I live at

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5.29.63

6.5.5

2.7.2

1 999 Eagle Hills Way in Eagle.

2 I remember studying in my American Government
3 class last semester about the size of our government
4 bureaucracy. It has become so large over the years that
5 even the President cannot stop the advancing size of the
6 bureaucracy. It's as if the so-called democratic
7 government that we submit to has turned into a dictatorial
8 Frankenstein monster that is quite able and willing to
9 commit acts of physical aggression, like in Libya and
10 Nicaragua, as well as economic aggression, which is easy
11 to get away with because it's much less visible.

12 The whole thing is beautifully executed,
13 though. I have to give them credit for that. All these
14 billions of little people parts working in perfect tandem.
15 It's just like the space shuttle, all technologically
16 wonderful. Nothing can go wrong.

17 The SIS is a perfect example of what I'm
18 talking about. The Department of Energy brings out this
19 proposal and says, "How about building a nice factory
20 over there, Mr. Senator? We can make nice little toys
21 for your kids to play with when they grow up and become
22 responsible, like me. And on top of that, Mr. Senator,
23 the people will love you, and you can get re-elected."

24 And so Mr. Senator turns to us, smiles a lot,
25 and says, "I'm here to do you a favor. I want to build a

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1 place where you can earn an honest wage. It's fun for the
2 kids, until they get cancer. It's good for the economy.
3 If you can't get a job at SIS, you can always get a job
4 treating cancer patients at the hospital. And it's good
5 for your country. Ignore those Commi-liberals who say
6 that a nuclear bomb is intended to hurt people. It
7 promotes freedom, it doesn't take it away. Holding our
8 world hostage with our nuclear arsenal is actually an
9 extension of the Second Amendment that the Founding
10 Fathers, God rest their souls, forgot to include. So,
11 what do you say?"

12 Well, what do we say? What do I say? No.
13 No SIS. I will not tolerate any more violence. I will
14 never forgive the recent presidents who have brought this
15 nuclear horror upon us. I cannot support any project
16 designed to provide just enough economic growth to make
17 itself attractive, but not enough to provide any long-term,
18 stable economic foundation. And I certainly cannot
19 support the SIS. I urge all of you to resist the monster
20 that has emerged. Say no to Frankenstein. Say no to SIS.

21 I would also like -- that was supposed to
22 be the conclusion, but then sitting there I thought I'd
23 add one more little thing. I was just going to add this
24 thing that the current Democratic front-runner for the
25 Presidential nomination, Jesse Jackson, said in a debate in

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1.1

5.27.7.2

B247

1 Texas as he turned to the audience and he said, "How
2 many of you own VCRs?" And a whole bunch of people raised
3 their hand. He said, "Well, I bet most of those were
4 made in Japan."
5 And then he turned to the audience and he
6 said, "How many of you own ICBMs?" And a couple of people
7 had to be cute and raised their hand. But he says, "I
8 think it's time for the United States to start making
9 some things that people can buy."
10 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
11 is Jean Boyles.
12 MS. BOYLES: My name is Jean Boyles. I
13 live at 1714 North 7th Street, Boise. I am against the
14 SIS, and I felt a compulsion to state this publicly. To
15 my union sisters and brothers who want to improve Idaho's
16 economy, let me ask "suppose it were economically feasible
17 to raise babies, human babies, for food. Would you want
18 to?"
19 Let's find jobs, but jobs that are
20 constructive.
21 Thank you.
22 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
23 Jean Boyles of Boise, Idaho, will be included in the
24 record as Exhibit 676.
25 (Exhibit No. 676 marked and entered.)

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B248

1 MR. EIGUREN: We have now advanced to
2 order No. 98 on the list, and that is Luiz Galindo.
3 MR. GALINDO: Thank you very much. My
4 name is Luiz Galindo, and my wife already gave you the
5 address.
6 I believe everything's already been said.
7 So, anyway, I'm thankful to be given the opportunity to
8 give my ideas.
9 First of all, I oppose the construction of
10 the SIS project for several reasons, but mainly the idea
11 of being a lot of jobs generated, I haven't been convinced
12 about that. I think that the handful of jobs that would
13 be projected by this plutonium refinery would be greatly
14 offset by the drawbacks. I believe most of the important
15 job positions will be filled by specialties, probably
16 from out of state, and after they make the initial
17 expenditure, the large expenditures, the cars, homes,
18 etc., most of the jobs that will be left for Idahoans
19 will be slinging burgers at fast food outlets at minimum
20 wage. So we probably will have a few more fast food places.
21 The quality of Idaho's environment would
22 suffer. Making a dumping ground for the nation's
23 nuclear waste would not only endanger our rivers and
24 wildlife, but it would also discourage tourists who are
25 attracted by Idaho's pristine outdoors.

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1.1

5.27.7.17

1.1

5.27.7.4

6.1.1

5.27.2

4.14

1 On the international level, this Special
2 Isotope Separator project would dampen the U. S./Soviet
3 arms control negotiations currently underway. The Soviets
4 are not going to buy the idea that we're using plutonium
5 only as a means to create jobs, and neither are we.

6.3

6 The idea of spending billions to produce
7 plutonium for nuclear weapons in fact we hope will never
8 be used is preposterous. We have 25,000 nuclear bombs
9 too many. We need to direct our technology toward a more
10 humane purpose, safer energy, feed the hungry, housing
11 the homeless, and creating ways to promote real peace.

4.15.5

12 We do not need more plutonium, we cannot
13 afford more plutonium, we don't need the politicians that
14 propose using nuclear weapons to achieve peace, and we
15 don't need the SIS.

16 MR. EIGUREN: We're at Order No. 99,
17 David P. Brown. David Brown?
18 Commenter 100, Don Scott. Don Scott?
19 Commenter No. 101, Terry Hatch. Terry Hatch.
20 Commenter 102, Johnny Hill. Johnny Hill?
21 Commenter 103, Leon Scheffield.
22 Leon Scheffield?
23 Commenter 104, Fritz Bjornsen.
24 MR. BJORNSEN: My name is Fritz Bjornsen,
25 Boise.

1 We are being asked to build a facility we
2 don't need, with money we don't have, based on technology
3 we haven't developed.

4 We are being told we should build it at
5 a site away from the raw materials, away from the waste
6 disposal site, and away from the assembly site of the
7 finished product. At this site, far away, we will process
8 the most toxic substance known to man. Plutonium does
9 not occur naturally. It is a by-product of a nuclear
10 reaction. It remains toxic for 250,000 years. The DOE
11 has assured us this project will be safe. Perhaps we
12 could build it in Washington, D.C.

13 We are told they want to build a plutonium
14 plant to provide materials for nuclear warheads, they
15 need the flexibility. It bothers me what kind of
16 flexibility we would need to build a bunch of warheads
17 in a hurry. They want to move this material across our
18 public highways in semi trailers equipped with gun
19 turrets and armed guards. Visitors to our state will
20 be forced to share those roads with these trucks, leaving
21 a much different impression of Idaho than the one we are
22 trying to promote. Should an accident occur involving one
23 of these semis, even an accident that does not involve
24 the release of radiation, the news reports would have a
25 devastating effect on tourism.

4.15.4

6.3

5.24.18

5.29.31

5.24.27

4.7.2

5.27.3.3

5.27.2

T16

5.27.3.3

1 Since Idaho's support for the facility is
2 largely for economic reasons, we need to look at the
3 fact that any economic benefit from the facility will be
4 reduced by a loss of tourism, not only in areas near the
5 site, but to the whole state.

5.27.7.4

6 The claimed economic benefits are based
7 on construction jobs, which may or may not go to Idaho
8 residents, the plutonium processing jobs, which would
9 likely go to people who are not presently residents, and
10 service sector jobs, many of which pay only minimum wage.
11 All of this for a facility that the DOE admits it does
12 not presently need.

4.14

6.3

13 Add to the fact that we are involved in
14 negotiations with the Soviets to reduce the number of
15 nuclear warheads and that the U. S. is struggling with an
16 enormous deficit that has forced cutbacks affecting every
17 level of our society, we simply cannot afford the SIS.

18 The environmental impact of siting the
19 facility at the INEL site goes well beyond the physical
20 considerations.

5.27.10

21 The economic benefits, if any, will be
22 short-lived. The DOE should not construct the facility
23 at any location.

24 Thank you.

25 MR. EIGUREN: The comments of

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1 Fritz Bjornsen will be included in the record as Exhibit
2 No. 677.

3 (Exhibit No. 677 marked and entered.)

4 MR. EIGUREN: Witness order 105 is
5 James Gooden. James Gooden.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, we are going to take
7 our final recess for the evening. We'll be in recess for
8 about five minutes.

9 (Recess was had.)

10 MR. EIGUREN: We'll advance to witness
11 105. Is Mr. James Gooden here?

12 We'll advance to witness No. 106,

13 Glen Wilson. Glen Wilson?

14 Advance to order 107, Randall A. Ambuehl.

15 Randall A. Ambuehl?

16 Advance to order 108, Susan Bernatas.

17 MS. BERNATAS: My name is Susan Bernatas
18 from Boise, Idaho. Please allow me to set the scenario --

19 THE REPORTER: I cannot hear her.

20 MS. BERNATAS: Okay. You live two miles
21 from the high school that your child attends. Your child
22 knows how to ride a school bus, runs track, owns a bike
23 and you have already purchased a 1983 Ford for this child
24 to drive back and forth to school with. Is it really
25 necessary, then, to purchase a 1987 Ford as the teenager's

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1 second car?

2 Some of us would argue that the 1981 Ford

3 is not even necessary.

4 I would like to respond to some of the

5 justification in support of this project. Those are:

6 1) That we need a redundancy in plutonium

7 production.

8 2) Idaho needs this industry to enhance our

9 economy.

10 3) That the federal government can't go

11 broke.

12 My response to the first:

13 The U. S. does not need and cannot afford

14 a \$1-billion redundancy. We could put the money to use

15 elsewhere as many people have already expressed. For

16 example, we have recently seen, in Boise, that industries

17 are interested in good schools and universities.

18 Education has taken a back seat in this

19 country, and it has taken a back seat to our defense budget;

20 and our declining SAT scores are a prime example of this

21 type of prioritizing.

22 The second:

23 How will a plutonium factory impact our

24 established resources? Our wildlife, fisheries,

25 agriculture, recreation, and forest products industries,

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1 all these require clean air, water and land that Idaho

2 has already been protecting. Do we really want to change

3 our state motto to read "Famous Plutonium Potatoes"?

4 And a plutonium factory will impact those

5 industries even if all the established safety procedures

6 listed in the DEIS are followed.

7 Every site that has anything to do with

8 plutonium in this country and the world has contaminated,

9 to a greater or lesser degree, the land around it. The

10 Draft EIS has stated that radiation will occasionally be

11 released into the air, water effluence, and if it is in

12 the air it will eventually get into the soil. This is

13 true at INEL, where small doses of radiation have already

14 been detected and have been added to the background

15 radiation at the site.

16 Who will buy Idaho's famous plutonium

17 potatoes?

18 The third justification:

19 The federal government can't go broke.

20 We are saddled with a trillion dollar debt --

21 some large amount of money that I can't even deal with.

22 The stock market crash and the value of our dollar abroad

23 and at home is tied to the national debt, directly or

24 indirectly.

25 The U. S. has recently become a debtor

220

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1 nation, the first time in -- 1940 was the last time, I
2 guess.

3 If you have reached your limit on all your
4 credit cards, have taken a second mortgage on your home,
5 can only figure out that you have enough money to pay all
6 your bills ten days after they are already past due, or
7 can't pass a budget until you have to shut down the
8 government agencies, the bank is not likely to give you a
9 loan to buy the child's second car to drive two miles to
10 school.

11 My final point:

12 \$1-billion is the cost today, but the INEL
13 is slated to be the waste site -- yes, a de facto waste
14 dump.

15 Just in case we come up with another use
16 for this product, we're going to keep the plutonium on
17 the site. If there is no other use found, it will be
18 relocated. The cost of storing this, the research cost
19 involved with experimenting, transporting, maintenance
20 costs, hazardous waste clean-up, etc. -- we don't need it.

21 Rip up the blank check to the DOE.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 678 in the record
24 will be the written comments of Susan Bernatas of Boise,
25 Idaho.

1 (Exhibit No. 678 marked and entered.)
2 MR. EIGUREN: Move to order No. 109,
3 Dan Sundell. Dan Sundell?
4 Order 110, Kim Gaardner Hoppie.
5 MS. HOPPIE: My name is Kim Gaardner Hoppie,
6 I live in Boise at 1516 Robert Street. I was born and
7 raised in Pocatello; my grandparents live in Sterling,
8 on the edge of the desert. I remember going to visit,
9 occasionally. I hated those visits -- I'd rather stay
10 in town with my friends. Sometimes we'd have to go into
11 the desert to get red cinder rocks for my grandmother's
12 garden. I hated those trips, too. I thought the desert
13 was ugly. My grandparents are gone now. I miss them.
14 And since, I've grown to love the desert. It holds lots
15 of memories for me. Someday soon I will take my daughter
16 there and maybe we will bring some cinder rock back to
17 our garden.

18 I'm against the SIS project. I do not
19 think it's safe or needed.

20 Political science instructor at Boise State
21 once described the arms race as two men standing waist-deep
22 in gasoline arguing over how many matches they've got.

23 I'm very angry what the EIS says about
24 Idaho. To me it says that our land and our people are
25 expendable.

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1 I will not let that happen.
2 Thank you.
3 MR. EIGUREN: Advance to order 111,
4 Kathie Wooten.
5 MS. WOOTEN: My name is Kathie Wooten,
6 I live in Boise, Idaho. I'm here tonight to take the
7 stand against the Special Isotope Separator. I am
8 representing the children we see around us today, the
9 children still being nurtured inside their mother's wombs,
10 and those future generations that have not yet been
11 conceived.
12 We do not need an SIS in Idaho, or any
13 place else in the United States. Nuclear holocaust
14 looms at each and every one of our doorsteps as it is now.
15 The only true gift that we can leave our
16 children is a clean, healthy Mother earth.
17 Plants such as the SIS will only increase
18 the likelihood of our earth being hopelessly raped beyond
19 repair. It is up to our generation now to see to it that
20 our future generations are not left with the irreparable
21 damage weapon-grade plutonium can bring.
22 Our children and all our future generations
23 have a right to grow up in this world and lead full,
24 happy, resourceful lives. The manufacturing of
25 weapon-grade plutonium to reinforce the Defense Department's

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B253

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1 stockpile and turn resourceful lives into nightmares.
2 We must stop this deadly spiral here and now.
3 It is only right that future generations
4 have the same chance of growing and learning as we have
5 had. Stop nuclear weapon growth now. Say no to SIS.
6 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 679 in the record will
7 be the written comments of Kathie Wooten of Boise.
8 (Exhibit No. 679 marked and entered.)
9 MR. EIGUREN: There had been one name that
10 had been dropped from the preregistration list, and that
11 was Dr. Jane Thompson. I believe she has already left.
12 So with that, we'll move on to the list of
13 those individuals who registered to speak at the beginning
14 of this hearing which was held on Saturday. I have a
15 list of 23 individuals. We'll start with order No. 1,
16 Alicia Flinn.
17 MS. FLINN: My name is Alicia Flinn, and
18 I live here in Boise, and I am a student at BSU.
19 I am opposed to the construction of the SIS
20 in Idaho or anywhere.
21 At Saturday's hearing I was accused by an
22 SIS supporter of being opposed to technology. Some of
23 you might have seen this person, he was the one dressed as
24 Uncle Sam. He insinuated that my opposition to SIS meant
25 that I was opposed to technology and, hence, therefore,

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1 somewhat unAmerican. I'm not opposed to technology, but
 2 I believe it needs to be closely monitored. We just
 3 shouldn't accept everything.

4 Just as a speaker that testified earlier
 5 differentiated between good jobs and bad jobs, so we must
 6 discern between good technology, which I see as technology
 7 that benefits all humankind, and bad technology, that
 8 which is inherently destructive. The SIS represents the
 9 destructive technology. The promised economic effects
 10 will not be long-term nor will they be purely beneficial.
 11 Above all, the project is not sensible, practical, or
 12 life-affirming. It is insane, and that's an understatement.

13 As citizens we are constantly, constantly
 14 today propagandized to believe that our national security,
 15 our way of life, which I have yet to determine what that
 16 is, is under attack by the Soviets. And if we in any way
 17 relax our nuclear build-up, Commi's will invade our
 18 backyard -- also known as Central America -- and eventually
 19 invade the United States. Scare tactics such as this
 20 serve to terrorize some American citizens into supporting
 21 projects, such as the SIS, which are not in anyone's best
 22 interests. Some of our elected officials are attempting
 23 to lead us down a path of fear that will only benefit our
 24 gigantic military industrial complex. We are not going
 25 to follow.

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1 Choose Option 4 of No Action. Idaho can
 2 do better by investing in projects that will enrich our
 3 lives, rather than endanger them.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit No. 680 in the written
 6 record will be the written comments of Alicia Flinn of
 7 Boise, Idaho.

8 (Exhibit No. 680 marked and entered.)

9 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 10 is Richard Wright. Richard Wright.

11 Move to order No. 3, Pat Truman.

12 MS. TRUMAN: My name is Pat Truman, I live
 13 at 2419 Pleasanton, Boise.

14 There are many Idahoans who are in favor
 15 of the Department of Energy's choice of our state as the
 16 preferred site for the SIS plutonium refining plant. I
 17 am puzzled with their stand. For now, disregard the fact
 18 that the U. S. already has enough nuclear weapons to
 19 maintain deterrence indefinitely with a 100-ton
 20 weapons-grade plutonium inventory. For now, also,
 21 disregard the fact that the economic boost to Idaho would
 22 only last seven to eight years -- then, a bust for those
 23 who had SIS jobs. Do, very carefully, regard the fact
 24 that weapons-grade plutonium, plutonium 239, is an extremely
 25 hazardous radioactive material that remains active, that

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1 is, dangerous, for 250,000 years. Idaho's economic
 2 strongholds, tourism and agriculture, would lie constantly
 3 under the threat, remote but very real, of ruin from an
 4 on-site or transportation accident involving plutonium or
 5 plutonium-contaminated waste: Plutonium, ladies and
 6 gentlemen, causes cancer and genetic damage in people.
 7 Underline people. Idahoans and our western state neighbors
 8 would be the people living with the threat, hurt badly
 9 by an unnecessary intrusion into our lives and our
 10 livelihoods by plutonium.

1.1

11 I am not puzzled by the fact that there
 12 are Minnesotans and Texans and Rhode Islanders and New
 13 Yorkers, and even Washington, D.C.-ites who are in favor
 14 of SIS in Idaho. But Idahoans? I am one who believes that
 15 a new plutonium refinery shouldn't be built anywhere in
 16 our state or in our country, whose people and resources
 17 deserve much higher regard than what the SIS project
 18 represents.

19 Thank you.

20 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 21 Pat Truman will be included in the record as Exhibit 681.
 22 (Exhibit No. 681 marked and entered.)

23 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
 24 is witness order 4, Michael C. Orr.

25 MR. ORR: My name is Michael Orr. I live

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1 at 1316 North 8th in Boise. I oppose the Special Isotope
 2 Separator project because of the lack of need for
 3 plutonium and because of the public health and safety
 4 risks involved.

5 Concerning need: The "need" for SIS is
 6 not adequately defined in the Draft Environmental Impact
 7 Statement. In the DEIS the need for more plutonium is
 8 based primarily on the nuclear weapons stockpile
 9 memorandum, which is a classified document. This means
 10 that the people are not allowed to determine if there
 11 is a need for this highly-toxic substance. Instead, we
 12 are put in a position of having to place blind trust in
 13 the Department of Energy that this need for plutonium
 14 actually exists. I do not care to put blind trust in many
 15 people I know, much less in the DOE, which has a
 16 well-established record of environmental contamination.

17 Also, the United States has more nuclear
 18 weapons than we'll ever need to destroy any enemy. I
 19 submit that the need for more plutonium simply does not
 20 exist.

21 Concerning safety and public health: These
 22 concerns are ill addressed in the DEIS. Plutonium, with
 23 its extreme toxicity,, requires the absolute safety with
 24 handling, transportation, processing and waste disposal
 25 techniques.

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1 Transportation and handling safety are
2 hardly addressed at all, and it is proposed that waste
3 be disposed of at an uncompleted site that already has
4 developed leaks.

5 Accidents are bound to occur, but the DEIS
6 gives only very -- considers only very optimistic
7 scenarios. Possible accidents are given cavalier treatment
8 and summarily brushed aside. DOE has a record of
9 environmental contamination at several of its sites. The
10 DEIS states that the operation of the proposed SIS would
11 be "consistent with DOE's practice for other production
12 facilities." One may therefore assume that the level of
13 additional environmental contamination at INEL would rise
14 considerably.

15 The DOE has no public accountability for
16 the safe operation of its facilities or regulations
17 internal. This is not acceptable conflict of interest
18 with potential dangerous implications for public health.

19 In closing, the relentlessly upbeat tone
20 of the DEIS gives me the impression that the conclusions
21 needed to support DOE's preferred alternative were
22 formulated first and then the data and analysis needed to
23 support these conclusions were collected and performed
24 sometime later.

25 Finally, the DEIS contains a disclaimer

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1 which absolves DOE of any responsibility for anything
2 reported or stated in the DEIS. That means that this
3 entire document is essentially meaningless.

4 I submit that any agency that will not take
5 the responsibility for its own DEIS is scarcely capable
6 of responsibly constructing and operating a project with
7 as many potential hazards as the SIS.

8 Support the No Action Alternative.

9 MR. EIGUREN: We'll move to commenter order
10 No. 5, Kim Lewis. Kim Lewis.

11 Order 6, Michael Beatty. Michael Beatty?

12 Order 7, Nathan Lundquist.

13 MR. LUNDQUIST: My name is Nathan Lundquist.
14 I live at 411 South 4th Street in Boise, Idaho.

15 The experts say that, like, the SIS is like
16 safe. Well, the experts say March 1st, 1954, that when
17 they blew up the Bravo hydrogen bomb in the Marshall Islands
18 that it was safe. But 290 Japanese, Polynesians, and
19 American servicemen were radiated seriously and the
20 Polynesians lost their islands because this island was
21 radiated for thousands of years. Oops! That's what they
22 said.

23 Okay. Between 1957 and 1961, thousands of
24 U. S. servicemen were, like, lined up in trenches and
25 marched through, like, Ground Zero, through the bomb

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1 testing grounds in Nevada, and thousands and thousands of
2 U. S. servicemen were radiated and came down with
3 leukemia and cancer. And the U. S. government and the
4 DOE said, "Oh, oops. I'm sorry, we can't give you any
5 money."

6 On March 11, 1958, a bomb accidentally
7 fell out of a U. S. Air Force airplane on a routine, like,
8 service, like, deployment, falling on March Flats, South
9 Dakota. (sic) The bomb didn't explode, but the detonator
10 exploded, throwing plutonium all over the place. And the
11 U. S. government said, "Oops. Darn. We're sorry."

12 Okay. January 3rd, 1961, what McClure and
13 Symms says is a very safe, a dramatically safe area behind
14 INEL, three workers were killed in an explosion at the
15 SLI-1 (sic) nuclear reactor, where, like, it was so
16 radiated they had to, like, chop off parts of bodies of
17 the workers and bury them, along with the ambulances
18 they were carried in where they buried the rest of, like,
19 the nuclear wastes, because they were so radioactive.
20 "Whoops, darn," the government said. "Gee, I guess they're
21 too radioactive."

22 In 1977, a truck carrying radioactive
23 substance known as Yellowbrick 225 overturned on a highway
24 in Colorado. The local authorities showed up to clean it
25 up, without protection to wear, or protection-wearing stuff,

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5.1.46

1 and they cleaned it up. Of course, they all came down
2 with cancer and stuff later on, but they said, "Darn."
3 But the people, like, know what they're doing realize if
4 that would have been plutonium, the area would have been
5 radioactive for millions and millions of years. "Oh, darn,"
6 says the government.

7 Okay. Now in 1966 the Enrico Fermi atomic
8 power station outside of Detroit, like, they almost had a
9 melt-down. Within minutes they almost had a melt-down
10 which would have resulted in wiping out all of Michigan
11 and Detroit, and the government says, "Oh, it was just
12 human error." Like, humans don't build those nuclear
13 reactors and, like, I came up with this whole scene. "Oh,
14 darn."

15 When it comes to me, like, there's no moral
16 question about the SIS. The SIS is just as moral as rape
17 is or child molestation. There is no question. I mean
18 the SIS is evil, plutonium is evil. It's a highly
19 radioactive, dangerous substance which is volatile and
20 that will wipe out the human race in the arms race. There's
21 no question about it. We don't need any SIS in Idaho.

22 They say, "Oh, we need the SIS for jobs."

23 We don't need the SIS for jobs, just as
24 much as we need to, maybe, start a little, like,
25 concentration camp down, like, in Idaho Falls, like, where

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1 we can just bring in minorities. Dachau and Auschwitz
2 created jobs, but that doesn't mean it's right. SIS is
3 a bad thing. As far as I'm concerned, SIS is totally
4 an irrelevant thing in the American economy. We don't
5 need plutonium. We already have enough. Like, we need
6 enough. We don't need it in the first place. Plutonium
7 is dangerous. We already have enough bombs to totally
8 destroy the earth six times over. It's like, we need to
9 do, like -- okay. We destroy the world six times over.
10 That kills humanity. So let's kill the cockroaches, too.
11 No, no, no. I don't think that's right.
12 We don't need SIS. I say no SIS. I say
13 no to fear. I say no to hate. I say no nuclear bombs.
14 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 682 will be the
15 written comments of Nathan Lundquist of Boise.
16 (Exhibit No. 682 marked and entered.)
17 MR. EIGUREN: Our next scheduled commenter
18 is Deanna Thiebert.
19 We'll mark your written comments as Exhibit
20 683.
21 (Exhibit No. 683 marked and entered.)
22 MS. THIEBERT: I'm up here to talk about my
23 kid. I'm seven months pregnant right now, and I want to
24 be able to bring my kid around to Idaho and show him --
25 THE REPORTER: I can't hear you.

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1 MR. EIGUREN: Would you speak up into the
2 mike?
3 MS. THIEBERT: I want to be able to bring
4 my kid all around Idaho and show him what it's like, you
5 know, give him the -- I don't know. I just -- no SIS.
6 I don't know. That's it.
7 MR. EIGUREN: Order No. 9, Bryan DuFosse.
8 MR. DUFOSSE: My name is Bryan DuFosse.
9 I live at 1517 1/2 Division Street, Boise. And I'm a student
10 at Boise State University. I'm receiving a degree in
11 environmental health. And I recently finished a research
12 paper on the SIS, and everything has been said that needs
13 to be said about it. But I didn't find anything -- there's
14 nothing that justifies the project. I don't think there's
15 anything. And once I get my degree, I'm sure that this
16 project, if it were to go through, the waste that would be
17 generated would be enough to give me a job for many years.
18 But I am going to turn down that job.
19 Transportation risk alone, when I was reading
20 a book, it's called Radiation on Human Health, by John &
21 Dee Gotham, and in it the guy said "20.8 micrograms --"
22 All right, the plutonium that's going to be transported
23 from Hanford is going to be coming up as a powder,
24 plutonium oxide. And Dr. Gotham said that 20.8 micrograms
25 like this plutonium is enough to, will cause 100 percent

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1 incidence of cancer. 20.8 micrograms, that's just a
2 little bit. I mean very little.

3 I just wanted to go on record that I am
4 adamantly against the SIS project. I'm totally against
5 the construction or operation of it in Idaho or anywhere.

6 MR. EIGUREN: Mr. DuFosse has presented
7 to me a written comment from Marie Luke of Boise, and
8 we'll mark that as Exhibit No. 684 and include it in the
9 record.

10 (Exhibit No. 684 marked and entered.)

11 MR. EIGUREN: The next scheduled commenter
12 is John Barringer. John Barringer?

13 Advance to order 11, Lori Carriveau.
14 Carriveau?

15 MS. CARRIVEAU: Very good. I'm
16 Lori Carriveau. I would like to thank you for the
17 opportunity to speak. I live at 1050 Laredo Circle,
18 Boise, Idaho. I'm here today to speak against the SIS.
19 And I had to stay, even though I have a head cold, because
20 I don't have anyone to represent me in Washington. So
21 I'm here to represent myself.

22 On three issues I have the most concern:
23 The first one is safety. Anyone who has driven the
24 mountain roads of Idaho knows that they are very unsafe.
25 Anyone who has been in mountain bars in Idaho knows what

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1 kind of people travel on those roads. And I would be
2 terrified to death if I was driving the van or the truck
3 that had nuclear waste in it, I would be terrified to
4 death to have that job. If I don't want that job, who
5 am I going to wish it on?

6 We have earthquakes in Idaho and we've
7 all been scared by the earthquakes. Well, think how
8 much more scary that would be if we thought every time
9 the earth rumbled we could blow up.

10 The aquifer contamination is another issue.
11 No one can make sure that that water is going to stay
12 clean and fresh for us to drink and bathe in it. That
13 concerns me also.

14 The economic issue. Idaho's economy
15 depends on agriculture and tourism. The jobs that would
16 be created by our SIS would not help our farmers who
17 could not sell their radioactive potatoes. It wouldn't
18 help our tourism industry because no one would be coming
19 to Idaho anymore.

20 The nuclear plant jobs I think exploit the
21 workers who would work at a nuclear plant. In order to
22 get a job there you would have to have so much misinformation
23 to even walk in the doors and want to work there and risk
24 your health and your life. You may be suicidal. I think
25 that it takes advantage of the undereducated, and I think

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1 maybe that's why education is not getting the funding
2 that it needs. We need uneducated workers to work in
3 nuclear power plants. I say that because I'm a special
4 education teacher, and I don't want any of my students
5 thinking that these jobs are going to be something that
6 they want to aspire to.

7 The other point that I would like to
8 make is I would like to speak from a moral sense, is that
9 none of these jobs would be something that I want my
10 son to work in, and I don't wish them on anyone else.
11 I don't think any of you could wish that your offspring
12 would work at any of these nuclear places where they could
13 get cancer, could endanger their lives.

14 That's my position on this SIS plant.

15 Thank you for letting me speak.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Lori Cariveau's written
17 statement was previously marked as Exhibit 670 and
18 included in the record..

19 We are at witness order No. 12, Dan Pilotte.

20 MR. PILOTTE: My name is Dan Pilotte, and
21 I live at 1708 Broxon, Boise, Idaho. I want to go on
22 record as being against the construction of the SIS in
23 Arco, Idaho; in Richland, Washington; Aiken, South Carolina;
24 or anywhere for that matter.

25 I went to school in Boise, and I left to

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1 attend college. I got a teaching degree, and I came back
2 to Boise. I didn't come back to Idaho because of the
3 great amount of money that they pay me for teaching here,
4 but I came back because I like our mountains, and our
5 deserts, and our aquifers.

6 During the last four years I have taught
7 in Idaho's public schools, three of those years were
8 at the elementary level, and I am now teaching special
9 education at the high school level.

10 I work daily with children and adolescents,
11 and I am concerned with their future, with their children's
12 future, and with all of our futures here in Idaho if the
13 SIS is allowed to be built at the INEL.

14 I have a little story that I want to tell
15 you, and I think some of you have already heard it. It's
16 something that happened in southeastern Idaho two years
17 ago, and I think it is relevant to what is happening there
18 right now.

19 In the spring of 1986 a group of people
20 from Hollywood, California, showed up in southeastern
21 Idaho to check out the terrain of that portion of our
22 state, to ascertain whether or not it would be conducive
23 to the filming of a movie based on a children's cartoon
24 called "He-Man and the Masters of the Universe." This
25 cartoon has in it an evil character named "Skeletor" who

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1 resides at a fortress called "Snake Mountain." These
 2 Hollywood people wanted to construct Skeletor's Snake
 3 Mountain, complete with man-made volcanoes, which would
 4 burn piles of old tires in order to create the image of
 5 actual live volcanoes.

6 In September of 1986, the Hollywood people
 7 decided not to film the movie in Idaho, and instead
 8 opted to film the movie elsewhere, even though it was
 9 much more expensive to go elsewhere to film this movie.

10 On the front page of The Idaho Statesman
 11 on September 9th, 1986, they ran an article about the
 12 decision of the moviemakers to pull out of Idaho, and one
 13 of the main reasons for this decision was the difficulty
 14 they were having to obtain permission to create smoke
 15 by burning tires.

16 Now, in the spring of 1988, a group of
 17 people from the Department of Energy are in southeastern
 18 Idaho to ascertain whether or not it would be conducive
 19 to the making of a project, which could be called "Reagan
 20 and the Masters of the Universe." In this project there
 21 is, in their eyes, a benevolent character named "Plutonium,"
 22 and they want to construct a fortress for this character
 23 called the Special Isotope Separator.

24 These East Coast people want to construct
 25 this fortress over our Snake River Aquifer, complete with

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B261

1 their man-made volcanoes, which will burn something
 2 250,000 years more toxic than rubber tires.

3 We stopped them once, Idaho; we can stop
 4 them again.

5 I urge you, ladies and gentlemen, to say
 6 no SIS.

7 MR. FIGUREN: The written comments of
 8 Dan Pilotte will be included in the record as Exhibit
 9 No. 685.

10 (Exhibit No. 685 marked and entered.)

11 MR. FIGUREN: We'll advance to order 13,
 12 Jeff Swanstrum.

13 MR. SWANSTRUM: My name is Jeff Swanstrum.
 14 I reside at 723 Pierce, Boise, Idaho. I'm here tonight
 15 to speak for lichens, coyotes, lava rocks and sagebrush.
 16 I'm afraid they could not come because they are all
 17 keeping vigil in the Arco desert. I've grown tired of
 18 developers and politicians treating the desert as if it
 19 were a wasteland. The desert is alive, just like you
 20 and I. We wouldn't put the SIS out here on Main Street.
 21 Don't put it out on jackrabbits' Main Street, the Arco
 22 desert. No hearings were scheduled for the fish and
 23 four-leggeds. How arrogant can we be to decide the future
 24 for all critters living in the environment. I tell you,
 25 we cannot continue to do so. If you want to see a real

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5.6.2

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B262

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1 wasteland, flip through photos of Hiroshima. If you
2 want to see real beauty, see the Arco desert. INEL is
3 already a blight on the desert; the SIS facility would
4 only make it worse.
5 MR. EIGUREN: The individual at order 14
6 on our list, Roy Heberger, testified this afternoon.
7 We now advance to order 15, James Fease.
8 MR. FEASE: My name is James Fease, I'm
9 18 years old, and I can die for my country. I can smoke
10 cigarettes until I drop. I can jump off a 15-story
11 building and splat all over the pavement. I can put a
12 22-caliber revolver up to my temple and pull the trigger.
13 But I won't do that. I have the right not to do that.
14 I can accept a plutonium factory in my
15 state, but I won't do that either. It seems kind of
16 absurd. I want to live, and I have that right.
17 I was born and raised in Idaho, and from
18 there I moved to Hawaii, and from there to Alaska. Both
19 places are beautiful, but I'm back in Idaho. And for
20 good reasons. I like the feeling of being able to look
21 around my backyard and see some of the most beautiful
22 country in the world. I should hope that my children
23 will be able to see the same thing.
24 If I let myself ignore this SIS plan, I
25 don't think I could ever look my children in the eyes. I

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B263

1 think I'd be a little bit too ashamed.
2 Idaho is too great to litter. And I, as a
3 voter, as a citizen and as a human being am going to do
4 everything in my power to make sure my children don't grow
5 up in a world of trash.
6 And also, like, we have a little song that
7 we're going to play.
8 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
9 James Fease are Exhibit No. 686.
10 (Exhibit No. 686 marked and entered.)
11 MR. WOOD: We're kind of missing --
12 THE REPORTER: Can I have a name, please?
13 MR. EIGUREN: State your name for the
14 record, please.
15 MR. WOOD: My name is James Wood. We're
16 kind of missing a guitarist here, so it's going to be a
17 little bit more difficult. We'd appreciate -- I'll start
18 off the beat as soon as he starts playing, and I would
19 like you all to follow and sing along.
20 (Discussion was had off the record.)
21 MR. EIGUREN: We'll go back on the record
22 now.
23 We will now advance to the next commenter,
24 which is order No. 16, Chris Isaacs. Chris Isaacs.
25 Commenter 17, Bill Augustine. Bill Augustine?

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1 No. 18, Eric Jones. Eric Jones?
 2 Commenter 19, Jason Brockett.
 3 MR. BROCKETT: It's pretty scary up here,
 4 you know.
 5 MR. EIGUREN: Would you give your name for
 6 the record, please?
 7 MR. BROCKETT: I'm Jason Brockett, and I
 8 reside at 1502 Rovian, Boise, Idaho.
 9 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you.
 10 MR. BROCKETT: Well, first off I'm not up
 11 here to throw a bunch of technical data at you. I'm
 12 here to make you think -- just think. It's simple enough.
 13 Did you know that plutonium was well named
 14 after Pluto, the god of death and the underworld? I'm
 15 sorry, but I don't want a god of death living in my state.
 16 It's just not right. Death is probably the farthest
 17 thing from my mind at my age. I'm only 18 years old.
 18 I don't know.
 19 Due to Idaho's simplistic and uncomplicated
 20 nature we really haven't had to think much about the
 21 dangers of a serious nuclear accident in our state -- I
 22 got lost.
 23 The U. S. alone already has enough nuclear
 24 warheads, as has been said already, to destroy the world
 25 six times over. That's a little too much power for my

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1 tastes. Gee whiz. Where am I now?
 2 Okay. We'll try this one on for size.
 3 The people in favor of the SIS project, I don't know,
 4 they just don't seem to understand that accidents can
 5 happen. A classic example is Chernobyl, in Russia. That
 6 accident killed hundreds of innocent people and seriously
 7 injured many others. Just imagine all the grief they
 8 went through and the grief we could go through. That's
 9 also just a little too much grief for my tastes.
 10 I don't know. I'm an individual, deeply
 11 concerned about the safety of my family, friends and
 12 fellow Idahoans, we shall call them. That is why I'm
 13 saying just what everybody else is saying, just say no
 14 to the SIS project.
 15 MR. EIGUREN: The written comments of
 16 Jason Brockett will be put in the record as Exhibit No.
 17 687.
 18 (Exhibit No. 687 marked and entered.)
 19 MR. EIGUREN: Advance to the 20th order,
 20 Jeff Harry.
 21 MR. HARRY: My name is Jeff Harry, I live
 22 at 2815 Woody Drive, Boise. I'm here tonight to speak
 23 in opposition to the SIS. I just want to tell you all a
 24 personal story about my own background, and when I think
 25 about it, it gives me some real feelings of deja vu. But

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1 I grew up in York, Pennsylvania, which is a medium-sized
 2 city just south of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. And in the
 3 mid-70's I worked for the park system in York County,
 4 Pennsylvania. I spent a whole fall and winter out on a
 5 ridgetop overlooking the Susquehanna River. It's a
 6 beautiful river. And the land in Pennsylvania is nearly
 7 as beautiful as the land in Idaho. And I spent that
 8 winter working with a group of people that I liked and
 9 still do like, building a park that was real low impact
 10 as far as the environment, giving people an opportunity
 11 for recreation in that area, places, a place for people
 12 to come in the summertime to enjoy the outdoors, to get
 13 a real sense of themselves and a sense of the land around
 14 them. And I have these images when I think back, of
 15 sitting on that ridgetop in the late winter, with the
 16 wind howling up along the ridge, and looking north along
 17 the Susquehanna River, and I have this image of this
 18 facility which is now known as Three Mile Island. It
 19 was known at that time as Three Mile Island, although not
 20 too many people knew about it. I always have a sense
 21 that even though it looked so clean and so, so harmless,
 22 that there were things about it that instinctually I
 23 didn't like. And I get that same sense about the SIS,
 24 because I have the same feeling about the land in Idaho.
 25 This is my home. I've lived here for four years and

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1 intend to be here for a lot more years, a lot more years.
 2 I don't need a lot of technical information about why
 3 the SIS is good or bad, because I have a sense, an
 4 instinct, just by knowing where I live, the place where I
 5 live, the land around me, and knowing that there is
 6 something evil about that facility, there is something
 7 evil about creating plutonium and creating nuclear
 8 weapons. And, you know, I'm going to stick by my instincts,
 9 because I stuck by them in the mid-70's, and I'm going
 10 to stick by them in the late '80's, because I think I'm
 11 right again. I think people here tonight that are against
 12 the SIS are right again, and I think time will prove us
 13 right. And I pray to God that they don't create the SIS
 14 project here in Idaho or anywhere in this country.

15 Thank you.

16 MR. EIGUREN: Moving down the witness list
 17 to order No. 21, Bette Carlson. Bette Carlson?

18 MS. CARLSON: My name is Bette Carlson and
 19 I live at 2815 Woody Drive. And I put this whole list
 20 together of reasons why I oppose the SIS: environmentally,
 21 economically, and just all the technical stuff. And then
 22 I thought about it more, and basically why I oppose the
 23 SIS is on a moral basis. I think that it is evil and --
 24 it's the difference between good and evil, and I think
 25 the SIS is just perpetuating all the evil that we all have

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1 inside of us. And I think -- and I'd like to kind of give,
2 maybe paraphrase Carl Sagen, who was speaking to some
3 engineers down in Alabama that are working on star wars,
4 and what he said is that "When does the question of
5 moral responsibility come in related to jobs?" The
6 Nazis were providing jobs, and I think we need to consider
7 that here.

8 The other, I just want to mention also that
9 if, if the -- if we're talking about jobs, I work in
10 Human Services and I see folks everyday that are suffering,
11 and it is surprising to me why our politicians will run
12 to the opportunity to create jobs producing plutonium,
13 when constantly they vote down money to come to Idaho to
14 support human services, to support poor children, poor
15 families, people who don't have adequate health care.
16 And I'm just amazed that, you know, they take this strong
17 stand for jobs in Idaho to produce plutonium and, yet,
18 they never take a strong stand on providing adequate
19 child care for Idahoans, or adequate health care, anything
20 like that. And I just feel real strongly about that,
21 and I'm here to oppose the SIS.

22 MR. EIGUREN: Exhibit 688 will be the
23 written comment of Bette Carlson.

24 (Exhibit No. 688 marked and entered.)

25 MR. EIGUREN: Advance to order 22,

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B267

1 Robert B. Sutton. Robert B. Sutton?

2 Order No. 23, Ed Bamberry. Ed Bamberry?

3 MS. SPAIN: I'm going to speak in his
4 place.

5 MR. EIGUREN: Fine. Your name and address
6 for the record, please.

7 MS. SPAIN: My name is Stacy Spain, and I
8 live at 1419 Manitou, Boise, Idaho.

9 I'm going to tell a story. I read this
10 about two weeks ago in Newsweek, so I guess it's pretty
11 topical.

12 Soon after our war to become a nation,
13 Benjamin Franklin was visiting in England, and he was
14 at a restaurant and saw a man, met a man who had just
15 written a book entitled The Rise and Fall of the Roman
16 Empire. He sent his compliments to the fellow and said,
17 "Would you like to come and speak with me?"

18 And the man, obviously, didn't want to
19 come and talk to him.

20 He sent a note back to him, saying, "Well,
21 I can understand that. And when you want to start your
22 notes on your next book, which should be The Rise and Fall
23 of the English Empire, give me a call, and I'll give
24 you some insights."

25 It's now time to start thinking about the

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1 book The Rise and Fall of the American Empire. We are
 2 living in a time where America is on the skids and we
 3 can't really expect America to be around for the next
 4 250,000 years to take care of the problems they are
 5 creating now.

6 I don't want to leave a gift to those
 7 people who are going to be living in this geographical
 8 area, whether they call it America or not. I don't want
 9 to leave them the gift of our waste, I don't want to
 10 leave them the gift of our stupidity.

11 I oppose SIS.

12 MR. EIGUREN: I would note for the record
 13 that I have gone through the list of both the preregistered
 14 speakers as well as speakers who signed up at the door on
 15 Saturday to testify at this public hearing. Is there
 16 anybody in the room who was preregistered or signed up
 17 at the door on Saturday that has not had the opportunity
 18 to comment?

19 Yes, sir. Step forward, please. Your
 20 name and address for the record, sir.

21 MR. CLIFFORD: My name is Kevin Clifford
 22 and I live at 145 West Idaho, in Boise. I am a doctor
 23 in Boise, a physician. I'm testifying tonight to urge
 24 the DOE to adopt the fourth alternative discussed in the
 25 Environmental Impact Statement.

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1 I would also like to discuss essentially
 2 economic and public health issues which were not covered
 3 adequately in the Environmental Impact Statement.

4 Firstly, it's ludicrous that basic social
 5 programs such as Medicare do not keep pace with inflation
 6 and increasing need, much less correct on-going
 7 deficiencies in these programs. And yet, in spite of
 8 the fact that our social programs are inadequate,
 9 in spite of the fact that we have a national debt that
 10 will take decades to correct, we're asked to spend
 11 another 800 million or so dollars for this project which
 12 is expensive and unnecessary and, in the ultimate
 13 analysis, part of the weapons production complex that
 14 threatens to extinguish life on this planet.

15 In assessing the socioeconomic impacts of
 16 the SIS project, the Draft EIS does not assess what
 17 happens when 800 to 900 million dollars is diverted from
 18 other needy programs. Inadequate funding of social
 19 programs is not a trivial problem, and in the past year
 20 I have personally seen people die directly attributable
 21 to inadequate funding of medical care and other programs.
 22 Many of my patients cannot afford my services and
 23 medication, and I daily see costly, preventable, chronic
 24 diseases and suffering.

25 The socioeconomic impact of diverting this

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1 much money from other programs is very real, and I think
2 certainly has much of as much significance from a public
3 health aspect as a lot of the other issues addressed in
4 the Environmental Impact Statement. (sic)

5 In accordance with NEPA, at least the
6 financial savings of the No Action Alternative should be
7 documented in the text of the EIS, and as the positive
8 socioeconomic impacts of SIS on the local community are
9 claimed, I think it's only appropriate to mention the
10 adverse effects on the greater community, which is the
11 country.

5.30.1.13

12 The EIS as written is lack (sic) in the
13 area of waste disposal. Their concerns about the Waste
14 Isolation Pilot Plant that have been discussed here, and
15 that probably will not be in an operating mode for at
16 least five years, possibly much longer, and I don't want
17 to discuss the WIPP. However, the possibility remains
18 that it will not be able to accept waste from the SIS,
19 and no provision for this eventuality is mentioned in the
20 EIS.

5.30.2.1

21 I believe that that should be covered in
22 the final statement as required under NEPA. Furthermore,
23 even if a definitive waste site is available, there is no
24 need for waste to remain on-site for as long as 30 years.
25 The argument of a possible future need for these wastes

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1 is not an adequate reason to keep these wastes at various
2 locations across the country, especially for several
3 decades. The duplicity of storage sites in vaults not
4 especially intended for long-term use raise the risk
5 of, increase the risks of theft, terrorism, accidents,
6 catastrophes, unforeseen types. I feel the SIS project
7 should not be allowed to operate on the assumption that
8 a disposal site will arise. A definite disposal site
9 should be available for the project to get its license,
10 if it is to be licensed.

5.30.2.5

11 An inadequate analysis is made of the
12 impact of freon on the environment, according to a current
13 NASA study which is currently underway on the ozone
14 depletion. A depletion of one to four percent in the
15 ozone layer will result in tens of thousands of skin
16 cancers, not to mention a much higher incidence of
17 skin-damaged skin -- sun-damaged skin. Excuse me. Others
18 believe this one to four percent is a very dangerous
19 underestimation. And already depletions over Antarctica
20 and South America at times reach 50 percent in the ozone
21 layer. Given this, the contribution of the 1,800 tons of
22 freon estimated to be released from the SIS may be very
23 real and has not been addressed.

5.9.3

24 No analysis has been made in the DEIS of
25 the risk to human health secondary to terrorist attacks on

5.13.18

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5.1.21

1 safe, secure transports or on the SIS itself. Again,
2 this is a very real risk that should be considered in the
3 final statement.

4 A word about risk analysis. When I was
5 in medical school, I did a risk analysis on hazardous
6 waste incineration projects. And one of these steps in
7 that analysis was the probability of a large storage tank
8 collapsing. The storage tank was to be used to hold
9 toxic waste. And the consensus among reviewers of the
10 statement and people who made the statement was that one
11 of these tanks would not collapse. The probability was
12 so utterly rare, one in a million, one in a billion,
13 something like that, that it was frequently ignored or
14 discounted. And yet, we saw that happen this year in
15 Pittsburgh, I believe it was, when all that diesel fuel
16 went into the river, bypassing other systems to contain
17 it, which will back up systems in the unlikely event
18 that tanks should collapse.

6.2

19 Finally, a risk analysis by itself is
20 meaningless, unless we weigh it against the benefit.
21 We're asked to accept and pay for an expensive project
22 at a time of an over-extended budget which we do not need
23 or want, which has inadequate, undocumented health effects
24 and increases the complexity of weapons production and,
25 therefore, the opportunity for terrorism and accident.

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1 It's a prime example of a technology which will benefit
2 only a few individuals and corporations at the expense of
3 the rest of us.

4 The last thing I have to say is I think
5 that enough concerns have been raised concerning the
6 Environmental Impact Statement, I think a lot of valid
7 concerns, that prior to completion of a final statement
8 we should have a chance to comment on revisions in the
9 Environmental Impact Statement.

10 Thank you.

11 MR. EIGUREN: Thank you, Doctor.

12 Is there anyone else who is registered to
13 comment that has not had the opportunity to do so?

14 That being the case, what I'll do very
15 briefly at this point for the record is indicate that
16 we received a number of written comments. I will read
17 these names into the record and assign exhibit numbers
18 to them.

19 Exhibit 621 will be Jane Foraker-Thompson.

20 Exhibit 622 will be Robert C. James.

21 Exhibit 623 will be Eugene Spencer Smith.

22 Exhibit 624 will be Edward Kobe.

23 Exhibit 625 is Dennis Hall.

24 Exhibit 639, Eric Brandt.

25 Exhibit 640, Warren Cornwall.

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6.5.1

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1 Exhibit 641, Cathy Spofford.
 2 Exhibit 642, John and Jane McGrew.
 3 Exhibit 643, Laura Carson.
 4 Exhibit 644, Ellie Kiser.
 5 Exhibit 645, Katharine Yerrity and
 6 Paul Castrovillo.
 7 Exhibit 646, Lisa Dennis.
 8 Exhibit 647, Nancy Brossman.
 9 Exhibit 648, Constance Y. Merrill.
 10 Exhibit 649, Scott D. Merrill.
 11 Exhibit 650, Barbara Skotte.
 12 Exhibit 651, Abigail J. Thomson.
 13 Exhibit 652, Jack L. Taylor.
 14 Exhibit 653, Kathy Wren.
 15 Exhibit 668, Don Kemper.
 16 669, Mark Kruskopf.
 17 With that, ladies and gentlemen -- I'm
 18 sorry, would you please bring those forward?
 19 What we'll do is go ahead and mark these
 20 ten additional ones. But before that, I will go ahead --
 21 I'm going to go ahead and formally close this public
 22 meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for
 23 the SIS project here in Boise. We're formally closing the
 24 hearing at 11:30 p.m. on the 29th day of March.
 25 Thank you for your patience and attention.

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1 Good night.
 2 (Exhibits Nos. 621 through 625,
 3 639 through 653, and 668 through 669 marked and entered.)
 4 (Hearing adjourned at 11:30 p.m.)
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1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2

3 STATE OF IDAHO)

4 County of Ada) ss.

5

6 I, FRANK P. CICCARELLO, a Notary Public in

7 and for the State of Idaho, do hereby certify:

8

9 That the foregoing hearing was taken down

10 by me in shorthand at the time and place therein named

11 and thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction,

12 and that the foregoing transcript contains a full, true

13 and verbatim record of the said hearing;

14 I further certify that I have no interest

15 in the event of the action.

16 WITNESS my hand and seal this 7th day of

17 April, 1988.



Frank P. Ciccarello

Notary Public in and for the State
of Idaho, residing in Boise, Idaho.
My commission expires 11/93.

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2
3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Good afternoon, ladies
4 and gentlemen. I will now formally commence this public
5 hearing concerning the review of the Draft Environmental
6 Impact Statement relative to the United States Depart-
7 ment of Energy's proposed Special Isotope Separation
8 Project. This proceeding is officially designated as
9 the Idaho Falls, Idaho, public hearing on Department
10 of Energy Document DOE/EIS-0136, held on the 25th day
11 of March, 1988, and commencing at 2:00 p.m. in the
12 afternoon.

13 My name is Roy Eiguren. I am the Hearing
14 Officer for this and the subsequent public hearings
15 held to receive comment on the Draft Environmental
16 Impact Statement for the proposed siting, construction,
17 and operation by the Department of Energy of a Special
18 Isotope Separation Project utilizing the Atomic Vapor
19 Laser Isotope Separation Process Technology. I will
20 refer to this and subsequent proceedings as the DOE's
21 DEIS Public Hearings on the SIS Project.

22 I am an attorney engaged in private practice
23 in Boise, Idaho. I have been retained by the Department
24 of Energy to conduct this series of public hearings as
25 an independent and unbiased party to assure the

1 opportunity for all interested organizations and
2 individuals to comment on the DEIS. Accordingly, I am
3 not an advocate for or against the proposed position
4 taken by the Department of Energy in this matter. Rather,
5 I am a neutral third party who has coordinated the
6 development of the procedures to be followed in the
7 conduct of these hearings and, who will also conduct
8 the hearings themselves.

9 The issue that is the subject of this pro-
10 ceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct
11 and operate an SIS facility at one of three locations
12 in the United States - the DOE's Idaho National Engineer-
13 ing Laboratory near Idaho Falls; the DOE's Hanford
14 Reservation near Richland, Washington; or, the DOE's
15 Savannah River Plant near Aiken, South Carolina. Each
16 of these three sites is designated as an alternative
17 that is considered in the Draft EIS. The fourth and
18 final alternative under consideration in the DEIS is
19 the No Action Alternative, which would be a Departmental
20 decision not to site, construct and operate an SIS
21 facility. As stated in the DEIS, the Department's
22 preferred alternative is to site, construct and operate
23 the SIS project at the Idaho National Engineering
24 Laboratory.

25 To put this hearing in perspective, it is

1 important that all of you understand the key elements
 2 of the federal law that requires that the Department's
 3 final decision in this matter be preceded by a compre-
 4 hensive review of the environmental factors associated
 5 with each of the alternatives being considered by the
 6 Department. The National Environmental Policy Act of
 7 1969, Public Law 91-910, generally known as NEPA, re-
 8 quires that all federal agencies develop procedures
 9 that ensure, "That environmental amenities or values
 10 are given appropriate consideration in (federal govern-
 11 ment) decision-making along with technical considera-
 12 tions." This law also requires that, "Recommendations
 13 for major federal actions significantly affecting the
 14 quality of the human environment" be first preceded by
 15 the development and completion of an Environmental
 16 Impact Statement or EIS, that fully and carefully
 17 examines the potential environmental impacts of the
 18 proposed federal action.

19 The Department of Energy has determined
 20 that its proposed action in siting, constructing and
 21 operating an SIS plant is a major federal action that,
 22 under NEPA, requires the development and completion of
 23 an EIS. Accordingly, by the publication on October 31,
 24 1986, of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS and the
 25 Federal Register (51FR39765), the Department of Energy

1 commenced the process that has led to the development
 2 and publication of the Draft Environmental Impact
 3 Statement that is the subject of this hearing. The
 4 DEIS was prepared by the Department, with the assistance
 5 of an independent contractor, NUS Corporation, after an
 6 extensive process of receiving public comment through
 7 the "scoping" or initial input phase of this EIS
 8 development proceeding. During the scoping, public
 9 comment on the scope or magnitude of issues to be
 10 addressed in the EIS was received, as well as specific
 11 comment on particular issues themselves. Scoping
 12 included the receipt of extensive written public comment,
 13 as well as oral comment from two lengthy public meetings
 14 or hearings - one held in Idaho Falls, Idaho on
 15 February 24, 1987, and in Boise, on February 26, 1987.

16 As a result of the input received during
 17 scoping, the following issues were analyzed in the DEIS
 18 relative to each of the alternatives identified above:

19 No. 1, off-site general population radio-
 20 logical and nonradiological effects resulting from
 21 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

22 No. 2, the effects on the general popula-
 23 tion from emissions of radiological and nonradiological
 24 releases caused by normal operations of an SIS facility.

25 No. 2, exposure of operating personnel to

1 radiological sources and nonradiological releases
2 during normal operations of an SIS facility.

3 No. 4, incremental differences in environ-
4 mental impacts between operation of the existing
5 chemical processing facilities and the proposed action
6 and alternatives.

7 No. 5, effects on air quality and other
8 environmental consequences during construction and
9 operation of an SIS facility.

10 No. 6, cumulative effects of operations
11 of such a facility, including changes in support opera-
12 tions related to it.

13 No. 7, on-site and off-site transportation
14 impacts of nuclear materials.

15 Issue 8, an analysis of applicable federal,
16 state, and local regulations application to the con-
17 struction and operation of an SIS plant.

18 Issue No. 9, decontamination and de-
19 commissioning issues.

20 No. 10, irretrievable and irreversible
21 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials,
22 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other re-
23 sources related to the construction and operation of an
24 SIS facility.

25 Issue 11, mitigation measures necessary to

1 respond to the environmental consequences associated
2 with each of the alternatives.

3 The EIS preparation and review process is
4 governed by federal regulations established by the
5 Council on Environmental Quality or CEQ, which is an
6 agency within the executive office of the President of
7 the United States and the Department of Energy's own
8 guidelines. The Council and environmental quality
9 regulations are found at 40 Federal Regulations Part 1500
10 through 1508. The DOE guidelines are found at 45
11 Federal Register 20694. These regulations and guide-
12 lines have been previously marked by me as Exhibit 1
13 and will be introduced into the formal record of this
14 proceeding.

15 The relevant CEQ regulations require that,
16 "After preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
17 and before preparing a final Environmental Impact
18 Statement" a federal agency must first obtain the
19 comments of (1) any federal agency which has jurisdic-
20 tion by law or special expertise with respect to any
21 environmental impact and (2) request the comments of
22 appropriate state and local agencies which develop and
23 enforce environmental standards, obtain comment from
24 Indian tribes and the public, with particular obliga-
25 tion to affirmatively solicit comments from persons or

1 organizations who may be interested or affected by the
 2 proposed federal decision. Public meetings or hearings
 3 are to be held where the Department determines that,
 4 "Substantial environmental controversy concerning the
 5 proposed action" exists. Accordingly, today's and the
 6 following public hearings are being held pursuant to
 7 these regulations to receive public, Indian tribe and
 8 governmental comment on the various issues identified
 9 in the DEIS. Notice of these public hearings was
 10 provided in Federal Register notices dated February 19,
 11 1988(53FR5032) and on March 4, 1988(53FR7227). Additional
 12 public notice was provided through publication in
 13 numerous newspapers throughout the State. The Federal
 14 Register notices, the text of the newspaper notices and
 15 the publication dates of each, have been marked as
 16 Exhibit 2 in this proceeding and will be introduced by
 17 me at this time for the record.

18 Public comment on the Draft EIS will be
 19 received through this and subsequent hearings held
 20 tomorrow and next week in Boise and Twin Falls. Written
 21 comment, which receives the same weight and considera-
 22 tion by the Department in this proceeding, may be
 23 submitted by the public to me today and at the subse-
 24 quent meetings, or maybe mailed to Clay Nichols, SIS
 25 Project Manager, at the address we will provide to you

1 in the back of the room. The close of comment for this
 2 particular proceeding is April 21, 1988. If you plan
 3 to provide written comment, you must do so by that date.
 4 Oral and written comment will be compiled into a
 5 comprehensive record that will be considered by the
 6 Department in making its final decision.

7 The CEQ regulations provide that, "Comments
 8 on an Environmental Impact Statement or on a proposed
 9 action shall be as specific as possible and may address
 10 the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the
 11 alternatives or both." Although the Department has
 12 determined that certain issues, such as the need for
 13 an SIS project, are beyond the scope of this SIS pro-
 14 ceeding, I will allow comment on that issue, as well as
 15 other issues related to this project that the individual
 16 commentors feel are relevant. However, as the Hearing
 17 Officer, I do reserve the right to ask commentors to
 18 keep their comments relevant to the subject matter of
 19 this proceeding when I determine necessary to do so.

20 After reviewing the record and this process,
 21 the Department may choose to modify, supplement or re-
 22 issue the DEIS prior to issuing a final EIS. It may
 23 also choose to issue the DEIS as well as the final EIS
 24 without modification. A record of decision, which will
 25 be released with the final EIS, will identify the

1 environmentally preferred alternative chosen by the
2 Department along with any practicable means to avoid or
3 minimize environmental harm from the alternatives
4 selected. The Department, as a matter of federal regula-
5 tion, cannot proceed with its proposed action until a
6 minimum of 30 days has passed from the date of issuance
7 of the final EIS and record of decision. At our current
8 schedules, the Department of Energy intends to issue a
9 final EIS and a record of decision in August of this
10 year.

11 To govern the conduct of this and the sub-
12 sequent public hearings in this proceeding, I developed
13 several procedures in consultation with the Department
14 of Energy staff, as well as the representatives of public
15 interest groups who either have participated in the
16 scoping meetings or who have indicated a willingness to
17 attend and participate in these hearings, as well. These
18 procedures were finalized yesterday, March 24, 1988 and
19 distributed to interested parties along with lists of
20 organizational representatives and individuals who
21 had registered to comment at these hearings prior to
22 March 18, 1988, the deadline set for the close of pre-
23 registration. These procedures have been marked as
24 Exhibit 3 and are submitted for the record by me at
25 this time. In addition to that, I have previously

1 submitted for the record Exhibit No. 4, which is a
2 complete recitation of all DOE public involvement
3 activities related to the development of the DEIS.

4 At this point, ladies and gentlemen, I
5 would like to turn to the procedure rules we are going
6 to follow today. These rules have been posted at the
7 back of the room. They were also provided to the
8 various organization representatives yesterday. These
9 rules are simple, and I'm going through them quickly,
10 and if there are any particular questions, individuals
11 may respond to those:

12 Other than my opening statement and aside
13 from the remarks this evening of Mr. Troy Wade,
14 Assistant Secretary of Energy for Defense Programs, there
15 will not be other opening remarks by the Department
16 of Energy or its contractors in these proceedings. How-
17 ever, I'd like to reference the fact that senior DOE
18 staff, I believe Mr. Don Ofte, who is the Idaho Opera-
19 tions Officer for the Department is with us and will
20 be attending this and subsequent meetings.

21 Secondly, comments in these proceedings
22 and subsequent proceedings will be received in the
23 following order: Elected and appointed federal, state
24 and local government officials make their comments
25 first; secondly, that will be followed by representatives

1 of national, state, and local organizations who are
 2 participating in these proceedings; three, following
 3 that we will receive comments by members of the public
 4 who preregistered to speak prior to the end of business
 5 on March 18th, which was the close of preregistration.
 6 The order of public commentaries was randomly chosen
 7 by computer, and the list of commentators has been pro-
 8 vided to those of you who care to receive it previously.
 9 In addition to that, members of the public who registered
 10 at the door of this hearing, as well as subsequent
 11 hearings, will be accommodated to the extent possible.
 12 Organizational representatives and officials
 13 will be allowed ten minutes for oral comment. In-
 14 dividuals will be allowed five minutes. I will be the
 15 score keeper or time keeper, and in order to assist
 16 you in planning your time, we have a signal device up
 17 here. For organizational representatives at nine
 18 minutes into your presentation, I will turn on the
 19 green light, which means you have one minute to go and
 20 at the end of that time I will turn on the red light.
 21 The same for individuals, at the end of four minutes I
 22 will turn on the green light, and when the time is
 23 expired, I will turn on the red light. After that I
 24 will throw you off the stage.
 25 Due to the significant amount of commentators

1 who have registered to speak, I will ask you to strictly
 2 adhere to these guidelines.

3 I also strongly encourage speakers to
 4 submit their statements in writing if they have those.
 5 Written and oral statements will receive the same weight
 6 and consideration in the record. If you would bring
 7 those forward with you, we will include those in the
 8 record as an exhibit.

9 Speaker lists are posted in the back of the
 10 room and give approximate times when you are to speak.
 11 As your turn approaches, please come forward to the
 12 staging area out here that's been provided for you.
 13 What I'll do is call the speaker that's up, and then
 14 the next two speakers that would be up after that.

15 To accommodate the exceptional number of
 16 individuals who have requested to provide oral comment
 17 and given the Department of Energy's continued commit-
 18 ment to allow all interested individuals and organiza-
 19 tions the opportunity to meaningfully comment in this
 20 EIS development proceeding, the Department determined
 21 that this evening's Idaho Falls hearing and tomorrow's
 22 Boise hearing will recess at 11:00 p.m. each evening
 23 and will resume at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively
 24 on the following dates and places: In Boise, Tuesday,
 25 March 29 at the Red Lion Riverside; Idaho Falls,

1 Wednesday, March 30th, back here at University Place.

2 Any individual who preregistered to comment
3 at this or any other hearing or who registered at the
4 door at this or any other hearing, and has not had the
5 opportunity to comment by 11:00 p.m. this evening or
6 subsequent evenings will automatically be given the
7 opportunity to comment at either of the subsequent
8 continuations of these hearings, either Boise or here.
9 Registrations will not be allowed at the door at the
10 continuation of these hearings.

11 Questions may be submitted in writing on
12 forms provided by the Department in the back of the
13 room. We do have forms available. If you have a
14 question you would like to ask the Department, please
15 write it out, and there are folks here who will collect
16 those and answer will be provided at a later date to
17 your questions, and all questions and answers will be
18 included in the hearing record.

19 Finally, in terms of the rules and pro-
20 cedures, I would like to indicate that we will not allow
21 combining of speaking times. Your speaking time is
22 your opportunity to comment, and we'll give you the
23 full five minutes.

24 Charts and other visual aids are allowed
25 if they can be made a part of the public record and are

1 not disruptive. Set-up time for putting up your charts
2 will be taken from your speaking time. We have people
3 here who would be glad to assist you as you move for-
4 ward to use those sorts of materials.

5 Finally, and most importantly, this is a
6 record proceeding. Everything that is said here today
7 and subsequent hearings is being recorded by a Court
8 Reporter here in the front of the room. Accordingly,
9 in order for her to maintain a complete and concise
10 record, I need to have everyone who comments come to the
11 podium to make your comments, speak clearly in the
12 microphone after first giving your name and address
13 for the record.

14 As I say, if you have further questions or
15 comments about any of the procedures, there are a
16 number of individuals in the back of the room from the
17 Department who can respond to those, and as we take
18 breaks throughout the course of the meeting, I will
19 also be available to respond to any questions you may
20 have.

21 At this point in time, ladies and gentlemen,
22 I would like to go ahead and formally begin our list of
23 commentators. It's my pleasure and privilege to introduce
24 our first commentator today, the Governor of the State of
25 Idaho, Cecil Andrus.

1 GOVERNOR ANDRUS: Thank you. Thank you
2 very much, Mr. Eiguren, members of the hearing panel,
3 ladies and gentlemen. For the record, my name is
4 Cecil Andrus. I'm the Governor of the State of Idaho,
5 and I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the
6 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Department
7 of Energy's proposed Special Isotope Separation Project.

8 Just as a Draft EIS is preliminary, so are
9 my conclusions and comments about the project. The
10 complexity of the technology involved in the SIS re-
11 quires all of us to analyze the project carefully. We
12 all have more analysis to undertake concerning this
13 project. That is what this hearing process is all about.
14 I encourage the public dialogue that you, Mr. Eiguren,
15 have set forth in your instructions that the public
16 will have every opportunity to comment. I believe that
17 process is healthy for our State.

18 Let me begin by saying that while I'm eager
19 for the Environmental Impact Statement process to work,
20 I have been on record for a long time as being a
21 supporter of the SIS Project.

22 I do have some questions, however. My
23 concerns fall into two categories: The health and
24 safety of Idaho workers and residents, and the cleanli-
25 ness of the natural environment in which we live. In

1 other words, Mr. Eiguren, I look forward to the economic
2 boost the Project represents, but I am not interested -
3 and I don't think any Idahoan is - - in a project that
4 will pose a health or environmental threat.

5 Now before I discuss in detail my views of
6 several aspects of the Project, let me say that I do
7 not see it as my role to engage in the national policy
8 debate over whether we need more weapon-grade plutonium
9 or the moral issues associated with nuclear weapons and
10 warfare.

11 All of us, I am confident, seek a nuclear
12 weapons free world. But, until that is possible, and
13 I hope that is possible soon, we must maintain a nuclear
14 deterrent as part of our national defense.

15 But, ultimately, the policy questions about
16 defense and weapons systems, while of critical concern
17 to each of us, are properly decided by Congress and the
18 President of the United States. Those are national
19 issues, those are not state issues.

20 At the state level, my concerns as an
21 elected official must focus on the health and safety
22 of Idahoans and the cleanliness of our air, water, and
23 soil. With that distinction in mind, let me address
24 some of the questions presented by the Draft EIS con-
25 cerning health and safety and our environment.

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1 Our state agencies are reviewing the EIS,
2 and they will address some questions about the Project
3 in more detail. A panel of agency directors will pre-
4 sent preliminary oral testimony at the hearings in
5 Boise tomorrow, and agencies will submit more detailed
6 written comments before the April 21st deadline. Gen-
7 erally, our observations fall into the following
8 categories:

9 1. The State of Idaho must have assurances
10 that it will be a full partner in on-site and off-site
11 monitoring of environmental and health impacts when
12 the Project is built. This involves the maximum possible
13 public disclosure and the cooperation with state and
14 local agencies within the limitations of legitimate
15 national security restrictions.

16 2. The State of Idaho must have federal
17 assistance in emergency planning, training, and disaster
18 response. The SIS Project will increase state responsi-
19 bility for health and safety, and we must have the
20 technical and financial assistance from the Department
21 of Energy in meeting those responsibilities.

22 3. The SIS Project is of such magnitude
23 and importance that the Department of Energy must con-
24 sider working with a state established permanent over-
25 site commission, which will enable the State to be a

1 full partner in managing the potential health and
2 environmental consequences of the project.

3 4. The State of Idaho needs assurances
4 that the SIS Project will not transform the INEL Site
5 into a "defacto" nuclear waste dump. As Governor in
6 1971 the Department of Energy assured me that buried
7 wastes at INEL would be removed. Those wastes are still
8 there. I understand the reasons for that situation,
9 and I know that a permanent waste disposal solution is,
10 in fact, being developed.

11 I also understand that there will be a
12 normal flow of fuel grade plutonium into the SIS
13 facility and an out-flow of weapon grade plutonium
14 product and a byproduct of waste. But we are not
15 interested in a project that develops into a permanent
16 waste storage facility. Permanent waste storage at
17 that Site is not acceptable to me, and I am convinced
18 it is unacceptable to most Idahoans.

19 I am confident that the Department of Energy
20 can address these concerns and the more specific questions
21 that our state agencies will raise. I know that they
22 have the capability of responding in answer to our
23 questions.

24 Once assured that our workers and residents
25 will be safe and our environment will not be fouled,

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1 I want the construction started and operation begun as
2 soon as possible, because the SIS Project is a crucial
3 opportunity for the economy of Eastern Idaho and the
4 economy of the entire State.

5 Now during the five-year construction phase,
6 we will welcome the hundreds of construction and support
7 jobs and the millions of dollars the payrolls and
8 supplemental expenditures that will be pumped into our
9 economy. When the project is operational, we will
10 welcome the more than 400 on-site jobs and the more
11 than 600 indirect jobs that will be created in the region.

12 But perhaps most important, we will look forward to
13 expanding the INEL facility as a "high-tech" magnet
14 for growth and development of a technologically based
15 industry in optics, lasers, and electronics. This is
16 the kind of diversification our economy needs. I am
17 convinced we must broaden our economic base beyond our
18 traditional resource industries to enable us to compete
19 with other states throughout the world in the high
20 technology arena that exists in our word. These are
21 the reasons, Mr. Eiguren, that I support the SIS
22 Project.

23 I thank you for offering me this opportunity
24 to speak. I look forward to working with the Department
25 of Energy in establishing a full partnership in the

1 management of the Project's impacts, both real and
2 potential. If Congress decides to fund construction of
3 an SIS, and if DOE wants it in Idaho, we can, in fact,
4 cooperate in a way that will allow our national in-
5 terests to be served while Idaho's economy prospers
6 safely and cleanly.

7 And I thank you very much for letting me
8 testify with you. I'd better get it right side up.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Governor
10 Andrus. Our next scheduled commentor is the Congressman
11 from the Second District of Idaho, the Honorable
12 Richard Stallings.

13 REPRESENTATIVE STALLINGS: Thank you very
14 much, Mr. Eiguren. I'm Congressman Stallings from the
15 Second District, and I am here today to participate in
16 this hearing. I certainly congratulate the Department
17 of Energy in the process that they are about. This is
18 something that is extremely important to all of us in
19 the State.

20 Governor Andrus, Mr. Ofte, elected officials,
21 community leaders, and all interested Idahoans. I
22 appreciate the opportunity to testify today on an issue
23 of vital importance to the State of Idaho and the Idaho
24 National Engineering Laboratory, the proposed Special
25 Isotope Separation Project.

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1 During this past year I have heard from
2 or met with many individuals and groups who are
3 interested in this Project and the potential impact on
4 our State.

5 Throughout the debate on this issue, I have
6 tried to promote a fair and open process. A candid
7 discussion of the Project and thoughtful review of
8 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement are very much
9 in the public interest.

10 At this time, I would also like to compliment
11 the INEL officials for their efforts in responding to
12 tough questions and important concerns that have been
13 raised about the SIS Project.

14 As a member of the House Science, Space,
15 and Technology Committee, I appreciate the opportunity
16 to work closely with INEL officials on issues such as
17 SIS, which will benefit our State.

18 After carefully reviewing the Environmental
19 Impact Statement and considering public comments, I
20 feel the SIS facility is both needed and is safe.
21 Furthermore, I believe the majority of Idaho's citizens
22 support the project. It is cost effective and will
23 provide needed flexibility in our country's plutonium
24 production capability. I would like to take a few
25 minutes to talk about several important issues that

1 have been raised about this project.

2 The Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
3 is one of our State's finest resources and should
4 continue to play an important role in our economic well-
5 being.

6 Promoting this growth and stability at the
7 INEL is one of my top priorities. This \$937 million
8 Project has a tremendous potential to enhance our
9 State's economic development and could create exciting
10 new opportunities in laser technologies.

11 The SIS Project would create new jobs and
12 improve the region's economy. For instance, it is
13 estimated that the Project will require about 400
14 construction workers and create 750 permanent jobs in
15 the area when it goes into production in the mid 1990's.
16 The Project's annual operating cost is estimated at
17 \$54 million, a figure that would have a significant
18 impact on Idaho's economy.

19 A significant spinoff of the SIS laser
20 complex will be an opportunity for development of small
21 businesses to supply equipment initially used in con-
22 struction and then consumed during the regular operation
23 of the laser facility.

24 The equipment and other hardware that could
25 be provided by small companies or generate regional

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1 business opportunities include laser tubes, optics,
2 high temperature furnaces, robotic systems, and other
3 materials that are essential to the operation of the
4 laser system.

5 The Project truly could put Idaho at the
6 leading edge of laser technology. At the completion
7 of the seven to eight-year SIS mission, there are
8 several potential jobs that could be performed by the
9 facility.

10 However, we must not look solely at the
11 economic impacts of the Project. What are the potential
12 effects on air quality and the Snake River Aquifer?
13 What about public safety, waste management, and trans-
14 portation?

15 As an elected public official, I have a
16 responsibility to make sure the SIS facility is safe
17 and does not threaten our State's environmental quality.

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18 After discussing these issues with many
19 people and a careful review of the EIS, I am convinced
20 that there are no significant public health risks,
21 environmental impacts, transportation problems, or
22 safety concerns associated with the Project.

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23 While I share everyone's concern that
24 public safety and environmental protection cannot be
25 compromised, I believe the INEL has a long history of

1 safe and responsible management of their nuclear facilities
2 I have great confidence that they will be able to con-
3 struct and operate the facility in a safe and environ-
4 mentally acceptable manner.

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5 Now let me mention briefly the issue of our
6 nation's need for plutonium. There have been important
7 questions raised about our future need for plutonium
8 to meet our defense related needs. It is important to
9 point out that both the production capacity of the SIS
10 Project and the need for weapons grade plutonium are
11 classified. The Draft EIS does not address either issue.
12 The nation's requirement for plutonium and other
13 special nuclear materials are determined jointly by the
14 Department of Defense and the Department of Energy and
15 are based upon a variety of factors. These requirements
16 are documented in the Nuclear Stockpile Memorandum,
17 which is classified. The Stockpile Memorandum is for-
18 warded for the President's approval by way of the
19 National Security Council.

20 The funding required to supply the required
21 material, plus the funding for any new facilities is
22 provided by Congress. The Energy Department is respon-
23 sible for the construction and operation of the
24 facilities necessary to meet the material requirements.

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25 The current Stockpile requirements provide

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1 the flexibility in the short-term to permit the shut-
 2 down of the N Reactor at Hanford. The N Reactor shut-
 3 down, the reduced power limitations of the production
 4 reactors at Savannah River, and the inability to pre-
 5 dict the plutonium needs in the mid 1990's, make the
 6 SIS facility very important to our nation's defense
 7 related needs.

8 The INEL has long been a defense related
 9 site, starting in the 1940's with the Navy ballistics
 10 testing program. The Naval Reactor Facility has been
 11 a training ground for nuclear Navy personnel.

12 In addition, the Chemical Processing Plant's
 13 mission is to recover uranium from government-owned
 14 reactor cores. The Radioactive Waste Management Complex
 15 is storing transuranic waste from weapons production
 16 processes.

17 During the 1950's, the Site's defense-
 18 related funding was approximately 80 percent of the
 19 budget. During the 1960's, it was about 65 percent.
 20 In the 1970's, defense-related projects were only about
 21 40 percent. During this time, INEL was more involved
 22 in alternate energy programs because of the nation's
 23 oil embargo crisis. Finally, during the 1980's, many
 24 of the alternate energy programs have been reduced as
 25 the Federal Government redirects its priorities. Currently,

1 the defense-related programs continue at about 55
 2 percent of the funds at the INEL.

3 While I recognize the important role that
 4 INEL plays in defense-related programs, I also believe
 5 that the laboratory must maintain a diverse and
 6 balanced mix of research and development activities.
 7 The primary mission should not become defense oriented.
 8 That is why I have worked hard to promote several non-
 9 defense projects including the Superconducting Super
 10 Collider and a cancer treatment program called the
 11 Boron Neutron Capture Therapy.

12 In closing, the proposed SIS Project offers
 13 Idaho an important economic development opportunity
 14 and will benefit many local communities. I believe
 15 the Project is safe, needed, and cost effective.

16 It also offers exciting new opportunities
 17 in laser technology spinoffs. Finally, I believe there
 18 is strong public support to build it in Idaho.

19 Once again, I appreciate the opportunity to
 20 be here today and am looking forward to hearing from
 21 many of today's witnesses. Thank you.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Congressman.
 23 I would now like to introduce the Mayor of the City of
 24 Idaho Falls, Thomas Campbell, who will be followed by
 25 the Mayor of St. Anthony.

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1 Mayor Campbell?

2 MAYOR CAMPBELL: Thank you very much for
3 allowing me to testify. I'm here today to make a very
4 short, but I think a very important statement as to the
5 official position of the elected officials in Idaho Falls.

6 I am the Mayor of Idaho Falls, and I have
7 with me a resolution in support of the SIS. This
8 resolution has been signed by me and by each Councilman
9 individually.

10 I believe our Council is a good representa-
11 tion of the people. They're not connected with the
12 nuclear industry. They're not newcomers; they do not
13 represent outside interests; they are pioneer families
14 in our community. They've been elected and re-elected
15 many times, because they are good representatives, and
16 we feel as the Mayor and Council that the SIS should
17 be built at the INEL.

18 Our city has been preparing for many years
19 for increased activity at the INEL. We welcome the
20 growth which may accompany this Project. We have
21 sized our sewer system to accommodate a residential
22 population of 300,000 people. We have meticulously
23 planned a water system, systematically replacing old
24 lines and adding a new well for each square mile of
25 development. We have our own electric utility, a

1 firm contract with Bonneville Power for our future
2 needs.

3 We have a modern and convenient library,
4 recreation facilities, and land use plans made by
5 professional people. Our studies show that inside of
6 our city limits, there are room for 8,000 people without
7 ever expanding the boundaries of our city.

8 We're not just another small town. We are
9 a community of people who have been aware that a project
10 of this nature might come to the INEL some day, and we've
11 made ourselves ready. We support the SIS; we need it;
12 and, we want it at the INEL. That is our official
13 position, and I thank you for the opportunity to pre-
14 sent it.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.
16 I'd like to point out for the record that the official
17 written comments of Governor Andrus and Congressman
18 Stallings have been marked as exhibits. Mr. Andrus'
19 comments are Exhibit No. 5 and Congressman Stallings'
20 comments are Exhibit No. 6.

21 Mayor Campbell, do you have a resolution
22 you want to give to me?

23 MAYOR CAMPBELL: Yes.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: If you'll give that
25 to the Reporter, sir, we'll mark that as Exhibit No. 7.

At this time I'd like to call the Mayor of the City of St. Anthony, Merrill Rose. Is the Mayor here? Apparently he's not. Passing him over, at this point I'd like to call Clyde Burtenshaw, a member of the Bonneville County Commission.

COMMISSIONER BURTENSHAW: I am Chairman of the Board of Bonneville County Commissioners, 605 North Capital Avenue, here in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Over a year ago, in our letter of February 25, 1987, to the local SIS Project Manager, the Board of Bonneville County Commissioners unanimously confirmed our support and strongly recommended that the Special Isotope Separation Plant be located at the INEL. We reaffirm that strong support here today.

In order to stand before you and state that the Commissioners of Bonneville County are in full support of the SIS Project in Eastern Idaho, we must take into consideration the views of all the people that we represent. Any balance sheet divides the debits and the credits, then strikes a balance. Doing this establishes a clear picture of the actual situation and our stand.

First I would like to stress the Preamble to our Constitution: "We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice

31 Burtenshaw

ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America." In noting this, I emphasize "ensuring domestic tranquility, providing for the common defense, and promoting the general welfare".

The value of SIS' regional and state economic impact has been clearly established. During the peak construction there will be 440 jobs created. And this doesn't even take into consideration all of the supporting jobs.

Supporting technology will greatly enhance activity at Eastern Idaho Vo-Tech School, Idaho State University and their departments, the Idaho Innovation Center here in Idaho Falls and other incubator programs throughout the State.

A wide spectrum of SIS support facilities will range from food service to robotics and computer programs. New industry will be spawned right here in our State.

The laser technology that will be used will put Eastern Idaho on the leading edge of technical development for the whole nation.

Finally, and of paramount importance, we

32 Burtenshaw

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1 feel that utmost consideration should be given to the
2 underlying reason for this Project which is to con-
3 tribute to this nation's national security.

4 Therefore, we three Commissioners of
5 Bonneville County, Clifford B. Long, A. Wylie Snarr,
6 and I, wish to go on record again today as being in
7 full support of the SIS Project for Eastern Idaho and
8 the Department of Energy.

9 Thank you for this opportunity.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Commissioner.
11 We'll include as Exhibit No. 8 in the record your formal
12 statement.

13 At this time I would like to call Dr. Thomas
14 Cochran, of the National Resource Defense Council.

15 MR. COCHRAN: Governor Andrus, Congressman
16 Stallings, Mr. Eiguren, DOE officials, ladies and
17 gentlemen. I'm very pleased to be here in this great
18 State of Idaho, and I'm very honored that you are willing
19 to listen to a long-haired radical out of state scientist
20 like myself who doesn't agree with some of the previous
21 speakers.

22 By way of background, I received my Ph.D
23 in physics through an Atomic Energy Commissioner scholar-
24 ship, spent a couple years serving in the Navy, several
25 on the Energy Research Advisory Board as an advisor to

1 the Secretary of Energy of the Reagan and Carter
2 Administrations, and have written several books on
3 nuclear weapons the DOE will not permit its contractors
4 to quote in an unclassified document.

5 I disagree respectfully with DOE on the
6 position that the issue of need is not part of this 7.11
7 process. Mr. Dan Reicher, who will speak next, will
8 address that legal issue whether that decision is
9 correct.

10 In my testimony here today, I want to say
11 first that there is no rational national security or 4.15.4
12 economic justification for constructing a plutonium
13 enrichment plant in Idaho or, in fact, anyplace in the
14 United States at this time. And, Governor, I know - -
15 I understood your position in your official capacity
16 that you thought it was not your position to comment on
17 the need issue, but I don't think you are advocating
18 your private responsibility to ensure that decisions
19 made in Washington, D.C. are made on the basis of
20 rational economic and national security reasons. And so
21 I speak to you and the others as a private citizen to
22 address this issue of need.

23 The reason this facility is not needed first 5.2.10
24 of all is it is an existing technology called blending,
25 which does exactly the same thing. It's simpler, and

4.10.4

1 it's cheaper, and it's in existence right now, and it's
2 simply a means by which one takes very pure plutonium
3 produced at the Savannah River Reactor and mixes it as
4 if in a Mix Master in plutonium from Hanford to make
5 weapon grade plutonium.

4.4.2

6 Secondly, it's not needed because when the
7 Reagan - - actually the last year of the Carter
8 Administration and the first years of the Reagan
9 Administration, they were looking at the large increase
10 in the stockpile of nuclear weapon construction of the
11 MX warhead and other warheads coming down the pike and,
12 in fact, they did take several measures to double the
13 rate of plutonium in the DOE complex. In fact, during
14 the Reagan Administration, instead of the stockpile
15 increasing by 13 percent over five years, as DOE pre-
16 dicted - - as DOD predicted, excuse me, the stockpile
17 has actually decreased by three percent during these
18 years.

4.2.1

19 At the same time, the Department of Energy
20 produced in its facilities over ten tons of plutonium,
21 which it's added to the inventory. And so we have
22 what the Secretary of Energy told Congress was that we
23 are awash in plutonium. And subsequently, or at least
24 last year, last fall, President Reagan and Secretary
25 General Gorbachev signed an INF Treaty which called for

4.3

1 the elimination of just over 500 warheads. And so in a
2 three-year period, shortly we will be pulling out
3 additional plutonium that wasn't considered with re-
4 spect to addressing the need issues just last year when
5 we were here doing the scoping hearings.

4.2.2

6 For all of these reasons, I think the OMB
7 staff, at least, does not believe this facility is
8 needed, does not believe it's economic, and has argued
9 against it. In fact, the DOE itself has now reversed
10 itself from its position last year and now argues this
11 facility is only needed as an insurance policy. They
12 don't see any actual need for plutonium from this
13 facility.

14 But we have layer upon layer of insurance
15 already and we do not need an additional layer which
16 would be represented by this SIS technology. The DOE
17 has built up a reserve of plutonium for precisely this
18 purpose, to protect itself against the loss of the
19 facilities as has occurred at the Savannah River Plant
20 and for break-out by the Soviet Union.

4.4.7

21 It has a large quantity of scrap it could
22 process. It has put the N Reactor on standby. It can
23 always be started up and get two or three more tons of
24 plutonium. It could, in a pinch, simply retire older
25 warheads a little more quickly. Most of the plutonium

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1 for new warheads comes from old warheads. It's in the
2 process of designing a new production reactor, which
3 would come on line sometime during the period the SIS
4 would be available.

5.2.13

5 Finally - - not finally, but next is a
6 facility at Livermore, an R and D facility, which has
7 exactly the same light capacity as the laser's plan for
8 Idaho. In a national emergency, the laser facility at
9 Livermore could be used instead of the SIS facility,
10 and we would save this country about a billion dollars.
11 In fact, it can be built more quickly at Livermore than
12 here in Idaho. The reason we're not doing that is
13 because Livermore traditionally has not been in the
14 production business, and they would simply rather move
15 the production to another location.

5.2.16

16 Then finally, you really don't need to
17 enrich this fuel grade plutonium at all to make strategic
18 weapons. In a national emergency we could make the
19 weapons out of fuel grade testing, at least the strategic
20 weapons, without this additional enrichment process.

4.2.2

21 So, in fact, I don't think we need their
22 facility, and I don't think we need the insurance policy.
23 I think that the DOE officials and some of the state
24 officials are kidding themselves when they say this is
25 going to - - what you're going to have here after this

1 facility is built is a big laser R and D center we can
2 expand into some non-military commercial use. In fact,
3 laser R and D will continue at the Livermore facility
4 and here in Idaho. What you'll have is a production
5 plant. The real R and D people will stay at Livermore
6 and they'll be the ones that will get the fruits of
7 this new technology, and not the people in this area.

8 And finally, the President and Secretary
9 General Gorbachev are negotiating a Start Treaty. If
10 we get this Start Treaty, we'll be in a flood of
11 plutonium. If the Energy Secretary thinks we are
12 awash now, we will be flooded with START, and under
13 the START Treaty we would - - the United States alone
14 will remove about 4,000 nuclear warheads from a
15 stockpile of about 24,000.

16 Now if that's the situation, why don't we
17 simply postpone this decision for one year, the con-
18 struction decision, and see how the START negotiations
19 go? Certainly with the INF Treaty that we've just
20 signed, we have bought ourselves a cushion for at
21 least two or three years the DOE hadn't counted on
22 last year. That would permit us to defer the construc-
23 tion decision for another year or two and see how the
24 negotiations come out.

25 So really from a rational economic standpoint,

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1 we shouldn't be making this decision on construction
 2 this year. We should be making it a year or two later
 3 and, hopefully, we will be building down in nuclear
 4 weapons and not building up. We'll save the taxpayers
 5 a large chunk of money, and, hopefully, the representa-
 6 tives from the State of Idaho will look at more fruitful
 7 economic ventures for this State than one that's likely
 8 to be cancelled in the next year or two if the Start
 9 Treaty is implemented.

10 Thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Dr. Cochran.

12 At this time I call Mr. Dan Reicher, who
 13 is an attorney with NRDC, who will speak in behalf of
 14 the Center for Consequences of Nuclear War. Mr. Reicher?

15 MR. REICHER: Governor Andrus, Congressman
 16 Stallings, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I'm
 17 Dan Reicher, a senior project attorney with the National
 18 Resources Defense Council. Thank you for the opportunity
 19 to testify here today.

20 Prior to joining NRDC in 1985, I was an
 21 Assistant Attorney General for environmental protection
 22 in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, a law clerk to a
 23 Federal District Court Judge, a staff member of the
 24 President's Commission on the accident at Three Mile
 25 Island, and a legal assistant in the hazardous waste

1 section of the U. S. Department of Justice. I am a
 2 graduate of Stanford University Law School and Dartmouth
 3 College, where I studied biology.

4 The NRDC is a national non-profit environ-
 5 mental organization with almost 70,000 members, including
 6 almost 300 in Idaho, and a staff of over 120 lawyers,
 7 scientists, resource specialists and support personnel
 8 in offices in New York, Washington, San Francisco, and
 9 NRDC pursues a broad range of environmental, energy,
 10 and defense issues.

11 Members of the NRDC Nuclear Program have
 12 over the years reviewed literally scores of Draft
 13 Environmental Impact Statements. The Draft Environmental
 14 Impact Statement on the SIS facility is one of the worst
 15 we've seen. It is incomplete, misleading, and con-
 16 fusing, and to top it all off a sham. These are harsh
 17 words, especially the last, but there's ample evidence
 18 in the document for our contentions.

19 One needs look no further than inside of
 20 the cover page, and I refer you to that, to find
 21 striking evidence that the DEIS is a sham. There you
 22 will find the following statement, highlighted by a
 23 black border, and I'll read from that in part:

24 "Neither the United States Government nor
 25 any agency thereof, nor any other employees, makes any

2.1.5

2.3

1 warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal
2 liability or responsibility for the accuracy, complete-
3 ness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus,
4 product or process disclosed," it goes on to state,
5 "The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do
6 not necessarily state or reflect those of the United
7 States Government or any agency thereof."

8 The unprecedented disclaimer is an outrage,
9 pure and simple. In effect, the DOE is saying in the
10 DEIS, "The SIS is safe, economic, and necessary, but if
11 we're wrong, it is not our fault. And this isn't our
12 opinion anyway necessarily."

13 Under the National Environmental Policy
14 Act, the DEIS is supposed to represent the views of the
15 government agency involved in major federal action with
16 significant environmental impacts. It is also supposed
17 to present accurate and reliable information. With
18 this disclaimer, DOE is thumbing its nose at both these
19 requirements.

20 We've spoken recently with a member of the
21 President's Council on Environmental Quality, the
22 White House agency which oversees the federal EIS
23 process. He indicated he was aware of absolutely no
24 Environmental Impact Statements containing the dis-
25 claimer.

1 The DEIS also fails to consider critical
2 information regarding waste disposal. The DEIS blindly
3 assumes that the large quantity of radioactive waste
4 containing plutonium, so-called transuranic wastes,
5 that will be produced at the SIS will be disposed of at
6 the facility the DOE is developing an underground salt
7 formation in New Mexico. In fact, there is significant
8 doubt that the facility, known as the Waste Isolation
9 Pilot Plant, will operate. And if it does, whether it
10 will be able to accept the full complement of waste it
11 was designed for.

12 About four months ago, a panel of geologists
13 from New Mexico revealed to a congressional committee
14 that enough water was leaking into the RIFT facility
15 to possibly corrode the waste containers and create
16 radioactive slurries to move to the surface and release
17 radioactive materials in quantities exceeding EPA
18 standards.

19 Early this month, a panel of experts from
20 the National Academy of Sciences reported that there
21 are, "Major uncertainties concerning a variety of factors
22 necessary to determine whether radioactive wastes can
23 be disposed of safely at RIFT."

24 The DOE has determined it has to sharply
25 reduce the amount of wastes the plants can dispose at

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5.30.2.1

RIFT over the next five years because of these problems.

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These problems may reduce or even eliminate the capacity of the RIFT facility to accept waste from the SIS. It could render Idaho the disposal site for the disposal of wastes not only from SIS but from INEL generally.

4.1

The DEIS fails to grapple with this critical issue at all. The DEIS also fails to discuss the need for the SIS facility. Serious questions exist concerning the need for the facility as Dr. Cochran has noted. Yet the DEIS devotes exactly one and one-half pages to this critical issue. Moreover, what little discussion exists concerning it is so blatant with bureaucratic gobbledy-gook as to be impenetrable by the average reader.

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2.7.7

The DOE justifies its decision not to provide a comprehensive discussion of need, arguing in part, that, "National security issues are outside the scope of an EIS. This is plain and simply wrong. The United States Court for the District of Columbia held, 'There is no support in either the statute' - - that would be the National Environmental Policy Act - - ' . . . or the cases for applying the National Defense Exemption from the National Environmental Policy Act.'"

DOE is simply wrong on this point. National security issues are definitely a part of the Environmental

Impact Statement, and I can cite a variety of cases to that effect, so DOE is just plain and simply wrong.

DOE also argues that it cannot discuss the need in depth of the EIS because, "The quantity of information on defense material requirements nuclear productive capacity and adverse impacts of weapon systems deployments classified."

However, in recent Environmental Impact Statements, DOE has, in fact, discussed such classified national security information. DOE has done this in a classified appendix to the Environmental Impact Statement. For example, DOE included in a classified appendix in the DEIS on the decision to restart the plutonium reactor at the Savannah River Plant, such reactor included - - I'm sorry, such a classified appendix was included in that document that discussed the question of need.

The value of the classified appendix is that it allows members of Congress and staff members with security clearances to review DOE's justification for a project. DOE's failure to include one in the DEIS suggests that an appendix which laid out the real story on the need for SIS simply could not withstand congressional scrutiny.

We find that the DEIS is so flawed that it

2.1.7

1 does not permit adequate review and, therefore, must
 2 be re-issued for public comment prior to preparation of
 3 the final Environmental Impact Statement. The federal
 4 regulations governing the preparation of the DEIS state
 5 very clearly, and I quote, "If a Draft Statement is so
 6 inadequate as to preclude meaningful analysis, the
 7 agency shall prepare and circulate a revised draft of
 8 the appropriate portion."

9 Moreover, the case law is clear that an
 10 inadequate Draft EIS cannot be cured by the summary
 11 edition of information in the final EIS or a supplemental
 12 EIS. As one court has held, there cannot be responsible
 13 decision making when data appears in the final EIS
 14 without being subject to the critical evaluation that
 15 occurs in the draft stage. The failure to include data
 16 in the Draft Impact Statement denied the Plaintiffs the
 17 opportunity to test, assess, and evaluate the data and
 18 make an informed judgment as to the validity of con-
 19 clusions to be drawn therefrom. Here DOE has not only
 20 concluded by the data, but has also misstated and mis-
 21 interpreted critical facts and wrapped the whole document
 22 in language so obtuse and obscure as to effectively
 23 classify the information in the DEIS.

24 DOE may attempt to eliminate these in-
 25 adequacies in the final EIS. INEL manager, Don Ofte,

2.1.6

1 for example stated that the economic impact of a shut-
 2 down of the plant after seven to eight years, an issue
 3 that was not covered in the DEIS, will be addressed in
 4 the final document. However, such an after-the-fact
 5 fix lies directly on the face of the legal requirements.
 6 Supplemental information which has not been processed
 7 in the same manner as addressed in the Draft EIS cannot
 8 resurrect a sufficient Impact Statement. There's only
 9 one conclusion that can be drawn. DOE must re-issue
 10 an adequate Draft Environmental Impact Statement for
 11 public comment prior to the issuance of the final Impact
 12 Statement. Thank you very much.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Reicher.

14 I might at this point note that Mr. Reicher
 15 did bring to the attention of the departmental counsel
 16 this morning the disclaimer issue. I believe that may
 17 have been inserted in error. If that's the case, that
 18 information will get to you in writing. At this point,
 19 ladies and gentlemen, I would like to go briefly off
 20 the record.

21 (There was a brief break in
 22 the proceedings.)

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: The next commenter
 24 is Mr. William Weida of the Idaho Choice Coalitions,
 25 followed by Mr. Blake Hall, Chairman of the Idaho

1 Republican Party.

2 Mr. Weida? We'll mark your prepared state-
3 ment as Exhibit No. 9.

4 MR. WEIDA: Thank you. My name is Bill
5 Weida. I am employed as a professor of economics
6 specializing in defense economics and econometric
7 modeling at Colorado College. I was born and raised in
8 Idaho Falls, leaving Idaho when I entered the Air Force.
9 I spent 20 years in the Air Force, retiring as a Colonel.
10 During that period of time I was Chairman of the Depart-
11 ment of Economics at the U. S. Air Force Academy and
12 developed a system for modeling research and develop-
13 ment costs which is currently being used, among other
14 things, to monitor the laser development on the SDI.

15 The economic aspects that I will address
16 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement are few and
17 far between, as you scan through the pages. The work
18 that has been done on the economy of Idaho in response
19 in the Statement is absolutely deplorable. I headed a
20 team at one time which was in charge of doing an in-
21 house review of the MX Draft Environmental Impact State-
22 ment. That one might serve as a model for the in-
23 dividuals involved in putting this one together to show
24 you what ought to be in the Statement. It's particularly
25 dep~~r~~orable given the fact that Idaho State University

1 has a whole group of people who have done some excellent
2 regional economic work, and who could have provided the
3 answers that you needed in that document, had you asked
4 them.

5 Now there are two main problems with the
6 economic treatment in the Draft Environmental Impact
7 Statement. The first is that it tends to treat the
8 entire cost of constructing the Project as being those
9 costs that are going to be spent in this region.

10 The second is that it vastly under-estimates
11 the amount of time it will take to complete the Project.
12 I'll deal with one at a time.

13 If you look at the data which were furnished
14 by Lawrence Livermore National Lab and by Westinghouse
15 concerning the amount of construction employment which
16 would arise from the SIS Project, that amount of
17 employment spans from 1988 through the completion of
18 the Project, generating jobs in this vicinity of ten in
19 one year, 1988, to 260 in the highest year. Those jobs,
20 if you work through the numbers using the multipliers
21 calculated at ISU, and using data provided by the
22 Bureau of Labor Statistics in Washington, indicates that
23 out of the entire \$527 million scheduled to be spent on
24 construction on the SIS from 1988 through completion of
25 the Project, only \$33 1/2 million will be spent in

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1 this local region. That means that the people of Idaho
2 for \$33 1/2 million are being asked to bear the risk
3 of the entire rest of the Project.

5.27.6.14

4 Point 2: The SIS Project is something
5 called a concurrent development project. This is a
6 type of development which is actively discouraged in
7 the Department of Defense, and as a matter of fact was
8 never allowed unless there's an extremely good reason,
9 and that reason almost has to be that the developmental
10 work itself, the theory behind the rest of it has been
11 entirely complete. A concurrent development project
12 means that you develop the way to build or the way to
13 produce the material at the same time you build the
14 plant to do it. As anyone, I think, can understand,
15 the result of that is that the plant is likely to
16 undergo definite halts in construction, changes in de-
17 sign, and reversals as problems occur with the develop-
18 ment of the Project. You can see this already. In
19 the data that were submitted, once again, through budget
20 hearings, the 1989 budget request by DOE has already
21 increased almost ten percent over the 1988 budget re-
22 quest.

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23 But the additional problem of this is that
24 it creates vast uncertainties with the Project, which
25 cause it to be extended and which depress those levels

1 of annual employment that are being used to sell it to 4.9.6
2 the local community, meaning that the likely impacts
3 in this town are going to be even smaller than were
4 advertised.

5 Another problem with the DEIS, as it sits,
6 it is based on the idea that there is a known demand
7 for plutonium which must be satisfied, as everyone has
8 told you. The Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memorandum is, 4.10.1
9 essentially, a classified document. However, it is also
10 a budgeting document, and the reason it's generated
11 initially is to provide input so that items can be
12 budgeted. Budgeting documents in the Department of
13 Defense are notorious for overstating the requirements,
14 and in this particular case, the Nuclear Weapons
15 Stockpile Memorandum has, according to Senator Mark
16 Hatfield who has seen it, has overstated the require- 4.2.1
17 ments in every area that has been made or that has been
18 generated.

19 In addition, as has already been pointed
20 out, Secretary Harrington said we are just absolutely
21 awash in plutonium. What is the use of this plant? To
22 the extent that the demand for weapons grade plutonium,
23 if it does exist, could be satisfied out of our original 6.3
24 stocks or to the extent that this plant is not required
25 to be built, it is a waste of natural resources. It is

4.8.1

1 a waste of federal funds, and it is extremely damaging
2 at a point in time when those of us who are defense
3 economists are extremely concerned that valid defense
4 requirements in this country are being cut.

5 The DEIS cites the need to rapidly increase
6 or surge in weapons production in case of a Soviet
7 break out from the ADM Treaty. This is kind of in-
8 teresting, because to the extent this is possible, there
9 is no requirement for this capability. In 1982 a bi-
10 partisan committee of defense experts agreed that there
11 was no capability to surge in delivery vehicles in the
12 United States, any aerospace vehicles.

13 In 1984, the U. S. Air Force concluded after
14 a study that there was no capability to surge to build
15 additional missiles, aircraft or other delivery ve-
16 hicles. Insofar as the SIS contributed plutonium that
17 could be used to build additional warheads, those war-
18 heads would simply be stored, or, I guess we'd have to
19 deliver them to the Soviet Union by hand.

20 Recent work which has come out by Rand
21 Corporation, which is one of the leading defense think
22 tanks also indicates that the Soviet Union is economically
23 in no position to break out of the ADM Treaty anyway,
24 and therefore the likelihood of needing the surge is
25 minimal.

1 After a passing attempt to "overcrowding
2 collective schools" the Draft Environmental Impact
3 Statement makes no attempt to determine any of the
4 socio-economic costs that might be involved with the
5 actual conditions that they state as possible within
6 the Statement. For example, on Page 412 of the DEIS,
7 they say there might be a radioactive release. Well,
8 if there was a radioactive release, and if the bad
9 publicity from that release resulted in simply a one
10 percent decrease in agricultural sales in Bonneville,
11 Jefferson, and Bingham Counties, the cost to those
12 people would be \$650,000. If, and I quote on Page S-4
13 of the DEIS, there was a release of radiation carried
14 in the winds, which are quoted in Page 282 of the DEIS,
15 the result would be if there was a one percent decrease
16 in the value of property in Idaho Falls, a \$10 million
17 loss to the people in this community, or for your in-
18 formation, \$250 a head.

19 Now to sum up what this document does is
20 that it over-emphasizes the very miniscule short-term
21 economic impacts which could fall on this community,
22 and it makes every effort to under-estimate the long-
23 term costs which this community could incur. I think
24 for all of us who want a consistent development pattern
25 in Idaho Falls, this is a very serious omission. Thank

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1 you.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our next commenter
3 will be Mr. Blake Hall, Chairman of the Idaho Republican
4 Party, and will be followed by Melinda Cassen of the
5 Environmental Defense Fund.

6 Mr. Hall?

7 MR. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Eiguren. First
8 of all I want to congratulate the Department of Energy
9 on its decision to extend the hearings to allow every
10 Idahoan and every other individual an opportunity to
11 be heard at a reasonable time. You should be con-
12 gratulated for that decision.

13 As I indicated, my name is Blake Hall, and
14 I am Chairman of the Idaho Republican Party. I was
15 raised in this area, graduated from our local schools,
16 eventually going to Washington, D.C. to obtain my law
17 degree from George Washington University, before re-
18 turning back to Idaho Falls. I currently reside here
19 in Idaho Falls with my wife and six children, where I
20 am an active participant in the community and a
21 practicing trial attorney.

22 Today I am here to express the Idaho Re-
23 publican Party's support for the construction of the
24 Special Isotope Separation Project at the Idaho
25 National Engineering Laboratory west of Idaho Falls.

1 Our decision to support the construction of the SIS in
2 Idaho was made only after careful assessment of the
3 purpose of the Project and its effects on our community
4 and state. This decision is based on our party's
5 commitment to a strong national defense and to the
6 recognition that our nation has long had a policy of
7 maintaining peace through a nuclear deterrent while
8 pursuing verifiable and equitable arms control agree-
9 ments with the Soviets.

10 The administration, through the National
11 Security Council, the Department of Defense, and the
12 Department of Energy, has made it quite clear that
13 the SIS, which will provide a non-radioactive source of
14 special nuclear materials, is essential for maintaining
15 the nuclear deterrent. Without the nuclear materials
16 the SIS will provide, our nation will be forced to face
17 arms control conditions that are harmful to this
18 country.

19 It is not only the President and his staff
20 that must make the determination as to the need of the
21 SIS, but if Congress, all of Congress, not just our
22 two Senators from Idaho, but all of Congress must
23 ratify those decisions by appropriating the necessary
24 funds to accomplish this project. Even with this year's
25 severe budgetary constraints, the United States Congress

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1 has appropriated approximately \$96 million for research
2 and development of the SIS Project. This represents a
3 \$40 million increase in President Reagan's own request.

4 The Idaho Republican Party wants the SIS
5 constructed at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.
6 Construction of this Project will provide work for more
7 than 400 construction workers over four years. It
8 comes at an opportune time, when many of these po-
9 tential construction workers are currently unemployed,
10 and Southeastern Idaho's unemployment rate exceeds the
11 national average. During the construction phase alone,
12 the SIS would put about \$600 million into Idaho's
13 economy. When it goes into operation, the SIS will
14 employ over 650 people with an annual budget of
15 approximately \$65 million.

16 However, this economic opportunity is just
17 the tip of the iceberg. The SIS will bring to Idaho a
18 new and exciting laser technology, that is sure to have
19 significant spinoffs.

20 At a time when Idaho is struggling to
21 provide sufficient funding for our public schools, the
22 SIS provides an opportunity to expand our tax base and
23 thereby generate more money for our children and our
24 grandchildren's education without polluting our environ-
25 ment.

1 People from all over Idaho have recognized
2 these benefits, as is demonstrated by these petitions
3 and cards that we have received in support of the SIS
4 at the INEL. They come not just from Southeastern Idaho,
5 but from Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, Latah, Canyon,
6 Ada, and Twin Falls Counties, as well as every other
7 county in the State of Idaho.

8 For almost 40 years, the INEL has been an
9 important part of Idaho's economy. During that time,
10 it has been a good neighbor. For over these four
11 decades, the INEL has compiled a safety record excelled
12 by none. Well some now sound alarm that the SIS will
13 contaminate our State, the Draft Environmental Impact
14 Statement gives a very thorough assessment of the
15 potential effect the SIS will have on our air, our
16 water, and our highways. Detailed as it is, it's easy
17 to see the aquifer cannot be contaminated, because all
18 liquids from the SIS will have to meet drinking water
19 standards as set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

20 The amount of radiation emitted from the
21 SIS to the general public is substantially less than
22 that to which we are currently exposed to from natural
23 sources here in Idaho. The additional nuclear waste
24 generated from the SIS represents less than ten percent
25 of the hazardous radioactive wastes currently handled at

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1 the INEL. This waste will be packed and shipped to a
2 waste storage facility in New Mexico, both plutonium
3 and the waste will be shipped in government certified
4 casks that when tested under stringent conditions,
5 showed no leaks. The drivers of these shipments must
6 undergo rigorous training and travel in secure trans-
7 ports.

5.27.13.2

8 It's also significant to note that we are
9 not taking land out of productive use or land that
10 could be used for some other purpose in the future in
11 order to construct the SIS. The land at the INEL is
12 already available and segregated as a nuclear site.

5.24.21

13 But more important than the Draft Environmental Impact
14 Statement is the people who work at the INEL who
15 convince us that this Project will be safe. These
16 employees are our neighbors. They are us. Almost
17 11,000 of us. We all have to live here, as well as
18 work here. INEL workers drink the same water and
19 breathe the same air as the rest of Idaho's residents.
20 They, like us, will continue to protect our environment
21 so that it will be safe for our children and grand-
22 children. For us, the alarms that are being sounded
23 ring false.

3.3.1

24 There are also those who say it is alarming
25 and frightening for the INEL to get involved in defense

1 work, it is though this were some shameful activity.
2 But the truth of the matter is, the INEL has always
3 been involved in defense work and the national security
4 of this country. The nation's bulwark against the
5 Soviet's nuclear activity was borne out on the Idaho
6 desert with the development of a prototype for the first
7 nuclear submarine, the Nautilus. The development of
8 nuclear propulsion for our submarines as well as
9 surface ships has continued to the present time, in-
10 cluding the training of the Navy's nuclear crews.

11 In addition, and it's common knowledge that
12 some of the facilities located at the INEL are involved
13 in the reprocessing of spent nuclear fuel used on
14 Navy vessels. Again, this is defense related. Of
15 course, most of us in this area are proud of our
16 defense efforts, rather than ashamed of it.

17 In closing, I would like to point out that
18 30 or 40 years ago, no one knew what the experimental
19 breeder reactor, EBR-1 would mean to the State of Idaho
20 or to the nation when it was the first reactor in the
21 world to generate electricity. Now close to 400
22 reactors around the world produce electricity, re-
23 presenting about 15 percent of the world's electrical
24 needs. No one knew what the Nautilus prototype and
25 the nuclear Navy that has trained here would mean to the

3.4

1 defense and the protection of the free world. Yet
2 today, we enjoy many freedoms as a result of our
3 commitment to that adventurous opportunity.

4 Today I encourage all Idahoans to join us
5 in a new opportunity. Don't sell SIS short. Its
6 primary mission may only be for seven or eight years,
7 but the opportunities for this technology are just
8 beginning to unfold. The SIS is an Idaho opportunity,
9 which I encourage all of us to support and take ad-
10 vantage of now. Thank you.

5.28.6

11 Thank you very much. I would request that
12 my official remarks as well as these petitions and cards
13 that support the SIS be marked as an exhibit and added
14 to the record.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: They will be marked
16 as Exhibit No. 10. Thank you.

17 Ms. Melinda Cassen of the Environmental
18 Defense Fund.

19 MS. CASSEN: Hi, my name is Melinda Cassen.
20 I am staff attorney for the Rocky Mountain Regional
21 Office of the Environmental Defense Fund. The Environ-
22 mental Defense Fund is a national non-profit environ-
23 mental advocacy group composed of half lawyers and
24 half scientists. We have about 50,000 members nation-
25 wide, including a couple hundred in this State.

1 For the last several years at EDF, I have
2 been involved in an intensive and seems like endless
3 review of the various transportation risk models which
4 DOE has used in various documents that have come out
5 over the last decade, the most recent involving the
6 high level waste nuclear repository and the WIPP EIS.

7 Prior to that, I was at the Colorado Attorney
8 General's Office in the natural resources section. I
9 went to Dartmouth College and graduated from Stanford
10 Law School.

11 With regard to the transportation of
12 nuclear materials, the Department of Energy has con-
13 sistently under-estimated the risks associated with
14 that transport, and we feel that unfortunately this
15 DEIS is worse than most, and is certainly not comparable
16 to even the last effort, which DOE undertook with re-
17 gard to the high level waste depository. Thus you
18 have a ten-page draft appendix, which talks about
19 transportation risks and it is woefully inadequate.
20 There are virtually no breakdowns as to those factors.
21 We believe there are significant under-estimates with
22 regard to release fractions, and there is just so much
23 information even that has been given out in other DOE
24 documents which is not there, that it is almost im-
25 possible to tell where there may have been mistakes made.

5.29.3

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1 With regard to the transportation of
 2 nuclear wastes, it is important to understand that there
 3 are no containers on the road today which have ever
 4 been physically tested. Containers that are on the
 5 road have been tested as a result of computer modeling,
 6 and we feel that it is imperative that there be physical
 7 testing. The 6M, which is mentioned in the DEIS as
 8 the transport container of choice has also not been
 9 physically tested. One of the DOE plutonium containers
 10 which was tested wasn't tested until after it had been
 11 in use for several years, when they tested it without
 12 anything in it - - this is the LLD-1, the birdcage
 13 thing that held the plutonium actually crashed down
 14 from the top of the packet to the bottom of the packet.

5.29.49

15 We believe as a result of that kind of
 16 experience, as a result of the recent experience with
 17 the TRU Pak which is going to be used to transport
 18 transuranic wastes to the WIPP facility, which passed
 19 the computer models and then failed the physical test -
 20 although this was prior to its ever being used - - it
 21 was eventually abandoned by the DOE, and it is impera-
 22 tive that the final EIS guarantee that there is going
 23 to be physical testing of the containers used for the
 24 transport of the waste from INEL and of the feed
 25 material to INEL.

5.29.46

1 And it's not just any kind of physical
 2 testing. It's testing to destruction. You're dealing 5.29.46
 3 with a very complicated computer model which puts all
 4 kinds of parameters into the model and comes out with
 5 a final risk assessment, total risk assessment at the
 6 end. One of the key parameters is the release fraction. 5.29.7
 7 In the event of an accident, how much of the contents
 8 is going to be released?

9 When you've never tested a container, it's
 10 very difficult to tell what the release fraction is 5.29.13
 11 going to be. Right now it appears DOE is using a one-
 12 inch diameter hole as the worse case scenario. That
 13 would be the worst possible accident.

14 We don't feel that that is something that
 15 really demonstrates what a worse case accident is all 5.29.62
 16 about, and we believe that that analysis should be
 17 changed.

18 The lack of data also means that the model
 19 results are highly speculative, and yet in the DEIS,
 20 there are no - - there's a general disclaimer, but
 21 there's nothing in the appendix which talks about what
 22 the confidence level of the model that's being used to
 23 determine transportation risk. There's nothing about
 24 sensitivity analysis. In other words, if you change 5.29.22
 25 one parameter of 100 or so that go in, how much change

5.29.22

1 do you end up with at the tail end of the process? We
2 do know as a result of one sensitivity analysis that
3 was run by the State of Utah several years ago, that
4 something as innocuous sounding as stop times, in other
5 words, how often the driver of the trucks stop enroute,
6 can have a major impact on the overall risk assessment.
7 This study out of Utah demonstrated that if you increase
8 the stop time by ten percent, you increase the total
9 risk from the activity at the end of the equation by
10 about seven percent. If you decreased it by ten percent,
11 you decrease the total by four percent.

5.29.15

12 In the DEIS, they appear to cite specific
13 information on the basis of a conversation by the
14 drafter of the DEIS to one official at Sandia National
15 Lab, a determination was made that the average stop
16 time which had been used in all previous DOE documents
17 was 80 percent over-stated, so they decreased the stop
18 time by 80 percent.

19 We question whether that's an adequate
20 basis for making that kind of change, given we know in
21 this instance that the sensitivity to that particular
22 parameter is particularly important.

23 Once again in the DEIS, we see that the
24 Department of Energy is not committed to using an NRC
25 certified container. This is something that we also

5.29.49

1 think should be changed, can be changed by the final
2 Impact Statement. The importance of this particular
3 item is that in at least 11 occasions over the last
4 decade, the Department of Energy has self certified a
5 container and later asked NRC to co-certify, and in
6 all 11 cases, NRC refused to co-certify, asking more
7 questions. And in each case, DOE withdrew rather than
8 come up with the additional information.

9 With regard to some of the other things that
10 are not in the Draft EIS, there is no worse case analysis,
11 there is no worse case analysis for the maximally
12 exposed individual; there's no worse case analysis for
13 the results of a release on the more sensitive popula-
14 tions, pregnant women and children, for example.

15 There is no discussion of the infra-
16 structure needs that must go along with any increase
17 in transportation. You're talking about an increase,
18 as far as we can tell, from the SIS of about 50 percent
19 of the total plutonium transportation in this region.

20 There is absolutely no discussion of the
21 non-human impacts resulting from a transportation
22 accident. In 1977, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission
23 determined that in an accident in a major city on the
24 East Coast with no fatalities, nonetheless in a 1977
25 analysis, it would cost two billion dollars to clean up

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5.29.114

1 that kind of an accident, even an accident with a re-
2 lease that didn't cause any fatalities. We think it's
3 imperative that there be some assessment in the Draft
4 Environmental Impact Statement of the non-human effects
5 of a transportation accident in that resulting release.

6 There is no discussion whatsoever of the
7 cost of transportation, the cost of training emergency
8 responders on the route in addition to the infra-
9 structure costs in addition to the manufacture of
10 additional containers, in addition to the cost of clean-
11 up, in addition to the cost of maintenance.

5.29.21

12 There is no disclosure of the uncertainties.
13 About half the parameters which go into this model are
14 based on best professional judgments, and yet there are
15 also parameters where site specific data is available
16 and DOE hasn't used it. The best instance of this has
17 to do with the accident rate of trucks on the roads.
18 Obviously, DOE has a very good idea what roads are
19 going to be used to transport feed product to INEL and
20 waste products and product from INEL. And yet they use
21 national average truck accident data as opposed to
22 what's there, which the State of Idaho and Washington
23 have for site specific.

5.29.18

24 Why is this important? Well, if you look
25 at one stretch of Colorado highway in the mountains, it

1 has a 34 - - an accident rate that is 34 times higher
2 than the national average. The interstate highway in
3 the Denver region has a ten, factor of ten higher
4 accidents than the national average. Given that this
5 is the kind of data that's available, there's absolutely
6 no reason DOE shouldn't be using, to the extent that
7 it's possible, available data.

8 The same thing goes for weather-related
9 closures with regard to the roads that they know are
10 going to be used.

11 What all of this means is that you're using
12 a model where a lot of data simply isn't available,
13 and you've got engineers guessing about what actually
14 should be put in there. And when there is data
15 available, they're not using it. We believe that
16 transportation may not be the make or break issue for
17 this kind of facility. We understand that, but there's
18 no reason to do a sloppy job. There's no reason not to
19 put all of the resources that are available into making
20 a model that comes up with some kind of a reasonable
21 result and then ensuring through the testing of con-
22 tainers prior to their use that we are using the
23 safest possible containers. Only in that way will we
24 be able to minimize the transportation risks associated
25 with this or any other facility that transports nuclear

5.29.16

5.29.3

1 materials. Thank you.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our next
3 commenter is Ira Koplow, Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce,
4 followed by David Albright.

5 MR. KOPLOW: My name is Ira Koplow. I am
6 the Executive Director of the Greater Idaho Falls
7 Chamber of Commerce. I have lived in Idaho nearly 15
8 years.

3.2.2

9 I have confidence in the way that the
10 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory does business.
11 They have been a very good neighbor to Southeastern
12 Idaho and a good neighbor to all of Idaho.

13 After listening to Congressman Stallings,
14 Senator Steve Symms, and Senator James McClure recently
15 at special Chamber forums discussing the need for this
16 project, I believe that there is a genuine need for
17 this "redundancy in production capacity, technology,
18 diversity and flexibility in the Department of Energy
19 nuclear materials production complex" as the Environ-
20 mental Impact Statement states.

4.7.1

21 I have read the Environmental Impact State-
22 ment on the Special Isotope Separator, and I believe
23 that the environment, health, and safety impacts at
24 the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory will be very
25 minimal and non-threatening.

6.1.1

1 I believe these minimal and non-threatening
2 environmental consequences will be equal or less than
3 projected for the other two alternative sites.

5.27.6.2

4 The impact that the Special Isotope
5 Separator Project will have is very positive economically
6 We already have in place a stable work force that is
7 well trained and available to provide the Project needs.
8 The Environmental Impact Statement states that a large
9 in-migrating construction work force for the Project is
10 not expected, due to the availability of construction
11 workers in the surrounding Idaho National Engineering
12 Laboratory region.

5.27.11.3

13 About 440 direct personnel will be needed
14 for construction. Studies at Idaho State University
15 indicate that this Project will maintain 750 permanent
16 jobs at the Special Isotope Separation Project. This,
17 in turn, will generate an additional 1,050 supportive
18 jobs in the communities of Southeastern Idaho, which
19 will result in a total of 1800 permanent jobs that
20 Idaho needs and appreciates.

5.27.7.9

21 I'm optimistic that this will give many
22 large and small businesses in the State an opportunity
23 to supply materials and manufacture products for the
24 Special Isotope Separation.

5.27.12.8

25 The Environmental Impact Statement states

6.1.2

1 that all atmospheric emissions, liquid and solid wastes,
2 will be handled in accordance with applicable environ-
3 mental requirements. I believe it will be.

4 I have had the opportunity to listen to
5 several knowledgeable people discussing the Special
6 Isotope Separation Project in detail at Chamber forums.
7 These people have presented the facts on Special
8 Isotope Separation. I believe this is to be a very
9 clean project for Idaho.

10 I have had the opportunity to work with
11 management at the Department of Energy on Chamber
12 sponsored Special Isotope Separation educational
13 seminars. These people are very conscientious about
14 their work, their involvement in this community and
15 the future direction Idaho is taking. I believe them
16 when they say that safety is utmost in mind. They have
17 an excellent and proven safety record to stand on.

18 The following is the resolution passed by
19 the Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce on March 8,
20 1988:

21 RESOLUTION

22 WHEREAS, the Department of Energy has desig-
23 nated the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory as a
24 preferred site for construction of the Special Isotope
25

1 Separation Project; and,

2 WHEREAS, the Idaho National Engineering
3 Laboratory has been a good neighbor and a principal
4 economic foundation in Eastern Idaho for nearly 40
5 years; and,

6 WHEREAS, the Idaho National Engineering
7 Laboratory is preeminent as a scientific laboratory
8 facility serving the priorities of this nation; and,

9 WHEREAS, the Idaho National Engineering
10 Laboratory has long and effectively served in both
11 matters of the advancement of science, as well as the
12 national defense; and,

13 WHEREAS, the Department of Energy has
14 concluded that the Special Isotope Separation Project
15 would have very small environmental consequences from
16 its construction and normal operation at the Idaho
17 National Engineering Laboratory;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the
19 Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce hereby strongly
20 reaffirms its long-standing support for construction
21 and operation of the Special Isotope Separation Project
22 at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory and urges
23 the Department of Energy and the Congress of the United
24 States to go forward with funding and construction of
25 the project, forthwith.

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3.3.1

6.1.2

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5.24.23

1 Respectfully submitted, Ira Koplow, Execu-
2 tive Director, Greater Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled
4 commenter is David Albright of the Federation of
5 American Scientists, followed by Clark Collins.

6 MR. ALBRIGHT: Thank you for this opportunity
7 to address you all. I am a senior staff scientist at
8 the Federation of American Scientists. FAS is a nuclear
9 arms control group formed right after World War II by
10 scientists of the Manhattan Project.

11 I personally evaluated the need for con-
12 tinued plutonium production for weapons for several
13 years. Recently I guest edited a special issue of the
14 Bulletin of Atomic Scientists on U. S. military nuclear
15 materials production. I also wrote an article for
16 this issue on the question of the need for additional
17 plutonium for nuclear weapons. What I'd like to talk
18 about today is based upon the research for that article.

19 My conclusion is that the SIS Project is
20 not needed. The U. S. already has ample supplies of
21 weapon grade plutonium. These supplies are adequate
4.15.1 22 to handle all reasonable contingencies that might arise
23 in the future. I would like to describe several of
24 these alternatives to the SIS Project in more detail.
25 And by the way, most of these alternatives were never

1 discussed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

2 Most plutonium for new weapons comes from 4.4.6
3 retired weapons. In fact, according to government
4 sources we interviewed for this special issue, Energy
5 Department projections for weapon grade plutonium for
6 new warheads indicate that the United States will have
7 a glut of plutonium at the end of the 1990's because of
8 a flood of warhead retirements, right when the SIS
9 plant is supposedly needed.

10 The DOE also has a large backlog of manu- 4.4.7
11 factured scrap or residue, which has been generated
12 during the recycling of fabrication of warhead components
13 and other production processes. According to several
14 knowledgeable government sources, this stockpile
15 represents two times the amount of plutonium that is
16 currently scheduled to be processed in the SIS plant.

17 The Energy Department has recently decided
18 to fix a broken-down facility at Rocky Flats and begin
19 this facility in 1997, close to the time or soon after
20 the time the SIS would operate. The Department is
21 also accelerating scrap recovery operations at its
22 other existing facilities, particularly at the Savannah
23 River Plant in Hanford.

24 Some large fraction of the Energy Department's
25 plutonium requirement will never materialize, because 4.10.1

5.2.14

1 its estimates of the number of warheads it will build
2 are usually inflated. According to Senator Mark Hat-
3 field, the ranking minority member of the Appropriations
4 Subcommittee that oversees nuclear materials production,
5 over the last six years the government has, "Always
6 overstated the number of warheads to be produced,
7 sometimes by a factor of two."

4.4.4

8 In addition to incorporating more realistic
9 estimates of the nuclear warhead production, the
10 official requirements for additional nuclear weapons
11 materials can be further reduced by accelerating the
12 retirement of older weapons on a schedule that will
13 permit larger amounts of recycled material to coincide
14 with new weapons production. Ultimately, much of the
15 demand for fresh plutonium can be traced to an inability
16 or unwillingness to synchronize the schedules for new
17 employment appointments and retirements in such a way
18 as to minimize the need for plutonium.

2.7.14

19 Rational management of stockpiles appears
20 to take a back seat to military targeting requirements
21 and arbitrary deadlines for deploying new weapons.

4.4.3

22 At any given moment, several thousand
23 kilograms of plutonium are contained in the DOE
24 transportation, storage, processing, warhead fabrica-
25 tion and dismantlement, and reactor production system,

4.3

1 commonly called the pipeline. More efficiently pro-
2 cessing this plutonium would also lead to lower re-
3 quirements for the additional production of plutonium.

4 A new source of plutonium that was never
5 expected two years ago - - at least to this administra-
6 tion or by our group - - are arms control agreements.
7 The pending INF Treaty would result in additional
8 plutonium savings, roughly one-third the amount of
9 plutonium that is scheduled for the SIS plant. When
10 the United States and the Soviet Union agree to re-
11 duce the number of strategic weapons by 50 percent in a
12 START Agreement, the United States would be deprived of
13 any plausible justification for producing any plutonium
14 in production reactors or the SIS facility.

15 According to Richard Wagner, Assistant to
16 the Secretary of Defense for Atomic Energy from 1981
17 to 1986, if there is a START Treaty, the United States
18 will undoubtedly stop production of fissile material,
19 or in this case plutonium, for weapons. Ample plutonium
20 exists to cover a breakdown of such an arms control
21 regime, since if that were to happen, a build up of
22 forces back to something like current force levels
23 would take long enough so that production of any
24 additional plutonium that might be needed could
25 probably be provided in time.

4.3

The START Treaty might lead to even deeper cuts in U.S. and USSR nuclear arsenals. President Reagan has clearly stated his goal is to drastically cut the number of nuclear weapons in the world. The Soviet Union has also repeatedly stated that is its own goal. In such a future, the SIS plant would be a relic of the past.

4.15.1

1.1

The SIS Project was planned as part of the Reagan Administration's massive nuclear weapons buildup. That buildup is now essentially over, and plutonium requirements have been substantially reduced. The current inventory of weapon grade plutonium is large, flexible, and sufficient to handle unexpected increases in need. The SIS Project is unnecessary and should be terminated.

Thank you very much.

THE HEARING OFFICER: We will take Mr. Albright's comments and mark them Exhibit No. 11 for the record.

At this point, ladies and gentlemen, we're going to be in recess for five minutes to allow the Court Reporter to change paper.

(A brief recess was taken.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: I'd like to introduce

75 Albright

for inclusion into the record a number of exhibits that have been brought forward to me as the Hearing Officer.

First I'd like to include in the record as Exhibit No. 12 the prepared comments of Dr. Thomas Cochran and Mr. Dan Reicher of the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Exhibit No. 13, the written comments of Mr. Burton R. Baldwin.

Exhibit 14, the written comments of Mr. Phillip A. Anderson.

Exhibit No. 15, the written comments of Mr. Mark Reed.

Exhibit No. 16, the written comments of Kathy Bitton.

Exhibit No. 17, the written comments of Edward Brighter.

Exhibit No. 18, the written comments of John E. Christopherson.

As I understand, those are individuals who are here but they have chosen not to present oral comments but rather have provided written comments for the record.

They will be included in the record and marked as stated.

At this point we will resume our receipt of

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1 oral comment, and ask Mr. Clark Collins of the Blue
2 Ribbon Coalition to comment, followed by Mr. Roy Miller.

3 Mr. Collins?

4 MR. COLLINS: My name is Clark Collins. I'm
5 the President and Executive Director of the Blue Ribbon
6 Coalition. The Blue Ribbon Coalition represents over
7 50 organizations in the Western United States, 19 of
8 which are in Idaho. While our primary concern is access
9 for recreation on our public lands, we are very con-
10 cerned also about our national defense. Recreation is
11 of very little concern to a nation at war. We feel
12 that having a strong nuclear deterrent of the very
13 latest in nuclear weapons is the only thing that keeps
14 us from becoming involved in another world war. We
15 live in an imperfect world, where a weak national de-
16 fense invites disaster and could likely bring a war to
17 our very own shores.

18 There is strong support in Idaho for the
19 jobs that this Project would bring. We, too, support
20 it for that reason, and as a construction worker myself,
21 I would like to counter the argument that most of the
22 work would be done by out-of-state workers. We have
23 a large, well-trained construction labor pool in Idaho
24 that would comprise the bulk of the work force to build
25 this facility. Some of the workers may come from

1 neighboring states that have shared their work with us
2 in the past. The majority of the work, however, will
3 likely be done by Idaho construction workers, and I am
4 proud to be a part of that work force.

5 We have heard much recently from the critics
6 of the Special Isotope Separation Project being con-
7 sidered for the INEL. Their concerns for our environment
8 and the threat of a nuclear holocaust must certainly be
9 considered. While we disagree with their viewpoint, we
10 need such groups to make us aware of the possible
11 problems with projects such as this. They make us more
12 cautious, and have helped make our nuclear industry one
13 of the safest in the world. We should listen to their
14 criticism, address our concerns, and proceed with this
15 Project that is critical to our national defense.

16 It is interesting to note that the same groups
17 seeking to lock up our natural resources in designated
18 wilderness are now advocating the weakening of our
19 national defense. The Sierra Club, Idaho Conservation
20 League, and other elitest environmental organizations
21 have targeted this Project for defeat. The Snake River
22 Alliance is likely just a front group for their in-
23 volvement, and most likely is funded by them. They
24 would have us all return to a simpler time of foot and
25 horse travel and conventional weapons for our national

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5.24.6

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5.27.9.1

1 defense. I can't help but wonder where they would be
2 if it became necessary to defend our shores with con-
3 ventional weapons, as we would likely have to do, were
4 it not for the deterrent of the most up-to-date nuclear
5 weapons.

6 The advanced technology of this Project will
7 undoubtedly have other benefits in nuclear research.
8 Much of the opposition is likely to blind opposition to
9 anything nuclear. Can you imagine trying to develop
10 electrical energy in this country against the oppositor
11 of these same dooms day predictors? Their opposition
12 to hydro and nuclear power plant projects is well known.
13 Can you imagine trying to gain approval for the high
14 voltage electrical transmission lines that cross our
15 nation today? They would have us all trying to live by
16 torch light without being able to cut the trees for the
17 torches.

18 We all need constructive criticism, and
19 for that we thank those opposed to this Project. It is
20 good that we are not a nation of yes men that agree
21 with everything our government does. We do need to
22 carefully consider our impact on this plant. It is,
23 however, a politically hostile world, where only the
24 strong survive. We need the SIS for our national de-
25 fense. We need the SIS for the spinoff technology that

79 Collins

1013

1 will result from it. It should be built here because
2 the INEL is the most economical and environmentally
3 sound location for it.

4 Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark as
6 Exhibit No. 19 the written comments of Mr. Clark Collins
7 and include those in the record.

8 Our next oral commenter is Mr. Roy Miller,
9 representative of the Eastern Idaho Council on Industry
10 and Energy.

11 Mr. Miller?

12 MR. MILLER: I am Roy Miller, of Pocatello,
13 Idaho. I've lived here all my life, more years really
14 than I like to think about. I am representing the
15 Eastern Idaho Council on Industry and Energy. This
16 organization has been active in Southeastern Idaho for
17 a number of years. Our primary purpose is dedication
18 to the orderly development of energy which will ensure
19 the timely expansion of industrial and business activity.
20 Our membership is comprised of a cross section of the
21 population, small business people, labor union members,
22 government employees and educators to name a few. We
23 are continually striving for availability of employment
24 for those persons who wish to live in this area.

25 The SIS will add to the school of employment

80 Miller

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5.24.23

so vitally needed by the area in order to maintain economic stability. This growth will be within the parameters of the high level of safety and operation which the INEL has always shown.

2.5.3

We have examined the Special Isotope Separation Environmental Impact Statement. We are firmly convinced that this report was completed by a group of very qualified and reputed people. And the report objectively evaluates the impacts on the environment of using the latest laser technologies in separating desirable isotopes, including those of plutonium, at a more economical rate than presently used processes, while at the same time providing technological diversity in achieving the crucial and desired product.

2.1.1

In examining the Special Isotope Separator Environmental Impact Statement Draft, we noted that particular attention was focused on national defense policy, including nonproliferation, socio-economic impacts, waste management techniques, environmental concepts including aquifer and air quality and transportation methods.

It has been shown to our satisfaction that the impacts of this SIS Project during construction and subsequent operation are improvements over the status quo.

The SIS applies a safe, advanced technology, which first reduces and confines the risk of existing waste problem and, second, provides an economical, long-term supply of material necessary to the integrity of the United States defense posture.

2.2.1

The Idaho National Engineering Laboratory in Southeast Idaho is uniquely qualified to implement this technology. Idaho National Engineering Laboratory scientists are experienced in careful application of new processes, development of material technologies and safeguards, and particularly, in more safely caring for wastes that may be harmful to the environment. They have many technological firsts, electric power from the atom, development and training of the nuclear Navy, development of advanced materials and fabrication processes, volume reduction and phase transformation of hazardous wastes, to name a few.

Historically, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory has an enviable safety record and proven techniques for managing radioactive wastes.

We, the Eastern Idaho Council on Industry and Energy, can only reiterate our support and urge the construction and operation of the Project at the INEL.

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Thank you.

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THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Miller.

Our next scheduled commenter is John Walters of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, followed by Richard Sagness.

Mr. Walters?

MR. WALTERS: My name is John F. Walters. I live at 126 North 800 West, Blackfoot, Idaho. I am a lifetime resident of Idaho, and I rise to speak in support of the SIS Project at INEL.

I have spent many years working at the INEL Site as an electrician and a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. I am testifying today on behalf of the labor movement in Idaho.

I have had the privilege of working on many projects at various locations at the INEL for approximately 15 years, such locations as EBR2, ATR, ETR, MTR, PBF, CPP, EBOR, TAN, LOFT, and for Westinghouse, itself, at NRTS.

I have worked in radiation areas such as the hot cell area, the reactor compartments, the burial tanks, all at the INEL, and I am very much aware of the safety requirements and how stringent DOE is on safety, not only by the Department of Energy, but also by the operation contractors and construction contractors

at the INEL Site. I am not alarmed nor am I worried about safety at the INEL.

I would like to begin my remarks by repeating that I'm speaking on behalf of Idaho labor and the working people of this country.

I was selected to speak today by Idaho labor representatives and as an elected official of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers in the capacity of International Vice President of the Eighth District, which covers the States of Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Montana. I am indeed obligated to speak for those working people in those states.

I do not speak as a novice as far as the nuclear industry is concerned. The IBEW represents the employees in 90 percent of the nuclear generating facilities across this country, and we in the IBEW are in total support of any and all advance in nuclear technology. The SIS represents a prime example of technology that is currently in a rapid state of advancement.

In the IBEW we have approximately 15,000 members presently working in nuclear facilities across this continent, and 2,000 of these employees are women. I point this out to illustrate that we in the IBEW are knowledgeable and very much aware of the safety and

1 the positive contributions the nuclear industry con-
2 tributes to the nation as a whole.

3 But again today, we are back in the old
4 standard and flame debate on nuclear weaponry, and
5 the question of arms proliferation and the proposition
6 that the nuclear industry is an environmental disaster
7 and a dire threat to this great country. If we were to
8 accept this worn and tattered theory, it would put us
9 in a position where we would be at the mercy of all
10 the other world powers which none of us could tolerate.

4.5 11 As proposed, the SIS Project is needed to
12 sustain our nuclear deterrent as an alternative source
13 by separating production plutonium to weapons grade
3.4 14 plutonium, rather than depending on that old method of
15 production reactors.

16 We are not talking about making bombs at
17 the INEL, and we are not talking about making plutonium.
2.2.15 18 We are addressing the proposition of separating the
19 plutonium we already have into a weapon grade of plutonium,
20 and that is all we are talking about here today.

21 The United States Congress has enacted
22 legislation which provides funding for the SIS, and it
23 will be built. Yes, it will be built somewhere, because
24 Congress believes it is needed. The question we face
25 is whether it will be built here in Idaho or at Hanford

1 or in Georgia.

2 Now after saying that, we can get back to
3 the issue of today: Does Idaho's economy need an in-
4 dustry that can offer some 750 permanent jobs and also
5 offer to the surrounding communities millions of dollars
6 annually in the way of taxes and more millions in the
7 way of commerce and in the purchase of goods? Can we
8 seriously consider disregarding the advantages to be
9 gained in sustaining the working people and local
10 businesses of the area and of this State?

11 As has been true in the past down through
12 all the years of American history, the developing of an
13 industry requires a degree of calculated risk. All
14 progress involves some risk. For example, consider
15 the times as they were when they invented the automobile.
16 Many risks were involved, and there was a lot of opposi-
17 tion. But progress demanded the development proceed,
18 even as here today there is the opposition. All
19 progress involves debate, risk, and opposition. Those
20 that seek to go forward must find a way to overcome
21 the opposition.

22 I only wish that together we could manage
23 to debate this issue on locating the program on the
24 basis of problem solving rather than on the basis of
25 problem seeking.

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I have taken the time to examine this Project closely by studying the Environmental Impact Statement which has been assembled, and I have come to believe that a good job has been done in developing that document. I have found careful study and scrutiny relieves a lot of the fears and concerns the average person has in respect to the SIS. I, like many others and most working people, are environmentalists at heart, although I am sure some people will say you are not environmental thinkers and, therefore, you are not an environmentalist if you support a project like the SIS. I steadfastly disagree with this presumption, and I am personally acquainted with a very large number of working people employed at the INEL, and I know that many of the working people at the INEL Site for the many various contractors and operators are indeed environmentalists in their own right and proud to be.

So I say, we as working people have examined this Project closely. We know that proper safeguards are in place and will be improved upon as the Project develops. And we believe that many of the problems involved have already been resolved, and that the other problems that everyone seems to want to debate and then debate some more can continue into the next century until the nations of this world agree to stop building

nuclear weapons. And as I stated before, this will come only when all of the world powers have reached a common agreement. I do truly pray it will come in this century, but until that day we must face reality.

Astounding advances have been made in the pursuit of the science of nuclear energy, and many have been advanced at the INEL Site right here in Southeastern Idaho. And I say Idahoans should develop, support, and operate the SIS Project not only for the image of Idaho and for the jobs it will create and the economy it will bolster, but also for this nation and its national defense and for the United States of America.

SIS is a vital Project that is needed and should be developed here at the INEL Site.

Colorful rolling plains and giant pristine mountains are wonderfully pleasing to the eye, but unfortunately they cannot feed a family, pay college tuitions, purchase a home or ensure financial stability for the businesses and for the workers of the State of Idaho. And I say we should all stand in unison and say "Yes on SIS".

We desperately need this industrial development project. Let's all demonstrate our support and go forth with SIS as we have before with so many projects in the past here at the INEL by resounding support of

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1 our national defense, our country, and the State of Idaho.
 2 Let's convince DOE it should be built, the SIS right
 3 here at the INEL.

4 Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Walters.

6 We'll mark your written testimony Exhibit No. 20, in-
 7 clude them in the record.

8 Our next speaker will be Dr. Richard
 9 Sagness of the Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, followed
 10 by Dane Watkins.

11 DR. SAGNESS: I am Dr. Richard Sagness,
 12 President of the Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce.
 13 This organization has been a leader in supporting
 14 positive economic development and a better quality of
 15 life for Eastern Idaho citizens for many years.

16 I would like to indicate to you at the out-
 17 set that the Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce is
 18 not just interested in obtaining jobs at any cost,
 19 environmental, socio-economic, or other. We live here;
 20 we love this area; and, we are certainly not interested
 21 in intentionally doing anything which will harm the
 22 area.

23 On the other hand, projects at the INEL or
 24 in other locations which meet reasonable environmental
 25 safeguards and which provide assurances of safety to

1 workers and residents are certainly important to the
 2 continuing welfare and development of our region and
 3 State.

4 The Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce
 5 has carefully reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact
 6 Statement for the Special Isotope Separation Project and
 7 has determined that the Project is worthy of our full
 8 support. It is our opinion that the report was completed
 9 by a group of technically competent and reputable
 10 individuals. The report evaluates fairly and objectively,
 11 the effects on the environment of using advanced laser
 12 technology in separating desired isotopes, primarily
 13 plutonium, in a more cost effective manner than is
 14 presently available. It is our opinion that, although
 15 this Project is primarily directed at plutonium
 16 separation, future technological spinoffs hold the
 17 potential for significant positive benefits for the area.
 18 It is also clear to us that vender support and other
 19 types of support services for the Project can make
 20 major contributions to the economy of the area.

21 Eastern Idaho has a strong and stable work
 22 force to support the SIS Project. One of the great
 23 strengths of our area is its people and their strong
 24 work ethic. As the report indicates, there should be
 25 very adequate labor available to complete the construction

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1 phase of the Project with a positive socio-economic
2 impact.
3 Although many of the technical personnel
4 to operate the Project may come from outside the area,
5 it appears to us that the type of personnel, the aggregate number, and the manner in which they will be added
6 will make positive assimilation without major disruption to city and county services likely. Impacts on
7 housing and schools appear to be minimal. Using the
8 Pocatello area as an illustration, there are currently
9 approximately 700 single unit dwellings available at
10 an average price of \$53,000. There is a good availability
11 of multiple unit housing with desirable two-bedroom
12 apartments beginning at \$200 per month. The Pocatello
13 public schools can accommodate several hundred additional
14 students without major disruption to facilities or
15 staff. Certainly, Idaho State University is in a
16 position to not only serve in a scientific and technological support role to the Project, but to accommodate
17 the higher education needs of Project personnel and their
18 families.
19
20 We are not going to go over point by point
21 the various issues which have been addressed in our
22 review of this Project. This has been done very
23 systematically and objectively in the EIS report. It is

1 sufficient to indicate that it has been demonstrated to
2 our satisfaction that the impacts of the SIS Project
3 during construction and subsequent operation will have
4 a net positive effect on Eastern Idaho, the State, and
5 the region.

6 It also appears to us that the Project
7 applies a thoroughly researched and safe technology
8 for the reduction and confinement of risks associated
9 with an existing waste problem and provides an economical
10 long-term supply of materials necessary to the integrity
11 of the United States' defense system. The SIS Project
12 is one which can benefit Idaho and the nation, and in
13 this sense we are pleased to provide our full support.

14 In conclusion, the Idaho National Engineering
15 Laboratory and its employees have been an important
16 and positive part of Eastern Idaho for many years. The
17 scientists and support personnel are competent, skilled,
18 and experienced in the application of new technological
19 processes, the development of materials technology and
20 safeguards and in safely caring for wastes that have
21 potential for harm to the environment.

22 The INEL has an excellent safety record and
23 has proven through the test of time their capability
24 in managing radioactive wastes. The INEL is a good
25 neighbor, and there's a high level of support and trust

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1 which exists between the people of Pocatello and Eastern
2 Idaho as it relates to the Site, its personnel, and its
3 operation.

4 In closing, I would only emphasize again
5 the support of the Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce
6 for the construction and operation of the Special
7 Isotope Separation Project at the Idaho National
8 Engineering Laboratory.

9 This statement has been fully supported by
10 the Board of Directors of the Greater Pocatello Chamber
11 of Commerce. I thank you very much for your attention
12 and positive consideration of my remarks and your
13 support of the Project. Thank you.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you very much,
15 Dr. Sagness. We'll mark your written comments as
16 Exhibit No. 21 for the record and introduce them as such.

17 At this time I would like to bring forward
18 our next commenter, State Senator Dane Watkins, speaking
19 on behalf of Citizens for Idaho.

20 MR. WATKINS: Thank you very much, Mr. Eiguren.
21 I appreciate being here this afternoon and lending my
22 support for this important Project.

23 At the outset, may I take this opportunity
24 to thank the hundreds of people that have worked very
25 hard in our petition effort over the last two and a half

1 to three weeks. I have co-chaired what has been called
2 the Idaho Citizens for the SIS, and I've never seen in
3 my lifetime living in this community, being born and
4 raised here, any effort that had more support of any
5 project in any manner that I have ever been related to.
6 It's been exciting to see housewives, sales people,
7 farmers, the working people of this State come together
8 from all different communities to support the SIS. I
9 appreciate those that have worked so hard, and I want
10 them to know their efforts are appreciated.

11 Today you'll hear a lot of testimony about
12 the proposal to build the SIS at the INEL. There will
13 be radical disagreements between those who support and
14 those who oppose it. I am one of the thousands who
15 support building the SIS at the INEL. I'm one of the
16 hundreds who've taken the initiative to demonstrate to
17 you the overwhelming support of this Project that is
18 enjoyed here in Idaho, and not just Southeast Idaho, but
19 all of Idaho.

20 I read in the paper yesterday that the DOE
21 must make its decision on where to build this Project
22 based on an environmental, economic, safety considera-
23 tion, not our national nuclear policy issues. It
24 seems to me that we need this facility and is in itself
25 a matter of nuclear policy. The President, Congress, the

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1 Defense Department, the National Security Council and
 2 the Department of Energy have all stated the need for
 3 this facility in order to increase our country's supply
 4 of weapons grade plutonium. I believe them. I think
 5 tens of thousands of others here in Idaho believe them.
 6 It's my understanding the Environmental Impact Study
 7 indicates the plant could be built with little or no
 8 adverse impact on the environment.

9 Economically I doubt you'll find a better
 10 place than the INEL. Throughout its history, the
 11 operation of the contractors at the Site have demonstrated
 12 their ability to bring projects in for under estimated
 13 costs.

14 There are no finer group of operators and
 15 contractors anywhere.

16 As for safety, INEL's records on safety
 17 speak for itself. Safety ought to be one of the best
 18 reasons to locate this Project at the INEL. Any
 19 criticisms of the safety record at the Site is simply
 20 not true.

21 Now where are we today, March 25th, 1988?
 22 Our nation's leaders have stated the need for this
 23 plant. Congress has appropriated the necessary funds
 24 to get it started. The DOE has indicated the INEL as
 25 a preferred site. The DEIS states the INEL is a good

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1 site. The INEL has demonstrated its capability to
 2 complete the Project economically on time and with the
 3 best safety precautions in the business.

4 There is just one factor left, public
 5 support or lack of it. I'm here to tell you, ladies
 6 and gentlemen, that this Project enjoys overwhelming
 7 public support from all over Idaho. For 15 years I
 8 represented this area in the Idaho State Senate, and
 9 in those 15 years I worked closely with officials at
 10 the INEL as projects came and went. Throughout those
 11 15 years, the INEL has enjoyed tremendous public
 12 support, both by its immediate neighbor and those who are
 13 more distant. I can tell you now, beyond any shadow of
 14 a doubt, this Project has as much or more support as
 15 any project brought to the Site.

16 I had a lady call me the other night. It
 17 was midnight. She says, "I want to sign your petition.
 18 Where do I get some?"

19 A guy was in my office this morning. He
 20 must have been 70 years old, says, "Dane, I want to sign
 21 your petition. Where can I sign?"

22 This has been happening over the last two
 23 or three weeks. It's unheard of, in my opinion, to see
 24 the different kinds of people from all walks of life
 25 come to this Project and say, "We want it here at INEL."

1 In my dealings over the last two or three
2 weeks, and I preface this remark because I know there's
3 opposition at this hearing, but as we organized this
4 Project, I didn't find any really adverse support for
5 it. I found positive support. I know there's opposition
6 here that are opposed to this Project, but the people
7 that live and work and raise their families here want
8 SIS. I can tell you that for certain.

9 Now I know the Snake River Alliance is
10 opposed, but I have some problems with their opposition.
11 I know for the most part - - I don't know a lot about
12 their organization - - I know they have some people that
13 live here, but I don't think for the most part they
14 have a lot of membership that really live and work and
15 raise their families here. They have enough money, I'm
16 sure, to hire movie stars to try to scare people, to
17 oppose the Project. I sometimes question where their
18 money comes from. I don't know for sure. But if the
19 truth were known, they aren't opposed to this Project.
20 I think they're opposed to nuclear weapons period. They
21 will go anywhere and do almost anything to obstruct
22 our national defense. If this Project goes to Savannah
23 River, the Snake River Alliance or somebody like them
24 will be there in opposition to it.

25 The National Resource Defense Council is

1 opposed. They don't care about this Project. They
2 don't care about Idaho. They're opposed to nuclear
3 weapons. They import their experts and their facts and
4 try to cloud the issue. They'll be at Savannah River
5 or any other place if we aren't chosen as the site to
6 build it.

7 As we conclude, may I say just one other
8 thing? It's been really heartwarming to start this
9 Project, and I'd like to announce today officially - -
10 and this has just taken two and a half to three weeks.
11 You've got to appreciate that we haven't had a lot of
12 time to put this petition drive together, but we've had
13 a lot of people work on it.

14 And I announce to you, Mr. Eiguren, Hearing
15 Officer, we've got over 8,000 petitions of people from
16 all over the State. As you know, I don't know how much
17 it weighs, but it feels like 100 pounds, maybe a little
18 bit more, maybe a little bit less. But it feels good,
19 and I think this shows the support this Project has.

20 I only ask that you look at the facts. The
21 nation needs the SIS; Idaho is the best place to build
22 it; and, it has, in my opinion and my knowledge over
23 the last three weeks, overwhelming support of Idaho's
24 people. I'd like to submit this as testimony as an
25 exhibit. I'd also like to show the exhibit, a bumper

1 sticker we had made up that says, "Support our State.
2 Help bring new jobs to Idaho."

3 I think this tells it all. I'd like to give
4 Mr. Eiguren one, and I hope if he puts it on his car,
5 he'll have a lot of people clapping for him. Thank you
6 very much.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Senator
8 Watkins, I'm sure, but I can't put that bumper sticker
9 on my car. We'll receive the petitions as Exhibit
10 No. 22 for the record. It's my understanding that the
11 Senator will make additional copies to be provided for
12 that.

13 At this time I'd like to call John Horan,
14 who will speak on behalf of the Health Physics Society.

15 MR. HORAN: Mr. Eiguren, for the record I
16 have a letter from Mrs. Rochelle J. Honkus, President
17 of the Eastern Idaho Chapter, which authorizes me to
18 read her oral statement. She regrets that illness
19 prevents her from being here today.

20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, sir. We
21 will mark her letter as Exhibit No. 23.

22 MR. HORAN: Ladies and gentlemen, the
23 Eastern Idaho Chapter of the Health Physics Society is
24 one of 41 chapters of the National Health Physics
25 Society which has as its primary objective the developmen

1 of scientific knowledge and practical means for the pro-
2 tection of man and his environment from the harmful
3 effects of radiation, thus providing for its utilization
4 for the benefits of mankind.

5 National membership is over 6,000 people.
6 The Eastern Idaho Chapter has a membership of more than
7 100 professionals, including individuals working in state
8 and federal government agencies, private industry, and
9 government contractors, the medical field, and at
10 universities in Idaho.

11 Areas of specialty include applied radiation
12 protection, dosimetry, training of workers, environ-
13 mental monitoring, personnel monitoring, nuclear
14 medicine, safe transport, radiation biology, radio-
15 chemistry, radio-optical risk assessment. -that's the
16 preparation of Environmental Impact Statements similar
17 to the one we're reviewing today--reactor health physics,
18 preparing regulations and standards, research and
19 waste management. I believe this organization is one
20 of the best qualified to evaluate the technical merits
21 of the Draft Impact Statement.

22 The Eastern Idaho Chapter of the Health
23 Physics Society supports the conclusions of the Draft
24 Environmental Statement that the Special Isotope
25 Separation Project can be operated safely at the INEL

1 for the following key reasons:

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2 "First, the design is at the leading edge
3 of the state of the art for nuclear facilities, and it
4 employs the best dose reduction techniques for both
5 the workers and the off-site population.

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6 "Second, radioactive releases to the en-
7 vironment under normal operating conditions will be
8 well below any applicable standard. In fact, any
9 liquid discharges will be below drinking water standards.

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10 "Third, in the event of an accidental re-
11 lease of radioactive materials, the environmental im-
12 pact will be minimal. In addition, we believe, based
13 on our professional knowledge and experience, that the
14 INEL is the optimum location for this Project. We
15 believe also that the Environmental Impact Statement
16 could be considered flawed, because it does not paint
17 a complete picture of the unique experience and expertise
18 that exists at the INEL. In fact, it's unfortunate
19 that even the people in Idaho Falls, Sun Valley, and
20 Boise, Idaho, have only a superficial awareness of
21 this valuable resource."

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22 In the interest of time, I will only outline
23 the key ideas developed in the written statement which
24 will be submitted later. These are: The INEL has been
25 the home of the most advanced energy research performed

1 in the world. Argonne National Laboratory demonstrated
2 the first use of nuclear energy to produce electricity
3 and the principle of the breeder reactor in Idaho.
4 Incidentally, breeder reactors convert natural uranium,
5 which is non-fissionable, into the fissionable element,
6 Plutonium 239. Breeder reactors have been producing
7 small quantities of plutonium in Idaho since 1951.

8 The INEL is the only National Engineering
9 Laboratory in the United States. Over the past 49
10 years, 52 reactors or critical facilities have been
11 successfully designed, built, and operated at the INEL.
12 Most of these facilities were unique in the world. The
13 most serious accident to occur at the INEL was in 1961
14 at the SL-1 prototype reactor facility. Three military
15 personnel were killed in the steam explosion. The
16 radiological impact, as predicted by the safety analysis
17 report, was minimal at any of the other site facilities
18 or for the off-site population.

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19 The most severe accident considered as even
20 possible for the SIS would be orders of magnitude
21 smaller, could injure about the same number of workers,
22 and would have less environmental impact both on and off
23 site.

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24 The Radiological and Environmental Sciences
25 Laboratory at the INEL is unique as a government

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1 operated laboratory. Actually in 1975, the INEL was
2 given a new type of designation. It is now a national
3 environmental research part. This laboratory monitors
4 the water, air, soil, farm products such as wheat,
5 lettuce, and milk, as well as wildlife over an area
6 of 5,000 square miles, both on and off site. They have
7 an international reputation for the quality of their
8 research and operational activities in personnel and
9 environmental dosymmetry, as well as the development of
10 ultra-sensitive methods of radio-chemical analysis for
11 internal dosymmetry. They are also a reference lab-
12 oratory for the United States Nuclear Regulatory
13 Commission.

14 The Naval Reactor Facility has four major
15 plants, as you've heard several times today, which are
16 the birthplace and major training center for the U.S.
17 Nuclear Navy, including nuclear powered submarines,
18 cruisers, and aircraft carriers.

19 Both the EBR-1 in 1953 and the MTR in 1958
20 have demonstrated nuclear power operations with
21 Plutonium 239 fuel. In addition, the zero power
22 plutonium reactor operated from 1955 to 1970 at the
23 Argonne National Laboratory Idaho Site. The INEL
24 developed the original concept and is now the home for
25 the Systems Safety Development Center, which is inter-

1 nationally recognized for its organized logical approach
2 to improve the safety performance of any industrial
3 organization. This is done through a fully integrated
4 risk management program. While this program was
5 developed for application and DOE activities in the
6 1980's and 1990's, these advanced state-of-the-art
7 concepts and methods are now being used by NRC, by
8 NASA, and by the U.S. Navy. In addition, spinoffs
9 from this government program to U.S. industries has
10 been rapid, including aerospace, automobile, utilities,
11 oil, chemical, forrest products and nuclear power.
12 Most recently, the concepts have crossed the ocean to
13 England, France, and Germany.

14 In conclusion, all the programs and
15 activities I have mentioned have involved many of the
16 past and present members of the Eastern Idaho Chapter
17 of the Health Physics Society. They were proud to be
18 involved in the design, operation, waste disposal and
19 environmental monitoring aspects for these activities.
20 With confidence we look forward to similar successful
21 experiences with the SIS. Thank you.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Ladies
23 and gentlemen, our final two organizational commenters
24 this afternoon are Jean Richtsmeier of the Idaho Falls
25 Citizens against the SIS and A. R. Conroy.

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Jean Richtsmeier?

MS. RICHTSMEIER: I speak as a member of the Idaho Falls Citizens against the SIS. It is an ad hoc group of citizens in Idaho Falls who have become concerned since there has been publicity about the SIS in the media.

Also, just to let you know a little background, I belong to a group named Christians Praying For Peace, and this group has prayed for peace in eight churches in the Idaho Falls area for the past five years.

Atoms for peace, first electric power generated by a nuclear reactor, and now a new frontier. Treatment of inoperable brain tumor by Boron Neutron Capturing Therapy. Some things to be proud of, things that people of Southeastern Idaho are proud of, and I'm here today because I'm proud of those accomplishments of the INEL. And I speak today because that original mission, Atoms for peace, peaceful uses for nuclear power, is really being threatened. And more than threatened, I believe it will be perverted by the mission of producing weapon grade plutonium for nuclear warheads. And that change would change my environment, the environment in which I live.

My name is Jean Conklin Richtsmeier. I have lived in Idaho Falls since 1977. My husband and I

have five children. Our home is at 150 Eleventh Street. Professionally, I'm a communications disorder specialist, and my husband is a practicing cardiologist here in town. We are ordinary citizens of Idaho Falls. Our own philosophy, maybe the way you would say that we strive in our lives, how we base our everyday decisions, how we try and settle our problems, maybe even how we choose to spend our time. Our philosophy we learn from Albert Schweitzer, and it's very simple, it's reverence for life.

The Special Isotope Separation laser does not pervert that philosophy. However, the mission of using the SIS to produce weapons grade plutonium does. So I'm here because I feel my environment is threatened, and I would like to talk about that in three different areas: The physical environment, the economic environment, and to me most importantly, the human environment. I know that the INEL has a great safety record, one that the DOE is very proud of. But the transportation of low grade plutonium to Idaho Falls and then the transportation of very toxic plutonium from Idaho Falls to Rocky Flats is an unknown that no one can assure us of its safety. The other factors I will leave to other experts to speak about.

And now the economic environment. I can

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1 see how a \$1 billion project would boost the economy
 2 of Southeastern Idaho, and I understand that. I'm very
 3 sensitive to it. I really love my community; I really
 4 am in favor of jobs. But any decision has to be made
 5 in light of the overall picture and weighted out for
 6 the overall long-term good, and I am a citizen also of
 7 the United States, and all of us are quite aware that
 8 our federal economy has been in danger and is in danger,
 9 in part, because of the national deficit. And here
 10 again, the SIS is a Project that is non-revenue pro-
 11 ducing and is extremely costly for the amount of jobs
 12 that it would provide. That is another \$1 billion
 13 project paid by the tax dollars of all citizens through-
 14 out the United States. So I have to weigh that in the
 15 decision. For the economic overall good of my country,
 16 I do not believe that the SIS is an appropriate decision.

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17 Finally, I look at the human environment.
 18 Historically, this - - the INEL Site has focused on the
 19 peaceful use of the atom. There's no way that the
 20 workers at the Site would be unaware that the original
 21 purpose has changed 180 degrees. Also, as a citizen
 22 of this community, I know it is a religious community.
 23 And as you might be aware, most major denominations
 24 have publicly opposed the nuclear arms race. So in
 25 effect, the Project asks workers to countermand, during

1 their five days of work, what they have learned as they
 2 come together to pray, the moral mandates that have
 3 been publicly pronounced by the major denominations.
 4 This will cause a change in the human environment. It's
 5 internal; it's in the heart; it's in the head; it's in
 6 the viscera; and, I do think it will cause stress. And
 7 I do think in the long-term, our community will not
 8 prosper.

9 So in conclusion, I urge that the SIS, for
 10 the purpose of producing weapons grade plutonium, not
 11 be built at the INEL and not be built anywhere. Thank
 12 you.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our final
 14 organizational speaker is A. R. Conroy, speaking on
 15 behalf of the Greater Pocatello Economic Growth Council.

16 Thank you, I will mark Mr. Conroy's comments
 17 as Exhibit No. 24 and submit them as provided to us for
 18 the record. Mr. Conroy?

19 MR. CONROY: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
 20 name is Richard Conroy. I am a 15-year resident of the
 21 State of Idaho and currently live near McCammon. I'm
 22 employed by FMC Corporation in Pocatello and have worked
 23 for FMC for 21 years. My present position is technology
 24 manager.

25 I am also the immediate past President of

2.7.11

1 the Greater Pocatello Chamber of Commerce, and I
 2 currently serve this organization as Chairman of the
 3 Greater Pocatello Economic Growth Council.

4 I appear before you today wearing two hats:
 5 As a leader of the economic development effort in the
 6 Pocatello-Chubbuck-Bannock County area, and as an
 7 experienced research scientist and manager.

8 First, I'd like to address the Special
 9 Isotope Separation Project from a regional economic
 10 development point of view.

5.27.6.1

11 The SIS Project would be an enormous shot
 12 in the arm for the Southeast Idaho economy. Were it
 13 not for the INEL and a few major manufacturers whose
 14 operations have remained fairly stable during the 1980's,
 15 our region would have been economically devastated by
 16 the recent recession in the agricultural and other
 17 natural resource based elements of the economy. However,
 18 we believe that through recent dedication of significant
 19 resources toward economic planning, both at the local
 20 level in Southeast Idaho and at the state level, and
 21 because of improving national and world economies, we
 22 are beginning to see light at the end of the tunnel.

5.27.11.1

23 Because of all that, this is an ideal time
 24 for the SIS Project to be sited at INEL. Under
 25 utilized infra-structures in energy, public education,

1 manufacturing sites and housing are readily available in
 2 Southeast Idaho and especially in the Pocatello area.
 3 A strong transportation system already exists. An
 4 extremely well trained work force for component manu-
 5 facturing and contractor support functions is in place
 6 and is further enhanced by the outstanding training
 7 capabilities of Idaho State University. These facilities
 8 are fully capable of absorbing the demands of an in-
 9 creased construction and operating work force at INEL
 10 with minimal impact on local government and educational
 11 services.

5.27.12.2

5.27.15.1

12 Furthermore, I am impressed by the Draft
 13 Environmental Impact Statement analysis regarding
 14 operational and transportation risks inherent in location
 15 of the SIS facility at INEL. It is very clear from the
 16 report that the SIS poses risks to the environment,
 17 public safety, and health, which are equivalent to or
 18 lower than those we have lived and worked with since
 19 the INEL was first built in the 1940's. In short, I
 20 believe that the economic benefits to the region which
 21 will flow from the SIS facility will far far outweigh
 22 the minimal risks associated with the production tech-
 23 nology and/or the transportation of its raw materials
 24 and products to and from the INEL Site.

6.1.2

6.2

25 Now I'd like to discuss the AVLIS technology

5.27.9.1

1 from the point of view of its future business spinoff
2 potential and the long-term economic impact this implies.
3 The technology has passed through the basic research
4 and development stages and is now ready for commerciali-
5 zation. It has been my experience in 25 years of
6 research activity that the ultimate spinoff benefits of
7 new technology are seldom visualized in the early stages
8 of research and development. Spinoff opportunities
9 generally begin to appear after commercialization when
10 the process and/or product application scientists and
11 engineers begin to tinker with the production system to
12 reduce cost, increase sufficiency, and modify product
13 specifications to meet market demand.

14 I believe that enormous potential exists
15 for spinoffs from the AVLIS technology. The ionization
16 and separation of elemental or isotopic species in the
17 vapor state with laser energy may be applicable to a
18 wide variety of materials or metals and presents
19 opportunities for concentration of high purity products
20 from impure ores, concentrates or intermediate products.
21 Location of this Project in Idaho could significantly
22 enhance this technology transfer process by virtue of
23 our existing strengths in the minerals and materials
24 sciences at the INEL, our universities, and our mineral
25 industries.

111 Conroy

5.28.6

1 In closing, the Greater Pocatello Economic
2 Growth Council and I personally firmly support location
3 of the SIS Project at the INEL Site because of the po-
4 tential short and long-term economic benefits to the
5 region and our conviction, based on the Draft EIS
6 analysis, that the risks inherent in the SIS technology
7 are minimal and manageable with existing and proven
8 procedures. Thank you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Conroy.

10 At this point I want to go back and make
11 sure that I have not missed any of the institutional
12 speakers that have signed up. The only individual whose
13 name we called who was not here was the Mayor of the
14 City of St. Anthony, Mayor Merrill Rose. Is Mayor Rose
15 here? We assume the Mayor will not be with us today.

16 At this point we will take a very brief
17 recess for me to coordinate the witness list with our
18 staff, and we will resume in about five minutes.

19 (A brief recess was taken.)

20
21 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'll call the hearing
22 back to order at this point and ask you to please take
23 your seats.

24 Ladies and gentlemen, just to make sure
25 there is no confusion whatever, let me briefly go through

112 Conroy

1.1

1 a few of the procedural rules that will hopefully allow
2 you to understand how we are going to proceed from
3 this point forward.

4 At this point it is our intention to receive
5 oral comments from those members who have pre-regis-
6 tered to speak at this afternoon's session. This means
7 that all of you who have pre-registered or registered
8 at the door will be allowed the opportunity to comment
9 either this afternoon, this evening, or at the con-
10 tinuation of this hearing next Tuesday and be allowed
11 five minutes within which to speak. Our intention is
12 to begin at the top of this list perhaps some of you saw
13 in the back of the room. We will go until 6:30, at
14 which time we'll go ahead and take a break until 7:00
15 and then begin the evening session.

16 To the extent we're not able to get to you
17 this afternoon, we have essentially two options. If
18 you would like to comment today, we will accommodate
19 you on a priority basis this evening at the evening
20 session, or if you would like to comment Tuesday, you
21 may do so without having to do anything further. If,
22 however, you would like to signal to us whether you want
23 to comment next Tuesday at either the afternoon or
24 evening session, we would ask when you leave you go to
25 the registration table in the back where the DOE

1 officials are and indicate on one of the sign-up sheets
2 whether you want to speak next Tuesday afternoon or
3 Tuesday evening - - I'm sorry, Wednesday. I apologize.
4 Excuse me, make sure everyone knows it's Wednesday.
5 Tuesday we'll be in Boise.

6 So again, just so you understand, we will
7 try to accommodate as many people this afternoon as
8 possible. You have five minutes. We have speaker
9 lights here and when I give you the green light, that
10 means you have expended four minutes and have a minute
11 to comment. The red light means time is up, okay?

12 So with that, we'll go ahead and begin our
13 list of public commenters, and the first public commenter
14 will be Ted McKinley.

15 MR. MCKINLEY: Ladies and gentlemen,
16 Mr. Moderator, my name is Ted McKinley and I am from
17 Arco, Idaho. I was a craftsman for approximately 25
18 years and I am retired now from the skilled crafts.
19 I've been a steel contractor for approximately nine
20 years.

21 Let me begin with a few remarks to give
22 you a little background concerning the testimony I
23 will be giving today. The points I will bring up here
24 are a very condensed version of an affidavit I gave
25 to the Government Accountability Project about a year

6.5.4

1 and a half ago.

2 In correspondence with Thad Dyer, Council
3 for GAP, he states that DOE, for more than one year has
4 refused to cooperate concerning the Freedom of In-
5 formation Act. I think you will have to agree that this
6 is rather strange, considering all the news releases
7 we have been hearing concerning how extremely safe the
8 procedures and engineering practices are on the INEL
9 Site. It raises this question, if an organization
10 like GAP can't get pertinent information from the
11 government in areas of concern, would you or I as in-
12 dividual citizens be able to? Shouldn't we ask who
13 they are accountable to and how do we secure this
14 responsibility or accountability?

5.30.5.15

15 Now let me share some of my concerns with
16 you about the practices that occurred on a structure
17 that is to contain high level radioactive waste at the
18 INEL Site.

5.14.2

19 To begin with, reinforcing steel arrived on
20 the project and was rejected. We have the documents
21 to confirm this. At a later date, this rejected steel
22 was approved for installation in the building. We have
23 the document that verifies this. These documents also
24 reveal that only a small portion of this heat number of
25 steel was rejected, although ASTM, and ACI-359 Nuclear

1 Code require the complete heat number be rejected. In
2 other words, only a small portion of steel was rejected
3 from a heat number that should have been rejected in
4 its entirety. Then at a later date, the rejected
5 portion was installed in the building.

6 It has supposedly been a longstanding
7 policy at the INEL not to substitute material or
8 equipment specified in the job specifications unless
9 that substitution is an approved equal or better material.
10 The job specs specified ASTM, a 615, Grade 60 rein-
11 forcing steel. However, we have the shipping lists that
12 show a 706 type of reinforcing steel totaling more
13 than 70 tons was accepted and installed in the project.
14 A-706 is rated at 10,000 pounds per square inch less
15 tensile strength than A-615, or 22,500 pounds less
16 tensile strength per bar. There was more than 1500
17 bars in that particular section.

18 The mechanical rebar splicing that occurred
19 on the job was to the ACI-318 Code, which requires
20 125 percent of the yield strength of the bar, in this
21 case 135,000 pounds. However, the nuclear codes re-
22 quire the bar also be tested to minimum tensile strength,
23 which in this case would have been 202,500 pounds or a
24 difference of 67,500 pounds.

25 In case of a failure of the bar during a

1 test, all splicing must stop until the cause of the
2 failure is found according to Nuclear Code 359. We
3 had three failures, but did not stop splicing. We
4 just never pulled the bars above the 125 percent of
5 yield figure that the job specification called for.

6 The job specs also required a Class C
7 tension splice as per ACI-318, but in many instances we
8 find that the lap splices were from 33 inches to 70 1/4
9 inches short.

10 Think of this, tolerances for length of
11 splice in ACI-117 allow you to be one and one-half
12 inches less than the required lap length. Here we are
13 almost three feet to five foot and ten inches short of
14 the required lap length. We believe that both the
15 rebar placing drawings and Nuclear Structures Safety
16 Code 349-80 indicate that more than 200 mechanical
17 splices were omitted from a portion of the project. It
18 is obvious that the testing of mechanical field
19 splices were not conducted to Nuclear Regulatory Guide-
20 lines.

21 Our research, in fact, indicates that many
22 portions of the job specifications for the Project do
23 not satisfy even the 318 code, let alone the nuclear
24 codes.

25 The depth of concrete layer or lift re-

1 quirements are specified in both the job specs and the
2 ACI-309. We find that both specs and code were not
3 only ignored, but permission was given to ignore the
4 specification and the code. I have documentation to
5 support what I am saying. Let me remind you that the
6 318 code I have been referring to that they say they
7 designed the building to is a code that might be
8 specified for any ordinary building construction.

9 Now there are highly qualified conscientious
10 people employed at the INEL Site, but there are not
11 enough of the highly qualified ones to go around. It
12 bothers me considerably that well-meaning individuals
13 are singing the praises of safety features at the INEL,
14 and they can't possibly know for certain that their
15 statements are true. Even some of the fellows working
16 on this Project weren't aware of what transpired on
17 the Project at the time. Now please remember, the
18 statements I am making do not concern a hypothetical
19 situation. They actually occurred, and I would simply
20 ask all of you to consider the facts that I have pre-
21 sented.

22 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, sir.

24 Our next commenter will be Wayne Hope,
25 followed by Roger Turner. I might mention to you as

5.24.23

5.20.4

1 next in sequence, if you would come up front here, we
 2 can accommodate you more quickly.
 3 Wayne Hope, followed by Roger Turner.
 4 We'll take the written documentation included
 5 in the record as Exhibit No. 25, the comments of
 6 Mr. McKinley.
 7 Wayne Hope?
 8 (No response.)
 9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Roger Turner?
 10 Mr. Turner, followed by Alan Carter.
 11 We would ask you to please state your name
 12 and address for the record.
 13 MR. TURNER: Yes, thank you. My name is
 14 Roger Turner, and I live at 307 North Buchanan,
 15 Pocatello, Idaho. I'd like to thank the Department of
 16 Energy for this opportunity to make comments. I
 17 support the No Action Alternative of the SIS Environmental
 18 Impact Statement. I think the following factors should
 19 be considered:
 20 One. The published document lacks hard
 21 information showing the need for the proposed plant.
 22 The purported need for the redundancy in plutonium
 23 production does not make sense, considering the
 24 immense amount available for weapons now. If there is
 25

1 enough weapons grade plutonium to destroy everyone on
 2 earth many times over in the U. S. inventory, then that
 3 is enough redundancy and fire power in itself. Therefore,
 4 I think the proposed plant should not be built, based
 5 on that reason in itself.
 6 Another reason is that evidence also
 7 suggests that the past activities at the Site have not
 8 followed practices to ensure the protection of the
 9 Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer. In the past, the
 10 officials at the Site have argued that the aquifer has
 11 not been contaminated, that injection of toxic radio-
 12 active substances was not going to harm the public,
 13 that injection of carcinogenic organic chemicals was
 14 safe. Yet both of these activities have since been
 15 stopped because it has not been shown safe. The Site
 16 is now under consideration as a super fund Site, because
 17 carcinogens have migrated off site, risking the drinking
 18 water of the public.
 19 This aquifer is the lifeblood of Southern
 20 Idaho. Over 227,000 people depend on the aquifer as
 21 their sole source of drinking water. Most of these
 22 people are down gradient from the INEL Site. A report
 23 by the Region X EPA office has indicated that the
 24 aquifer is vulnerable to contamination. Thus you have
 25 a situation where the past activities of the Site are

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5.30.4.12

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1 a risk to the public health now. More potential
2 pollution sources at the Site would not be wise when a
3 super fund investigation is underway.

4 I would also like to point out a correction
5 on Page 3-16. There is a wrong statement there in-
6 dicating that past practices have not contaminated the
7 aquifer. Wayne Pierre of EPA's Region X, RCRA Depart-
8 ment reported last week that there has been a release
9 which has entered the aquifer. The chemicals include
10 trichloroethylene and the heavy metal chromium.

5.13.19

11 The third reason is that the Draft Environ-
12 mental Impact Statement does not detail the existing
13 health studies of nearby communities. Although the
14 INEL is working with the Idaho Central Tumor Registry
15 on data concerning cancer rates, this data was not
16 provided in the report. To use only estimated dosages
17 as a measure of risk without actually including existing
18 cancer data is not scientifically sound. I also
19 believe that if cancer rates are elevated in the
20 region downwind, according to the area of the INEL,
21 that is a strong reason to stop the SIS, until that
22 issue is resolved.

5.25.2

23 Lastly, the impact of having a high security
24 facility should be addressed further. Will the in-
25 creased security result in reducing the chances for

1 non-defense contracts at the Site? Will the SIS plant
2 limit future contracts to those of high security only?
3 Will security levels change at the facilities away
4 from the proposed SIS plant? That is, the surrounding
5 areas, will they have to fall in line to a higher
6 security? These are important issues that need to be
7 addressed that I felt were weak in the Draft Environ-
8 mental Impact Statement, and that's my comments. Thank
9 you.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will take
11 Mr. Turner's comments and label them Exhibit No. 26
12 and put them in the record.

13 Next commenter is Alan Carter, followed by
14 Bob Fann. Alan Carter?

15 (No response.)

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Bob Fann?

17 (No response.)

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
19 what I'd like you to do is have you step forward to
20 the staging area. Let me start calling names here.
21 Alan Carter, are you Bob Fann?

22 MR. FANN: Yes.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Next would be James R.

1 White and Ada Ritchie.

2 At this time we'll hear the comments of
3 Mr. Bob Fann.

4 MR. FANN: My name is Bob Fann. I am a
5 native of Idaho. I was born and raised in Twin Falls
6 County. I have been a resident of Bonneville County
7 the last 32 years. Having spend the entire life of
8 the INEL downstream and downwind, I have no fear of
9 nuclear energy.

1.1 10 Therefore, I say yes to a better economy;
11 yes, to more jobs, yes, yes, SIS.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark this
13 Exhibit No. 27, the written comments of Bob Fann.

14 The next commenter will be James R. White,
15 followed by Ada Ritchie.

5.27.7.16 16 MR. WHITE: My name is James Robert White.
17 My address is 2100 Belmont Avenue, Idaho Falls, Idaho.
18 I am a consulting nuclear engineer, and I have lived
19 in Idaho Falls for 12 years.

20 I reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact
21 Statement and I have seven comments:

2.1.1 22 One, I found the report to be well-organized
23 and informative. The persons who prepared the report
24 should be commended.

25 Two, as I understand it, the objective of

1 the preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact State-
2 ment is to provide environmental input into a USDOE
3 decision on the proposed construction and operation of
4 the SIS Project and on the selection of such a site
5 for such a Project. I feel that an environmental
6 consideration has been ignored which could significantly
7 influence the decision on the selection of a site for
8 the SIS. That consideration is the consequences of a
9 nuclear war.

2.7.8

10 Currently, the INEL would not be a prime
11 target in a nuclear exchange. What I would like to see
12 in the EIS is the incremental probability the INEL would
13 become a target in a nuclear war, compared with the
14 other proposed sites. I would also like to know what
15 the incremental human consequences would be of the INEL
16 being a target in the event of a nuclear war. I
17 suspect that the incremental human probability would
18 be relatively small, in fact they are probably already
19 targets. As a result of the smaller incremental
20 probability, the human consequences of locating the SIS
21 at these sites, given a nuclear war, could be signifi-
22 cantly smaller than locating the SIS at INEL.

2.7.10

2.7.8

23 I feel that the probability of an all out
24 nuclear war occurring within the lifetime of the pro-
25 posed Project is significant and should be considered.

2.7.8

6.1.9

I feel this probability is much greater a probability than some of the other events that were analyzed, including volcanic events, dam failures, tornadoes, seismic events and so on.

If the SIS is located at the INEL, then Idaho Falls will be a much less desirable place for me to live.

5.27.12.8

Point No. 3, the economic benefits to the local community of locating the SIS at INEL is probably less than if the SIS were located elsewhere. The local DOE office, through its contractors, has historically avoided doing business with local spinoff companies. This is not the case at other DOE sites. The local engineering companies here in Idaho Falls do much more work for other DOE locations than they do the INEL. It is interesting to note that the Draft Environmental Impact Statement itself was done by NUS Corporation rather than through a local consulting firm.

2.12.5

Point No. 4, it is not made clear on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement why the INEL is the preferred site. From an environmental standpoint, other sites offer less consequences. The community surrounding the Hanford site has recently undergone a severe economic downturn due to the shutdown of the N Reactor and the cancellation of the VWIP Project.

The Hanford site probably needs the SIS a lot more than the INEL needs the SIS.

Point No. 5, the DOE has operated the INEL in the past in a manner that has caused little environmental consequences. This has not been the case at other DOE installations, in particular Rocky Flats and Hanford. What guarantees do we have that the INEL will continue to be operated in a prudent manner?

Point No. 6, several reports were referenced in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which were not available for public review, since they are classified documents. I feel that the report written for public review and comment should only reference publically available documents.

Point No. 7, in the list of organizations receiving copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, many public libraries were included.

THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark your written comments as Exhibit No. 28 and include them in the record.

Next commenter, Ada Ritchie, followed by Dave Luce, followed by Keith Brown.

Ada Ritchie?

MS. RITCHIE: I want to preface my testimony with I have never spoken at a hearing before, and I did

5.24.25

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2.9

1 go to the scoping hearings, and I am active in voting
2 and taking my rights as a citizen seriously, but I have
3 not been active politically. This is very close to me,
4 and that's why I wish to give my testimony today. I
5 live at 1574 Beverly, Idaho Falls.

6 Before I tell you the reasons I am against
7 the SIS Project, I would like to tell you who I am and
8 what I believe.

9 I am Ada Migel Ritchie, and I live in
10 Idaho Falls, and I am a fourth generation Idahoan. I
11 graduated from Skyline High School in 1968 and attended
12 the College of Idaho in Caldwell. I have a Bachelor of
13 Arts Degree in sociology and a Master's Degree in
14 communications disorder specialist from St. Louis
15 University.

16 I'm currently teaching in Idaho Falls School
17 District No. 91 and have been for the past 12 years. I'm
18 the parent of three sons, and I am married. I believe
19 in a strong national defense, and I support nuclear
20 energy development for civil energies.

21 Today I am pleased to participate in this
22 hearing and ask that everyone truly hear what is being
23 said. I have read the Draft Environmental Statement and
24 summary, not in total, but as much as I can comprehend.
25 It's very technical. I attended the scoping hearings

1 and will continue to become more and more outspoken on
2 disarmament. The SIS Project represents the military
3 industrial complex and development, and its purpose is
4 to provide plutonium for nuclear weapons, therefore
5 escalating the arms race.

6 The area of concern to me is responsibility
7 in government. I have heard it said that President
8 Reagan has mandated this Project. As a citizen, I am
9 compelled to respond, from many points of view, from
10 scientific, intellectual, spiritual, social and economic.

11 What is lacking from this proposal is the
12 moral and social viewpoint. Producing plutonium is
13 the mission of the SIS, or that is separating the
14 isotopes for the purpose of nuclear warheads beg and
15 inquires a moral and social response as to whether this
16 is needed. There are only about ten large cities in
17 Russia, 100 medium-sized cities and 700 small cities.
18 The United States has about 24,000 nuclear weapons.
19 Enough for two bombs for every city and town in Russia.

20 By its own admission, the Department of
21 Energy, Mr. Herrington has stated that we are awash in
22 its plutonium. The need for this Project does not
23 justify the costs nor the effects that building a
24 plutonium plant will have.

25 Ladies and gentlemen, we know the effects of

4.14

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1.1

1 a bomb that is used from Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The
 2 purpose of the SIS is to produce these types of ex-
 3 plosives. We know that to use this can cause total
 4 destruction. Therefore, we hope never to use them.
 5 But we are spending \$500 million to build things that
 6 we hope never to use because the use of these will
 7 cause total destruction. That is why I am opposed to
 8 the SIS.

9 The U. S. spends over half of our national
 10 budget on military and defense related areas. But
 11 defense contractors such as Boeing paid zero taxes
 12 from 1981 to 1983, while making a profit on Pentagon
 13 projects of one and a half billion dollars. Every
 14 household will pay an average of \$23,000 in taxes for
 15 the administration's five-year defense program. These
 16 statistics are taken from Women for America, For the
 17 world, best 1987 short documentary.

18 When I teach my children about the strengths
 19 of this country, it is not that we have more weapons
 20 that is the security. The security is from becoming
 21 all we can be. It is in standing up for what we believe
 22 and participating in the process. Putting our priority
 23 into plutonium production in this town is not a healthy
 24 message nor is it satisfying to many people of this
 25 country. For me the elementary question, "Will more

1 nuclear weapons make us more secure" needs to be addressed.
 2 We have enough weapons, weapons we hope never to use.
 3 Enough is enough.

4.13

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark your
 5 written commentary Exhibit 29 and include it in the
 6 record.

7 Next commenter is Dave Luce followed by
 8 Keith Brown.

9 Is Dave Luce here?

10 (No response.)

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Keith Brown?

12 (No response.)

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Lee Schwendig, followed
 14 by Fred McLaine?

15 MR. McLAINE: I am Fred McLaine, and my
 16 home is at 771 Wildrose Lane, Bingham County, Blackfoot,
 17 Idaho.

18 From what I personally have been able to
 19 find out about the SIS Project, we would have to be
 20 some kind of a fool to let this opportunity to have the
 21 SIS Project in Idaho and then let it get away from us.

5.27.7.16

22 Just think of the nearly 2,000 jobs it would
 23 give to Idaho's people. This would not just mean jobs
 24

5.28.2

1 at the INEL, but would make more jobs in the surrounding
2 communities, not to mention supplies coming from local
3 business people.

4 It is my understanding that the SIS facility
5 can do its job safer, cheaper and cleaner than a
6 reactor, not to mention the clean-up of plutonium that
7 we already have in a safer and more economical way than
8 ever before.

5.27.9.1

9 The technology that the SIS will bring to
10 Idaho will benefit not only our state universities, but
11 also it will contribute to the medical research here in
12 Idaho.

13 I also believe that this new technology from
14 the SIS will not only benefit us here today, our
15 children, but their children, also. Just think maybe
16 some day our children won't have to leave Idaho to get
17 a good job and to raise their children somewhere else
18 besides here in Idaho.

5.27.4.5

19 Ladies and gentlemen, all I'm trying to say
20 here today is that someone is going to get the SIS
21 Project. So why not Idaho? Everything we do in
22 today's world we have to take a chance just to survive,
23 and I'm telling you all right now, until the day comes
24 when the whole world is ready to lay down their weapons
25 and stop killing one another and start loving and caring

1 for one another, the way our Lord meant for us to do,
2 then we will have to depend on projects like SIS just
3 to keep our country as safe and secure as possible.
4 I've lived here in Idaho, part of my children were
5 born here and all my grandchildren were born here, and
6 I care about their safety and security, and I say yes
7 to SIS. Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Let me go back over
9 those names I called before: David Luce?

10 (No response.)

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Keith Brown?

12 (No response.)

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Lee Schwendig?

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Following Lee will be
16 Kay Whitaker and following her will be the Reverend
17 Jim Philipson. If you're here, would you please step
18 forward.

19 Give your name and address for the record.

20 MR. SCHWENDIG: My name is Lee Schwendig.
21 My address is 1301 Woodruff. My employment is in the
22 College of Business at Idaho State University. I might

3.4

1.1

1 also add that the family farm has adjoined the INEL
2 downwind for 35 years, and we feel real secure in Mud
3 Lake.

4 From an economic perspective, what I want to
5 present to you is a few of the woes and, essentially,
6 if you've checked your real estate value lately, you'll
7 notice in the last six years it's decreased between 30
8 and 40 percent. If you'll note some of the agricultural
9 statistics, you'll see that better than 50 percent of
10 the net income to the agricultural sector of Idaho
11 came from the federal support programs.

12 You will also notice that machine and
13 fabrication people who are dependent upon agriculture
14 are going out of business. They're looking for new
15 markets. They have traditionally focused on supplying
16 agricultural sectors and the food processing sectors.
17 None of those people are strong.

5.27.4.5

18 Before I left campus today, I visited with
19 our demographer, Paul Solis tells me that there's a net
20 migration out of Idaho, particularly in the 17 to 25-
21 year age bracket. Bannock County is experiencing in
22 the neighborhood of 300 vacant houses a year. Those
23 are breadwinners moving away.

24 The net dependency ratio in Idaho is in-
25 creasing. That is the number of breadwinners and people

1 who will grow to support the tax systems are lessening
2 while the people who are dependent on us are increasing.

3 Those are some of the characteristics that
4 make our situation a little grim, and personally, flat
5 is not a way to describe our economy, obviously, and
6 I think at this moment in time there's a great deal of
7 attention in the State to economic development. And
8 showing interest in all commerce is a positive attribute
9 to take. What we need in the State of Idaho is
10 diversification, and certainly with the presence of mind
11 to look for new market segments in the machining and
12 fabrication and electronic industries, we see the
13 potential for some of that diversification.

14 Additionally, we see windows of opportunity
15 with projects such as the SIS in terms of new technolo-
16 gies that might land in Idaho. Not only are there
17 spinoff businesses, there are opportunities to put
18 people back to work presently. One of the major
19 advantages I see in this program is we have a two to
20 three-year time length. We are not positioned in the
21 State of Idaho to do this kind of technical work and
22 to become a viable vendor, but we have the time to
23 train and position ourselves so that we may take ad-
24 vantage of some of these economic opportunities.

25 Not only is the lead time good, the spirit

5.27.9.2

1 of cooperation across the State and the communities is
2 positive. With those forces in hand, it looks as
3 though there is some possibility for diversifying our
4 economy, improving upon the state of employment and the
5 economic benefit of the citizenry. Perhaps we can find
6 economically viable jobs for our children.

7 What I'd like for you to keep in mind is
8 I'm not ignoring the philosophical issues. I simply
9 wanted to point out some of the issues, sociological
10 and economic that are going on, some of the viable
11 benefits I see should the SIS locate at the INEL.
12 Thank you.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Ladies
14 and gentlemen, to facilitate the moving around of
15 speakers, I'm going to call the next five scheduled
16 commenters. If you're here, we ask that you come down to
17 the staging area so we may move more rapidly. The
18 next five commenters are Kay Whitaker, the Reverend
19 Jim Philipson, Mr. John Saucerman, Mr. Darrel Russell,
20 and Mr. Thomas M. Weiss.

21 Kay Whitaker?

22 (No response.)
23

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: The Reverend Jim
25 Philipson?

1 Please give your name and address for the
2 record.

3 REVEREND PHILIPSON: Yes, my name is Jim
4 Parr Philipson. I live at 1571 Stanger, Idaho Falls,
5 Idaho.

6 Most of my life I have lived here in Idaho
7 Falls. My father, Jay Bion Philipson headed the Site
8 Selection Committee and was sent here by the Atomic
9 Energy Commission in 1946, which selected Idaho Falls
10 as the site for a national laboratory. He was in key
11 management positions here until 1960 and later returned
12 as a president for the chief contractor, Idaho Nuclear
13 Corporation. I do not speak as an expert in nuclear
14 science. I speak as someone who has grown up all my
15 life discussing nuclear science and the issues and the
16 ethics of how it would be operated here in Idaho Falls.
17 I speak as an individual, someone with a commitment to
18 Idaho Falls and to nuclear research.

19 Unlocking the mysteries of the atom has
20 always been filled with great promise and great peril.
21 When the laboratory was begun here there was a strong
22 commitment to working to release potential of atomic
23 energy for the benefit of our people, for the purposes
24 of peace. There were many national laboratories
25 established out of World War II, but only is one

1 specifically designated for the peace time pursuit of
2 purposes for the atom.

3 In 1947 the wise leaders of the City of
4 Idaho Falls shared that vision. They asked for and
5 received from the Atomic Energy Administration and the
6 Truman Administration written assurances that the
7 laboratories here would not be used to produce atomic
8 weapons. I still believe that research as a peaceful
9 use of atomic power is necessary, will continue to be
10 necessary, and will bring real benefits to our children.

11 If there is one community of scientists,
12 one community of people; one community of engineers and
13 leaders in this whole country who want to understand
14 the difference between the pursual of the peace time
15 purposes of the use of the atom and those for military
16 purposes, it ought to be this community. If there is
17 one group of people who ought to remain faithful to
18 the original vision, it is this one. In the last decade,
19 the defense industry in this country has come to
20 dominate almost all forms of research in our nation,
21 particularly nuclear research. We as a nation are
22 being transformed from a people who dream and work
23 for a quality future into a people consumed with the
24 need to defend our shrinking treasure and influence.
25 Who in America will speak for research and nuclear

3.3.3

1 science and say no to the continual expansion of the
2 defense industry overriding nuclear research.

3 Where in the Environmental Impact Statement
4 does it speak to the cost we pay when we surrender this
5 vision of the peaceful use of the atom? Where does it
6 speak to the spiritual loss when we go from being
7 scientists committed to positive goals and purposes to
8 being bomb makers and servants of destruction? It
9 will be expensive in the short run, definitely expensive
10 for this community and for us to say no to this Project.
11 But what the Site stands for, what it has stood for
12 historically has a future if we will work and wait for
13 it. Making Idaho Falls an extension of the Department
14 of Defense has a spiritual cost which can't be measured
15 in dollars, but is real nonetheless.

16 I have a second more earthly response to
17 this SIS proposal. We in Idaho Falls owe a lot to the
18 men and women who have managed the Site over the years.
19 With the exception of 1961 when the Army was allowed to
20 manage a reactor experiment, they have a marvelous
21 record of safety and care for the environment. That
22 record is the result of constant vigilance and in-
23 telligent choice of procedures. Their care has allowed
24 us to feel safe in this area. However, the Department
25 of Energy and its forexrunner, the Atomic Energy

3.3.2

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5.24.22

3.2.19

Commission, do not have as fine a record elsewhere, particularly with the sites in which they have done plutonium processing for weapons.

3.2.16

The combination of the felt need for secrecy which limits the regulation of these projects and a certain arrogance which places the importance of their work above consideration for the environment and even human lives, leads to management of these projects which is lax. So accidents and un-anticipated contamination have occurred and continue to occur in these projects.

5.12.1

This Environmental Impact Statement does not warn us that this is less regulated, less vigilant management which we shall inherit in Idaho Falls if the SIS is approved. I think we will see contamination of our aquifer and possibly other accidents that will leave a mark on our state long after these managers have moved on.

6.2

I'd encourage you to see that the costs of this Project are not all spelled out in this Impact Statement. I encourage you to look beyond the short-term to consider the future of Idaho Falls, of our State and nuclear science. I'd encourage you to join me and my family in saying no to SIS in Idaho Falls.

1.1

THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Reverend

Philipson's written comments will be marked as Exhibit 31 and included in the record.

Our next commenter is Mr. John Saucerman, followed by Mr. Darrel Russell.

MR. SAUCERMAN: I'm John Saucerman, I live at 5742 South 15th East, Idaho Falls.

My family has been in Southeast Idaho for over 32 years. My children were born and raised in Idaho. We have a strong commitment to this State, as well as a strong loyalty to see it survive and prosper in the future.

The INEL has been a part of Southeast Idaho for as long as I can remember. The engineering programs that have taken place at this Site are the cornerstones of the nuclear industry. The technology that has been learned from the prior experiments will by far outlive all of us. The high levels of safety at the INEL in both the construction and operations has produced safety statistics which are superior to the national average for both construction and the nuclear industry.

5.24.23

The proposed SIS will bring the newest of technology that will benefit industry, business, and educational institutions throughout the State. The SIS will be the most advanced laser facility of its kind in the world and has the potential to generate national

5.27.9.2

1 interest, as well as additional engineering projects.
2 The laser and fiberoptics research relating to the SIS
3 can become an important function for the state educa-
4 tional facilities.

5 Many communities will feel the effect of
6 expanding businesses as well as a decrease in un-
7 employment, because the SIS will bring federal tax
8 dollars back to Southeastern Idaho.

9 With the SIS Project, the Idaho National
10 Engineering Laboratory will again take the lead for
11 an engineering program that may benefit many future
12 generations.

13 As an Idahoan, I feel that the SIS program
14 should be brought to the INEL, and I strongly support
15 it. Thank you.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Mr. Saucer-
17 man's written comments will be marked as Exhibit 32 and
18 included in the record.

19 Our next commenter is Darrel Russell,
20 followed by Thomas M. Weiss.

21 MR. RUSSELL: Yes, I'm Darrel Russell, and
22 I live at 3960 North 45th East, Idaho Falls. I've
23 lived in Idaho Falls all my life. I believe that the
24 SIS Project has a lot to offer, and I hope - - I would
25 like to testify today on the impact on Idaho, not

1 particularly its environment. I will leave that to the
2 professional people who understand and can interpret
3 the statement for me. I have read it. I can't say that
4 I understand it all, but I have read it, and I've talked
5 to numerous people about it.

6 I keep hearing the question, "Do we need
7 the SIS?" I don't know. I really don't know whether
8 we need it. The experts say we do. The people we trust
9 with our nation's defense say we need it. Who am I to
10 say we don't?

11 I can answer one question, "Does Idaho
12 need the SIS?" Well, the SIS just happens to be the
13 project, and it will indeed help Idaho. It can't help
14 but help.

15 I was raised here in Idaho; my family, my
16 entire family is still here in Idaho, but their
17 children are having a tougher time staying here in
18 Idaho. There aren't the jobs here to keep them here,
19 and they are bright and they are young, and they're
20 aggressive. All we need to do is have the projects
21 and work to keep them here.

22 Do we need the SIS? There's no doubt.
23 Thank you.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

25 Our next five scheduled commenters are

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5.27.7.16

5.27.4.5

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1 Thomas Weiss, Kelly Cheney, Roger Redford, Kermit
2 Leir, and Larry McConnel, Ross Jones.

3 Thomas Weiss? Please give your name and
4 address for the record, sir.

5 MR. WEISS: My name is Thomas Weiss. My
6 address is 3585 Sun Circle. I'm the Administrator of
7 the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, and I am
8 employed by Health Trust, Incorporated.

9 I would like to address the Environmental
10 Impact Statement in regards to health care, first of
11 all by ERM, which is a 246-bed medical complex which
12 has recently been completed. We're capable of providing
13 health care to the employees of INEL if they expand and
14 include SIS.

15 We have worked with INEL in the past in
16 the development of our medical center to include
17 specific projects and health care needs for their
18 employees and will continue to do so. We have the
19 capability to expand it to meet any new needs, and hope
20 we can continue to provide such services.

21 Thank you.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our next
23 scheduled commenter will be Kelly Cheney, followed by
24 Roger Redford.

25 MR. CHENEY: I am Kelly Cheney, I live at

1 Route 4, Rigby, Idaho. I'm a life long resident of
2 Idaho. The high level of safety at the INEL both in
3 construction and operation has produced safety statistic
4 which are superior to the national average for both
5 construction and nuclear industries.

6 I have worked for 11 years at the INEL in
7 the construction industry for the last 11 years, and
8 I know that this statement is a fact. Let us ask our-
9 selves what would our forefathers have done in a
10 situation similar to this? Well, there's no doubt in
11 our minds, because we're all here, aren't we? We
12 wouldn't have been here without their ability to per-
13 ceive what could be a great western land and home for
14 themselves and future generations.

15 Don't you think there were risks involved
16 there? Let us compare the odds of the nuclear - - of
17 having a nuclear accident in this area and hurting some
18 of us that live here. Let's compare it to an auto
19 accident. What are the odds of you having an auto
20 accident before you return home today?

21 We see an ad on television which says, "Can
22 we take the risk?" I say yes. The risk is very small
23 in comparison to the driving on our freeways here in
24 Idaho right now.

25 What has happened to our pioneer spirit here

5.24.23

6.1.2

5.24.31

5.27.11.2

5.27.7.16

1 in Southeastern Idaho? Our forefathers were here
 2 before us and they were pioneers. Personally, I
 3 wonder. I am thankful that some of the people that
 4 have testified here today weren't one of my forefathers
 5 when electricity and automobiles were ready to go on
 6 line. We would have neither of these necessities today,
 7 would we? Studies show that approximately 1800 jobs
 8 will be created by the SIS. I'm a native born Idahoan
 9 and third generation, and I'm proud of it.

10 I would like my children to have the
 11 economic opportunities to stay in Idaho if it is
 12 possible. We need, and I personally support the SIS.
 13 Thank you.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our next commenter
 15 will be Roger Redford, followed by Rex Cherry, followed
 16 by Larry McConnel.

17 Roger Redford?

18 (No response.)

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Rex Cherry?

20 (No response.)

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Larry McConnel? I
 22 would note for the record Mr. Tim Hopkins is one of
 23 our scheduled speakers at this point. He is unable to
 24
 25

145 Cheney

1 be here and has left with the desk a copy of his
 2 written comments and we'll mark those Exhibit 33 and
 3 include them in the record.

4 Please give your name and address for the
 5 record.

6 MR. CHERRY: My name is Rex Cherry, and I
 7 live at Route 3, Rigby, Idaho. I have lived in Idaho
 8 all my life and have derived my living in part from the
 9 INEL. As a construction worker, I have worked at the
 10 INEL periodically for 25 years. My father was employed
 11 at the Site for 30 years and retired from employment
 12 there some years ago. The INEL provides the stability
 13 for the economic base in Southeast Idaho.

14 I cannot believe that anyone who works,
 15 lives, and enjoys the style of life in Idaho would be
 16 opposed to the development and progress that the SIS
 17 Project would bring to our great state, and at the same
 18 time provide for a strong national defense.

19 There are some outside special interest
 20 groups who for some reason do not share our goals. These
 21 groups spend a lot of time and money opposing many of
 22 the things that have made our country the greatest
 23 country on earth. For this reason, I would question
 24 the loyalty of these people.

25 A short time ago, another group, the

146 Cherry

5.27.12.4

3.4

1.1

1 National Right To Work Committee, brought professional
2 actors into our state via the news media to tell us how
3 to vote. The quality of actors was somewhat better
4 than those being used by the Snake River Alliance and
5 Moses seemed to have considerable influence over the
6 people of Idaho. What has this gotten us? Lower
7 wages, part-time jobs, and suffering from those people
8 in the work force who can least afford it.

9 I would hope that the people of this great
10 State will see through the smokescreen being put up
11 by these groups who have come in with their unlimited
12 outside of the state funding and their professional
13 actors to tell us that the people of Idaho are not
14 capable of controlling the destiny of the greatest
15 state in this country.

16 I would urge you, the people of Idaho, to
17 tell these groups to go home by saying yes to SIS for
18 Idaho.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comment
20 of Mr. Rex Cherry will be listed as Exhibit No. 35 in
21 the record. Prior to that we have three additional -
22 it will be listed as Exhibit No. 35.

23 Our next scheduled commenters are Larry
24 McConnel, Ross Jones, Phil Anderson, David Sealander,
25 Tim Jackson. Are any of those here?

147 Cherry

I033

1 MR. ANDERSON: My name is Phillip Ander-
2 son. I live at 909 Lucille Avenue, Pocatello. I've been
3 a resident of Pocatello for nearly 23 years. Pro-
4 fessionally, I'm a chemist.

5 Members of the news media here today will
6 perhaps recognize me as a senior scientist at the INEL,
7 President-elect of the Idaho Academy of Science, past
8 Chairman of the Idaho Section of the American Nuclear
9 Society and a member of the Church of Nazarene. I want
10 to make it clear I am speaking for myself today and not
11 representing any of those organizations.

12 Given the need for the SIS, which I under-
13 stand is not a topic of this hearing, I'd like to dis-
14 cuss several technical aspects. The proposed SIS will
15 utilize new high technology. As with any new technology,
16 we can expect spinoff applications. We didn't know in
17 advance that the space race of the '60's and '70's
18 would give us miniature calculators, personal computers
19 and a myriad of new materials of construction. Similarly,
20 it is really difficult to predict the scope of spinoffs
21 from the AVLIS techniques. Certainly, we can expect
22 new advances in obtaining isotopically pure radio-
23 isotopes for specialized medical and manufacturing
24 applications. Others, which are more difficult to
25 predict, will certainly follow. Personally, I welcome

148 Anderson

5.27.9.1

5.30.5.7

3.2.2

5.24.27

5.29.41

1 the opportunity for and the presence of the development
2 of such technology here in Idaho.

3 On the subject of wastes, the additional
4 volumes of radioactive wastes that will be generated
5 by the SIS are very small compared to those of ongoing
6 activities already in Idaho. I, personally, spend at
7 least 40 hours a week in the immediate vicinity of
8 existing high level radioactive wastes, and am completely
9 comfortable with and confident of the safety of the
10 management of such materials here using current
11 technology.

12 As a chemist, I have worked extensively
13 with alpha emitting radionuclides, including PU-238
14 and less radioactive Plutonium 239, which is a primary
15 product of the proposed facility. The hazards, while
16 real and significant, simply do not begin to approach
17 the frightening conditions often described in the sen-
18 sational reports that have recently appeared in our
19 newspapers, especially in Letters to the Editor.

20 I am familiar with the types of containers
21 required for the shipment of radioactive materials and
22 am very satisfied with levels of protection they pro-
23 vide for credible accidents. Recently, after a truck
24 crashed into an Idaho river and released some of its
25 toxic chemical cargo, several people made irresponsible

1 statements which were carried in the news media,
2 suggesting that if the truck had been carrying plutonium
3 the river would have been poisoned for tens or hundreds
4 of thousands of years.

5 The fact is, had that truck been carrying
6 plutonium or other nuclear materials, the consequences
7 of the accident would not have been significant, because
8 the containers for carrying such materials are designed
9 to maintain their integrity even under much more severe
10 accident conditions. I would much prefer to have such
11 shipments of nuclear materials pass through my neighbor-
12 hood in Pocatello daily than to have other common and
13 more dangerous shipments such as gasoline pass through
14 even monthly.

15 This confidence is based on personal ex-
16 perience with such materials and a first-hand knowledge
17 of their chemical, physical, and radiological behavior.
18 I can't help but notice that these frightening and
19 incredible accident scenarios are proposed by people
20 who, although intelligent and sincere, have not had
21 first-hand experience with nuclear materials, but are
22 simply repeating what they have heard or what they think
23 is the nature of such materials.

24 In conclusion, I hope that the decision of
25 whether or not to site the SIS in Idaho will be based on

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5.24.31

1.1

1 actual technical, economic, and environmental merit and
 2 not on emotionally based negative reports of sincere
 3 but technically inaccurate perceptions of the hazards
 4 associated with the nuclear materials. If the people
 5 making these statements about the horrendous dangers of
 6 plutonium really have documentable data of such hazards,
 7 they should share them directly with the scientists and
 8 engineers of the technical community. Not only are we
 9 in the position to take corrective action, if they are
 10 indeed true, but we have a strong vested interest in our
 11 own health and safety. If the dangers are really as
 12 severe as they claim, we who work with such materials
 13 would be the first to suffer the consequences.

14 The overwhelming conclusion, based on
 15 current scientific data and experience to date, is that
 16 nuclear materials, including plutonium, can indeed be
 17 handled and processed safely using current technology
 18 and established safety procedures.

19 On that basis, I personally welcome the
 20 construction and operation of the SIS in Idaho. Thank
 21 you.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: At this point, I'm
 23 just going to take a moment, lest there be confusion in
 24 the record, Madam Reporter. I'm going to go through a
 25 list of exhibits for the record.

151 Anderson

I034

1 Mr. Tim Hopkins' written comments are
 2 Exhibit 33; the Chair has received several written
 3 comments from the stack in the back that we'll include
 4 in the record as the following exhibits: Exhibit 34,
 5 Cory L. Westergard; Exhibit 35, the written comments of
 6 Rex Cherry, who was also an oral commenter; Exhibit 36,
 7 comments of Julie Robinson; Exhibit 37, written comments
 8 of David Hensel; Exhibit 38, the written comments of
 9 Ben Winshit; and Exhibit 39 will be the written comments
 10 of Phillip A. Anderson who testified.

1.1

11 At this time, our next commenter will be
 12 Ross Jones. Please give your name and address for the
 13 record, sir.

14 MR. JONES: My name is Ross J. Jones, my
 15 address is 3410 Handly Avenue, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

16 As a contractor and a member of the Idaho
 17 Falls community, I am here this afternoon to publicly
 18 support the SIS at the INEL.

19 In being a contractor here in Idaho over
 20 the last 11 years, I'm quite familiar with their
 21 policies and procedures at the INEL.

22 I feel the record of the INEL in construc-
 23 tion, in operation, safety and security speaks for
 24 itself in both the protection of the environment and
 25 protection of human life. I cannot see where any of this

5.24.23

152 Jones

1 affected or changed by the SIS, based upon the past
2 record of DOE and the INEL.

3 I feel it is time that the people of Idaho
4 are supported by the people in Idaho. It's time that
5 people outside of Idaho quit making the decisions in
6 deciding what is best for Idaho. The people which make
7 Idaho their home have been impacted heavily by outside
8 special interest groups on issues such as the right to
9 work and the wilderness issues.

10 Let's don't let this happen to the SIS. It
11 is not a matter or an issue of whether the SIS is going
12 to be built. It is a matter of where it's going to be
13 built. To help assure economic basis for the INEL and
14 Southeastern Idaho, the pluses far outweigh the minuses.
15 The SIS will have a positive impact on the area. And,
16 again, I fully support the SIS being built at the INEL.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. The
18 written comments of Ross J. Jones will be included in the
19 record as Exhibit No. 40.

20 Our next scheduled speaker is David
21 Sealander, followed by Tim Jackson, followed by Mr. Vern
22 Autry.

23 MR. SEALANDER: My name is David Sealander.
24 I live at Route 4, Box 371, Idaho Falls, Idaho. 83402.

25 Regarding the Draft Environmental Impact

1 Statement, there is no substantiation of presumed need
2 for the additional plutonium, and hence, the SIS plant
3 offered in this Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
4 Without the access to information in the Nuclear Weapons
5 Stockpile Memorandum, it is not possible to know if
6 this represents a need redundancy or a redundancy of
7 welfare for the military industrial complex. Other EIS
8 for national security projects have included a classified
9 appendix that completely covers the need for a given
10 project for evaluation by Congress, but this one does
11 not. If all the chest beating and heavy statements in
12 favor of this Project by the Idaho Congressional Delegation
13 has not been primed with hard information on clear
14 need by way of the general NWSM and the specific
15 classified appendix to this document, can we dare claim
16 that free and open democratic processes are at work
17 here?

18 A classified appendix addressing the need
19 for the SIS in a complete manner should be provided to
20 Congress. Senator James McClure's claims of continuing
21 need for weapons plutonium in his recent address to the
22 Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce are strongly contra-
23 dicted by statements given by Secretary John Herrington
24 of the DOE, in the same article in the paper.

25 The need for the SIS here is based on

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4.11.2

4.11.1

4.2.1

6.2

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1 redundancy, flexibility, and technological diversity in
2 plutonium production is vague and not specific enough
3 for appropriate evaluation.

5.26.1

4 The legally available amount of feed
5 plutonium available to the SIS plant, six tons, would
6 be processed completely in six to eight years of SIS
7 operation, and any redundancy, technological diversity
8 and flexibility offered by the SIS would be over with
9 unless part of the plans of the building of the SIS by
10 the DOE and the Department of Defense is to deliberately
11 violate provisions of the nuclear non-proliferation
12 treaty by processing commercial fuel plutonium for
13 military uses, a wreckless plan at minimum.

5.26.2

14 The country cannot afford the whole
15 perennially over-estimated wish list of nuclear or non-
16 nuclear weapons submitted by the Pentagon and, yes,
17 the military industrial complex can and perhaps will
18 bankrupt and destroy this nation from within if not
19 given appropriate oversight. If our Congressional
20 delegation is seeking to find some federally funded
21 welfare work for the local building trades to continue
22 to entertain them in the style to which they have become
23 accustomed at the national expense and debt, it should
24 be clearly and honestly noted so in this Draft Environ-
25 mental Impact Statement. This is a critical socio-

6.3

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1 economic impact indeed. This area has a fair number of
2 fast breeder reactionaries, at once over populating
3 the world, cursing government, and living off the
4 government work projects funded by taxes and debt.

5.17.2

5 I am a farmer in the New Sweden area south
6 and west of Idaho Falls, and I remain deeply concerned
7 about the radioactive materials injected directly into
8 the aquifer through waste water injection wells in the
9 past years. Also, considerable amounts of plutonium
10 and other transuranic and several kinds of very toxic
11 organic solvents reaching deeply into the soil at the
12 INEL. Functionaries at INEL keep reassuring us with
13 words of not to worry, "It won't do you any harm in your
14 lifetime."

5.30.1.6

15 The SIS should not be constructed before the
16 full-scale demonstration facility is in operation at
17 Lawrence Livermore Labs in California and has been
18 tested and operated successfully and a final design for
19 the plant has been prepared and approved.

5.28.8

20 I'm acquainted with a number of people who
21 work at the INEL and related facilities and less
22 acquainted with many others. A majority of them have
23 adamantly affirmed their work to be from peaceful use
24 of nuclear energy, with a clear distinction from
25 nuclear armaments. Many of them I've spoken with

3.3.1

2.7.12

1 recently about this SIS plant have expressed considerable
2 fear and concern, often saying they would like to speak
3 out against it but fear job reprisals may result and
4 that they may have to quit their jobs here and seek
5 employment elsewhere to satisfy their own conscience
6 about it.

7 Some have said they would never have come
8 here to work except that it was basically an atoms for
9 peace facility.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Excuse me, sir, I'm
11 going to have to cut you off there.

12 Mr. Sealander, we'll take your full written
13 statement and mark it Exhibit No. 41.

14 Our next scheduled commenter is Tim Jackson,
15 followed by Vern Autry.

16 MR. JACKSON: My name is Tim Jackson. I
17 reside at Route 7, Box 131-C, Idaho Falls, Idaho. I
18 also am a life long resident of the State of Idaho and
19 am very proud of that fact. I also own two construction
20 firms in the Idaho Falls area, and in the past have had
21 the opportunity to employ well over 100 individuals.

22 Last December we called the State Employment
23 Office and asked that they send us 100 qualified people.
24 That's how many people we needed to do the work we had
25 on hand. And through the course of two weeks, as the

1 lines started from our door and went out toward the
2 highway, we received over 700 applicants. To me, that's
3 a great indication of what the construction community
4 and the fabrication community is suffering right now.

5 I also want to state that I feel very
6 comfortable with the safety at the INEL. I don't say
7 that by reading the Environmental Impact Study or
8 reading derogatory statements about the INEL, I say
9 that because I personally have, in the past 15 years,
10 had the opportunity to put on the SIC's, go into the
11 hot cells, do the work associated with the health
12 physicists, and understand, have a full understanding
13 of the safety that is at the INEL.

14 To date, and I have dealt with several
15 hundred construction people over the past 15 years, I
16 do not know of one person in the construction business
17 or in the operations business of the facility that has
18 suffered any health consequences from the INEL.

19 I think what we need to do here is separate
20 the wheat from the chaff. If we were to all decide in
21 this room today we would come to an understanding that
22 those over here on this side of the room are for the
23 SIS Project, understand the economic benefits of the
24 Project. Those that are opposed would be on this side
25 of the room, would also understand their moral

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1 obligation toward what they think is some negative
2 things that would come from the SIS Project. But I
3 challenge those who feel those negative feelings about
4 the Project to do one thing, and that is to fully
5 study and understand the safety record of the INEL, and,
6 also, fully study and understand the economic benefits
7 that the SIS Project would have on the State of Idaho.
8 If you don't understand that, then come down
9 to my place sometime when the work gets slow and things
10 are really tight and someone that's worked for you for
11 five or ten years, and you give them two checks and
12 send them home and tell them, "Go someplace else and go
13 to work. Let you and your family survive some other
14 way."
15 I don't appreciate that. I support the SIS.
16 Thank you.
17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our next
18 five scheduled commenters are Vern Autry, Kaye Merriam,
19 April Hall Cutting, Benson Lanie and John Byrom. Vern
20 Autry? Please state your name and address for the
21 record, sir.
22 MR. AUTRY: I live in Idaho Falls. I haven't
23 done a lot of papers here. I don't understand all this
24 technical, but I do understand economics a little bit
25 about the people of Idaho, and the people of Idaho are

159 Autry

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1 tired people.
2 Come into our state. Vern or Joe or Bob,
3 this is what you need. This is what you need. We're
4 going to shove this down your throat. Well, we're
5 tired of people coming in and saying, "Vern, Bob, and
6 Joe, this is what you need."
7 I have lived here all my life. I've worked
8 at the Site for over 30 years, and as far as I'm con-
9 cerned, I worked a number of - - I've worked in the
10 building trades; I've worked in IC's, and believe me,
11 the Site is safe. It is safe. They have the people
12 and the quality of people to make sure it's safe. I'm
13 not much of a speaker. I'm just a construction worker,
14 but believe me, we need the SIS. Thank you.
15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our next
16 scheduled commenter is Tina Hufftel, followed by April
17 Hall Cutting.
18 Would you give your address for the record,
19 please?
20 MS. CUTTING: April Hall Cutting, 125 North
21 19th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho. Set before us today are
22 life and death, blessings and curse. I stand before
23 you and ask you to choose life. I stand with those
24 against the SIS. This Project should not be built;
25 not at INEL; not at Savannah River; not at Hanford; not

160 Cutting

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1 anywhere. Our option must be for action of a different
2 kind.

3 Instead of trying so hard to bring this
4 Project to Idaho because of its economic benefit, I
5 challenge the DOE, the Chambers of Commerce, private
6 businesses, and all the contractors at the INEL to work
7 hard for life-enhancing projects.

8 I challenge you to develop and invest in
9 applications of engineering technology which save in-
10 stead of threaten life. Look beyond the immediate gain
11 of several hundred jobs to the unlimited possibilities
12 to which the gifted people of our state can apply their
13 skills and talents. Think creatively. Devise new
14 technologies. Just imagine.

15 Imagine a world where there is cooperative
16 exploration instead of nuclear standoff. Imagine the
17 day when we finally learn that any kind of stockpile
18 deprives others. Imagine that if all of the human
19 energy spent supporting and protesting this Project and
20 in getting to these hearings today was being used to
21 assist those in need or to work with our Legislators
22 for just laws. We might save the world instead of
23 destroying it. We might learn to respect others instead
24 of creating animosity.

25 Our environment cannot be evaluated. The

161 Cutting

1 impact of such a project can never be weighed. Life is
2 a fragile thing. My hope is that humanity accepts the
3 responsibility for the future of this planet, so that
4 it may have as long a life as plutonium does. Just
5 think what an amazing future the earth can have in the
6 next 20,000 years.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: The Chair has re-
8 ceived the testimony of April Hall Cutting, as well as
9 that of Craig Hall Cutting. The exhibit number will
10 be 42 for April Hall and 43 for Craig.

11 Our next scheduled commenter will be Lanie
12 Benson.

13 Your address for the record, sir?

14 MR. BENSON: Lanie Benson, Post Office Box 736,
15 Driggs, Idaho.

16 This statement is in support of the No
17 Action Alternative not to construct the SIS.

18 This is how I see the SIS and the issues
19 addressed in the DEIS. To start with, the Department of
20 Energy comes down and tells me they would like to build
21 a plutonium factory in my back yard. I think, "Gee,
22 this must be my lucky day."

23 I see my property values going up, up. Who
24 knows, I might even get a job for a change. But wait
25 a minute, why has DOE decided to bless me all of a sudden?

162 Benson

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1 I asked them, "Why my back yard?" I get no answer.

2 I check around. I learn that nobody else
3 wants this thing. I wonder why. I make some telephone
4 calls. I find out that wherever DOE has been, Savannah
5 River, Rocky Flats, Hanford, the soil has been poisoned.
6 The rivers, reservoirs, drinking water poisoned, the
7 air poisoned.

8 But I'm patriotic, right? I mean I want to
9 do my part to defend my country, right? So I ask DOE,
10 "Why do they need to build this plutonium refinery?"
11 I mean, I know they've been making plenty of bombs with-
12 out it.

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13 They plead secrecy and national defense. I
14 persist. They say they need redundancy. I begin to
15 wonder just how much redundancy they think they need.

16 I ask DOD how much this plutonium factory is
17 going to cost me. They say 500 million bucks. I ask
18 them how many people they're going to hire. They say,
19 "Oh, 500 or so."

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20 I do a quick calculation. I mention that
21 that's about a million dollars a job. They say, "Yeah,
22 defense jobs don't come cheap."

23 I tell DOE that the trade unions around town
24 really hope this Project comes here. DOE asks me if
25 Idaho is a right to work state.

1 I mention that the Chamber of Commerce says
2 there will be a lot of spinoff business. DOE says they
3 can't think of any at the moment, but they're sure there
4 will be some.

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5 I ask about the safety of the plant. I
6 mention the terrible record of DOE to date in other
7 places. They say, "We've changed."

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8 I ask about the 200 tons per year of
9 plutonium waste the plant will produce. DOE says they're
10 going to haul the stuff to a dump in New Mexico. They're
11 going to use TRU Pak casks, they say. I find out later
12 that the casks leak. DOE says not to worry.

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13 I tell DOE that I've read that the dump in
14 New Mexico is leaking. They tell me not to believe
15 everything I read. I ask, "What if the dump in New
16 Mexico can't be used?"

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17 They say the waste will have to be stored
18 elsewhere. I ask them, "Where, most likely?"

19 They say, "At the plant."

20 I say, "You mean here, in my back yard?"

21 They say, "That's right."

22 I ask them for how long and they say a half
23 a million years. I say that I've changed my mind. I
24 don't want to build this plutonium factory.

25 DOE says they can't understand my hostile

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1 attitude. Thank you.
2
3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Your written comments
4 will be included in the record and marked as Exhibit
5 No. 44.
6 Our next speaker will be John Byrom followed
7 by Dick Egbert.
8 MR. BYROM: I'm John Byrom. I've lived in
9 Idaho for the past 37-38 years, came up here in '51.
10 In spite of retiring here a year or so ago, I intend to
11 stay in Idaho. I like the weather, the climate, and
12 I'll still associate with the INEL.
13 My current physician has said, "You retire."
14 I was a certified health physicist former
15 technical writer at the INEL. I'm experienced in
16 materials test reactors, Test Area North, Special Power
17 Excursion Reactor Test, and the Central Facilities Area
18 including the Over Waste Disposal Area.
19 My position, I am very definitely for
20 building the SIS here at the INEL. The reason behind
21 this is, first the Project is new; it's current state
22 of the art and not the 30-year old plus technology of
23 the production reactor we have in operation now.
24 Second, this Project was designed not to
re-create radioactive material, simply to use that
we've already got. We've got plenty, let's use it.

1 As for transportation of this material to
2 and from the INEL or the feed material, finished product,
3 I believe the record on transportation stands by itself.
4 Of all the accidents we've had with radioactive
5 materials - - and I can basically number them on one
6 hand in the transport industry - - we haven't lost an
7 atom yet, to my knowledge. The radioactive material
8 has stayed where it was, in the casks. Those casks are
9 heartily designed. You can't get stuff out of them.
10 You have a devil of a job doing it.
11 The Project will introduce the new produc-
12 tion line technologies, something we need desperately
13 in Idaho. I've worked with youngsters all my life.
14 I've seen an awful lot of them leave the state. I'd
15 like to see more go to work in this area and, basically,
16 as an agricultural area we don't have the work. We do
17 have it at the INEL, and I'm hoping the expansion of
18 the engineering status there will increase those jobs.
19 The byproducts of this Project could produce
20 space exploration. The heat sources formed by the
21 plutonium different isotopes could be used in space
22 exploration. Perhaps this will introduce another
23 industry into this area.
24 Economically, the bonus of 1,000-1,700 jobs,
25 whatever you believe, that's just an extra bonus. It's

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1 well worth it, and I'd like to see it happen.

2 The DOE, according to the Environmental
3 Impact Statement, is required to maintain a supply of
4 materials in the interest of our national defense. I
5 prefer this supply to come from that we already have.
6 I don't want new production reactors. Production
7 reactors produce material, yes, but there's all those
8 byproducts, the radioactive debris which comes from new
9 production. Again, let's use what we've got. I hear
10 a lot of comment of radiation contamination products,
11 yet to my memory, this has not been a problem at the
12 INEL, or there has not been a problem at the INEL that
13 has affected Idaho Falls. That's in the 37 years I've
14 been here. I believe that says something about the
15 space program at the INEL.

16 In regard to the safety program itself,
17 there is of record over 100 individuals registered
18 in the current health physics society and this is less
19 than half the individuals who are actually working in
20 the health physics for production of personnel and the
21 environment at the INEL. There are probably an
22 additional 50 plus members in the safety group. This
23 safety group would include fire safety, industrial
24 hygiene, industrial safety and any of the other in-
25 dustrial programs.

1 As a fitting continuation, we start off
2 by producing electricity to produce light back in '51.
3 Now we're talking around here in about 1890 plus we're
4 going to use refined material - - correction - - we're
5 going to use light to produce refined materials, 180
6 degree turn. Thank you.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Byrom.
8 Our next five commenters are Dick Egbert, Donald R.
9 Clark, Russ Webb, Gregory Crockett, Kathleen Jardine.

10 Is Dick Egbert here, please?

11 (No response.)

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Donald R. Clark?

13 (No response.)

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Russ Webb?

15 Following Russ will be Gregory Crockett.

16 MR. WEBB: My name is Russ Webb. I live at
17 2832 Red Barn Lane in Idaho Falls. I am here as an
18 individual today, an attorney in Idaho Falls, and I do
19 support the Isotope Separator Project.

20 I'm also a member of the State Board of
21 Health and Welfare in Idaho, for those of you who are
22 not familiar. I can't speak for the Board, but we have
23 some authority that's relevant to this particular
24
25

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1 Environmental Impact Statement. The Board promulgates
2 the regulations for air pollution, water quality waste
3 water treatment, public drinking water systems, hazardous
4 waste management, solid waste management and construc-
5 tion of new injection wells.

6 It's an ongoing thing from time to time
7 the Board does have to update these regulations and
8 consider new regulations in those areas. A lot of
9 discussion today. I have to tell you, I think people
10 are entitled to be concerned about any project of this
11 nature. And they're entitled to be cautious. I think
12 we would be crazy not to take this type of project very
13 seriously, and there's enough record nationwide over
14 the years, some of the other operations indicate that
15 vigilance is always appropriate and always wise.

16 It's going to be a very serious business out
17 here, and we are interested in the jobs and the positive
18 benefits, but as I read this statement, and I can't
19 say I'm much of a physicist beyond what I got in college,
20 but it appears to me that there are a lot of assumptions
21 that this will be a fundamentally controllable situation
22 out there on its merits.

23 That may be, and it may be that the people
24 who developed the Draft Environmental Statement know
25 what they're doing and everything is correct. I can't

1 personally comment on that.

2 I do feel that the real task is to ensure
3 that the people know that if there is an SIS built here,
4 it's operating as a national model for environmental
5 protection. And I don't think the government has always
6 ensured that is the case.

7 We have an opportunity, assuming it is built,
8 to see we have a national model, and that this Project
9 be pursued with the highest of safety standards of the
10 environment considered.

11 As I go through that report, my one concern
12 and it is really the only comment I really want to
13 make - - is that there really is no specific reference
14 to the State of Idaho as a state agency monitoring
15 functions that I think ought to be there. You know, if
16 all the calculations are correct and we're not going to
17 have a problem we need to report. And I hope that's
18 right. Sometimes watchdogs need watchdogs, too. The
19 State of Idaho is a political entity with a lot of
20 components to it that have various interests in the
21 things that are going to be going on in this Project,
22 and I think it's absolutely fundamentally required and
23 should be addressed in the final Impact Statement that
24 there be monitoring, that there be an audit function,
25 that there be related involvement through a state agency

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1 of this Project.

2 I'm not trying to say that that is going
3 to make a perfect situation environmentally, but I
4 think people need to know that they have access to some
5 of the representatives and the agencies here in the
6 State who take a different approach, a different view-
7 point and have some direct responsibility for looking at
8 this.

9 And I'm thinking of before, during, and
10 after construction. It's important that it begin right
11 away. The Governor earlier indicated he hoped this
12 thing would get off the ground as soon as possible, and
13 I agree with that. But it's essential that we have a
14 full consultation between the Federal Government and
15 the State Government on this Project, that it be on a
16 free and open basis. Obviously, we all know there are
17 classified aspects of this thing. There are many
18 regulations. We, as a Board and again I'm speaking
19 personally, not for the Board of Health and Welfare, but
20 I do know there are many regulations we adopt that are
21 granted through the federal agencies that we take a
22 look at, but I think it's important, nonetheless, for
23 the State Government to be a partner and, again, in
24 construction of this clean through its operation.

25 One other thing I think is important in that

1 regard, I think there should be something in the nature
2 of environmental oversight task force or a group that
3 would include an appropriate state agency as well as
4 citizen participation. I know the Federal Government
5 always has some concern about that type of activity,
6 but I think it's important it be considered and included
7 in the final Statement. Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled
9 commenter will be Gregory Crockett, followed by Kathleen
10 Jardine.

11 MR. CROCKETT: For the record, my name is
12 Greg Crockett. I live at 2034 Virginia Avenue, Idaho
13 Falls. I am a long-time resident of Idaho Falls. I
14 was born here. I received all my education in the
15 State of Idaho.

16 I choose to continue to live in Idaho,
17 because of our quality of life. I stand here today as
18 a citizen of Idaho and as a supporter of SIS.

19 Like many, my father worked at the INEL for
20 a period in excess of 30 years. My father was proud
21 to work at the INEL and to share in its accomplishments,
22 accomplishments important to America and our national
23 interests. I share that pride. DOE and its predecessors
24 have a long history in Southeast Idaho, a history marked
25 by a clean record, important purpose, and substantial

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1 achievement.

2 INEL has always been a good and responsible
3 neighbor. It is a valuable element of our local economy.

4 It has brought to Idaho an influx of highly educated
5 and well paid individuals from all parts of America and
6 many foreign countries. This has contributed greatly
7 to our cultural complexity and richness and the afore-
8 mentioned quality of life that we also highly regard.

9 The Department of Energy's safety record at
10 INEL and its care and concern for our quality of life
11 stands on its own. I have confidence that the record
12 will be maintained. However, I am concerned for the
13 future of INEL unless we continue to actively solicit
14 and welcome projects worthy of the Site's worldwide
15 status, its broad-based expertise, and its history. INEL'
16 technological base must continue to be expanded. Other-
17 wise we shall die and shrivel on the proverbial vine.

18 We are being presented with such an opportunity
19 today, and we can little afford to close our doors and
20 shut off our borders. Many of the INEL's original
21 objectives and purposes have been achieved, projects and
22 goals have been completed, and while the gains and
23 benefits of INEL work have been profound, we cannot
24 rest on our past laurels and let the rest of the world
25 pass us by. We must move on toward our future and the

1 future of Idaho.

2 We have a chance to be a part of one of the
3 world's most intriguing and promising technologies.
4 To me, the Project is justified on that basis alone.

5 Technology as grandiose as atomic vapor
6 laser isotope separation can only truly advance when
7 they leave the lab and the realm of theory and are put
8 to a utilitary purpose, a purpose that by necessity
9 must be cost effective and cost justifiable. The cost
10 savings to America of the SIS Project are part of the
11 record.

12 SIS is an opportunity to advance our human
13 knowledge. Advancements in technology, science and
14 knowledge are man's destiny, and SIS should and can be
15 a part of Idaho's future and Idaho's destiny.

16 There does exist a need in the face of
17 production reactor obsolescence in an infra-structure
18 based on '50's and '50's technologies. America needs
19 SIS.

20 In a recently published Wall Street Journal
21 article, it was stated that production infra-structure
22 is an extremist. And, therefore, since we have de-
23 termined that a national priority does exist, doesn't
24 it behoove and require that we pursue and accomplish
25 that purpose in the most conscientious, safe, and cost-

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1 effective means possible? SIS represents that means.

2 Thank you.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our next
4 scheduled commenter is Kathleen Jardine, followed by
5 Pat Fuerborn, followed by Joe Pehrson. Any of those
6 here?

7
8 (No response.)

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Lanie J. Benson,
10 John F. Walters? Oh, excuse me, Pat Feuerborn is here.
11 Please give your name and address for the
12 record.

13 MS. FEUERBORN: I'm Pat Feuerborn. I live
14 at 415 Randolph, Pocatello, Idaho. I live, work, and
15 am trying to raise my family in Idaho. My husband is
16 union pipefitter, and like those clamoring yes, yes,
17 to the SIS, we would like to see new projects and new
18 jobs at INEL.

19 The SIS could be used to reprocess existing
20 plutonium to make it safe to handle. The advanced
21 technology could be used to research and develop
22 benefits for human kind, but it has been made clear
23 that none of this will happen.

24 No, the only purpose of the SIS is to produce
25 weapons grade plutonium, which can only be used to

1 produce death and destruction.

2 Sure, it would be nice to get a piece of
3 the pork barrel pie and see our families prosper for
4 a few years. But at what price, Idaho? Can we truly
5 enjoy the financial benefits of the SIS with our
6 families knowing that other families may burn because
7 of our action? We are responsible for our choices. Is
8 the SIS a financial benefit we can afford?

9 Take a look at Hanford. They hitched their
10 wagon to a nuclear star. Apparently they thought a
11 few years of prosperity would be worth the moral
12 responsibility. But nuclear facilities have a limited
13 lifetime. Now their area is more economically depressed
14 than before, and the citizens are crying foul. They
15 think we are trying to take their jobs.

16 We might think that we can make enough
17 money in the seven or eight years the SIS is projected
18 to last, but what is ever enough? If our community and
19 union leaders are really interested in helping us all
20 prosper, why don't they push for the construction of
21 the replacement for the ICPP plant and treat nuclear
22 waste we have already created? That project appears to
23 be forgotten in this regional push to participate in
24 bomb making.

25 If we look beyond the end of our own noses,

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1 we'll realize there are already approximately 120 tons
2 of weapons grade plutonium stockpiled by the U.S., not
3 to mention the tons of active warheads and bombs we
4 have circulating around the globe. In May, we're
5 hopefully signing a treaty to reduce our long-range
6 nuclear missiles by 30 to 50 percent. We don't need
7 more weapons grade plutonium.

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8 There's also the matter of the national
9 deficit that may never be paid off. How can we justify
10 spending yet another billion dollars to help create more
11 weapons grade plutonium that we don't need to kill and
12 destroy our world and those who live here?

13 We are citizens of the world, Idaho, a world
14 that I and my family hope will continue to live and
15 prosper. The choices we make will have affects we can't
16 perceive. We cannot afford to build the SIS here or
17 anywhere. The price of death and destruction is too
18 high. Please join us in saying yes to life and no to
19 the SIS. Thank you.

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20 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
21 of Pat Feuerborn will be marked Exhibit 51 and included
22 in the record.

23 At this point we'll take this gentleman who
24 is here as our final commenter, at the conclusion of his
25 comments, I'll explain the options we have for those of

1 you that are left who wish to testify.

2 Mr. Joe Pehrson, if we could have your
3 address for the record, please?

4 MR. PEHRSON: My name is Joe Pehrson, I
5 live at Route 4, Box 348, Idaho Falls.

6 Four generations of Pehrsons have now lived
7 in Eastern Idaho, and I'm proud, very proud to call
8 myself an Idahoan. I love this State and hope to stay
9 here, raise a family, and live to a ripe old age.

10 My leisure hours are spent in the great
11 outdoors of Idaho, running rivers, fishing, camping
12 and cross country skiing in the winter. I do consider
13 myself somewhat of an environmentalist.

14 I've spent the last eight years living in
15 Idaho Falls and have come to know and trust the safety
16 record of the hard-working and dedicated people that
17 run the INEL. The Environmental Impact Statement answers
18 all my questions about the SIS, and I have complete
19 trust in our federally elected officials, both on the
20 executive and legislative levels. When these duly
21 elected people say we need this Project to maintain
22 nuclear parity with the Soviet Union, I trust them and
23 feel it should be built and built in Idaho.

24 The economic benefits to the State of Idaho
25 are obvious, and the SIS would be a welcome addition to

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1 our economic base.

2 I hope that this process will continue to
3 focus on the environmental issues of the SIS and not on
4 the basic debate of maintaining our nuclear deterrent.
5 Thank you.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
7 of Mr. Joe Pehrson will be included as Exhibit No. 52
8 in the record.

9 Could we go off the record for just a
10 moment?

11 (There was a brief break in
12 the proceedings.)

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Back on the record.
14 As I mentioned to you earlier, because of the number
15 of commenters that we have that have pre-registered or
16 registered at the door, both for this session and the
17 session tonight, the Department has determined we will
18 have a subsequent session here in this facility,
19 University Place, next Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. from
20 2:00 to 5:00, as well as from 7:00 to 10:00. So those
21 of you that would like to testify next Wednesday, and
22 if you already pre-registered by the 18th or have
23 registered at the door, you will be automatically re-
24 gistered to testify at the continuation of this hearing
25 next Wednesday.

1 Again, that would be for the afternoon
2 session. If you are desirous of not speaking next
3 Wednesday afternoon but rather would like to speak in
4 the evening, we would appreciate your identifying that
5 interest or intent to testify by filling out one of
6 these documents in the back and these people in the
7 back can assist you.

8 If you're desirous of testifying today, it
9 is our intent to accommodate you on a priority basis
10 this evening. It would be our intention to go ahead
11 and resume this hearing at 7:00. I would once again
12 go through my opening comments. Following that we
13 would have the individuals who are either elected
14 officials, appointed officials or who represent
15 organizations. I think we have 15 of those individuals.
16 They'll be awarded their time in the time slots, and
17 that would put us somewhere around 9:00 or so, at which
18 time you would again be put on priority and would be
19 allowed to testify from 9:00 to 11:00.

20 So those are the options you have. So if
21 you do wish to testify tonight, we would ask you to
22 come back here for the evening session which will start
23 at 7:00.

24 Now at this point, it's been indicated to
25 me by several organizations who are represented in this

1 proceeding that there are individuals who have
 2 traveled from outside the area that have written
 3 comments they would like to include in the record. We
 4 can accommodate you at this time. So if you have
 5 written comments and wish to go home at this point, I
 6 would ask you to step forward and give your name for
 7 the record and include as an exhibit your written
 8 comment.

9 Is there anybody in that category? If you
 10 would step forward to the podium and give us your name,
 11 so that we can make it as an exhibit.

12 While you're stepping forward, I'll inquire
 13 of Dr. Nichols, am I correct in stating that next
 14 Wednesday's session will be held at University Place?
 15 I was told that earlier by the staff.

16 MR. OFTE: We'll make it here, yes,
 17 Wednesday.

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Ofte informs me
 19 that, yes, next Wednesday's session, which is a
 20 continuation of this hearing, will be here at University
 21 Place at 2:00 in the afternoon and again at 7:00 in
 22 the evening.

23 Those of you who have written comments to
 24 be included in the record, please step up to the podium
 25 and give us your name, and I'll give you an exhibit

1 number. Name and address, please?

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have the written
 3 comments of Edson Fichter, 256 South 11th Avenue,
 4 Pocatello, Idaho.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Those comments will
 6 be listed as Exhibit No. 53 for the record.

7 Thank you.

8 Sir, your name and address, for the record?

9 MR. WOOD: My name is Willard R. Wood, and
 10 my home is 1672 Shasta, Idaho Falls, but I've been
 11 living at the Quality Inn in Pocatello for over two
 12 years, working at Quality Inn.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Wood.
 14 Your written comments will be included in the record
 15 as Exhibit No. 54.

16 Your name and address for the record, please?

17 MS. MOLEN: My name is Carolyn Molen, and
 18 I live at 600-4 John Adams Court in Idaho Falls.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, your
 20 written comments will be included as Exhibit No. 55 for
 21 the record.

22 MR. WAGONER: My name is Vaughn Wagoner. I
 23 live at 373 Springwood Lane, Idaho Falls.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Sir, your written
 25 comments will be included as Exhibit No. 56 in the

1 record.

2 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a written
3 comment by Gary W. Miller, 15214 West Old Highway 91,
4 Pocatello, Idaho.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. The
6 comments of Gary W. Miller will be marked Exhibit No. 57
7 and included in the record.

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I also have the
9 written comments of Gary L. Buchli, 10 Davis Drive,
10 Pocatello, Idaho.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: The comments of Gary
12 L. Buchli of Pocatello, Idaho will be included in the
13 record as Exhibit No. 58.

14 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I would also include
15 the comments of Kathleen M. Vitale, 1969 Barton Road,
16 Pocatello, Idaho.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Those written comments
18 will be marked as Exhibit No. 60 and included in the
19 record.

20 Are there any further individuals who wish
21 to submit written comment for the record at this point?
22 One more? Yes, please step forward.

23 MR. MERRILL: Do you want the name and
24 address?

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Please.

1 MR. MERRILL: GeorgeAnn Merrill, 3170
2 Merlin Drive.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, that comment
4 will be included as Exhibit No. 60. We would re-
5 number the comments of Kathleen Vitale as Exhibit No. 59.

6 Are there any further comments, written
7 comments for the record?

8 There being none, I will then formally
9 recess this hearing until the hour of 7:00 p.m. this
10 afternoon.

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12 (The hearing recessed at
13 6:30 p.m.)
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1 (March 25, 1988 - 7:00 P.M.)

2
3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
4 I will now formally commence this public hearing con-
5 cerning the review of the Draft Environmental Impact
6 Statement relative to the United States Department of
7 Energy's proposed Special Isotope Separation Project.
8 This proceeding is officially designated as the Idaho
9 Falls evening public hearing on Department of Energy
10 Document DOE/EIS-0136, held on the 25th day of March,
11 1988, and commencing at 7:02 p.m. in the evening.

12 My name is Roy Eiguren. I am the Hearing
13 Officer for this and subsequent public hearings held
14 to receive comment on the Draft Environmental Impact
15 Statement for the proposed siting, construction, and
16 operation by the Department of Energy of a Special
17 Isotope Separation Project utilizing the atomic vapor
18 laser isotope separation process technology. I will
19 refer to this and subsequent proceedings as the DOE's
20 DEIS public hearings on the SIS Project.

21 I am an attorney engaged in private practice
22 in Boise, Idaho. I have been retained by the Department
23 of Energy to conduct this series of public hearings as
24 an independent and unbiased party to assure the oppor-
25 tunity for all interested organizations and individuals

1 the opportunity to comment on the DEIS. Accordingly, I
2 am not an advocate for or against the proposed position
3 taken by the Department of Energy in this proceeding.
4 Rather, I am a neutral third party who has coordinated
5 the development of the procedures to be followed in the
6 conduct of these hearings and who will conduct the
7 hearings themselves.

8 The issue that is the subject of this pro-
9 ceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct
10 and operate an SIS facility at one of three locations in
11 the United States, the DOE's Idaho National Engineering
12 Laboratory near Idaho Falls; the DOE's Hanford Reserva-
13 tion near Richland, Washington; or, the DOE's Savannah
14 River Plant near Aiken, South Carolina.

15 Each of these three sites is designated as
16 an alternative that is considered in the Draft Environ-
17 mental Impact Statement.

18 I'm going to stop here for a moment until
19 everyone sits down and is quiet. Could I ask those
20 folks at the back to please step forward and be seated
21 or go outside the room and close the doors? Thank you.

22 Thank you. As I mentioned, each of the
23 three sites have been designated as alternatives that
24 is considered in the Draft Environmental Statement. The
25 fourth and final alternative under consideration in the

1 DEIS is the No Action Alternative, which would be a
 2 departmental decision not to site, construct, and
 3 operate an SIS facility. As stated in the DEIS, the
 4 Department's preferred alternative is to site, con-
 5 struct, the operate the SIS Project at the Idaho
 6 National Engineering Laboratory.

7 To put this hearing in perspective, it is
 8 important that all of you understand the key elements
 9 of the federal law that requires that the Department's
 10 final decision in this matter be preceded by a compre-
 11 hensive review of the environmental factors associated
 12 with each of the alternatives that I have mentioned.
 13 The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Public
 14 Law 91-910, generally known as NEPA, N-E-P-A, requires
 15 that all federal agencies develop procedures that
 16 ensure that environmental amenities or values are given
 17 appropriate consideration in federal government decision-
 18 making, along with technical considerations. This law
 19 also requires that recommendations for major federal
 20 actions significantly affecting the quality of the human
 21 environment be first preceded by the development and
 22 completion of an Environmental Impact Statement, or
 23 EIS, that fully and carefully examines the potential
 24 environmental impacts of the proposed federal action.

25 The Department of Energy has determined that

1 its proposed action in siting, constructing, and operating
 2 an SIS plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA,
 3 requires the development and completion of an EIS.
 4 Accordingly, by the publication on October 31, 1986
 5 of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal
 6 Register (51 FR 39765), the Department of Energy
 7 commenced the process that has led to the development
 8 and publication of the Draft EIS that is the subject
 9 of this and subsequent hearings. The DEIS was prepared
 10 by the Department with the assistance of an independent
 11 contractor, NUS Corporation, after an extensive process
 12 of receiving public comment through the scoping or
 13 initial input phase of this EIS development proceeding.
 14 During scoping, public comment on the scope or magnitude
 15 of issues to be addressed in the EIS was received, as
 16 well as specific comment on particular issues themselves.
 17 Scoping included the receipt of extensive written public
 18 comment as well as two oral comments from two lengthy
 19 public meetings or hearings, one held in Idaho Falls,
 20 Idaho on February 24, 1987, and in Boise on February 26,
 21 1987.

22 As a result of the input received during
 23 scoping, the following issues were analyzed in the DEIS
 24 relative to each of the alternatives identified above:

25 The first issue, off site general population

1 for radiological and non-radiological effects resulting
2 from potential accidents at an SIS facility.

3 Two, the effects on the general population
4 from emissions of radiological and non-radiological
5 releases caused by normal operations of an SIS facility.

6 Issue 3, exposure of operating personnel
7 to radiological sources and non-radiological releases
8 during normal operations of an SIS facility.

9 Issue 4, incremental differences in environ-
10 mental impacts between operation of the existing
11 chemical processing facilities and the proposed action
12 and alternatives.

13 Issue 5, effects on air and quality and other
14 environmental consequences during construction and
15 operation of an SIS facility.

16 Issue No. 6, cumulative effects of operations
17 of such a facility, including changes in support
18 operations related to it.

19 Issue No. 7, on-site and off-site transpor-
20 tation impacts of nuclear materials.

21 Issue 8, an analysis of applicable federal,
22 state, and local regulations applying to the construc-
23 tion and operation of an SIS plant.

24 Issue No. 9, decontamination and de-commis-
25 sioning issues.

1 Issue No. 10, irretrievable and irreversible
2 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials,
3 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other re-
4 sources.

5 And Issue No. 11, mitigation measures
6 necessary to respond to the environmental consequences
7 associated with each of the alternatives.

8 The EIS preparation and review process in
9 the United States is governed by federal regulations
10 established by the Council on Environmental Quality or
11 CEQ, an agency within the executive office of the
12 President of the United States and the Department of
13 Energy's own guidelines. The Council On Environmental
14 Quality Regulations are found at 40 Federal Register
15 Part 1500 through 1508. The DOE guidelines are found
16 at 45 Federal Register 20694.

17 These regulations and guidelines have been
18 previously marked by me as Exhibit No. 1 and will be
19 introduced into the formal record of this proceeding.

20 The relevancy EQ regulations require that,
21 "After preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
22 and before preparing a final Environmental Impact
23 Statement" a federal agency must first obtain comments
24 of any federal agency which has jurisdiction by law or
25 special expertise with respect to any environmental

1 impact, as well as request the comments of appropriate
2 state and local agencies which develop and enforce
3 environmental standards, and receive comment from Indian
4 tribes as well as the public, with a particular obliga-
5 tion to affirmatively solicit comments from persons
6 or organizations who may be interested or affected by
7 the proposed federal decision.

8 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
9 where the Department determines that, "Substantial
10 environmental controversy concerning the proposed
11 action" exists. Accordingly, today's and the following
12 public hearings are being held pursuant to these regula-
13 tions to receive public, Indian Tribe, and governmental
14 comment on the various issues identified in the Draft
15 EIS. Notices of these public hearings were provided in
16 the Federal Register in notices dated February 19, 1988
17 (53FR5032) and on March 4th, 1988(53FR7227).

18 Additional public notice was provided
19 through publication in numerous newspapers throughout
20 the State. The Federal Register notices, the text of
21 the newspaper notices, and the publication dates of
22 each, have been marked as Exhibit 2 in this proceeding
23 and submitted for the record by myself as Hearing Officer
24 and labeled as Exhibit No. 2.

25 Public comment on the DEIS will be received

1 through this and the subsequent hearings held tomorrow
2 and next week in Boise and Twin Falls. Written comment,
3 which receives the same weight and consideration by the
4 Department in this proceeding may be submitted by the
5 public to me today as Hearing Officer, or may be mailed
6 to Clay Nichols, SIS Project Manager at the address we
7 will provide to you at the back of the room. Comment
8 for this particular proceeding must be made by no later
9 than April 21, 1988. If you plan to write written
10 comment, you must do it by that date. Oral and written
11 comment will be compiled into a comprehensive record
12 that will be considered by the Department in making its
13 final decision.

14 The CEQ regulations provide that, "Comments
15 on an Environmental Impact Statement or on a proposed
16 action shall be as specific as possible and may address
17 the adequacy of the statement or the merits of the
18 alternatives or both."

19 Although the Department has determined that
20 certain issues such as the need for an SIS Project, are
21 beyond the scope of this EIS proceeding, I will allow
22 comment on that issue as well as other issues related
23 to this Project that individual commenters feel are
24 relevant. However, as Hearing Officer, I do reserve the
25 right to ask commenters to keep their comments relevant

1 to the subject matter of this proceeding when I determine
2 necessary to do so.

3 The next step in the process after these
4 hearings will be for the Department to review the record
5 and then it may choose to either modify, supplement, or
6 re-issue the EIS prior to issuing the final EIS. It
7 may also choose to issue the DEIS as the final EIS
8 without modification. A record of decision, which will
9 identify the environmentally preferred alternative
10 chosen by the Department, along with any practicable
11 means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the
12 alternatives selected, will then be provided subsequent
13 to the issuance of the final EIS. The Department,
14 under federal regulations cannot proceed with its
15 proposed action until a record of 30 days has passed
16 from the date of issuance of the final EIS. Under
17 current schedules, the Department of Energy intends to
18 issue a final EIS and a record of decision tentatively
19 set in August of this year.

20 To govern the conduct of this and subsequent
21 public hearings in this proceeding, I developed several
22 procedures in consultation with the Department of Energy
23 staff as well as representatives of public interest
24 groups who either have participated in the scoping
25 meetings or indicated a willingness to participate in

1 these hearings as well.

2 These procedures were finalized yesterday,
3 March 24 and distributed to interested parties along
4 with lists of organizational representatives and in-
5 dividuals who had registered to comment at these hearings
6 prior to March 18, which was the deadline set for the
7 close of registration. These procedures have been marked
8 as Exhibit 3 and were previously submitted for the record
9 as an exhibit in the record.

10 In addition to that, I have previously
11 entered into the record as Exhibit No. 4 a complete
12 rendition and recitation of all DOE public involvement
13 activities related to the development of the DEIS.

14 I'd now like to briefly go through the
15 procedural rules we are going to follow this evening as
16 well as in subsequent hearings. These rules are posted
17 in the back of the room and have also been provided to
18 various organization representatives yesterday.

19 The first one I'd like to make is other
20 than my opening statements and aside from the remarks
21 this evening of Mr. Troy Wade, Assistant Secretary of
22 Energy for Defense Programs, there will not be any other
23 opening remarks by the Department of Energy or its
24 contractors in these proceedings.

25 However, I'd like to reference the fact that

1 senior DOE staff, including Mr. Don Ofte who is the
2 Idaho Operations Officer from the Department is with us
3 and will be attending this and subsequent proceedings.

4 Secondly, comments this evening as well as
5 in subsequent proceedings are going to be received in
6 the following order: Elected and appointed federal
7 and state governmental officials will make their comments
8 first. Secondly, that will be followed by representatives
9 from national, state, and local organizations who are
10 participating in this program or these proceedings.
11 Three, following that we will receive comments by
12 members of the public who register to speak prior to
13 the end of business on March 18th, which was the close
14 of pre-registration, and the order of public commenters
15 has been randomly chosen by computer and the list of
16 commenters has been provided to those of you who care
17 to receive it. Previously, in addition to that the
18 order of commenters is up on the wall as you come in.

19 Finally, members of the public who registered
20 to speak at the door at this hearing as well as sub-
21 sequent hearings will be accommodated to the extent
22 possible.

23 Organizational representatives and officials
24 will be allowed ten minutes for oral comment. Individuals
25 will be allowed five minutes. Because of the significant

1 number of individuals who are commenting in these pro-
2 ceedings, we're going to have to strictly adhere to
3 those time frames. In order to assist you in making
4 a determination as to where you are at in your comments,
5 we have a signaling device here. For organizational
6 representatives at nine minutes into your presentation
7 I will turn on the green light, which means that you
8 have got one minute to go. When your time is up, we'll
9 turn on the red light here, which means that it's the
10 end of your comment period. And we'll do very mean and
11 vicious things if you don't quit at the end of the ten
12 minutes.

13 I'd also strongly encourage speakers to
14 submit their statements in writing. Written and oral
15 statements will receive the same weight and considera-
16 tion in the record. It's helpful to us, particularly if
17 you're summarizing your comment, to have the whole of
18 your written comments. If you have those with you, we
19 will include them in the record as an exhibit.

20 In order to accommodate the rather large
21 number of individuals and organizations who have re-
22 quested to provide oral public comment and given the
23 Department of Energy's continued commitment to allow all
24 interested individuals and organizations the opportunity
25 to meaningfully comment on this EIS development pro-

1 ceeding, this evening's Idaho Falls hearing and to-
 2 morrow's Boise evening hearing will recess at 11:00
 3 each evening and will resume at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
 4 respectively on the following dates and places: In
 5 Boise on Tuesday, March 29 at the Red Lion Riverside
 6 and back in Idaho Falls on Wednesday, March 30th in
 7 this same facility, University Place.

8 So that means that any individual who pre-
 9 registered to comment at this or any hearing or who
 10 registered at the door at this or any hearing and has not
 11 had the opportunity to comment by 11:00 p.m. tonight,
 12 will automatically be given the opportunity to comment
 13 at either of the subsequent continuations of the hearing.
 14 Registrations will not be allowed at the door at the
 15 continuation of these hearings. What we're trying to do
 16 here is basically accommodate everyone who has pre-
 17 registered or who has registered at the door this
 18 evening. As a practical matter, due to the fact we've
 19 had over 50 individuals who carried over from this
 20 afternoon and who want to comment, we're going to accord
 21 them the opportunity to comment this evening before we
 22 get to the commenters here who signed up tonight. So
 23 as a practical matter, I think most of you will be
 24 commenting next Wednesday, and you'll have the
 25 opportunity to do that at either 2:00 in the afternoon

1 or 7:00 in the evening. We'll run the proceedings in
 2 the same way we have today.

3 If you have questions about any aspect of
 4 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, we would like
 5 to receive those, have those in writing. We do have
 6 forms in the back of the room at the table that you
 7 may pick up. Please write your name and address and
 8 write out fully the question you might have. The
 9 Department will provide a written answer to you at a
 10 later date. All questions and answers will be included
 11 in the written record.

12 In terms of the final rules, I'd like to
 13 mention we're not going to allow individuals to combine
 14 speaking times. If you have charts or other visual
 15 aids you want to use, you may do so provided they're
 16 not disruptive and can be made a part of the public
 17 record.

18 Finally, this is a record proceeding. Every-
 19 thing that is being said here as well as subsequent
 20 meetings is being recorded by a Court Reporter here in
 21 the front of the room. So accordingly, when you do
 22 comment, you will need to step forward to the podium
 23 and speak clearly into the microphone after first giving
 24 your name and address for the record.

25 Now that concludes my opening presentation.

1 If you do have any questions about procedures, there are
 2 a number of DOE personnel stationed throughout the
 3 building, those in the back as well as along the sides
 4 here, they would be glad to respond to any questions
 5 you may have. Periodically we will be taking breaks
 6 during the course of this hearing. If you have any
 7 questions, feel free to step forward and chat with any
 8 of them at that point in time.

9 At this point, we will now begin the
 10 receipt of public testimony. As I mentioned, our first
 11 scheduled speakers are individuals who are either
 12 elected or appointed officials of government or who
 13 represent organizations who are participating in the
 14 proceedings.

15 I am informed that our lead speaker,
 16 Senator Steve Symms has been delayed somewhat, will be
 17 here at about 7:35. So we'll go ahead and accommodate
 18 the Senator, as well as Mr. Troy Wade who is with him
 19 at that time.

20 I will introduce our second listed speaker,
 21 Mr. John Hansen, a member of the Idaho State Senate.
 22 Senator Hansen? Apparently he is not here. We'll go
 23 to our next scheduled speaker who is a representative
 24 of Lifeguard-Southeast Idaho, Beatrice Brailsford.

25 MS. BRAILSFORD: Thank you. It's Lifeguard-

1 Southeast Idaho. My name is Beatrice Brailsford, and
 2 I'm a third generation Idahoan, granddaughter and grand-
 3 daughter of ranchers in Hagerman Valley. I live at
 4 912 Shale in Pocatello, 83204. Tonight I am speaking
 5 as a representative of Lifeguard-Southeast Idaho, a
 6 Pocatello group supporting the national alternative for
 7 the SIS Project.

8 First of all, I would like to wildly
 9 compliment the DOE and particularly our Hearing Officer
 10 today. These hearings are running nominally smoothly,
 11 given everything. And we appreciate our opportunity to 4.15.5
 12 participate.

13 The primary opposition of Lifeguard-South-
 14 east Idaho to the SIS is based on our feeling that the
 15 United States needs no more plutonium. We have 25,000
 16 nuclear warheads now. We have 100 metric tons of
 17 weapons grade plutonium, and enough is enough.

18 Our opposition to the SIS is also based on 5.27.6.3
 19 our very deep feeling that Idaho is going to benefit
 20 so minimally from the installation of the SIS at the
 21 INEL. We have been told over the winter about economic
 22 spinoffs that might come from this Project. We've been
 23 told about tech transfer that might come from this 5.27.9.4
 24 Project, but when we finally see the Draft EIS, economic
 25 spinoff and tech transfer are not in the Draft EIS. We

5.27.7.5

1 have to presume from that, which we already suspected,
2 that they're really not foreseeable results of the SIS
3 installation.

4 So what we do have in the Draft EIS is
5 some jobs and, in fact, those few jobs we are talking
6 about a couple of hundred jobs, those few jobs are not
7 going to change the net employment at the INEL. It
8 will remain at about 10,000.

9 Our third area of concern about the SIS
10 Project has to do with safety, and I know that there
11 are a lot of people in this town who know a lot more
12 about the scientific and technical aspects of things
13 nuclear than any member of Lifeguard-Southeast Idaho,
14 but we feel that some of the waste and product of SIS,
15 which is weapons grade plutonium, will finally be
16 harmless 100 times recorded history from now. They
17 will be absolutely without threat to life. A hundred
18 times recorded history is not a scientific and technical
19 problem. It's an economical and political problem,
20 and we're not going to be here to help take care of it.

21 Things will be beyond, way beyond their
22 control. Analysts have only been here a couple hundred
23 years, and now we're talking milleniums.

24 So what they're producing now will be beyond
25 our control, but it will not be beyond our responsibility.

5.30.5.1

1 We have to step back right now and redirect our con-
2 siderable scientific and technical expertise in this
3 community to clean up rather than more production.

4 For these reasons, Lifeguard-Southeast
5 Idaho strongly supports the No Action Alternative listed
6 in the Draft EIS.

7 I've also been asked to deliver the written 1.1
8 testimony of either other people in Pocatello who
9 couldn't come today.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. I'll hold
11 these eight comments over until we can get them marked
12 as exhibits.

13 Our next scheduled organization comment is
14 the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Unfortunately, the Chair
15 doesn't have the name of the individual. So if you
16 will step forward, sir, give your name and address for
17 the record, and you'll have ten minutes to comment.

18 MR. PHILLIPS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.
19 My name is Birney Phillips, I live at Route 1, Box 180,
20 Arco, Idaho. I am here representing the Veterans of
21 Foreign Wars. I would like to thank you for the
22 opportunity of presenting my views in favor of the SIS 1.1
23 Project. I am Birney Phillips, and I'm here represen-
24 ting the Veterans of Foreign Wars, as well as an
25 employee of the INEL. As a member of the Veterans of

5.30.3.1

5.24.23

1 Foreign Wars, I represent over 7,000 members here in
2 Idaho. This coming June, I will be the Commander for
3 the ensuing year, representing this organization for
4 the State of Idaho. There are veterans in every town
5 and city in Idaho, and they have expressed their support
6 for the SIS.

7 I have read all the literature sent to me
8 on the SIS Project, and there's only one issue I'm
9 concerned with, and that is the issue of safety. There
10 are numerous pages of information on whether we should
11 or shouldn't have plutonium here in Idaho and whether
12 or not it would be safe to allow it on the highway. But
13 the biggest issue is will it be safe for the people that
14 work around it or safe for the neighboring towns and
15 cities. It is my contention and that of my colleagues
16 that this answer is a definite yes.

17 I have worked at the INEL since 1964, at
18 NRF, ARA, PBF, CFA and CPP. I have never, in all these
19 years, ever felt that my health was in danger nor that
20 of my family. There have been times that I thought that
21 the Department of Energy was being too stringent and
22 could have relaxed their rules a little so that the
23 project we were working on could be easier, but I knew
24 that it was for the safety of the people working on
25 and around these projects that these rules were made.

1 I respect the Department of Energy for their many years
2 of safety and for their concern for me as an employee.
3 I retired from the United States Navy with 22 years of
4 service, many of these years spent on nuclear powered
5 ships. The rules have always been the same, safety
6 first.

7 I have not always had a desk job, as I have
8 now. I have spent many hours inside steam generators
9 in the reactor compartments, as well as replacing
10 hundreds of feet of piping inside these reactor spaces,
11 and never once have I exceeded the safety limits
12 established by the Department of Energy. This Project
13 now under consideration at the INEL in no way affects
14 the safety of the working environment at CPP where I
15 work. I feel that if for one minute it might, I would
16 be on the side of the opposition. My family and my job
17 are important to me, as well as the national defense
18 of this nation. I served this country in war time
19 during the Vietnam conflict, and I am a Vietnam Veteran.
20 I feel that this is still my country to continue to
21 serve to the best of my ability. I say yes to the SIS
22 Project, for America and for whatever it takes to
23 maintain my freedom to say so.

24 Thank you again. It has been an honor.
25 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

1.1

393

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
2 of Mr. Phillips will be included in the record as
3 Exhibit No. 67. The next scheduled commenter is
4 Sister Maris Bonnett, CSC, Christians Praying for Peace.
5 Sister, I apologize if I've mispronounced
6 your last name.
7 SISTER BONNETT: My name is Sister Maris Bon-
8 nett.. I live at 145 Ninth Street, Idaho Falls, Idaho,
9 83404. I represent the Christians Praying for Peace
10 and Justice. We have been in existence for five years.
11 We are a nondenominational group. We meet once a month
12 to pray and act for peace and justice.
13 No to SIS. In January, 1981, newly elected
14 President Ronald Reagan spoke these words in his first
15 State of the Union Address: "The American public is
16 not naive."
17 With this premise in mind, it is not
18 difficult to list several reasons why SIS finds no
19 reception here. Some native farmers, business and
20 professional people have lived in the Snake River Valley
21 for 80 or 90 years. They and their descendents defended
22 the Valley and surrounding deserts and mountains as
23 places of beauty, livelihood, and spiritual nourishment,
24 Within the last 30 years Idahoans have seen wildlife
25 and fisheries habitat decline steadily in quantity and

1 quality and they do not like what they see.
2 Many citizens who move to this area speak 5.12.6
3 about the attractions of nature and the mighty Snake
4 River as being the lifeblood of Idaho. Let us be
5 consistent and refrain from poisoning these unique
6 gifts. We, in 1988, are having our turn to be stewards
7 of the earth. We have a moral obligation to care for
8 the land, the water, the air and all they're in. The
9 creator of the universe does not give freedom to destroy
10 it in part or in totality, especially for a few hundred
11 jobs. The concerned persons in Idaho are not passive 5.29.85
12 about the danger of plutonium. They are not passive
13 about waste from Three Mile Island and Rocky Flats and
14 other areas being transported and stored above the
15 Snake River Aquifer. They are not passive about the
16 INEL being located over one of the four largest high
17 risk earthquake zones in the U.S., as depicted on the
18 maps in the U.S. News and World Report Magazine, 5.10.21
19 February 16, 1976 and February 22nd, 1982. No justice
20 can be found in the horrendous outlay of taxes which
21 feeds the weapons monster in the United States.
22 Those who live a distance from us, even as 6.3
23 far as the Columbia and beyond, have reason to be
24 concerned. Anyone having toured the Craters of the
25 Moon National Monument and the surrounding miles of lava 5.10.11

1 have seen numerous caves and fissures. Lava beds are
2 notoriously known for soaking, seeping, and leaking.
3 One example is that of Lost River sinks coming out
4 again at Thousand Springs.

5 Hungarian scientist and Nobel Price winner
6 Edward Teller, also called the father of the H bomb,
7 visited the INEL two years ago during the Star Wars
8 meeting. In an interview with Rocky Barker of the
9 Post Register, June 13, 1986, Mr. Teller, now 80, said:

10 "Space defense is not going to make the
11 world completely secure. I'd like to have any sense of
12 security. Right now, I'm not very choosy. I don't know
13 who can give me more of a sense of security than SDI,
14 which is not saying much."

15 We cannot permit about - - paranoia about
16 communists to rule our actions toward destruction. In
17 the Letters to the Editor section of the Post Register,
18 Idaho Falls, Idaho, March 23rd, 1988, one Idahoan wrote
19 that communists bleed red, too. One way to overcome
20 fear is to build trust in the goodness of the Lord and
21 in one another and not in Gods of metal and fallible
22 weakness. St. Augustine in the fourth century knew
23 very little about special isotope separation, but he
24 had his finger on the right key when he wrote:

25 "Love all even your enemies, not because

207 Bonnett

1 they are your brothers, but precisely that they may
2 become such."

3 With these facts in mind, we, the Christians
4 praying for peace and justice in Idaho Falls and Rigby,
5 believe that the American public is not naive. We are
6 concerned persons in Idaho, and we choose to be active
7 in making our voices heard. Idaho is an important
8 part of America, and we value the splendor of its gifts
9 and beauty. We, living in this age of 1988, are the
10 earth and universe. We have been charged with responsi-
11 bility and accountability of handing on a future for
12 the next generation. It is what we do today that will
13 determine a tomorrow. Thank you very much.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Sister.
15 We will receive your written comments and mark them as
16 Exhibit 68.

17 Our next scheduled speaker is Mr. Larry
18 Drollinger, business representative of the International
19 Union of Operating Engineers.

20 MR. DROLLINGER: Mr. Chairman, and ladies
21 and gentlemen. My name is Larry Drollinger. I'm
22 business representative for Local 370 of the Operating
23 Engineers. I represent nearly 300 people in the
24 Southeastern Idaho area, who have asked me to speak
25 loud and clear in support of the SIS Project to be built

208 Drollinger

1 in Idaho at the INEL Site.

2 Most of these people, like myself, have
3 been born and raised in the Southeastern part of Idaho.
4 I was born and raised on the very borders of the INEL
5 Site in the Osgood area. The technology that has given
6 Idaho a place on the map was never a concern to most
7 when it was used for research and development purposes.

8 The technologies that can be derived from the SIS is
9 probably more important to our safety, and can be one
10 of the answers to solving the problem of nuclear waste.
11 It will allow us to separate the usable plutonium from
12 the waste, thus condensing the waste to less than a
13 fraction of what we would ordinarily have.

14 The SIS will bring our State long and short-
15 term employment, a larger and more stable tax base, and
16 more important, provide our children the opportunity to
17 stay and work in Idaho.

18 The INEL policy of technology transfer is
19 of particular benefit to Idaho industry, business, and
20 educational institutions. The SIS Project will bring
21 some of the best and latest technology to Idaho.

22 Studies conducted by Idaho State University
23 indicate that the 750 permanent jobs at the SIS facility
24 will generate an additional 1,050 supportive jobs in
25 the community, resulting in a total of nearly 1800

1 permanent jobs, something Idaho needs desperately. We
2 already have the labor force available here in this
3 area, and it will not create an influx of people. Con-
4 sequently, there will be no adverse impact on the
5 school system or other elements of the local economies
6 and communities.

7 The established policies of INEL to buy
8 Idaho will give many large and small businesses in the
9 State an opportunity to supply materials and manufacture
10 products and can only add to the stability of Idaho's
11 economic future.

12 INEL has an excellent safety record, and
13 the past records will prove Idaho can continue to be a
14 leader in all fields of technological transfers and
15 can meet all requirements for safety, productivity, and
16 labor management policies. Idaho should be committed
17 to continue to be pioneers in all aspects of nuclear
18 science.

19 I think now it's time for the full-time
20 residents of Idaho to have an opportunity to speak for
21 a change. Are we going to be intimidated once again
22 by big-time movie stars and people who don't even live
23 in Idaho or care about its future?

24 The SIS Project has been labeled a bomb
25 factory by the likes of Charlston Heston and Mariel

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1 Hemmingway, because it has a horrifying ring to it, just
2 as did right to work sound so patriotic and noble. The
3 people of Idaho have just experienced one economic boom
4 from outsiders. We were promised industry at our very
5 borders. Now, I think we have the opportunity to make
6 that happen.

7 The Department of Energy has assured us the
8 nation needs the plutonium, and certainly no one has
9 to tell us that we need the jobs.

10 INEL's safety record speaks for itself. The
11 American people are enjoying many many luxuries today
12 as a result of spinoff technologies derived from weapons
13 related projects. It will be built, and we owe it to
14 our children and ourselves to build it in Idaho. The
15 nuclear arms treaty will never happen if America loses
16 strength.

17 I resent all these people from Colorado and
18 Washington or wherever coming here and accusing our DOE
19 officials and our politicians of being dishonest or
20 lacking integrity. Perhaps they would rather put their
21 trust in the USSR. Surely they will tell us the truth
22 if our own government and DOE won't. Thank you.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Drollinger's
24 written comments will be accepted for the record as
25 Exhibit No. 69.

1 Our next scheduled speaker will be Mr.
2 Carter Real of the Student Peace Unit. Mr. Real?

3 Then our next scheduled speaker will be
4 Mr. James Beard of Green Peace.

5 MR. BEARD: My name is James Beard, and I
6 reside at 4649 Sunnyside Avenue North, Seattle, Washing-
7 ton, 98103. Before I begin, I would like to just note
8 that this is a national project that we're discussing
9 here, a project with national implications to be paid
10 for with national dollars. I think it's appropriate
11 for national groups and people from outside of Idaho to
12 comment. 2.10

13 I am the National Coordinator for the
14 Fissile Material Cutoff Campaign for Greenpeace. This
15 campaign, as the title suggests, is focused on ending
16 worldwide the production of plutonium and high enriched
17 uranium for use in nuclear weapons.

18 Recently Secretary of Energy Herrington 4.2.1
19 testified before the House of Representatives Appropria-
20 tions Subcommittee that the United States is 'awash in
21 plutonium', and that, 'We have more than we need.' This
22 was a rather striking occurrence for several reasons.

23 First of all, Secretary Herrington is head
24 of an agency with a bureaucratic self interest in the
25 continued production of plutonium for nuclear weapons. 4.10.5

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1 In the past, the DOE has been very hesitant to discuss
2 the issue of the need for continued plutonium production.

3 Second, Secretary of Harrington made these
4 comments to Congress at a time when the DOE is making
5 every effort to get Congress to appropriate funds for
6 increased nuclear weapons production material, including
7 money for the SIS plant, the subject of discussion this
8 evening.

9 Third and perhaps most surprising of all,
10 the Department of Energy has issued an official state-
11 ment that happens to be correct: The United States does
12 indeed have more plutonium than it needs. With over
13 100 metric tons of weapon grade plutonium on hand and
14 no plans by Congress to expand the nuclear arsenal in
15 such a way that demands could not be met using plutonium
16 recycled from retired warheads, the United States is,
17 as Secretary of Energy Harrington so succinctly put it,
18 "awash in plutonium".

19 Now let's consider the justifications given
20 for construction of the SIS in the Draft Environmental
21 Impact Statement. On Page 1-2 of the Draft, DOE
22 addresses the issue of the need for the SIS. The document
23 states:

24 "DOE requires redundancy and production
25 capability, technological diversity, and flexibility in

1 its production complex. Currently these are not
2 sufficiently available."

3 The Draft goes on to explain how the SIS
4 Project will provide the needed redundancy, diversity,
5 and flexibility in the plutonium production complex.

6 Now let's examine these statements. On the
7 one hand, the Department of Energy was saying that we
8 have more plutonium than we need. The logical con-
9 clusion, of course, is that the production of plutonium
10 could be ended with no affect on national security.

11 On the other hand, the Department of Energy
12 is claiming that a number of ways to produce plutonium
13 must be developed and maintained or the national security
14 is threatened.

15 At first glance this doesn't make any sense
16 at all. After a lot of thought and consideration it
17 still makes no sense. If one has the capacity to
18 produce the material - - plutonium for instance - - more
19 of which is not needed, is it responsible and prudent
20 to spend a billion dollars or so to find other technolo-
21 gically different ways to produce that material? The
22 answer is clearly no. Why spend money on new produc-
23 tion capability you don't need to produce at all?

24 It is worth noting at this point that the
25 DOE, though they apparently don't like to admit it,

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1 already has a significant amount of the redundancy and
2 flexibility it is looking for in the SIS. The DOE has
3 put several hundred millions of dollars into maintenance
4 and upgrades of the N Reactor at Hanford, for instance,
5 to preserve it for future plutonium needs, if any. All
6 told, DOE will spend nearly a half billion dollars on
7 this Project.

8 Given the DOE's own admission that con-
9 tinued plutonium production is unnecessary and the
10 objective fact that there is redundancy and flexibility
11 currently in the system adequate to meet the needs
12 defined by the Department of Energy, the SIS is clearly
13 an unjustified and unjustifiable Project.

14 Besides being a waste of money, the SIS
15 Project has the potential to take a very real toll of
16 pain and suffering in Idaho.

17 When the DOE shut the N Reactor at Hanford
18 down for maintenance and repairs in January, 1987, they
19 assured the workers there that there was a continued
20 need for plutonium production and that the N Reactor
21 would certainly be re-opened. DOE kept up this facade
22 for a year and a half, even going so far as to claim that
23 arms reduction such as those brought about by the inter-
24 mediate nuclear forces treaty would have no effect on
25 the needs for plutonium. Suddenly when DOE was asked

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1 to justify the closure of the N Reactor in February,
2 1988, that urgent need for continued plutonium produc-
3 tion simply vanished. The DOE admitted there was no
4 continued need for the plutonium for the N Reactor.

5 A similar story is being played out in
6 Idaho today. The DOE is working very hard to assure
7 Idaho labor groups that the SIS will be built, and that
8 it will provide the secure, long-term jobs. This is not
9 the case. Plutonium production will end and probably
10 sooner than you think. Six months, a year, or five
11 years down the road there's a good possibility that
12 SIS employees will be out of work. Some may argue that
13 an uncertain job is better than no job at all. That
14 may or may not be true, especially given considerations
15 of missed opportunities. In any case, it is certainly
16 worth considering the financial, emotional and other
17 problems brought on by the sudden loss of a job,
18 especially when the employer, like DOE at Hanford, is
19 willing to mislead you about the security of your job
20 practically up to the time they hand you your pink slip
21 and ask you to clean out your locker.

22 In conclusion, the Draft Environmental
23 Impact Statement is deficient. The Draft does not
24 adequately address the issue of plutonium need or the
25 lack thereof, nor does it address the obvious redundancies

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1 in the DOE's current production system. Furthermore,
 2 the Draft does not adequately address the socio-economic
 3 problems created by the economic dependents of SIS
 4 employees on the continued production of plutonium,
 5 which the DOE seems to falsely represent as certain to
 6 continue. The final Environmental Impact Statement for
 7 the Special Isotope Separation Project if it fully
 8 addresses these concerns, I'm confident can only bring
 9 the conclusion of no action.

10 Thanks again for your time and consideration.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written statement
 12 of Mr. James Beard on behalf of Greenpeace will be
 13 included in the record as Exhibit No. 70.

14 I see that Mr. Wade has returned to Idaho.
 15 If he's ready, we would accommodate him at the podium
 16 at this point.

17 I'll call Mr. Troy Wade, the Assistant
 18 Secretary of Energy for Defense Programs.

19 Welcome back to Idaho Falls, Mr. Secretary.

20 MR. WADE: Thank you very much. Ladies and
 21 gentlemen, thank you for the opportunity to present the
 22 Administration's position on the proposed SIS at the
 23 INEL.

3.4

24 Let me begin by emphasizing that the national
 25 defense posture of the United States is based on the

1 policy of nuclear deterrents. For over 40 years that
 2 policy, bolstered by a strong, modern nuclear arsenal
 3 has kept this country and the world from global conflict.
 4 Adherence to that policy has served the citizens of
 5 this country well.

6 As we enter a new era of arms control
 7 negotiations with the Soviet Union, we must assure
 8 ourselves as we strive to reduce the number of nuclear
 9 weapons in our stockpile that those remaining are
 10 capable of providing the nuclear deterrents necessary
 11 to protect us well into the next century.

12 As long as we have a national defense policy
 13 based on nuclear deterrents, and as long as we have
 14 nuclear weapons in the U. S. arsenal, we must provide
 15 a competent reliable source of nuclear material to the
 16 complex designs, tests, and produces nuclear weapons.

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17 Currently the nuclear materials production
 18 capability in the United States is not in good condition.
 19 The production reactor, N Reactor, at the Hanford
 20 Reservation has been placed on total standby. The three
 21 production reactors at Savannah River, now over 30 years
 22 old, are running at 50 percent power, pending resolution
 23 of safety issues. It is imperative that this nation not
 24 leave a legacy of old facilities upon which our
 25 successors and our children must rely for their security.

4.7.1

The SIS facility currently proposed for construction here at the INEL is intending to provide this country a degree of flexibility that it has never had before. We believe the justification for the production facility covers much more than just materials requirements. We have an obligation to provide a reliable source of plutonium. We must also provide leading edge technology to the defense of our nation. The SIS facility will provide both.

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At the same time the SIS facility provides a non-reactor source of plutonium, it will also provide an isotopic separation capability with almost unlimited potential. Opponents will argue that we do not need the SIS to provide plutonium in the near term. That is a fact, and we do not dispute it. However, neither those opposed nor ourselves can accurately predict the nuclear materials requirements a decade from now. Our projections of materials needs in the mid '90's tell us we need to have an assured source of weapons grade plutonium. Neither the 30 year old reactor at Savannah River nor the proposed new production reactor can provide that assurance. The SIS plant can.

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Let me turn to the issue of safety in environmental compliance. The SIS plant at the INEL will be built utilizing state-of-the-art design features.

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No nuclear materials processing plant in the free world will provide more margin of safety to workers, to the public in general, and to the environment. The current conceptional design calls for multi-layers of safety systems to prevent release of contamination to the environment, the air, the water or to the workers in the plant.

Let me interject a personal note. I lived here in Idaho for four years, and some day I may return. I recognize the importance of the Snake River Aquifer both to the economy and the health of the State of Idaho. I can state categorically that the allegations that the SIS plant can or will contaminate the aquifer are false. In Congress, the need for the SIS Project is strong. The SIS has been endorsed by members of both parties and it enjoys continued support from the armed services committees, the Department of Defense, and just this morning I testified before the Senate Appropriations Committee before Senator Johnson and Senator McClure, and they, of course, are very supportive.

The INEL has been selected as the preferred site for the construction of the SIS facility. The able and available work force here, as well as its long history of productivity, was an important factor in selection. The strong climate of public support in this

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1 area has been very gratifying. During the course of
 2 these hearings, your Governor, Cecil Andrus, your
 3 Senators Jim McClure and Steve Symms, your Congressmen
 4 Richard Stallings and Larry Craig will speak out in
 5 strong support for this Project. The unanimous support
 6 of Mayors of Eastern Idaho, the resolution of the
 7 Chamber of Commerce are important indicators of the
 8 general support that the SIS Project receives from the
 9 local populace, and I cannot urge, I cannot say how
 10 much that support means to this Project and to the Site.

11 It is fair to say that few Projects have
 12 received more dedicated attention to proper fulfillment
 13 of our obligations under the National Environmental
 14 Protection Act. Within DOE, the program people have
 15 been working directly with their environmental counter-
 16 parts for well over a year to assure that a substantial
 17 and complete document would be available for comment
 18 today. Science engineers and safety environmental
 19 specialists have been working with clear intentions to
 20 develop facility designs which would not only fulfill
 21 our mission but also bear up under the intensive environ-
 22 mental scrutiny they are now receiving.

23 In summary, let me review the policy of the
 24 Department of Energy under the Reagan Administration:
 25 We believe the SIS plant is necessary to protect the

1 common defense of the United States well into the next
 2 century. We believe the plant will provide this nation
 3 a non-reactor source of plutonium that is critical to
 4 the defense needs. We believe this plant will give
 5 the nation's nuclear deterrence a degree of flexibility
 6 it must have. Finally, there is no question concerning
 7 our ability to build and operate this plant in a manner
 8 that is safe, environmentally sound, and a complement
 9 to the many ongoing capabilities of the Idaho National
 10 Engineering Laboratory. Thank you very much.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Secretary
 12 Wade. At this time I'd like to go off the record for
 13 a moment.

14 (There was a brief break in
 15 the proceedings.)

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: It's my pleasure to
 17 introduce the junior Senator from the State of Idaho,
 18 the Honorable Steve Symms.

19 SENATOR SYMMS: Thank you very much,
 20 Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I'm here to testify
 21 in support of the Special Isotope Separation Project,
 22 the SIS.

23 I've just flown out this afternoon from
 24 Washington, leaving Washington at about 1:00 and going
 25 through Atlanta in a roundabout way to get here, because

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1 I believe this is a very important hearing that you are
 2 having and I compliment the Department of Energy for their
 3 efforts to let the public testify on this. I'm here
 4 because I'm concerned that this Country must have a
 5 strong national defense.

6 Until utopia arrives and some kind of
 7 special arms control treaties are developed, our
 8 national security is going to be dependent upon a
 9 nuclear deterrent at least equal to or greater than our
 10 adversary, the Soviet Union. And I'm here tonight be-
 11 cause I know that the SIS is critical and is important
 12 for our nuclear deterrent.

13 This is not information that comes from
 14 guesstimates or estimates, but it comes from the extra-
 15 polation of general information generated by those who
 16 support our national defense.

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17 I have become convinced that the need for
 18 the SIS in numerous classified briefings, briefings
 19 from those who must plan for, develop, maintain and
 20 deploy our nuclear deterrent, those who must protect
 21 the United States, the National Security Council, the
 22 Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, the
 23 President of the United States, and the heads of those
 24 agencies that are responsible for our national security
 25 have recognized the need for this facility several years

1 ago.

2 In January of 1986, the then Secretary of
 3 Defense, Casper Weinberger and the Secretary of Energy,
 4 John Herrington, wrote the Director of the Office of
 5 Management and Budget in support of the SIS, and I'd
 6 like to quote from that letter:

7 "We feel it's essential to pursue a research
 8 and development program so that the construction of a
 9 Special Isotope Separation facility can proceed promptly.
 10 We cannot allow the Soviets greater special nuclear
 11 material production and search capacity to create an
 12 even greater asymmetry in nuclear capabilities.
 13 Therefore, it is essential to preserve the option to
 14 initiate construction of a Special Isotope Separation
 15 facility as soon as possible. The National Security
 16 Council supports this position."

17 In an enclosure in the letter, there's
 18 another quote of support from the two Secretaries, and
 19 I quote:

20 "For reasons of national security, DOD and
 21 DOE have now concluded that an SIS production facility
 22 should be deployed. This facility will provide a
 23 contingency against unanticipated interruptions to the
 24 existing plutonium production capability and provide a
 25 capability to counter a possible Soviet breakout."

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Now I want to make it clear, Mr. Chairman, I'm not the sole supporter of the SIS in Congress. Since the early 1980's, Congress has supported and funded research and development on the AVLIS technology for the SIS. In 1985, the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees in both Houses of the Congress provided language and funds directed towards the construction of the SIS, and this was passed by both the full House and the full Senate of the United States.

I'd like to quote from the Senate Report for the National Defense Authorization Act for the fiscal years 1988 and 1989:

"In addition to supporting the earliest availability of the new production reactor, the Committee believes that the technologies that contribute to availability of plutonium should be pursued aggressively. Accordingly, the Committee fully supports the Department's request for the Special Isotope Separator, SIS."

The House and Senate Appropriation Committees added \$45 million dollars to the Department's request for the SIS.

It should be quite clear from the actions such as these, that the Project has been thoroughly scrutinized on the Hill and in the Administration. The

SIS is not some frivolous undertaking on the part of two Idaho Senators seeking a pork barrel project in their State. This is a national issue that we're talking about here, notwithstanding what some of the critics of this Project have said.

You have other witnesses, Mr. Chairman, that will talk about the economic impact it will have on Idaho, so I won't go through that, but we all know it will be some 450 jobs in construction and another 650 jobs with an annual operation budget ranging from fifty to sixty-five million dollars a year during the life of the Project. So it is a win-win proposition for the State of Idaho and the Nation.

The SIS will provide vitally needed flexibility to our material production capability. Fortunately, recent stockpile briefings seem to indicate that the need for plutonium now is not as great as earlier forecast. I might just say that the reason for that is it is now policy in the DOD planning to dismantle five Polaris Submarines in the weapon systems that are included in those that are still some of the greatest, best, state-of-the-art deterrent we have to the Soviet Union, and in my judgment that is a mistake to do that.

In the first place, the least we could do would be to sell them to the - - turn them over to the

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1 Naval Reserves and not dismantle a weapons system we've
2 already paid for and is not able to be discovered or
3 found by our adversary, the Soviets. That's why those
4 figures are somewhat confusing on how much plutonium
5 is available right now.

6 The SIS will not be completed until 1994 to
7 1995, but it is and always has been needed to satisfy
8 the long-term material requirements. The SIS is needed
9 because right now we are vulnerable to the breakdown of
10 old facilities. And I repeat, we are currently vulnerable
11 as a nation if we should have a failure of one of our
12 production reactors. Two production reactors are shut
13 down for good or are in cold standby. Three operating
14 reactors are restricted to operating at half power,
15 because of safety concerns.

16 Only one of these reactors is producing
17 plutonium, and it's becoming obvious that that one will
18 soon have to switch to producing tritium. When that
19 happens, we will have only scrap facilities to meet
20 our plutonium requirements until the SIS is completed.

21 So it's important to note that these scrap
22 plutonium facilities are as aged as the reactors and
23 greatly need revamping or replacing. There are no easy
24 solutions to our nuclear materials needs, regardless of
25 what the SIS opponents say, especially the alternative

1 they suggest of restarting the N Reactor in case of
2 emergency. The audacity, because these are the very
3 same people, Mr. Chairman, who sued to shut the N
4 Reactor down. Now they are saying we could open it up
5 if we had an emergency. I'll believe that one when it
6 happens.

7 We've all heard a lot recently about the
8 large number of weapons in the stockpile. We've all
9 heard the question, "Why do we need more bombs?" Well,
10 first off let me say that SIS will not add to this
11 stockpile. It will be used only to modernize and re-
12 cycle our weapons stockpile. As new weapons and war-
13 heads are produced, the old ones are retired and dis-
14 mantled. The fact is the number of weapons in the
15 stockpile will not increase as a result of SIS.

16 As a matter of fact, Mr. Chairman, the
17 United States has reduced its nuclear warheads some
18 25 percent from its peak in the late 1960's. The total
19 megatonnage yield has been reduced over 75 percent over
20 the same period of time.

21 The SIS will be used to clean up the DOE
22 owned plutonium from the Department's defense program
23 that is not currently usable for defense program applica-
24 tions.

25 This material is worth over three times the

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1 money that will be invested in the SIS. So the taxpayers
2 are going to have a good program that will pay for its
3 way and then some in their investment in the SIS.

4 Furthermore, there are no secret plans to
5 use fuel from the commercial reactors. The Hart-
6 Simpson Admendment, which is the law of the land,
7 prohibits that from happening.

8 In spite of the national need for the SIS,
9 I want you to be assured that I would not support this
10 Project if I believed in any way it would be harmful to
11 the people of Idaho. And I think it's clear in the
12 Environmental Impact Statement that DOE has considered
13 all the possible hazards and environmental implica-
14 tions and concerns that would result from the operation
15 of the SIS.

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16 The Agency has simulated all possible
17 accidents that could occur, for example, earthquakes,
18 fire, uncontrolled chemical reactions, criticalities
19 that would calculate the amount of radiation that could
20 be released. Even in the worst hypothetical accident,
21 the amount is less than ten percent of the natural
22 background radiation.

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23 The Snake River Aquifer, for all of us
24 particularly that live down river and farm and get water
25 out of the Snake River, it is of great concern to the

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1 residents not only of this area but all that live down
2 river, and it will not be affected in any way by the
3 SIS, because there will be no liquid radioactive waste.
4 All liquid discharged from the SIS facilities must meet
5 the EPA drinking water standards.

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6 Transportation is another issue that a
7 great many constituents have expressed concern to me
8 about. The transportation of plutonium and nuclear
9 waste on the state's highways will be conducted in a
10 responsible manner, and the material confined in a
11 sealed certified cask. The drivers of the plutonium
12 shipments have been rigorously trained and always travel
13 in pairs in safe, secure transports.

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14 Postulated accidents have been studied to
15 determine the effects, but there have never been any
16 deaths in any accident with a safe, secure transport nor
17 any diversion of any nuclear materials. We have a good
18 record on this, and we should always continue to be
19 careful about it. It is sensitive material, but we do
20 have a good record, and we will pursue that with all
21 vigor.

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22 It's important to remember that the Idaho
23 National Engineering Laboratory has an outstanding safety
24 record, and the EPA and an independent interstate safety
25 board will monitor all activities to ensure the highest

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safety standards are maintained. Plans are being developed for emergency preparedness involving local and state officers, as well as the DOE's Idaho Operations office.

Again, I have been committed to the nation's defense and security, as well as to the State of Idaho's well-being, and I would never jeopardize one for the other. If I did not believe that Project were vital and safe, I would not support it.

Arms control talks will continue, and they will continue until some resolution is made one way or the other, either in this Administration or the next or the next one after that, but the SIS is a sense of balance in these talks.

With it, the United States will never be forced to negotiate with a gun held at our head.

I thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Senator Symms. If you have an extra copy of your comments, sir, we'll submit those for the record as Exhibit No. 81. Thank you, Senator Symms' comments will be Exhibit No. 81.

Our next commenter is Mr. Paul Powell, representing the Student Peace Union.

MR. POWELL: Thank you. Good evening. I

was just asked to speak here a couple minutes ago, so I don't have much of anything prepared, but simply as a representative of the Student Peace Union and many students on the campus of Idaho State University, many of us have spent their entire lives in Idaho. We are against this kind of world. The last 40 years we have not been living in a world of peace, we've been living in a world with a gun pointing at our heads, where we're pointing it against the Soviets' heads. That isn't peace. This is not peace in the least, and it's not the kind of world we, as students, want, nor is it the kind of world that we want for our children or our children's children.

Right now we're considering a project that is only going to further this race, only going to make these guns larger. They keep getting larger and larger, and where is it going to end? Is there any end in sight at all?

I ask you, for the record, for the students of ISU, to say no to the SIS Project and say yes to peace. Thank you.

THE HEARING OFFICER: For purposes of accuracy and clarity in the record, I think we'd better list the exhibits we have placed at this point. We've received a large number of written comments here at the

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front table and have marked them as exhibits:

Exhibit 61 is the written comments of June Heilman. Exhibit 62, Jacquie Cano; Exhibit 63 is Beverly Klein, K-l-e-i-n; Exhibit 64 is Noah Klein; Exhibit 65 is Joe Vasil, V-a-s-i-l; Exhibit 66, Mary S. Dunham; Exhibit 67, Birney L. Phillips; Exhibit 71 is Steve Grayson; Exhibit 72 is Robert L. and Gay Cottrell, C-o-t-t-r-e-l-l; Exhibit 73, Jon Spencer, J-o-n; Exhibit 74, Allen Lish, L-i-s-h; Exhibit 75 is Michael H. Armstrong; Exhibit 76, Von, V-o-n J. Hill; Exhibit 77, C. A. Whitehead; Exhibit 78, Larry N. B-e-u; Exhibit 79 is Dana Juant, J-u-a-n-t; Exhibit 80, Tim C. Williams; Exhibit 81, Senator Steve Symms.

Our next scheduled speaker is Mr. Duane Allen of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Local Union.

MR. ALLEN: I'm Duane Allen, 1131 North 1350 East, Shelley, Idaho, 83274. I'm the current President of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Local. We represent approximately 1,000 members at the INEL, with more than 10,000 years of cumulative experience. I have nine years experience in plutonium production at Rocky Flats. I didn't move to Idaho to get away from plutonium production, but to escape the City of Denver. I enjoy the lifestyle of Idaho, and I intend to stay, and I don't want anything to happen that would damage

or destroy that. Believe me, Idaho is a lot better than Denver.

One of the foremost concerns of our Union is a safe and healthy workplace. This we have obtained over the years with cooperative efforts of management and the Union. The natural side effect of a safe and healthy workplace is a safe and healthy environment.

Many of our members are involved in the wilderness and conservation issues we hear about daily. Most of our members are avid outdoorsmen and women, raising their families to be likewise, and likewise to be rational environmentalists.

Most opponents of the nuclear industry don't understand or care to find out about the facts. Science fiction and fantasy movies seem to be their mentors.

There are hundreds of highly skilled craftsmen in Idaho who are supporting the SIS Project, and they are more than qualified to meet the stringent requirements needed to construct a new nuclear facility. After the construction phase is completed on a new facility, the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers members at the INEL operate and maintain the facilities safely and efficiently.

We, the working people of Idaho, who do the labor and perform the hands-on functions at the INEL

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1 would not support--~~not~~ support any project we felt to be
 2 unsafe. We have every confidence in the contractors,
 3 the management at the INEL, and in our unions to provide
 4 us a workplace free from hazards to ourselves and to
 5 our way of life in Idaho.

6 We support the SIS Project.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Allen.

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8 Your written comment will be entered in the record as
 9 Exhibit No. 82. Our next scheduled commenter is E.
 10 Jack Liebenthal, representing the Idaho Section of the
 11 American Nuclear Society. We will enter into the
 12 record as Exhibit No. 83 the written comments of
 13 Mr. Liebenthal.

14 MR. LIEBENTHAL: I have a written statement.
 15 I have a few extra copies. If anyone wants copies, they
 16 will be available afterwards or they can be obtained
 17 by writing to the Idaho Section of the American Nuclear
 18 Society, P. O. Box 2196, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83403.

19 There's a short - - there's a written
 20 statement in the statement, are words about what the
 21 Idaho Section of the American Nuclear Society is composed
 22 of. I'd like to expand on that a little bit.

23 The National American Nuclear Society is a
 24 professional organization of people who are engaged in
 25 nuclear technology of many professional disciplines. The

1 Idaho Section comprises some 200 national members and
 2 1200 total members, made up of professionals, technologists
 3 their families and other people who are engaged in
 4 nuclear technology in one way or another in the State.
 5 It includes not only people who work at the Idaho
 6 National Engineering Laboratory, but people in all of
 7 Idaho's colleges and universities and other people
 8 throughout the State. Now I'll read the statement:

9 The Idaho Section of the American Nuclear
 10 Society's position on the Special Isotope Separation
 11 Project, which was adopted by Executive Committee on
 12 September 24, 1987, has been made public for all the
 13 members, and although there has not been a total member
 14 vote, has received the overwhelming support of members.

15 We are confined to peaceful uses, but we
 16 do address some aspects of the Project.

17 The Idaho Section of the American Nuclear
 18 Society is a scientific and technical organization of
 19 professional scientists and engineers. As such, it
 20 limits its interests to the peaceful uses of nuclear
 21 science and technology. In view of the well-known
 22 military weapons use of technology, we want to point out
 23 that plutonium is also important for meeting our long-
 24 term energy needs, and this is an important aspect with
 25 which many members of the INAS are involved.

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However, given our current defense needs for plutonium production, our concern is to the choice of the technology and location that offer the best advantages to safety and the environment. First, it appears that the proposed SIS technology does indeed offer significant advantages over other methods. These advantages should be well documented so that the technical community and the public can review and understand them.

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An aspect of the laser technology associated with the SIS that is not well known is that isotope separation is not limited to defense applications. What interests us considerably is the potential for spinoff technology for commercial application. As the technology for laser isotope separation is fully developed, it appears to have the potential for considerable benefit. Such spinoff should be considered as the Project proceeds.

Regarding the INEL, one of our major benefits, in addition to the physical characteristics of the Site, is the people resource. We have probably as broad a spectrum of technical talent as anywhere in the country for application of nuclear technology. Many of us are also Idaho natives. Our point is that the mix of talent that exists here is well suited to the SIS Project and its potential spinoff to non-defense

application. The INEL enjoys a proven capability to do things well and to do them safely. We support the SIS Project as offering considerable potential benefit.

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THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Our next scheduled commenter is Mr. Don B. Larsen, Business Manager for the Labors International, Local 155. Mr. Larsen?

MR. LARSEN: Hi, my name is Don Larsen. I am the Business Manager for Labors Local No. 155, Labors International Union of North America. We have members in Local 155 in every community in Southern Idaho, including Sun Valley.

Members of Local 155 have worked at the Site for over three decades. We have worked on every project at the INEL. We have helped build storage sheds; we've helped build power reactors; and, we've helped build the roads that lead to the INEL and all its facilities. Members of Local 155 support the SIS Project. One of the many reasons we support this Project is obvious. It will bring 440 plus construction jobs that will come to the Site if we build this Project, and we have the quality work force to build this Project, and this work force is already in Idaho. We are ready and available to build this Project starting tomorrow if we have to.

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Besides the construction jobs, the SIS Project will also provide approximately 750 permanent jobs, and Idaho workers need these jobs.

I believe that safety is a good reason to build the SIS Project at the INEL. Because of the high level of safety at the Site both construction and operation have established a safety record far superior to the national averages for both construction in the nuclear industry. It's hard for me to believe that all of the outside interests that have talked about safety really know what it's all about. Unless you've worked out there and walked in our boots, and you've seen the high quality and the high level of safety out there, you just can't possibly know what it's all about.

I believe that the technology that the SIS would bring to the Site would only make our chances better to obtain other laser-related projects at the INEL. I believe that local business, Idaho industry and educational institutions would also benefit from the technology gained from the SIS Project.

I know that the Department of Energy has always placed a great deal of emphasis on the environment, and I believe that it will continue to do so during this Project and upcoming projects.

I know that the community wants this Project.

Anybody who witnessed the parade and rally last Saturday knows that the people of this community and this State are behind this Project, and we can be sure of the support of the Idaho people, Idaho businesses, Idaho contractors and labor unions.

I think there's two things that the people of Idaho want: No. 1, we want to speak for ourselves; No. 2, we want to build the SIS Project. Thank you.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Larsen. Mr. Larsen's written comments will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 84.

The next scheduled organizational speaker is Mr. Lane Allgood, representing the SIS supporters group.

MR. ALLGOOD: Thank you. My name is Lane Allgood. I represent the SIS supporters group. Our organization was formed approximately six weeks ago for the sole purpose of voicing Eastern Idahoan's support for the SIS Project.

Historically, only those opposing an issue organize themselves into a lobbying faction. However, because of the crucial nature of this Project on the economic well-being of our State, we felt compelled to present the true feelings of the majority of citizens of Southeast Idaho and not let outside pressure groups

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1 that do not have the best interest of East Idaho in mind
2 cloud the issue and dominate the proceedings.

3 Our group represents a cross section of all
4 of Idaho, including city governments, Chambers of
5 Commerce, large corporations, small business, the
6 educational community, local labor and trade organiza-
7 tions. As testimony to this statement, we submit as
8 evidence the overwhelming participation and support of
9 our pro SIS motorcade and rally held in Idaho Falls
10 March 19, 1988.

11 As an example of our broad base of support,
12 I would like to recognize the following as financial
13 contributors to our cause: Electricon, Brady's Incor-
14 porated, Idaho Falls Board of Relators, Jewel Electric,
15 the Idaho Falls Automobile Dealers Association, the
16 East Idaho Building Trades, the Central Labor Council,
17 the IBEW, Hopkins & Crockett law firm, Labors Local 155,
18 Sears, OCAW Local 2-652, IBEW and NECA, Labor-Manage-
19 ment Grant, Eastern Idaho contractors, Eastern Idaho
20 building trades, operating engineers, Boise building
21 trades, Hansen Marketing. Idaho firms, all of them.

22 In 1949, the Federal Government established
23 the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory on the Arco
24 desert west of Idaho Falls. For the past 39 years the
25 economy of Southeast Idaho and the projects at the INEL

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1 have been closely entwined.

2 Currently more than 9700 persons are
3 employed at the Site, and more than half of those reside
4 in Idaho Falls. It is a recognized fact that for every
5 job at the INEL, 2.3 jobs are created in the local
6 economy to help support and service the families of
7 INEL workers.

8 For the past 15 years I've been employed by
9 two different firms, both locally owned. The primary
10 source of business for each is in supplying electronic
11 equipment to the INEL contractors. Without the INEL,
12 neither of these businesses would be able to continue
13 to operate in Idaho Falls.

14 Unfortunately, many of the major projects
15 at the INEL have been completed or are nearing comple-
16 tion. New projects, such as the SIS, are vital to the
17 economic survival of business in Idaho Falls.

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18 It has been nearly five years since the
19 last major construction project was completed at the
20 INEL, and many of the area construction workers have
21 been forced to leave the area in search of work.

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22 Declines in the agricultural, timber, and
23 mining sectors have contributed to the high rate of
24 unemployment in the six counties surrounding the INEL.
25 Without the SIS Project, the overall unemployment rates

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1 in these counties will continue to climb to an even
2 more serious level.

3 I feel the SIS will bring our area much
4 needed long and short-term employment, and will allow
5 me to continue to work, live, and raise my family in
6 the community where I was born and raised.

7 We would like to emphasize our confidence in
8 the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, in the Department of
9 Defense, the Department of Energy, the elected officials
10 of Congress and the President of the United States of
11 America, and we accept their decisions, whatever they
12 may be.

13 In closing I would like to leave you with
14 one thought: I believe if I were a communist organiza-
15 tion, and I wanted to dilute the defense power of the
16 United States, I certainly could find a way to
17 accomplish this goal internally. As Kruschev once
18 said, "I will bury you without firing a shot." I think
19 it's very obvious today, this philosophy is working on
20 some people.

21 God bless you all, let's pray for a strong
22 America.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: We have at this point
24 two organizational commenters left this evening. Linda
25 Burke, who is speaking in behalf of the Pocatello

1 Chapter of the Idaho Conservation League, followed by
2 Robert Butikofer. Ms. Burke?

3 MS. BURKE: My name is Linda Burke. I re-
4 side at 345 South Seventh Avenue, in Pocatello, Idaho,
5 and I represent the Pocatello Chapter of the Idaho
6 Conservation League.

7 The first and fundamental issue concerning
8 the SIS Project is the need for more plutonium. To my
9 understanding, plutonium does not lose its potency with
10 age, and any we now possess would be usable far into
11 the future, certainly farther than any of us can see.
12 With the recent INF Treaty and further prospects for
13 the START Treaty, it is obvious that more and more
14 plutonium will be available in addition to our already
15 existing 121 tons of weapons grade plutonium.

16 Against these facts, the Department of
17 Energy has failed to establish a real need for plutonium.
18 The most important issue we must consider regarding the
19 SIS is public environmental safety.

20 Tons of plutonium contaminated waste and
21 other hazardous materials will travel on Idaho's highways.
22 As citizens, we have no way of knowing where and when
23 these shipments will be traveling. The Draft EIS makes
24 no mention of any plans for emergency response that would
25 be critical in dealing with an accident that would

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1 release plutonium. No discussion of medical treatments,
2 clean-up equipment, security considerations, evacuation
3 or ultimate route procedures is made. It is mandatory
4 that these issues be addressed by the DOE if this Project
5 is to proceed.

6 Idaho's environment is one of our State's
7 greatest assets. As a native Idahoan and one who has
8 spent a great deal of time and energy working on
9 environmental issues, I see this as the most crucial
10 environmental issue of environmental issues to face
11 this state.

12 The DEIS states that true waste produced
13 by the SIS would be transported to the waste isolation
14 pilot project or WIPP, in New Mexico. According to the
15 New York Times, WIPP has developed leaks that some
16 scientists contend would render the Site useless. How-
17 ever, no alternative disposal at WIPP is mentioned in
18 the Draft EIS. What is more, the Department of
19 Transportation refused to approve the cask design that
20 DOE was planning to use to ship true waste to WIPP,
21 because the casks leaked. DOE has yet to come up with
22 an alternate design.

23 There are presently 4.4 million cubic feet
24 of true waste in storage at the INEL. For 35 years,
25 INEL has been a temporary storage site. Recent studies

1 show that plutonium has contaminated sediment beds 230
2 feet below burial grounds. Idaho officials have been
3 working nearly 20 years to have the existing inventory
4 of true waste removed from INEL. The DOE has continually
5 broken promises to ship the waste to a site that meets
6 their criteria for safe storage.

7 Furthermore, the INEL Site is one of the
8 worst places to store wastes. It sits atop the Snake
9 River Plain Aquifer, the source of drinking water for
10 much of Southeastern Idaho. It also sits in a geologically
11 active area. In 1988, Idaho continues to be a temporary
12 waste dump.

13 Construction on the SIS should not begin
14 until waste disposal and - - waste disposal plants are
15 final and concrete. The DOE has seriously contaminated
16 the environment at Hanford, Savannah River, Rocky Flats,
17 Verdial, Los Alamos, Oak Ridge and Livermore nuclear
18 weapons design production facilities.

19 And at this point I would like to state,
20 you know, just wonder if the Senators promises them the
21 same thing Senator Symms just promised us.

22 If the Draft EIS for the Special Isotope
23 Separation Plant at the INEL is the parameter by which
24 we measure the safety of this Project, then we have no
25 reason to believe that our precious resource, our

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1 environment, will be protected by the Department of
2 Energy. I say no to the SIS in Idaho, and I say no to
3 the SIS anywhere. Thank you for the opportunity to
4 speak.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our final organiza-
6 tional commenter representing the studentbody of the
7 Eastern Idaho Vocational-Technical School, Robert
8 Butikofer.

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9 MR. BUTIKOFER: As he stated, I represent
10 the Student Council and studentbody. I have names
11 from people from virtually every full-time course of
12 study at the school supporting the Environmental Impact
13 Statement for the SIS, and we also support the SIS at
14 the INEL Site.

15 I would like to make a short statement, and
16 then we'll get on with it.

17 First of all, we feel like sooner or later
18 a decision will be made to build the SIS, and already
19 a decision has been made for a strong nuclear deterrent
20 by our government. And, yes, I guess you could say we
21 are pro nuclear power, but yet on the other hand, we
22 are anti-nuclear war. But if we proceed with a full-
23 scale nuclear change, it's a no-win situation for either
24 side.

25 In the event of a nuclear arms treaty, we

1 would be willing to accept that and not only that, we
2 would be willing to accept any economic implications it
3 may have on our area. But as for the current time, the
4 policy standards state and for the immediate future
5 we're going to have plutonium processed in the United
6 States, and we feel like that the INEL should have the
7 opportunity to do this.

8 I would like to give you a little informa-
9 tion about Eastern Idaho Vocational Technical School.
10 It's basically a non-traditional type of studentbody
11 which means the people have come back and decided to
12 further their education, and not only to benefit them-
13 selves and families, but their communities.

14 The INEL has had a great hand in developing
15 Eastern Idaho Vocational Technical School. Many of the
16 programs there depend partially or wholly on the con-
17 tractors at the INEL hiring graduates out of those
18 programs. There are five programs that specifically
19 train technical people for work in the nuclear industry.
20 These programs include process technology class, which
21 I am a part of and that group of people prepared the
22 statement I am giving you tonight.

23 There is also radiation safety people,
24 quality assurance and non-destructive testing, nuclear
25 security training, and decontamination technicians. There

1 are also other courses at EIVTS which benefit fairly
2 directly from employment at the INEL. These include
3 office occupations, bookkeeping, electronics, people in
4 the mechanical trades, and also we have welders there.

5 Now as students, our concern is that the
6 INEL pursue work that can keep our graduates in Idaho.
7 And it's important for us to also note that EIVTS is
8 not only ready but willing to supply technically trained
9 people for not only the SIS Project, but also the other
10 INEL Projects that are there and hopefully will be
11 coming down the road. We have a very good working re-
12 lationship with WINCO. They have made an effort to
13 hire local people to fill the local jobs, and we feel
14 like they are a very good company to have here to run
15 this Project and work with.

16 The students of EIVTS also - - I forgot what
17 I was going to say. We also support the idea of other
18 industries spawning from the technology used in the SIS
19 Project. As any local person knows, there are several
20 local businesses that are direct descendents or direct
21 spinoffs of work that's already done here. There are
22 several hundred people that work in Idaho Falls that
23 have companies that developed in a nuclear industry
24 from spinoff type operations.

25 There's two other areas I'd like to shortly

1 address, and then I will turn the time to someone else.

2 The first one is transportation. As it stands today,
3 Idaho is already in the plutonium transportation business.
4 The two major routes from the Hanford Reservation to
5 any other plutonium processing facility in the United
6 States comes through Idaho. We either go through the
7 north end of the State or through the south end of the
8 State to achieve these destinations. We feel like the
9 safety record of the people who transport nuclear fuels
10 is very good, and I dare to say if we put the same re-
11 strictions on the rest of the trucking industry that is
12 on the people who transport the nuclear fuels and nuclear
13 materials, that we very rarely ever hear of a trucking
14 accident. We support that, but we wanted to keep it
15 safe, and we want to encourage the Department of Energy
16 to make every effort to make sure that the containers
17 they use are safe and tested, as several people have
18 stated earlier today.

19 The last area I'd like to address is con-
20 cerning safety operations. And we've had several
21 speakers here this evening that have talked about people
22 that have actually worked there. All the people that
23 have helped me prepare this statement have also been
24 on site at the INEL chemical processing plant. Their
25 security and their safety measures are unreal. Everywhere

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1 you go, it's the very first priority. WINCO has a
 2 great commitment in education of their operators and
 3 other personnel, and not only that, they have an ongoing
 4 education department that is always instructing them
 5 and updating their skills, so that no exposure, no
 6 releases are experienced. And they're interested in
 7 their employees in the environment, in the name of the
 8 people who live locally and in the area.

9 Again, I'd like to tell the Department of
 10 Energy that we support their action here and thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
 12 that concludes our list of governmental officials and
 13 organizational speakers. In just a moment we're going
 14 to take a brief recess. Before doing that, I'd like
 15 to note for the record that the Hearing Officer is in
 16 receipt of 14 separate written questions propounded by
 17 various individuals and organizations. I'll coordinate
 18 with the Department's Office of General Council to get
 19 appropriate responses back to you on that.

20 At this point we'll be in recess for five
 21 minutes.

22 (A brief recess was taken.)

23
 24 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll now formally
 25 go back on the record. I'd like to ask everyone to

1 please be seated. If you want to do any talking, I'd
 2 ask you to go out in the foyer, so we can get a little
 3 order. I appreciate that.

4 Ladies and gentlemen, as I'm sure most of
 5 you or if not all of you are aware, we have a rather
 6 large number of individuals who have requested to comment
 7 publicly on record in this proceeding. As of this point
 8 in time, we still have 221 individuals who have allocated
 9 a time of five minutes to testify. Obviously, we are
 10 not going to get everyone accommodated this evening.

11 As I mentioned earlier, to deal with this
 12 situation, given the Department's commitment to allow
 13 everyone the opportunity to comment in a meaningful way,
 14 we will have a continuation of this hearing starting on
 15 Wednesday. It's almost 9:00. We intend to continue on
 16 for at least another two hours here this evening to
 17 receive comment.

18 What we're going to do is, we have 50
 19 individuals who did not have a chance to comment this
 20 afternoon. We are going to go ahead and start with them
 21 first and go down the list as it was provided to you in
 22 the back of the room.

23 As I mentioned to you, anyone who has pre-
 24 registered for this hearing or the hearing this after-
 25 noon or registered at the door at either this evening's

1 or this afternoon's hearing will be accorded the
 2 opportunity to comment. What will happen is, if you
 3 don't comment by 11:00 this evening, we'll automatically
 4 put you on the list for the continuation of this hearing
 5 which is now slated for Wednesday the 30th of March,
 6 back here at University Place. Now our intention is
 7 that those of you who are planning to testify this
 8 evening, we'll automatically reschedule you for the
 9 evening hearing. However, if for whatever reason you
 10 desire to be accommodated during the afternoon hearings
 11 we need to know that. All you need do is go back to
 12 the registration table and fill out one of the forms
 13 so we may accommodate you.

14 What I intend to do at this particular point
 15 is recommence the list of commenters, starting with
 16 Commenter No. 50 from the afternoon session. What I've
 17 been doing is, I've been calling five names at a time
 18 and ask those people to come down here to the front.
 19 We have plenty of reserved seats. So when you hear
 20 your name called, make sure you come down. It really
 21 helps us in terms of moving this process forward. We'll
 22 just call your name in sequence, and you'll have a
 23 chance to comment for five minutes.

24 Now I've been told that a great number of
 25 people or at least some number of people that have come

1 up from outside the Idaho Falls area, come from con-
 2 siderable miles to be here this evening. In the event
 3 you don't want to come back on Wednesday but you do want
 4 to have a comment entered into the record, if you've
 5 brought written comments with you, what we'll do is
 6 starting about 10:45 is allow you to come up here, give
 7 your name for the record and assign an exhibit number
 8 to that comment. If you want to leave prior to that
 9 time, what you need to do is leave your comments, your
 10 written comments with one of the Department of Energy
 11 personnel that are back at the registration table or
 12 along the sides of the room here.

13 So with those rules firmly in mind, we'll
 14 go ahead - - yes, sir?

15 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I believe you broke
 16 off this afternoon at No. 36 or 37, not 50.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes, well, what I
 18 meant to say is - - I'm sorry - - we're at No. 38 from
 19 this afternoon. I apologize. What I meant to say was
 20 we have 50 individuals from this afternoon to accommodate.

21 So with that, what we're going to do is re-
 22 commence the receipt of public testimony from in-
 23 dividuals. Under the rules you all have five minutes.
 24 When the green light goes on, that means you have one
 25 minute to go. When the red light comes on that means

1 your time has elapsed.

2 So without further ado we'll go to our next
3 commenter, Mr. Jon F. Walters, followed by Dennis
4 Howell, followed by Bee Cartee, Carolyn Molen and Cory
5 Colvin.

6 Jon F. Walters?

8 (No response.)

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Dennis Howell?

11 (No response.)

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Bee Cartee?

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Carolyn L. Molen?

17 (No response.)

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll go to the next
19 five. Cory Colvin, Sidney Langer, Winona Sayer, Vaughn
20 Wagoner, Jeff Wheeler.

21 Please step forward, and state your name
22 and address for the record.

23 MR. LANGER: My name is Sidney Langer. I
24 live at Post Office Box 3854, Idaho Falls; very
25 comfortable accommodations.

255 Langer

1 In today's public environment, it's necessary
2 that one speak with complete candor. Therefore, I need
3 to tell you that I have been in the nuclear industry
4 for the past 34 years in four locations across the
5 country. The health impacts of that environment have
6 been normally beneficial. I'm here on my own time,
7 obviously, at my own expense and I speak only for myself.

8 This afternoon I took vacation time from my employment
9 in order to attend these hearings. I support the
10 construction of the SIS Project, and I support it here
11 at the INEL. And the reason for that is because I think
12 it will be a valuable addition to the DOE weapons
13 complex and will result in the lowering of the population
14 dose to the workers in that complex and to the military
15 custodians of the nuclear weapons. This is because it
16 will reduce the concentration of Plutonium 241 and its
17 radioactive daughters in all nuclear weapons.

18 I would agree, however, with the premise
19 that the DOE has failed to provide in the SIS a con-
20 vincing case for the essential need for the facility.

21 However, having said that, let me make the
22 following comment. Dr. Cochran pointed out that the
23 Department of Energy was prohibited by its rules from
24 siting his nuclear weapons data book in any unclassified
25 publication. However, as a private citizen, I'm not

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1 prohibited from doing that. So I went to Dr. Cochran's
 2 data book, and I discovered from that book that there
 3 are 17 metric tons of plutonium for this Project. Then
 4 I went to the NRDC handout right outside and picked up
 5 the fact that the total cost of the operation would be
 6 \$1.0 billion dollars plus the cost of operations. If
 7 you divide those numbers through, you can come up with
 8 \$73 a gram as a cost of weapon grade plutonium. Now
 9 I don't know what it costs, but it doesn't sound out
 10 of reason to me.

11 Secondly, Mr. Reicher, the attorney for
 12 NRDC, did not complete doing his homework. He said that
 13 nowhere had the DOE agreed to issue a classified
 14 appendix. That's not correct. Were he to look at the
 15 Implementation Plan on Page 34, it states very very
 16 clearly that there will be a classified appendix to
 17 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement produced. So
 18 clearly, those things are answered.

19 In my view, and that view has been re-
 20 inforced by the views of the last seven Secretaries of
 21 Defense including present-day Doug Robert McNamara and
 22 Harold Brown. And Mr. McNamara, for those of you who
 23 are too young, served under President John Kennedy.
 24 Their view was the total elimination of nuclear weapons
 25 will not be obtained in the foreseeable future, even

1 though the possible reductions in the number of warheads
 2 is feasible.

3 Thus, reduction of the occupational dose
 4 to workers in the complex of the military is a worthwhile
 5 goal and it is also in accordance with the ALARA principle.
 6 It may even be mandated by the ALARA principle.

7 Secondly, and I don't think this is mentioned
 8 in the EIS, the SIS will produce weapons grade plutonium
 9 with far less waste, particularly high level waste,
 10 than reactors dependent methods of producing weapons
 11 grade plutonium.

12 Now two issues have been discussed today,
 13 one the issue of need and morality of nuclear weapons.
 14 I've already talked about the need. My final comments
 15 will be on morality. The opponents of construction have
 16 stated that this is a moral issue, so let's proceed on
 17 that basis and determine whether the United States wears
 18 a moral white hat or the moral black hat as our opponents
 19 imply.

20 In 1977, this country first delayed and then
 21 banned the reprocessing of spent commercial nuclear
 22 fuel as an incentive to other nations to do the same.
 23 The objective was to reduce the chance for proliferation
 24 of plutonium commerce in nuclear weapons. Look how
 25 successful our shining example has been. Four countries

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1 in Europe have reprocessing plants that divert plutonium
2 either to weapons or nuclear reactors. Japan has a
3 plant under construction; Israel has a non-safeguarded
4 reprocessing plant with a reported stockpile of 100
5 weapons. So once again, our moral persuasion has
6 failed, and once again we have lost the technological
7 leadership, in this instance by government intent.

8 Anyone who thinks they can disinvent plutonium and
9 nuclear weapons or nuclear power also thinks he can
10 unscramble an egg. The U.S. has taken the high road,
11 but the rest of the world has not followed. Thank you.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written testimony
13 of Sidney Langer will be included as Exhibit No. 91 in
14 the record.

15 I'll go down the list of the next five
16 commenters: Winona Sayer, Vaughn Wagoner, Jeff Wheeler,
17 Bruce Campbell, Ron Day. Are any of those individuals
18 present?

19 The next group will be Bill Fohrenck, Don
20 Mackay, Lamar Hayward, Peter Lambardozzi and Jim Reed.
21 Are any of them present?

22 If you would give your name and address for
23 the record.

24 MR. ROBERTSON: Robert L. Robertson, Jr.
25 I live in Pocatello, Idaho, 1644 East Fremont, and I'm

1 taking the place of No. 45, Vaughn Wagoner.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes, we had that. I'm
3 sorry. You may go ahead, sir.

4 MR. ROBERTSON: As I stated earlier, I'm
5 Robert L. Robertson, Jr., Pocatello, 1644 East Fremont,
6 and I have just a brief comment.

7 What the SIS is to me and the State of Idaho.
8 The SIS will mean jobs for me and my many friends that
9 are unemployed. It means stability and economic growth
10 for the State and the community. It means needed tax
11 dollars for our education system and will secure our
12 national defense.

13 The President and the Congress have said
14 that we need such a Project, and our State Senators
15 and Congressmen say the same. These are the people that
16 we elect to make these type decisions for us. They
17 know better than we about the needs of such plants.

18 As for the safety of the INEL, it has an
19 excellent safety record. If it was not so, it would
20 not be in operation now.

21 It is time for the working people of the
22 State to be heard. If the people that built the first
23 airplane would have said, "We cannot build this plane
24 because if it falls, it will kill people," we would not
25 have airplanes today, now would we?"

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1 So I'd say yes to SIS, and I thank you for
2 your support.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
4 I'm informed that the Department's personnel in the
5 back have been talking to some of you about various
6 trades. So if I read your name and you've already
7 traded with someone, please step forward and identify
8 that, because we don't have that information here.

9 Thank you, the written comment of Robert L.
10 Robertson, Jr. will be included as Exhibit No. 92 in
11 the record.

12 I will read the next group of commenters we
13 have on our list: J. Allen Jensen, Jim Ovard, Linda
14 Martin, Mayor John Porter, L. T. Cartee. Are any of
15 those individuals here?

16 If you would come forward, state your name
17 and address for the record.

18 MR. REED: Jim Reed, 965 Boise Avenue, Idaho
19 Falls. I'm kind of glad to be able to make this speech
20 by now, because I've been here all day and my friends
21 have watered this thing down so bad that pretty soon
22 I'd just hand it in. They told me I couldn't even show
23 you my copy of Playboy Magazine that Muriel's in, be-
24 cause it's too sexy. So I won't show you that. I'll
25 just go on with my speech.

1 I'm proud to work with people at the Site,
2 and I am proud to be an American. I'm proud to have
3 been given the opportunity to play whatever small part
4 I do play in supporting the INEL and helping our
5 country's national defense.

6 Quite the opposite from the Snake River
7 Alliance. Rather than being ashamed of participating
8 in our greater nation's defense capabilities, I am
9 proud to be a part of that effort.

10 I cannot imagine a citizen of these United
11 States being opposed to a strong national defense. The
12 only conceivable group that I can imagine being opposed
13 to the strength of our nation is that political philosophy
14 that would like to see us all destroyed. I, therefore,
15 question the motives of the Snake River Alliance and
16 their political affiliation. Is their loyalty with our
17 country or some other? But enough of who they are.

18 It has always been a wonder of mine how the
19 people of Idaho consistently say we are not influenced
20 by outside forces. But at the same time, we seem to
21 have a propensity to let ourselves be duped by these
22 outside forces.

23 You will remember just a short time ago we
24 were duped by another national organization, the
25 National Right To Work Committee. They brought actors

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1 into our community via our television and our news
2 media to tell us how to vote. The quality of actors
3 was somewhat better than those used by the Snake River
4 Alliance - - when Murial stepped out of Playboy, Moses
5 stepped out of the Bible - - to have quite a bit of
6 influence over our judgment.

7 What has this gotten us? Many lost jobs,
8 lower wages and a lot of suffering from the people in
9 the work force who can least afford it. Now we have
10 another national organization trying to influence our
11 judgment, the Snake River Alliance. They have a pro-
12 fessional person, hired full-time to do nothing but
13 cause as many problems as possible for our INEL Site.

14 You will remember that when questioned
15 about her funding not long ago, Liz Paul as much as
16 told us it was none of our business. Now she says some
17 of her funding comes from outside foundations. She has
18 brought in actors, too. And as I said before, while
19 they are not the caliber of the National Right To Work
20 Committee's actors, they are still professional actors
21 from Hollywood who seem to be able to convince us that
22 what they say is true.

23 The Snake River Alliance told us to let
24 Idaho decide, but Monday in a TV interview Liz Paul
25 said that she probably could not muster the support she

1 needed in the State of Idaho to defeat the SIS, so she
2 would have to go beyond Idaho to the Congress and lobby
3 them to end funding.

4 What is the truth from these outsiders?
5 They come here from various parts of the country, from
6 the land of fruits and nuts in the West and from
7 Disneyland East. These people come to Idaho and think
8 they have some influence over us since they are from
9 the so-called more important sections of the country.
10 Well, I have a message for these people: We have heard
11 enough from the land of fruits and nuts and we have
12 heard enough from the so-called experts of the East.

13 We do not need anymore of their rhetoric
14 and lies. Let Idaho decide; let us decide; we have
15 decided; we have decided - - yes, yes, for the SIS.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written statement
17 of Mr. Jim Reed is now marked as Exhibit No. 93 to be
18 included in the record as such.

19 Our next commenter at this point is J. Allen
20 Jensen, whose written comments will be marked Exhibit
21 No. 94 and put in the record.

22 Mr. Jensen?

23 MR. JENSEN: My name is J. Allen Jensen.
24 I'm a resident of Idaho Falls, at 2955 East 97th South.
25 I moved here from Salt Lake City in 1961.

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Before my retirement in December, 1984, my occupation was that of President and General Manager of KID Broadcasting Corporation, which operated radio stations KID and KID-FM and television station KID-TV. I was engaged in the communications business for some 45 years.

Having examined the Draft Environmental Impact Statement which was prepared in accordance with regulatory and statutory law, I wish to go on record as one who emphatically supports the DEIS conclusions, namely that the SIS Project is needed in order to fulfill the responsibilities of the Department of Energy concerning nuclear materials for the defense of this nation, that the INEL is the preferred site for the construction and operation of the SIS, and that this construction and operation can be accomplished within the health and safety standards required by law.

I will omit some of my written statements, in the interest of saving a little bit of time.

Opponents of the SIS Project protest that to produce weapons grade plutonium endangers the peace of the world, that we should be dismantling our nuclear weapons instead of making more of them.

It must be apparent that unilateral disarmament in the present state of the world would be the

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most stupid thing that we could do. However, I want to emphasize that nuclear war would be total insanity. But you don't get away from it by abandoning our nuclear weapons. Even though the United States and Russia might agree on a program of nuclear disarmament, they both know that there are parties with the capability of inflicting nuclear blackmail upon us. It seems to me not wise to postpone or forego the construction of an SIS because we might have disarmament before it could fulfill its mission. Universal nuclear disarmament is a long way into the future, unfortunately.

As a proponent of the construction and operation of the SIS at INEL, there are some things I would like to say about it.

First, the Project would be a welcome long-term boost to the economy of Idaho.

Second, with the new laser technology, the possibilities that technology transfer would bring to private industrial opportunity in Idaho are monumental, opportunities that should not likely be foreclosed.

And third, the construction and operation of the SIS would help to implement additions to the tax base so that material assistance could be given to the quest for higher educational standards and achievements, particularly in our Vo-Tech schools and in our universities.

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1 In conclusion, I restate my support for the
2 implementation of the SIS Project at the Idaho National
3 Engineering Laboratory with this observation:

4 Years ago, the people of Arco welcomed a
5 new technology as their city was briefly illuminated
6 by electricity from the Experimental Breeder Reactor.
7 We have another opportunity now at INEL for a new
8 technology that could illuminate for years to come
9 the basic economic structure of this area.

10 May I quote a short verse from the first
11 chapter of the Book of Genesis, which deals with the
12 very stuff from which our universe was made: Let there
13 be light. Thank you.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'm going to go down
15 the speaker's list again. I realize a lot of individuals,
16 I assume, have left because they're planning to testify
17 on Wednesday. In addition to that, a number of these
18 individuals whose name I'm calling I'm sure have entered
19 in their written comments in the record. Jim Ovard,
20 Linda Martin, Mayor John Porter, L. T. Cartee, Ken
21 Koller.

22 If any of those people are here, we ask
23 them to come down front.

24 Sir, if you would give us your name and
25 address for the record.

1 MR. HAYWARD: My name is LaMar Hayward. I
2 live at 179 West 20th Street in Idaho Falls. I am in
3 support of the SIS Project, and I'm also in support of
4 the SIS Project in Idaho.

5 I have seen on TV and read in the newspaper
6 of some non-support for this Project, and it upsets me
7 as a resident that these people have chose part-time
8 residents and out of state people to represent them
9 because of their popularity. And they have decided to
10 use scare tactics and the lack of facts to show their
11 point of view, when the facts are that the SIS Project
12 is a safer and cheaper way to produce the nuclear
13 materials that our government requires DOE to produce.

14 The SIS is progress in the making, a new
15 and safer technology. Why should we use smoke signals
16 when we have telephones?

17 Over the past month and a half I have talked
18 to over 150 people, mostly friends, neighbors, business
19 acquaintances and people on the job about the SIS
20 Project. And all have been in support of the Project.
21 No one I've talked to has been opposed to it. This
22 tells me that Idaho people want to help make this a
23 safer place for all of us, and also be a part of the
24 new technology that is going to make the nuclear in-
25 dustry a safer and more productive one.

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1 The INEL has a great safety record, and I
2 feel one of the reasons for this is the people who work
3 at the INEL take pride in their work. And they also
4 want a safe environment where they and their families
5 can work and live.

6 I hope the DOE will bring the SIS to the
7 INEL so Idaho can show the world the safer ways of the
8 future. Thank you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: I've been requested
10 by the security personnel that they would like to keep
11 the two exits in the back somewhat clear, so those of
12 you who are standing there, take a seat or at least
13 stand away from the door.

14 As I run down the speaker's list, if you
15 happen to hear your name, please step forward to the
16 front: Mayor John Porter, L. T. Cartee, Ken Kollar,
17 Jennifer Merriam, Harry Guelzow, Dave Hensel.

18 Please state your name and give us your
19 address, please.

20 MS. MARTIN: My name is Linda S. Martin. I
21 live at 1885 Monticello in Idaho Falls. I would like to
22 thank you for this opportunity to speak here today. My
23 reason for being here is to inform you that contrary to
24 what our elected officials have said here today - - not
25 everyone in this community of Idaho Falls is displaying

1 or wearing a sign Yes SIS. I am not and I do not want
2 the SIS Project located at the INEL.

3 In 1953 I was one of the many children who
4 moved to Idaho Falls from other parts of the country.
5 I came because my father was a nuclear engineer and
6 nuclear research was underway at the facility built in
7 the Arco desert. I grew up thinking my dad was a part
8 of the very cutting edge of nuclear research. I ask
9 DOE - - why not invite projects here that continue the
10 original spirit of research - - research which looks
11 into peacetime use of nuclear energy rather than the
12 conversion of portions of the facility into nuclear
13 weapons production?

14 I have listened carefully to the arguments
15 for the placement of the SIS here. I have read the
16 portions of the Environmental Impact Study and it has
17 provided me no assurance that the United States Govern-
18 ment does not address this issue. It is indeed a vital
19 question which must be answered before we as residents
20 of the State of Idaho, and specifically citizens of
21 this community, put ourselves at risk. The study tells
22 me our environment will be impacted by the presence of
23 plutonium on our roads and by the nuclear waste products
24 to be hidden in our soil.

25 I do not believe our community needs the

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1 SIS Project to economically survive. There are alter-
 2 native industries in this country that could be invited
 3 to locate in Idaho Falls. I am aware that the Idaho
 4 Department of Commerce and our Governor are looking to
 5 invite such industry to Idaho, but our State is so unique
 6 different in many sections of the State that it is
 7 impossible to sell Idaho in broad, sweeping, generalized
 8 terms. Our community and Southesat Idaho is truly the
 9 best place to live. To DOE - - we do not want nuclear
 10 weapons production here. To our community leaders I
 11 want to say - - let us be creative with the information
 12 we have compiled - - look for new, clean industry and
 13 show them Idaho is the place to be. Why not encourage
 14 supporting industry to come to Idaho Falls to service
 15 the present projects at INEL? Let us convince our INEL
 16 neighbors that they should seek projects which are not
 17 weapons related.

18 I value my time of growing up here in this
 19 community. I left Idaho for a number of years after
 20 high school but when it came time to choose where I
 21 would raise a family - - I chose Idaho Falls. I am
 22 proud of this community. I believe the contractors and
 23 their employees who have come and gone through the years
 24 have acted responsibly with the projects they were given
 25 to complete. But this SIS Project is not in harmony

271 Martin

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1 with our past here in this community and is not how I
 2 see us building the future for our children. I will
 3 continue to give my time and energy to activities which
 4 enhance the well-being of the citizens of this wonder-
 5 ful city. SIS will not help our well-being and I do
 6 not want the Project in Idaho Falls.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
 8 of Linda Martin will be entered into the record as
 9 Exhibit 95.

10 Moving on, let me go ahead and go down the
 11 witness list here and ask those individuals to step
 12 forward: Mayor John Porter, L. T. Cartee, Ken Koller,
 13 Jennifer Merriam, Harry Guelzow, Dave Hensel.

14 Sir, if you would give your name and address
 15 for the record.

16 MAYOR PORTER: My name is John Porter, I
 17 am the Mayor of the City of Rexburg. The City Council
 18 has endorsed the Special Isotope Separation Project and
 19 has directed me to make a presentation today favoring
 20 the Project and urging its early construction.

21 I also serve as secretary-treasurer of
 22 East Central Idaho Planning and Development Association,
 23 an organization of the nine counties of Idaho's Seventh
 24 District, including the cities in the District. We have
 25 been responsible for bringing into the area over \$50

272 Porter

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1 million in economic development, and we support those
2 projects that will stimulate our economy and create new
3 job opportunities. The SIS Project fits this category.

4 I am a native of East Idaho. I have, during
5 my lifetime, seen many changes. I was publisher and
6 editor of the Rexburg Standard-Journal newspapers for
7 many years and have been active in community development
8 through Chamber of Commerce work. I recall the enthu-
9 siasm the announcement received in East Idaho that the
10 Atomic Energy Commission would establish the Atomic
11 Reactor Project on the Arco desert area. None of us
12 realized the size of the Project or the impact it would
13 have but we welcomed it and gave our full support. We
14 were unaware of any danger of nuclear contamination but
15 had we been more aware I'm sure we would still have
16 approved the project. History has proven us right. There
17 have been no serious accidents or problems at the Site
18 and our economy has been greatly enhanced.

19 The record at INEL is a model of safety that
20 is the envy of the nation. There has been no serious
21 accidents and there is no reason to believe we have
22 anything to fear if the SIS is constructed at the INEL
23 Site.

24 This safety record has been maintained
25 despite some serious disasters in the area. We've

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1 experienced earthquakes. The most recent was in the
2 Challis area. Before that there was one at Hebgon Lake
3 and Yellowstone Park. No damage resulted at the INEL
4 Site although it was close to the epicenter. We sur-
5 vived the Teton Dam disaster. There have been a few
6 malfunction accidents in equipment at the Site but no
7 serious life loss or contamination has resulted. The
8 INEL management has been frank and forthright in re-
9 porting such accidents and have kept the public fully
10 informed of any problem. This has given us confidence in
11 the operation. We have no reason to believe this atti-
12 tude will change.

13 The primary purpose of the SIS Project is
14 to enhance the security of our nation. It will use laser
15 isotope separation technology to remove undesired iso-
16 tope from government owned plutonium to support defense
17 applications. This is needed as a part of our national
18 defense system. The process will take place someplace
19 in the United States if not at the INEL. Denying con-
20 struction here will not stop production. But by having
21 it at INEL we will gain the value of the side effects
22 from the new laser technology. This will result in the
23 development of satellite industries being established
24 by private industry in this area.

25 Let's look at the immediate benefit to

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1 East Idaho and the State of Idaho. The plant and
2 capital equipment will total \$505 million. Development
3 and operation support will be \$432 million. This is a
4 total for the Project reaching \$937 million. That will
5 give our economy a much needed shot in the arm at a
6 time when our farm, timber and mining industries are
7 suffering. Construction is also in the doldrums.

8 The operation costs, once the building is
9 completed, will be \$64 million annually and will employ
10 over 700 people. This will stop the exodus of our
11 population to other states where defense projects are
12 in operation.

13 A few days ago there was an economic con-
14 ference held in the Riverside-San Bernadino area of
15 California. A report from a survey given at the con-
16 ference showed there were 3200 new jobs being created
17 each month in that area. This employment increase was
18 created from the huge defense industries located in the
19 area along with the support jobs. I'm not advocating
20 such a massive growth for East Idaho. I would not want
21 that to happen. But I want a modest growth to provide
22 jobs and opportunity for the young people of Idaho who
23 desire to remain here and enjoy the marvelous lifestyle
24 we all love. We want our area to be a place where young
25 people can raise their families, own their own homes and

1 enjoy life as it should be in America.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
3 of Mayor Porter will be included in the record as
4 Exhibit No. 96.

5 Go ahead and step forward, please. I'll
6 run down the list and if you hear your name called,
7 step forward down here to the staging area: L. T.
8 Cartee, Ken Koller, Jennifer Merriam, Harry Guelzow,
9 Dave Hensen, Steve Spring, Larry Chapple, Steve Ritchie.

10 If you would state your name and address
11 for the record.

12 MS. BUCHLI: My name is Shirley Buchli. I
13 reside at Ten Davis Drive, Pocatello, Idaho.

14 As a resident of the State of Idaho for the
15 past 19 years and as a person involved in laboratory
16 and chemical safety, in addition to involvement in a
17 toxic task force for Southeastern Idaho, I feel compelled
18 for the first time in my life to speak out publicly on
19 this issue. I think it is very very critical to the
20 future of Idaho.

21 In the Draft Environmental Statement, DOE
22 states that there is a need for "redundancy" in produc-
23 tion capacity. According to the dictionary, redundancy
24 is defined as exceeding what is natural, usual or
25 necessary. I could not agree more. This whole Project

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1 is redundant.

2 The economic impacts are projected to be
3 many. What will happen to Southeastern Idaho's economy
4 when all the existing plutonium stocks have been re-
5 processed? Will we have an economic wasteland such as
6 Hanford, Washington with high unemployment, empty homes,
7 defunct businesses, and no one here to pay their taxes
8 to support all of the increased loads which will be

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9 placed on all the existing facilities? Page S-16 of
10 the DEIS states that there may be overcrowding of our
11 schools. I ask you, who will pay for that impact, our
12 children, our teachers, our already overcrowded schools?

13 According to the statement made at last
14 year's economic summit, we in Idaho want to attract
15 new businesses which will be a permanent part of Idaho.

16 We have no guarantees that the SIS will be permanent.
17 And even if it is, are we willing to tie our economic
18 future to the nuclear industry which is subject to the
19 political whims of those at the center of our govern-
20 ment? Furthermore, how can we attract new businesses

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21 and expect to expand our tourist industry when people
22 know that we are dependent on the manufacture of
23 materials for nuclear warfare in Idaho? Is this really
24 consistent with our attempts to attract people from
25 this part of the country for all its scenic beauty, its

1 unhurried way of life and its wilderness? I think not.

2 East Idaho Business Magazine for February
3 and March, 1988, Page 25 states, "It has the potential
4 to generate significant national interest and regional
5 opportunity." I submit that it will certainly do that.
6 People who truly care about their state, their country
7 and the peace of the world will be most relieved that
8 this Project is in Idaho, not in their back yard.

9 It seems inconceivable to me that more
10 importance was not placed in the EIS on shipments of
11 feed material and the hazards which would be placed on
12 our highways as a result of shipping from both Hanford
13 and the Savannah River plant, while very little off-
14 site shipment would occur if the Project were located at
15 the Hanford site.

16 On Page S-11 under "Alternatives Considered
17 But Not Evaluated In Detail" the fact that recovery and
18 recycling of existing weapon-grade plutonium is not
19 considered seems to totally irresponsible to me even if
20 it does not replace the need for the SIS.

21 Another primary concern that I have is that
22 the AVLIS byproducts storage is not fully addressed
23 in the DEIS. It seems that designing a 30-year storage
24 vault for products that may never be used shows a lack
25 of concern by the DOE for the future of the nuclear

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1 industry. Those of us who deal with chemicals on a
2 day-to-day basis are aware that the EPA expects us to
3 reduce not only the amounts of chemicals we use, but
4 the costs of disposal demand that we are responsible
5 for reducing our waste so that further generations do
6 not have to deal with our irresponsibility. Are we to
7 believe that future endeavors will be more responsible
8 to the environment than past ones?

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9 Since President Reagan and Secretary General
10 Gorbachev have signed the INF Treaty, subject to
11 Legislative approval, does it make sense to the tax-
12 payers of this country to spend our money on plutonium
13 production, when people in the U.S. are homeless and
14 hungry? Lastly, in a world already over burdened with
15 nuclear arms which have the capability of destroying
16 our entire planet are we so childish as to believe that
17 when the Soviets build bombs, so should we?

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18 I strongly urge that the No Action Alter-
19 native be taken as the only responsible action of a
20 free thinking, peace-loving nation.

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21 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
22 of Shirley Buchli will be entered into the record as
23 Exhibit No. 97.

24 Moving on down the list, Harry Guelzow - -
25 if you hear your name, I'd ask you to step forward to

1 the staging area - - Harry Guelzow, Dave Hensel, Steve
2 Spring, Larry Chapple, Stephen Ritchie, Dana Olson,
3 Jerry Jacobson.

4 Yes, we have a trade of position No. 64,
5 which is Steve Spring. Would you please state your
6 name and give us your address for the record.

7 MS. BUCHLI: My name is Lavonna Buchli. I
8 live at Ten Davis Drive, Pocatello, Idaho. I'm a
9 student at Idaho State University, and I am majoring in
10 the health care administration program. I want to
11 emphasize I am not majoring in public speaking.

12 First of all, I want to make something
13 clear to all the people that are in here, and this may
14 be a pet peeve of mine. The word is nuclear, nuclear
15 drives me crazy. Thank you.

16 Well, my mother has spoken to me about
17 testifying for the SIS, and I thought it was the right
18 thing to do. I decided to wait to think about what
19 I thought was most important to me to speak to everyone,
20 and I slept on it. I went to sleep, and somewhere in
21 the middle of the night I was awake from a terrible
22 dream. The dream was myself with my two cousins back
23 in North Dakota, which is where I was raised. And we
24 were playing baseball, having a good time. The whole
25 family was out back. And suddenly I remember looking

1 up and seeing an enormous mushroom cloud up in the
2 distance of bright orange-red color. Panic ran through
3 me, and I immediately knew what it was. I screamed
4 at Aaron not to look, because it would damage his eyes.
5 We ran into the house.

6 I can remember thinking I could shut it
7 out, that I could drop the windows and I could keep it
8 away from me. I went to the window and at that point
9 in time the ashes were falling from the sky, and there
10 was moisture on the window. My hands were covered with
11 what I felt to be radiation. At that time I turned and
12 saw Aaron standing in the doorway with tears coming
13 down his eyes.

14 I picked him up and carried him downstairs
15 where the rest of the family was waiting. Everybody
16 was quiet. Nobody said anything.

17 I went to the sink to try and wash my hands
18 free of the radiation and realized that I couldn't do
19 that, because the water was radiated. And I turned
20 to my mother, who was staring at me, and nothing was
21 said. It was like we understood we were going to die
22 from the radiation sickness.

23 We calmed Aaron down and told him what had
24 happened, and I laid down on the bed and was just
25 thinking of what was going to happen next. Immediately

1 I ran my hands down to my abdomen and began to cry. My
2 mother asked me why I was crying, and I said, "I just
3 realized I'll never have children." And at that point
4 in time she began to cry and I woke up.

5 I was tired in a knot. My body had ob-
6 viously been laying in the same position for a long
7 time. I grabbed the phone and dialed a friend, who
8 I knew was up at the time and said, "You're not going
9 to believe this. I just had the worst dream I ever
10 had in my life, and I was thinking the reason I had the
11 dream was because I've been worrying about testifying
12 for the SIS or against it. And I don't know what to do."

13 And he said, "Why don't you just tell them
14 about that? Why do you have to worry about all these
15 important issues?"

16 I couldn't go back to sleep, and after
17 speaking with him and thinking about the vivid ex-
18 periences that I had had, they stayed with me for two
19 days. I came to the conclusion that the thought of our
20 State having anything to do with the production of
21 nuclear weapons frightened me to death, and I felt that
22 no one has the right to make the choice I should not
23 have a child for me, and I believe that the only option
24 for us is the action of no option.

25 Thank you.

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Continuing down the
2 speaker's list from the individual commenters from this
3 afternoon, I'll call the next ten names. If you hear
4 your name, step forward: Larry Chapple, Stephen Ritchie,
5 Dana Olson, Jerry Jacobson, Dan Geery, Bob Clark, Verlow
6 Haddon, Kathleen Vitale.

7 Anyone in that group? Please step forward.
8 I'll ask you to give your name and address for the
9 record.

10 MR. HADDON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My
11 name is Verlow Haddon, and I reside at 3496 Whitman
12 Drive, Boise, Idaho. I am the Political Director for
13 the Idaho AFL-CIO. Previous to taking the job as the
14 State COPE Director for the Idaho AFL-CIO I was employed
15 by Westinghouse Idaho Nuclear Company, at the Idaho
16 National Engineering Laboratory. Eighteen years of that
17 20-year period, I worked at the Chemical Processing
18 Plant, the proposed site of the Special Isotope
19 Separator. From 1979 until May of last year, I was
20 the Vice President and Presiding Officer for the 400
21 members of the Oil, Chemical & Atomic Workers Union
22 that worked for Westinghouse Idaho Nuclear Company.

23 This is an interesting situation I find my-
24 self in today. That is, being on the same side of an
25 issue with a company, and not in an adversary role, but

1 I will have to say it is not the first time. Safety
2 of the workers and maintaining the integrity of the
3 overall operation at the INEL is an area where the
4 companies and the unions have worked together as a team
5 for many years to achieve perfection. A goal to create
6 the safest working environment in the Nuclear Industry.
7 In doing this, the Union and the Contractor created not
8 only one of the safest nuclear facilities in the world,
9 but in fact, it is a much safer place to work than
10 industry as a whole.

11 Accepting the challenges that come with
12 state of the art, highly technical projects such as the
13 Special Isotope Separator is not new to the INEL or its
14 workers. Union workers at the INEL do not have a fatal-
15 istic attitude. They adhere to the old American belief,
16 that anything can be done if they set their minds to
17 it.

18 It has been said that the major reason the
19 AFL-CIO and its affiliates endorse building the Special
20 Isotope Separator is a selfish reason, for jobs. Yes,
21 jobs will be created and yes, some of those jobs will
22 be union. But, before we ever agreed to support building
23 this proposed Project there were higher priorities to
24 respond to. No. 1, the safety of those workers that
25 would build or construct the Project. No. 2, the

5.24.23
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1 safety of those workers that would operate and maintain
 2 the facility and, No. 3, would the risk to the environ-
 3 ment, to the surrounding community and its residents,
 4 including our members and their families be too hazardous
 5 to accept. I can assure you, we scrutinized this
 6 Proposed Project very carefully. Our decision to
 7 support the SIS Project was based on the overall safety
 8 track record at the INEL, and experience of those people
 9 that work at the INEL.

10 Our members value the clean water of Idaho,
 11 its pristine nature, the tranquility of raising their
 12 families here. If there was any concern on their part,
 13 of this Project jeopardizing this way of life you could
 14 be sure they would be heard. But, they know the safety
 15 precautions that go into building a plant like this and
 16 they know the safety procedures utilized in operating
 17 experimental facilities, because they as union members
 18 were a part of the development of the safety guidelines.
 19 I think this is a prime example of how progressive and
 20 effective and how productive unions are to this country.

3.4

21 In closing I would like to say that we are
 22 not opposed to peace, but we know that to achieve that
 23 goal it will not happen by just one side refraining from
 24 building facilities like the Special Isotope Separator.
 25 If at a point in time it can be agreed on by both

1 countries to remove nuclear weapons from both arsenals.
 2 Then so be it. But it has not happened and until it
 3 does we feel very strongly that this Project should be
 4 built. We also feel this facility can and will be
 5 operated with the utmost of safety to the workers, the
 6 population, and the environment of this State.

5.24.21

7 We urge the Department of Energy to choose
 8 Idaho as the site for the Special Isotope Separator. We 1.1
 9 can build it, and operate it with the highly skilled
 10 union members of this State, as we have proven in the
 11 past.

12 With that, from Jim Kearns, the Idaho State
 13 AFL-CIO President and the AFL-CIO State of Idaho support
 14 building the Special Isotope Separator in Idaho. Thank
 15 you.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
 17 of Verlow D. Haddon will be entered into the record as
 18 Exhibit No. 98.

19 I'd ask the next speaker to come forward and
 20 identify himself.

21 MR. GEERY: My name is Daniel Geery, I
 22 live at 842 North 1000 East, Shelley.

23 As a private citizen I want to voice my
 24 objection to the SIS. The time has come for us to do
 25 away with the archaic idea that, if you disagree with

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1 someone, you must kill them, which is the premise upon
2 which the need for more weapons is based. Mankind has
3 reached the point where cooperation, not competition,
4 is not only to our advantage, but is necessary for our
5 survival.

6 With the advent of nuclear weapons, the notion
7 of warfare not only changed, but fell into the trash
8 heap of things that don't work. The reason for this
9 was simple enough: It became evident, to anyone who
10 was looking, that after a nuclear conflict there would
11 be no victors. Whether one approached the issue from a
12 social, military, or environmental standpoint, the same
13 conclusion was, and is, inevitably reached: Nuclear
14 weapons must never be used if one is thinking of their
15 own best interest. Perhaps this is what Albert Einstein
16 meant when he said, after Hiroshima disappeared,
17 "Everything has changed but the way people think."

18 I would like to point out that we are deep
19 in the final hours when there is still time for our
20 thinking to change. With over 25,000 nuclear weapons
21 in our stockpiles already, the notion of overkill has
22 reached meaningless proportions. Except perhaps for what
23 it means to our youth, who on the whole have developed
24 fatalistic outlooks as a result of the not unreasonable
25 assumption that they will die in a nuclear war. The

1 SIS would be one more factor in verifying that assump-
2 tion. What method shall we use to measure the effect
3 of this on the behavior of our youth? Though I men-
4 tioned this to you earlier, your Draft Environmental
5 Statement ignores the question.

6 When I ask myself, "What, really, is behind
7 the insecurity of certain politicians about never having
8 enough weapons?" I am forced to conclude that their
9 paranoia is a fanciful wrapping for personal ties to
10 defense contractors, and a pathetic desire to bilk the
11 taxpayers of a few more dollars. Whether this is true
12 or not, the fact remains that the SIS would be one more
13 component in a modern day Auschwitz, a vastly more
14 efficient Auschwitz than the first one, and a doomsday
15 machine that is profoundly at odds with the world peace
16 which civilized people are interested in seeing.

17 I've been pleased to note that there are
18 many civilized people in Idaho Falls and the surrounding
19 area. I would like to read to you a short quote from
20 one of those people:

21 "... we repeat our warnings against the
22 terrifying arms race in which the nations of the earth
23 are presently engaged. We deplore in particular the
24 building of vast arsenals of nuclear weaponry. We are
25 advised that there is already enough such weaponry to

1 destroy in large measure our civilization, with conse-
2 quent suffering and misery of incalculable extent."

3 There is more to the quote than that, but
4 I trust it is clear how the SIS fits into this outlook,
5 presented by a recent President of the LDS Church. In
6 a word, it doesn't.

6.3

7 As a taxpayer, my objections to the SIS are
8 no less diminished. This piece of the global nuclear
9 incinerator would parasitize the American taxpayer for
10 close to a thousand million dollars. A sizeable portion
11 of this would come from our own pockets, and the rest
12 from the pockets of our neighbors and from children too
13 young yet to vote. Legislators in Idaho are now
14 quibbling over the details of a few million dollars in
15 the state budget. How can anyone, if they profess to
16 be sane, be anxious to dump this kind of money into the
17 black hole of nuclear weapons, when we cannot afford to
18 clean up our land, water, and air, to house and feed
19 our people, and to educate our young?

6.3

20 In my own third grade classroom, in Shelley,
21 I have eight and nine year olds packed wall to wall
22 because we can't afford to hire more teachers. We
23 have asbestos in our building that we can't afford to get
24 rid of; we have lead in the pipes that go into the
25 kids' drinking foundations; we have tiles falling off the

1 ceiling because we can't afford to patch them back up.
2 I have been wondering for some time what exactly is it
3 that the Emperor is wishing to defend? I had hoped the
4 Draft EIS would address this issue; but it hasn't, and
5 so we are still looking at building a wonderful fortress
6 with nothing in it.

7 The cost of the SIS part of the fortress,
8 incidentally, would amount to about \$10 million per Idaho
9 school district, if that money were distributed sensibly,
10 instead of to build bombs they may eventually exterminate
11 the children whom some of us are trying to educate.

6.5.2

12 The personal conflicts generated by knowledge
13 of a nuclear weapons factory, almost literally in my
14 own back yard, are very great. How can I raise my own
15 children, teaching them to prepare for the future,
16 knowing full well that their future is inextricably
17 chained to the instruments of destruction that may be
18 used for political reasons utterly beyond their control?
19 How do I teach science, math, reading, and writing to
20 my third graders, day after day, knowing full well that
21 my generation is leaving for them a legacy of social
22 madness, a world short of resources, and a stockpile of
23 weapons that could consume, on a moment's notice, the
24 very ozone under which life on earth has evolved?

2.7.2

25 The planet Earth has been good to mankind.

1 Over its 4.6 billion year history, it produced in its
2 watery cauldron our own remarkable species, and count-
3 less forms of life to sustain us, and for us to learn
4 from and enjoy. I do not wish to wave the knifeblade
5 of nuclear weapons at the ancient fabric of life here,
6 nor do I wish to see my tax dollars do in it the form of
7 the wasteful, irresponsible, and frightening project that
8 some of you, unfortunately for mankind, seem dedicated
9 to building.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll go off the
11 record for just a moment.

12 (There was a brief pause in
13 the proceedings.)

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: I would like to mark
15 as Exhibit 99 the written comments of Daniel Geery.

16 Our next speaker will be Kaye Turner, and
17 let me read the rest of the names on the list here:
18 Jerry Jacobson, Bob Clark, Joan Tomsic, Kathleen Vitale,
19 Brad DeBow, Trish Evans, Joe Clayton. If your name
20 was called, I'll ask you to step to this area here in
21 front of the podium so we know you're here.

22 You may give your name and address.

23 MS. TURNER: My name is Kaye Turner, I
24 live at 307 North Buchanan, Pocatello.

25 First of all, I would like to say I also am

1 glad to be an American. I'm also proud to be a citizen
2 of the planet Earth. I would also like to go on record
3 as being vehemently opposed to the SIS Project. I
4 have three main environmental concerns. One is trucking
5 plutonium over Idaho's highways from Hanford, Washington
6 to INEL and then from INEL to Rocky Flats, Colorado.
7 The second concern is stockpiling and/or transportation
8 of waste and the third is the potential for an accident
9 during the separation process.

10 I have lived in Idaho since 1974 and have
11 come to feel the INEL is a responsible scientific
12 community doing research. The INEL has an international
13 reputation as a safe research facility. Why turn it into
14 a nuclear weapons production plant?

15 INEL public relations are always fragile at
16 best. I think the SIS Project would be the worst thing
17 that could happen to the reputation and image of the
18 Site and of the State. However, reputation and image
19 are minor compared to nuclear war.

20 If all the immediate environmental dangers
21 aren't enough, when are we going to address the issue
22 of the environmental impact after the plutonium has
23 exploded?

24 We already have enough bombs to blow our
25 earth up many times over and enough plutonium on hand

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1 to build many more bombs. The SIS Project is wasteful,
2 dangerous, and immoral.

3 I have with me testimony from 27 people who
4 were unable to be here today. Because I have heard
5 many pro SIS people saying the opposition is from out
6 of state, I would like to have it on the record that
7 22 of these people are from Pocatello, one's from
8 American Falls, two from Blackfoot, two from Chubbuck.
9 Counting myself, we are 28 people who would like to say
10 no to SIS.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
12 I'm going to go through one more time the list of in-
13 dividuals who pre-registered to comment this afternoon.
14 If you hear your name, I would please ask you to step
15 forward to the staging area so I know that you're here.
16 Then we'll be able to wrap up this portion of the
17 program. Starting again with Bob Clark, Joan Tomsic,
18 Kathleen Vitale, Brad DeBow, Trisha Evans, Joe Clayton,
19 Chris Jensen, Lane Schultz, Willard Wood, Glen Empry,
20 Rose Fleischman, Doug Wheeler, Pam Lemon, Rick Price,
21 Joe Call, Georgeann Merrill, Shane Monson, Bobby
22 St. Clair, and Matt Morris.

23 It appears out of that list of about 15
24 people there's only two or three here. I'd ask each,
25 in turn, to step forward and give their name and address

I071

1 for the record, and you will each have five minutes to
2 comment.

3 MR. DEBOW: I'm Brad DeBow, Box 3638, Idaho
4 Falls. Although I am an INEL employee, I'm here today
5 representing myself to present my view from a perspective
6 of someone who has been a part of the extensive en-
7 gineering force at INEL for 12 years now.

8 I have reviewed the Draft Environmental
9 Impact Statement to assess its adequacy in addressing
10 potential environmental impacts of the proposed Project,
11 and I find it to be complete and thorough in this
12 respect and commend the authors.

13 Since I have heard much about the need for
14 this Project, I have reviewed some of the books and
15 periodicals available to the public, which discuss the
16 nuclear deterrent defense policy of our country. I
17 reviewed much of the current literature concerning the
18 nation's nuclear weapons production complex and the
19 status of the production reactors. I believe the main
20 issue here is national security, much more so than the
21 economy of Southeast Idaho.

22 I've heard it said many times during the
23 debate over this Project that we already have enough
24 nuclear weapons to destroy Russia two, five, ten or
25 some other number of times. This I can agree may be

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1 true. The real issue that should be discussed is
2 credible deterrents.

3 If the Soviets initiate a surprise first
4 try and destroy the majority of our weapons before they
5 can be used, do we still have enough weapons to destroy
6 Russia ten times over? Can we guarantee that after
7 that Soviet first strike we at least still have enough
8 weapons to destroy them once?

9 If not, then we no longer have a credible
10 deterrent, and I believe we actually invite that first
11 strike by the Soviets.

4.7.1

12 To base our weapons material production
13 capability entirely on very old reactor technology
14 without the contingency and flexibility that SIS will
15 provide, leads us to the possibility of a disastrous
16 Soviet breakout, which I believe would lead to a
17 Soviet initiated nuclear war, if we lose our credible
18 deterrent capability.

19 I accept the statement of need as pre-
20 sented in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as
21 accurate, and I believe the justification for this
22 Project is more than adequate.

5.2.6

23 If the Draft EIS is lacking in any area,
24 it is in the section on the consequences of the
25 selection of Option 4, no action. I believe it under-

1 states and adverse effects and the risks to our national
2 security. I believe our nuclear deterrent policy has
3 successfully prevented a global conflict for over 40
4 years now, and the SIS would be a valuable asset to
5 strengthen and maintain this capability. I would like
6 to see the severe adverse impacts of selection of
7 Option 4 more fully explained in the final Environmental
8 Impact Statement.

3.3.1

9 My final comment is addressed to the
10 selection of Option 1, construction and operation of
11 the SIS Project at the INEL. I have heard it said that
12 the SIS will convert the INEL from a research site to
13 a weapons production site, and this is portrayed as
14 sinister. I would like to point out that the Department
15 of Energy has always been responsible by law for
16 developing and producing all nuclear materials required
17 for the defense programs of the United States. The
18 INEL is an integral part of the Department of Energy
19 complex and always has been. Why then is it so hard to
20 accept that the INEL is an ideal location for SIS?

21 I've heard it said that DOE has a terrible
22 track record at their production facilities. Hanford,
23 Savannah River, Rocky Flats are often the main point
24 of the opposing view. My experience is that INEL have
25 often brought me into contact with policies, procedures,

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and practices relating to the safety and quality of nuclear operations. I have found that INEL contractors and DOE-ID management has always put safety and quality work first. The track record of DOE at INEL is excellent, and this, after all, is the issue of importance to Idaho. I urge the Department to proceed on this same vein with the final Environmental Impact Statement and to select Option 1. Is not peace through strength the answer?

THE HEARING OFFICER: The written statement of W. Brad DeBow will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 121.

I would ask the next commenter to state your name for the record and give us your address.

1.1

MS. TOMSIC: My name is Joan Tomsic and I live at 194 West 21st Street in Idaho Falls. I am a second grade teacher. I'm opposed to the SIS being built to refine plutonium for nuclear weapons.

4.14

As a teacher, I am learning more and more every day of the great importance of being a consistent role model. I have found that consistency in my words and actions can mean the difference between success and chaos in my classroom of 30 children. I feel that the same lessons apply to what we're also speaking about tonight. In light of the recent arms control agreements

with the Soviets, I feel that building the SIS to refine plutonium for more nuclear weapons is sending a very inconsistent message to the whole world.

On one hand, we are reducing the number of nuclear weapons, yet we continue to plan for more proliferation.

As an individual and as a nation, I feel we need to be consistent role models to our children and to the world, and show through our decisions and actions and not just our words that we really are committed to reducing our nuclear arsenal to a reasonable level.

I do not feel I have to see the classified Nuclear Weapons Stockpile Memorandum to know that we do not need more plutonium for nuclear weapons in order to be safe and secure as a nation. It is common knowledge that we have enough nuclear weapons to destroy Russia or any other adversary many times over. So I ask the DOE, under what wartime scenario would we possibly need plutonium for more nuclear weapons, when we already have such a tremendous capacity? So I submit to you that we obviously do not need anymore refined plutonium for nuclear weapons. Our military is strong and we are safe and secure, and we don't need to continue building up our overkill capacity, which is such a waste of billions of our tax dollars and valuable human resources.

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1 For these reasons, I say the SIS is un-
 2 necessary. I feel that we as individuals right now in
 3 this community have a choice to look beyond our own self-
 4 serving motives. We can choose to say no to the SIS,
 5 and in so doing send a consistent messages to the children
 6 and to the world, a message that says we are sincere
 7 in our desire to reduce the number of nuclear weapons
 8 to reasonable levels and begin redirecting some of our
 9 tax money and human resources into more necessary
 10 directions.

11 Yes, we need jobs in our community, but, no,
 12 we do not need the SIS to refine plutonium for more
 13 nuclear weapons. We do not need anymore nuclear weapons
 14 to be safe. Why not build the SIS for peaceful purposes?
 15 I challenge the people of the Department of Energy and
 16 the INEL to come up with ways of spending our tax
 17 monies that are more necessary and to create necessary
 18 jobs for people in our nation and our community.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Please state your name
 20 and address for the record.

21 MS. DALY: My name is Katherine Daly.
 22 I live at 1135 East Bonneville, Pocatello, Idaho. First
 23 of all, I'd like to begin by thanking the Department of
 24 Energy officials for holding these hearings and
 25 listening to the testimony of Idaho residents, and I'd

1 also like to commend Mr. Roy Eiguren and his staff for
 2 the professional way they've conducted these hearings.

3 I have a number of concerns about the DOE's
 4 proposed Special Isotope Separation Project. The SIS
 5 will produce weapon grade plutonium which will in turn
 6 be used in the manufacture of nuclear warheads. I do not
 7 believe the U.S.A. needs more nuclear weapons. It seems
 8 to me the 25,000 we have on hand would do in any pinch.
 9 I suggest the Department of Energy and Congress be
 10 prepared to address the issue of need for this Project
 11 before we go any further. Our nations need for plutonium
 12 is glaringly untouched by the Draft EIS. One would think
 13 this question alone would be the justification of this
 14 Project. Why else spend the kind of money we're talking
 15 about here?

16 Just as perplexing is the DOE's interest in
 17 building the SIS at the INEL. It seems obvious to me
 18 that the Hanford site would be the preferred location
 19 since the plutonium feed is on hand there. Certainly
 20 that would reduce the transportation risks associated
 21 with this Project.

22 It seems those in favor of building the SIS
 23 here in Idaho have one thing to say for it - - that the
 24 jobs associated with this Project will be the boon our
 25 regional economy so desperately needs. Yes, we need

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1 jobs, but is this the price we're willing to pay? To
 2 make Idaho the "Bomb State" instead of the "Gem State"?
 3 It makes me very sad indeed to think we as Idahoans
 4 wouldn't have any more pride than that. Why not hold
 5 onto the \$900 million needed for the SIS as one means of
 6 fighting the multi-billion dollar federal deficit - -
 7 that's what is truly eroding the strength of this
 8 country. It appalls me to think that the people of the
 9 United States would fund the production of more plu-
 10 tonium before feeding and housing our nation's growing
 11 homeless population. Clearly there are great moral
 12 questions that we as a people need to address here.

13 As one enters Idaho from any of its borders
 14 a proclamation signed by the Governor declares "Idaho
 15 is too great to litter." I agree with Governor Andrus
 16 on this point, and in that light I request the Department
 17 of Energy take the No Action Option in this SIS process.
 18 Not only is Idaho too great to litter, our nation fits
 19 that bill as well.

20 I have testimony from Leslie Lee Durham and
 21 Tom Whittaker from Pocatello, Idaho, that weren't able
 22 to be here this evening that I would also like to submit.
 23 Thank you.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written testimony
 25 of Katherine Daly will be included in the record as

1 Exhibit No. 122. The written testimony of Leslie Lee
 2 Durham will be included as Exhibit No. 123. The
 3 written testimony of Tom Whittaker will be included
 4 in the record as Exhibit No. 124.

5 And who are you, sir?

6 MR. PRICE: My name is Rick Price. I'm in
 7 place of Edson Fichter.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, please
 9 give us your name and address.

10 MR. PRICE: My name is Rick Price. I live
 11 at 944 West Clark, Pocatello. I appreciate the
 12 opportunity to express my views as a citizen to speak
 13 tonight. I am supporting the SIS alternative outlined
 14 in Section 2.4 of the Draft Environmental Impact State-
 15 ment. I agree with the Statement in this section that
 16 says, "The No Action Alternative would not result in
 17 changes to the utilization of DOE fuel-grade plutonium
 18 in producing weapon grade plutonium through blending."
 19 What this is saying is that the SIS is not needed. The
 20 SIS is in essence a boondoggle created for the sole
 21 purpose of creating jobs. The threats to the area's
 22 economy, lifestyle, and environment far outweigh any
 23 advantages this area, and the country as a whole, would
 24 receive from this facility.

25 The signing of the INF Treaty will free up

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1 two tons of weapon-grade plutonium. There are those
2 who say the SIS is to replace this stuff as it becomes
3 inactive, but the SIS is only going to be around for
4 seven years. The SIS is not long-term solution. The
5 DEIS does not address the impact of the shutdown of the
6 SIS in seven to eight years on the areas of economy in
7 our community.

5.12.1

8 I live on the Snake River Plain. The water
9 I drink comes from the Snake River Aquifer. I am con-
10 cerned with the storage of the waste from the SIS at the
11 INEL and its effects on my drinking water. It is said
12 that the nuclear waste will be stored at a site in New
13 Mexico that is still under construction. Building the
14 SIS now is the same as speeding down the freeway
15 heading for an exit that has not been built yet. What
16 will happen when we need to use the exit?

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17 I repeat my earlier assertion that the SIS
18 is a boondoggle. It is being built to provide a
19 "redundancy" of plutonium production that is better
20 supplied by restarting the N Reactor, or using the SIS
21 prototype facility, or using the plutonium in its
22 present form. Not only should the SIS not be built in
23 Idaho, but our tax dollars will be better spent if the
24 SIS is not built at all.

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25 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments

1 of Rick Price will be included in the record as Exhibit
2 No. 125.

3 Apparently we have one additional written
4 comment. Would you bring it forward, please? Thank
5 you.

6 This is the written comment of Joan Tomsic.
7 It will be included in the record as Exhibit 126.

8 At this point I would ask if there is anyone
9 in the room who has registered to speak this afternoon
10 and has not had the opportunity to do so yet? There
11 apparently is not being anyone here in that category,
12 what we'll do next is to give the Court Reporter an
13 opportunity for a brief recess, and we'll go into
14 recess for five minutes.

15 Prior to that, what I'd like to do, if there
16 is anybody here who anticipates they're not going to be
17 able to testify tonight, but has written comments and
18 would like to submit those for the record I'm going to
19 ask that you line up over here and we'll take you in
20 sequence. Give your name for the record and your
21 address and mark your written comments as an exhibit.
22 We'll stay in recess for five minutes.

23 (A brief recess was taken.)

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
25

1 we're going to resume. Resuming our Idaho Falls public
2 hearing at about 9:21 p.m. on the 25th of March - - at
3 10:22, excuse me.

4 What I'd like to do at this point, if there
5 is anybody in the room who has written comments that
6 does not anticipate on orally commenting, I would ask
7 you to step forward at this time so we can include that
8 in the record.

9 Is there anybody in that category?

10 In addition to that, I understand there are
11 some folks who have traveled long distances who would
12 like to comment. I'm going to exercise a prerogative
13 of the Chair. There are two people here from Driggs.
14 Rather than having them come back on Wednesday, we'll
15 go ahead and let them testify at this point.

16 Is there anybody else who is from some
17 considerable distance who's come here tonight and won't
18 be able to testify on Wednesday?

19 Then we'll take these two people from Driggs.
20 If they would step forward at this point. We're only
21 deviating from our procedure simply to accommodate the
22 fact we have people who have come many many miles and
23 it would be an inconvenience for them to come back on
24 Wednesday.

25 So if you would step forward, give us your

1 name and address for the record and you will have five
2 minutes to give your comments.

3 MS. MAY: My name is Mary May, I'm a
4 resident of the Teton Valley in Idaho. I'm here to
5 state my opposition to the Specialized Isotope Separation
6 Project.

7 I cannot support a socially and moral
8 project like this. I cannot support a project that
9 would produce fuel for nuclear weapons. The project
10 that will produce 140 tons of plutonium contaminated
11 waste, and in producing that waste, that toxic waste,
12 the Department has not adequately addressed the means
13 by which it's going to be safely transported or safely
14 and permanently stored.

15 A project that is supporting nuclear pro-
16 liferation while the rest of the world is recommending
17 that our world leaders be recognized with the Nobel
18 Peace Prize for their initial actions in our nuclear
19 weapon disarmament, a project that proposes \$900 million
20 be spent when our burgeoning national debt is probably
21 our leading threat to our national security, and a
22 project that will burden future generations with our
23 nuclear waste, the gross national debt, and contaminate
24 our environment because we are so easily becoming a
25 generation that is intellectually lazy and socially

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1 irresponsible to think beyond our immediate needs - -
2 our immediate gains.

3 In sitting here this evening and listening
4 to some of the other comments and testimony, I'd like to
5 also make some comments to the idea of spinoffs. If
6 it's spinoffs we really want, I simply recommend that
7 our State and our national leaders simply support and
8 refund or re-allocate those dollars for the spinoffs
9 and not to this idea of proliferation of nuclear
10 weapons.

11 Relative to the issue of safety, I commend
12 those people who are suggesting that the INEL has a
13 very clean and safe record and that they have adequately
14 addressed the safety, and yet I also recognize there's
15 human error, and I think that's been well demonstrated
16 at Chernoble and Three Mile Island.

17 And as I've listened this evening, I've
18 heard, and quite frankly didn't understand, the
19 people's philosophy for suggesting that maintaining or
20 even building our nuclear forces may function as an
21 important deterrent to nuclear war. However, I ask you
22 to individually reflect upon how you feel with threats
23 and confrontations. I would like to believe that most
24 of us, if in a confrontation with a neighbor, we don't
25 go out and go in search of bigger sticks.

1 Let's, I would ask that we re-allocate those
2 funds in support of medical and educational programs, 6.3
3 in support of programs that will reduce the probability
4 of human error. These are the things I think will
5 truly and more genuinely and more expediently come to
6 peace.

7 At the same time, I would like to submit
8 some petitions or signatures of individuals who have
9 signed petitions from the residents of Teton County and
10 the residents of Clark County. I would also like to
11 suggest there are probably a few people who live in
12 Clark County who are from eastern parts of the United
13 States, or what was it, the land of nuts and fruits?
14 Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: We are in receipt of
16 several petitions presented to us by commenter Mary May.
17 We'll file those Mary May petitions and label them as
18 Exhibit 127 for inclusion in the record.

19 At this point, I understand there was one
20 additional individual from Driggs or the Teton area
21 that was here that wanted to be accommodated. Is that
22 true?

23 If not, we'll go ahead and begin with our
24 regular speakers list for this evening's program.

25 First of all, Lexie French, followed by

1 Larry Haoux, followed by John Stephenson. Are any of
2 those individuals here?

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'll call the next
6 list, a group of three: Angie Weeks, John Tanner,
7 Christ Lempke?

8 (No response.)

9
10 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll move onto the
11 next list of three: Ken Johnson, followed by Paula
12 Jull, Brian Hammond?

13 Step forward, please, and give your name and
14 address for the record.

15 MS. JULL: My name is Paula Jull. I live at
16 78 Willow Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

18 MS. JULL: I'm a little nervous. I am here
19 tonight to question the need for the SIS Project as
20 stated in the Draft EIS.

21 As a citizen of this country, I question the
22 use of our financial resources in this way. We have
23 tremendous stockpiles of nuclear weaponry, more than we
24 need to deter threats to our security. Recycling of
25 existing warheads can provide enough plutonium to

1 maintain this absurd arsenal. The Strategic Arms Re-
2 duction Talks promise to bring thousands more of those
3 warheads to retirement and use as fuel. I want my tax
4 dollars spent more wisely. At a time when our country
5 is in serious debt, when basic human needs are not being
6 met, a billion dollars for such a Project is wasteful.

7 As a citizen of Idaho, I question the safety,
8 and the prudence of such a Project. Some experts will
9 say that plutonium can be handled safely, but DOE's
10 own record at Hanford, Savannah River and Rocky Flats
11 proves that that is not always the case. I do not want
12 to risk the reputation and future of Idaho to such pre-
13 dictions. I became a citizen of Idaho because of its
14 reputation for unspoiled wilderness and clean living.
15 This is a precious gift that few have. A shift towards
16 weapon production at INEL seems incompatible with what
17 Idaho stands for. Idaho deserves better. Our repre-
18 sentatives in Washington should bring us better than
19 this for our hard-earned tax dollars.

20 Finally, as a citizen of the world, I am
21 morally opposed to this Project because it is involved
22 with nuclear weapons production. This is material for
23 warheads - warheads that will kill, maim and poison us
24 for decades. When I visited Japan, young Japanese would
25 ask me, "Why did your country do this horrible thing to

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1 people?" All I could say was, "It wasn't me, it was my
2 father's generation." I didn't know how to answer
3 that. Well, now it is my generation's turn to say
4 "enough". It is time to encourage our leaders to re-
5 duce this horrible risk, to put our resources to building
6 our nation, not destroying it.

7 I'd like also to read a testimony from a
8 person who can't make it as part of my testimony, okay?

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: That's fine, as long
10 as you're within the time limit.

11 MS. JULL: How much time do I have?

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Two and a half minutes.

13 MS. JULL: I'll try to make it short.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

15 MS. JULL: This is from Scott Evans who
16 lives in Pocatello, Idaho, also.

17 "We live in a time of many wonderful oppor-
18 tunities. Technology, in many ways, has eased our life,
19 making it longer and healthier. Still, in this same day
20 and age there are so many threats to life. The AIDS
21 epidemic has brought fear into many everyday lives, the
22 world itself is plagued with wars and skirmishes and
23 crimes that seem to show no regard for human life and
24 we humans, the animals with the ability to reason, find
25 it necessary to seek out ways, reasons to destroy life

311 Jull

1 ravaging rain forests, forcing species, some as of
2 yet undiscovered, to the brink of extinction. When will
3 we stop? When will we realize the value of life, how
4 precious it is, how lasting it has been. It is time
5 to make a stand, a respectful stand if you will, a moral
6 stand if you must. Let's stop thinking of ways to put
7 an end to life on this planet and begin putting our
8 efforts into the cultivation and continuance of life,
9 the protection and preservation of our home - not a
10 house. Not a hometown but our planet Earth. Jobs are
11 not the issue - if they are then let's stimulate jobs
12 that are constructive not destructive. What the issue
13 really is is the senseless and wasteful proliferation
14 of disease and destruction. Somewhere, somehow we must
15 start to stop this trend that leads only to our end.
16 Let's start here in Idaho, a state proud of its wilder-
17 ness environment. A state that once again can establish
18 a new frontier; one filled with safety, security and a
19 prospering natural environment. Say no to the SIS project
20 and by doing so cast a yes vote for a safe and sane world.
21 Scott Evans."

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark her
23 inclusion in the record as Exhibit 133 the written
24 comments of Paula Jull. We'll mark her inclusion in
25 the record as Exhibit 134 the written comments of

312 Jull

5.27.7.17

1 Joann Crane Johnson, and as Exhibit 135, the written
 2 comments of Scott Evans.
 3
 4 At this point I will continue reading on
 5 down our list of scheduled commenters for this evening:
 6 Brian Hammond, Mr. Cliff Bryan, Mr. Russ
 7 Squires, Mr. David Scholes, Mr. John Locke, Mr. James L.
 8 Watters. If any of these people are here, I would ask
 9 you to stand up and move to the front. Miss Christine
 10 Kelly, Mr. Shawn A. Safford, Ms. Rachel Newton.
 11
 12 Sir, if you would step forward and state
 13 your name and address.
 14
 15 This gentleman will be taking the slot of
 16 Christine Kelly.
 17
 18 MR. STOELTING: Mr. Chairman, ladies and
 19 gentlemen, my name is Tom Stoelting, and I live at
 20 837 West Benton, Pocatello, Idaho. I have lived there
 21 for 18 years, having moved to Idaho from North Dakota
 22 in 1970. I was drawn to this part of the country by
 23 its beautiful mountains and, at the time, its relatively
 24 fresh air and clean water. In the very short period of
 25 time since, geologically speaking, the mountains have
 risen in height and the water and air quality has fallen.
 The increased height of the mountains has occurred as
 a consequence of shifting substructures underlying
 Southeastern Idaho, which, geologists will tell you,

1 is very unstable. The lowered quality of water and air
 2 results mostly from reduced oxygen levels and in-
 3 creased pollutant levels in both elements. Regardless
 4 of the specific causes, the qualitative change has been
 5 notable and bodes ill for all life, human and otherwise.
 6
 7 My opposition to the siting of the SIS here
 8 or anywhere is based on the inherent failability of
 9 humankind and its contraptions, the unavoidable de-
 10 structiveness of the product plutonium and its by-
 11 products, and the irresponsible application of wealth
 12 and resources, money, natural, technological and human,
 13 for destructive purposes in the face of great poverty,
 14 massive malnutrition, disease, crumbling institutions
 15 and infrastructure, homelessness and ignorance. I do
 16 not want SIS constructed anywhere. We need jobs, for
 17 sure, but we need jobs that will make the world a
 18 healthier, safer place. Producing more plutonium will
 19 not do either. It will create more instability in inter-
 20 national relationships and in the environment. It
 21 certainly will produce much more very hazardous waste
 22 and risks to life itself through its production, trans-
 23 portation, storage and, horror of horrors, holocaustic
 24 use as intended finally. It is not needed in any sense
 25 of the word.

What is needed is a redefining of security on

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1 some basis other than military might. We need to re-
 2 gard literacy, equity, justice, cooperation, health,
 3 access to services and resources, and democratic
 4 participation as cornerstones of our security as a
 5 society. It is obvious the world over that military
 6 power brings neither security nor peace. I do not want
 7 my tax dollars (currently more than half of every dollar
 8 collected) to go for SIS Projects, MX missiles, contra
 9 aid, nuclear subs, "escort service" in the Persian Gulf,
 10 or troops to invade and occupy foreign shores. I want
 11 my dollars spent on medical services, housing, food,
 12 education, rebuilding infrastructures, protecting the
 13 environment, improving our justice system, and helping
 14 nations of people achieve bonds of trust and cooperation.
 15 The same hundreds of millions of dollars proposed for the
 16 SIS Project could be much more wisely spent in those ways
 17 truly creating a safer, healthier world for everyone and
 18 many more jobs to boot.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: I will mark as
 20 Exhibit 136 for inclusion in the record the written
 21 statement of Tom Stoelting, S-t-o-e-l-t-i-n-g.

22 If you would step forward and please give us
 23 your name and address for the record.

24 MS. NEWTON: My name is Rachel Newton, and
 25 I live at 78 Willowwood Avenue, Pocatello, 83204.

315 Newton

1 I would like to first make it known to the
 2 record that just because people care about Idaho and
 3 the land does not make them communists.

4 As a small child, I was terrified of dying
 5 in a nuclear war. I always thought that as I got older,
 6 (I was eight at the time), my fear would dissipate -
 7 that I would realize the irrationality of my feelings.
 8 But the older I get, the less this seems to be the case.
 9 I really can't believe that you're letting this insanity -
 10 and it is insane - - pervade the wholesome beauty of
 11 Idah's landscape. The mountains, the forests, the
 12 rivers, the wildlife - you're willing to throw all of
 13 that away for a few quick bucks, completely disregarding
 14 the long-term effects on the State? This includes the
 15 state of the economy when the SIS' "mission" is done and
 16 everyone working there becomes unemployed. The SIS'
 17 maximum life span, not taking into effect the INF Treaty
 18 and START talks, is seven years. Then what?

19 Those agreements would bring back more than
 20 enough plutonium for whatever the DOE has in mind,
 21 completely eliminating the need for the SIS. We already
 22 have enough nuclear weapons to destroy the earth many
 23 times over. Isn't once enough? What about an accident
 24 on the road? The powdered form the plutonium would be
 25 traveling across Idaho in would make it impossible to

316 Newton

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1 recover all of the product in the event of an accident.
 2 And at the plant itself? The INEL's safety record may
 3 be admirable, but the DOE's is not. The DOE has already
 4 contaminated many places, a few of which are Los Alamos,
 5 Hanford, and Rocky Flats. Do you want to add Idaho to
 6 the DOE's contaminated list?

5.30.2.1

7 Where would the waste be store? They've
 8 been considering the WIPP, but it has developed leaks
 9 that some scientists believe will make it useless, and
 10 the Draft EIS has not proposed an alternative site for
 11 the waste.

12 The nuclear weapons industry is constantly
 13 fluctuating, and with the downward trend it's been showing,
 14 evidenced by the INF Treaty and START talks, wouldn't it
 15 be a little foolish to base our State's economy on an
 16 industry that's decreasing rather than something which
 17 would benefit Idaho in a more positive manner and better
 18 pave the way toward Idaho's future?

6.4.4

19 Even after looking at all of these aspects
 20 of the proposed SIS; the questions of need, the environ-
 21 mental ramifications, waste disposal, and economics,
 22 there's one question not addressed - the question of
 23 morality. We are all taught as children that it is
 24 wrong to kill, yet people will rally together for a
 25 chance at a project whose sole purpose is to further

2.7.2

1 the production of nuclear bombs. Aren't nuclear bombs
 2 simply a method of murdering millions of people at the
 3 same time? What's happening to our values? Have we
 4 degenerated to the point where human lives no longer
 5 mean anything to us? If your answer is no, then why
 6 are you in support of the SIS? The SIS is a death
 7 factory, and I hope that Idahoans will re-examine the
 8 their consciences and their priorities and make the
 9 right decision - there are far too many ways in which
 10 Idaho would benefit more from the money they invest. It's
 11 our choice, Idaho - we've got to take responsibility for
 12 our actions and say "NO" to the SIS.

1.1

13 I also have four written testimonies from
 14 people who couldn't make it tonight.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. We'll
 16 mark as Exhibit 137 for inclusion in the record, the
 17 written comments of Rachel Newton. And I'll reserve
 18 the next four exhibit numbers for the comments that she
 19 also passed on from individuals who can't be here.

20 Let's go off the record for a moment.

21 (A discussion was held off
 22 the record.)

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Back on the record.
 24 The next three names on our list are Larrie Thorne,
 25 Scott Reed, Gary Park.

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: The next set of three are Tim Norton, Margo Proksa, Florence Nowberg.

Could we have your name and address for the record, sir?

MR. NORTON: My name is Tim Norton, I live at 4932 Shepherd in Chubbuck, Idaho, and I have two letters from people who could not be here, Vickie Watson and Karen Johnson, both of Pocatello.

I was born and raised in Idaho, I am now 31 years old. I have fallen in love with our landscape and with the wonderful people that live here. It frightens me that a substance that is highly toxic and remains so for 20,000 years could be brought to Idaho in large quantities that are already here and of the fragile and active landscape that it rests on. I am opposed to the SIS Project for those reasons.

While I was growing up here in Idaho I was taught that it was good to work hard and make honest money. I was also told that it was wrong to make money by doing things that hurt people or brought them misfortune. It seems to me immoral to work on a project that produces a highly toxic substance for the purpose of killing other people, and that in the process of killing people it lays waste to the land and renders it

319 Norton

unliveable for thousands of years.

I was taught that my body is a temple and that I should take care of it.

I was taught that the earth which nourishes me is to be cared for and respected, not put into jeopardy and contaminated for any amount of money.

I am very proud to be an Idaho native. I wish my testimony to be put on record as being opposed to the SIS Project in confidence that Idaho can make a wiser, safer and more respectable decision to her economic problems.

THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of Mr. Tim Norton will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 143.

Prior to that, let me go back for the record to indicate that the four additional comments provided by Rachel Newton are Exhibit 138, Sean Judd; Exhibit 139, Caron Jones; Exhibit 140, Laurie McNamara; Exhibit 141, Lyn Kauffman.

And the additional written comments received by Mr. Tim Norton are Exhibit 143. The comments of Vicki Watson are Exhibit 144, the written comment of Karen Johnson is Exhibit 145.

Ma'am, if you could please state your name and address for the record, you have five minutes.

320 Norton

1 MS. PROKSA: My name is Margo Proksa, and
2 I live at 5192 West Old Highway 91 in Pocatello.

3 For the hearing record, March 25, 1988, A
4 Comment On The Special Isotope Separation Project
5 Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

6 I'm going to preface this and say that when
7 I - - I've been working on uniting the opposition in
8 Southeast Idaho. I'm proud of that. I've talked to
9 lots and lots of people over the last, oh, probably
10 eight or nine months about the SIS. And I know there's
11 a lot of opposition out there, and it's been my sole
12 purpose to talk SIS with everybody.

13 And when I got to the point where it was
14 time for me to write my testimony, I felt that it was
15 more important to distill my impressions at this point
16 of the people involved in this dialogue. And these
17 are the words that happened, and I'm told that this is
18 called free verse.

19 The title is Idaho falls, get it? Falls.
20 Ignorance is not only rampant it is proud.
21 Money and power drive the parade of fools self centered
22 short-sighted destructive and dangerous. Billion \$
23 porkbarrel eagerly pursued by drooling arrogant self-
24 righteous SIS welfare junkies. They're willing to take
25 enormous risks with our health, the fragile earth and

1 all its inhabitants great or small. They're not paying
2 attention. These mistakes have all been made before,
3 they're nothing new. Come to your senses please. Some
4 of us are very angry, we're shocked, disappointed, we're
5 fearful of what tomorrow will bring. Many generations
6 are about to suffer the effects of their plutonium
7 fantasy. SOS not SIS.

8 I have the testimony of 20 other Pocatellans
9 who couldn't be here, and I'd like them all to go into
10 the record.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written testimony
12 of Margo Proksa will be entered into the record as
13 Exhibit 146. The additional testimony from Pocatello
14 we will number at the end of the hearing and include in
15 the record at that point.

16 I will go ahead and continue reading down
17 the list. I will read the next ten names. If you are
18 in this group, please step forward: Mr. Rick Price,
19 Ms. Jean Elle, Mr. Lynn Scott, Mr. William J. Dalton,
20 Mr. Ric Cantrell, Mr. Reese Burke, Mr. Colvin Jergins,
21 Mr. Gary Fleischmann, Ms. Kaye Turner.

22 Anyone in that group, please step forward.
23 Sir, can you please give us your name and address for
24 the record?

25 MR. JERGINs: I'm Colvin Jergins, 775 South

1 Fanning Avenue.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'm sorry, sir, I
3 didn't get your name.

4 1.1

5 MR. JERGINs: Colvin Jergins, C-o-l-v-i-n.

6 4.9.4

7 I'm here in support of the SIS. It is my position that
8 our elected leaders in Washington, D.C. who are privy
9 to information that we don't have made a decision that
10 this nation needs more plutonium. I feel that they
11 know more about it than I do. I have confidence in
12 the leaders of our nation, and if you don't have con-
13 fidence in the leaders of our nation, then we're in
14 big trouble.

15 4.15.1

16 For that reason, I believe there is a need
17 for plutonium. I further believe that the plant will
18 be built somewhere in the United States. I have a lot
19 of confidence in the craftsmen in the local area. I have
20 confidence in the management at the Idaho National
21 Engineering Lab, and for those reasons, I believe this
22 plant should be built here at the INEL.

23 2.2.1

24 This plant, in my opinion, is the preferred

25 2.2.2

26 method of obtaining more plutonium. The reason for
27 this, in my opinion, is that it takes existing plutonium
28 and separates a desirable weapons grade plutonium from
29 the presently undesirable grade plutonium, rather than
30 producing more plutonium.

1 I've listened to a lot of comments this
2 evening from those of you who are opposed to the site,
3 the Special Isotope Separation Plant, not only a
4 location in Idaho, but opposed to it in the world any-
5 where. I respect your opinion, and I think that your
6 opinions are needed in the national - - the way we do
7 business in our nation.

8 It's important that you note that your
9 opinions are presented here by the very government
10 which is defended by the presence of these nuclear
11 weapons. Without these weapons, I feel that foreign
12 governments would have their say, and our government
13 would not exist. I firmly believe that.

14 I, too, abhor the thought of nuclear war.
15 The thought of any nuclear bomb would be detonated any-
16 where in this nation scares me, and I think about it
17 the same as many of you who are opposed to this plant.
18 For that reason, I think this nation needs more nuclear
19 weapons.

3.4

20 I further think that some of the people who
21 are opposed to this plant and to nuclear weapons all
22 together base their opposition on emotional reasoning
23 rather than logical reasoning.

24 Our government is not perfect, but in my
25 opinion it's the best form of government on earth today.

1 Failure to make a strong national defense will result
2 in this form of government not existing anymore. I
3 support the SIS; I support it at Idaho Falls at the INEL,
4 and I urge that it be done. Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
6 it is now close to 11:00 which was the point in time
7 we had determined we would end this evening's session.
8 By my count, I have somewhere between eight and ten
9 hands go up when people were asked if they were going
10 to - - if they were on the speakers list wanting to
11 testify tonight. Understand, I've been in this chair
12 for close to nine hours now. We have to conduct one
13 of these tomorrow, but at the same time realizing there
14 may be some of you out there who may have a particular
15 hardship who can't come on Wednesday for the hearing,
16 with that being said, is there anybody out there that
17 is on the speakers list that is still here that cannot
18 be at either the afternoon or the evening Wednesday
19 session, upcoming continuance? I ask you to step forward.

20 We've got one here. Anyone else? I've
21 already called you, so we have one, two, three, four.
22 All right.

23 I appreciate your indulgence in that regard.
24 We now have four final commenters for this evening's
25 session. I'll ask the gentleman here whose name I called

1 earlier to step forward and give his name and address
2 for the record. You have five minutes to comment, sir.

3 MR. CANTRELL: I'm Ric Cantrell, a political
4 science major at Ricks College in Rexburg.

5 I've been thinking about Atoms for Peace
6 and remembering a dream. A dream I share with everyone
7 who has a spark of humanity in them.

8 I know my truth may not be yours, but please
9 listen openly and let's find an answer.

10 First of all, let's cut through the noisy
11 hype enshrouding this thing and see SIS for what it is.
12 A plant producing deadly plutonium for nuclear weapons.

13 I'm probably younger than most of you here
14 but, like you, I'm going to have a family some day.
15 And they will grow up in whatever kind of world we choose
16 to give them. I don't want my sons and daughters growing
17 up with a fear of the earth. In all its beauty, being
18 destroyed by these unimaginably horrible weapons. Do
19 you realize that every arms buildup in the history of
20 earth has culminated in war? Do you understand that we
21 are our childrens' only hope for the future?

22 It's time, today, for every community, every
23 person, to say "enough" to this madness. Stop - look
24 around and see the end of the road we're being led down
25 and get off it. It's time for all of us, including

2.7.9

4.15.2

1 Southeast Idaho to do our own small part to make our
2 dream of a better world a reality. A world free of
3 terror. A world that we will leave better than we found
4 it.

5 We don't need more plutonium. You will have
6 a hard time holding on to this dream, this work if a
7 plutonium plant is an important pillar to the economy.
8 With it, will come changes in your thinking.

2.7.12

9 I lived in the tri-cities Washington for
10 eight years - right by the Hanford Reservation. The
11 people there have a hard time seeing clearly on issues
12 of foreign and domestic policy. They've developed
13 paranoias seeing many good and peaceful things as a
14 threat to job security, because their money is coming
15 from nuclear weapons production. I don't want that to
16 happen here. Your thinking will become twisted when
17 you're clutching at the purse strings of the arms race.

18 It's caused a lot of contention in the tri-
19 cities. A buildup of paranoia, fears and hostile
20 feelings. (You've already seen the beginning of it
21 here in your own part of the world.) And now the N
22 Reactor has been shut down. People are losing their
23 jobs. The economy is dying. What will happen after
24 SIS and eight years are over?

5.27.10

25 Don't put blinders on and see only the jobs

1 brought here to Southeastern Idaho and the economic
2 shot in the arm. That is superficial. See too your
3 dreams of a peaceful, happier earth sold out - and
4 look years into the future and see the blood on your
5 hands - the blood of the crying millions you will have
6 unthnkingly and whole-heartedly helped to destroy.

7 You don't want to look back after it's all
8 over and say, "Yes, I helped cause this."

9 Bringing the SIS Project may help the
10 economy for awhile - but in doing so you will become an
11 integral part of this lunacy which holds humanity in
12 terror. In doing so you will be doing your own small
13 part in selling out the hope. In betraying all people's
14 dream of a better world, a less hostile world for all
15 our children.

16 There's no question, you'll get the
17 money, but, even Judas Escariot got his 30 pieces of
18 silver.

19 I'd like to quote the words of Dwight D.
20 Eisenhower:

21 "This world in arms is not spending money
22 alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the
23 genius of its scientists, the hopes of its children.
24 This is not a way of life at all in any true sense.
25 Under the cloud of threatening war it is humanity

3.4

4.13

4.2.1

4.4.7

4.15.3

1 hanging from a cross of iron."

2 Do you see yet - when you look SIS in the eye
3 that it's not such a good thing? INEL is respected for
4 its technological advances, safety record, and Atoms
5 for Peace. Don't taint it with SIS.

6 Let's say you like nuclear weapons or, you
7 feel the governments need them to keep the peace. Even
8 if we kept on building new and more strategic weapons,
9 we don't need SIS. It's beyond a question of national
10 defense and believe me I'm as patriotic as you. I love
11 America and the freedom she stands for. I'm 18. If
12 that freedom is threatened, I'll be one of the boys
13 fighting, bleeding and dying. No one is saying, "Dis-
14 arm and leave our nation weak and vulnerable to the
15 evil Soviets or whoever."

16 How many more times do we need to be able
17 to destroy our world?

18 We have enough plutonium. Our nation is
19 awash in the stuff. Thomas Cochran, co-author of The
20 Nuclear Weapons Databook talks of plutonium's extremely
21 slow decay and how it can be recycled from obsolete
22 weapons. (The thing that has to be replaced every
23 few years is tritium - and SIS will have no part in
24 making that.) As it stands, we have 90 tons of plutonium
25 in existing nuclear weapons, ten tons in stockpile, and

4.3

1 ten tons in available scrap. Because of the INF Treaty,
2 we'll dismantle about 500 of our weapons in Europe
3 giving us two more tons. And if the START agreement is
4 signed it could yield us 15 more tons of additional
5 plutonium. In contrast, the Savannah Nuclear Reactor
6 only produces about one-fourth ton annually. You can read
7 about this for yourself in the March 14th issue of
8 Newsweek. An article called "The Plutonium Factor".

9 Friends, believe in the Dream. For without
10 it, what hope do we have in the future? Believe in Atoms
11 for Peace and reject the "anything for a buck" rationale.
12 The means do not justify the ends. Look honestly - SIS
13 is the seed of a mushroom cloud. It's a crying waste
14 and should have no part in our world.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
16 of Ric Cantrell will be entered into the record as
17 Exhibit 148.

18 If you would please state your name and
19 address for the record, sir.

20 MR. KUNZ: My name is Sam Kunz. I'm a
21 full-time student of ISU, an unemployed member of
22 Local 648, plumber and pipefitters, and a lifetime
23 resident of Idaho.

24 I support the efforts of DOE to construct
25 the SIS at the INEL. The past year a team of professionals

1.1

5.27.15.1

1 from ISU have worked on a project funded by WINCO to
2 explore the economic impact that the construction of
3 SIS would have on Idaho's economy. DOE is working in
4 conjunction with ISU to assure ISU Vo-Tech training is
5 compatible with DOE applications.

6 SIS will stimulate Idaho's economy which
7 will provide more funding for education. This, in
8 turn, will help Idaho compete for better teachers and
9 help keep the good teachers we already have in Idaho.

5.27.11.6

10 It's true that peak hiring of operational
11 personnel will have an effect on school capacities,
12 but then so would any economic recovery Idaho might
13 experience. The construction of SIS will be a plus for
14 all of Idaho's schools.

5.27.6.1

15 The construction of SIS would have a huge
16 positive effect on Idaho's economy. The team I men-
17 tioned from ISU is proposing the Institute for Tech-
18 nology Diversification Studies. This will perform
19 facilitative tasks, not currently within the purview
20 of other agencies.

5.27.9.4

21 This would help in the technological
22 transfer to rural economies. This would also help put
23 Idaho in the arena of oil technology.

24 This project will require \$170 million in
25 parts and sub-assemblies, along with a continuing need

1 for \$10 million per year in replacement parts during
2 operation. Cooperation with DOE and INEL contractors
3 in breaking up purchases into small sizes will be
4 required so Idaho businesses can and will compete.

5.27.9.6

5.27.12.8

5 The construction trades in Idaho are in
6 dire need of work. In talking with the local unions,
7 I have found that unemployment is between 40 to 55
8 percent. The only relief that these workers have is
9 divorce, alcoholism, and in some cases suicide.

5.27.7.16

10 The potential for growth, prosperity, and
11 relief is there with construction of SIS. Management
12 and labor are working together better than they ever
13 have, and together they can and will meet the demands.

5.27.7.11

14 We constantly hear the argument of environ-
15 mental contamination. The waste from SIS is a small
16 amount in regards to the amount of waste currently
17 generated and managed at the INEL.

5.30.5.7

18 Proponents of the SIS would have us believe
19 that if this isn't built this would eliminate the
20 problem for radioactive wastes in Idaho. This is not
21 true. The problem does exist, but to run away is not
22 a solution, and it is not Idaho's way of dealing with
23 the problem.

5.30.3.8

24 We cannot stop technology and hope to remedy
25 these problems. It's through technology that we will

5.30.2.1

1 solve these problems.

2 The technology to deal with these wastes
3 has been available for 20 years. We can store these
4 wastes in geologically stable areas of the United
5 States in underground salt packs which have been present
6 for thousands of years and undisturbed by water. This
7 is a safe alternative and is practiced today in Europe.
8 This technology is stopped because of political
9 bickering and fighting, which is chiefly caused by
10 groups like Greenpeace and the Snake River Alliance.

11 The past several weeks I have spent
12 studying, I have found the majority of Idaho's students,
13 Idaho workers, and Idaho citizens join me when I say,
14 "Yes, yes, SIS." Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark as
16 Exhibit No. 149 the written comments of Mr. Sam Kunz.
17 Our next commenter, please identify your-
18 self.

19 MS. PATLA: Debbie Patla, and I live in
20 Victor, Idaho. I have sort of a bedtime story, so don't
21 fall asleep.

22 Once upon a time, a magician arrived in a
23 small village. The people gathered around him, all
24 delighted. Out of an old sack, the magician produced
25 a wonderful selection of things. He had toenails which

1 grew into an elephant. He had an old can which grew
2 into a giant tin man. But almost as suddenly as they
3 appeared, the illusions vanished again and the people
4 sighed.

5 The Mayor of the village spoke out, "These
6 illusions are fine, but don't you have something of
7 value, something to make us rich?"

8 "Yes, yes," shouted the merchants.

9 The magician's face grew sad, and he said,
10 "The king has entrusted me with a special thing, a
11 thing which I must leave in a remote place such as
12 this. It is a fiercesome thing. It was created to
13 produce death, and it brings death to all it touches.
14 It is contained with a special magic, so perhaps death
15 will not touch you here in this village, but I make no
16 promises. And, yes, it may bring you some wealth, but
17 then again, this wealth may be of no more "value" than
18 that old tin can. The thing, however, will remain here
19 for almost forever, and your descendants may have to
20 clothe themselves like tin men, afraid to touch the
21 earth. But, yes, before that, there will be riches
22 to spread out amongst you. What is your choice?"

23 "Yes, yes, riches first," shouted the Mayor
24 and the merchants.

25 "Wait" cried a farmer. But his question

6.2

1 and the magician's answer were drowned out by the
2 chant, "Yes, yes, riches now."

3 As someone who lives near this village, I
4 want to say how profoundly ashamed I am of our leaders
5 and our merchants who welcome an industry which makes
6 a deadly substance into a tool of destruction.

7 Do you know where the name plutonium comes
8 from? It comes from Pluto, God of Death of the ancient
9 Romans, before their empire fell and their Gods were
10 abandoned.

11 INEL has recently been selected by EPA for
12 possible addition to the super fund list of hazardous
13 waste sites. I heard this on the radio last night.
14 It was estimated at 30 years and \$30 million to clean up.
15 The pollution of that aquifer is not a possibility. It's
16 a reality we have with the Site now, and I don't know
17 why the media hasn't picked up this piece of informa-
18 tion and told citizens about it.

19 I have read parts of the Draft EIS and then
20 made an effort to understand about SIS. The more I
21 learned, the more alarmed I grew, and I'm totally
22 opposed to the SIS here or anywhere. I have specific
23 comments that I will turn in for the written record.
24 Thank you.

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments

1 of Debra Patla will be included in the record as
2 Exhibit No. 150.

3 Could we have you please state your name
4 for the record?

5 MS. AHO: My name is Margaret Aho, and I
6 live at 206 South 17th, Pocatello, Idaho. I have lived
7 in Idaho for the last 17 years.

8 I am thankful for the opportunity to speak
9 my mind on this very important question.

10 I read in the paper and hear on the radio of
11 enthusiastic support for the SIS here in Idaho Falls. I
12 hear citizens speak of a new community purpose because
13 of it, of a feeling of shared vision and purpose, of
14 parades celebrating the possibility that their city will 2.7.9
15 soon be the site of bomb-trigger production. This
16 terrifies me.

17 This is not the communal experience of a
18 barn-raising. This is not the pride of harvest goods
19 exhibited at a State Fair. The core and kernel, the
20 solid metal button around which this community has
21 linked hands, is Plutonium 239, is a bomb-trigger whose
22 purpose is destruction, is murder, is death.

23 We don't want to hear this. We want to hear
24 words like jobs, prosperity, a swelling economy, rising
25 property values, progress. We don't want to think about

1 the end of our actions. We are like children: Cock-
 2 sure that the earth is our toy, the land is our play-
 3 ground, the elements are ours for the tinkering without
 4 thought of the consequences for all of humanity's
 5 children.

6 Though I am not a Mormon, there is, to me, a
 7 profound passage in The Pearl of Great Price, specifi-
 8 cally, the Book of Moses, in which Cain sells his soul
 9 and enters into a pact with evil, a pact in which he is
 10 given access to the secret of destruction, and can now
 11 say, "Truly I am the master of this secret; that I may
 12 murder and get gain."

13 I think the words "murder and get gain"
 14 are truly a trajectory of destruction we are caught up
 15 in and refuse to recognize, believing we see no evil.
 16 I fear the words "murder and get gain" are the age-
 17 old whisperings of a death drive we are all hell-bent
 18 on, though we insist we hear no evil. I worry that the
 19 words "murder and get gain" are those unspeakables we
 20 choose to secret from ourselves, thinking therefore that
 21 we speak no evil.

22 I urge us to carefully consider and examine
 23 with our conscience all that is proposed here today.
 24 Thank you.

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments

1 of Margaret Aho will be included in the record as
 2 Exhibit No. 151.

3 I believe we have one additional commenter
 4 this evening. Would you step over, sir, and give your
 5 name and address for the record?

6 MR. MILLER: I am Bert Miller, C-4 McIntosh,
 7 Pocatello, Idaho. I'm a graduate student at Idaho State
 8 University in science education, and I also worked as an
 9 aide for handicapped students. I am an honorably
 10 discharged Veteran from the United States Army.

11 First of all I would like to say that as
 12 someone living in Idaho, I'm saddened by the rudeness
 13 shown to those that traveled so far in our State to be
 14 here. If testimony is not wanted from other Americans,
 15 then they should not have to spend their tax dollars
 16 here on SIS.

17 I am also saddened, as someone who volunteered
 18 to defend this country, that good Americans have had
 19 their patriotism questioned here tonight, have been
 20 insulted as communists. To me, the highest form of
 21 patriotism is to speak out against projects that en-
 22 danger our country, such as the SIS. The SIS is not
 23 needed for national defense. I've written the Defense
 24 Department. They sent me this book, Defense Posture.
 25 On Page 37 they explain the United States now has more

4.2.1

1 nuclear warheads than the Soviet Union, and that this
2 advantage will continue into the future. There is no
3 first rank scenario under which an adversary could
4 launch an attack on the United States and not suffer
5 complete destruction from our submarines and bombers.

5.28.2

6 The head of the Department of Energy, John
7 Herrington, testified we have more plutonium than we
8 need. According to the President's Office of Management
9 and Budget, the SIS has the highest cost of the various
10 methods of increasing productivity of plutonium. SIS
11 is another pork barrel project.

5.27.6.9

12 Congress does not feel we need the SIS
13 anymore than Congress feels we need a gondola in
14 Kellogg, but Senator McClure manipulates these projects
15 into the budget. With the INF Treaty and the other
16 treaties, the trend right now is in the correct direc-
17 tion. That is reducing warheads on both sides, not
18 building more.

4.14

19 The one billion dollars wasted on this SIS
20 should rightfully be used to help balance the budget
21 or be spent on any necessary corrections and conventional
22 forces. The SIS takes away money we need for a strong
23 defense and hurts the economy.

6.3

3.2.1

24 The DOE admits they have done \$100 billion
25 of damage at other weapon sites. Who will get stuck

1 with the bills and damages here? Most of these jobs
2 won't last long, and are for people already working at
3 the INEL, not the rest of us in Idaho.

5.27.7.4

4 The EIS does not even address the number
5 of jobs which will be lost from converting the INEL,
6 which up to now has conducted atomic research and
7 necessary defense programs into a facility that advances
8 the arms race.

3.3.2

9 Many people or businesses who are thinking
10 of moving to Idaho won't. They consider living by a
11 nuclear weapons facility a negative feature.

5.27.5.3

12 Spinoffs from SIS are unlikely. Any spinoff
13 or special parts will come from California where they
14 are researching SIS, not Idaho.

5.27.9.5

15 We haven't had a large nuclear accident in
16 Idaho yet. That doesn't mean it can't happen. They
17 said the space shuttle was fine, and the Three Mile
18 Island couldn't happen. The deaths, injuries, and
19 property contaminated by a large-scale nuclear accident
20 would be huge. It reminds me of the joke about a man
21 who jumped off the Empire State Building. Halfway down,
22 a secretary yelled out a window, "How's it going?"

5.1.37

23 To which the falling man replied, "Okay so
24 far."

25 This is what the DOE is telling us, "Okay

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1 so far," but a terrible accident is just waiting to
2 happen. It reminds me of another joke. A man died and
3 went to heaven. At the pearly gates an angel said to
4 him, "What happened?"

5 And the man said, "I died in an auto accident."
6 And the angel said, "But you were the safest driver we
7 ever had. You've never had an accident before."

8 And the man replied, "I just had one accident."

9 It just takes one accident. Someone some-
10 where can make a mistake and many innocent people are
11 going to be hurt. In speaking of the pearly gates
12 reminds me of the main reason we should oppose the SIS,
13 and that's the moral reasons. Not everyone has the
14 same moral views, I realize that, and I respect other
15 people's religions.

16 Personally, I was raised a Christian and I
17 can find nothing in the Bible that would support building
18 additional nuclear weapons that are not needed for
19 defense. I wouldn't want to be at the pearly gates
20 some day saying that I supported more of these weapons
21 which can kill and maim millions of people, and I did it
22 solely for money, because we already have enough weapons
23 for defense.

24 The SIS isn't worth it. There are better
25 projects for INEL. The research on how to dispose of

1 nuclear waste, medicine to help sick people, these can
2 provide more jobs than SIS, doing something beneficial
3 that all Idahoans can be proud of, not like the SIS,
4 which is divisive and has Idaho working against each
5 other.

6 The opposition to SIS has been under-
7 estimated and the opposition is growing. Just because
8 the testimony has been slanted by refusing to hold
9 hearings in Pocatello and other cities, making it
10 difficult for the people there to speak out, does not
11 mean they support this Project.

12 This opposition is not going to stop with
13 these hearings. We will continue to do everything
14 legally, ethically, and constitutionally possible to
15 defeat the SIS.

16 No final decision has been made yet by the
17 President or Congress on this. The SIS isn't proposed
18 until 1994, and I'm sure we can stop it before then.
19 And if they do build it here, we'll do everything we can
20 to fight it the entire time it's here. Thank you.

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
22 of Mr. Bert Miller will be included in the record as
23 Exhibit No. 152.

24 At this point in time, ladies and gentlemen,
25 that concludes the list of commenters for this evening.

5.27.7.17

2.8.10

1.1

1 I appreciate your patience and indulgences in going
2 through this rather long and laborious process.

3 As I stated earlier - - please, could we
4 have quiet please?

5 I'd like to once again make it clear for
6 the record that those of you who had pre-registered at
7 the door and didn't have an opportunity to comment,
8 either this afternoon or this evening, are entitled to
9 do so without any further action on your part at the
10 resumption of this hearing, which is now scheduled for
11 2:00 this Wednesday, March the 30th, here at University
12 Place.

13 As matters now stand, those of you that
14 were scheduled to speak this evening will automatically
15 be included in the evening presentation. If you'd like
16 to change that, please signal myself or someone in the
17 back and the Department will try to accommodate you in
18 the afternoon session.

19 Also, let the record reflect that the Chair
20 has received 22 separate written questions from both
21 members of the audience who were here earlier today
22 both in the afternoon and the evening sessions. If
23 there are additional questions, we'd like to receive
24 them now so we can log them in and handle them
25 appropriately.

1 We also have a long list of individuals whose
2 written comments we received to be marked as exhibits.
3 They haven't been marked at this point; however after
4 you've left we will re-open the record to make sure we
5 get those in the record.

6 With that, once again, I would thank you
7 for your patience in allowing us to develop the record
8 this evening. At this point I will formally call in
9 recess this public hearing on the DEIS review, and will
10 once again resume this hearing on Wednesday, March 30th
11 at 2:00 at University Place.

12 Thank you.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: I am back on the
14 record for the sole purpose of reading into the record
15 the list of exhibits that we received at the front desk
16 that we have not previously included in the record,
17 starting with Exhibit No. 100, the written comments of
18 Kaye Turner; Exhibit No. 101, R. P. Howard; Exhibit 102,
19 July Kumm, K-u-m-m; Exhibit 103, Shauna Walkenhorst,
20 W-a-l-k-e-n-h-o-r-s-t; Exhibit 104, Clarence O. Davis;
21 Exhibit 105, Wayne Montgomery; Exhibit 106, Krys, K-r-y-
22 Sampson; Exhibit 107, Jessie E. Roth; Exhibit 108, Sandy
23 Bob, Lee, Cheri Stone and Larry Aslett, A-s-l-e-t-t;
24 Exhibit 109, Michael Hayden; Exhibit 110, Richard S.
25 Clover, C-l-o-v-e-r; Exhibit 111, Rodney Hoff; Exhibit 112,

1 Jill Gentillon, G-e-n-t-i-l-o-n; Exhibit 113, Janet
 2 McGary; Exhibit 114, Joan Downing and Glenn Ray Downing;
 3 Exhibit 115, Lois Knowles; K-n-o-w-l-e-s; Exhibit 116,
 4 Brad Pier; P-i-e-r; Exhibit 117, a concerned citizen;
 5 Exhibit 118, Jeff Davis; Exhibit 119, Debra Whalen,
 6 W-h-a-l-e-n; Exhibit 120, Diane Stinger; Exhibit 121,
 7 W. Brad DeBow, D-e-B-o-w; Exhibit 128, John Thayne,
 8 T-h-a-y-n-e Howe, H-o-w-e, Jr.; Exhibit 129, Robin
 9 Howe; Exhibit 130, Robert Bodell, B-o-d-e-l-l; Exhibit 131,
 10 Gary Triplett; Exhibit 132, Reece, R-e-e-c-e W. Burke,
 11 B-u-r-k-e; and, Exhibit 142, Vaughn Nebeker, N-e-b-e-k-
 12 e-r.

13 (The hearing was adjourned.)
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1 REPORTER'S AFFIDAVIT

2
 3 STATE OF IDAHO)
 4) ss.
 5 County of Bonneville)

6 I, KAREN KONVALINKA, do hereby certify that
 7 I am an Official Certified Shorthand Reporter and a
 8 Notary Public in and for the State of Idaho;

9 That I took down the proceedings aforesaid
 10 at the time and place therein named and thereafter re-
 11 duced the same to typewriting under my direction and
 12 control..

13 I further certify that I have no interest in
 14 the event of the action.

15 WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this the 16th day
 16 of April, 1988.

17
 18 (Signature)

Karen Konvalinka
 Karen Konvalinka, C. S. R.,
 Notary Public in and for the
 State of Idaho, residing at
 Idaho Falls, Idaho.

20
 21 (Seal)

22
 23 My commission expires: Perpetual
 24
 25

1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2
3 THE HEARING OFFICER: At this point I will
4 formally recommence this public hearing concerning the
5 review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
6 relative to the United States Department of Energy's
7 proposed Special Isotope Separation Project. This
8 proceeding is officially designated as the Idaho Falls
9 public hearing on the Department of Energy Document
10 DOE/EIS-0136, being held on the 30th day of March, 1988,
11 and is a continuation of the public hearing that was
12 formally commenced on Friday, the 26th of March, 1988.

13 My name is Roy Eiguren. I'm the Hearing
14 Officer for this and the other public hearings that are
15 being held on this particular issue. The issue before
16 us, as I mentioned earlier, is the review by the public
17 of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement by the
18 Department of Energy as it relates to its proposal to
19 site and construct and operate a Special Isotope
20 Separation Project utilizing the atomic vapor laser
21 isotope separation process technology.

22 I am an attorney from Boise retained by the
23 Department of Energy to conduct this and the other public
24 hearings in the review of the DEIS. I have been re-
25 tained to serve as an independent and unbiased party to

1 assure the opportunity for all interested organizations
2 and individuals to comment on the Draft EIS. Accordingly,
3 I am not serving as an advocate for or against the
4 proposed position taken by the Department. Rather, I
5 am a neutral third party who has coordinated the
6 development of the procedures to be followed in these
7 hearings and have actually chaired all the hearings to
8 date.

9 The issue that is the subject of this
10 proceeding is the Department's proposal to site, con-
11 struct and operate an SIS facility at one of three
12 locations in the United States, the Department of Energy's
13 Idaho National Engineering Laboratory located near
14 Idaho Falls, Idaho; the DOE's Hanford Reservation near
15 Richland, Washington; or the DOE's Savannah River Plant
16 near Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three sites
17 is designated as an alternative that is considered in
18 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The fourth
19 and final alternative under consideration in the DEIS
20 is the No Action Alternative, which would be a decision
21 by the Department of Energy not to site, construct and
22 operate an SIS facility. As stated in the DEIS, the
23 Department's preferred alternative is to site, construct
24 and operate such a facility at the Idaho National
25 Engineering Laboratory.

1 To put this hearing in perspective, I think
 2 it is important that you first understand the key
 3 elements of the federal law that mandates that this
 4 hearing be held, that law is the National Environmental
 5 Policy Act of 1969, Public Law 91-910, generally known
 6 as NEPA. In it there's a requirement that federal
 7 agencies develop procedures that ensure that environ-
 8 mental amenities or values are given appropriate con-
 9 sideration in federal government decisions. This law
 10 also requires that recommendations for major federal
 11 actions significantly affecting the quality of the
 12 human environment be first preceded by the development
 13 and completion of an Environmental Impact Statement or
 14 EIS, that fully and carefully examines the potential
 15 environmental impacts of the proposed federal decision
 16 or proposed action.

17 The Department of Energy has determined that
 18 its proposed action in siting, constructing and operating
 19 an SIS plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA,
 20 requires the development and completion of an EIS.
 21 Accordingly, by the publication on October 31, 1986,
 22 of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal
 23 Register, the Department of Energy commenced the process
 24 that has led to the development and publication of the
 25 Draft Environmental Impact Statement that is the subject

1 of this hearing. The DEIS was prepared by the Department
 2 with the assistance of an independent contractor, the
 3 NUS Corporation, after an extensive process of receiving
 4 public comment through the scoping or initial input
 5 phase of the EIS development proceeding.

6 During scoping, public comment on the scope
 7 or magnitude of issues to be addressed in the EIS was
 8 received, as well as specific, and particular issues
 9 that relate to the subject at hand. Scoping included
 10 the receipt of extensive written comment for a period
 11 of 60 days, as well as oral comment at two lengthy
 12 public meetings or hearings, one was held here in
 13 Idaho Falls on the 24th day of February, 1987, and one
 14 was held in Boise on February 26th, 1987.

15 As a result of all the public input received
 16 during the scoping portion of this proceeding, the
 17 Department determined the following issues would be
 18 analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and
 19 as you will see if you review that document, each of the
 20 following 11 issues have been reviewed and discussed at
 21 length. The issues that are in the DEIS are as follows:
 22 No. 1, the off site general population radiological and
 23 nonradiological effects resulting from potential accidents
 24 at an SIS facility.

25 Two, the effects on the general population

1 from emissions of radiological and nonradiological re-
2 leases caused by normal operations of an SIS facility.

3 No. 3, exposure of operating personnel to
4 radiological sources and nonradiological releases during
5 normal operations of an SIS facility.

6 Issue No. 4, incremental differences in
7 environmental impacts between operation of the existing
8 chemical processing facilities and the proposed action
9 and alternatives.

10 Issue No. 5, effects on air and water quality
11 and other environmental consequences during construction
12 and operation of an SIS facility.

13 Issue No. 6, cumulative effects of operations
14 of such a facility, including changes in support opera-
15 tions related to it.

16 Issue No. 7, on-site and off-site transporta-
17 tion impacts of nuclear materials.

18 Issue No. 8, an analysis of applicable
19 federal, state and local regulations that apply to the
20 construction and operation of such a facility.

21 Issue No. 9, the decontamination and de-
22 commissioning of an SIS facility.

23 Issue No. 10, irretrievable and irreversible
24 commitment of resource in the use of land, materials,
25 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other resources

1 related to the construction and operation of such a
2 facility.

3 And finally Issue No. 11, mitigation
4 measures necessary to respond to the environmental
5 consequences associated with each of the alternatives.

6 The preparation and review process of the
7 EIS is governed by federal regulations established by
8 the Council on Environmental Quality, or CEQ, which is
9 an agency within the executive offices of the President
10 of the United States. In addition to that, the Department
11 of Energy has its own guidelines they follow in the
12 preparation of the EIS.

13 Both the CEQ regulations as well as the DOE
14 guidelines have been marked as Exhibit 1 for the record
15 and included in the record by me as the Hearing Officer.

16 The relevant CEQ regulations require that
17 after preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
18 and before preparing a final Environmental Impact State-
19 ment, a federal agency must first obtain the comments
20 of (1) any federal agency which has jurisdiction by law
21 or special expertise with respect to any environmental
22 impact and (2) request the comments of appropriate state
23 and local agencies which develop and enforce environ-
24 mental standards, (3) request comments from Indian tribes,
25 (4) request comments from the public, with a particular

1 obligation to affirmatively solicit comments from persons
2 or organizations who may be interested or affected by
3 the proposed federal action.

4 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
5 where the Department determines that substantial en-
6 vironmental controversy concerning the proposed action
7 exists. Accordingly, this hearing as well as the other
8 in this series are being held pursuant to these regula-
9 tions that I've reference for the purpose of receiving
10 public Indian tribe and governmental comment on various
11 issues identified in the Draft Environmental Impact State-
12 ment.

13 Notice of the public hearings was provided
14 in the Federal Register, by notices dated February 19,
15 1988 and on March 4th, 1988. Additional public notice
16 was provided through publication in numerous newspapers
17 throughout the State of the hearing noticed.

18 The Federal Register notices, the text of
19 the newspaper notices and publication dates have been
20 marked as Exhibit 2 in this proceeding and included in
21 the record.

22 Public comment on the DEIS will be received
23 through this and a subsequent hearing held tomorrow in
24 Twin Falls. As I mentioned earlier, hearings have also
25 been held prior to today in Boise. This is a continuation

1 of the hearing that was here on Friday. Written comments,
2 which will receive the same weight and consideration by
3 the Department in this proceeding, may be submitted by
4 any of you who care to to me today and may be submitted
5 by writing to Clay Nichols, SIS Project Manager, at
6 the address provided you at the registration desk. All
7 oral and written comment received will be compiled into
8 a comprehensive record that will be considered by the
9 Department in making its final decision in this matter.
10 If you do have written comment, I would point out that
11 the 21st day of April, 1988, is the close of comment
12 deadline. So if you wish to provide additional comment,
13 it must be done by that day.

14 The CEQ regulations that I previously
15 referenced also provide that comments of an Environmental
16 Statement on a proposed action shall be as specific as
17 possible and may address the adequacy of the statement
18 or the merits of the alternatives or both. So, in
19 essence, that is the guideline that you must follow in
20 presenting your comments to us today.

21 Although the Department of Energy has
22 determined that certain issues, such as need for the
23 Project itself are beyond the scope of this environmental
24 proceeding, I will allow comment on that issue, as well
25 as other issues related to the Project that individuals

1 feel are relevant and appropriate for consideration.
 2 As I stressed before, however, as the Hearing Officer
 3 I do reserve the right to ask commenters to keep their
 4 comments relative to the subject matter of the pro-
 5 ceeding when I determine necessary to do so.
 6 Moving onto the process after we complete
 7 and file the record in this proceeding, the Department
 8 will review the record and make a determination as to
 9 how to proceed. The Department may choose to modify,
 10 supplement, or re-issue the Draft Environmental Impact
 11 Statement prior to issuing a final EIS. It may also
 12 choose to issue the DEIS as a final EIS without modifi-
 13 cation. A record of decision, which will identify the
 14 environmentally preferred alternative chosen by the
 15 Department, along with any practicable means to avoid
 16 or minimize environmental harm from the alternatives
 17 selected, will also be prepared. The Department, as a
 18 matter of federal regulation, cannot proceed with its
 19 proposed action, which as I mentioned will be the action
 20 identified in the record decision, until a minimum of
 21 30 days after the date of issuance of the final EIS.
 22 That is to say, a final decision in this proceeding as
 23 to where to site the facility cannot be made for a
 24 period of at least 30 days after the final EIS has been
 25 issued. Under current schedules, the Department of Energy

1 intends to issue a final EIS and a record decision later
 2 this year, tentatively in the month of August.

3 To govern the conduct of this and a subse-
 4 quent public hearing in this series, I have developed
 5 several procedures in consultation both with the
 6 Department of Energy as well as representatives of public
 7 interest groups who have participated in these pro-
 8 ceedings. They have included our discussions as to
 9 what the appropriate procedure should be and finalize
 10 those on the 24th day of March. Those procedures were
 11 distributed to the general public that requested them,
 12 as well as to organizational groups. These procedures
 13 have been marked as Exhibit 3 and have been included in
 14 the formal hearing record.

15 We also previously submitted for the record
 16 Exhibit 4, which is a complete listing of all DOE public
 17 involvement activities associated with the development
 18 of the DEIS.

19 I'm going to briefly turn to the procedures
 20 that we're following in these hearings. We've found
 21 these procedures have worked quite well throughout the
 22 course of the hearings, and I think most of the public
 23 and organizational representatives feel that they've
 24 been fair and appropriate procedures.

25 Other than my opening comment, the Department

1 of Energy will not be making any remarks in this pro-
 2 ceeding. However, in reference to that fact, senior
 3 members of the DOE staff, including Dr. Clay Nichols,
 4 Project Manager, are here with us today in the front
 5 row listening to everyone's comments. We have been
 6 receiving comments in the following order: Elected
 7 and appointed federal, state and local government
 8 officials have given their comments in the first order
 9 of priority. Following that, representatives of national,
 10 state, and local organizations who have participated in
 11 the proceedings have been given the opportunity to make
 12 their comments. Following that, members of the public
 13 who registered to speak prior to the end of business on
 14 March 18th, which was the date for close of pre-registra-
 15 tion are given the opportunity to comment. Following
 16 that, members of the public who registered at the door
 17 will have the opportunity to comment.

18 Because this is a continuation of the public
 19 hearing that was commenced on Friday, the 25th of March,
 20 what we're doing today is, essentially, we're counting
 21 all those folks who hadn't been pre-registered or who
 22 had registered at the door on Friday to testify and
 23 didn't have the opportunity to do so. So accordingly,
 24 it is our intent to stay here today as long as necessary
 25 to accommodate all individuals who would like to comment.

1 However, the simple rule is that you either had to pre-
 2 register to comment or register at the door on last
 3 Friday in order to comment today. Everyone who is a
 4 member of the public will have five minutes within which
 5 to make your comments. We ask you stay within that time
 6 frame, because we do have a significant number of
 7 individuals signed up to speak. To assist you in
 8 determining where you're at in your presentation, I have
 9 a signaling device here at the podium. When I turn on
 10 the green light, that means you've spent four minutes
 11 of your allowed five minutes. When I turn on the red
 12 light, that means the time is up. Again, I ask you to
 13 keep your comments within the time frame I've mentioned.

14 I've also previously mentioned written
 15 comments will receive the same consideration in the
 16 record. If you are inclined to not give your oral
 17 comment, and have a copy with you, we'd like to receive
 18 those. You can bring those down to me during one of
 19 the breaks or toward the end of the proceeding I'll ask
 20 for those. You may bring them forward. In addition to
 21 that, if you are giving oral comments but do have
 22 written comments with you, we'd very much like to re-
 23 ceive a copy of the written comments for the record.

24 If you do have questions, and we do solicit
 25 questions, there is a question form back at the

1 registration table available to you, we simply ask you
2 fill in your name and address and, in turn, we will
3 collect those during the course of this proceeding and
4 provide a written response back to you by mail. All
5 questions and answers that we receive will be included
6 in the hearing record.

7 Finally, I'd like to indicate we're not
8 allowing individuals to combine their speaking time with
9 others. The five minutes allotted each individual is
10 yours solely for your use. Charts and visual aids will
11 be allowed if they can be made a part of the record and
12 are not disruptive.

13 Since this is a record proceeding, everything
14 said is being recorded for the written transcript, and
15 we ask you would assist us in that regard by giving your
16 comments from the podium here in the front. We ask you
17 to speak clearly in the microphone after first giving
18 your name and address for the record.

19 If you have any questions or comments about
20 either the EIS process or any of the procedures we're
21 following, I'm here throughout the course of the hearing,
22 obviously, and will be taking breaks. Step forward and
23 ask those of me. There are also Department representa-
24 tives at the registration table that can respond to any
25 questions you may have.

1 So with that, ladies and gentlemen, we'll
2 go ahead and begin. I'll go down our list of scheduled
3 commenters. What I'm going to do at this point is be-
4 gin asking for those individuals who were pre-regis-
5 tered to speak in the afternoon session last Friday, and
6 I'll call everyone's name at least once. Then when we
7 conclude by going through this entire list, I'll ask at
8 that point if there is anyone that I have missed.

9 So with that I will begin with our list of
10 pre-registered speakers for the continuation hearing.
11 My first speaker in Order No. 1 is the Mayor of
12 St. Anthony, Merrill Rose. Is Merrill Rose here?

13
14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll go to Speaker
16 No. 2, Mrs. L. T. Carter, representing Bonneville County
17 Republican Women.

18 Again, if I could remind you, we ask for
19 your name and address for the record.

20 MS. CARTEE: Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentle-
21 men. My name is Bertha M. Cartee. My address is 12005
22 South Sunrise Circle, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83404. I am
23 President of Bonneville County Republican Woman and
24 speaking on behalf of Bonneville County Republican Women
25 by authority of majority vote of the executive committee.

1 Bonneville County Republican Women believe
2 that:
3
4 We should first of all maintain weapon
5 grade plutonium stores to establish a strong national
6 defense posture in order to negotiate from a position
7 of strength, not weakness, in our efforts toward world
8 peace and friendship.
9 We believe that we should develop this SIS
10 system that recovers Plutonium 239 as weapon grade from
11 present stores because it increases our stores more
12 efficiently and with less hazardous emission than when
13 it is produced by reactors.
14 We should develop the SIS system so as to
15 be able to ready plutonium stores for use rapidly, if
16 necessary, and with less hazardous emission than if
17 produced by reactors.
18 We believe the SIS supplements the service
19 life of our present plutonium reactors, extending their
20 service life and making better use of those facilities,
21 also somewhat balancing the cost of the SIS.
22 The SIS system could produce more plutonium
23 of various kinds and grades and byproducts for various
24 uses, possibly as a thermal source for generating
25 electrical power for space satellites as mentioned in
 the Environmental Impact Statement.

1 This system does not duplicate a blending
2 system, which adds Plutonium 240 to pure plutonium to
3 impurify it to weapon grade, but rather enhances fuel
4 grade plutonium to weapon grade by removing Plutonium 240
5 to weapon grade percentage.
6 We believe that pure plutonium and weapon
7 grade plutonium cannot be used interchangeably in
8 weapons, therefore, standardization is required for
9 efficient and maximum use of stores.
10 The system, with planning and/or serendipity,
11 might develop byproducts with even more diversified
12 uses.
13 In use operation of this type of laser
14 system could augment research done with the laser at
15 the Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, expanding research
16 capability and not limiting it to one facility.
17 We believe that present plutonium stores are
18 at Hanford, Washington, and Aiken, South Carolina, so
19 that the stores require transport regardless of which
20 of the three sites is selected.
21 Transportation accident risks have been
22 carefully analyzed and found to be less than 1.6 times
23 ten to the fifth percent of the risk of health effects
24 to the same population from background radiation.
25 Waste emission is calculated to be exceeding
5.2.10
5.28.6
5.27.9.5
5.29.32
5.29.97
5.3.8

5.27.7.16

low and easily manageable with present procedures.

Finally, the INEL needs to engage in new projects to remain a vital part of nuclear research, and we believe that our local economy and culture is enriched because of the vitality of the INEL.

I would like to thank you for this opportunity to express our opinions.

THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 691 will be the written statement presented by Bertha M. Cartee, C-a-r-t-e-e, in behalf of the Bonneville County Republican Women.

The next scheduled commenter is Mr. Wayne Hope. Wayne Hope?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Moving to Order 4, Mr. Alan Cartee? Mr. Alan Cartee?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 5, David Luce? Dave Luce?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 6, Mr. Keith Brown? Keith Brown?

19 Cartee

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 7, Ms. Kay Whitaker? Kay Whitaker?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 8, Roger Redford? Mr. Roger Redford?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 9, Mr. Larry McConnel? Larry McConnel?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 10, Mr. Tim Hopkins? Mr. Hopkins spoke previously and left a written comment for the record.

Witness Order No. 11, Keene Hueftle?

MS. ELLE: As you see, I am not Keene Hueftle, but I am Jean Elle speaking in his place, because he could not be here today. He had an emergency.

I am Jean Elle, 7 Dartmouth, Pocatello, Idaho.

I am against the SIS for the following reasons: First, what is to be done with the nuclear waste? Somehow I'm not reassured by the suggestion

20 Elle

1.1

5.30.3.1

1 that it is such a small amount in relation to that which
2 is already being temporarily managed, that we need not
3 concern ourselves about it. I hate to keep beating a
4 dead horse, but this problem will not go away by itself,
5 and there is no answer in sight yet.

5.30.3.1

6 If storage is no problem, why is this
7 country not able yet to find a permanent repository,
8 even though we have been searching for a way for more
9 than 30 years? If it is so safe, why is the State of
10 Washington seeking a multi-million dollar fund to start
11 cleaning up the N Reactor at Hanford? That's the very
12 one that's been producing weapons grade plutonium and
13 it was recently shut down. Well, once upon a time that
14 project was touted to be safe and clean just as the
15 INEL proposal is now.

3.2.8

16 And I have two concerns about the Environ-
17 mental Impact Statement: One, why was the disclaimer
18 printed on the inside front cover of the statement to
19 the effect that the U.S. Government and its agencies
20 do not necessarily concur with its findings, and further-
21 more, do not accept any responsibility for its content?
22 If they are to fund it to the tune of a billion dollars,
23 why shouldn't they be responsible for it? And if not
24 they, then who is responsible for it?

2.3

25 As my second consideration, as I read this

1 Statement I kept coming across oft repeated buzz phrases:
2 More readily respond to increased needs for national
3 defense, flexibility and need for rapid increases in
4 weapons grade plutonium production, redundancy in
5 production capacity, and so forth and so on.

6 Why the urgency? Why the redundancy? Does
7 this mean that the unthinkable is now acceptable? Does
8 this mean we are talking about nuclear war? If not,
9 what are we talking about, and how much redundancy is
10 needed to blow up this wonderful fragile planet of ours,
11 the only place we have to live? How much? What is
12 seven years local prosperity measured against that kind
13 of a future?

4.7.1

2.7.8

6.2

14 So, how can we get off this crazy merry-go-
15 round of self-destruction? The only way I can see for
16 stopping it is to quit paying for the ride, and Idaho
17 has a chance to lead the way by voting no on SIS.

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comment
19 of Jean Elle of Seven Dartmouth Place, Pocatello, will
20 be included in the record as Exhibit 692.

21 Next scheduled order Commenter No. 12 is
22 Mr. Dick Egbert.

23 (No response.)

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 13, Donald R.

1 Clark. Mr. Donald R. Clark?

2 (No response.)

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 14, Mr. Lynn
4 Scott? Lynn Scott?

5 (No response.)

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 15, Ms Kathleen
7 Jardine? Kathleen Jardine?

8 (No response.)

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 16, Jon F.
10 Walters? Jon F. Walters?

11 (No response.)

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 17, Dennis
13 Howell?

14 MS. HOWELL: For the record, my name is
15 Dennis Howell. I live at 14787 Earth Lane in Pocatello.
16 I love Idaho. I was born and raised here, as was my
17 parents. I have lived all my life in this great State
18 except for the time spent in the service of my country
19 and pursuing an education.

20 I love the United States of America. I
21 love the freedoms and strengths of the Constitution. We

23 Howell

1 all enjoy the liberty and blessings of this choice land.

2 I believe that this land and the Constitution
3 were ordained of God. I believe that we must exercise
4 wisdom and righteousness to maintain these principles
5 that we too often take for granted. They will not always
6 be there unless we take the precautions and use the
7 wisdom to preserve them.

8 Freedom isn't free. It costs dearly. All
9 one has to do is study the history of this country to
10 see how many lives have been given and how much expense
11 has occurred as our freedoms have been defended by the
12 many great patriots of this land. Like our ancestors,
13 we must always be alert and ready to do our part to
14 secure the blessings of liberty.

15 When I first contemplated the question of
16 whether or not I thought the SIS should or should not
17 be built, I tried to analyze why Congress would want it
18 built. That seemed fairly simple to me. All I had to
19 do was remember the Preamble to the Constitution:

20 "We the people of the United States, in order
21 to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, ensure
22 domestic tranquility" - - and now listen, ". . . provide
23 for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and
24 secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our
25 posterity, to ordain and establish this Constitution for

24 Howell

4.5

1 the United States of America."

2 Deputy Energy Secretary Troy Wade, the
3 former manager of the INEL, said it was imperative the
4 Nation not leave a legacy of old production facilities
5 and technology, and SIS will provide a leading edge
6 technology for plutonium production.

4.10.4

7 Wade conceded that opponents of the SIS are
8 right when they say there is no immediate need for the
9 plutonium the Project will make available. "That is a
10 fact, and we do not dispute it," he said. "However,
11 neither our opponents nor ourselves can accurately
12 predict the nuclear materials requirements a decade
13 from now."

3.4

14 We cannot "provide for the common defense",
15 by being weak or unprepared. We cannot "secure the
16 blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity"
17 by being so naive as to think that the Russians, Cubans,
18 and the Iranians will all play by the same set of rules
19 that we do.

20 In case you have forgotten, just think back
21 to December 7, 1941. If that doesn't do it, then
22 remember the rules that the Nazis played by during
23 World War II. Some say that would never happen again.
24 Some people would have you believe that national defense
25 is not necessarily to ensure our freedoms. Thomas

1 Cochran says we need to cancel the SIS. He said we don't
2 need the insurance. Well, maybe that's okay, but what
3 happens if he is wrong? I wonder if he has cancelled
4 his insurance.

5 You know, I watched the imported experts
6 as they were tooting their own horns and proclaiming
7 their self-proclaimed expert testimony. The lights
8 were dimmed for a minute or two, and you know what?
9 there wasn't even a hint of a halo from any of them.
10 I guess they are just mortals, too.

11 Do you think that you can believe the actors
12 that they have paid to spread their pseudo innuendos?
13 Would you believe someone whose job it is to entertain
14 people by always playing a role?

15 One of their actresses stands with the
16 Boulder Mountains in the background and tells viewers
17 that the government wants to build a plutonium plant in
18 Idaho for nuclear bombs. "Maybe that's okay," says
19 Ms. Hemmingway, "Some say no nuclear accident could
20 ever happen on our highways. some say there will never
21 be another Idaho earthquake. But are we willing to pay
22 the price if they are wrong?" But if they are right,
23 Muriel, are you and your unborn child willing to pay
24 the price?

25 Let's just for a minute examine some facts.

2.10

4.15.4

1 Who does not want the SIS built? Liz Paul, Thomas
2 Cochran, Dan Reicher, and Ted McKinley, and a few others.

3 Now let's see who has requested that it be
4 built: The President of the United States, the Congress
5 of the United States, the U.S. Department of Energy, and
6 Troy Wade, the U.S. Secretary of Defense, the Honorable
7 Governor Andrus, all local Mayors and Chambers of
8 Commerce, plus legions of Southeast Idahoans. We are
9 united.

10 Don't you suppose that George Washington had
11 his Liz Pauls, and Abraham Lincoln had his Thomas
12 Cochrans and Dan Reichers to contend with? Certainly,
13 but aren't you glad they persisted in their endeavors
14 to "provide for the common defense" and "secure the
15 blessings of liberty"? You want your "freedom in-
16 surance cancelled"? Are you putting all your trust in
17 an arms agreement with Russia? Are you going to put our
18 national freedom into the hands of a nation that won't
19 even let God into its borders? Not me, I'm taking the
20 proven path. I'm going to continue to sustain the
21 leaders of this great nation, whom I believe are inspired
22 by the Almighty.

23 Yes, yes, yes, SIS.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 693, for the
25 record, will be the written comments of Dennis Howell of

27 Howell

1 Pocatello, Idaho.

2 Witness Order 18, L. T. Cartee, who I
3 believe has already spoken, and is an oversight.

4 MR. CARTEE: May I correct that? There is
5 an L. T. Cartee.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Oh, excuse me.

7 MS. CARTEE: You're welcome.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Spoke too quickly.
9 There is a Mr. and Mrs. Cartee.

10 MR. CARTEE: Mr. Chairman and ladies and
11 gentlemen, my name is Leb Cartee, and it is a pleasure
12 to say a few words about the topic of this meeting.

13 I've lived in Idaho Falls, this is my third
14 time, about 17 years. And I'm in favor of the SIS, and
15 I'm in favor of having it in Idaho Falls, because we
16 need the Project. And in my acquaintance with different
17 types of nuclear work, I'm sure it is safe.

18 Prior to retiring in 1979, I spent 30 years
19 in industry-related to the nuclear industry, and most
20 of it direct. I spent eight years at Hanford, Washington,
21 and eight years in Santa Suzanna, California, and about
22 16 out here at the Site at INEL. And most of that was
23 directly with nuclear-related activities.

24 Much of my work at Hanford was directly with
25 plutonium in the final stages of the Separation Project,

28 Cartee

1.1

5.27.12.5

5.24.23

1.1

1 that is converting the plutonium oxide to metal by
2 direct oxidation. The plutonium was further purified
3 in the electrical furnaces by a continuation of molten
4 and pouring processes, and then poured to the desired
5 volume, and then we machined it to the proper shapes
6 and weight for which it was designed for.

7 All of this work is done in a controlled
8 atmosphere, that is glove boxes, hood and furnaces, and
9 all off gas was through filtered and constantly monitored
10 systems.

11 I'm using this background to assure you I'm
12 not blindly walking into this. After reading some of the
13 Environmental Impact Statements, and I would have read
14 more, but I went to sleep, I'm very confident that the
15 addition to the SIS Project to our area will in no way
16 be a threat to us or our environment. Instead, it will
17 be a great help to our economy.

18 There has been much talk about the danger
19 of transporting this type of material. I've done quite
20 a bit of assisting and transporting the fuel itself.
21 I've not too much experience in the waste transfer, but
22 the fuel itself, the type of cask it is transported in,
23 before being used it's pressure checked, it's leak
24 checked, and it's filled with inert gas, that is the
25 spaces in it, the empty spaces. And it is sealed and

29 Cartee

1 locked, and there is much less danger to our society
2 transporting something like that, in other words the
3 methods they use, than a 10,000 gallon tanker going
4 down the boulevard with high test gasoline or any type
5 of chemical or for liquid fertilizers that they transport.

6 So for me, I'm all for it, and I hope we get
7 it. Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll move on to
9 Order No. 19, Carolyn L. Molen? Carolyn L. Molen?

10 (No response.)

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 20, Winona Sayer,
12 Winona Sayer?

13 (No response.)

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 21, Jeff Wheeler?
15 Mr. Jeff Wheeler?

16 (No response.)

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 22,
18 Mr. Bruce Campbell?

19 MR. CAMPBELL: My name is Bruce Campbell.
20 I live at 218 North State in Rigby. I moved to Idaho
21 in 1978.

22 I publish the East Idaho Business Magazine

30 Campbell

6.1.2

5.29.97

1 that is sent to virtually every business in Eastern
2 Idaho, including the towns closest to the INEL: Idaho
3 Falls, Arco, Rigby, Shelley, Rexburg, Blackfoot and
4 Pocatello.

5 Last week over 9,000 copies of the East
6 Idaho Business Magazine were delivered to businesses
7 in Eastern Idaho. In that issue appeared four articles
8 discussing the SIS Project.

9 The first article was written by Jim Reed,
10 who stated that the primary function of the SIS Project
11 is to enhance the security of our nation. Mr. Reed
12 sees the SIS Project as an opportunity for those of us
13 who live in Eastern Idaho to contribute our skills and
14 our time to the defense of our nation. Mr. Reed also
15 wrote that the SIS Project would create jobs, enhancing
16 our economy and enabling Eastern Idahoans to do a
17 better job with our educational systems and business
18 communities.

19 The second article appearing in the East
20 Idaho Business Magazine was by Congressman Richard
21 Stallings of Idaho. Congressman Stallings stated that
22 after carefully reviewing the Environmental Impact
23 Statement and considering public comments, he believes
24 the SIS facility is safe and needed. He stated that
25 the Project is cost effective and will provide needed

1 flexibility in our country's plutonium production
2 capability. Congressman Stallings stressed that the
3 INEL has a good public safety and environmental pro-
4 tection record, and he is convinced that there are no
5 significant public health risks, environmental impacts,
6 transportation problems or safety concerns associated
7 with the Project. Congressman Stallings says he believes
8 the majority of Idahoans support this Project.

9 Republicans were represented in the magazine
10 with an article by Senator Steve Symms of Idaho. Senator
11 Symms' article stressed the needs to differentiate be-
12 tween the facts and fiction. Senator Symms stated that
13 the SIS Project has wide support, including both Senators
14 from Idaho, the DOD, the DOE, the National Security
15 Council, and the Congress of the United States. Senator
16 Symms ended his article with the statement, "Besides
17 the benefit to our national security, the facility will
18 give a much needed boost to Idaho's ailing economy, and
19 make the INEL a world leader in laser technology."

20 The fourth article was written by two
21 professors at Idaho State University in Pocatello,
22 Dr. Ronald D. Balsley and Dr. J. Frank Harmon. This
23 article discussed practical and potential economic
24 benefits from projects such as the SIS, and suggested
25 that with the SIS and other high technology INEL projects,

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1 new markets and opportunities exist for Idaho.

2 All four articles discussed the facts about
3 the SIS Project. The reaction I have personally re-
4 ceived from these articles has been 100 percent in favor
5 of the SIS Project being located at INEL. There can
6 be no question that the INEL is ideally suited for this
7 Project, and that the local business community is
8 strongly supportive of this Project being located at
9 INEL. Technology transfers of particular interest to
10 businesses, vocational-technical schools, and universities
11 located in Idaho. This Project will bring some of the
12 best and latest technology to Idaho.

13 The SIS will bring Idaho long and short-term
14 employment, a larger and more stable tax base, and most
15 importantly, provide our children the opportunity to
16 stay and work in Idaho.

17 Those of us who live in Eastern Idaho know
18 that the INEL has a long established concern about the
19 environment, the community and the personal safety of
20 all the citizens of Idaho. We have ultimate trust in
21 the INEL because of their past performance record in
22 Eastern Idaho.

23 After reviewing all the available data on
24 the proposed SIS Project at the INEL, and after seeing
25 and hearing the overwhelming support from the people of

1 Eastern Idaho, the East Idaho Business Magazine finds
2 that we must totally support this Project.

3 We are proud to join the long and distinguished
4 group of people who have given their personal time and
5 support for the Project: Governor Cecil Andrus,
6 Senator Steve Symms, Senator Jim McClure, Congressman
7 Richard Stallings, Mayor Tom Campbell, the Idaho Falls
8 Chamber of Commerce, the Pocatello Chamber of Commerce,
9 the IBEW and other labor groups and the overwhelming
10 majority of business people in Eastern Idaho.

11 For those visitors to Idaho who oppose the
12 defense policy of the United States, we hope you've
13 been able to enjoy the beauty of Idaho, hope the weather
14 holds, and we wish you a safe trip home. Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 694, for
16 the record, will be the written comments of Bruce
17 Campbell of Rigby, Idaho.

18 Moving on to Order No. 23, Ron Day. Ron
19 Day?

20 (No response.)

21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 24, Mr. Bill
23 Fohrenck? Bill Fohrenck?

24 (No response.)
25

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 25,
 2 Mr. Don Mackay? Mr. Don Mackay?
 3
 4 (No response.)
 5
 6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 26, Peter
 7 Lambardozzi? Peter Lambardozzi?
 8
 9 (No response.)
 10
 11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 27,
 12 Mr. Jim Ovard, Jim Ovard?
 13
 14 (No response.)
 15
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 28 is
 17 Cory Colvin. Cory Colvin?
 18
 19 (No response.)
 20
 21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 29, Ken
 22 Kollar? Ken Kollar?
 23
 24 (No response.)
 25
 26 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 30, Shirley
 27 Buchli? Shirley Buchli?
 28
 29 (No response.)
 30
 31 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 31, Jean

1 Tomsic?
 2
 3 My recollection is Jean Tomsic made written
 4 comments for the record.
 5
 6 Order No. 32, Mr. Dave Hensel? Mr. Dave
 7 Hensel?
 8
 9 (No response.)
 10
 11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 33,
 12 Vonna Buchli? Vonna Buchli?
 13
 14 (No response.)
 15
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter Order No. 34
 17 is Larry Chapple? Larry Chapple?
 18
 19 (No response.)
 20
 21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 35,
 22 Mr. Stephen Ritchie?
 23
 24 MR. RITCHIE: Mr. Chairman and ladies and
 25 gentlemen, my name is Stephen Ritchie. I live at 1574
 26 Beverly Road, Idaho Falls, Idaho. I've lived in Idaho
 27 Falls for over 30 years, and I'm proud to be a native
 28 Idahoan. I'm married and have three children. I
 29 graduated from Idaho State University and have been
 30 employed as a teacher by Idaho Falls School District 91
 31 for the past 13 years. I'm a member of the National

1 Educational Association, the Idaho Education Association,
2 and the Idaho Falls Education Association. Today I am
3 speaking not as a representative of any group, but as
4 a concerned citizen.

5 The National Education Association and the
6 Idaho Education Association have adopted resolutions
7 calling for international peace and a nuclear freeze.
8 "The National Education Association believes that
9 nuclear war, the common enemy of all nations and peoples,
10 is not survivable. The Association urges the United
11 States and all other nations to adopt a verifiable freeze
12 on the testing, development, production, upgrading,
13 and placement, and deployment of nuclear weapons and all
14 systems designed to deliver nuclear weapons. To that
15 end, the Association supports the development of a bi-
16 lateral treaty with the USSR for the cessation of all
17 nuclear weapons testing, providing it contains adequate
18 enforcement machinery, including on-site inspections."

19 "The Idaho Education Association believes
20 that war is the common enemy of all nations and peoples
21 and calls for an international effort to create a world
22 without biological, chemical or nuclear weapons."

23 As an educator, I strongly support both of
24 these resolutions and believe that the construction of
25 the Special Isotope Separation facility would only add

1 to the arms race and is unnecessary for our national
2 defense. Therefore, I'm opposed to the construction of
3 the Special Isotope Separation Project.

4 I believe that national defense policies
5 should not be determined by local economic situations.
6 Efforts should be made to find stable long-term solutions
7 to unemployment. Five hundred million dollars could
8 create many more jobs if it were spent in any of a
9 number of socially beneficial areas, such as education
10 or health care. People deserve jobs that improve the
11 quality of life, not threaten life itself. The prospect
12 of jobs must not be used to justify the building of the
13 SIS facility. Thank you very much.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 695 for the
15 record will be the written comments of Stephen Ritchie
16 of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

17 Moving on to Order No. 36, Jerry Jacobson.
18 Jerry Jacobson?

19
20 (No response.)

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 37, Bob Clark.
22 Bob Clark?

23
24 (No response.)

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 38, Trisha

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1 Evans. Trisha Evans?
 2
 3 (No response.)
 4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 39, Joe
 5 Clayton. Joe Clayton?
 6
 7 (No response.)
 8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 40, Chris
 9 Jensen. Chris Jensen?
 10
 11 (No response.)
 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 41, Lane
 13 Schulz. Lane Schulz?
 14
 15 (No response.)
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 42, Willard
 17 Wood. Mr. Wood, I believe, left comments at our last
 18 hearing.
 19 Order No. 43, Glenn Embry. Glenn Embry?
 20
 21 (No response.)
 22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 44, Rose
 23 Fleischmann. Rose Fleischmann?
 24
 25 (No response.)

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 45, Mr. Doug
 2 Wheeler. Doug Wheeler?
 3
 4 (No response.)
 5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 46, Pam
 6 Lemmon. Pam Lemmon?
 7
 8 (No response.)
 9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 47, Mr. Joe
 10 Call. Joe Call?
 11
 12 (No response.)
 13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 48, Georgeann
 14 Merrill. Georgeann Merrill?
 15
 16 (No response.)
 17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 49, Shane
 18 Monson. Shane Monson?
 19
 20 (No response.)
 21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 50, Bobbi
 22 St. Clair.
 23 MS. ST. CLAIR: My name is Bobbi St. Clair,
 24 and I live at 1515 Three Fountains Drive. Idaho Falls.
 25 I have lived in Idaho Falls for 18 years. I am what you

1 might call part of the silent majority and not a person
 2 who would normally appear before you here. However,
 3 in considering the SIS proposal, I received materials
 4 indicating that silence can be hazardous to your health.
 5 The information appeared to be filled with emotionalism
 6 and I, for one, do not appreciate those kinds of tactics
 7 in presenting information to me. Therefore, I felt
 8 compelled to become more educated on the SIS Project.

9 I have read the Draft Environmental Impact
 10 Statement prepared by the Department of Energy, attended
 11 the information sessions and heard Jan Haggars and his
 12 presentation. And I have listened to the information
 13 presented by the Snake River Alliance.

14 After this process, I'm ready to support the
 1.1 15 building of the SIS at the Idaho National Engineering
 16 Laboratory. I feel that the Environmental Statement
 2.1.1 17 presents a reasonable analysis of the Project, its
 18 hazards and its advantages. I feel that the Department
 2.13.8 19 of Energy has been sensitive in presenting the infor-
 20 mation and has provided the opportunity to the public
 21 to become informed about this Project.

22 It is unfortunate that more individuals do
 23 not take the initiative to learn the facts. I am con-
 24 cerned when people constantly refer to the negatives of
 25 producing plutonium. It is my understanding from the

1 reading that this Project will not produce but will
 2 refine plutonium. If plutonium is not refined in this
 3 manner, it will be produced by more inefficient and
 4 costly methods.

5 In addition, I become concerned when I hear
 6 comments about the INEL in weapons production by taking
 7 on this Project. The EIS states that the raw materials
 8 will be shipped out of state for weapons production and
 9 the weapons will not be manufactured at the INEL. To
 10 state that the INEL should not be involved in defense
 11 work is contradictory since that has been going on here
 12 since the beginning of the Site.

13 It would be sad if uninformed people allowed
 14 a vocal minority to set the direction of the INEL
 15 through emotionalism. I would like to suggest that
 16 being uninformed and listening to half truths can be
 17 hazardous to your health.

18 Let's consider the topic of weapons produc-
 19 tion a little further. I hear comments of concern with
 20 the INEL becoming more involved with defense and war-
 21 fare projects. Because we support the SIS does not
 22 indicate that we are war mongers. This area of Idaho
 23 is extremely patriotic and is willing to support our
 24 country in times of war, but we do not advocate war.
 25 Every successful business person knows that one major

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1 key to success is having the foresight to anticipate
 2 the worst possible event that can happen. Then they
 3 plan for that event and proceed to work night and day
 4 to make sure that it doesn't happen. For our country,
 5 wouldn't that same principle hold true? By preparing
 6 for the worst possible event, then we can be free to
 7 work night and day toward peaceful solutions. Without
 8 that forethought, can our country be successful in
 9 peace efforts? Furthermore, although I have never
 10 been featured in a television advertisement or Playboy
 11 Magazine, I am also a wife and mother that is concerned
 12 with potential radiation effects and the defense stance
 13 for the INEL. I am satisfied with the findings that
 14 this Project will not adversely affect my family, that
 15 in fact, were an accident to happen, the amount of
 16 radiation would be minimal. My husband is a long-time
 17 Idaho Falls resident, having grown up in Idaho Falls, as
 18 did his father and grandfather. We are familiar with
 19 the INEL as neighbors and can attest to their fine
 20 safety record at the Site over the years. My two sons
 21 are being raised in this community with a healthy con-
 22 cern for the preservation of our environment and the
 23 ecology and the patriotism I referred to earlier.

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24 As a member of the administrative group at
 25 Westmark Federal Credit Union where our major sponsor

1 companies are the Site contractors, I am fortunate to
 2 have contact with the employees there. I would like
 3 to say that these people are not only good neighbors
 4 but take pride in their work. I have confidence in
 5 them and the INEL.

3.2.2

6 The advantages of the SIS to the economy
 7 in maintaining the level and numbers of jobs are
 8 definitely important to Southeast Idaho and Idaho in
 9 general. The ripple effect of the Project will reach
 10 all facets of our lives. However, there are other
 11 aspects to consider. One of the most exciting aspects
 12 for me is the educational and technological implications
 13 of the laser isotope separation process. The fact
 14 that this could be harnessed for positive purposes in
 15 the industrial and medical fields gives me even more
 16 reasons to positively support this Project. The INEL
 17 has a good record in the area of technology transfer,
 18 and it is safe to estimate that this technology will
 19 be transferred for these purposes.

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20 Having made these comments, I want to go
 21 on the record in full support of the SIS Project at the
 22 INEL.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 696, for the
 24 record, will be the written comments of Bobbi St. Clair,
 25 Idaho Falls, Idaho.

1 Order 51 on the pre-registered speaker list,
2 Mr. Matt Morse. Matt Morse?

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 52, Cliff Brady.
6 Cliff Brady?

7 (No response.)

8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: That concludes the pre-
10 registered speakers list. I'll return to that in a
11 bit. I will now, at this point, go over to the at the
12 door registrations for the afternoon session from last
13 Friday. I'll start with Order No. 1 on that list, and
14 No. 1 is Nick Cruz. Nick Cruz?

15 (No response.)

16
17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 2 is the
18 Reverend Craig Hall Cutting. No. 2 is Reverend Craig
19 Hall Cutting.

20 (No response.)

21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 3 is Tonia
23 Colvia. Tonia Colvia?

24 (No response.)

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 4 is Alberta
2 Phillips. Alberta Phillips?

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 5 is Larry
6 Asay, Larry Asay?

7 (No response.)

8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 6 is David
10 Goepel.

11 Thank you, we'll mark your written comments
12 Exhibit 697 for the record.

13 MR. GOEPEL: My name is David Goepel. I
14 am a resident at 88 Willow Wood in Pocatello, Idaho,
15 83204.

16 Democracy in action is just one of the
17 headlines used to describe this hearing. The fact that
18 so many have taken a stand and publicly voiced their
19 opinions on this issue reaffirms our belief that Idaho's
20 future is bright. The comments I make are mine alone.
21 My intent is not to offend or pass judgment, but rather
22 to share a point of view that some may not have pre-
23 viously considered.

24 In choosing Idaho as the place to raise our
25 family, my wife and I placed an emphasis on such things

1 as a wholesome social atmosphere, relatively low cost
2 of living, and a clean environment. We have made a
3 commitment to each other that Idaho is where we intend
4 to stay. I'm a businessman in Pocatello, and I'm
5 positive about the city's future and the future of
6 Southeast Idaho. I am committed to Idaho.

7 It is this same commitment that brings me
8 to these hearings today. The force that won't let me
9 rest is my conscience. Nearly seven years ago our
10 neighbors to the south were faced with a similar dilemma,
11 which parallels the SIS Project in many ways.

12 The following is a statement made by the
13 Presidency of the Mormon Church on the basing of the MX
14 missile:

15 ". . . by way of general observation we
16 repeat our warnings against the terrifying arms race in
17 which the nations of the earth are presently engaged.
18 We deplore in particular the building of vast arsenals
19 of nuclear weaponry. We are advised that there is
20 already enough such weaponry to destroy in large measure
21 our civilization, with consequent suffering and misery
22 of uncalculable extent . . . its planners state that the
23 system is strictly defensive in concept, and that the
24 chances are extremely remote that it will ever be
25 actually employed. However, history indicates that men

1 have seldom created armaments that eventually were not
2 put to use.

3 "We are most gravely concerned over the
4 proposed concentration in a relatively restricted area
5 of the West . . . with such concentration, one segment
6 of the population would bear a highly disproportionate
7 share of the burden in lives lost and property destroyed.

8 ". . . such concentration, we are informed,
9 may even invite attack under a first strike strategy on
10 the part of an aggressor. If such occurred, the result
11 would be near annihilation of most of what we have
12 striven to build since our pioneer forebears first came
13 to these western valleys.

14 "Furthermore, we are told that in the
15 event of a first strike attack, deadly fallout would be
16 carried by prevailing winds across much of the nation,
17 maiming and destroying wherever its pervasive cloud
18 touched.

19 ". . . we may predict that with so many
20 billions of dollars at stake we will hear much talk
21 designed to minimize the problems that might be expected
22 and to maximize the economic benefits that might accrue.
23 The reasons for such portrayals will be obvious.

24 "Our fathers came to this western area to
25 establish a base from which to carry the gospel of peace

1 to the peoples of the earth. It is ironic and a denial
2 of the very essence of that gospel that in the same
3 general area there should be constructed a mammoth
4 weapons system potentially capable of destroying much
5 of civilization.

6 "With the most serious concern over the
7 pressing moral question of possible nuclear conflict,
8 we plead with our national leaders to marshal the
9 genius of the nation to find viable alternatives which
10 will secure at an earlier date and with fewer hazards
11 the protection from possible enemy aggression which is
12 our common concern." Dated May 5th, 1981 and signed
13 Spencer W. Kimball, N. Eldon Tanner, Marion G. Romney.

14 I opposed the MX Project. I now oppose the
15 SIS Project for the same moral reasons and as a matter
16 of conscience, not because of the technology but because
17 of its use in creating an ominous device. Christ said,
18 "Blessed are the peacemakers for they should be called
19 the children of God." Let our actions and our efforts
20 be directed toward world peace and let it begin with us.
21 Thank you.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 7 in the
23 afternoon session list, Russell Fray. Russell Fray?

24 (No response.)

25 49 Goepel

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 8, Nathan
2 Olson. Nathan Olson?

3 (No response.)

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Rocky Barker? No,
5 sorry.

6 Order No. 9, Vaughn S. K. Nebeker?

7 MR. NEBEKER: Right here.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

9 MR. NEBEKER: I was told to stay neutral
10 through this debate by those who represented themselves
11 as the Department of Defense.

12 Due to the prototype that I designed for
13 the Department of Defense work at Chernobyl in stopping
14 5,000 tons and 90 rods that went through the contain-
15 ment floor at Chernobyl.

16 Science has always leaped forward, like the
17 Wright brothers, Einstein and Edison. Many times you
18 will run into people who have their fears of it. SIS,
19 in its form, is very good for recycling nuclear waste,
20 but since the Department of Defense asked me to stay
21 neutral, I can't put into forms of the best way to use
22 it, but I hope you get the Project, because this country
23 does need a good form of defense.

24 Thank you most kindly.

25 50 Nebeker

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1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Order
2 No. 10, Brent J. Buescher B-u-e-s-c-h-e-r. Brent J.
3 Buescher?
4
5 (No response.)
6
7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 11, Brian
8 O. Mullin. Brian O. Mullin?
9
10 (No response.)
11
12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 12, Kathy Bitton.
13 Kathy Bitton?
14
15 (No response.)
16
17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 13,
18 William Hogan.
19
20 MS. KELLY: I'd like to take Bill's place.
21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: State your name and
23 address for the record, please.
24
25 MS. KELLY: My name is Christine Kelly, I
am at 820 West Three Point Avenue in Logan, Utah.
Good afternoon. For the record, I'm opposed
to the SIS, but for my verbal comments right here, I
will restrict my comments to the problem I find with
the Environmental Impact Statement.
I would like to begin by expressing my

1 gratitude for the NEPA process, a process that, as I
2 view it, has two major purposes. First, if done
3 correctly, the process assures that federal agencies
4 will include exploration of environmental issues in
5 their decision-making process.
6
7 And, second, again if done correctly, the
8 process allows the concerned public to participate in
9 the decision-making process.
10
11 Now I've stated "if done correctly", because
12 the NEPA process before us today has not been conducted
13 in a manner that meets these two fundamental purposes
14 of NEPA. With respect to the first purpose, the NEPA
15 process has not actually been used in DOE decision
16 making on this Project. I have two examples on this.
17 The first is the whole need question. The go, no-go
18 decision was made outside of this process.
19
20 Now it's true that the Draft Statement
21 included a No Action Alternative, but we all know that
22 this alternative was included purely as a formality
23 to meet the CEQ regulations and was never actually
24 considered in the decision-making process.
25
My second example is that from the way
this hearing has been conducted, it's clear that the
location decision has also been made outside of the
NEPA process. Although the Draft addresses three sites,

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1 only one site has been given serious consideration, as
2 evidenced by the location of these public hearings. All
3 are in Southern Idaho, none are in Washington or Georgia.

4 DOE has also announced what was provided
5 for the second major purpose of the NEPA process, that
6 of providing for public participation. This is also
7 most clearly seen by the decision to hold public hearings
8 in Southern Idaho. Shouldn't there also be hearings in
9 Washington and Georgia in the event that there's a
10 change in the preferred alternative between the Draft
11 and the final Environmental Impact Statement?

12 But besides Washington and Georgia, there
13 should also be hearings in places acceptable to the
14 concerned public along the transportation routes, along
15 the route from Hanford to INEL, INEL to Rocky Flats,
16 from INEL to WIPP. All of these public should be
17 encouraged to participate as they may be seriously
18 affected by this Project in the event of an accident
19 during transport.

20 However, instead of making diligent efforts
21 to involve these people as required by CEQ regulations,
22 they have hardly even informed them of the Project. For
23 those of us non-Idahoans who have heard of the Project,
24 we have no way of knowing how directly we may be
25 affected, since no transportation routes are presented

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1 in the Draft Statement.

2 This brings me to another fault that I see
3 with your Draft Statement. You have fragmented out
4 disposal of waste generated by the proposed Project.
5 Instead of including this major aspect of the Project,
6 you refer to past and future Environmental Impact State-
7 ments to address the issue. Disposal of the waste
8 created by the proposed Project is an inherent part of
9 the Project. For if the Project is approved, constructed,
10 and operated, waste materials will necessarily be pro-
11 duced. Yet you have separated out the waste problem
12 as though it's a different project entirely. The issue
13 of waste disposal must be included in the EIS to
14 adequately meet NEPA requirements.

15 Another problem I find with this Statement
16 is the lack of believability of the claims of low impact
17 and sufficient safeguards. Because of the high security
18 of the area, lack of impacts, lack of accidents are not
19 readily verifiable. If an accident does occur, say a
20 large dose of radioactive or hazardous waste released
21 to the aquifer, how will we know? In addition to this
22 inherent lack of verifiability, your disclaimer on the
23 inside cover of the Draft EIS makes fools out of any of
24 us who would choose to believe the EIS claims of low
25 impact.

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1 Finally, the document is inadequate in that
2 it is not readable. CEQ regulations require the EIS
3 be written in plain language, if this document is
4 understandable probably only to nuclear engineers.

5 All of these I would like to see addressed
6 in another Draft Environmental Impact Statement, at the
7 very least, and I will submit my written comments at a
8 later date.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

10 No. 14 on the afternoon session, John F.
11 Erben. John F. Erben.

12 MR. ERBEN: Thank you, I live at 222 East
13 73rd South in Idaho Falls.

14 After listening to those in opposition of
15 the SIS at last Friday's testimony, I believe there are
16 a number of misunderstandings that exist from the
17 statements that were made. I'd like to address a few
18 of those.

19 Opponents have inferred that the only jobs
20 coming to Idaho would be of a low tech nature, and
21 equated them to working at McDonalds. This is just not
22 so. Having worked in high tech projects for over the
23 last 25 years, I observed that you don't operate
24 complex facilities with fry cooks. It takes highly
25 skilled and well-trained people, operators, technicians,

1 scientists, engineers. This is a team that has been
2 used at the INEL, and that's why we have the outstanding
3 safety record that we do.

4 It takes technicians and operators with an
5 understanding of the technology, and they're the people
6 that are working a lot with the hands-on experience
7 and actually operating the equipment. They need this
8 experience and understanding to improve, enhance, up-
9 grade the equipment and the processes. To do this, they
10 work with the engineers and scientists that are more
11 formally schooled, more deeply schooled in the technology
12 To operate, maintain, and upgrade the SIS, we will re-
13 quire here on site in Idaho operators, technicians,
14 engineers, scientists and a number of support personnel
15 that will provide the sound technical base here in Idaho.
16 The excellent people have been hired on the Project to
17 make this happen, and it will bring this technology
18 base to the State.

19 Tom Cochran spoke to the number of alterna-
20 tives to the SIS. He mentioned among them blending,
21 the N Reactor restart, the new production reactor and
22 the use of Livermore, Lawrence Livermore Laboratory
23 facilities to do the mission. Blending is discussed
24 on Page 2-69 of the DEIS. It's not practical because
25 of production capacity limitations at the reactors at

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1 Savannah River. The N Reactor restart, for one, would
2 not be popular or practical at the current time, due
3 to political opposition in the States of Washington and
4 Oregon.

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5 The new production reactor is for the long
6 pull, and the SIS' initial mission gets us through the
7 intermediate time periods where we're not covered. It
8 doesn't have the flexibility, either, the SIS does as
9 also discussed in the DEIS.

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10 Use of Lawrence Livermore as a production
11 facility, which it's not designed for, we would run up
12 a number of environmental issues. I don't know if
13 you've been to Lawrence Livermore. I have. It's located
14 in a very close proximity to residential areas, and I
15 think that even if these environmental issues could be
16 overcome, the production capacity of that particular
17 plant and facility could not meet the mission of the SIS.
18 If it did, it would take 70 years or so in order to do
19 this.

20 If Tom Cochran advocates these alternatives,
21 would he support them? Of course not. He's just
22 diverting us. Our elected officials, Governor Andrus
23 and the Senators Steve Symms and Jim McClure and
24 Congressman Stallings, two Democrats and two Republicans,
25 all spoke in favor of the SIS. They have access to the

1 classified stockpiled memorandum and have sat in on
2 classified briefings, I'm sure, on the size and needs
3 for the current strength of the U.S. If they say we
4 need the SIS, I believe them. As elected officials,
5 they are responsible to us, the voters. If I disagree,
6 I can vote them out of office. I can't do the same for
7 a self-appointed group such as the Snake River Alliance
8 that are responsible only to themselves. Thank you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 15, Ed
10 Bamberry.

11 MR. BAMBERRY: Good afternoon. I'm Ed
12 Bamberry, the Business Representative for the Iron
13 Workers Local Union in Pocatello. I represent about
14 200 members, work throughout Southern Idaho, and in
15 fact, I served my apprenticeship through this local.
16 I've worked most of my entire life here, other than the
17 time work was slow I have went to other states when
18 there wasn't work available here. And it's the same
19 with most of our members. In the past for the iron
20 work part, we built most of the Site out here. We're
21 proud of what we've done. I think our members are as
22 capable as any anywhere in the United States. In fact,
23 anytime I've left this area and went to another area
24 to work and also the other members, you know, we've
25 never had any problem making it anywhere. That's from

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1 New York to San Francisco.

2 Last Friday I got the opportunity I did
3 attend a news conference here that the Snake River
4 Alliance put on, and a lot of the things they said I
5 think just wasn't really facts. They were just smoke-
6 screens. One of the guys that was there, I don't
7 remember what his name was - - it didn't make any
8 difference - - he says, "Well, when this puppy is built,
9 it won't make Post Toasties."

10 Well, I'll agree with him on that. It
11 probably won't, but I'm sure it will process the
12 plutonium it's designed to do.

13 There was also a statement here today that
14 this was hard to read or hard to understand. Well,
15 myself I don't have any problem understanding this, and
16 I'm not a nuclear engineer. I'm an iron worker, and
17 there's been statements made that there was no other
18 uses for this, but it says right here in the statement
19 here that there is other potential beneficial use, and
20 it gives one instance this could be a possible thermal
21 source for generating electrical power for space
22 satellites, and I think that's something coming up in
23 the future. I think there's probably more should be
24 done on our space program. They say that the money we
25 spend on our space program, there's been a lot of

1 spinoff technology that's came from this. I'm sure
2 there will be a lot of technology come from the SIS
3 program.

4 And another thing I think is a misconception
5 here, a lot of people say, "Well, this is something new
6 coming to Idaho," but the chemical processing plant
7 located on the Site, this is a processing plant for
8 processing nuclear fuel. They've got a good safety
9 record out there. They've been doing that for over 25
10 years that I've been working out there. They've had
11 no major accidents that I ever knew about, and all the
12 time I worked there, I thought it was a healthy place
13 to work. It's not compared to some of your chemical
14 plants that are dusty and smokey. There's no problems
15 like this. They have good clean air out there, and as
16 far as I'm concerned, it is a healthy place to work.

17 Another thing that I heard the comment the
18 other day when we was standing outside, one of these
19 antis come up and they said, "Well, this plutonium
20 produced here is going to kill us all," they said, "This
21 radiation is going to kill us."

22 I said, "Well, standing out in this hot
23 sun or this bright sunlight you're probably going to
24 receive more radiation than you would out working in
25 the building out there on the Site."

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1 And they said, "Well, that's because of all
2 the chemicals," they said, "I'm against chemicals, too."

3 Well, maybe they are, you know, but hey,
4 these chemicals, that's what make our lives better. If
5 we're going to be against everything, we're going to
6 have to go back to the day when we're getting the stick
7 and going down here and try and either dig some roots
8 up or kill an animal to eat. I kind of like a little
9 better quality of life than that.

10 Well, I guess that's about all I have to
11 say, and I thank you for listening to me.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. One of
13 the names I inadvertently left off the speaker's list
14 is Mr. Bill Morrison from Arco, and we call him at
15 this point.

16 Mr. Morrison?

17 MR. MORRISON: Mr. Chairman, ladies and
18 gentlemen. I have a few comments to make about the
19 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. First is when
20 I started reading this document, I perceived a negative
21 bias towards Savannah River and Hanford. I feel that
22 the true choice for all of the sites may be Savannah
23 River and Hanford should have put out their own
24 Environmental Impact Statement on that.

25 Also, later on I read some of the documents

1 about the notice meetings. There was a comment in there
2 about the BFW endorses the SIS at the INEL. I'm a
3 member of the BFW, and I've been to many meetings, but
4 I have never heard anything brought up at any of the
5 meetings about the SIS. Consequently, the statement
6 is from the people that made that notice.

7 Now No. 3, my last comment, essentially,
8 there has been no nuclear criticality safety evaluation
9 presented in this Draft document. I feel before I
10 could say I'm for the SIS at the INEL, I want to see a
11 primary environmental - - primary nuclear criticality
12 safety review and an independent criticality safety
13 review, as well as the verification of the calculation
14 on methods from appropriate criticality safety studies.

15 For example, I know of no plutonium chloride
16 critical experiments that have been performed. This
17 document states that the plutonium chloride will be in
18 this process. I don't know how we get around the
19 absence of critical experimental data.

20 Maybe you wonder why I'm saying this. Have
21 any of you seen any nuclear bursts? I have. I've
22 seen many of them. They're awesome. Have you - -
23 pardon the English - - sat through a plutonium plant
24 fire? I have. I didn't know it was on fire at the
25 time, but I was approximately 300 feet away from the

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1 Rocky Flats fire when it burned down.

2 What I want to do is to be sure that we
3 don't have the recurrence of any of these accidents at
4 the INEL, and I think we can provide such that we won't
5 have that type of an accident. Thank you.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
7 I've gone through the entire list of both pre-registered
8 speakers as well as speakers who signed up at the door
9 to speak at the commencement of this hearing on Friday.
10 Rather than going back through that list in total, what
11 I would do at this point is ask if there is anybody in
12 the room who has not yet commented who either pre-
13 registered or registered at the door and wishes to
14 comment?

15 If we could have you step forward and give
16 us your name. This gentleman here, sir, and then you.

17 Please give your name and address for the
18 record, sir.

19 MR. CLARK: My name is Robert B. Clark. I
20 reside at 6674 North 25th East in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

21 I take this opportunity to issue my support
22 of the SIS Project in Idaho Falls.

23 I believe the way to keep peace is to be
24 strong. Those of you who know me know I have a young
25 man who works for me that's about six foot tall and

63 Clark

1 weighs about 260 pounds. And nobody messes with him,
2 because he's tough. It's my opinion that if the United
3 States of America is tough, nobody will want to mess
4 with us. That's a blunt way of putting it, but that's
5 the way I feel. And I feel that the SIS is one of
6 those means of keeping the United States tough.

7 Because we are now a strong nation, we're
8 able to - - we are free to choose where to live, where
9 to work, where to worship, and free to offer our opinion
10 on important issues such as this SIS. I feel that to
11 be able to keep this strength and to add upon them,
12 let's go forward with the SIS Project.

13 Why the INEL? We have an excellent project
14 location at the Site. The local work force is second
15 to none in terms of quality and ability. We have a
16 good labor and management agreement in the Stabilization
17 Agreement. The security is extremely tight with state-
18 of-the-art equipment. The local support is better here
19 than either of the two other sites being considered.

20 This Project is badly needed in this area
21 because of the boost it will give the local economy.
22 We need the jobs it will create. I have chosen Idaho
23 Falls to live here because of all it has to offer. My
24 future and the future of my business depends upon the
25 INEL Site. Therefore, my future depends upon the INEL

64 Clark

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1 securing the SIS Project.

2 I do not appreciate the out of state and out
3 of area people who have nothing to lose or anything to
4 gain by coming here and trying to dictate my future.

5 That should be my choice, because I am a free American.

6 I do, however, acknowledge their right to offer an
7 opinion. However, it is the local people who should be
8 heard with greater emphasis on this important decision.

9 Please bring the SIS to the INEL.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written statement
11 of Robert B. Clark, President of Eagle Rock Mechanical
12 will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 698.

13 Your name and address for the record, sir?

14 MR. BRADY: My name is Cliff Brady. I
15 reside at 1668 Garfield, Idaho Falls, Idaho and have
16 for 23 years. I own a home specialty department store
17 here in Idaho Falls called Brady's.

18 Before I read my prepared statement, I just
19 want to digress for a moment and say that I couldn't
20 agree more with the gentleman that preceded me. I was
21 nine years old when World War II started, and I remember
22 the fear in that nine-year-old heart when I was told
23 that my father was going to take his 16-gauge single shot
24 shotgun and was going to drill with an organization
25 here in Idaho called the Idaho Volunteer Reserve. It

1 was a home guard. They were going down to Riverside

2 Park in Boise to drill and learn how to defend this
3 country, because we were so under armed because of
4 people who had told us after World War II to disarm.

5 Invasion was imminent. I didn't really understand the
6 full consequences of that, except I understood it must
7 be a very dangerous situation. I never want to see our
8 country in that kind of a situation again.

9 I view the development of the atomic bomb
10 and now the H bomb as having been that instrument that
11 has kept us from World War III, and hopefully it will
12 continue to do so until everybody is willing to lay
13 down their arms and totally and completely disarm. Un-
14 til that day of Utopia comes, I'm going to support the
15 retention of the atomic bomb and atomic energy as a
16 source of defending this nation.

17 Now my prepared statement on more peaceful
18 things. I am a past President of the Greater Idaho
19 Falls Chamber of Commerce 1983-84. The Idaho Falls
20 Chamber of Commerce has always taken a supportive stand
21 towards projects at the INEL. That supportive posture
22 comes from a trust developed because of the INEL's
23 excellent record of progress in safety and technology.
24 It also comes from the Chamber's appreciation of the
25 very special benefits to the socio-economic life of

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1 Idaho Falls and the surrounding area.

2 Since environmental impact is the issue,
3 keep in mind that this could include many things other
4 than air, water and land. You must also consider the
5 social quality of life.

5.27.12.1

6 At the present time I serve on the Board of
7 Directors of the Idaho Falls Symphony. We have one of
8 the finest symphonies anywhere. A great number of the
9 orchestra members are Site workers. I believe we could
10 not support a symphony here in Idaho Falls without the
11 INEL.

12 My wife is a teacher in School District 91.
13 She serves on the Board of Directors of the Idaho Falls
14 Opera Theater and has performed in several productions.
15 I and members of my family has worked as stage hands
16 behind the scenes and helped to build scenery for the
17 different operas. Our volunteer opera company has been
18 mentioned in national opera magazines as one of the
19 finest of small town operas. Without the talented
20 personnel of the Site it would be difficult to maintain
21 and support an opera group of this caliber.

22 I also serve on the Citizens Advisory Board
23 of the Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center. Because
24 of our new Regional Medical Center, it is now seldom
25 necessary to travel to Salt Lake City for medical care.

1 Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center has the latest
2 high tech medical equipment available. Soon, in
3 cooperation with the Site, Idaho Regional Medical
4 Center will be involved in a modern-day medical miracle
5 called the Boron-Neutron Capture Therapy. Thousands of
6 brain cancer victims will get a reprieve from certain
7 death through the application of radiation from a
8 reactor that was to be retired. Even more medical
9 breakthroughs will be possible with the SIS research
10 and operation.

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11 As a father of eight children and a grand-
12 father of ten grandchildren, I want to see the economy
13 of this area do well. The SIS will bring to this area
14 long and short-term employment, a larger and more stable
15 tax base, and most importantly, provide my children and
16 grandchildren the opportunity to stay and work in Idaho.

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17 The 440 construction workers who will be
18 required to build the SIS Project are readily available
19 in Southeastern Idaho. Therefore, there will be no
20 adverse impacts on the school system.

5.27.11.6

21 Two of my sons are in business with me.
22 Without the economic benefits provided to our community
23 by the INEL, that would not be possible. The INEL
24 policy of buy Idaho will give our small businesses the
25 opportunity to supply materials and products for the SIS

5.27.12.8

1 Project. The SIS will ensure a continued environment
2 of economic and social growth, and that gives us hope
3 for the future. Thank you very much.

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. I will
5 mark as Exhibit No. 699 for inclusion in the record
6 the written comments of Cliff Brady of Idaho Falls.

7 Are there others in the room who are ready
8 to testify but do not have a chance?

9 MR. PARK: My name is Charles Park, 1258
10 Norton, Idaho Falls, born here in Bonneville County.

11 I've been very interested in these public
12 hearings. In this week, 1,000 people will have
13 participated in this process. It's a marvelous thing
14 to see freedom of speech in action, an excellent
15 example of democracy. It's marvelous.

16 Humble farmers, well-informed housewives,
17 hard-working laborers and slick lawyers have stood
18 here and publically said whatever they wanted. We've
19 sang songs and watched skits and heard people boldly
20 claim that their government was lying to them. On
21 Monday I heard someone say that this system was wrong
22 and implied that we needed a different form of government.
23 I don't believe that. I believe that these public
24 hearings are the strongest evidence and freedom of
25 speech is alive and well in America. That is why I

1 support the SIS Project. You only find freedom of
2 speech in the free world.

3 Now I'd like to have the following statement
4 placed in the public record. You can be the judge as
5 to its relevancy and accuracy. Sixty-five years ago
6 Lenin summarized his Russian strategy as follows:

7 "First we take Eastern Europe, then the
8 masses of Asia, then we will encircle the United States,
9 which will be the last bastion of capitalism. We will
10 not have to attack. It will fall like an over-ripe
11 fruit into our hands.

12 (An enemy has done this, Benson, Parliament
13 Publications, Page 92.

14 A strong defense safeguards our right to
15 determine our own destiny as a nation.

16 Although I work for WINCO on the SIS Project,
17 I'm not a supporter because I am part of the team.
18 Rather, I'm part of this team because I strongly believe
19 that my personal freedom is linked to the intelligent
20 management of our nation's defense.

21 In closing let me state that I'm prepared
22 to defend my right to freedom of speech, the same
23 freedom which allows us to hold this public hearing
24 today, where anyone can freely voice their opinion
25 without fear of government oppression. That's the

1 American way, and it is wonderful.

2 When these hearings have closed and the
3 proponents and opponents have all had their say and
4 gone home, we can all be thankful that freedom of
5 speech is alive and well in America. I support the
6 SIS Project because it helps to protect my freedom to
7 come here today and say whatever I want. Without a
8 strong defense, this freedom would be as rare as a
9 public hearing in Russia.

10 Thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
12 of Charles V. Park of Idaho Falls, Idaho, will be
13 included in the record as Exhibit No. 700.

14 Do we have anyone else in the room who has
15 pre-registered? Yes, sir.

16 Could we have your name and address for the
17 record, sir?

18 MR. WORLEY: My name is Tal Worley, and
19 I've lived in Idaho Falls for 40 years at 663 East 16th
20 Street.

21 134 years ago, Chief Seattle, a savage by
22 white man's standards stated, "Continue to contaminate
23 your bed, and you will one night suffocate in your own
24 waste."

25 The DEIS does not address the socio-economic

1 impact of the SIS in any of the following categories:

2 How much will our property taxes and utilities be
3 raised, and they will be, like death. BPA, the Godfather
4 of DOE and already \$15 billion in debt will be raising
5 our electric rates. How many more firemen, policemen
6 and their equipment will be mandated by the insurance
7 companies? How many new schools, hospitals, golf
8 courses, swimming pools and other amenities will be
9 needed to satisfy the lifestyle of these added pro-
10 fessionals? What about traffic in our streets? They're
11 already clogged, and we have Idaho's largest parking
12 lot, namely 17th Street.

13 March 11th, DOE has told Congressional panel
14 it could cost up to \$100 billion to clean up the nation's
15 nuclear weapons production facilities. March 16th,
16 Secretary Herrington stated that we are awash in
17 plutonium and do not need more. The signing of the INF
18 and the Strategic Force Missiles Treaties would give
19 the U.S. 120 tons of plutonium. Yet DOE wants to build
20 a plutonium plant on top of Idaho's most precious and
21 life-giving resource, namely the Snake River Aquifer.

22 By DOE's own test, plutonium has seeped down
23 310 feet into that aquifer. Remember, there is no
24 antidote for plutonium and one one-millionth of a gram
25 of plutonium causes cancer.

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1 The design of the SIS is still preliminary.
 2 The full-scale demonstration facility at Lawrence
 3 Livermore is one of the two most hazardous waste dumps
 4 in America and won't begin running tests until after
 5 the construction is started on the SIS plant. So which
 6 comes first, horse or the cart and makes us the guinea
 7 pig? DOE makes its own rules and bends them to suit
 8 their own purposes and has no overseer, so that after
 9 38 years of rhetoric, promises, and never-ending costly
 10 research, Idaho is the dumping ground for nuclear waste.
 11 Further proof is that DOE is shipping nearly one million
 12 pounds of TMI nuclear garbage to Idaho at the rate of
 13 19,000 pounds every two weeks, to be stored for 30 years
 14 and studied for ten years. Wouldn't 100 or 1,000 pounds
 15 have been enough to study?
 16 The DEIS report says it will produce 440
 17 tons of transuranic waste, which they plan to ship to
 18 the WIPP site in New Mexico. However, that site has
 19 already sprung a leak, and even DOE isn't sure as to
 20 its safety. There is no alternative to the WIPP re-
 21 pository, so what is the ultimate answer? Is it the
 22 INEL?
 23 Like McDonalds hamburgers, there is regular
 24 and deluxe. The SIS surely qualifies for the deluxe
 25 pork barrel project of 1988.

1 Opposition to the SIS is not based on scare
 2 tactics, but rather on our elected officials and those
 3 appointed bureaucrats who would intimate us with
 4 economic and national security failures if we don't
 5 exceed to their self-serving positions.

6 Is Idaho so destitute that it would endanger
 7 and jeopardize its most precious resource for 750
 8 workers who will only produce more plutonium garbage
 9 for seven years and then leave behind another monument
 10 to man's legacy of disciplined bureaucracy? Thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, sir.
 12 Exhibit No. 701 will be the written comment of Tal
 13 Worley of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

14 Any other individuals who are registered
 15 to comment that have not had the opportunity to do so?
 16 With that, we have exhausted our list of commenters for
 17 this afternoon. What we'll do, it's now 3:40. We'll
 18 be in recess until 7:00 this evening unless additional
 19 commenters come in this afternoon. We'll take them if
 20 they do come.

21 With that, we'll be in recess until 7:00
 22 this evening.

23 (A recess was taken.)
 24
 25

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(March 30, 1988 - 7:30 P.M.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I will now formally recommence this public hearing concerning the review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement relative to the United States Department of Energy's proposed Special Isotope Separation Project. This proceeding is a continuation of the Idaho Falls public hearing held on this issue commenced last Friday, the 25th of March and was held over to this date, the 30th of March.

My name is Roy Eiguren. I am the Hearing Officer in this and the other public hearings held in this series of proceedings to receive comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed siting, construction, and operation by the Department of Energy of a Special Isotope Separation Project that utilizes the atomic vapor laser isotope separation process technology.

I am an attorney from Boise. I was retained by the Department of Energy to conduct this series of public hearings as an independent and unbiased party to assure the opportunity for all interested organizations and individuals to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Accordingly, I'm not an

advocate for or against the position taken by the Department. Rather, I am a neutral third party who has coordinated the development of the procedures that we're following, as well as chairing the hearings themselves.

The issue that is the subject of this proceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct and operate an SIS facility at one of three locations in the United States, the DOE's Idaho National Engineering Laboratory near Idaho Falls, the DOE's Hanford Reservation in Richland, Washington and the third alternative to locate the facility as the DOE's Savannah River Plant near Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three sites is designated as an alternative that is considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The fourth and final alternative under consideration in the DEIS is the No Action Alternative, which would be a decision by the Department to not site, construct and operate an SIS facility. As stated in the DEIS, the Department's preferred alternative is to site, construct and operate the SIS facility at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

To put this hearing in perspective, it is important that you understand the key elements of the federal law that require that the Department of Energy, prior to making a final decision in this matter, to

1 develop a comprehensive review of the environmental
 2 factors associated with each of the alternatives that
 3 I mentioned. The National Environmental Policy Act
 4 of 1969, or NEPA, requires that all federal agencies
 5 develop procedures that ensure that environmental
 6 amenities or values are given appropriate consideration
 7 in federal government decision making. This law also
 8 requires that recommendations for "major federal actions
 9 significantly affecting the quality of the human environ-
 10 ment" be first preceded by the development and comple-
 11 tion of an Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, that
 12 fully and carefully examines the potential environmental
 13 impacts of the proposed action.

14 The Department of Energy has determined that
 15 its proposed action in siting, construction and operating
 16 the SIS plant is a major federal action that under
 17 NEPA requires the development and completion of an SIS.
 18 Accordingly, by the publication on October 31, 1986,
 19 of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal
 20 Register, the Department of Energy commenced the process
 21 that has led to the development and publication of the
 22 Draft Environmental Impact Statement that is the subject
 23 of this hearing.

24 The DEIS was prepared by the Department of
 25 Energy with the assistance of an independent contractor,

1 NUS Corporation, after an extensive process of re-
 2 ceiving public comment through the scoping or initial
 3 input phase of this EIS development proceeding. During
 4 the scoping, public comment on the scope or magnitude
 5 of issues to be addressed in the EIS was received, as
 6 well as comment on particular issues. Scoping including
 7 the receipt of extensive written comment from the public
 8 as well as oral comment from two lengthy public hearings,
 9 one held in Idaho Falls, Idaho on February 24th, 1987
 10 and one held in Boise, Idaho, on February 26th, 1987.

11 As a result of the input received during
 12 the scoping process, the Department determined the
 13 following issues will be analyzed in the Draft Environ-
 14 mental Impact Statement. The 11 issues are:

15 No. 1, the off-site general population
 16 radiological and non-radiological effects resulting
 17 from potential accidents at an SIS facility.

18 Two, the effects on the general population
 19 from emissions of radiological and nonradiological
 20 releases caused by normal operations of an SIS facility.

21 Three, exposure of operating personnel to
 22 radiological sources and nonradiological releases during
 23 normal operations of an SIS facility.

24 Four, incremental differences in environmen-
 25 tal impacts between operation of the existing chemical

1 processing facilities and the proposed action and
2 alternatives.

3 Five, effects on air and water quality and
4 other environmental consequences during construction
5 and operation of an SIS facility.

6 Six, cumulative effects of operations of
7 such a facility, including changes in support operations
8 related to it.

9 Seven, the on-site and off-site transportation
10 impacts of nuclear materials.

11 Eight, an analysis of applicable federal,
12 state and local regulations applying to the construc-
13 tion and operation of an SIS facility.

14 Nine, the decommission and decontamination
15 issues of such a facility.

16 Ten, irretrievable and irreversible
17 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials,
18 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other re-
19 sources related to the construction and operation of an
20 SIS facility.

21 Eleven, mitigation measures necessary to
22 respond to the environmental consequences associated
23 with each of the alternatives.

24 The EIS preparation and development process
25 is governed by the federal regulations established by

1 the Council on Environmental Quality or CEQ, an agency
2 within the executive office of the President of the
3 United States. In addition, the Department of Energy
4 has come up with its own guidelines they follow in
5 the development of the DEIS. The Council on Environ-
6 mental Quality Regulations, as well as the DEO guideline
7 relative to this proceeding have been previously marked
8 as Exhibit 1 and entered into the record by me as the
9 Hearing Officer.

10 The relative CEQ regulations require that
11 after preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
12 and before preparing a final Environmental Impact
13 Statement, a federal agency must first obtain the
14 comments of one, any federal agency which has juris-
15 diction by law or special expertise with respect to
16 any environmental impact and two, request the comments
17 of appropriate state and local agencies which develop
18 and enforce environmental standards, three, solicit
19 comments from Indian tribes, and four, solicit comments
20 from the public with a particular obligation to affirm-
21 atively solicit comments from persons or organizations
22 who may be interested or affected by the proposed
23 federal decision.

24 Public meetings or hearings are held where
25 the Department determines "substantial governmental

1 controversy concerning the proposed action" exists.

2 Accordingly, this hearing, as well as others
3 in this series are being held pursuant to these regula-
4 tions to receive public, Indian tribe, and governmental
5 comment on various issues identified in the Draft
6 Environmental Impact Statement. Notice of these public
7 hearings was provided in Federal Register notices dated
8 February 19, 1988 and March 4, 1988. Additional public
9 notice was provided through publication in numerous
10 newspapers throughout the State. The Federal Register
11 notices, the text of the newspaper notices and the
12 publication dates of each have been marked as Exhibit 2
13 in this proceeding and have been included in the record.

14 Public comments on the DEIS will be re-
15 ceived through this and subsequent hearings held tomorrow
16 in Twin Falls and prior hearings have been held in Boise
17 as well as the initiation of this hearing here in
18 Idaho Falls last Friday. Written comment, which re-
19 ceives the same weight and consideration by the
20 Department in this proceeding, may be submitted to me
21 as Hearing Officer this evening or you may mail it to
22 the Department of Energy in care of Dr. Clay Nichols,
23 who is the SIS Project Manager. His address, if you
24 would like it, is available at the registration table
25 at the back of the room here. The close of comment for

1 this hearing or this proceeding, actually, will be the
2 21st day of April, 1988, to the extent you wish to
3 provide additional written comment above and beyond
4 what will be provided tonight, you must provide it to
5 the Department by no later than April 21st. Oral and
6 written comment will be compiled into a comprehensive
7 record that will be considered by the Department in
8 making the final decision on the Environmental Impact
9 Statement.

10 The CEQ regulations I read through earlier,
11 also require that, "Comments on an Environmental Impact
12 Statement or on a proposed action shall be as specific
13 as possible and may address the adequacy of the State-
14 ment or the merits of the alternatives or both."

15 Accordingly, we ask you keep your comments
16 specifically directed to the issues in the DEIS. Al-
17 though the Department of Energy determined that certain
18 issues, such as the need for the SIS Project are beyond
19 the scope of this SIS proceeding, I will allow comment
20 on that issue as well as other issues individual
21 commenters feel are relevant. However, as Hearing
22 Officer, I do reserve the right to ask commenters to
23 keep their comments relative to the subject matter of
24 this proceeding as I determine necessary.

25 After reviewing the record we will compile

1 at this and subsequent public hearings, the Department
 2 of Energy may choose to modify, supplement, or re-
 3 issue the Draft Environmental Impact Statement prior to
 4 issuing a final EIS. It may also choose to issue the
 5 Draft Environmental Impact Statement as the final EIS
 6 without modification. A record of decision, which will
 7 identify the environmentally preferred alternative
 8 chosen by the Department, along with any practicable
 9 means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the
 10 alternative selected will also be prepared. The
 11 Department, as a matter of federal regulation, cannot
 12 proceed with its proposed action which will be contained
 13 in the record of decision until a minimum of 30 days has
 14 passed from the date of issuance of the final EIS.
 15 Under current schedules, the Department of Energy intends
 16 to issue a final EIS and a record of decision later this
 17 year, tentatively in August.

18 To govern the conduct of this and subsequent
 19 public hearings in this proceeding, I developed several
 20 procedures in consultation with the Department of Energy
 21 as well as representatives of public interest groups
 22 who either have participated in the scoping meetings
 23 held in this proceeding or indicated a desire to parti-
 24 cipate in these hearings. These procedural matters or
 25 procedures were finalized on the 24th day of March and

1 distributed to interested parties, along with organiza-
 2 tional representatives. I have previously marked the
 3 rules procedures as Exhibit No. 3 for the record and
 4 they were included in the record as such. We have also
 5 marked and included in the record as Exhibit 4 a complet^e
 6 list of all DOE public involvement activities related
 7 to the development of the Draft Environmental Impact
 8 Statement.

9 At this point I would briefly turn to the
 10 procedural rules we'll follow at this hearing. These
 11 are the rules we have followed at all the hearings in
 12 these proceedings.

13 Other than my opening statement, there will
 14 not be any comments in this proceeding made by the
 15 Department of Energy or its contractors. However,
 16 senior Department of Energy staff members are here in
 17 the front row listening to comments and taking notes.
 18 Secondly, we have been receiving comments in the
 19 following order, and we will follow the same order
 20 tonight: First, we will receive comments from elected
 21 and appointed federal, state, and local government
 22 officials, followed by representatives of national,
 23 state, and local organizations who are participating
 24 in the proceeding, followed by members of the public
 25 who have pre-registered to speak prior to the end of

1 business on March 18, 1988, which is the close - - the
2 deadline for pre-registration. Finally, we will receive
3 comment from members of the public who have signed up
4 to testify at this hearing at the door, and that
5 includes those individuals who signed up on Saturday.

6 Organizational representatives and other
7 officials have been allowed ten minutes for oral comment.
8 Individuals from the public are allowed five minutes.
9 In order to assist you in keeping track of the point in
10 time you're at in your five minutes allotted to you, we
11 have a signaling device here. When four minutes have
12 elapsed during the presentation, I'll give you the
13 green light. When your time is up, I'll give you the
14 red light. We ask you to keep your comments within
15 the time frame of that outline.

16 In addition to that, once again we stress
17 the fact that written comments receive the same considera-
18 tion in the record as oral comments, and so if you're
19 inclined, we would be glad to have you submit to me
20 written comments or to the Department before going home.

21 We have posted a speaker's list outside the
22 room. We will follow that list this evening. So that
23 will give you an approximate idea as to where you will
24 be speaking in the overall scheme of things tonight.

25 As I mentioned, I will receive comment first

1 from those of you who have pre-registered prior to
2 March 18th. Following that, we will take comment from
3 those of you who have signed at the door.

4 We are encouraging receipt of questions by
5 members of the audience. Due to the limitations we
6 have because of the time and due to the large number
7 of commenters, we're not responding orally to questions
8 you might ask, but we do have written forms or pre-
9 printed forms available at the registration desk that
10 we would ask you to fill out if you have a question.
11 We ask you to give your name, your address, and we will
12 collect those down here or you may leave them at the
13 table in the back of the room. Written responses to
14 your questions will be provided by mail. All questions
15 and answers will be included in the hearing record.

16 I would like to point out this is a record
17 proceeding. Everything that is being said is being
18 reported by the Court Reporter down here in the front
19 of the room, so when it comes your time to comment, we
20 ask you to step over to the podium here, speak directly
21 into the microphone and speak precisely and clearly. We
22 ask that you first preface your comments by giving us
23 your name, as well as your address for the record.

24 So with that, we'll go ahead and believe
25 our commentators this evening. If you have any questions

1 about either the procedures or any of the issues
2 associated with the DEIS, feel free to ask me those
3 questions during the breaks we're going to have or ask
4 the folks from the Department of Energy at the registra-
5 tion table.

6 With that, we'll go directly now to our
7 list of pre-registered speakers, and our first scheduled
8 commenter is Mr. John Hansen, a member of the Idaho
9 State Senate. My understanding is Senator Hansen is
10 still in Boise and will not be able to attend.

11 We'll move to the second order, which will
12 be Lexie French.

13 MS. FRENCH: My name is Lexie French. I
14 reside at 1975 Bremmer Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho, 83402.

15 I'm a high school English teacher, and that
16 means that my main field of expertise is humanities.
17 Actually I try to teach Shakespeare to 17-year olds,
18 but even though I do not have a scientific background,
19 I feel very strongly I must speak out about the benefits
20 I see for bringing the SIS to Idaho Falls.

21 I have been fortunate to teach in Idaho
22 Falls for the last 11 years, and one thing that's
23 always impressed me about Idaho Falls is the quality
24 of students, the quality of the teachers, and most
25 importantly, the quality of the parents in the community.

1 In observing and analyzing, I can only feel that this
2 quality stems directly in part, in a large part, from 5.27.12.1
3 the INEL.

4 We have a large group of people who are
5 very highly educated and a large group of people who
6 are concerned with the cutting edge of technology con-
7 cerned with new ideas, and concerned with making sure
8 that our schools are part of giving these new ideas to
9 our students.

10 The more I read about the SIS, the more I
11 feel that, again, this is an opportunity for Idaho Falls
12 to bring technology here and to benefit from the
13 technology. I see students who will listen to their
14 parents and who will be urged to continue to have a
15 strong educational background and who will be urged
16 to continue to have a higher education, and I hope that
17 I will be able to be part of this and be able to share
18 in the education given to them.

19 The second reason why I would like to see
20 the SIS in Idaho Falls is because of the very nature of
21 it. It is controversial. There are questions. There
22 are more questions that have been raised about it, but
23 as I look at it, I think what better place to have a
24 controversial project than in a community where hundreds
25 of people are willing and ready to speak out about it,

5.27.15.1

2.8.1

1 question it, and talk about it.

2 Also, where a state is very concerned with
3 environmental issues, what better place to have this
4 than where we will monitor it and make sure that
5 there will be no environmental harm. Again, we are a
6 community where friends can talk about this, friends
7 can question, friends can dialogue, and even though
8 there may not be consensus, there will always be the
9 chance to talk to each other.

10 And if I may say, as a teacher, Shakespeare
11 has one quotation that reminds me very much of this
12 situation. It comes from Juliett Caesar. It says,
13 "There was a tide in the affairs of men and taken its
14 ebb in response to victory."

15 I see the opportunity for the SIS to come
16 here as the ebb of tide to have stronger technology,
17 stronger education, and indeed, a stronger community.
18 And I hope this is chosen as the preferred site so that
19 we can lead on to something better. Thank you.

20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 3,
21 Mr. Larry Houx, H-o-u-x. Mr. Houx?

22 (No response.)

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter 4, John
25 Stephenson? John Stephenson?

89 French

1 (No response.)

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 5,
4 Ed Hunter.

5 MR. HUNTER: My name is Ed M. Hunter, 1524
6 Johnson, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

7 Mr. Chairman, members of the panel, fellow
8 citizens and visitors.

9 I'm here today to voice my opinion because
10 I feel that this is a very important issue, and I feel
11 that this panel needs to hear from a well-balanced
12 cross section of this community.

13 I'm 31 years old and have been a lifelong
14 resident and concerned citizen of the State of Idaho.
15 Presently I am employed in the construction industry
16 and would hope to continue to be employed there.

17 It seems that there are residents of the
18 State that would not have Idaho in the leading edge of
19 modern technology. I have also heard from part-time
20 residents who apparently have only their own personal
21 interests in mind when they try to influence the
22 intelligent, full-time residents of this State into not
23 accepting such a fine opportunity for state advancement
24 and growth as the SIS Project.

25 I am concerned about and oppose nuclear

90 Hunter

3.4

1 warfare, but I feel that the best deterrent to nuclear
2 war is a strong military with a modern arsenal of
3 quality high tech weapons.

4 I truly believe that the SIS Project is a
5 good thing for all citizens of the State of Idaho. I
6 would like to point out just a few of the numerous good
7 points that the SIS Project has.

5.28.2

8 Currently we have a stockpile of eroding
9 nuclear fuel that needs to be recycled. Since the SIS
10 Project uses laser technology rather than nuclear power,
11 which is how this job is being done now, then this
12 task could be accomplished in a much more efficient and
13 especially safe manner, thus reducing the output of
14 nuclear wastes.

5.27.9.2

15 With the laser technology that will be used
16 in the SIS Project, there is seemingly endless possibili-
17 ties for future use. The possibilities that exist for
18 future use alone should end all debate and allow the
19 SIS Project to start immediately.

20 I wonder how many people here today are
21 familiar with the PBF facility on the Site? For those
22 of you who are not, it is one of those so-called
23 death-rendering nuclear reactors. But now after many
24 years of safe and successful operation, our fine
25 engineers and doctors have found a way to turn that

1 reactor into a machine that may be used to treat a form
2 of brain cancer that could not be treated by surgery. I
3 find the possibility of SIS spinoff projects like this
4 very exciting. The SIS laser may some day be used to
5 treat any number of currently untreatable diseases that
6 plague mankind. And if some day one of us should ever
7 need some of this specialized treatment, I would hope
8 that the laser has been in operation for a number of
9 years to prove its reliability and worthiness for human
10 use. We have no idea how many benefits to mankind this
11 Project can produce, so let's not shut it down just
12 because some of the people don't like only one of its
13 functions. There are far too many possibilities for
14 good that must be considered.

15 One of the best points to consider in the
16 SIS Project is that the laser can be in one building
17 with different projects in other buildings, thus allowing
18 easy and safe expansion while using the same laser for
19 all of the projects. Once this fuel is processed, then
20 we will have a working laser facility that can be used
21 to develop and produce countless benefits for mankind.

22 Mankind is either progressing or regressing.
23 Think about that for a minute. I can't tell if the
24 opponents to this Project want us to regress all the way
25 to the stone age or only as far as the '60's. Some other

5.27.9.3

1 speakers have quoted President Eisenhower. I'm glad
2 that he had the foresight to make many of the great
3 decisions that he did that helped in the progression
4 rather than regression of mankind.

5 Sometimes we as individuals need to put our
6 own personal feelings aside and view certain situations
7 as what will be best for the area or the nation as a
8 whole. As a philosopher once said, "The needs of the
9 many outweigh the needs of the few." It is easy to be
10 selfish and think of only ourselves, but it is very
11 rewarding when we can help our neighbors and fellow
12 mankind to accomplish things which are a little in-
13 convenient to us at the present, but will benefit many
14 others in the future.

15 Let's keep modern technology, future benefits,
16 as well as jobs in mind when we consider this very
17 important issue. The SIS Project is a good thing for
18 Idaho.

19 I would like to thank the panel and the
20 audience for letting me take a few minutes of your time,
21 so that I may go on public record as one of the many
22 who is in support of the SIS Project.

23 Since the red light isn't on yet, I would
24 like to take just a minute and talk, address the
25 opponents.

1 You were given the privilege to come here
2 today to publicly voice your opinion. You'd better hope
3 that we do not need any plutonium that the SIS Project
4 could recycle, because if we do and the fuel is not
5 available, this may be your last chance to publicly
6 speak out in protest of our government. Your new leaders
7 may not be as lenient. Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 717 will be
9 the written comments of commenter Ed Hunter, Idaho Falls.

10 The next commenter, Order No. 6 is John
11 Tanner.

12 MR. TANNER: My name is John Tanner. I
13 live in Idaho Falls. I work at the INEL,

14 There is no need to tell Eastern Idahoans
15 that the INEL can handle large quantities of highly
16 radioactive material safely. For 30 years we have
17 reprocessed uranium nuclear fuel without contaminating
18 the environment or harming ourselves. The SIS Project
19 will be much simpler in this regard, because there will
20 be only two radioactive elements instead of dozens,
21 and overall radioactivity will be orders of magnitude
22 less.

23 For 40 years plutonium has been transported
24 on our nation's highways between the places that make
25 it and the places that use it without spreading any

5.24.23

5.29.32

5.27.7.16

1.1

2.2.13

1 contamination. A change of roots will make no difference.

4.7.1

2 The initial purpose of SIS is to enable us
3 to produce weapons grade plutonium after the reactors
4 at Hanford and Savannah River have reached the end of
5 their useful lives, a time which is only a few years
6 away. The Russians will continue to have a large produc-
7 tion capability for weapons grade plutonium by means of
8 their well-known graphite reactors, which also produce
9 about five percent of their electricity. It is only
10 prudent that we also maintain such a capability, whether
11 it is needed at any given moment or not.

5.28.7

12 Because SIS will produce a higher quality
13 plutonium than is produced in a reactor, other uses are
14 foreseen. We could remove the unwanted plutonium
15 isotopes, which account for most of the radioactivity,
16 from our entire stockpile of weapons grade plutonium,
17 and thus make future handling easier and safer. A
18 sufficiently pure Plutonium 239 might also serve as a
19 substitute for Uranium 235 in small nuclear weapons.

3.4

20 But in all of this, our goal must be to
21 end the nuclear arms race, God willing, not to win it.
22 The latter objective, pursued by both sides, can only
23 lead to disaster, just as an uncontrolled arms race
24 brought on World War I.

25 Of course, we must negotiate from strength.

1 Doing that produced the INF Agreement to discard inter-
2 mediate range missiles on both sides. Similarly, the
3 START negotiations aim to drastically reduce strategic
4 missiles. We must let our representatives know that we
5 support these efforts, for there are those who oppose
6 them.

7 And why not a nuclear test ban? Arguments
8 that it would be unverifiable are rapidly being laid
9 to rest by geophysical tests and analyses. But some
10 say we need to modernize our forces. Don't the Russians
11 have any tempting weapons improvements to forego? Others
12 say we would lose confidence in the reliability of our
13 weapons. Wouldn't the Russians have the same problem?
14 Can we hold our own with them in this kind of quality
15 assurance contest? And what a blessing if both sides
16 lost confidence in their weapons. It would surely
17 inhibit their use in the first strike.

18 We each have some influence with our
19 elected representatives. We cannot complacently say that
20 we have no moral obligations beyond carrying out
21 government policy. As citizens, we don't take that
22 attitude in other matters. As we proceed with SIS, let
23 us also say something about how all this is used. Thank
24 you.

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 718 will be the

1 written comments of John Tanner of Idaho Falls.

2 We move to Order No. 7, Christ Lempke.

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 8, Ken
6 Johnson?

7 (No response.)

8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 9, Brian
10 Hammond.

11 (No response.)

12
13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 10, Tom
14 Strelting.

15 MR. WEIKER: My name is Grant Weiker, and
16 my address is Box 4203, Helena, Montan, 59604. I'm a
17 seasonal employee of the U.S. Forest Service, a former
18 resident of Idaho, having lived in Moscow, Orofino,
19 Pocatello and Driggs for a total of seven years.

20 I'm opposed to the SIS for numerous reasons.

21 First, the SIS will refine plutonium for use in nuclear
22 weapons. The U.S. already has an estimated 25,000

23 nuclear weapons. There is no need for more plutonium.

24 Second, plutonium is one of the most toxic materials in
25 existence, and it remains radioactive for 24,000 years.

1 Moreover, the issue of waste disposal, which in my
2 opinion is a Pandora's box of the nuclear weapons produc-
3 tion process. Quoting from Ean Von Leonard, a licensed
4 chemical engineer in the State of Idaho for the last
5 13 years, "The naked effects of DOE's waste handling
6 record cannot be overstated. Even if the SIS could
7 perform adequately, the development of weapons related
8 production scale facilities on the Snake River Aquifer
9 could have serious adverse impacts."

10 Almost all of DOE's plutonium production and
11 processing facilities have suffered great controversies
12 regarding their adequacy in handling hazards materials.
13 The notoriety of such projects as the N Reactor, Kerr
14 McGee, and Rocky Flats have caused great concern to
15 their neighbors. A notable accident, mishandling
16 materials, or the inability to properly dispose of
17 human waste, whether or not they pollute the aquifer,
18 could have a devastating effect on Idaho's ability to
19 market food products grown with water known to be
20 plutonium contaminated.

21 Already INEL has injected plutonium into
22 our aquifer, and there are rumors of buried waste at
23 INEL that are dangerous even to assail, let alone
24 excavate and capsulate.

25 In closing, I would like to quote part of

5.30.3.1

5.12.1

5.30.4.14

5.27.2

5.30.4.12

5.30.1.5

1.1

4.15.5

5.24.27

4.13

1 an article written by Don Snow in Northern Lights Maga-
 2 zine of September-October, 1987:

3 "Nuclear weapon plants, no matter what
 4 parts of the warhead they make, offer more than just a
 5 few thousand secure jobs. People who choose to make
 6 thermonuclear weapons are, in a sense, choosing the
 7 future of the world. They are choosing the legacy and
 8 inheritance of their children, their grandchildren,
 9 and the generations of people who will live with isotopes
 10 that will last longer than a span of time since the last
 11 ice age. Westerners claim to be the true heirs of
 12 Jefferson. We claim to uphold the ideals of local
 13 self-reliance, pride of ownership, and husbandry of our
 14 land. We oppose the intrusion of big government into
 15 our lives, and we love the distances that separate us
 16 from our neighbors. In those distances lie the
 17 strengths, compassion, and resiliency. In those distances
 18 also lie the silos of mutual annihilation which we do
 19 our best to ignore. The nuclear infrastructure is so
 20 complicated it overwhelms us. It does not bear the
 21 scrutiny of the average voter, because that voter can
 22 scarcely comprehend which piece is significant and which
 23 piece is not. Eisenhower, a military man, told us some-
 24 thing we continue to ignore:

25 "Democracy and nuclear weapons don't mix."

1 It's easy to nod our head in belief that spending a
 2 half a million dollars a minute makes us secure. It's
 3 hard to understand where all that money goes and why it
 4 goes there and where it might go instead. Perhaps the
 5 Soviet citizens understand better than us that it
 6 ultimately goes toward the destruction of international
 7 economy. Those who have refused and disobeyed nuclear
 8 policy, in effect, have challenged both governments,
 9 because they have challenged the concept of nuclear
 10 annihilation. They have also challenged the nuclear
 11 infrastructure and all it implies. Secrecy, pork barrel
 12 politics, university research directed towards inter-
 13 national annihilation, the supremacy of technology over
 14 humanity and humility, and the failure to approach
 15 international problems through diplomacy rather than
 16 violence and threats of violence. For their efforts,
 17 these people are often called ugly names. Yet, if the
 18 West still has true Westerners, these are the ones.
 19 The West is now the region leading the arms race. The
 20 choice of the world is ours." Thank you.

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 11,
 22 Russ Squires. Russ Squires?

23 (No response.)

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 12, David

1 Scholes? David Scholes?
 2
 3 (No response.)
 4 THE HEARING OFFICER: John Locke? John
 5 Locke.
 6
 7 (No response.)
 8 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 14, James L.
 9 Watters, James L. Watters?
 10
 11 (No response.)
 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Fifteen, Shawn A.
 13 Safford, Shawn A. Safford?
 14
 15 (No response.)
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 16, Larry Thorne?
 17 Larry Thorne?
 18
 19 (No response.)
 20 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 17, Mr. Scott
 21 Reed? Scott Reed?
 22
 23 (No response.)
 24 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 18, Mr. Gary Park?
 25 MR. PARK: Mr. Chairman, my name is Gary

101 Park

1 Park. I reside at 2202 South Bellin Road, Idaho Falls,
 2 Idaho.
 3
 4 I have lived in Southeastern Idaho all my
 5 life. I was born here. I never left. I would like to
 6 add I have been affiliated with projects at every area
 7 of the INEL for the past 19 years. At this time I'd
 8 like to say I wholeheartedly support the SIS Project
 9 being sited here. I am completely comfortable with it;
 10 I feel safe with it; and, I feel probably safer with
 11 the operations out at the INEL than I do many others
 12 that we live with every day.
 13
 14 I would like to talk here a minute about
 15 two or three items which have been brought up by
 16 opponents of the Project, and state my views.
 17
 18 First of all, material handling and personal
 19 safety. I believe these policies at the INEL should
 20 speak for themselves. More detailed and carefully
 21 thought out safety policies exist in the nuclear in-
 22 dustry today than in any other. They are continually
 23 upgraded, continually approved. Safety is one of the
 24 highest priorities of the INEL and the nuclear industry.
 25
 I'd like you to please ask yourself how
 many injuries occur each year in the nuclear industry?
 Then compare that with others such as the chemical
 industry, mining industry, lumber, agriculture, travel

102 Park

1.1

5.24.31

5.24.23

5.24.31

5.28.8

1 and tourism. I'd like to submit there is no comparison.
 2 I would also like to add there is probably more injuries
 3 or have been more injuries in the ski hills at Sun
 4 Valley and other ski areas around than there have been
 5 at the INEL in the past 20 years.

5.28.6

6 Regarding statements that we already have
 7 too much plutonium, I believe that needs to be clarified
 8 that state that plutonium is in. There is a great
 9 amount of it that is unusable in the state it now exists.
 10 It requires to be refined, reprocessed, to make it a
 11 useful product. That is exactly what the SIS Project
 12 has proposed to do, is designed to do. It will employ
 13 the most up-to-date technology to perform this re-
 14 processing efficiently and safely. This technology is
 15 also not limited only to plutonium. It can be applied
 16 to various other products and materials. It is a new
 17 thing to the industry, and it can be applied in various
 18 areas.

6.5.2

19 It has been said that Eastern Idaho does
 20 not need the SIS Project, yet almost everyone enjoys
 21 the Idaho lifestyle. With very few exceptions, I think
 22 everybody likes this lifestyle. I suggest that this
 23 lifestyle probably wouldn't exist as you now see it if
 24 we didn't have such projects as the INEL and the SIS
 25 Project and other projects of that type. They have

1 added greatly to the lifestyle here, and they are a
 2 fine contribution.

3 The Eastern Idaho economy needs this Project.
 4 Eastern Idaho residents needs this Project and Idaho
 5 needs this Project.

5.27.12.4

6 It is often said that ten percent of the
 7 people in issues such as this generate 90 percent of
 8 the noise. I believe that the view of the remaining
 9 90 percent of the people who are normally silent, in
 10 this case are starting to be heard. They're starting
 11 to speak up, and I believe they are beginning to be
 12 heard in the form of overwhelming support for this
 13 Project, the SIS Idaho.

2.10

14 Let's let Idaho residents decide on Idaho
 15 issues and Idaho projects. Let's let America be America.
 16 Thank you.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 719 for the
 18 hearing record will be the written comments of Gary
 19 Park of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

20 We move to Commenter No. 19, Florence Malm-
 21 borg. Florence Malmborg?

(No response.)

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Edson Fichter?

(No response.)

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Jean Elle?
2
3 (No response.)
4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 22, William J.
6 Dalton? William J. Dalton?
7
8 (No response.)
9
10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 23,
11 Mr. Reese W. Burke, Reese W. Burke?
12
13 (No response.)
14
15 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 24, Gary
16 Fleischmann, Gary Fleischmann?
17
18 (No response.)
19
20 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 25, Dana Olson,
21 Dana Olson?
22
23 (No response.)
24
25 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 26, Blair J.
Carlson, Blair J. Carlson?

(No response.)

THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 27, John Elle.
Beatrice?

1 MS. BRAILSFORD: John Elle asked that I
2 read his testimony for him.
3
4 THE HEARING OFFICER: You may do so. The
5 written testimony of John Elle.
6
7 MS. BRAILSFORD: Do you need my name?
8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Go ahead and give us
10 your name.
11
12 MS. BRAILSFORD: I am Beatrice Brailsford,
13 from 912 Shale, Pocatello, Idaho, and I am reading the
14 testimony of John Elle, 1440 East Ridge, Pocatello, 83201.
15
16 "My name is John Elle, and I live at 1440
17 East Ridge, Pocatello, Idaho. I was born and raised in
18 Pocatello, having lived there all 33 years of my life.
19
20 "I feel there are three main issues that
21 need to be addressed at these hearings. These issues
22 are:
23
24 "No. 1, need for the SIS, two, economic
25 impacts, three, environmental impacts.

"By far, the largest issue concerning this
DEIS is that of the need for the SIS Project. Coinci-
dentally, the Department of Energy claims that need is
not an issue in this DEIS. In an Idaho State Journal
article of March 17, 1988, on the front page of the
city regional section, Mr. Don Ofte, manager of the
INEL, claims that the shutdown of the N Reactor at

4.6

1 Hanford, Washington, stresses the need for building the
2 SIS.

3 "In another article in that same section of
4 the paper, Energy Secretary John Herrington said the
5 decision to mothball the N Reactor was based on a secret
6 Department of Defense review of the nation's future need
7 for plutonium. Herrington also said the demands for
8 plutonium could be met by three reactors at the Savannah
9 River Plant near Aiken, South Carolina, and through
10 plutonium recovery from nuclear weapons retired as a
11 result of the recent U.S.-Soviet treaty. It seems odd
12 to me that the head of the Department of Energy is
13 claiming we have enough plutonium for future needs,
14 while his subordinate claims the SIS is needed because
15 we need more plutonium production capacity.

4.3

16 "If the upcoming START talks with the Soviet
17 Union lead to the reduction of more nuclear warheads in
18 our arsenal, there will be even less need for the
19 plutonium than there is now, and the SIS Project will
20 be just another government make work project which does
21 not produce a saleable project.

5.27.6.7

22 "The second issue in this DEIS which needs
23 addressing is that of the economic impacts of the SIS.
24 While it is true there will be some jobs created as a
25 result of this Project, I believe that claims the DOE

1 and supporters of the SIS have been greatly exaggerated.

2 I recently attended an SIS forum at Idaho State University
3 sponsored by ISU business and physics staff. These
4 people opened the discussion by stating that in the
5 past, Idaho companies have not even been able to sell
6 toilet paper and Kleenex to the INEL. After pointing
7 out the need for replacement parts in the AVLIS process,
8 these same people suggest that Idaho companies can get
9 a share of the market for supplying these parts. The
10 companies currently supplying these replacement parts
11 for the prototypes being developed at Lawrence Liver-
12 more have already developed the processes and built
13 the machinery required to supply these parts. Further-
14 more, these companies have developed working relation-
15 ships with the project engineers and purchasing agents
16 who will be responsible for ordering these parts.

5.27.12.8

17 "To suggest that Idaho companies, which may
18 not even exist yet, will be able to compete for contracts
19 to supply these parts is ridiculous.

5.27.9.6

20 "I can understand why politicians feel they
21 must support a Project like this. After all, what
22 politician running for re-election would speak out
23 against a government project which will create jobs,
24 however few? What I can't understand is why everyone
25 else would blindly jump on the band wagon and preach a

5.27.7.8

1 chicken in every pot if the SIS comes to town. Idaho
2 Falls has the lowest unemployment rate in the State. If
3 the SIS is built at the INEL, 80 percent of the local
4 jobs created will go to workers in Idaho Falls. Is
5 that kind of economic benefit justified by spending a
6 billion dollars of everyone else's tax money? I think
7 not.

5.24.22

8 "The third issue I would like to address
9 pertaining to this DEIS is that of the environmental
10 impacts of the SIS Project. I hear all of these claims
11 about the safety record at the INEL being so good, but
12 further examination of the record would indicate other-
13 wise. For years, the INEL has been injecting low level
14 nuclear waste, as well as other toxic wastes, into the
15 Snake River Plain Aquifer. Last year, monitoring wells
16 at the Site indicated these wastes were migrating off
17 site and into the aquifer. Since then, the use of
18 injection wells has supposedly been discontinued at
19 INEL.

5.17.2

5.30.4.12

20 "In an Idaho State Journal article of March,
21 1988, a spokesman for the Department of Energy said that
22 the INEL could be added to the national EPA superfund
23 list of hazardous waste sites. EPA's Resource Recovery
24 and Conservation Act compliance officer in Seattle said
25 that hazardous wastes have been released into the Snake

1 River Aquifer. He said the wastes include trichloro-
2 ethylene, chromium, carbon tetrachloride, tritium, a
3 low-level nuclear waste, and mercury. If the INEL's
4 environmental record is so good, why are there so many
5 INEL pollutants in the Snake River Aquifer?

6 "Let's just say no to the SIS."

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 720 for the
8 hearing will be the written comments of John Elle,
9 Pocatello, Idaho.

10 Commenter No. 28, Bob Lawrence, Bob
11 Lawrence?

12 (No response.)

13
14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 29,
15 Jack Anderson, Jack Anderson?

16 (No response.)

17
18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 30,
19 George Felker, George Felker?

20 (No response.)

21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter 31,
23 Dr. Reid Anderson, Dr. Reid Anderson?

24 (No response.)

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 32,
2 R. J. Swanson, R. J. Swanson?

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 33,
6 Nadine Jergins, Nadine Jergins?

7 (No response.)

8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 34,
10 Homer Biggers.

11 MR. BIGGERS: My name is Homer Biggers, I
12 live in Idaho Falls, Idaho. I notice some of you have
13 a few gray hairs, so maybe you can remember with me the
14 radium dial watch. I had one one time. At night you
15 just could see it glowing. You couldn't really tell
16 what time it was, but you tried. It was a new thing.
17 I had one, and it was neat.

18 Twenty-three years ago, Phillips Petroleum
19 hired me as a design engineer on INEL. They told me
20 that I could either leave the watch at home or stay
21 home with it. It was not allowed. It was too radioactive
22 for the INEL. It was quite all right for industry to
23 sell it to you, but INEL will not tolerate radioactivity
24 uncontrolled and unmonitored. It is a serious offense.

25 I have walked on the reactor heads. I have

111 Biggers

1 stood on the transfer canal, beside it and looked down
2 in the water and seen the blue purple glow given off
3 by the fuel rods and the racks, pretty dangerous stuff.
4 Right now they are hunting for the body of a boy just
5 over the hill in the pure white driven snow that walked
6 off by accident. They're not hunting any bodies on
7 INEL. They're careful out there. They will not tolerate
8 you endangering yourself, you endangering your co-
9 workers, you endangering the industry, or you endangering
10 the public. You'll go home canned so quick it will make
11 your head swim. They don't play. They have redundancy
12 after redundancy after redundancy, and they use them all
13 properly, and I've heard that abused so many times by
14 opponents of this Project. If you don't like redundancy,
15 just disconnect the front brakes on your car, because
16 the back ones will do it just fine. But don't dis-
17 connect mine.

18 The INEL is safer than your bathroom; it's
19 safer than your kitchen; with a little bit of humor,
20 you might even say it's safer than some of the movie
21 stars' bedrooms I've seen. We've all seen the giant
22 syndrome, and we've seen the Silkwood movies. Sensa-
23 tionalism is what sells newspapers, and sensationalism
24 is what gets attendance into movies, but sensationalism
25 is not always accurate.

112 Biggers

3.4

1 Twelve years ago they had the flood. Those
 2 of you who are local remember it. They showed it on
 3 television back in North Carolina where my father was,
 4 and they said, "This is the scene in Idaho Falls", and
 5 they showed a house floating down the river. And my
 6 father thought, "He's washed away." It's the truth,
 7 the house floated down the river. But that was the
 8 house, and it was in the river, and Idaho Falls was
 9 high and dry with very little exception.

10 So did they tell the truth? Yeah, but they
 11 sensationalized it, and I think you'll find a lot of
 12 that with large major plants.

13 For the opponents, I would just like to
 14 tell you that we agree with you wholeheartedly. We do
 15 not want nuclear war. We don't want any kind of war,
 16 but we have to go one step past emotion and deal with
 17 intelligence and try to be prepared. We abhor grain
 18 upon the ground; we abhor one man having thousands of
 19 acres; we abhor the market depressed; we abhor hunger;
 20 we abhor people stacked on top of people so that nobody
 21 can move. We charge the military to keep those people
 22 at home and let us pour our grain upon the ground, and
 23 let us have thousands and thousands of acres owned by
 24 one man. That's all right to do, and then we want to
 25 tell them, "We're not going to back you up. You just

1508

1 stop them. They'd outnumber you 20 to one, but you stop
 2 them anyhow."

3 The road to peace is rocky, it is filled
 4 with thorns, it cannot be traveled on your knees.
 5 Support and construct the SIS. Do it here, and do it
 6 proudly. Thank you.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled
 8 commenter is Myrlin Ogden, Myrlin Ogden?

9 (No response.)

10
 11 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 36, Linda Carter,
 12 Linda Carter?

13 MS. CARTER: I have a written one, too, I
 14 would just like to turn in.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Is this yours?

16 MS. CARTER: Uh-huh.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll mark your
 18 written comment as Exhibit No. 721 for the record, Linda
 19 Carter of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

20 MS. CARTER: I'd like to state that I'm
 21 Linda Carter, 992 Redwood, Idaho Falls, been a resident
 22 of Idaho for 30 years, and I strongly support the SIS
 23 and its construction here.

24 I work for KPVI in advertising, and I work
 25 with people every day, business people of this community

1.1

1 and I find that the local people, the local business
2 people I should say, strongly support the SIS.

3 It was just a couple weeks ago we all turned
4 out for a parade, one of the largest in Eastern Idaho,
5 probably one of the largest in Idaho, to show that we
6 support the SIS.

7 There are several points we'd like to stress,
8 but it boils down to safety and effects on the environ-
9 ment, economy, the need for plutonium, and the need for
10 nuclear weapons.

11 Well, for one, the economy, my parents moved
12 to Idaho 30 years ago, mainly because the economy or the
13 environment is so special here. It's a great place to
14 raise kids; it's a great place to ski and camp and do
15 all those outdoor things. Well, it never stopped my
16 parents from moving here, the fact that we have the
17 Site out, you know, next door to us. It's never stopped
18 me, too. I've moved to different places. I keep coming
19 back to Idaho, because it is special, and there are
20 things about it really, the fact we have the Site next
21 door with the atomic energy. If anything, it's boosted
22 our economy.

23 From what I understand, there's really
24 little danger to the environment, health, and safety.

25 The DOE has an excellent record of safety. They're above

5.27.6.1

6.1.2

5.24.23

1 average in both the national - - they're above the
2 national averages in both construction and operation of
3 the facilities. People worry about what it would do to
4 the aquifer. It's been stated in several places that
5 I've listened to at Chamber meetings and things like
6 that that very little radioactive material from the SIS
7 will get into the aquifer. If you drink the water out
8 of the test wells, it would take a year to have four-
9 tenths of one percent show up in your body. I'd say
10 that's very little danger to us.

11 The opposition points out the safety and
12 effects on the environment. Well, I myself feel safer
13 living in Idaho living next door to the Site, than I
14 do driving on the freeways of Chicago, Los Angeles,
15 or Dallas. It was stated at our Chamber meeting that
16 it is safer to be leaning against the plutonium reactor
17 than standing in the shade in your own back yard, and
18 that has to do with just the effects of sunshine on
19 your body, you know, the effect of cancer is a lot
20 greater.

21 Our economy needs a boost in order to keep
22 our standard of living high and keep a good standard
23 of living in Idaho. Idaho needs new projects like the
24 SIS and the technology and spinoff from such a Project.
25 It's been over five years since they completed their

5.12.1

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1 last project at the INEL. From what I understand, the
 2 SIS is over a \$900 million Project that will employ over
 3 450 construction workers and create permanent jobs
 4 needed to operate the SIS once it's constructed. DOE
 5 says it will generate an additional thousand jobs,
 6 support and service jobs at the INEL region that can
 7 only help Idaho in our tax basis.

5.27.11.3

8 The construction workers needed for SIS
 9 are readily available. That's been testified time after
 10 time, right here in Idaho. Their children are already
 11 in our schools, and wouldn't put any heavy burden on
 12 our schools because of that. The spinoff industries
 13 will produce even more jobs. The opportunity to create
 14 well-paid jobs in robotics, artificial intelligence
 15 vacuum technology, plus the laser technology is an
 16 important contribution to medical breakthroughs. The
 17 potential of the SIS in its highly advanced will once
 18 again put Idaho in the limelight as the first atomic
 19 energy generator did so many years ago.

5.27.9.2

5.27.4.4

5.27.6.1

20 The opposition states that people won't
 21 move here because of the SIS. On the contrary, the
 22 INEL brings a lot of families to Idaho, families that
 23 buy cars, homes, put their children in schools, spend
 24 their time in Idaho's recreational areas, and most
 25 importantly, pay taxes in Idaho. Many of the opposition

1 keep Idaho residences only because of our low taxes and
 2 do not live here year round. Are these people really
 3 worried that their friends and families won't visit
 4 them in their beautiful summer homes just because the
 5 Site is next door to them in Sun Valley? I seriously
 6 doubt that has any impact on their visits to Idaho.

5.27.3.3

7 On the contrary, the people who live here
 8 and work at the INEL bring a lot of people here to visit.
 9 It's a great place to live.

10 INEL also has a policy of buy in Idaho. That
 11 will give large and small businesses their opportunity
 12 to provide supplies and services.

5.27.12.8

13 But the fact is, we do need plutonium. There's
 14 reactors that are shut down. There's - - many of them
 15 are acting at only half capacity, and we've reduced
 16 our weapons stockpile by 25 percent over the last 20
 17 years - - that is over the last 20 years. Despite the
 18 smoke the opposition is blowing, the only real issue is
 19 should we be producing plutonium for nuclear weapons?
 20 As long as there are Gorbachevs in this world who in
 21 the same year was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize also
 22 spent a half billion dollars in Angolia and Nicaragua
 23 and is still building nuclear bombers, nuclear sub-
 24 marines and nuclear weapons, I would say yes and yes
 25 to the SIS.

4.15.4

4.15.1

3.4

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled
2 commenter is Herman Baker.

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll move to
6 Commenter No. 38, Anthony Stocks, Anthony Stocks?

7 (No response.)

8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 39, Dennis
10 Chandler.

11 MR. FREEMAN: I will be in place of Dennis
12 Chandler.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Please give your name
14 and address.

15 MR. FREEMAN: My name is Lyle Freeman,
16 Box 4323, Rigby, Idaho. I'm one of the readily available
17 construction workers, and I'd like to go on public
18 record as being a supporter of the SIS Project in Idaho.

19 I don't want to put down agriculture in
20 Idaho, because I believe it's one of the most important
21 industries in the State. However, agriculture cannot
22 support the State's entire economy. Neither can wildlife
23 or wilderness areas. We can't all be farmers, game
24 wardens. I also believe that Idaho desperately needs
25 the economy boost that the SIS Project would bring both

1 the region and the State.

2 I like living in Idaho, and I would like my
3 kids to grow up here. I'm not worried about their safety.
4 I believe the INEL has responsible people who are con-
5 cerned for our safety. But me and people like me can't
6 stay here without employment. It's time for the great
7 State of Idaho to accept modern technology to put Idaho
8 back in the limelight as it was many years ago when
9 electricity from nuclear power was produced for the
10 first time.

11 The laser technology spinoff will again put
12 us back on the map and ensure that we remain on the
13 cutting edge of the scientific world. With the transfer
14 of laser technology to Idaho, the SIS plant presents
15 numerous challenges, developmental opportunities and
16 economic benefits.

17 We've heard several comments about the bomb,
18 and also about teaching our children. I have children,
19 and it was said that we should teach our children that
20 killing is bad. And I agree 100 percent with that, but
21 our children also need to know we live in a free
22 country, and sometimes lives have to be taken and lives
23 have to be given to maintain the freedom that we enjoy
24 in this country. I also have a hard time believing
25 that people in this country will quit buying Idaho

5.27.4.5

5.24.23

5.27.9.2

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1 potatoes because they are microwaved in the field instead
2 of in the home.

3 I believe that the SIS Project is going to
4 be built somewhere, and I say bring it to Idaho. Thank
5 you.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 722 for the
7 record will be the written comments of Lyle Freeman of
8 Rigby, Idaho.

9 Commenter No. 40, Kenneth Salzman.

10 MS. PAUL: This is Liz Paul substituting for
11 Mr. Salzman.

12 This is a statement of Gayle H. Weegand,
13 Ph.D, chemistry, 223 South Lincoln Avenue, Pocatello,
14 Idaho:

15 "Having examined the DEIS for the Special
16 Isotope Separation Project, I choose to direct my re-
17 marks to the statement of need in the summary, Page S-1,
18 which reads, 'The SIS Project is needed by the Department
19 of Energy to provide a redundancy in production capacity
20 and technological diversity with respect to the current
21 dependence of weapon grade plutonium production on
22 reactor availability and to provide a timely response to
23 potential increases in approved needs for weapon grade
24 plutonium.'

4.7.1

25 "This theme, which is used as justification

1 for building the SIS, recurs in expanded form in
2 Section 1 and is reiterated elsewhere in the document,
3 wherever support is sought to exclude any alternatives
4 which would obviate construction of the facility.

5 "Although the Draft Environmental Impact
6 Statement goes into great detail to explore the many
7 aspects of the actual construction and operation of the
8 proposed SIS, it ignores totally any examination of the
9 assumptions made in deciding to build it in the first
10 place. Nowhere in the document is a critical assess-
11 ment made of the actual need for the new SIS facility.
12 Rather, the need for increased production of weapon
13 grade plutonium is assumed throughout.

14 "I take issue with this assumption that it
15 is necessary to increase this country's capacity to
16 produce weapon grade plutonium. In a rare collectively
17 sane step, the United States and the Soviet Union have
18 recently entered into an agreement to sign to reduce
19 the number of nuclear weapons in their respective
20 arsenals. Both governments have finally shown the
21 awareness that the ever increasing growth of their
22 nuclear destructive capability must stop if this planet
23 is to remain habitable. Thus, the number of nuclear
24 devices in the United States arsenal should be expected
25 to decrease, not increase, in future years.

4.1

4.15.1

4.3

4.15.1

4.4.6

4.8.1

4.9.1

1 "Increased production of weapon grade
2 plutonium by this country is unnecessary. Moreover,
3 current production and recycling of plutonium from
4 obsolete weapons should suffice to keep a declining
5 inventory of nuclear weapons in step with the latest
6 warhead technology. Argument is made of the DEIS that
7 recycling and recovery of existing supplies of weapon
8 grade plutonium is not a viable alternative, Page 2-70.
9 However, this assertion again is based upon the
10 assumption that production must be increased not de-
11 creased. To the best of my knowledge of the open
12 literature, there is no technical or scientific reason
13 that recycled weapon grade plutonium will not work in
14 bombs. If it was good enough to go boom once it will go
15 boom again after it has been properly reclaimed.

16 "Another recurring argument for needing the
17 SIS is that production of weapon grade plutonium could
18 be rapidly increased if required, I ask, how fast
19 is rapidly? Certainly not quick enough to make more
20 nuclear weapons in the middle of a nuclear conflict,
21 and I doubt even fast enough if a nuclear war were
22 imminent. In reality, this argument is nonsense. It
23 is clear to me that the Department of Energy has taken
24 the position of, 'We want it; therefore, we need it.'

25 When it comes to justifying construction of the SIS. I

1 heartily endorse peaceful uses of nuclear science and
2 technology, and hope to see further development of these
3 kinds of activities, for example the Boron-Neutron
4 Capture Facility, at INEL. Also, I understand the
5 desire and need for economic development in Idaho.
6 However, I cannot in good conscience support the un-
7 necessary increased production of weapon grade plutonium
8 for use in the construction of more unneeded atomic
9 bombs, when it is clear instead that their elimination
10 is absolutely essential to the survival of mankind."

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 723 for the
12 record will be the written comments of Dr. Gayle Weegand
13 of Pocatello, Idaho.

14 Witness Order No. 41, Ronald L. Edgley.

15 MR. EDGLEY: Mr. Chairman, my name is
16 Ronald Edgley. I live at 453 Skyline Drive in Pocatello,
17 Idaho. I'm a native Idahoan and have lived here all my
18 life except for a tour of military service duty over in
19 Germany.

20 I'm a journeyman pipefitter by trade, and
21 for the past 17 years have been the business manager
22 for the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local Union 648 in
23 Pocatello.

24 My family and I, as well as our other 400
25 members and their families, have and do primarily rely

1.1

5.27.6.1

1 on construction and operational activities at the INEL
2 for our livelihoods.

3 The Special Isotope Separation Project
4 proposed for the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
5 will not only provide us with employment, but with
6 needed health and welfare, retirement and training
7 benefits.

8 Additionally, the SIS Project will contribute
9 strongly to the stability and growth of both regional
10 and state economics and will consequently increase the
11 tax base for our various governmental entities.

12 It is projected that construction site jobs
13 will exceed 440 on the SIS Project.

14 According to the Draft Environmental Impact
15 Statement, over 170,000 feet of piping will be required
16 for the construction of the plutonium processing
17 facility and the laser support facility and with the
18 additional amounts for the stand-alone vault. This
19 represents over 33 miles of pipe.

5.27.9.4

20 In addition to the construction site jobs,
21 our members will also share in the many off-site
22 employment opportunities the SIS Project will generate
23 in the private sector, such as pipe, metal, and component
24 fabrication. This is what our members are in business
25 for. This is our expertise. This is our way of

1 providing for our families.

2 We have the experienced workers and con-
3 tractors. Now what is needed is the location of the
4 SIS Project at the Site. Our members have helped
5 build the INEL from its inception and have found it to
6 be a safe and caring place to work, not only for those
7 employed, but for the environment itself. Those that
8 try to criticize need only to witness firsthand the
9 INEL operations, and to see the wildlife that abounds
10 in harmony with the nuclear age, and then hopefully they
11 would turn their misguided criticism to such acts as
12 the dumping of asbestos in our city's landfills.

13 We presently have members that have and are
14 dying from asbestosis, but we have yet to have the
15 first one lost to radiation or any activity found at
16 the Site.

17 We also support the SIS Project because we
18 are patriotic Americans, who want to do our part to
19 help our country to maintain at least a parody in the
20 defense of foreign governments. Through our nation's
21 strengths are embedded the roots of world peace.

22 We are for environment and its preservation.
23 For anyone to think otherwise would be ludicrous.

24 Within the heart of our environment lies our
25 families and the American way of life. To these ends,

5.27.12.2

5.24.23

5.24.31

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1 Mr. Chairman, the members and families of our local
2 union wish to go on record as being in total support of
3 the SIS Project being located, built, and safely
4 operated at the INEL. Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 724, for the
6 record, will be the written comments of Ronald L. Edgley,
7 Pocatello, Idaho.

8 We move on to Witness Order No. 42, Larry
9 Thorne, Mr. Larry Thorne?

10 (No response.)

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 43, Steve
12 Grayson, Steve Grayson?

13 (No response.)

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 44, Rod Fuger,
15 Rod Fuger?

16 (No response.)

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 45, Laurie
18 Reed, Laurie Reed?

19 (No response.)

20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 46, Lynn Muehi-
21 feit, Lynn Muehifeit? M-u-e-h-i-f-e-i-t.

127 Edgley

I512

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 47, Bryan
2 F. Wixom, Bryan F. Wixom?

3 (No response.)

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 48, Paul Hammond,
5 Mr. Paul Hammond?

6 (No response.)

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 49, John Lowry,
8 John Lowry?

9 MS. KIRKHAM: I'm substituting for Paul
10 Hammond.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Pardon me?

12 MS. KIRKHAM: I'm substituting.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: All right, go ahead.

14 MS. KIRKHAM: My name is Kathy Kirkham, and
15 I live at 3249 North Racine, Chicago, Illinois. I am
16 Midwest Coordinator for Fissile Material Cutoff Campaign
17 for Greenpeace, and as the title suggest, we are
18 focusing on ending the worldwide production of plutonium
19 and highly enriched uranium for nuclear weapons.

20 We hear a lot of rhetoric from our leaders
21 about the future. They say their vision is of a
22 future with an end to production of nuclear weapons, but
23 they quickly add, "We're not there yet."

128 Kirkham

3.4

1 The natural question is, what will get us
2 there? The future doesn't just one day happen. It is
3 shaped by what we decide today, and in the hearings
4 over the past week, I've heard an overwhelming number
5 of people in this part of the country say no to plans
6 for what would be the first new atomic weapons plant
7 to be built in the United States in a quarter of a
8 century.

9 Hearings on the SIS Environmental Impact
10 Statement Draft staged by the Department of Energy in
11 three Idaho cities were meant to pass quietly in three
12 days. But the growing controversy to continued produc-
13 tion of nuclear weapons making material is getting
14 through. It's bursting onto the front page of the
15 Sunday New York Times and stretching the hearing process
16 into another week.

17 Maybe now the issue will get the attention
18 it deserves, to be treated as a national issue that it
19 is. This ground swell of opposition being expressed in
20 Idaho is representative of what has happened across the
21 nation. People are tired of this insanity. They want
22 peace, and they want jobs they can be proud of, and
23 that they can feel productive working in. It's not
24 enough to be able to brag in this country that we're
25 number one for military spending, as we are, when we've

1 dropped out of the top ten for countries for literacy,
2 life expectancy, and being able to provide our population
3 with safe drinking water.

4 People I've heard here that support the
5 SIS talk about added national security and not feeling
6 safe. We have 25,000 nuclear weapons, more won't make
7 us safer. All more will do is add to our insecurity in
8 this competitive world by continuing to sap this
9 country's precious resources, the genius of our scientists,
10 and the fruits of our energy and labor to make a waste-
11 ful, hazardous product that everyone prays will never
12 be taken off the shelf.

13 Hopefully, the Department of Energy is
14 hearing the message of the concern voiced by many people.
15 One Department of Energy official was quoted in the
16 New York Times saying, "If we can't get a facility like
17 this built here, you wonder if we can build anything
18 anywhere."

19 Sometimes the will of the people is ahead
20 of what is voiced by the officials that were elected
21 to represent them. At Greenpeace, which is funded
22 totally by personal and private donations now has 2.5
23 million members worldwide in 17 countries. It was
24 started in 1971 by a small group of Canadians who
25 protested the practice of atmospheric nuclear testing

1 off the coast of Alaska. A few years later, as opposi-
 2 tion grew, this practice was banned. And today a new
 3 public awareness of the social, environmental cost of
 4 nuclear arms production is coincided with political
 5 changes that raise the prospect of radical reduction in
 6 nuclear weapons.

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7 These developments have prompted experts to
 8 suggest that now is the opportune time for the United
 9 States and the Soviet Union to negotiate an end to the
 10 ration of plutonium and highly enriched radium for
 11 nuclear weapons. The successful negotiations of such
 12 arms control agreements would most likely end the SIS
 13 Project, and we should support these negotiations that
 14 would make our world safer.

15 A production cutoff would be a useful arms
 16 control measure on its own. It would place a cap on
 17 the size of nuclear weapons inventories and equally
 18 important, the ban would strengthen international barriers
 19 to the threat of nuclear weapons.

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20 It would also result in saving tens of
 21 billions of dollars over the next decade, our future.
 22 These funds could be devoted to more civilized purposes,
 23 including cleansing the environment of abuses accumulated
 24 in four decades of nuclear weapons production. Thank
 25 you.

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 49 on
 2 the list is Mr. John Lowry, Mr. John Lowry?

(No response.)

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 50, Michael
 6 S. Breed, Michael S. Breed?

(No response.)

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 51, Keith
 10 Spoklie, Keith Spoklie?

(No response.)

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 52, Carl Haney,
 14 Carl Haney?

(No response.)

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 53, Rich
 18 Weskerna, Rich Weskerna?

(No response.)

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 54, Nick Day,
 22 Nick Day?

23 MR. DAY: My name is Nick Day. I live at
 24 445 East 23rd Street, Idaho Falls, Idaho.

25 Being a native Idahoan, I have a great

1 interest in the welfare of our State. I have worked
 2 at the INEL Site for 25 years. My wife was also employed
 3 at the Site before we started raising our family. I
 4 presently have two sons attending college at Idaho
 5 State University. As we know from the news the last
 6 two days, Idaho does not have enough tax base to
 7 support the State in the way we would like. At present
 8 there is not enough monies to move our education systems
 9 into a good competitive place with other states. When
 10 Idaho's kids graduate, they have to go to other states
 11 to find work. If they want a good quality education,
 12 they have to go to other areas to find it. Idaho now
 13 ranks very close to the bottom in rating with all the
 14 other states in education.

15 In a recent survey, it was reported in the
 16 local newspaper that 61 percent of the people living in
 17 Idaho are moving out. This Project will not cure all
 18 of Idaho's ills, but it will help to maintain a stable
 19 work force in the future.

20 The INEL is currently the No. 4 industry in
 21 Idaho. With the expansion of the SIS at the INEL, it
 22 would put about 450 construction people back to work.
 23 A lot of these people would be back paying taxes again
 24 that have been unable to for two to four years. After
 25 construction when the SIS is in operation, approximately

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1 400 permanent jobs would also be added to the tax base.
 2 In turn, there would be approximately 1,000 jobs in the
 3 surrounding towns to help service the SIS and those who
 4 work there. The taxes not only help at the local level,
 5 but also other areas of the entire State that are having
 6 hard times at present.

7 Certainly no one here tonight wants a
 8 nuclear war, but our production capacity for plutonium
 9 has been reduced to a level that could seriously affect
 10 our ability to maintain a nuclear deterrent. The SIS
 11 would use a laser technology to purify fuel grade
 12 plutonium that the Department of Energy already owns.
 13 SIS will purify material that cannot be used, making it
 14 reusable and increasing its value many times over the
 15 investment of the SIS. The laser isotope separation
 16 technology, which is the heart of the SIS process, has
 17 enormous economic potential in a number of areas.

18 Through the transfer of technology once
 19 fully developed, laser isotope separation is the least
 20 expensive method for processing fuel for commercial
 21 nuclear power plants. The United States is not
 22 competitive in the nuclear fuel market. The SIS would
 23 help the U.S. to keep from depending on foreign countries
 24 for this fuel. The laser technology, which will result
 25 from the SIS facility research and operation, will make

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1 an important contribution to industry and the medical
2 field.

3 At the INEL, the site for SIS is approximately
4 nine miles from the nearest INEL boundary. There are
5 no humans who reside on the INEL and no population
6 center larger than 5,000 people that are located within
7 a 37-mile radius. The buildings used for the plutonium
8 processing facility would be a Category 1 structure.
9 Category 1 structures are those whose continued integrity
10 and/or operability are essential to achieve and maintain
11 a safe condition during an accident which could result
12 in potentially significant off-site exposure.

13 All plutonium processing in the building
14 would be conducted in glove boxes. Exhausts from the
15 glove boxes would be passed through three testable high
16 efficiency particulate air filters. Service waste
17 water would comply with the current DOE orders.

18 Solid waste generated as a result of SIS
19 operations, would represent a small increment in the
20 relation to the amount of those wastes currently
21 generated and managed at the INEL. The emissions and
22 effluence resulting from SIS construction and operation
23 would be within all applicable environmental standards.

24 It will be up to all the people involved
25 in this Project - - this means management and workers -

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1 to see that this Project is carried out in a safe manner.

2 Idaho needs projects like this to stay strong.

3 The people need projects like this so they can work and
4 hold their heads high. What we do not need is people
5 from other states coming into Idaho, not paying taxes
6 or helping with the economy, and telling Idahoans what
7 is good and bad for us. Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
9 of Nick Day will be entered into the record as Exhibit 725.

10 Next Order No. 55 on the witness list,
11 Doug Hunsaker, Doug Hunsaker?

12 (No response.)

13
14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 56, Bob Delong,
15 Bob Delong?

16 (No response.)

17
18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 57, Philip O.
19 Oakes, Philip O. Oakes?

20 (No response.)

21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 58, Fritz Zillig,
23 Fritz Zillig?

24 (No response.)

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1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 59, Marvin
 2 Spraberry, Marvin Spraberry?
 3
 4 (No response.)
 5
 6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 60, Bob
 7 Empey, Bob Empey?
 8
 9 (No response.)
 10
 11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 61, Carta Real,
 12 Carta Real?
 13
 14 (No response.)
 15
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 62, Norman
 17 Reno, Norman Reno?
 18
 19 (No response.)
 20
 21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 63, Leonard
 22 T. Comstock, Leonard T. Comstock?
 23
 24 (No response.)
 25
 26 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 64, James A.
 27 Harrington, James A. Harrington?
 28
 29 (No response.)
 30
 31 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 65, Doris

1 Ingram, Doris Ingram?
 2
 3 (No response.)
 4
 5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 66, Russell
 6 Baker, Russell Baker?
 7
 8 (No response.)
 9
 10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 67, Mark
 11 Reed, Mark Reed?
 12
 13 (No response.)
 14
 15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 68, Jan Jensen,
 16 Jan Jensen?
 17
 18 (No response.)
 19
 20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
 21 if I could ask you to keep the exits clear in the back.
 22 The fire marshal is here today and complained to me
 23 those were blocked at the last hearing. So if you
 24 would please take a seat or stay away from the exit
 25 doors.
 26
 27 MR. PROKSA: I'm taking Jan Jensen's place.
 28 My name is Dennis Proksa, and my address is 5192 West
 29 Old Highway 91, Pocatello. I've been a resident there
 30 for about 13 years.

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1 What I'm going to do is do a demonstration
2 to demonstrate exactly the nuclear fire power that
3 exists in this world at this time. This is an audio/
4 visual demonstration of the famous nuclear weapons
5 chart, commonly referred to as the Dot Chart.
6 Okay, this is a demonstration of the world's
7 current fire power as compared to the fire power of
8 World War II.
9 Okay, now let me say first that totally
10 there are approximately 18,000 megatons of nuclear fire
11 power existing on the planet at this time, and it's
12 basically divided half and half between the U.S. and
13 the USSR. Now that represents three megatons, which is
14 all of the fire power expended in World War II, okay?
15 That is nine megatons of fire power, and
16 it's equal to three World War II's and nine megatons is
17 enough to destroy over 200 of the Soviet's largest cities.
18 We have 31 Trident submarines and ten Polaris submarines
19 that contain this amount of power.
20 Now here's the fire power of one Trident
21 submarine. Okay, that's 24 megatons. It's equal to
22 eight World War II's and enough fire power to destroy
23 every major city in the Northern Hemisphere, okay?
24 Here is a fire power required to destroy
25 all the large and medium-sized cities in the whole world.

1 okay? That's 300 megatons. It's 100 times the fire
2 power of World War II, okay?
3 Now here's the remaining fire power, which
4 is shared between us and the Soviet Union, basically,
5 and it's about 14,664 megatons, okay?
6 Now, you know it's basically obvious we
7 don't need much more. I calculated that, you know, all
8 the major cities and the medium-sized cities in the
9 world can be totally annihilated 180 times. That would
10 be 90 times from each side.
11 Now, you know, it seems to be a real waste
12 to go on and create more when we have plenty right now.
13 The plutonium we have is more than adequate.
14 Also, what we have is recyclable for 24,000
15 years, so even if we don't use it, we can keep up-
16 grading our weapons and make them really high tech.
17 I'm not against technology and the things
18 that are going to spin off of this Project, but I just
19 don't think we need the Project. Why not take that
20 money and use it and work on the spinoffs rather than
21 the main thing and maybe we'd be much further ahead.
22 We certainly wouldn't be in the - - the fact we wouldn't
23 be wasting time on something we don't need. So now is
24 the time to change the course of this decaying civiliza-
25 tion. Let's use some common sense and intelligence to

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1 create employment opportunities that people can be
2 proud of.

3 It's time to invest in the future of all
4 Americans rather than in the paranoia of a few. So
5 that's the way I feel. I also have written testimony
6 here from 11 other people that are opposed to the SIS,
7 and I'll leave it with the Chairman here to put into
8 the record. Okay, I'll leave it here. Thank you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written testimony
10 of Dennis Proksa of Pocatello, Idaho, will be marked as
11 Exhibit No. 726. The additional written comments we
12 receive we'll mark as exhibits and read those into the
13 record a little bit later in the hearing.

14 Order No. 69, Jessie Proksa, Jessie Proksa?

15 MS. PROKSA: My name is Jessie Proksa, and
16 I live at 5192 West Old Highway 91, Pocatello, Idaho.
17 This is my individual testimony. I think nuclear
18 substances never should have been known to man. I also
19 feel man has been aggravating wilderness and the land
20 in various ways. They have over hunted the animals,
21 cut trillions of trees, mined, polluted air, water, and
22 land, and not to forget nuclear accidents.

23 I don't think Idaho should be spoiled by
24 the ignorance of some of its own citizens by building
25 a so-called safe, money-making, job-producing plutonium

1 plant.

2 If people are so desperate, why can't they
3 think of more creative and imaginative ways to suit
4 the economy's needs?

5 I don't think the SIS should be built any-
6 where.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 727 will be
8 the written comments of Jessie Proksa, Pocatello, Idaho.

9 We'll move to Order No. 70, F. Robert
10 Wetherbee, F. Robert Wetherbee?

11 (No response.)

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 71, Dave
13 Ahrens, Dave Ahrens?

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 72, David
16 Hammond, David Hammond?

17 (No response.)

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 73, Kelly Norman,
19 Kelly Norman?

20 (No response.)

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 74, Jim Shane,

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1 Jim Shane?
 2
 3 (No response.)
 4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 75, Kelly
 5 Peterson, Kelly Peterson?
 6
 7 (No response.)
 8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 76, Marlin
 9 Hill, Marlin Hill?
 10
 11 (No response.)
 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 77, Dale Dahl,
 13 Dale Dahl?
 14
 15 (No response.)
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 78, Glen A.
 17 Schneider, Glen A. Schneider?
 18
 19 (No response.)
 20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 79, Kent
 21 Misseldine, Kent Misseldine?
 22
 23 (No response.)
 24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 80, Bud Ingram,
 25 Bud Ingram?

1 (No response.)
 2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 81, Harold Kapp,
 3 Harold Kapp?
 4
 5 (No response.)
 6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 82, Nick Lewis,
 7 Nick Lewis?
 8
 9 (No response.)
 10 THE HEARING OFFICE: Order 83, Darrin Parker,
 11 Darrin Parker?
 12
 13 (No response.)
 14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 84, John R.
 15 Horan, John R. Horan?
 16 MR. HORAN: Mr. Eiguren, John R. Horan,
 17 1791 Coronado Street, Idaho Falls, Idaho. I am a
 18 retired specialist in health protection for workers and
 19 the environment. I've done this type of work for 38
 20 years. I spent seven years in Vienna, Austria, as
 21 chief of the radiation protection group for the Inter-
 22 national Atomic Energy Agency.
 23 Among my responsibilities were the safe
 24 transport regulations for radioactive materials, which
 25 are used worldwide. Incidentally, I have spent 36 of

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my years in the State of Idaho. I'm a certified health physicist, and currently I am President of the American Academy of Health Physics.

I have read the entire SIS Draft Environmental Statement, all 350 pages. Overall I have found it to be highly accurate and to offer a fair comparison of the four alternatives. My compliments to those individuals involved. Your statement is evidence of a very difficult task well done.

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As a private citizen, I support the construction and operation of the SIS Project at any of the three locations. However, I believe the safest and most economic location would be the INEL, partly because of the work ethics of the Idaho people. More specific reasons for endorsing the SIS Project:

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First, the addition of the SIS to the INEL in no way changes the mission of the ICPP as a production facility. When built in the early 1950's, and I worked there originally in 1952, the primary use of its product, enriched Uranium 235, was for space flux, the fuel from the Hanford reactors for plutonium production. Other byproducts were used for weapons testing.

3.3.1

Ladies and gentlemen, may I restate the budget breakdown for the INEL as presented at the opening session of this hearing by Congressman Richard

Stallings. The defense related activities of the INEL were approximately 80 percent in the 1950's; 65 percent in the 1960's; a low of 40 percent in the '70's; and, about 55 percent currently in the '80's.

I would like to briefly comment, as well, on two of the fallacies which some individuals tonight have presented, as well as at other hearings.

First, the folklore of plutonium toxicity versus the fact that after 40 years of extensive experience in handling plutonium by more than 30,000 workers in the United States, there has been no evidence of cancer from plutonium deposited in any of their bodies. Similar experience has been reported by England, France, and the USSR.

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Second, the myth that plutonium transport is ultra-hazardous versus the fact that not a single individual in the world - - and I repeat - - no one in the world has been killed or injured as a result of internal or external radiation exposure caused by the accident involvement by an accident involving the transport of any radioactive material. People who know the problems of hazardous material transport, like myself and my wife, would much rather have plutonium transported past our home in Idaho Falls rather than gasoline, pesticides, chlorine or most other chemicals.

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1 In conclusion, I am convinced that the SIS
2 can be operated in Idaho in a very safe manner, both in
3 the working environment as well as in the public environ-
4 ment. The Special Isotope Separation Project is aptly
5 named. It is indeed a special Project for Idaho. Thank
6 you.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. We're now
8 to Commenter No. 85, Judy Minshall.

9 MS. MINSHALL: My name is Judy Minshall. I
10 reside at 1783 South Old Highway 91 in Inkom. I re-
11 quest that this - - I have lived in Idaho for 22 years.

12 There seemed to be many valid reasons for
13 opposing the SIS Project, especially those concerning
14 the lack of need for more plutonium and worries about
15 the safety of the Project. However, for me the bottom
16 line is that the SIS should not be built because to do
17 so would be immoral.

18 I believe the production, stockpiling, or
19 use of nuclear weapons is highly immoral, the ultimate
20 sin against God's creation and all humanity. Nuclear
21 warfare threatens all life, not just the lives of
22 countries of the combatants.. Nuclear weapons do not
23 somehow become benign or less immoral if they are
24 merely used for deterrents and not for actual combat.
25 Their mere existence constitutes a form of terrorism.

1 If a mad man holds a loaded revolver against your child's
2 head and threatens to kill him, will there be no harm
3 done if he never actually pulls the trigger? Of course
4 not. The psychological damage done to both you and
5 your child will be very obvious. In the same way,
6 nuclear weapons used for deterrence only are far from
7 harmless. Fears of accidental detonation or having
8 the weapon sites hit by an enemy first strike destroy
9 or peace of mind and add to the national paranoia.

10 The sole purpose of the SIS will be to
11 produce plutonium to be used as triggers for nuclear
12 weapons. I find it very curious that some of the
13 proponents were siting the SIS in Idaho and admit to
14 the inherent immorality of nuclear weapons, but say that
15 if such weapons are to be built, we might as well
16 benefit economically from their production. An example
17 by way of parallel might cause some to be considered.
18 Most residents of Southeast Idaho would agree that
19 abortion and pornography are immoral, even though with
20 some restrictions, both are perfectly legal. Since
21 those activities will go on anyway, should the local
22 Chamber of Commerce actively promote Idaho as a center
23 for the pornographic film industry? Should we try to
24 become the abortion capital of the world? If not, why
25 not? Could it be that there is something more important

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1 than the economy? Use the same logic here. Nuclear
2 weapons and their production process can potentially
3 destroy far more lives than abortion, and nuclear war
4 is certainly the ultimate pornography.

5 The SIS Project will cost an estimated
6 one billion dollars to construct and operate and will
7 provide about 400 jobs during construction and 750 jobs
8 during operation. This works out to a cost to taxpayers
9 of about \$109,000 to \$167,000 per year for each job
10 provided. This is a moral issue, also. With our huge
11 budget deficits and so many social ills being neglected,
12 spending that much money on something that is not even
13 needed is total lunacy. If this Project were not being
14 proposed for Idaho, would any of us want our tax money
15 supporting it? We need to take off the economic blinders
16 and see clearly that this is a Project that should not
17 be built.

18 I personally am not competent to know whether
19 the conclusions drawn in the Draft Environmental Impact
20 Statement are valid or not. Neither, I suspect, are
21 the vast majority of those who will testify at these
22 hearings. Were all the relevant factors taken into
23 account? Are the computer models correct? Were any
24 mistakes made in the calculations? I can't answer those
25 questions. I don't believe there is any reason to doubt

1 the competency or honesty of those who developed the
2 DEIS, but we need to be realistic about the limits of
3 Environmental Impact Statements.

4 The EIS cannot guarantee that no major
5 accident or contamination will occur at INEL. Those
6 who wrote the DEIS understand that. They know they are
7 able to work only with probabilities. The question is,
8 does the public understand that? The question is, what
9 if the unthinkable happens and despite the odds against
10 it, there is major contamination of the vital Snake
11 River Aquifer? What if there is a major nuclear reactor
12 accident which releases deadly radioactivity? Or what
13 if a highway accident somehow does spill radioactive
14 feed material or waste, will legal recourse really help?
15 The odds that such things will happen are admittedly
16 small, but that's a far cry from saying they will never
17 happen.

18 Some risks have to be taken. If the SIS
19 Project were absolutely essential to our national
20 security, if there were no safer place for the facility
21 to be built, if we could afford the billion dollar price
22 tag, and if the nuclear weapons were not so inherently
23 immoral, then there would be reason to ignore the risks
24 and build the facility at INEL. None of these supposi-
25 tions has been proven, and I believe that they are all

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1 false. Therefore, I think the risks do not justify
2 building the SIS in Idaho, and I urge you to reject that
3 plan and take the No Action Option on this issue. Thank
4 you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: We're at Order No. 86
6 on the commenter schedule, Sharon Palmer?

7 Please state your name, sir.

8 MR. WILBUR: My name is Dave L. Wilbur, and
9 I am a student at Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho. My
10 address is 480 South First West, Apartment No. 110.

11 Before I start what I've got planned, sitting
12 back there I seen some stuff and how everyone's talking
13 about safety, and everyone is talking about, you know,
14 how it's not going to happen, there's no chance of it,
15 what is SDI for? One of the biggest reasons for SDI
16 is strategic defense initiative or Star Wars, is the
17 fact that a nuclear bomb, not just the Russians. They
18 know it's false that the Russians send over their bombs,
19 when we can knock out 90 percent of them and we're still
20 going to get blown up, but one of the biggest things
21 they've promoted is the fact there can be accidents,
22 and that's why they want it.

23 Another thing I'd like to point out is
24 Mr. Proksa, his - - I liked his thing with the BB's.
25 I wish I had thought of that, and it was a really good

1 demonstration. It was - - you remember how many BB's
2 those were, that was also 1984 sources there. There's
3 probably around 24,000 megatons which is 24 trillion
4 tons, which goes off into piles you don't even want to
5 mess with.

6 The youth are the leaders of the future.
7 This is something that every politician who has had
8 anything at all to do with education has probably used
9 in one campaign speech or another. There is no dis-
10 crepancy at all as to its accuracy. It is obviously
11 true. It is something - - it is also something that
12 should be kept close in mind with the ever-growing
13 nuclear stockpiles.

14 The Special Isotope Separation Project is,
15 in most people's minds, a good thing. And it can be a
16 good thing, except for the fact that its purpose, in
17 truth, is to aid in the production of nuclear weapons.
18 I realize the importance of a strong nuclear defense,
19 which will mutually assure destruction, keep things
20 quite under control, and the need for nuclear - - for
21 technological superiority. But why do we need more
22 weapons grade plutonium is beyond me. We already got
23 a sufficient amount, if not too much, already. It is
24 my understanding we have more than enough weapons to
25 destroy the world several times over.

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1 In 1984 we had in our arsenals, as Mr. Proksa's
 2 demonstration, 14,000 warheads. That was just us, 14,000
 3 warheads with the fire power of 80.4 trillion tons of
 4 TNT, plus more than 1,000 warheads were added each year.
 5 That's three warheads a day.

6 Now between the United States and the Soviet
 7 Union, there's approximately 24,000 megatons or 24
 8 trillion tons of TNT in the form of nuclear weapons.

9 The people of the United States are more or
 10 less programmed to believe that the Soviet Union is
 11 some big ugly monster just waiting for a chance to
 12 destroy us, and the same thing is happening over there.
 13 They think we're after them. Our two governments keep
 14 us under this impression, mostly by not educating us
 15 on the situation. The same process applies in relation
 16 to the SIS situation. In fact, would you people like
 17 to help us make nuclear weapons for a few years? I
 18 don't think I'd want to be too enthusiastic about it.

19 Instead of being told outright what the
 20 story is, Idahoans are told the SIS will give them jobs,
 21 money, and laser technology. This is true, and there
 22 are spinoff technologies, also, but the real objective
 23 is being covered up, or at least not given a fraction
 24 of the publicity that it should get. This objective
 25 is to purify deadly plutonium for more nuclear warheads.

1 It's this practice of keeping people ignorant is
 2 deceptive and also used by tyrant after tyrant through
 3 the course of history.

4 SIS will also be making things worse at
 5 the national level. And this is where out of staters -
 6 I'm from Washington, incidentally, where they have
 7 right next to the N Reactor that just got shut down,
 8 I was in Kennewick. This is where out of staters come
 9 from.

10 We could get - - we could be making a
 11 nuclear power reactor or something else that would do
 12 something productive for our country and our world.
 13 The Special Isotope Separation Project will only be
 14 destructive and unnecessary defense spending will only
 15 boost the national deficit. When we can destroy every
 16 major city in the world with two submarines which are
 17 virtually undetectable by the USSR, then I see nothing
 18 but wasted money in making more plutonium for weapons.
 19 To quote Winston Churchill, "After a certain point,
 20 more bombs will only make the rubble bounce."

21 If a weapon becomes obsolete, take the
 22 plutonium out of it and put it in an updated weapon,
 23 but it is a lie to say that we need more plutonium
 24 for the newer upgraded weapons that we are constantly
 25 producing. Plutonium has a half life of 24,400 years,

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1 a lot longer than all of us will live, so it isn't
 2 going to go bad on us. I'm 18 years old, and by most
 3 people, I guess I would be categorized as a youth. So
 4 according to today's leaders, myself and those in my
 5 peer group are the leaders of the future. I know
 6 myself and I know my friends. I represent them when
 7 I say that the leaders of today may want to boost the
 8 national debt and see their constituency and push our
 9 world towards nuclear war, but we'll have no part of it.
 10 We, the leaders of tomorrow, don't want their guns,
 11 missiles, and wars.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will mark Exhibit 729
 13 as the written comments of David L. Wilbur.

14 We're going to take a five-minute recess
 15 to allow the Court Reporter to change paper. We'll be
 16 back in five minutes.

17 (A brief recess was taken.)

18
 19 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'd like to come back
 20 to order, at this point, if I could. During the recess
 21 a number of you asked me what we're going to do in terms
 22 of those who are on the list but out of the room when
 23 I called their name. It would be my intent at the point
 24 in time we reach the end of the pre-registered speakers,
 25 I will ask for anyone who is here that has pre-registered

1 that has a comment to step forward, and I will do the
 2 same thing at the end of the list of those who registered
 3 to comment at last Friday's hearing.

4 Now let's return to the pre-registered
 5 commenter list, and now at Order No. 87, Boon Phomboutdy,
 6 Boon Phomboutdy?

7 (No response.)

8
 9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 88, Jerome
 10 L. Lange, Jerome L. Lange? Please give your name and
 11 address for the record.

12 MR. ANDERSON: My name is Jack Anderson.
 13 I reside at 180 North Morningside Drive, Idaho Falls,
 14 Idaho.

15 I wish to speak merely as a citizen of Idaho
 16 Falls. I rise to speak in support of the Special
 17 Isotope Separation Project and the desirability of it
 18 being located at the INEL Site in Eastern Idaho.

19 My motives for doing so are not unselfish.
 20 They stem largely from my sincere concern over the state
 21 of the economy in Southeast Idaho. I find the predic-
 22 tion that without SIS our economy will stagnate a very
 23 real possibility. Without SIS, the forecasts are quite
 24 grim. Unemployment is already alarmingly high in the
 25 area, commerce is sluggish, retail sales on the down side.

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1 business failures the past two years are up, housing
2 starts are down with little prospect on the horizon of
3 any meaningful infusion.

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4 Also, on the selfish side I am excited over
5 the prospect of introducing a new technology at INEL on
6 a broad scale. Hopefully, this introduction will ex-
7 tend into the surrounding communities and serve as
8 stimuli for expansion of educational facilities,
9 generating a renewed demand for spinoff industries in
10 creating additional opportunities for brand new developing
11 industries. I have no doubt the AVLIS process will
12 draw national attention of an unexpected magnitude to
13 the area it is assigned.

14 Again, from a selfish standpoint I'm very
15 concerned about safety at INEL and will always support
16 the most stringent safeguards humanly possible.

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17 I am firmly in accord with those that demand
18 awareness and full disclosure of any and all incidents
19 even slightly jeopardizing the health and safety of
20 workers and citizens alike, similarly with any negative
21 effects on the environment or the ecology.

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22 While I am adamant in my concern for safety,
23 I am also relatively confident in the Department of
24 Energy's commitments to safety and health standards in
25 the history of their performance which exceeds national

1 averages, and I think stands excellent.

2 This, though, does not mean that I would
3 tolerate any relaxation of external pressures to main-
4 tain absolute safety consciousness. I compliment those
5 that involve themselves to ensure for all of us that
6 awareness.

7 I do find, however, that it seems very
8 logical at this point to me that the SIS Project, which
9 does not involve the placement of a nuclear reactor, and
10 in fact, by its building blocks concept, avoids the
11 building of additional reactors with the simple addition
12 of components. I believe that provides a safer ex-
13 pansion at the INEL than many expansions in the past.
14 Also, let's not forget to consider the extremely valuable
15 potential of advancing medical science, which this type
16 of laser technology provocatively promises. This, of
17 course, will occur regardless of the site selected, but
18 what a boost this will mean to the area where it occurs.

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19 Foremost, I believe we must accept the
20 reality of the duty DOE has been assigned by the
21 Congress of the United States to develop and maintain
22 the capability to produce all nuclear material required
23 for the defense programs of the nation. I view the
24 SIS Project as one of the more desirable and more
25 suitable of the many possibilities to be situated in

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1 Southeast Idaho.

2 In conclusion, I suppose I must admit the
3 separation of the plutonium isotope results in developing
4 weapon grade plutonium, which certainly relates to
5 defense. But if this is as close to defense and weaponry
6 as INEL becomes, then please excuse me if I fail to
7 protest and instead vigorously encourage its placement
8 in our midst in anticipation of a renewed vitality and
9 some real promise of a sustained growth in our economy.

10 Thank you for affording me the opportunity
11 to express my concerns and explore my expectations of
12 this important issue, and I join with you in the hope
13 that testimony from the public sector will have some
14 influence on the eventual decision.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
16 of Jack Anderson will be included in the record as
17 Exhibit 734.

18 Order No. 89, Pam Fleischmann,

19 MR. FLEISCHMANN: These are the written
20 comments of Pam Fleischmann. My name is Gary Fleis-
21 chmann, and I reside at 1350 Bower Drive, Idaho Falls,
22 Idaho, 83404. I have lived and worked in Idaho for
23 most of my life. My paternal great-grandparents were
24 married at Coeur d'Alene in what was then Idaho territory.
25 My maternal great-grandparents came to Almo, A-l-m-o,

1 Idaho via wagon. My family has been part of Idaho
2 ever since. I'm now raising my children in Idaho. I
3 hope and trust that they will be able to raise their
4 children in Idaho.

5 For the past several weeks I have carefully
6 considered what I could offer to these hearings that
7 would be of value in the decision-making process. After
8 hearing many of the speakers, it is apparent that not
9 everyone has limited their testimony to the subject at
10 hand. There are four areas that I feel qualified to
11 comment on: Safety, lifestyle, jobs and the future.

12 For the past 35 years, my family has been
13 associated with the INEL as employees or doing business
14 with the INEL. More than anything else, the safety
15 performance has been in process. Procedures have been
16 in place for years that review on a daily basis the
17 safety aspects of work. Further, the work is monitored
18 regularly by professional safety representatives. The
19 results of this emphasis on safety is a superior safety
20 record, not only for the INEL, but also for most of the
21 companies that do business with the INEL. The safety
22 record at the INEL to me is more meaningful than the
23 unfounded rhetoric that we have heard so much of lately.

24 More specifically, plutonium, unlike some
25 other hazardous materials such as lead, PCB's, asbestos,

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1 and DDT is and has always been recognized and handled
2 as a hazardous material. Knowing up front the nature
3 of plutonium, the INEL has proven over many years its
4 ability to handle it in a safe and efficient manner.

5 There are those who suggest as they move to
6 Idaho that the border be fenced behind them to keep
7 others out and thus maintain Idaho's outdoor lifestyle.
8 Frankly, if it were possible, a lot of us might buy into
9 that concept. However, it doesn't work that way.

10 Progress - - or if you prefer to call it something else
11 simply cannot be stopped. Those who try, will perhaps
12 enjoy a few small victories, will not prevail. History
13 has repeatedly proven this, yet it is important to note
14 that this Project has little, if any, potential impact
15 on our lifestyle. The new jobs created by the SIS
16 Project will likely only serve to replace those lost
17 due to projects or jobs that end in the interim.

18 Era, Martin, Custer, Cedarville, Caribou
19 City, Bay Horse, Alder City, Bonanza, Cliffs, White
20 Knob, Muldoon, Galena. These were once thriving
21 communities in Southeast Idaho. They no longer exist.
22 The reason is not that the mining upon which they
23 depended was a dangerous occupation - - it was and still
24 is more dangerous than the nuclear industry - - but that's
25 not the reason. Nor is the reason that the residents

1 felt the need to protect their lifestyle or their
2 environment. Nor is the reason that the ore ran out.
3 There's plenty of it out there if you can afford to
4 extract it. The reason is simply that the economy
5 could not support the jobs.

6 The economy of Idaho Falls, and in a larger
7 sense all of Idaho, is tied to the INEL. Without con-
8 tinuing projects, our economy will not support jobs - -
9 perhaps your job. No, the lack of the SIS alone won't
10 make Idaho Falls a ghost town. Yet, without continuing
11 projects, Idaho Falls and Idaho surely will suffer.
12 And that suffering will affect everyone through loss of
13 revenue, educational opportunities, employment oppor-
14 tunities, business, et cetera.

15 It was reported on the radio last week that
16 an Allied Van Lines survey of interstate moves involving
17 Idaho show that 62 percent of the families moving in
18 1987 were moving out of Idaho. That is the third highest
19 out-bound percentage in the nation, which means less
20 families are buying groceries, buying clothing, paying
21 sales tax and paying property tax than just one year
22 ago. Idaho is already having problems making ends meet.
23 Fewer residents to share the load doesn't help, and
24 Idaho must reverse this trend.

25 Some have suggested that short-term jobs,

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1 such as those created by the SIS Project, are of little
2 value. I would counter that for the construction
3 industry and the research/development industry, short
4 projects are the life blood.

5 Over its history, the INEL has had a variety
6 of missions, including military, most often several at
7 the same time. Each of these have been successfully
8 accomplished. It is time to add another mission,
9 specifically the SIS with its laser technology. This
10 new mission, along with likely follow-on projects will
11 lead us into the next century.

12 The SIS Project will provide Idaho with
13 opportunities, opportunities to play an important vital
14 and patriotic role in our national defense, opportunities
15 for much needed jobs, opportunities to enhance the
16 economy and in turn do a better job of meeting the
17 educational, social, and infrastructure needs of Idaho.

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18 I, as one Idahoan say yes to SIS.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Gary Fleischmann has
20 provided the written comments to us both for himself
21 as well as his wife. Pamela Fleischmann's comments will
22 be Exhibit 735 and Gary Fleischmann's comments will be
23 Exhibit 736, both reside in Idaho Falls.

24 We move to the next witness order, which
25 is Order No. 90, Jay D. Beasley, Jay D. Beasley?

1 (No response.)

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 91, Russell
3 Lewis, Russell Lewis?

4 (No response.)

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: 92, Michelle Mogolich,
6 Michelle Mogolich?

7 (No response.)

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 93, Maurene
9 Finnerty, Maurene Finnerty?

10 (No response.)

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 94, Christopher
12 T. Winter, Christopher T. Winter. I understand this
13 individual will submit Mr. Winter's written comments
14 for the record and will read William Hogan's comments.
15 Mr. Hogan was scheduled to testify earlier and cannot
16 be here.

17 MS. BURKE: My name is Linda Burke, and I
18 reside at 245 South Seventh Avenue in Pocatello, and
19 I will submit Christopher T. Winter's testimony in
20 writing of Pocatello, and I am reading the testimony of
21 William Hogan, 527 South Twelfth Avenue, Pocatello, 83205.

22 "I oppose the deployment of SIS in Southeast

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1 Idaho on moral and humanitarian grounds. This has been
2 a decade of awareness among thoughtful people and con-
3 cerned leaders of the crime that has been committed
4 against the future of mankind in an attempt to obtain
5 nuclear supremacy.
6 "This is a decade when no American citizen
7 can claim ignorance of the real and ever-present threat
8 of a war that in moments could alter forever the destiny
9 of mankind.
10 "Leaders from many nations are staking their
11 political futures on nuclear arms reductions, while we
12 in Southeast Idaho appear about to loot the home of our
13 children because someone else has opened the door.
14 "I will leave it to the experts to debate
15 the environmental, economic, and military impact of the
16 SIS on Southeast Idaho and, indeed, on the entire
17 country. But I see no moral or physical longevity for
18 a community that is willing to base its economic growth
19 on weapons of mass destruction.
20 "On careful consideration, I hope we will
21 not reach with greedy hands into the future of mankind,
22 but will choose to carefully close another door on the
23 nightmare of nuclear destruction. Sincerely, William E.
24 Hogan, pediatrician."
25 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written statements

1 of Dr. William E. Hogan of Pocatello will be entered
2 into the record as Exhibit 737.
3 The written comments of Christopher T.
4 Winter of Pocatello, Idaho, are entered into the record
5 as Exhibit 738.
6 Next scheduled commenter is Lee Gagner,
7 Lee Gagner?
8 MR. GAGNER: My name is Lee Gagner. I
9 reside at 2555 Fieldstream Lane, here in Idaho Falls.
10 I'm here this evening to represent two groups, two local
11 groups, the first being the realtor group in the Eastern
12 part of the State of Idaho. I happen to be the East
13 District Vice President, which represents approximately
14 373 realtors. Normally, you might say realtors are
15 for economic development. Economic development is the
16 issue I will speak on tonight. I'm not an expert or do
17 I know whether the need is there, whether the technology
18 is there for those issues. So my area is strictly the
19 area of economic development.
20 When we first looked at this issue, we were
21 very concerned about whether or not the safety of the
22 people of Eastern Idaho had been studied adequately.
23 For this reason, we brought numerous speakers into our
24 boards to determine whether or not we saw any kind of a
25 safety concern. After giving and hearing presentations

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1 by knowledgeable individuals, we determined that the
2 worst case scenarios presented did not present safety
3 hazards that caused us any concern. Currently we have
4 a surplus of homes on the market in Eastern Idaho in
5 almost all of the areas in Eastern Idaho and could
6 accommodate any construction crews or permanent employees
7 that would come here.

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8 We believe the Project sited at the INEL
9 would be good for the growth of Eastern Idaho. The
10 \$505 million facility will add stability and growth to
11 our community. One only has to look at cities like
12 Seattle during the last Boeing slump and the tri-cities
13 with the N Reactor shutting down to see what could
14 happen to communities who fail to diversify.

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15 As a result, the Realtors Association of
16 Eastern Idaho sees no problem and wishes to endorse and
17 support the SIS.

18 The second organization I represent is the
19 Idaho Innovation Center. The Idaho Innovation Center
20 is a 24-month old small business incubator set up in
21 the area of Idaho Falls to support the nine-county
22 area immediately around Idaho Falls.

23 As many of you probably know, the contractors
24 at the Site have a federal mandate to transfer technology
25 to the private sector. This incubator center is

1 accomplishing that very ably with five good striving
2 businesses at the center, at this point two have gone
3 national with their products within the last six months.

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4 We know that if we get spinoff technology
5 from the AVLIS technology and laser from the system,
6 that of the businesses we set up in Idaho Falls, 80
7 percent will stay in Idaho Falls. That's a statistic
8 we've seen happen nationwide.

9 The center, over the next five years, will
10 create 500 new jobs. That's not a pie in the sky figure
11 somebody pulled out of the air. It's figures for jobs
12 we feel we can pretty much guarantee to the City and to
13 the area of Eastern Idaho.

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14 We believe this figure would be substantially
15 increased with the potential of future laser applications.
16 For this reason, we strongly support the location of
17 the SIS at the INEL.

18 Idaho is an export state unfortunately. It's
19 the people we're exporting. I say, let's keep the
20 people - - bring people in and keep the people here in
21 Idaho.

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22 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written statement
23 of Lee Gagner is included as Exhibit 739.

24 Order No. 96, Inez Valentine.

25 MR. REALE: Hey, it's about time. Yes, yes,

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1 SIS. AKA, toxic avenger, 61 on your list. Let's hear
2 it for those SIS people, come on, yes, yes.
3
4 Gees, what happened to the crowd that was
5 here last week? I'm disillusioned. Where did everybody
6 go? They didn't even leave me my sign.
7
8 All's I got to say is yes, yes, SIS. Yes,
9 there's too many of us.
10
11 THE HEARING OFFICER: We need your name
12 and address for the record, sir.
13
14 MR. REALE: Toxic Avenger, born out of the
15 desert of Idaho.
16
17 THE HEARING OFFICER: I need your name.
18
19 MR. REALE: At the end. Idaho, Idaho,
20 Idaho.
21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Give me your address.
23 Thank you. It's about time you showed up.
24
25 MR. REALE: As I was saying, there is too
many of us, too many of us, too many of us. Let's have
a war so you can all die. Let's have a war, we could
all use the pay. Let's have a war, we need the space.
Let's have a war, to clean out this place. There's too
many of us, there's too many of us, there's too many of
us. Let's have a war to jack up the Dow Jones. Let's
have a war, it can start here in Idaho. Let's have a
war, we're like rats in a cage. There's too many of us,

1 there's too many of us, it's already started, suburbia
2 will be just as easy as a place to start. Let's have a
3 war, sell the rights to the networks. Let's have a
4 war, let the mothers get fat like last time. Let's
5 have a war, give guns to the queers. Let's have a war,
6 the enemy is within. Yes, yes, SIS.
7
8 And as a last afterthought, something we
9 will all see, wherever you are, safe in your million-
10 dollar shelter, not so safe in your bargain basement
11 basement, toasting your host in your host area or
12 just plain napping, you got to admit, this is it. In
13 one moment, the combined 30-year investments of the
14 world's largest economies, something to the tune of
15 \$700 trillion goes up in smoke. And like all that is
16 best in our culture, the moment that has obsessed the
17 world for almost two generations is computerized and
18 over in a flash. At the very least, it is different.
19 It breaks that dull gray routine once and for all.
20
21 No more wondering. No more waiting. No more
22 drudgery, no more sameness. Good-bye mortgages, good-
23 bye boss. So long to commuting, assembly lines, finals,
24 homework, washing up. The old day in day out is over.
25 TGID, I say. Thank God it's doomsday.
Sincerely, Carta Reale, AKA Toxic Avenger.
I wish the real one could have been here in my place,

1 P. O. Box 8561, ISU, Pocatello, Idaho. And some
2 ridiculous people from Pocatello gave me this thing
3 here. It has all these laws and legal positions. You
4 have to get rid of all these treaties so we can have
5 what I need, some revitalization of my energy.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 740 will be
7 the written comments of Carta Reale, and included in
8 the record. No further comment.

9 Could we ask those of you at the doors to
10 please step away? The fire marshal has requested we
11 keep the exit clear. Folks, please keep the exits clear
12 in the back. Thank you.

13 We'll move onto Order No. 96, Inez Valentine.

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 97, Gary
16 Triplett?

17 (No response.)

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 98, Rita Bybee,
19 Rita Bybee?

20 (No response.)

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 99, Randy
22 Norman, Randy Norman?

171 Reale

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1 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 100, Phyllis
2 Russell.

3 MR. TURNER: My name is Kay Turner, I am
4 from Pocatello, Idaho, and I'm going to be submitting
5 the testimony of Theresa M. Kaufmann, 945 West Lewis,
6 Pocatello, Idaho, and I am presenting the testimony of
7 Frederick F. Belzer, 945 West Lewis in Pocatello.

8 "I'm writing in response to the Department
9 of Energy's request for local citizen input on the
10 proposed SIS Project at the INEL.

11 "I urge you to consider the No Action
12 Alternative on this Project.

13 "It is clear that the short and long-term
14 environmental effects, potential economic benefit to
15 this region, and the enhancement of our national security
16 have not been sufficiently explored at this point. The
17 negative consequences of a hasty start-up of this Project
18 and later abandonment are obvious. Thank you."

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: We will include in
20 the record as Exhibit No. 741 the written comments of
21 Theresa Kaufmann, R.N., from Pocatello, Idaho; and,
22 Exhibit 742 are the written comments of Frederick F.
23 Belzer, attorney at law, from Pocatello, Idaho.

24 Order No. 101, Gerald Jayne.

25 MR. JAYNE: I am Gerald Jayne, 1568 Lola

172 Turner

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1 Street, Idaho Falls. I have worked at the INEL for 25
2 years as a computer programmer, primarily on the reactor
3 safety programs.

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4 I have three points about the Draft EIS for
5 the SIS, three concerns. One is the increased military
6 presence at the INEL which bothers me. It's been my
7 perception, at least since I've been here, that the
8 primary emphasis at the INEL has been on peaceful uses
9 of research relative to nuclear energy. The SIS would
10 represent a rather dramatic change in that mission. This
11 bothers me.

12 Unfortunately, under the Reagan Administration
13 our Department of Energy has demilitarized itself.
14 In 1981, 38 percent of DOE's budget was for military
15 programs. Now it is 60 percent, while civilian energy
16 programs have shrunk from 57 percent to 35 percent. This
17 was in the U.S. News and World Report article, September
18 29, 1986, entitled "The DOE, the Pentagon's Adopted
19 Little Brother".

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20 Another point which I'm not clear on, I
21 couldn't find a reference to in the DEIS is what happens
22 after the seven or eight years worth of input of
23 plutonium for the SIS is used up? I fear there may be

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24 temptation to lobby the Congress to change the law which
25 would then permit spent fuel from civilian nuclear

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1 reactors to be processed. I think this would be a
2 terrible mistake.

3 For nearly four decades, there's been a
4 deliberate and wide separation of civilian and military
5 nuclear programs. If the United States were to turn
6 its commercial nuclear power plants into weapons
7 factories, it would probably be followed suit by other
8 nations, which would create an even more unstable world
9 situation, not to mention also creating more public
10 unacceptance of commercial nuclear energies.

11 My third point, which is probably the most
12 important one, I don't think the need for the SIS is
13 demonstrated at all in the SIS. The DEIS talks about
14 the Nuclear Weapon Stockpile Memorandum, which is
15 developed annually by the DOE and the Department of
16 Defense, upon which they base their need for funding
17 and for projects for the coming years. The DEIS says
18 that the need for material identified pursuant to the
19 memo involves various aspects of national security and
20 policy and is beyond the scope of its Environmental
21 Impact Statement. The memo is classified, secret and
22 restricted.

23 But this need is not beyond the scope. It's
24 at the very heart of the issue. Do we need the in-
25 creased weapons grade plutonium production capacity?

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1 The EIS says that weapons grade plutonium can still be
2 produced by blending and by recycling plutonium from
3 obsolete nuclear weapons, warheads, but that the SIS
4 would provide more flexibility and for more rapid in-
5 crease in output desired.

4.8.1

6 It appears that the SIS does not represent
7 so much a national need as it does a part of the
8 Pentagon's wish list. The argument is sometimes made,
9 as in this case, that the government has already de-
10 cided to take some action and that one should not
11 question that decision. But this attitude is unworthy
12 of any adult who cares enough about his country to try
13 to make the government work better. It is a vestage
14 of the quaint notion that the King can do no wrong.
15 The fact is that Congress is still fond of the pork
16 barrel. Congress often does fund projects proposed by
17 the Executive Branch, even poor ones. And just consider
18 what the executive is proposing in this case.

4.9.1

19 My comments here are not derogatory toward
20 individuals in the DOE, a lot of them are fine people.
21 It's just the way the system works. We have two large
22 federal agencies which typically sync to maximize their
23 budgets, both are largely occupied with weapons
24 development and production. They currently advise the
25 President who loves new weapons systems and technologies.

1 The President refers to a National Security Council, who
2 is big also on both weapons and secret operations.

4.10.2

3 To top all this off, the Weapons Stockpile
4 Memorandum is classified as secret. It's the very
5 basis upon which they claim they need the SIS. Are we
6 to expect - - are we expected to accept this claim
7 without question? Somebody has to be kidding.

1.1

8 In summary, the Draft EIS does not show a
9 need for the SIS, and indeed, I believe the SIS would
10 probably be counter-productive rather than conducive
11 to peace efforts. Thank you.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 743 in the
13 record will be the comments of Jerry Jayne.

14 Order 102, Holly DuPont, Holly DuPont?

15 (No response.)

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: 103, Frank Adams, Frank
17 Adams?

18 (No response.)

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: 104, Mike Rowe, Mike
20 Rowe?

21 (No response.)

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: 105, Kelly Ray?

Larry Asay of Blackfoot, Idaho, will substitute for Kelly Ray.

LARRY ASAY: I hope the audience will bear with me, this is my first public speaking debut. I'm Larry Asay, I'm from 109 South Fisher, Blackfoot, Idaho. I'm a third generation Idahoan and proud to live in this beautiful State. I've always enjoyed our mountains, rivers, and lakes. Because of this love of nature, I've been interested in different environmental issues in our country.

This is why I am supporting the SIS Project at the INEL Site. I feel the N Reactor at Hanford would need a very extensive overhaul and upgrading to ever be environmentally safe after 30 years of operation. The SIS will enable us the technology to clean up DOE owned plutonium more safely, securely, and economically than we do now.

By being able to clean up the plutonium we already have, we won't have to produce more plutonium, and we all know that the less plutonium we have in our stockpiles, the better off for the environment.

The SIS technology of recycling nuclear fuels will conserve our natural resources, reduce the output of nuclear waste, and will make us independent of foreign sources of uranium. In fact, it may make it

unnecessary to mine additional uranium in this country, which would help preserve our ecology.

The SIS facility would also be able to accomplish its purpose in a safer and cheaper way than a reactor would, since the process doesn't involve nuclear reaction.

I am, however, not at all in favor of nuclear weapons. And the thought of a nuclear holocaust terrifies me. It seems, though, that for now it is a necessary evil to preserve our strength until an arms agreement can be reached. I don't think the Russians would have come to the bargaining table over nuclear missiles in Europe if it wasn't for us putting Persian missiles on their back doorstep.

The SIS would be a much needed part of this strong defense while also bringing needed jobs to the INEL Site. This Project would also bring some of the best and latest technology to Idaho. The laser technology which will result from the research and operation of this facility will make an important contribution to medical breakthroughs. It would also generate far-reaching national interest and regional opportunities for our generation and future generations.

Some people, however, say how unsafe the nuclear industry is in this country. But in my 16 years

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1 of helping to build nuclear related facilities at the
2 INEL, I have found it just the opposite. It is one of
3 the safest and environmentally conscious industries in
4 Southeastern Idaho.

5 In closing, I would like to say that I do
6 need the work in this area, but I would be more than
7 happy to give it all up if we were ever able to achieve
8 a nuclear disarmament worldwide.

9 And I see I got some time left, and I heard
10 the gentleman talk about the watch that he had and how
11 they wouldn't allow him in at Westinghouse. Right now,
12 I'm working at Westinghouse. We're working in a piping
13 tunnel there, and in that piping tunnel there's pressure
14 relief piping for their reactor at Al-W. And in that
15 tunnel, there is radioactive gas in there. And they
16 have to vent it out of that tunnel. That radioactive
17 gas is coming from radon coming out of the cement. If
18 I was working down at FMC in Pocatello, they wouldn't
19 monitor it as closely as they do out there. That's why
20 I feel that working at the INEL, I feel safer there than
21 I do at home with my kids.

22 And speaking of kids, I should have brought
23 them down. I didn't know we were going to have the
24 entertainment with the BB's and the guy in the tutu.
25 They would be the first ones if we had foreigners on our

1 shores trying to take us over, they would be the first
2 ones running to their government and asking them for
3 protection for their rights. That's why we need a
4 strong defense in this nation. Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Once again I would
6 remind those at the doors to please step away from the
7 exits in the back. The fire marshal asked me to keep
8 our doors clear.

9 Witness Order 106, John Thayne Howe, John
10 Thayne Howe?

11 (No response.)

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 107, Jim
13 Cahoon, Jim Cahoon?

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 108,
16 Mr. Max Lapioli.

17 MR. LAPIOLI: My name is Max Lapioli. I
18 reside at Route 1, Box 274-M in Rigby, Idaho, Mr. Chair-
19 man and fellow Idahoans and others. I'd like to thank
20 you for affording me this opportunity to speak. Bear
21 with me. I feel I can speak here tonight on behalf of
22 organized labor in the community and other concerned
23 Southeast Idahoans that want to see the SIS Project built.
24
25

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1 right here in Southeast Idaho at the INEL.

2 I am not a native Idahoan, but I am a full-
3 time Idahoan. Unlike some of our high profile opponents
4 here, I live, work, and pay taxes in Idaho.

5 One of the reasons I moved here about five
6 years ago was because of the beauty of the State and
7 the environment here that seems such as a concern the
8 SIS will injure, and I don't believe the SIS will threaten
9 this environment that I moved here to be a part of.

10 Frankly, when I came here I did not know
11 much at all about the "Site", and the words "nuclear,
12 isotope, radiation and plutonium" did concern me. In
13 April of '84, I went to work out at the Site for the
14 first time, and I have worked there since.

15 The construction contractor I work for gets
16 involved quite a bit in decontamination efforts in
17 conjunction with the construction processes. After
18 being trained by the operating contractor out there and
19 studying the procedures and understanding the limits
20 set forth by the Federal Government and EG&G at the
21 Site, I feel real confident out there. I am a qualified
22 radiation worker.

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23 I feel real confident that the safeguards,
24 both environmentally and health-wise, are extremely good.
25 and I have no more concerns about working out there in

1 the nuclear environment at the INEL.

2 The INEL and our local contractors and labor
3 organizations' safety records are excellent and speak
4 for themselves.

5 I'd like to echo a statement I heard the
6 Mayor of Idaho Falls make at the Yes, Yes, SIS Rally
7 a couple weeks ago, where he said:

8 "We all hope and we're all working for the
9 day where we won't need bombs, weapons, tanks, missiles,
10 submarines, bombers and the like. Peace would be great
11 without a threat of foreign insurrection, but that day
12 is not here yet. And a good defense is a great deterrent
13 to the possibility of foreign insurgency."

14 We've heard quite a bit about the concerns
15 of the transportation problems from the opposition. The
16 INEL is the preferred site by DOE for the SIS Project,
17 and if it did get the Project, maybe it would go to
18 our neighbor Washington. The transportation problem
19 is it magically going to go around Idaho? We are still
20 a storage facility out there at INEL and will continue
21 to have radioactive shipments in the State. Maybe some
22 of the opposition's tunnel-visioned efforts could be
23 better spent trying to improve our highways around the
24 State, which would also improve an already great safety
25 record in the radiation shipments.

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1 The SIS will refine plutonium to a weapons
2 grade fuel, but only from the anti SIS people have I
3 heard the mention of a "bomb factory".

4 I respect our opposition's right to their
5 opinion and wouldn't it be great if the movie stars and
6 the rich out of staters - - by the way, I believe
7 they're about the only ones that can afford to ski
8 Sun Valley anymore - - wouldn't it be great if those
9 people who came here once or twice a year during the
10 winter could support Idaho's economy? I wouldn't mind
11 sitting at home. But they can't do it, and there's a
12 lot more to Idaho than tourism in Sun Valley.

13 In closing, I believe if this were an
14 unwise or dangerous Project, that the majority of our
15 elected officials and politicians would not so strongly
16 support it. If a majority of these politicians con-
17 stituents were not in favor of the Project, the
18 politicians would not so strongly pledge their support.
19 They need to be re-elected.

20 Small special interest groups such as
21 Snake River Alliance are very well organized and very
22 vocal, but are very small minority. We have here in
23 Southeast Idaho at the INEL the facility, the technology,
24 the people and the safety record to build the SIS Project.

25 Idaho needs the INEL; Idaho needs jobs; and,

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1 Idaho needs and wants the SIS. Thank you.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
3 of Max Lapioli will be included in the record as
4 Exhibit No. 745.

5 We now advance to the next witness, which
6 is 109, Mike Theiring, Mike Theiring?

7 Substituting for Mike Theiring is Katherine
8 Daley.

9 MS. DALEY: Katherine Daley, 1130 East
10 Bonneville, Pocatello, Idaho. And I'm presenting the
11 testimony of Nancy Coates, 307 North Buchanan, Pocatello,
12 Idaho. She addresses this letter to Mr. Nichols:

13 "In regards to the Special Isotope Separation 1.1
14 Project, I am in full support of the No Action Alter-
15 native.

16 "There seems to be many different arguments
17 both for and against the SIS Project, the goal of which
18 is to provide weapon grade plutonium for use in nuclear
19 weapons.

20 "I agree with the arguments I have heard 4.15.5
21 in opposition to the Project, i.e., the question of
22 need for additional weapon grade plutonium when there 5.1.33
23 appears to be plenty, possible catastrophic environmental
24 damage during transportation of the plutonium and 5.30.3.1
25 storage of the waste, the negative psychological and 2.7.2

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1 social impacts of nuclear weapons production in a
2 community and globally, and the short-term economic
3 boom and bust impact. But I guess my bottom line is
4 that I do not support any project that will create
5 additional nuclear bombs or components thereof.

6 The only project that I would support in
7 regard to nuclear weaponry would be the dismantlement
8 of any and all warheads as long as that process was
9 done with the proper safeguards. Sincerely, Nancy
10 Coates."

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
12 of Nancy Coates of Pocatello, Idaho, will be included
13 in the record as Exhibit 746.

14 At this point, ladies and gentlemen, it's
15 getting close to 10:00. One thing I'd like to do is,
16 if there are any individuals here who have written
17 comments that don't intend to stay and present them
18 orally, we will receive them for the record at this
19 point. Is there anyone in that category?

20 In addition to that, I've been informed that
21 we've had two individuals who had pre-registered to
22 speak this afternoon that didn't have an opportunity
23 to do that. We actually closed the record about 4:00,
24 because no one was here at that point.

25 I'll call their names at this point to allow

1 them to testify: Brent J. Buescher, followed by
2 Brian Olsen.

3 Give your name, please, and address for
4 the record.

5 MR. BUESCHER: Hello, my name is Brent
6 Buescher. I reside at 330 Hardy Drive in Idaho Falls.
7 I'm a student at Idaho Falls High School. I'm very
8 pleased to have the opportunity to talk to you tonight.
9 We've been told repeatedly that the decision to build
10 nuclear weapons is not ours to make, and we should
11 therefore take the carrot that's been dangled before us
12 and allow the National Engineering Laboratory to become
13 the location for plutonium separation plant.

14 I personally have a problem with the name
15 SIS. It seems too well suited to sell the idea of a
16 facility that, in fact, would serve only to allow our
17 military to build as many nuclear weapons as it wished.

18 Notice that the words "weapons grade
19 plutonium" does not occur anywhere in the name, Special
20 Isotope Separation Project. It sounds just like any
21 other project out at the Site.

22 I am fully aware that defense projects have
23 been and are located at the INEL, and I have no problem
24 with that. But to my knowledge, the INEL has never been
25 the location of a facility that, like the SIS, would

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1 form a link in the chain of the production of nuclear
2 weapons. If we allow defense projects at the INEL to
3 serve as a precedent for the SIS, then I ask for what
4 will the SIS serve as a precedent?

5 I'm fully aware and even agree with the
6 rationale for maintaining an arsenal of nuclear weapons.
7 Certainly in the past, appeasement has led to war.
8 However, when these arguments, which are good arguments,
9 are used to justify the SIS, they fall on one important
10 point. We not only have enough warheads to provide a
11 detriment, we also have not yet been told that current
12 facilities are insufficient to provide the plutonium
13 that we need to maintain that. In fact, the documents
14 that supposedly provide this are classified, and until
15 some Department of Defense bureaucrat has the decency to
16 tell us exactly why the SIS is being built, I cannot
17 support the Project and will not support its location in
18 Idaho.

19 I agree with the proponents of the SIS that
20 it probably would not provide a significant environ-
21 mental hazard, and I also further agree with its
22 proponents that it would probably provide a certain
23 amount of money to the economy of Idaho. But it's time
24 that Idaho looks beyond the limited provincial scope of
25 Idaho and decides whether we will allow ourselves to be

1 accomplices in the preparations of our military for
2 world destruction.

3 Idaho does not need the SIS. There is no
4 economic benefit to be gained from the SIS that Idaho
5 cannot achieve for themselves without the aid of the
6 Federal Government.

7 An economy created by federal funding of
8 any kind is a false economy. We here in Idaho need
9 to invest our time and resources in enterprises that
10 will succeed with or without federal support. We do not
11 need a plutonium plant in Idaho, and we are in a position
12 to decide. Thank you.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Another individual
14 who registered to testify in the afternoon session is
15 Brian Olsen - - Brian Mullin, I'm sorry.

16 MR. MULLIN: For the record, my name is
17 Brian Mullin, and I reside at 686 Eleventh Street, Idaho
18 Falls, Idaho.

19 I do not support the building, presence, or
20 use of nuclear weapons. However, I support the SIS.
21 The DOE, which is responsible for the production and
22 maintenance of plutonium, has decided in whatever
23 wisdom that it may have that an increase in plutonium
24 is necessary for the defense of the United States.

25 No one in this room can truly refute that,

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for none of us have seen the classified document which that information lies in. So in fact, we must base our discussion today on that principle and on the fact that the DOE has decided that an increase in weapons grade plutonium is necessary.

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The SIS is the best means to the desired end. It is the safest, most sanitary, and most efficient means by which to produce weapons grade plutonium. Other methods do exist, such as the new production reactor which could be built, however the use of the new production reactor would require strip mining, processing, refining and finally the transportation of uranium, all of which would pose some risk to the health of society and the - - I'm sorry, the other option is the re-opening of the N Reactor at the Hanford Site. However, realizing that the N Reactor was not closed because the United States did not need an increase in plutonium, or did not need the plutonium that it produced.

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The N Reactor was closed because it was no longer safe for operation because it had been in operation for close to 50 years.

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Now considering that some means is necessary to produce a greater supply of plutonium, and considering that some type of plant is going to be constructed somewhere, shouldn't that plant be constructed at the

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safest national laboratory? The national laboratory with one of the safest, with one of the best records of safety in the country? The answer is yes. The site is the INEL.

Some of the environmentalists present at today's hearing are against the construction of the SIS at the INEL simply because the SIS is a defense-related project. And they don't want to see the INEL become a defense-related national lab. However, realize that there are already several projects related to national defense, one of which includes plutonium, specifically CCP.

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The environmentalists are actually not against the SIS being built at the INEL because it is defense-related, but are against the SIS being built because it is nuclear related.

If we allow these environmentalists to dictate the ends of our country and where our country is going, we would never have expanded from ocean to ocean, and we would still be living in a state close to the dark ages, crammed into the 13 original colonies which we began as.

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Our country welcomes development. The City of Idaho Falls depends on development for its economy. The SIS is one of such developments. It is new technology.

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1 which our community depends on, so most of all, the
2 SIS is an addition to the economy of Idaho and of Idaho
3 Falls.

4 The SIS will provide jobs for construction
5 companies and thereby provide jobs for construction
6 workers. The SIS will bring in 750 new workers to run
7 the plant. The increase in population will provide a
8 larger tax base to support education, which the State
9 needs so much, and other improvements to the State which
10 we cherish.

11 Some form of plutonium producing plant will
12 be built somewhere. Are we going to allow the tax
13 dollars and income of 750 people to go to some other
14 state? Are we going to allow those tax dollars to
15 support schools in another state? Are we going to allow
16 the minds of those 750 educated people to make contri-
17 butions to some other state? Are we going to allow a
18 few environmentalists to deprive us and our economy of
19 the money and employment that the SIS will bring?

20 To all these questions I answer "yes". And
21 I believe that you should too. For, like you, I love
22 Idaho and Idaho Falls, and I want to see it grow to a
23 city we can all be proud of.

24 Now I'd like to address three other points
25 that have come up - - is that the time?

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1 THE HEARING OFFICER: You're out of time.

2 MR. MULLIN: Thank you very much.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,

4 I was informed that one of the commenters who was called
5 earlier and was not here was out on an emergency call,
6 Dr. Reid Anderson, so we'll accommodate him at this
7 point. He was Witness No. 31 on this evening's order.

8 DR. ANDERSON: I am Reid H. Anderson, and
9 I reside at 578 South 49th, Idaho Falls, Idaho since
10 1949. I represent myself and 12 employees at the Eye
11 Clinic of Idaho Falls, at Fifth and Holmes. All 12
12 universally endorse the SIS at the INEL.

13 I have been fortunate enough to have six
14 out of ten children in the medical profession. Two of
15 them are eye surgeons. We have serviced and been in
16 close contact with the safety program at INEL, and I
17 have examined thousands of eyes for insipient cataracts
18 and found none as a result of radiation.

19 As a physician, I've seen incredible new
20 uses for the laser since its discovery in 1960. I do
21 not have time to even begin to enumerate these, but
22 they are truly astounding. It is my belief that since
23 coming here in 1949 and the predictions being that the
24 INEL then known by another name, would run out of time
25 and projects in 15 years, that the expansion of the

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1 technology of the laser technology alone would be in-
2 credible. I do not argue that we may have a surplus
3 of plutonium, but I do say that we will find a use for
4 it, even though it may not be immediately needed.

5 My father was president of a bank in Pullman,
6 Washington, for over 60 years. Every officer had a
7 loaded .45 with a bullet in the chamber. That bank was
8 never in question as to a robbery. I submit to you that
9 a strong defense is the best offense. I do not fear
10 that the United States will turn loose a nuclear holo-
11 caust, but I do fear that if we are not prepared,
12 someone else may take that initiative away from us.

13 Therefore, I say yes to SIS.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll now turn to our
15 regular order of commenters, Commenter No. 110, Robert
16 J. Bodell, Robert Bodell?

17 (No response.)

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 11, Jennifer
19 Merriam.

20 We have a substitute for Jennifer Merriam.
21 please give us your name and address for the record.

22 MS. JOHNSON: My name is Melissa Johnson.
23 I reside at 129 West Fourth South, No. 206, Rexburg,
24 Idaho.
25

193 Johnson

1 It breaks my heart to see my brothers and
2 sisters in humanity are so blinded by the sheer prospect
3 of money they would encourage the production of plutonium
4 for weapons to destroy life, to murder everything good
5 and beautiful in our world. It terrifies me to consider
6 what will happen to our society when we reduce ourselves
7 to such twisted and materialistic in humans. I am
8 crying inside, and I hope we realize what we are doing
9 to ourselves and our posterity before it's too late. I
10 may be in the minority, but I know it doesn't have to
11 be this way.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 112, Kelly Rhoads,
13 Kelly Rhoads?

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 113, Dennis Proksa,
16 who testified earlier.

17 No. 114, Wayne Loveless, Wayne Loveless?

18 (No response.)

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: 115, Clarence Shore,
20 Clarence Shore?

21 (No response.)

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 116, John E.

194 Johnson

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1 Carlsen, John E. Carlsen?
 2
 3 (No response.)
 4 THE HEARING OFFICER: 117, Larry E. Tauscher,
 5 Larry E. Tauscher?
 6
 7 (No response.)
 8 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 118, Ted C.
 9 Jensen, Ted C. Jensen?
 10
 11 (No response.)
 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: 119, Dennis W. Sucher,
 13 Dennis W. Sucher?
 14 MR. SUCHER: My name is Dennis Sucher, and
 15 I live at 4195 Wanda in Idaho Falls.
 16 I am a member of the International Brother-
 17 hood of Electrical Workers, Local 449 in Pocatello. I
 18 am also an honorably discharged Air Force Veteran.
 19 Thank you for allowing me this brief but
 20 very important allotment of time for sharing some of
 21 my thoughts and views. I'm thankful I was born into a
 22 country such as this where a person can publicly ex-
 23 press one's thoughts and views as we are all doing
 24 here tonight.
 25 As a concerned citizen in this great country

1 and a past member of its national defense system, I'm
 2 very much in favor of this type of complex and especially
 3 building it here at our INEL Site.
 4 Thirty-seven years ago, the National Reactor
 5 Testing Station produced the first light from atomic
 6 power. At that time it wouldn't surprise me to hear
 7 that there were opponents to it, as there are opponents
 8 to this Project right now.
 9 There must be opposition in all things,
 10 whether it be in the gravity of the earth, polarities
 11 in electricity, or what have you. But in this case I
 12 feel the opposition is wrong, dead wrong, and could
 13 have some devastating effects in the future, our future,
 14 my children's future.
 15 The opposition's reasoning is more emotional
 16 than logical or sensible. In the testimonies we've
 17 heard so far, we've heard stories about dreams, visions,
 18 being able to foretell the future in a crystal ball,
 19 with Idaho Falls being ground zero. We've heard just
 20 about everything except divine revelation. It wouldn't
 21 surprise me if before these hearings are over, I'm sure
 22 we'll have somebody come up and say he's had divine
 23 revelation himself. They're worried mostly about Idaho's
 24 clear blue skies and streams, the rugged mountainous
 25 terrain, the scenic Idaho that we all know and love

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1 being in complete and total ruin. But not once have
 2 I heard about the beautiful desert area at the INEL
 3 location in these hearings. Surely by building this
 4 Project at the ICPP facility, surely this won't be an
 5 eyesore, or it's not going to hamper one's views of the
 6 western sunsets anymore than the buildings that are
 7 already there in place.

8 They're worried that this would increase
 9 the threat of nuclear war with global destruction as
 10 its final outcome. Believe me when I tell you that I,
 11 too, worry about that, as others do, as others have
 12 who have spoken before me. But the door to the atomic
 13 age was opened to the world with the dropping of the
 14 bombs on Japan. Our elected officials at that time
 15 made the decision. Many of us who are in the room to-
 16 night are from that baby boomer era and probably wouldn't
 17 be here right now if our nation's leaders didn't have
 18 the courage, the intestinal fortitude to make that
 19 decision when they did.

20 Our fathers and many other American fighting
 21 men wouldn't be here today either. Yes, war is hell
 22 and sometimes the choices are tough, but that is the
 23 price of freedom, the same freedom that our ancestors,
 24 the early patriots and minutemen paid for with their
 25 lives. It's been said that a man can show no greater

1 love than to lay down his life for a friend. Many of
 2 us who are fathers in this room right now would gladly
 3 lay down our lives if we knew that our wives and
 4 children would continue to live in a free America as
 5 we know it today, without Communist rule.

6 We heard stories about meeting St. Peter
 7 at the golden gates and having to account for our stand
 8 on this issue, whether it be moral, immoral, sane or
 9 insane. But I ask you this, could it be possible that
 10 by building a facility such as this, could it be used
 11 as a tool for bargaining and negotiating in future talks
 12 for world peace? Are we willing to take the chance that
 13 by not building it here, whether it be at the INEL or
 14 anywhere for that matter, that we would still be
 15 defensibly strong into the 21st century? In sports
 16 there is a saying that the best offense is a good de-
 17 fense. I think that phrase applies to this situation
 18 equally as well.

19 As a parent and taxpayer, I'm concerned
 20 for my children, their education and future job market.
 21 This Project would help both areas in that by expanding
 22 and stabilizing the tax base. We could provide for a
 23 better education as well as more opportunities for our
 24 children to stay and work here in Idaho.

25 As an electrician who has worked on many

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1 projects at the INEL, I look forward to the educational
2 opportunities in my trade from building such a facility
3 such as this. I believe I can safely say that my
4 brothers and sisters in my trade as well as other trades,
5 feel the same as I do. I look forward to being able
6 to participate in the construction of this exciting
7 new technology.

8 We don't need fruits and nuts or easterners
9 who help us decide what is best for Idaho. Just like
10 what happened at the Right To Work Committee from
11 Virginia did for us on that controversial issue. Just
12 look around and you can see what it's done for us here.

13 Our country needs the SIS; Idaho needs the
14 SIS; INEL needs the SIS. Let's build it here.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
16 of Dennis Sucher of Idaho Falls, Idaho will be included
17 in the record as Exhibit No. 747.

18 Let's go off the record for just a moment.

19 (A discussion was held off
20 the record.)

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: We are now at Witness
22 Order No. 120, Warren Hill, Warren Hill?

23 (No response.)
24

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 121, Don Watters?

199 Sucher

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1 The written comments of Don Watters will be
2 included in the record as Exhibit 748, and the written
3 comments of his wife, Laurie Watters, will be included
4 as Exhibit No. 749.

5 MR. WATTERS: Thank you. Mr. Chairman, ladies
6 and gentlemen. My name is Don Watters, and I reside
7 at 207 West Oaks, Shelley, Idaho, where I live with
8 my wife and two small children. I make my livelihood
9 as a skilled craftsman in the trades as a construction
10 electrician. I worked on many projects at the INEL, as
11 well as various jobs in the area of Southeastern Idaho
12 from Rexburg to Twin Falls, and all there is in between.

13 I wish to present my testimony in support
14 of building the Special Isotope Separation Project at
15 the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory for a number
16 of reasons, including the jobs this Project will offer,
17 the technologies that I believe will spin off, thus
18 creating more employment and revenue for the State, and
19 the national security issue.

20 I have recently had the opportunity to look
21 at the summary as a study conducted by ISU's economic
22 department, and I have used much of this as a basis for
23 information. It has been shown that for over 35 years
24 the economy of Southeastern Idaho and activity at INEL
25 have been intertwined. Direct wages and salaries of

200 Watters

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1 employees working on the INEL Site are easily under-
 2 stood. But beyond that level we have the consumer
 3 goods and services and all other forms of indirect
 4 effects that come from the employment level of such a
 5 major regional employer.

6 The study points out that the impacts of the
 7 INEL are statewide. By studying INEL impacts on state
 8 and local taxes, it was noted that INEL employees con-
 9 tributed to the State general fund in excess of the
 10 relative numbers due in the most part because of the
 11 higher income brackets found with jobs in these fields
 12 of technology and research and development arenas. The
 13 benefits are shared statewide.

14 Additional benefits from the healthy growth
 15 of the Site have come about in the education and
 16 cultural circles. Post-secondary educational programs
 17 with the University of Idaho and ISU held in Idaho Falls
 18 are made possible by contract with the operations
 19 contractor, EG&G Idaho. And these course offerings are
 20 open to all qualified individuals, not just INEL
 21 employees.

22 Lastly, the study by the ISU economics group
 23 pointed out that since INEL employees tend to be in
 24 higher income brackets and have made substantial in-
 25 vestments in higher education, it can be expected that

1 they would be especially supportive of strong educational
 2 systems and a broad range of cultural and entertainment
 3 activities, things such as the Idaho Falls Symphony, the
 4 Idaho Falls Cultural Council, and areas such as the
 5 surrounding ski resorts, for example. This has an
 6 impact on Idaho Falls and the surrounding communities
 7 in terms of making them congenial and stimulating
 8 places to live.

9 Diversity of the INEL Site, as well as the
 10 record of safety, productivity and area support all lend
 11 a hand to welcome the SIS Projects. And I hope that
 12 the benefits are shown to far outweigh the so-called
 13 risk factor that is being so handily propagated by an
 14 outside group.

15 In looking at what is going on, I am re-
 16 minded of the space program that was reputed to be cost
 17 prohibitive or biologically unsafe. Yet we have seen
 18 the development of many articles of everyday use that
 19 we take for granted, many things such as digital watches,
 20 the home computer, satellite dishes for improved
 21 communication and entertainment.

22 I hope to see additional technology
 23 developed from this Project, as well as a continuation
 24 of facility use far beyond the initial projection as
 25 has been the case with so many of the Site's other

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1 facilities.

2 In looking at the INEL Site, we find that
3 it was originally used as a place to test the Navy's
4 big gun barrels, and then later diversified into a
5 major research and development facility. It's gone far
6 beyond its original scope as a defense-related support
7 facility.

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8 I studied materials supporting the location
9 and building of the SIS Project at the INEL, and in
10 conjunction with reports on the status of other defense
11 support facilities, I believe that the need exists for
12 such a project to replace aging production facilities.

13 I do not adhere to the policy that we can
14 let the national defense production effort shut down and
15 that our global adversaries would do the same in the
16 name of humanity, unfortunately. I believe that in
17 order to maintain a free society and preserve the
18 American way as we have come to know it dictates that
19 we have a balance between world powers or the advantage
20 held by one will surely be utilized against another as
21 we have been shown so many times.

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22 There are arguments being propagated by the
23 Project's opposition ranging from the concern of this
24 site being transposed to a defense site which was its
25 beginning, to try to generate mass hysteria in the

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1 agricultural community over a possibility of market
2 damage from nuclear accidents. We should point out that
3 this facility does not involve a nuclear reaction in its
4 process and will be used to clean up and utilize material
5 that is already stockpiled as well as the excellent
6 record of safety the Site has enjoyed. Thank you.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 122, Ron
8 Sessions, Ron Sessions?

9 MR. SESSIONS: My name is Ron Sessions, and
10 I reside at 1975 Bittern Drive, Ammon, Idaho. I was
11 born and raised in Southeast Idaho and have lived here
12 all my life. I have worked at the INEL for 23 years.
13 The INEL and its projects are a vital necessity to the
14 economy of Idaho. The nuclear industry is the safest
15 industry in the United States and statistics will bear
16 this out.

17 Our defense in the United States is extremely
18 important. The philosophy of "if we get rid of our
19 bombs, they will get rid of theirs," has never happened
20 in history. Most of the world understands force, and
21 this defense is what has kept us out of war.

22 The last 40 years is the longest time in
23 recorded history that there hasn't been a global war.
24 It is because of the weapons that are in existence. We
25 must be able to show Russia that we are capable of taking

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1 care of ourselves.

2 The SIS Project is being considered in
3 Idaho because of our facilities, manpower, excellent
4 record and expertise. We should definitely take
5 advantage of the opportunity to do our very best to
6 help our defense to succeed and to keep our people
7 working. The people who oppose building the SIS in
8 Idaho or anywhere else, to me, do not have the best
9 interests of our great country in mind. They also do
10 not understand what letting our guard down can do to
11 the United States and all free countries. The people
12 who oppose building the SIS in Idaho need to explain
13 more to me the valid reasons, as none of them seem to
14 make any sense. Scare tactics do not convince those
15 of us who work in the nuclear business. At least we
16 know what we're talking about. I say build SIS in Idaho
17 and keep our economy healthy. Thank you.

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
19 of Ron Sessions will be marked as Exhibit No. 750 and
20 included in the record as such.

21 Our next scheduled commenter is Steven J.
22 Walters.

23 Mr. Walters has submitted written testimony
24 of Phil Oakes of Idaho Falls, Idaho. We'll mark this
25 No. 751 and include it in the record. You may proceed.

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1 MR. WALTERS: My name is Steven J. Walters,
2 and I reside at 409 East Alice in Blackfoot, Idaho. My
3 testimony is in favor of building the SIS Project at the
4 INEL. I was born and raised in Southeastern Idaho, I
5 presently work for M-K Ferguson of Idaho at the INEL.
6 I was only three years old when the first light was
7 produced by atomic energy on our desert. My father
8 worked on that project. In the last 17 years I've had
9 the opportunity to work on nearly every facility at the
10 INEL during construction or upgrading. I have also
11 worked at Hanford and other projects along with many
12 craftsmen from around the country. I can personally
13 attest that if the SIS is built in Idaho, that it will
14 be built better and for less cost than anywhere else.

15 The clouds of controversy surrounding this
16 Project have definitely left a lot of Southeastern
17 Idaho's inhabitants confused, but for myself I do have
18 some college credits in economics and the economic
19 side of this Project is definitely not confusing.

20 Tough economic times are being shared by
21 Idaho's mining industry, forest industry, agricultural
22 industry and believe me Southeastern Idaho construction
23 workers aren't lying in no bed of roses.

24 I find it extremely ironic that Nevada will
25 be reaping the benefits of the coal-fired power plants

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1 that are being built there instead of Idaho, while Idaho
2 rate payers will pay the bills and breathe their air.

3 So let's forget about the emotional issue
4 for a minute here and bring in some common sense and
5 logic. Let's separate the facts from the fiction.

6 These hearings aren't to decide whether or
7 not this Project will be built. These hearings are to
8 decide whether this Project will be built in Idaho.

9 The Project will require 440 construction
10 workers to build it, not 440 nuclear engineers. And
11 there is more than enough out of work local craftsmen
12 to fill these jobs.

13 Fact, studies done by Idaho State University
14 indicate that 750 permanent jobs at the SIS facility
15 will generate an additional 1,050 supportive jobs in
16 the community. Whether they are service jobs or not,
17 jobs boost our economy and our economy definitely needs
18 boosting.

19 Further studies done by Idaho State
20 University show that in 1985 the INEL work force made
21 up 2.5 percent of the State's total work force, and
22 that this 2.5 percent contributed 5.3 percent of the
23 total income tax revenue collected by the State that
24 year. Using the \$1278 per INEL average state income
25 tax withheld that year, with 750 new jobs at the SIS

1 alone would bring the State an additional \$958,500 in
2 general fund revenues. And that's what you call bringing
3 the money back to the state, federal revenue sharing.

4 The AVLIS process of refining plutonium
5 is much safer and cheaper than the reactor process.
6 Waste generated by this process is a fraction of that
7 produced by a conventional reactor.

8 Fiction: An accident could threaten Idaho's
9 agriculture and tourism industry. Statistics show
10 there is a far greater hazard in our environment in
11 public safety from toxic chemicals and wastes being
12 shipped in the nation than there are from nuclear ship-
13 ments. It makes me wonder if the economics professor
14 that started that rumor was the same one who started
15 the rumor that Idaho potatoes will be drawing \$12 a
16 hundredweight because of the Chernobyl accident.

17 The biggest threat that I can see for
18 tourism is that INEL employees will stop spending their
19 money in Sun Valley because they will be migrating to
20 Nevada to find work.

21 Fiction: We are entering an area of arms
22 control, and the facility is not needed due to weapons
23 cutbacks. I once believed that if you turned the other
24 cheek that, you know, things would happen like it says
25 in the Bible, and I once believed that if we didn't have

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1 a strong defense that other people would think of us as
 2 an example of democracy and cut theirs back, and I was
 3 wrong, because that's one thing that Ronald Reagan has
 4 shown me that we never could have a cutback in arms
 5 until he started building our defense up and the Russians
 6 decided, "Hey, we don't want to economically compete
 7 with this. Let's cut back."

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8 Fiction: When we get a new President, he
 9 will put an end to the Project and all that tax revenue
 10 will be waste. Our democratic system is set up with
 11 checks and balances. That's what this hearing is all
 12 about, and no one man is going to ax anything by his
 13 own power.

14 Fiction: The Environmental Impact Statement
 15 has a disclaimer that doesn't hold the government
 16 liable. The EIS from the Teton Dam had the same language,
 17 and the government didn't weasel out of any responsibili-
 18 ties there.

19 I would like to thank our forefathers for
 20 this freedom of speech and I would like to thank our
 21 veterans for defending it.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
 23 of Steven J. Walters are included in the record as
 24 Exhibit No. 752.

25 What we're going to do at this point is take

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1 a very brief recess and return to receive the rest of
 2 the testimony we have commenters for.

3 If you do have any written comments, we
 4 would ask you to bring them forward at this point.

5 (A brief recess was taken.)

6
 7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen,
 8 we'll go back on the record and bring this last part of
 9 the hearing to a conclusion, hopefully at a reasonable
 10 hour. We would like to go back to our commenters order,
 11 No. 124, Mr. Vaughn Wagoneer, Mr. Vaughn Wagoneer?

12 (No response.)

13
 14 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 125, James Bird,
 15 who cancelled his oral comments and provided written
 16 comments for the record; Commenter No. 26, Cheryl Olsen,
 17 Cheryl Olsen?

18 MS. OLSEN: My name is Cheryl Olsen, and I
 19 reside at 4101 North Old Highway 91, No. 41, Pocatello.

20 I came to Idaho four years ago from Utah,
 21 having grown up downwind from the Nevada test site
 22 where radiation exposure was cheerfully described to
 23 the residents as sunshine units. I have followed their
 24 cases through the courts where it is now legally recog-
 25 nized that the federal government is responsible, but

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1 not liable for their cancers and premature deaths.

2 From 1970 to 1973 while at the University
3 of Utah, I worked as a work study student in a bio-
4 chemistry lab involving cancer research for the Atomic
5 Energy Commission. I worked on studies of the long-
6 term effects of radiation exposure on a colony of pure-
7 bred Beagle dogs. This study had been ongoing since
8 1945. Each work day I'd pass down a long corridor
9 carrying a rack of test tubes containing blood that had
10 been taken from these irradiated dogs, passed row upon
11 row upon row of diseased and malignant organs taken
12 from these dogs at autopsy. These dogs were irradiated
13 at secret levels with plutonium stanchum. That hallway
14 will always be quite clear in my mind, quite literally.

15 The issue of the SIS so obviously divides
16 us. Anyone who has attended these hearings can certainly
17 attest to that. Some are in favor; some are against.
18 The proponents say we need the jobs. The experts say
19 plutonium is needed to provide nuclear deterrence in
20 line with our national policy of deterrence.

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21 Feeling this division and confusion between
22 the supposed need and the moral abhorrence of gaining
23 more nuclear destructive capacity, I began to look at
24 the strategy behind the development of the theory of
25 nuclear deterrence. The following are some of the aspects

1 of the theory that I found particularly enlightening:

2 At the dawn of the nuclear age, attitudes
3 were very prophetic. Albert Einstein said of the
4 nuclear age that everything has changed now except our
5 way of thinking. Winston Churchill, in a speech before
6 the House of Commons in 1955 stated that, "Safety will
7 become the security child of terror and survival the
8 twin brother of annihilation."

9 Since this does impart safety and terror,
10 the safety can only be as great as the terror is and
11 the terror will be relentless. We see ourselves and
12 our children in terror.

13 By growing to actually rely on terror, we do
14 more than tolerate its presence in the world, we place
15 our trust in it. These words and some that follow are
16 those of Jonathon Shell. He has written extensively
17 about the dilemma of the nuclear age.

18 We then are voluntary hostages to terrorism
19 of this deterrence. In the late '50's and '60's, the
20 strategies of limited war was developed as a number of
21 other countries became nuclear powers. In the over
22 40 years of our experience in the nuclear age, no two
23 nuclear powers have entered into even conventional
24 hostilities. This strategy of limited war allows
25 hostilities between nuclear and non-nuclear powers such

1 as the Vietnam conflict or the Soviet Afghanistan wars.
 2 This threat to nations with small resources and no
 3 nuclear capability forces them to increase their military
 4 expenditures when these countries only one person in
 5 two has uncontaminated drinking water.

6 What about their children? Our deterrence
 7 policy requires not obedience to our moral feelings,
 8 but resistance to those feelings is presented as our
 9 obligation, as though moral feelings were a silence
 10 call that would be weak to give into and that it is our
 11 duty to resist.

12 In accepting the strategic necessity, you'll
 13 find of planning the defense of hundreds of millions of
 14 people, we begin to look at a world in which morality
 15 and action inhabit two separate closed realms. All
 16 strategic sense becomes nonsense and vice versa, and we
 17 are left divided against ourselves with the choice of
 18 seeming to be either strategic or moral idiots.

19 We are not idiots. It is the deterrent
 20 policy that has divided us against ourselves and against
 21 our fellow man. There has been more technological and
 22 educational advances since the dawn of the nuclear age
 23 than in all the time that came before the first mushroom
 24 cloud blossomed over Hiroshima. We see great goals for
 25 the future and also great perils. We all feel fear for

1 the future of our children. I often wonder how they
 2 see the future we'll turn over to them. Our sturdy
 3 children of terror.

4 My children do not need this Project, the
 5 presence of seeing the nuclear threat we all live under.
 6 The young people who have testified at these hearings
 7 do not need this Project. It's long past time to stop.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 127, Jessie
 9 Siler, Jessie Siler?

10 (No response.)

11
 12 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 128, Brad Hendrick-
 13 son, Brad Hendrickson?

14 (No response.)

15
 16 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 129, Rick Snoderly,
 17 Rick Snoderly?

18 MR. SNODERLY: My name is Rick Snoderly, and
 19 I live at 386 East 23rd Street, Idaho Falls. Thank you,
 20 Mr. Chairman, for the opportunity to speak here tonight,
 21 fellow Idahoans, friends.

22 I have lived in Idaho all my life. I was
 23 born in Twin Falls. I was a child living in Arco when
 24 the first lights were lit from atomic energy.

25 We have at that Site most of the - - the

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1 best safety record of any site in the United States with
2 a nuclear facility. I'm a member of United Association
3 of Plumbers and Pipefitters, Local 648 in Pocatello,
4 Idaho, and I'm speaking to you as a person who has
5 worked at the Site going on 15 years now and has worn
6 the yellow protective clothing of a radiation worker
7 quite a bit of the time I've worked in my trade. And I
8 will say that I feel as safe working out there as I
9 would on a project off the Site, and I think the safety
10 record speaks for that. They have quite a few facilities
11 at the Site that are aging facilities. We need this
12 SIS Project to ensure a stable employment level at the
13 Site. The Site has had defense facilities out there
14 since it started. We trained a nuclear Navy, trained
15 the young seamen to man those nuclear submarines. They
16 have had an impeccable record since they started in the
17 '50's.

18 The scientists, engineers, technicians, are
19 the best in the country, and the craftsmen that build
20 these facilities, we pride ourselves in being the best.
21 And the people who maintain these facilities also have
22 and take on that duty to be the best. We can't all ski
23 in Sun Valley, but if we can make a living in this area,
24 I can teach my kids to ski at Kelly. I don't think that
25 Ketchum ski resorts will have to advertise to the nation

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1 for skiers to come in to ski down a mushroom cloud.

2 But people who work out there who have had
3 a job in the nuclear safety program with the aging
4 facilities they have out there, may be looking toward
5 unemployment, which in the construction industry we're
6 used to. Sometimes we have to go out of this area for
7 work. We don't like to leave our families here, but
8 we do love this State. We love the area. We like the
9 fishing, hunting, but sometimes we don't get to take
10 part in those activities, because we are going seeking
11 employment. But people who have had a job out there
12 for years may be looking at the same situation unless
13 they get new projects. And this is one of the safest
14 projects and best way to process the existing plutonium
15 supply.

16 These same people that are against us had
17 us shut down the N Reactor, which is an aging facility,
18 and I agree with that. A car can't run forever, but we
19 have to have progress, and this is one of the safest
20 ways to process our existing plutonium supplies, and not
21 only will it process plutonium, but I'm sure laser
22 technology in all fields will benefit.

23 I thank you for the opportunity, and I say
24 if we're going to build this facility, which is a safe
25 facility, I would rather build it here, see it go here

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1 than somewhere else. Thank you.
 2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 130, Steve
 3 Spring, Steve Spring?
 4
 5 (No response.)
 6 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 131, Cliff Brian,
 7 Cliff Brian?
 8
 9 (No response.)
 10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 132, Kent
 11 Carlson, Kent Carlson?
 12
 13 (No response.)
 14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 133, John
 15 Christofferson, John Christofferson?
 16
 17 (No response.)
 18 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 134, James Keith
 19 Olsen, James Keith Olsen?
 20 MR. OLSEN: My name is James Keith Olsen,
 21 and my address is 4101 North Old Highway 91, No. 40,
 22 Pocatello, Idaho.
 23 I lived in Idaho for four years while I've
 24 been a geology major at Idaho State University. I guess
 25 that makes me an out of state influence, but fortunately

1 the SIS is a federal project, and therefore concerns
 2 all citizens of the United States.
 3 I'm opposed to the SIS Project on moral
 4 and safety grounds, and I support the No Action Alter-
 5 native outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact State-
 6 ment for the proposed SIS Project.
 7 I refute the allegations that more plutonium
 8 is needed for national defense, and point to double
 9 standards being applied by the Department of Energy
 10 depending on whether they're talking about building the
 11 SIS or mothballing the N Reactor.
 12 The issue I would like to address directly
 13 concerning the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is
 14 the methods for calculating radiation doses, health
 15 effects, and impacts of transportation, contained in
 16 Appendix A.
 17 This is a theory which concludes that any
 18 adverse health effects, mainly cancers that would re-
 19 sult in the normal operation of the SIS in some postulated
 20 accidents would only amount to an insignificant fraction
 21 of cancer caused from natural background radiation
 22 sources.
 23 Like any theory, the one presented here is
 24 based on some assumptions, and therefore, is no more
 25 accurate than those assumptions.

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1 One assumption is the data collected on
2 World War II Japanese atomic bomb survivors could be
3 correlated between the relatively high dosages of
4 ionized radiation received and the high cancer occurrence
5 in the survivors. The resulting trend can then be
6 extrapolated to predict cancer increase expected to
7 result from operating the SIS and from accidents such
8 as plutonium fires, air filtration failures or shipping
9 accidents, all of which would release relatively low
10 dosages of ionide and radiation. I contend such
11 extrapolation exceeds the limits of resolution.

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12 Another assumption proposed in Appendix A
13 is facts that can be applied to account for such natural
14 variables as wind disbursement and biological pathways to
15 human contamination, along with unnatural factors of
16 population density and your chance of being in the right
17 place at the wrong time, just to mention a few.

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18 The main reference which Appendix A is
19 based upon, the effects on populations of exposure to
20 low levels of ionizing radiation by the Committee on
21 Biological Effects of Ionizing Radiation, 1980, is also
22 a collection of assumptions and theories, one of which
23 is that the total sum of initial and residual dosages
24 of ionizing radiation received by the Japanese bomb
25 survivors can be accurately estimated after the fact. I

1 see a serious source of error here.

2 The third assumption in the methods used to
3 calculate health effects is that health effects caused
4 from background radiation can be differentiated from
5 other natural causes.

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6 Well, if the Department of Energy is so
7 smart that they can accurately evaluate all these
8 complex factors, why is it they can only do so in a
9 theoretical setting? As a geologist, I've had some
10 experience in computer modeling of the type presented
11 in the Appendix A. The only answer I could find to
12 my question is that the model is designed to produce
13 the results desired by the Department of Energy. I see
14 no reason why we should accept the conclusions of
15 Appendix A without some further factual controls, which
16 can more directly apply to the SIS.

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17 I would further like to suggest that such
18 factual controls could be obtained by compiling cancer
19 appearances near Rocky Flats Arsenal, Colorado. Rocky
20 Flats would be great for such a study. There is
21 documentable plutonium contamination as a result of
22 routine releases of plutonium oxides and two major
23 plutonium fires. There are tens of thousands of human
24 guinea pigs who have been exposed to this plutonium for
25 20 years or more, most of whom are still alive. There

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1 are also allegations of cancer rates approaching 25
2 times the national average.

3 Further, I'd like to point out that the
4 National Institute of Health is currently studying 100
5 leukemia clusters centered around commercial nuclear
6 power plants. Would such leukemia clusters exist if
7 the increase in occurrence of cancers were less than one
8 percent, much less ten to the minus fifth. An issue
9 not addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement,

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10 but one mentioned often during the recent hearings is
11 the spinoff technologies. I'm disappointed in the
12 Department of Energy for being so narrow-minded about
13 the SIS as to limit its use only to weapon grade
14 plutonium. But that is the only one proposed, and
15 therefore, the only one I expect. I realize the need
16 for jobs, and I believe in a strong national defense.
17 As a veteran of foreign war, I am not the least bit
18 worried about the Russians attacking us. I am concerned,

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19 though, about nuclear proliferation, and I see the
20 SIS is just one more step toward the day when we lose
21 control of nuclear deterrence and shift toward nuclear
22 terrorism, at which time Idaho may not be such a nice
23 place to raise your children. Thank you.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 135, Cathey
25 Jorgensen?

1 (No response.)

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: 136, Julie Robinson?

3 (No response.)

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: 137, Scott Tyson?

5 (No response.)

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 138, Gary Oneida,
7 Gary Oneida?

8 (No response.)

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 139, Laurie Watters.
10 Her comments were in writing and received for the record
11 earlier as Exhibit 749.

12 No. 140 is Marge Montgomery, Marge Mont-
13 gomery?

14 (No response.)

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 141, C. E. White.

16 MR. WHITE: I am C. E. White, 1775 Caribou,
17 Idaho Falls. I've heard a great deal here tonight about
18 the so-called emotional factor of do we need nuclear
19 power or nuclear weapons or whatever.

20 It's not the issue with this hearing, and
21 a lot of times from my standpoint, I feel it's been

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1 wasted on talking about those things, because we're here
 2 not to talk about are these things required, but are
 3 they going to damage our environment or are they going
 4 to in some way impact Idaho.

5 I've spent a lot of years in and out of
 6 nuclear business since the '50's. It's a very in-
 7 teresting business, and it's true that in the early days
 8 we didn't have much to go on and things were done that
 9 we look back on now and you might say in abject horror,
 10 but those days I feel really in my heart are over, and
 11 when we go into a program now, we go into it really
 12 knowing what we're going to do, I believe.

13 I've worked in the Nevada test site, where
 14 we've had above-ground shots, and I've been out seven
 15 or eight miles away from them, behind sand dunes,
 16 watching them go. I'm almost 69 years old, and I don't
 17 have any cancer, and I've been in and out of all kinds
 18 of facilities at the test site here and various programs.
 19 So I think that we have an inherent safety factor in
 20 our programs that are here.

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21 The process which is being advocated is
 22 the safest thing that could possibly be done with
 23 plutonium. If you try to activate the weapons grade
 24 plutonium with a reactor, you're going to have problems
 25 or you could have problems. There are many things that

1 can occur. With the AVLIS technique, it's pretty
 2 difficult to have any kind of a real incident, so-called
 3 "that could give us a problem." There are so many
 4 safety factors built into this operation. Everything
 5 is redundant two and three times. For example, we've
 6 heard about the possibility of gases or exhaust being
 7 put into the air. There are three separate systems
 8 that would have to go down one after the other or
 9 simultaneously before this could happen. This is only
 10 one example of what could be done, and this is the
 11 Zone 1, 2, and 3 so-called exhaust filter systems.

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12 I do think that there needs to be some
 13 thought more may be given to transportation on the site,
 14 mainly, because there are some uncertified canisters
 15 that they talk about here. I, like some of the other
 16 people, have read all - - somebody said 350 pages. It
 17 seemed more like 500 when I read it, but it does spell
 18 out a few things in there which I believe still need a
 19 little study, but this is a draft. And I think these
 20 things are going to come out from these hearings.

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21 Also, the use of freon in some of the things
 22 which are being done. Maybe we can do without it. I
 23 don't know, but these are kind of minor, really.

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24 The low level of the wastes that would go
 25 to the on-site disposal area, I can't see any possibility

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1 of getting the 200 to 1,000 feet down to the aquifer that
2 we have under the Snake River Plain. There's extremely
3 low radiation or radiological exposure to persons out-
4 side, because everything is so far away from the
5 boundaries. The safeguards and securities that are
6 outlined here and which are an inherent part of the Site
7 are virtually infallible, believe me.

8 This could be built at other sites, but the
9 other two sites have really more public exposure, due
10 to the close proximity of people living in the area,
11 for example, Savannah River, people live right around
12 the plant.

13 The Mayors of Ketchum and Sun Valley are
14 concerned about tourists not coming out. I don't think
15 they're going to have any trouble with tourists not
16 coming unless they keep on talking about it. Then
17 somebody's going to say, "Well, what the hell are they
18 talking about?" And it's many miles away.

19 It's going to be built somewhere, I feel,
20 and if it is, let's get it here where it will do us
21 some good. Thank you.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 142, J.
23 Casey Meredith?

24 MR. MEREDITH: My name is Casey Meredith,
25 and I live at 912 Shale, Pocatello, 83204. I wish to

1 briefly address two different areas of this proposal
2 and the process by which we are evaluating it. The
3 comments that I make are those of my own and not the
4 committees which I attend.

5 My initial concern about this document re-
6 gards the general area of emergency response planning
7 for communities affected by the proposal. I sit on the
8 Hazardous Materials Committee of the Bannock County
9 Regional area. This Committee has assumed the responsi-
10 bility to produce and enact an emergency preparedness
11 plan for the Bannock regional area in accordance with
12 the rules and regulations presented in Title 3 of the
13 Superfund Amendment Act enacted September of 1986.
14 Because of concerns about hazardous materials being
15 stored and transported in the Pocatello area, this
16 Committee organized to develop plans and procedures
17 for HAZMAT response even before Title 3 regulations
18 were enacted. That foresightedness on behalf of a few
19 local officials put our region far ahead of other
20 communities throughout Idaho and the nation. Even though
21 we are ahead of most communities - - our planning is
22 far ahead, we still have an enormous amount of work to
23 complete before we can honestly say that we are
24 adequately prepared for accidents involving HAZMATs or
25 low hazardous materials.

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1 Passage of Title 3 is a great boost for
2 emergency response planning. It emphasizes planning
3 from the bottom up. It emphasizes planning involving
4 all levels of government. It emphasizes communication
5 and cooperation between all segments of the community,
6 industry, agencies, and citizens. Title 3 says
7 emergency preparation and planning is essential to all
8 communities in our society. Why is a document such as
9 Title 3, that is so significant to local planners
10 conspicuously absent in the Draft EIS? The Draft
11 correctly notes that state and county agencies are
12 responsible for developing and implementing emergency
13 plans. But by what means are the state and the counties
14 to assess what materials are being transported in their
15 areas to INEL? What hazardous materials and hazardous
16 waste products will be transported, stored, or utilized
17 for the proposed SIS? What will be the frequency of
18 such shipments? On what routes will these shipments
19 take place? What is the mechanism by which local
20 communities will learn what materials they need to plan
21 for? None of this is addressed in the Draft EIS.

22 If such a mechanism is installed, and I
23 believe that all local planning for communities along
24 these transportation routes will be ludicrous without
25 it - - such mechanism - - what can you plan for if you

1 don't know what's there, what's coming? What resources
2 does Butte County, for instance, have to adequately
3 train its response personnel for the kind of HAZMATs
4 found for INEL? What equipment does Bingham County have
5 to protect their first responders in the event of a
6 serious highway accident? What resources are readily
7 available anywhere in the State of Idaho to deal with
8 radiologicals, other than on the INEL Site?

9 In addition to my participation on the
10 Bannock Regional Hazardous Material Committee, I also
11 am a member of the Local Emergency Planning Committee,
12 which comprises the seven southeastern counties and the
13 Fort Hall Reservation. That group is attempting to
14 coordinate the emergency response planning efforts of
15 all of those entities. I also attend meetings of the
16 State Emergency Response Commission. This is the
17 Commission responsible for emergency response planning
18 for hazardous materials statewide. In my experience in
19 all these levels of HAZMAT planning is that no community
20 in the State of Idaho is currently adequately prepared
21 to handle emergencies with the kinds and amounts of
22 materials used in the proposed SIS Project.

23 That is not to say that our planning efforts
24 are wasteful or foolish. Many communities have correctly
25 assessed exactly what they could best do to protect

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1 themselves given their existing level of knowledge and
2 resources. What I wish to point out is that this Draft
3 fails to acknowledge any responsibility for the far
4 greater risk that the proposed SIS will cause to our
5 towns, our cities, and our rural communities.

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6 The Draft document relies on existing
7 county plans to handle any Site related emergency.

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8 Given current resources in counties throughout Idaho
9 relying on these counties to properly plan, train, and
10 equip response teams to deal with the radiologicals that
11 INEL is proposing to ship in and out of our State is an
12 act bordering between criminal and insane.

6.3

13 This proposal is hard on construction and
14 development and soft on clean-up and restoration. Why
15 aren't DOE and INEL offering us jobs to clean the
16 environment on the Site? Why aren't we debating the
17 merits of cleaning up the aquifer versus cleaning up
18 the buried wastes? Why aren't we proposing a billion
19 dollars to investigate spinoff technologies and air
20 pollution control strategies so we can alleviate the
21 nitrous oxides emissions on the Site? INEL and DOE
22 would have us believe that the slate is clean as we
23 embark on this bold new adventure in weaponry, but the
24 slate is, in fact, a very dirty, dangerously polluted
25 slate. Thank you very much.

I542

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: The witness comments
2 of Casey Meredith will be included in the record as
3 Exhibit No. 753.

4 Order No. 143, Edward L. Snider, Edward L.
5 Snider?

6 (No response.)
7

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 144, Charles
9 Park. He spoke this afternoon; next order is Alan L.
10 Christensen, No. 145?

11 (No response.)
12

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: 146, Edward M. Hunter
14 who spoke earlier; 147, Chris McKim.

15 This is Beatrice Brailsford.

16 MS. BRAILSFORD: Chris McKim, 350 South
17 Hayes, Pocatello, Idaho, asked that I read her
18 testimony for her this evening. It's quite long, and
19 it's quite late, so it is suffice to say that she is
20 opposed to the SIS. Thank you.

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
22 of Chris McKim of Pocatello, Idaho, will be marked as
23 Exhibit 754 and included in the record as received.

24 Order No. 148, Mary E. Lewis, Mary E. Lewis?

25 (No response.)

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 149, Neil Tillotson,
2 Neil Tillotson?

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 150, Tal Worley,
6 he spoke earlier today in the afternoon session. Order
7 No. 151, Will Kopinski, Will Kopinski?

8 (No response.)

9
10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order No. 152, Lyle
11 Freeman.

12 (No response.)

13
14 THE HEARING OFFICER: At this point we will
15 go to the list of individuals who registered at the
16 door on Saturday, starting at the top of the list - -
17 Friday, excuse me. This is Wednesday, right?

18 Order No. 1, Laura B. Miller, Laura B.
19 Miller?

20 (No response.)

21
22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Peter Jensen, Peter
23 Jensen?

24 (No response.)

25
231

I543

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Keith Wilson - - this
2 is Kathy Wilson for Keith Wilson, right?

3 MS. WILSON: Yes.

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: We need your name
5 and address for the record, please.

6 MS. WILSON: My name is Kathy Wilson,
7 2538 East Cottonwood Drive, Idaho Falls, a local
8 person.

9 I want to thank you for the opportunity to
10 speak. I'm nervous, and I hope people will listen.

11 What the initials SIS mean to me: Stop
12 Insane Spending and Stop Idaho Stupidity. The first
13 question I asked myself, why Idaho, and I think the
14 real main reason is because our state is isolated and
15 sparsely populated. What if there is an accident, and
16 you say no? Well, I say accidents do and can happen,
17 and our space shuttle Challenger and seven lives lost
18 are proof of that, that with even the most updated and
19 modern equipment, man is still human and humans can and
20 do make mistakes.

21 I'm personally not willing to risk my life
22 so some people can have jobs or to help the local
23 economy. I want more jobs in our area, also, but not
24 when the risks outweigh the benefits. I am personally
25 very disappointed with all our elected officials. I

232 Wilson

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1 feel they're only representing the special interest
2 group, and this group stands to benefit out of greed.

3 I ask all of you to stop thinking about your
4 pocketbooks and start thinking about our world. I'd
5 ask our elected officials, why don't you put your time
6 and effort into helping bring other positive manu-
7 facturing businesses to our area?

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8 As a mother of two children, I know I, like
9 most mothers, encourage our children to clean up their
10 mess before they start another one. I feel my govern-
11 ment should do likewise.

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12 Until there's a safe, foolproof method of
13 disposal of nuclear waste, I feel we should stop and
14 clean up the messes we've already created. I suggest
15 that the DOE and our government if they truly want
16 everyone to feel secure, rather than having a strong
17 defense by producing more plutonium, build me and
18 every family in the United States a bomb shelter. Look
19 at all the jobs that would create. Ridiculous, you
20 say, and I agree. Yes, that is ridiculous. No amount
21 of new and improved plutonium can or will make any of
22 us feel safe and secure anymore.

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23 SIS is ridiculous; I say no to SIS. Thank
24 you.

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Commenter No. 4, A.

I544

1 N. Chackee.

2 MR. CHACKEE: My name is Al Chackee, and
3 I live at 1693 Clairmont Avenue in Idaho Falls. I'm a
4 certified health physicist, and I've been working with
5 radioactive materials for about 35 years now, and I've
6 probably had as much occupational exposure as anybody
7 in the country, and I'm still here. So I don't have
8 any problem with radiation or radioactive material.

9 I also don't have any problem with the SIS
10 at INEL. I totally support the construction of that
11 facility at that Site. I have two specific areas of
12 comments, however, on the EIS, and the first has to do
13 with the need.

14 The people who have decided to build the
15 SIS know a lot more about why we need it than I do, and
16 I have a lot of faith in their judgment. So I support
17 the need for it. What I would like to say about that
18 is that it has nothing to do with the material itself.
19 It has never worked to try and ban anything. The thing
20 that counts is what do people do with it? The Japanese
21 in the 17th Century tried to ban the use of - - well,
22 they did, in fact, ban the use of rifles, which the
23 Portuguese wanted to bring into the country, because
24 they thought they were too dangerous for the country to
25 use. However, they still went on killing people with

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1 sabers and swords. A hundred years later, the rifles
2 were brought into the country, and we saw the culmination
3 of that in World War II.

4 So it's not banning things that count. What
5 we have to do is change the way people think. And I
6 would challenge Liz Paul and all her supporters to work
7 toward changing the way people think rather than try to
8 get rid of something. It won't work.

9 The second thing I'd like to talk about is
10 the radiological impacts of the SIS. One of the problems
11 with the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is that
12 it's a little out of date, and I'll submit specific
13 comments about this later on in writing. But the natural
14 background numbers that are quoted in several places in
15 the EIS are about a factor of two too low. The NCRA
16 Report No. 93 that talks about ionized exposure in this
17 country now has an estimate of about 300 milligram per
18 year to each individual in the country, rather than about
19 150, and that should be revised in the EIS. And the
20 impact of this is that it will show that the EIS impacts
21 are about a factor too low than are stated in the EIS.

22 The other problem is that there are some
23 risks to people stated in the EIS, and they're stated as
24 though they are facts. And the truth is, for low levels
25 of radiation, we don't know what the risks are. We really

1 don't, and the risks could be zero. And I think this
2 EIS should say that. Even in the hypothetical transporta-
3 tion accident situation, the doses aren't high enough,
4 so that we can say what the risks are with any degree of
5 certainty at all. So I think the EIS should be amended
6 to make it very clear that all of the risks that are
7 stated in that document could, in fact, really be zero.
8 We just don't know. Thank you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Order No. 5,
10 Michael B. Whitfield.

11 MR. WHITFIELD: Thanks for this late
12 opportunity. My name is Michael Whitfield. My address
13 is Box 179 Driggs, Idaho. I testify in support of what
14 I believe to be the best interests of my home state. I
15 support the No Action Alternative identified in the
16 DEIS. I support an Idaho whose highways are free of the
17 hazards of nuclear waste transport. I support an Idaho
18 whose water, land, and air are free of the threat of the
19 440 tons of additional plutonium waste the SIS will
20 generate annually. Most importantly, I support an Idaho
21 whose citizens can say eye to eye, we don't manufacture
22 nuclear warheads in our state.

23 This DEIS tells us of the safety record of
24 the INEL should allay our fears of nuclear contamination.
25 Indeed, the INEL does have an exemplary safety record.

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1 Yet accidents have occurred. We must, in this case,
2 Consider the facets of the risk, one, the probability of
3 an accident and, two, the outcome should an accident
4 occur.

5 In this case, a single unlikely event could
6 affect Idaho for thousands of years. This document tells
7 us not to worry about transported plutonium on our
8 highways, the trucks would be top notch, well maintained,
9 with two competent well trained drivers for each transport.
10 How many engineers does it take to wreck a conrail
11 locomotive? Humans and technology are fallible. Given
12 enough transports, enough opportunities for a mistake or
13 a vehicle failure, an accident will happen.

14 We're told the SIS will produce ways that
15 can be safely stored in New Mexico salt storage. However,
16 the New Mexico depository leaks, has always leaked, and
17 are not safe for storage. It seems highly probable that
18 Idaho's legacy after six or seven active years of SIS
19 will be forever contaminated landscape.

20 Several times in this hearing individuals
21 have suggested that since some of our leaders tell us
22 we need SIS in Idaho to ensure our national defense,
23 we should blindly accept that judgment. Yet many of our
24 leaders tell us we don't need more plutonium. In fact,
25 many of our leaders tell us the greatest current threat

1 to our national security is our burgeoning national
2 indebtedness. This Project isn't logical. We're asked
3 to support with money we don't have a project we don't
4 need.

5 Why do some of our leaders suggest Idaho as
6 the site for SIS? If SIS is necessary, why don't these
7 patriotic leaders suggest basing SIS in Washington, D.C.
8 Is it because we in Idaho live in one of the country's
9 least popular states? There are risks. My three children
10 live within minutes of the INEL, downwind of Dubois.
11 Those three people in a little populated area mean the
12 whole world to me. I am patriotic with my children and
13 their futures in Idaho are not expendable. Don't
14 suggest that a nuclear armament is not on tonight's
15 agenda. Consider what SIS produces, nuclear warheads.
16 All the logical arguments pale by contrast with the moral
17 argument. Why must our mixed energy as a nation be
18 focused on implements of war? We, the people of the
19 United States, are strong not because of our bonds but
20 because of our energy. We make things happen. If we
21 focus our intensity upon peace, we will have peace. If
22 we suggest that the only way we can deal with our enemies
23 is to kill them, we will never be free of enemies.

24 The whole human history speaks of the
25 folly of those who would attempt to hold their neighbors

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1 in bondage as we do with nuclear weapons. Such nations
2 always fall, rotten at the core.

3 Finally, I have heard many speakers in
4 these hearings suggest that Idaho natives are the only
5 citizens with the right to express opinions on the SIS.
6 I'm proud to note that my family has resided in the
7 Teton Valley, Idaho, for five generations. Does that
8 qualify me to express my opinion any more than anyone
9 else? I think not. SIS is an issue that extends far
10 beyond Idaho. I'm a citizen of a fragile planet, the
11 only home we have. I say no to SIS.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: The next scheduled
13 commenter is Michelle Whitfield.

14 MS. WHITFIELD: Michelle Whitfield, and my
15 mailing address is Box 23, Dubois, Idaho, 82343. I am
16 here to express my support of the No Action Alternative
17 outlined in the DEIS.

18 My main concern lies with the future of
19 Idaho beyond the next seven or eight years. My first
20 point is concern over the additional nuclear waste which
21 would be transported as well as produced in Idaho. The
22 DOE has informed us the bill to clean up the Nation's
23 nuclear weapons production plant has already cost us up
24 to \$100 billion. How, then, can the SIS be economically
25 beneficial?

1 Secondly, where are we to send the so-called 5.30.3.8
2 temporary waste? The original site for permanent
3 storage in New Mexico has already been found to leak.
4 Will Idaho be the temporary storage site for the next 5.30.2.1
5 30 years while the DOE tries to find a place to send the
6 waste? Idaho cannot be truly prepared for the SIS until
7 we have secured a satisfactory permanent storage area.

8 Third, I find it ludicrous that if the SIS
9 proposal were to proceed, that Idaho would be the pre-
10 ferred site. Is it not truly much safer to base the site 5.29.31
11 in Hanford in order to keep nuclear fuel outside of
12 Idaho's highways?

13 My next point refers to the philosophy that
14 opposing SIS is unpatriotic or shows a distrust in our
15 elected government. May I remind you that a democratic
16 nation is one in which officials are elected to repre-
17 sent the constituents, which all of us as U.S. and Idaho
18 citizens are. It is our responsibility to state our
19 opinion.

20 Next I ask, is there such a thing as
21 strategic superiority? Once we have the power to destroy
22 the planet several times over, what good does it do to
23 increase our nuclear power? I'd like to quote Henry
24 Kissinger, who said, "What in the name of God is
25 strategic superiority? What is the significance of a

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1 politically, militarily, operationally at these levels
2 of numbers? What do you do with it?"

3 Plutonium is extremely toxic, and I hope
4 it will not be put on Idaho's highways and ultimately
5 into Idaho's environment. I hope we can see Idaho's
6 future as the most important issue and choose the No
7 Action Alternative. Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Dave Radford? Dave
9 Radford?

10 (No response.)

11
12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Charli Richmond,
13 Charlie Richmond?

14 (No response.)

15
16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Trig Heintz, Trig
17 Heintz?

18 (No response.)

19
20 THE HEARING OFFICER: No. 10, Shane
21 Dawson, Shane Dawson?

22 (No response.)

23
24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 11, Jill Siewart,
25 Jill Siewart?

241 Whitfield

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Order 12, Jasper
2 Lawson-Kunst, Jasper Lawson-Kunst?

3 (No response.)

4
5 THE HEARING OFFICER: 13, Chris Kunst,
6 Chris Kunst?

7 (No response.)

8
9 THE HEARING OFFICER: 14, Janet Lawson,
10 Janet Lawson?

11 (No response.)

12
13 THE HEARING OFFICER: 15, Mike Diener,
14 Mike Diener?

15 (No response.)

16
17 THE HEARING OFFICER: 16, Janet Frisella,
18 Janet Frisella?

19 (No response.)

20
21 THE HEARING OFFICER: 17, Charles Park
22 spoke this afternoon at 3:40 p.m.

23 Is there anybody in the room who either pre-
24 registered to comment or registered at the door on
25 Saturday who would like to comment and has not had the

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1 opportunity to do so? We have one gentleman here - -
 2 excuse me, yes. Please step forward and give us your
 3 name for the record.
 4
 5 MR. BREED: I'm Mike Breed, 205 MacAdoo,
 6 Blackfoot, Idaho. I have lived in Southeast Idaho for
 7 33 years, except for the five years I spent in military
 8 service. In all of the years I have never felt
 9 threatened by any of the projects located at the INEL.
 10 Considering the INEL's safety record, location of the
 11 SIS there will not change my confidence.
 12
 13 My father was employed as a construction
 14 worker at the INEL off and on for 30 years, during which
 15 I grew up living in and loving this area. After
 16 serving in the Air Force, I was able to once again make
 17 my home here, largely because of the employment oppor-
 18 tunities offered at the INEL. Many Idahoans haven't
 19 been as fortunate. They have had to leave our great
 20 State to further their education in their chosen field,
 21 or after being educated here, there was no employment
 22 available within the State.
 23
 24 If the SIS technology is brought to Idaho,
 25 it may give Idahoans a chance to be educated in Idaho
 universities for a technical job in Idaho. The
 surrounding community's unemployment rates will drop
 because of the new jobs created by the SIS. The State

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1 will benefit from increased revenue from income and
 2 sales taxes paid by a larger work force, and the nation
 3 will be able to fulfill its needs for plutonium with a
 4 safer and more economical means to maintain a strong
 5 defense for all of man. Thank you.
 6
 7 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
 8 of Michael S. Breed will be put in the record as Exhibit
 9 NO. 755, B-r-e-e-d.
 10
 11 Are there any other pre-registered or
 12 scheduled speakers at this time that may want to speak?
 13
 14 Back here, sir.
 15
 16 MR. NORMAN: Looks like our numbers have
 17 kind of dwindled tonight. I wasn't going to, but I
 18 decided I'd better first of all state my opinion.
 19
 20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Excuse me, sir. I
 21 need your name and address.
 22
 23 MR. NORMAN: My name is Kelly Norman. I
 24 live at Route 7, Box 105, Ammon, Idaho.
 25
 26 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
 27
 28 MR. NORMAN: I had quite a speech prepared,
 29 first of all about my family here in Idaho. I'm proud
 30 to be an Idaho citizen living in the city where our
 31 city leaders will support us. Our family moved to Idaho
 32 in 1960. My father was employed by a wholesaling
 33 business that's directly related to the construction

1 industry. I've heard a lot of testimony testified first
2 of all that it's not worth giving up our dignity or our
3 lifestyle in Idaho for a quick buck.

4 Well, that was 27-28 years ago when we moved
5 to Idaho, and it is - - the Site has been a major factor
6 in that.

7 As to the statements no more nuclear bombs,
8 no action option and the like, I believe like others
9 that we need a strong national defense and do not believe
10 we'd be talking with other - - with opposing nuclear
11 powers without our nuclear deterrent.

12 From what I understand about the SIS, the
13 Specialized Isotope Separator, it doesn't create more
14 plutonium, but refines what we already have. I have
15 five sons so far, and I hope that's not the end, all of
16 which I hope will have job opportunities in Idaho. The
17 INEL has been a leader in safety and nuclear research,
18 and in the past ten years it seems like leaders in
19 waste management. We have done some special projects
20 out there of which I have had the pleasure of working on
21 that is state of the art waste management. It almost
22 appears to me that we do not have enough waste to make
23 some of these plants even function. There's one out at
24 the north end right now that's waiting for something to
25 process. I worked at the INEL on and off for 15 years.

1 I've also had to work out of state, going elsewhere to
2 find jobs. I believe first of all in the safety and
3 security of the INEL. I support the SIS wholeheartedly.
4 Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Any other
6 pre-registered speakers? Step down here, sir.

7 MR. NORMAN: Randy Norman, No. 99.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Randy Norman,
9 No. 99 on the speaker's list.

10 MR. NORMAN: I'm Randy Norman. I reside
11 at 5706 Moses in Chubbuck, Idaho. I have a wife and
12 five children. I'm happy to be here tonight. I've
13 lived in Idaho for 27 years. I am here to voice my
14 support for the SIS. We elected political leaders
15 through the popular vote, and in the opinion of these
16 political leaders, we need some more weapons grade
17 plutonium.

18 And these people that designated a large
19 portion of money to secure the defenses of our nation
20 and build this SIS defense project. The INEL has a very
21 good safety record. What better place is there that
22 we could build a facility like this? Wouldn't it be
23 nice if we could have a world free of nuclear arms, but
24 if we walk away from it, what is going to stop the other
25 side from taking us over? I'm proud to be an American

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1 and have the freedoms that we have, and as has been
2 stated here by several other people, I would be happy
3 to defend my country in any way that I can. I would
4 be proud to work on the SIS and do anything I could to
5 help or build this Project.

6 As an electrician and a U.S. citizen, I
7 would be happy to support the SIS. Thank you.

8 MR. WIXOM: My name is Bryan F. Wixom, and
9 I reside at 527 West 75 South in Blackfoot, Idaho. I'd
10 like to go on record in support of this SIS Project for
11 several reasons. One is because of the construction and
12 permanent jobs it would create and the tax revenue. A
13 lot of people call us greedy and self-serving, but I
14 wonder how many of them are unemployed like I am right
15 now.

16 I believe the INEL is a safe place to work.
17 I worked a refueling on a Naval reactor there two years
18 ago, so I've seen firsthand the safety procedures they
19 go through to ensure we won't have a nuclear accident
20 out there. I believe the security is strong out there,
21 and I'd just like to go on record as being in support
22 of SIS.

23 I'll keep it short, because it's late.
24 Thank you.

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Any other scheduled

247 Norman

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1 commenters at this point that have not had a chance to
2 comment? It has been my tradition throughout the course
3 of these hearings that anyone who stayed this late that
4 would like to comment and didn't have a chance to pre-
5 register, we'll go ahead and accommodate them, and we
6 do have one gentleman, Ben Deasen.

7 MR. DEASEN: My name is Ben Deasen, and I
8 live at 890 Northeast Bonner. Recently on a flight out
9 of state, I met an individual. He was a spy for the
10 Pakistan Army. He also went on missions inside India
11 to gather information. He explained to me that the
12 poverty in India is a direct result of their robbing
13 the impoverished economy of India in preparation of war
14 and building war materials. "It's a shame" he said, "A
15 shame that mankind must guiltily face up to."

16 Does building more weaponry make economic
17 sense? Does life have to promise death? Every weapon
18 that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired
19 signify in the final sense a theft from those who hunger
20 and who are not fed, those who are cold and not clothed?
21 We all can talk about economic gains to Idaho, but
22 someone has to pay the bill. Who's going to pay for
23 this Project?

24 All businessmen know there is no such thing
25 as a free lunch. The money to fund SIS is not available.

248 Deasen

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1 Our government has no money. Our government is on the
2 verge of bankruptcy with a two and a half trillion dollar
3 deficit. The interest expense alone is a whopping
4 \$215 billion a year. To fund this deficit, our govern-
5 ment is relying heavily on foreign funds. To attract
6 foreign investments, our government - - or should we
7 say you and I - - have to pay higher interest rates.
8 So now with crippling interest rates, our economy is
9 being choked to death.

10 The deficit spending for overkill will
11 bring this country to its knees without a bomb ever
12 being launched. It appears from a pure economic pro-
13 spective that our enemies would support projects like
14 SIS. For such excesses, we will surely destroy this
15 great nation, as we fall into the hands of our creditors
16 abroad.

17 Short-term economic gain for Idaho at the
18 expense of our national economic deterioration is
19 suicide. In this world, money talks. The economic
20 prosperity of America is fundamental to the survival of
21 all people.

22 A nuclear weapon cannot save a bankrupt
23 nation. The interest on the federal debt is equivalent
24 to \$2,000 per year for every working man and woman in the
25 United States. Economists estimate that if we stop the

1 deficit spending interest - - or if we stop the deficit
2 spending, interest rates could drop by almost half. This
3 puts dollars in every Idahoan's pocket instead of just
4 a few. There is no such thing as a free lunch, so how
5 is it that a government on the brink of bankruptcy can
6 spend it on such excesses? It is the same as the concept
7 of having a thousand full of nuclear overkill. Thank
8 you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Does anyone else wish
10 to comment? Two back there, okay, sir, and then the
11 lady. We will enter into the record the following
12 comments received at the desk, Exhibit No. 728, Judy
13 Minshall, M-i-n-s-h-a-l-l; Exhibit 730, Chris Lempke;
14 Exhibit 731 Suzanne Falkingham; Exhibit 732, David W.
15 Falkingham; Exhibit 733, William J. Dalton.

16 Give your name and address for the record,
17 sir.

18 MR. KUNZ: Thayne Kunz, 179 North 760 West,
19 Moreland, Idaho. I want to go on record that I support
20 the SIS. Most of my comments are economic.

21 Everybody that's in here seems to think
22 that that's a dirty word, but when you're out of work
23 and your wife's holding down three part-time jobs, it's
24 not a dirty word.

25 My name is Thayne Kunz, I'm a life long

5.27.7.7

1 resident of Bingham County, a fourth generation Idahoan.
 2 That gentleman might know me. He may be related to me.
 3 I'm originally from the Teton Basin, named Drake Kunz,
 4 even though we have differing views.

5 My trade is plumber, and I'm unemployed at
 6 the time. In recent years, I've seen unemployment level
 7 off, so when I see the news regularly that says good
 8 times are here, it's the big rah, because the good times
 9 aren't here.

10 The sad part of it is I've got a lot of
 11 company. Being a resident of Bingham County, I've seen
 12 a lot of good opportunities pass by. They're real
 13 proficient at turning them down in Bingham County, and
 14 this has to stop. SIS is the place, and SIS is the job.
 15 Now many others may disagree with me, but not all of us
 16 can make our money in California and out of state and
 17 use Idaho as a summer home.

18 Now I'm usually a better listener than I
 19 am a talker, but in Twin Falls the other night, I heard
 20 a lot that was going on. I watched young women bring
 21 their children up and parade them in front of us, and
 22 I sympathize, and I agree with a lot they say. But I'm
 23 a father of three and some of them are going to ISU, and
 24 I've had discussions with them. And as far as me seeing
 25 their future, it's not in Idaho, so I may be the last

1 generation that's employed in Idaho and living in Idaho,
 2 as far as I can tell. I've got one that's out of state
 3 right now, and is directly on account of the economy of
 4 this area.

5 The SIS could change that. SIS could make
 6 a difference. SIS could open up work, not only out on
 7 the Site but it would help the whole area, and brother,
 8 we need the help.

9 I truly believe they will build the SIS,
 10 if not here somewhere else. The people who oppose SIS
 11 are saying no, and the definition of Webster of no is
 12 to deny. I feel that they are denying me, they are
 13 denying my friends, my family, my neighbors, and all of
 14 Idaho of the dignity of gainful employment.

15 Now this was going to be the end of my
 16 comments, but, oh, about a week ago on television I
 17 was watching a program that had an opponent and somebody
 18 that supported SIS on television, and the chair person
 19 was questioned and asked what she knew about security
 20 and safety on the INEL. Her comment was that she had
 21 been on a couple of tours. Well this, to me, is typical,
 22 an expert on what security and safety is that she took
 23 a couple of tours. To me, this is like not understanding
 24 what Idaho is about. I mean there's people back East
 25 that couldn't understand why farmers want to protect

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1 their haystacks in Mud Lake. Same difference.

2 That's the end of my comments, thank you.

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6.4.2

3 MS. GAUCHAY: My name is Vickie Gauchay,
4 and I reside at Box 121, Dubois, Idaho, 82423. I'm not
5 opposed to the location of the INEL. I am opposed to
6 SIS. I have a question for those who feel that it is
7 an improvement on the economic situation of our State.
8 Why isn't the nuclear power produced at the INEL used
9 for our good, because of the decisions for use of
10 nuclear power are political. Utah Power & Light is a
11 good example of this. We have to pay \$100 a month for
12 our power bills, whereas the nuclear power would be
13 much cheaper, but it is not offered to us, because things
14 are political.

15 I believe most people are being politically
16 manipulated by those who desire the SIS. SIS is a
17 short-term answer for a few politicians seeking short-
18 term power positions.

19 Thomas Payne, the great pamphleteer of the
20 Revolutionary War spoke of a man standing at the doorway
21 of his home, holding the hand of his child. When asked
22 why he would not stand up and fight, his answer was
23 essentially that he was only interested in peace now.
24 What of the child? I wish to ask the question, where
25 lies our responsibility to the stewardship we have for

1 our future generations? As a teacher of high school
2 students, I believe we ought to think about this.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Does anyone else de-
4 sire to comment? Yes, sir. Please give your name and
5 address for the record, sir.

6 MR. BRITER: My name is Ed Briter. I live
7 at Route 9, Box 66, Idaho Falls, Idaho. I lived in
8 Idaho all my life since 1923. I would like to address
9 two aspects of this proposed boondoggle. First, the
10 tax aspects. The INEL pays no property tax, no sales
11 tax, no fuel tax, and avoids most other costs such as
12 license fees, et cetera. They furnish demands on our
13 schools, sewers, highways and other public services, but
14 only pay token taxes or fees.

15 Sure, INEL employees pay taxes, but so do
16 the employees of private business. Then the businesses
17 are burdened by taxes, also. I remember the impossible
18 school problem we had in the '50's and '60's, trying
19 to keep up with building schools for the INEL students.

20 The DOE has just recently, just a few days
21 ago, admitted that the salt dome storage facilities in
22 New Mexico may be unusable. So where do these nuclear
23 wastes go? You guessed it, right here in Idaho. Idaho
24 doesn't have much political clout, so we've only been
25 selected as the SIS location because the other states

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1 don't want it. We don't have the clout to keep other
2 state's wastes out now. How can we get rid of our own
3 wastes? Our moral position will be abysmal. How can
4 we tell New Mexico, Nevada, or other states, "We'll
5 take the jobs, you take the wastes"?

5.30.3.8

6 Temporary storage of nuclear wastes in
7 Idaho has stretched into years. How long is temporary?

8 Now we've heard much talk about outsiders
9 telling Idahoans how to run the State. Well my
10 credentials as a native Idahoan are better than most
11 anyone here. Practically every comparable long-term
12 resident I know personally opposes SIS. Indeed, if we
13 could turn the clock back to 1950, we would. Unless
14 you worked at the Site or were a developer, reactor,
15 et cetera, the impact of the Site has been totally
16 negative on us. This will be the case of the SIS.

6.5.1

17 Now our descendants, if we have any, will
18 curse this generation for our incredible selfishness.
19 We have despoiled the earth; we have wasted our re-
20 sources; and, left a polluted wasteland for coming
21 generations. All this for a few jobs and a high
22 standard of living, or rather living high. Who has the
23 most toys wins.

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24 I just have to support the No Action
25 Alternative, thank you.

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: The written comments
2 of Ed Briter will be included in the record as Exhibit
3 No. 756.

4 Are there others who would like to comment
5 at this point? Others here who would like to sing or
6 dance?

7 At this point, I will perform my own trick.
8 It's a great vanishing act. Thank you for your attention
9 and your patience.

10 With this, I will now formally close and
11 terminate this, the Idaho Falls, Idaho, hearing on the
12 Draft Environmental Impact Statement of the SIS Project.
13 Thank you, and good evening.


14 (The hearing was adjourned.)
15

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STATE OF IDAHO)
) ss.
County of Bonneville)

That I took down the proceedings aforesaid at the time and place therein named and thereafter reduced the same to typewriting under my direction and control.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL this the 24th day
of April, 1988.

(Signature) 
Karen Konvalinka, C. S. R.,
Notary Public in and for the
State of Idaho, residing at
Idaho Falls, Idaho.

(Seal)

My commission expires: Perpetual

1 TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1988, 2:00 P.M.

2
3
4 HEARING OFFICER: Good afternoon, ladies and
5 gentlemen. If I could have your attention, please. I will
6 now formally commence this public hearing concerning the
7 review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement relative
8 to the United States Department of Energy's proposed Special
9 Isotope Separation Project. This proceeding is officially
10 designated as the Twin Falls, Idaho, public hearing on
11 Department of Energy Document No. DOE/EIS-0136, held on the
12 28th day of March 1988, and commencing at two p.m. in the
13 afternoon.

14 My name is Roy Eiguren. I'm an attorney from
15 Boise, Idaho, and I will be the hearings officer for this
16 and the subsequent public hearings held to receive comment
17 on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed
18 siting, construction and operation by the Department of
19 Energy of a Special Isotope Separation Project utilizing the
20 Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation process technology. I
21 will refer to this in subsequent proceedings as well as
22 prior proceedings in this series of hearings as DOE's DEIS
23 public hearings on the SIS project.

24 As mentioned, I'm an attorney in private
25 practice in Boise. I've been retained by the Department of

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1 Energy to conduct this series of public hearings as an
2 independent and unbiased party to assure the opportunity for
3 all interested organizations and individuals to comment on
4 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Accordingly, I'm
5 not an advocate for or against the proposed action taken by
6 the Department of Energy in this matter; rather, I'm a
7 neutral third party who has coordinated both the development
8 of the procedures that we are following in the conduct of
9 these hearings as well as conduct the hearings themselves.

10 The issue that is the subject of this
11 proceeding is the Department's proposals to site, construct
12 and operate an SIS facility at one of three locations in the
13 United States; the DOE's Idaho National Engineering
14 Laboratory near Idaho Falls, Idaho, which is located north
15 of Twin Falls; the DOE's Hanford Reservation near Richland,
16 Washington; or the Department of Energy's Savannah River
17 Plant near Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three sites
18 is designated as an alternative that is considered in the
19 DEIS. The fourth and final alternative under consideration
20 by the Department is a No Action Alternative, which would be
21 a departmental decision not to site, construct or operate an
22 SIS facility. As stated in the DEIS, the Department's
23 preferred alternative is to site, construct and operate the
24 SIS project at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

25 To put this hearing in perspective, it is

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1 important that you understand the key elements of the
 2 federal law that requires the Department of Energy, before
 3 making a final decision in this matter, to first conduct a
 4 comprehensive review of the environmental factors associated
 5 with each of the alternatives as previously mentioned. The
 6 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 or NEPA, as it's
 7 known, Public Law 91-910, requires that all federal agencies
 8 develop procedures that insure that environmental amenities
 9 or values are given appropriate consideration in federal
 10 government decisionmaking. This law also requires that
 11 recommendations for "major federal actions significantly
 12 affecting the quality of human environment" be first
 13 preceded by the development and completion of an
 14 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, that fully and
 15 carefully examines the potential environmental impacts of
 16 the proposed federal action.

17 The Department of Energy has determined that
 18 its proposal, the proposed action in siting, constructing
 19 and operating the SIS plant is a major federal action that,
 20 under NEPA, requires the development and completion of an
 21 EIS. Accordingly, by the publication on October 31, 1986,
 22 of a Notice of Intent to Prepare an EIS in the Federal
 23 Register, the Department of Energy commenced the process
 24 that led to the development and publication of the Draft
 25 Environmental Impact Statement which is the subject of this

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1 hearing.

2 The DEIS was prepared by the Department, with
 3 the assistance of an independent contractor, NUS
 4 Corporation, after an extensive process of receiving public
 5 comment through scoping or the initial input phase of this
 6 EIS development proceeding. During scoping public comment
 7 on the scope or magnitude of issues to be addressed in the
 8 EIS was received, as well as specific comment on issues
 9 themselves. Scoping included receipt of extensive written
 10 public comment, as well as oral comment, in two lengthy
 11 public meetings or hearings; one was held in Idaho Falls,
 12 Idaho, on February 24th, 1987, and the second was held in
 13 Boise on the 26th of February, 1987.

14 As a result of the input received during
 15 scoping, the following issues were analyzed in the Draft
 16 Environmental Impact Statement relative to each of the
 17 alternatives that I previously mentioned. Accordingly, the
 18 issues that are in the Draft EIS that were analyzed are as
 19 follows:

20 No. 1. Off-site general population of
 21 radiological and non-radiological effects resulting from
 22 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

23 Issue No. 2. Effects on the general
 24 population from emissions of radiological and
 25 non-radiological releases caused by normal operations of an

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1 SIS facility.

2 Issue No. 3. Exposure of operating personnel
3 to radiological sources and non-radiological releases during
4 normal operations of an SIS facility.

5 Issue No. 4. Incremental differences and
6 environmental impacts between operating existing chemical
7 processing facilities and the proposed action.

8 Issue No. 5. Effects on air and water quality
9 and other environmental consequences during construction and
10 operation of an SIS facility.

11 Issue No. 6. Cumulative effects of operations
12 of such a facility, including changes in support operations
13 related to it.

14 Issue No. 7. On-site and off-site
15 transportation of nuclear materials.

16 Issue No. 8. An analysis of applicable
17 federal, state and local regulations applying to the
18 construction and operation of an SIS plant.

19 Issue No. 9. The decontamination and
20 decommissioning such a facility.

21 Issue No. 10. Irretrievable and irreversible
22 commitment of resources in the use of land and materials,
23 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other resources
24 related to the construction and operation of such a
25 facility.

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1 The final issue. Mitigation measures
2 necessary to respond to each of the environmental
3 consequences associated with all the alternatives.

4 The EIS preparation and review process in the
5 United States is governed by federal regulations established
6 by the Council on Environmental Quality or CEQ, which is an
7 agency within the Executive Office of the President. The
8 Department of Energy, in addition to that, has its own
9 guidelines for the preparation of EISs. The Council on
10 Environmental Quality regulations are found at 40 Federal
11 Regulations, Parts 1500 through 1508. The DOE guidelines
12 are found at 45 Federal Register 20694.

13 These regulations and guidelines were
14 previously marked by me for inclusion in the hearing record
15 and have been formally entered into the record as Exhibit
16 No. 1.

17 The relevant CEQ regulations that I spoke of
18 require that, after preparing a Draft Environmental Impact
19 Statement and before preparing a Final Environmental Impact
20 Statement, a federal agency must first obtain the comments
21 of, No. 1, any federal agency which has jurisdiction by law
22 or special expertise with respect to any environmental
23 impact; 2, request the comments of appropriate state and
24 local agencies which develop and enforce environmental
25 standards; 3, Indian tribes; and, 4, the public, with a

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1 particular obligation to affirmatively solicit comments from
 2 persons or organizations who may be interested or affected
 3 by the proposed federal decision.

4 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
 5 where the Department determines that, and I quote,
 6 "substantial environmental controversy concerning proposed
 7 action" exists. Accordingly, today and the following public
 8 hearings that are being held in this series are being held
 9 pursuant to these regulations to receive not only public, as
 10 well as Indian and governmental comment on the various
 11 issues identified in the Draft Environmental Impact
 12 Statement. Notice of these public hearings was provided in
 13 the Federal Register Notices dated February 19th, 1988, and
 14 March the 4th, 1988. Additional public notice was provided
 15 for publication in numerous newspapers throughout the state.
 16 Federal Register Notices, the text of the newspaper
 17 notices and the publication dates of all them have been
 18 marked as Exhibit 2 and have been entered into the record by
 19 myself.

20 Public comment on the Draft Environmental
 21 Impact Statement will be received through this and
 22 subsequent hearings that are going to be held later this
 23 week in Boise, as well as Idaho Falls. The initial public
 24 hearings on the DEIS started Friday in Idaho Falls and were
 25 continuing on in Boise this last Saturday. Written comment

1 must receive the same weight and consideration by the
 2 Department in this proceeding and may be submitted by the
 3 public to me today. This is to say, the written comments,
 4 you may submit them today or you may mail them to Mr. Clay
 5 Nichols, the SIS Project Manager at the DOE, Idaho Falls.
 6 If you are going to submit written comment, you must do so
 7 before the close of record in this proceeding, which is now
 8 scheduled to be April 21, 1988. All of the oral, as well as
 9 the written comment that we are compiling, will be included
 10 in a comprehensive transcript or record that will be
 11 considered by the Department in making its final decision on
 12 the EIS.

13 Going back to the CEQ regulations that I
 14 mentioned, they also provide that comments on the
 15 Environmental Impact Statement or on the proposed action
 16 shall be as specific as possible and may address the
 17 accuracy of the Statement or the merits of the alternatives
 18 or both. So accordingly, we would ask that you keep your
 19 comments specific to the issues that are addressed in the
 20 EIS, the Draft EIS, or specify what particular issues you
 21 think have been overlooked in the Draft EIS. Although the
 22 Department has determined certain issues, such as the need
 23 for an SIS project, are beyond the scope of this EIS
 24 proceeding, I will allow comments on that issue as well as
 25 other issues related to the project that individual

1 commentors feel are relevant to the project. Accordingly, I
 2 would ask that you try to keep them within the timeframe
 3 which I'm going to mention in a few moments. I'd also like
 4 to mention that as the Hearings Officer, I do reserve the
 5 right to ask commentors to keep their comments relevant to
 6 the subject matter of this proceeding and, when necessary,
 7 I'll ask you to do so.

8 After reviewing the record in this particular
 9 proceeding, the Department may choose to modify, supplement
 10 or reissue the Draft Environmental Impact Statement prior to
 11 issuing a Final EIS. It may also choose to issue the DEIS
 12 as the Final EIS without modification. A Record of
 13 Decision will identify the environmental preferred
 14 alternative chosen by the Department along with any
 15 practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm
 16 from the alternative selected will be developed in this
 17 proceeding. The Department, as a matter of federal law, as
 18 a matter of federal regulation, cannot proceed with its
 19 proposed action which is to contain the Record of Decision
 20 until a minimum of 30 days has passed from date of issuance
 21 of the final EIS. Under current schedules the Department of
 22 Energy intends to issue a Final EIS and the Record of
 23 decision later this year, tentatively scheduled for August
 24 of this year.

25 To govern the conduct of this and other public

1 hearings in this proceeding, I have developed several
 2 procedures in consultation both with the Department of
 3 Energy as well as representatives of public interest groups
 4 who have either participated in the scoping meetings or who
 5 have indicated an intent or desire to participate in these
 6 hearings. These procedures were finalized on the 24th of
 7 March and were distributed to interested parties as well as
 8 to organizational representatives who have preregistered to
 9 participate in these hearings. I have previously marked and
 10 included in the record as Exhibit 3 those procedures. If
 11 you would like to have a copy of the procedures we are
 12 following, they are available at the front desk as you come
 13 in. In addition, I have also marked for the record and
 14 included in the record Exhibit No. 4, which is a
 15 comprehensive listing of all of the public involvement
 16 activities that the Department of Energy has been involved
 17 in relative to development of this DEIS.

18 I would like to turn for a moment to the
 19 procedural rules that we are following for this public
 20 hearing as well as the others. First, I'd like to indicate
 21 that apart from my opening statement, the Department of
 22 Energy and/or its contractors will not be making remarks in
 23 this particular proceeding. Senior members of the
 24 Department of Energy staff here are observing and listening
 25 to the comments as received, but other than that, they will

1 not participate in this hearing.

2 Comments are going to be received in the
3 following order: Any elected or appointed federal, state or
4 governmental officials will be accorded the opportunity to
5 speak first; followed by representatives of national, state
6 and local organizations who are participating in the
7 hearings.

8 Following that we will have members of the
9 public who preregistered to speak prior to the end of
10 business on March 18th, 1988, which is the close of
11 preregistration. The witness order, which I think a lot of
12 you have seen on the sign-up sheets that are posted on the
13 walls out front, was randomly chosen. We did not
14 consciously choose to try to slot people in at a particular
15 time; it was randomly chosen by a computer. I am the one to
16 allow members of the public who sign up at the door to
17 speak, to the extent that time allows. It would be our
18 intent, however, to allow everyone who desires the
19 opportunity to speak to have that opportunity. And I'll
20 speak about that in just a moment.

21 In terms of the timeframe for this meeting,
22 the Federal Register and others indicate that any
23 organizational representative has up to ten minutes within
24 which to deliver their comment. Any individual of the
25 public who wishes to comment has up to five minutes within

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1 which to comment. We do have a signaling device here that
2 will hopefully make it easier for you to know where you are
3 at in terms of your speaking time. For those of you who
4 have five minutes, we'll turn on a green light which means
5 that you have gone four minutes; the red light will go on at
6 five. For organizations, the green light will go on at nine
7 and the red light goes on at ten. As I have said throughout
8 these hearings, due to the large number of commentators, we
9 ask that you adhere very strictly to those timeframes.

10 We are also encouraging speakers, wherever
11 possible, to submit your comments in writing. If you have
12 brought written comments with you, we'd ask that you use
13 your oral comment time to summarize them, and then what we
14 would like to do is have a copy of your written comments; if
15 you will give that to me when you come up, we'll include
16 that in the record as an exhibit. As I mentioned, you may
17 also submit written comments before the close of comment,
18 which is April 21, 1988, and we do have the address where
19 you can send those in the back of the room.

20 We have had an exceptional number of
21 individuals who requested to provide oral public comment in
22 these proceedings. In total we have had, I believe, 832
23 individuals in Idaho Falls, Twin Falls and Boise, who have
24 indicated their desire to participate and to provide oral
25 comment. I'd like to indicate it is our intent to try to

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1 accommodate everybody here today, in terms of those of you
 2 who have signed up to speak. To the extent that we can't
 3 get that done by a reasonable time this evening, we are
 4 prepared, if necessary, to resume or to continue this
 5 hearing on this upcoming Thursday back in this facility.
 6 I'd like to stress that anyone who has preregistered to
 7 comment, as well as anyone who is registering at the door
 8 today, will have the opportunity to comment, and we will
 9 accommodate all of you that would like to have that
 10 opportunity.

11 Because of the press of time we are not able
 12 to follow our standard format, which is to allow a period of
 13 time in which folks in the audience can ask questions of the
 14 Department. What we have done, however, to respond to your
 15 need to ask questions, we have a written or a document where
 16 you can provide your questions in writing and you can
 17 provide that to myself or someone from the Department of
 18 Energy in the back of the room. We'll provide a written
 19 answer to all questions that we receive. All questions and
 20 answers will be included in the hearing record.

21 Finally, in terms of procedural rules, I'd
 22 like to indicate that your five minutes of time is your five
 23 minutes, or ten minutes, if you are an organizational
 24 representative. We are not going to allow combined speaking
 25 times, that becomes rather difficult to administer.

13

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1 I'd also like to mention if you have charts or
 2 other visual aids, you may use those in your presentation;
 3 however, the time necessary to set those up will
 4 unfortunately have to be taken against your speaking time,
 5 due again to the press of time. We'd also ask that if you
 6 do have something like that, that you submit a document
 7 that's of appropriate size that we can include in the
 8 record.

9 Finally, this is a record proceeding.
 10 Everything that is being said here as well as the other
 11 public hearings is being recorded by a court reporter in the
 12 front. Accordingly, we ask that when you do come up, when
 13 it is time for you to make your comment, that you do come up
 14 to the front, speak from the podium here so that the court
 15 reporter can hear you well. We'd ask that you first give
 16 your name and address for the record and then from there go
 17 ahead and make your comments.

18 If you have any questions about the procedures
 19 or about issues relative to this EIS, we will be taking
 20 breaks throughout the course of the hearing, you can step up
 21 forward and ask those of myself. In addition to that, there
 22 are a number of Department of Energy people at the door, at
 23 the registration table, they are there to help answer
 24 questions if you have them.

25 So with that, I'd like to go ahead and begin

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T001

1 to receive the formal testimony at this point in time. My
2 witness list indicates that former Governor John Evans is to
3 be our lead witness. I don't see the Governor here. Is
4 Governor Evans here?

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: That being the case, our
7 first speaker will be the mayor of Sun Valley, Ruth Lieder.

8
9 RUTH LIEDER,
10 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

11
12 MAYOR LIEDER: Good afternoon. My name is Ruth
13 Lieder, and I'm mayor of the City of Sun Valley. Good
14 afternoon, gentlemen.

15 The City of Sun Valley, Idaho, is opposed to
16 the Department of Energy's construction and operation of the
17 Special Isotope Separation Project at the Idaho National
18 Engineering Laboratory. The processing of plutonium,
19 primarily plutonium-239, better known as weapon-grade
20 plutonium, conflicts with Idaho's tourism industry in that
21 it negatively impacts marketing efforts to promote our
22 beautiful State as a desirable place for people to visit
23 and, hence, impacts the state's economy. This, gentlemen,
24 is not an emotional issue. It is a business issue.

25 Tourism is fast becoming a primary industry in

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1 Idaho, and Sun Valley is the catalyst; regionally,
2 nationally and internationally. The city is located in
3 Blaine County which accounted for \$6,500,000 in State sales
4 tax in 1987. Incidentally, I'm going to confine all my
5 figures to 1987 for ease. Sun Valley and neighboring
6 Ketchum generated approximately \$4 million of that tax that
7 same year from their tourist based economies. Since its
8 inception in 1981, the Idaho Travel Council, which is
9 dependent solely on revenue from a statewide 2 percent bed
10 tax to market Idaho's tourist attractions collects an
11 average of \$1,800,000 per year. That amount, incidentally,
12 is ludicrous when compared to the State budget of our
13 strongest competitors, Colorado, which allocates close to
14 \$8 million a year, and Utah which allocates close to
15 \$4 million a year for marketing tourism. Nevertheless, we
16 have started it and we are on a roll.

17 In 1987 the Idaho Tourist Council collected
18 exactly \$1,735,000. Region 4 which includes the County of
19 Blaine with its tourist based economy was responsible for
20 \$422,000 of that amount, second only to Region 3's \$531,000
21 which includes Ada County, primarily Boise, with its
22 business based economy. Sun Valley and Ketchum's
23 contribution to Region 4's \$422,000 was \$270,000 or
24 64 percent.

25 Since the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

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5.27.5.1

1 prepared by the DOE compared population, and I quote, "for
2 assessing potential environmental consequences" within a
3 50-mile radius of the INEL, it compares it to Banford,
4 Washington, and to Savannah River, South Carolina; it is
5 essential, therefore, that we consider Sun Valley's unique
6 factoring in this population arena. The city is located 50
7 air miles west of the INEL.

8 The year-round residential population is a
9 mere 635, that is established by the 1980 U.S. census. With
10 year-round nationwide marketing and cooperative weather
11 conditions this base population routinely expands to
12 7,000-plus in winter and summer with fall fast keeping
13 pace. Correspondingly, Ketchum's population of 2,200, again
14 according to the United States census of 1980, increases to
15 8,000-plus for a combined resident/tourist head count of
16 15,000-plus for seven to ten months of the year.

5.27.3.3

17 According to the Sun Valley-Ketchum Chamber of
18 Commerce, the Lodging Association specifically, 70,000
19 tourists visited the area in the winter of 1987 and 50,000
20 tourists visited in the summer of that same year. Such buzz
21 words as weapon-grade plutonium, warheads and the like,
22 which are readily reported in national and international
23 media, would interfere with our concerted efforts to
24 increase these figures.

25 With rare exception, our guests are energetic

1 young families, business and professional groups and
2 conventioners who gravitate to the area to participate in
3 the numerous recreational activities we offer. To name
4 them; alpine and cross-country skiing, golf, tennis,
5 hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, horseback riding,
6 bicycling, ice-skating, swimming, sailing, wind-surfing and
7 most important and growing in popularity, floating Idaho's
8 clean white waters.

9 Approximately 90 percent of Sun Valley's, the
10 City of Sun Valley's present year-round residential
11 population have out-of-state origins. Traditionally they
12 are introduced to the resort first as guests of the lodging
13 facilities, then as renters of the condominiums, then as
14 owners of condominiums, and ultimately they settle in as
15 owners of homes. They are doctors, dentists, lawyers,
16 stockbrokers, accountants, developers, realtors,
17 contractors, architects, engineers, hoteliers, retailers,
18 restaurateurs, writers, artists, musicians, dancers, actors,
19 educators, to name a few professions, not to mention the
20 ancillary professions that function profitably and
21 healthfully in a resort/recreational environment.

22 The Sun Valley resort area is in tight
23 competition, very tight competition, as I alluded to before,
24 with other resorts across the United States. In addition to
25 marketing by the Idaho Travel Council, which incidentally,

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1 is a division of Idaho's Department of Commerce which, the
 2 City of Sun Valley submits, should give equal, if not more,
 3 attention to the State's growing tourism industry as this
 4 Department appears to be directing at the State's unproven
 5 hi-tech industry, but in addition to the marketing by this
 6 division of the Idaho Travel Council and to the marketing by
 7 the private sector the City of Sun Valley allocated \$150,000
 8 in fiscal year 1987/88 to the Sun Valley-Ketchum Chamber of
 9 Commerce for the purpose of expanding its marketing
 10 efforts. The City of Ketchum did the same. The location of
 11 the SIS just 50 miles away at the INEL, may, we submit, well
 12 be counterproductive to the State and local efforts to
 13 increase tourism to this internationally renowned resort,
 14 the surrounding recreational area and the entire State of
 15 Idaho.

16 Thank you, gentlemen.

17 (Applause.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mayor Lieder.
 19 Your written comments will be received for the record as
 20 Exhibit 273, 273.

21 Our next commentor this afternoon is the mayor
 22 of the City of Ketchum, Mr. Larry Young.

T002

1 LARRY YOUNG,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
 4 MAYOR YOUNG: My name is Larry Young, I'm
 5 mayor of the City of Ketchum. I reside at 311 West Fourth
 6 Street in Ketchum, Idaho.

7 The City of Ketchum supports the No Action
 8 Alternative and thus requests that the U.S. Department of
 9 Energy not construct and operate the SIS project.

10 I will probably reiterate some of the issues
 11 that Mayor Lieder raised, but they are equally important to
 12 the City of Ketchum and its residents.

13 Last year, as Mayor Lieder pointed out,
 14 Ketchum contributed \$150,000 to the Chamber of Commerce to
 15 promote tourism in the Ketchum/Sun Valley area. The central
 16 theme of our marketing effort is the quality of life we
 17 offer and the peaceful life style, free from the tension and
 18 violence that infects many segments of our society. The
 19 processing of plutonium, a radioactive and hazardous
 20 substance for nuclear weapons approximately 60 miles from
 21 Ketchum severely conflicts with our promotion and economy.

22 The Draft Environmental Statement, I believe
 23 it's Section 3.1.2, provides in part, and it acknowledges
 24 that tourism is an important and major industry in the State
 25 of Idaho, but then it makes a ludicrous statement that "No

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1 recent statistics regarding tourism, e.g. number of tourists
2 and number of visitor days, for the INEL region are
3 available."

4 This statement regarding the absence of
5 tourism statistics is a total abrogation of the Department
6 of Energy's duties to assess the importance of tourism to
7 the region and determine the impact that the SIS project
8 will have upon that tourism. Tourism in Idaho contributes
9 approximately \$1.3 billion to our well-being and employs
10 over 29,000 people. Tourism is No. 3 in our State as far as
11 industries go.

12 Carl Wilgus, the Director of Promotion,
13 Tourism and Travel for of the State of Idaho, recently
14 stated that tourism is projected to be the world's largest
15 industry by the year 2000. Well over 4 million people visit
16 the State yearly as tourists.

17 I don't know who prepared the DEIS, but I can
18 understand the disclaimer statement at the beginning because
19 there are plenty of tourist statistics available if someone
20 will just call. Even in, I think Craters of the Moon is
21 stated to be 19 miles from the proposed site and it had over
22 200,000 visitors last year.

23 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement fails
24 to address how the occurrence of the four postulated
25 accidents at Section 4.1.3 and the severe facility accident,

1 how those five events would impact tourism and the 29,000
2 individuals making a living off tourism. We feel that those
3 events should be keyed to what kinds of impact that would
4 have on tourism.

5 The recent study by the National Academy of
6 Sciences has questioned the safety of the the safety of the
7 future nuclear waste storage site in Carlsbad, New Mexico,
8 and thus the plutonium brought to the INEL for processing
9 may be stored indefinitely at the INEL as opposed to being
10 forwarded to the New Mexico site. It is almost impossible
11 to successfully promote tourism in the Ketchum/Sun Valley
12 area while we are gaining national attention as a nuclear
13 waste site and plutonium processing facility.

14 I'm afraid our U.S. Senators have signed us up
15 for the dregs of the pork barrel. Only 440 jobs --

16 (Applause.)

17 MAYOR YOUNG: -- and the possibility of 24,000
18 years as a nuclear waste dump, the people of Idaho -- people
19 of Ketchum believe Idaho deserves far more than that. We
20 agree with the -- In conclusion, we agree with Senator -- I
21 mean Secretary Herrington, that we are awash in plutonium,
22 we have more plutonium than we need, that the only action
23 for Idaho is the No Action Alternative.

24 Thank you very much.

25 (Applause.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Mayor Young's statement will
2 be included in the record as Exhibit 274.

3 Our next scheduled commentor is Mr. Jack
4 Miller of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce.

5
6 JACK MILLER,
7 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

8
9 MR. MILLER: Ladies and gentlemen, my name is
10 Jack Miller. I presently reside at 1977 Dora Circle in Twin
11 Falls, and I'm currently the president of the Greater Twin
12 Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. So the comments that I will
13 make today will be on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce.

14 The statement of the Greater Twin Falls Area
15 Chamber of Commerce is to support and create a profitable
16 business climate. We, therefore, take this opportunity to
17 support the Special Isotope Separator Project as proposed
18 for the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory in southeast
19 Idaho. We do so based on the following information:

20 No. 1. For nearly 40 years the INEL has been
21 an important asset for Idaho, ranking as one of the State's
22 largest and steadiest employers and a national leader in
23 technological advancement. It deserves the support and
24 business and the citizenry for its contributions to the
25 economy and our tax structure.

23

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1 No. 2. The proposed SIS Project will add more
2 jobs, new taxes and new educational opportunities to our
3 State at a critical time. Our agriculture-based economy
4 remains depressed and the infusion of the construction
5 dollars plus the 800 new jobs and annual operating
6 expenditures of \$50 million will come at a most opportune
7 time. It will also provide Idahoans the opportunity to
8 prove that we are serious about economic diversification and
9 the development of a more stable revenue and employment
10 base.

11 No. 3. Additional economic benefits include
12 the possibility of many industrial and educational
13 spin-offs, a share of national defense expenditures and the
14 trickle-down effect of the creation of more than a thousand
15 projected support jobs, and the slowing down of population
16 loss, a diminishing tax base, and the failure to provide our
17 children the opportunity to stay and work in Idaho.

18 We are aware of the moral issues and the
19 environmental dangers involved with this project. Risk,
20 however, is a part of life and the business world. In this
21 instance, we believe the benefits outweigh any negative
22 aspects.

23 Therefore, the Greater Twin Falls Area Chamber
24 of Commerce representing over 500 businesses, professionals
25 and individuals in and around the Twin Falls area fully

24

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1 endorse location of the Special Isotope Separation Project
2 at the INEL site.

3 Thank you.

4 (Applause.)

5 HEARING OFFICER: The written statement of
6 Mr. Jack Miller on behalf of the Twin Falls Chamber of
7 Commerce we have marked as Exhibit 275 and will be included
8 in the record.

9 Our next commentor is Mr. Don Hancock from the
10 Southwest Research and Information Center. Is Mr. Hancock
11 here? Mr. Don Hancock.

12 (No response.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Next commentor will be
14 Mr. Mike Moorman from the Burley Chamber of Commerce.

15 MARK MOORMAN,
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17 MR. MOORMAN: Mr. Eiguren, ladies and
18 gentlemen, I am Mark Moorman, Vice-President of the Burley
19 Chamber of Commerce, 1401 Overland Avenue, Burley, Idaho.

20 On behalf of the Burley Chamber of Commerce, I
21 wish to testify in favor of the SIS Project at INEL.

22 1. We believe that it is a safe program. The
23 possibility for a major accident is so remote that it is
24
25

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1 almost inconsequential.

2 No. 2. Atmospheric pollution and radiation
3 danger is far less than that of wood burning stoves and
4 other smog created in some of our cities which so-called
5 environmentalists seem to be happy to tolerate.

6 No. 3. Since all hazardous wastes are to be
7 safely contained at the site, there will be no hazardous
8 pollution to our Snake River Plain Aquifer. And I am a
9 farmer and a water user out of the Snake River Plain, we
10 both pump water out of the Snake River and out of wells, and
11 I am not concerned, honestly and sincerely.

12 No. 4. Nuclear science is and will be the
13 basis for a great deal of our future health and medical
14 well-being. Nuclear technology will also solve many of fuel
15 and energy problems as it has done in European communities.

16 No. 5. We feel that this plant will be built,
17 and we appreciate the opportunity of keeping Idaho on the
18 cutting edge of high technology.

19 No. 6. The SIS located in Idaho will provide
20 approximately 800 new jobs with a commensurate benefit to
21 the Idaho economy. Construction and operating positions
22 will be filled mainly by Idaho residents.

23 The Burley Chamber of Commerce continues to
24 support the establishment of the SIS Project in Idaho.

25 I thank you for this opportunity to testify.

26

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1 (Applause.)
 2 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Garth Cates, NECA.
 3 The written statement of Mark Moorman will be
 4 marked as Exhibit 276 and included in the record.

5
 6 GARTH CATES,
 7 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 8

9 MR. CATES: Mr. Chairman and ladies and
 10 gentlemen, I appreciate the opportunity to testify today.

11 My name is Garth Cates. I'm the Executive
 12 Manager for the Idaho Chapter of the National Electrical
 13 Contractors Association. NECA has served the interests of
 14 the electrical construction industry throughout the United
 15 States since its founding in 1901 and is looked upon as the
 16 management spokesman association for the industry.

17 Members of the Idaho Chapter NECA are
 18 electrical contractors who are Idaho businessmen living,
 19 working and raising their families in our State. Chapter
 20 members are found in all parts of the State and collectively
 21 do a majority of the commercial and industrial electrical
 22 construction in Idaho. I'm here to express their collective
 23 support for construction and operation of the Special
 24 Isotope Separation Project at the INEL.

25 As citizens of this country and certainly

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1 citizens of this earth, we as a group, like I'm sure all of
 2 you, abhor the possibility of nuclear war or holocaust. We
 3 urge continuance and relentless effort to bring about
 4 nuclear weapons reduction agreements with all countries who
 5 possess the capability to build such weapons. We just
 6 happen to believe that such agreements can only be
 7 negotiated from a position of strength, and construction of
 8 the SIS has been determined to be an important step in
 9 maintaining that strength. Until such agreements are
 10 reached and in place, we believe we have little choice but
 11 to properly fuel the weapons in our arsenal. The SIS is
 12 needed to carry out that function. The defense policy of
 13 the United States calls for the construction of the
 14 facility, and the INEL is the preferred site.

15 As you are aware, an extensive Environmental
 16 Impact Study has been completed and assesses the INEL site
 17 in a very positive manner. It has taken into consideration
 18 the risks to human life as well as to the environment and
 19 concludes that such risks are so negligible that they are
 20 virtually nonexistent.

21 The business impact of such a project would
 22 give Idaho the economy and the tax base a much needed
 23 boost. Construction would provide many needed jobs and
 24 spin-off businesses throughout Eastern Idaho. During and
 25 after construction Idaho would benefit from the skilled

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1 workers the project would attract and an annual injection of
2 over \$50 million into our State's beleaguered economy.

3 In conclusion, the United States Defense
4 Department, the Department of Energy, the National Security
5 Council and the United States Congress have all agreed that
6 the Special Isotope Separation Project is needed. According
7 to extensive studies, the project has been determined as
8 safe to human life and to the environment. Idaho is the
9 preferred site and the State needs this project. Let's move
10 ahead with the SIS in an intelligent, informed and
11 unemotional manner.

12 Thank you very much. Thank you, Mr. Chairman
13 (Applause.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: We have marked and will
15 include in the record as Exhibit 277 the written comments of
16 Mr. Garth Cates on behalf of the Idaho Chapter of NECA.

17 Our next scheduled commentator is Norma Douglas
18 who represents the Chamber of Commerce in the Sun
19 Valley/Ketchum area.

20 (Off the record.)

21
22 NORMA DOUGLAS,
23 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

24
25 MS. DOUGLAS: My name is Norma Douglas. I'm a

1 member of the Board of Directors of the Sun Valley/Ketchum
2 Chamber of Commerce. I'm representing over 250 member
3 businesses of the Sun Valley-Ketchum Chamber.

4 Sun Valley and Ketchum are, as our mayors,
5 Ruth Lieder and Larry Young, pointed out, not only
6 economically dependent upon tourism but spearhead the
7 State's efforts to bring tourists and tourist dollars to
8 Idaho.

9 It should come as no surprise to anyone who
10 has to left the boundaries of this State that most Americans
11 don't know where Idaho is. They think it's near Kansas. We
12 are fighting for tourist dollars against Colorado and Utah,
13 two states who spend enormous amounts of money to promote
14 their mountains and fishing streams to potential visitors.
15 But now, thanks to the wonders of modern communication, we
16 have found a way to get free publicity. Anyone anywhere in
17 America can tell you two things about Idaho now. One, we
18 are the home of the Aryan Nation and, two, we are the place
19 where they took all the nuclear garbage from Three Mile
20 Island.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. DOUGLAS: This is not the kind of news
23 that makes you want to pack the wife and kids into the Chevy
24 and head to Idaho.

25 Night after night families have been treated

5.30.3.6

4.15.4

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1 to photographs of protestors lying across railroad tracks
2 horrified that the garbage of Three Mile Island is making
3 even a brief transit across their state. And where is that
4 garbage going night after night on the television? To
5 Idaho.

6 Now we are making the front page of the
7 nation's newspapers once again. This time to offer
8 ourselves as a location of last resort for an unnecessary
9 manufacturing site for a plutonium plant of highly
10 questionable safety. Our meager marketing dollars may not
11 be making much of an impact on tourists, may not be telling
12 them much about our mountains and our streams and our lakes
13 or our wildlife, but our sad eagerness to accept dangerous
14 nuclear projects that everyone else has turned down is
15 certainly sending a frightening message.

16 We are finally making a lasting impression on
17 Americans, an impression with a half life of 24,000 years.
18 Given the well documented safety problems associated with a
19 project of this kind, and the nation-wide negative publicity
20 that clings to these projects, we at the Sun Valley Resort
21 Area are horrified to think that we may become, in more ways
22 than one, a location of last resort for the SIS.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 BEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled commentor

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T007

1 is Jonathan Stoke of the Sawtooth Chapter of the Sierra
2 Club.

3
4 JONATHAN STOKES,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MR. STOKES: Ladies and gentlemen, Hearing
8 Officer, my name is Jonathan Stoke. I'm the Chairman of the
9 Sawtooth Group of the Sierra Club. I reside in Bailey,
10 Idaho.

11 This testimony is submitted for the hearing
12 record concerning the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
13 for the Special Isotope Separation Project. Four
14 alternatives are considered in the DEIS. The alternative 1
15 support is the No Action Alternative listed as Alternative 3
16 on Page 1-4 and explained in full in Section 2.4. The No
17 Action Alternative is not to construct and operate the SIS
18 Project.

19 The Hearing Officer will please note that I
20 have submitted a copy of my entire testimony to be submitted
21 in the hearing record.

22 After careful and thorough review, I am
23 convinced that the DEIS has serious deficiencies. My
24 concerns include the following: The preferred alternative
25 ignores the danger of resumed volcanism.

32

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5.10.1

1 The Draft EIS fails to properly document
2 seismic activity.

5.23.19

3 The Draft EIS fails to address cumulative
4 impacts of raising the background radiation.

5.24.1

5 The Draft EIS glosses over extreme hazards.

2.1.1

6 The Draft EIS fails to address environmental
7 impacts.

5.23.2

8 The Draft EIS disregards the preferred
9 alternative's higher maximum individual dose imparted to
10 Idahoans.

5.30.4.5

11 The Draft EIS demonstrates an historic failure
12 to contain radionuclides and toxic substances at the INEL.

5.16.1

13 The Draft EIS fails to adequately delineate
14 hydrologic effects.

5.27.1.1

15 The Draft EIS fails to assess impacts on
16 Idaho's economy.

5.31.19

17 The Draft EIS fails to properly consider
18 meteorological conditions.

5.14.1

19 The Draft EIS speculates about high-level
20 waste storage.

5.6.1

21 The Draft EIS fails to adequately consider
22 wildlife.

5.20.1

23 The Draft EIS fails to address occupational
24 safety.

5.1.21

25 The range of postulated accidents considered

1 in the Draft EIS is too limited.

2 The Draft EIS fails to document an evacuation
3 plan.

4 The Draft EIS fails to address emergency
5 medical treatment.

6 The Draft EIS endorses a purely speculative
7 technology.

8 The DEIS accepts fallout from nuclear weapons
9 tests as part of the background radiation in Table 3-2, but
10 carefully itemizes sources of much smaller doses of
11 radiation such as air travel and occupational exposure to
12 medical and dental personnel.

13 In order to adequately assess the cumulative
14 impact of synthetic radiation exposures, it is necessary to
15 clarify Table 3-2 on Page 3-21 of the DEIS. I now include
16 three tables of my own which are included in the record.
17 All information contained in them was drawn solely from the
18 information provided in the DEIS. Sections 4.1.4, 4.2.4 and
19 4.3.4 address occupational safety. The annual dose
20 increment to a construction worker at each of the three
21 alternative sites should be clearly stated. Instead one is
22 absent and another appears to be incorrect due to a
23 misplaced decimal point. The annual dose increment to a
24 construction worker would seem to me to be 22.8 percent,
25 that considers 2000 hours per year at the jobsite, of the

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5.24.18

5.23.13

5.20.6

1 on-site average external radiation levels. External
2 radiation is the sum of two forces; cosmic radiation and
3 external terrestrial radiation.

4 As we see in Table 1, at the Savannah River
5 plant, .228 times 65 equals 14.82 millirem per year
6 occupational exposure. However, at the Hanford site .228
7 times 75 is 17.1 millirem per year. The DEIS appears to
8 have misplaced a decimal point during these calculations, as
9 it assumes only 2 millirem per year. Finally, in any such
10 figures for the INEL location are conspicuously absent. By
11 adding the first two numbers in Table 3-2 on Page 3-21 of
12 the DEIS, I obtain an external dose on-site at 117.0
13 millirem per year, and multiply this by .228 to derive 26.7
14 millirem per year, which is quite close the DEIS estimate 30
15 millirem per year construction worker exposure given for the
16 INEL. Perhaps the on-site external dose is slightly higher
17 in the ICPP area, as this would explain the small
18 discrepancy.

19 My Table 2 is a clear summary of the
20 delineation between natural and synthetic radiation. The
21 30 millirem per year figure for radioactive effluents from
22 INEL operations was derived as follows: The background
23 radiation at the INEL found on Pages 3-21 and S-5, which is
24 144 millirem per year, was compared with the mean annual TLD
25 exposure for boundary and more distant locations, which is

35

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1 110 to 115 millirem per year as shown on Page 3-23. Simple
2 subtraction provided the result of from 29 to 34 millirem
3 additional radiation from INEL operations.

4 Table 3 is provided to summarize current
5 executive and legislative constraints on environmental
6 levels of radiation via assorted pathways.

7 An artifact of atmospheric weapons testing and
8 use, the Chernobyl nuclear accident, repeated injection of
9 radiation into the river systems and oceans of the world has
10 increased our background radiation. Increased background
11 radiation is raising the mutation rate of Earth's biotic
12 community.

13 This provides a competitive advantage for
14 organisms with rapid generation rates and simple genetic
15 structure. This advantage is obvious. Humans evolve not at
16 all in 20 years, that's one generation. In that same period
17 of time mosquitos develop significant resistance to DDT,
18 syphilis develops significant resistance to penicillin, new
19 microorganisms evolve to live in and consume synthetic
20 chemical effluent from petrochemical factories, viruses such
21 as AIDS and the common cold undergo changes in their
22 exterior structure which thwarts our bodies' and our
23 society's attempts to control them. These changes and
24 evolutions are all dependent upon mutagens. Mutagens are
25 agents which cause mutations. Radiation is a mutagen.

36

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5.23.17

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1 Evolution is the process by which mutant
2 characteristics are retained in the general population. Any
3 increase in the background radiation level results in a
4 corresponding increase in the mutation rate. There is no
5 such thing as a safe radiation level.

6 When considering the effects of a so-called
7 safe radiation dose, the risk management theorists and
8 writers and editors of this DEIS only considered somatic
9 effects such as cancer in humans and genetic effects such as
10 developmental changes in unborn human children.

5.23.17

11 The failure of the DEIS to address the issue
12 of impacts of increased radiation on microorganisms is a
13 serious deficiency. Microorganisms in our soil, air and
14 water play a key role in our environment.

5.20.6

15 My Table 2 indicates that 58.2 percent of the
16 radiation received by individuals at the INEL is from
17 synthetic sources. Microorganisms residing in or on the
18 bodies of those individuals receive the same amount and
19 proportion of synthetic radiation. The genetic effects of
20 additional synthetic radiation on microorganisms must not be
21 ignored in the Final Environmental Impact Statement.

5.23.17

22 On Page 3-16 it is observed that the TRA waste
23 pond requires corrective action due to the detection of
24 chromium in the perched ground water underneath the pond.
25 Now the ICPP also uses discharge to percolation ponds as an

5.21.3

1 interim method for disposal of liquid effluents, despite the
2 problems at the TRA pond.

3 On Page 4-8 it is pointed out that the SIS
4 facility will discharge 20 tons of freon per year into the
5 atmosphere. Freon has been implicated in stratospheric
6 ozone depletion and has been banned as an aerosol
7 propellant. But because the Clean Air Act allows freon
8 discharge, DOE would not mitigate this potentially harmful
9 practice.

10 The ICPP injection well was used to discharge
11 low-level radioactive waste to the subsurface from 1953 to
12 1984.

13 On Page 5-12 it is pointed out that injection
14 of radioactive materials through an existing well or above a
15 drinking water source is prohibited by Idaho state
16 regulations. Nonetheless, on Pages 5-15 and 3-14 it is
17 stated that the injection well at ICPP remains in use for
18 emergency situations. If Idaho statute permits use of an
19 injection well for emergency disposal of radioactive
20 effluent at ICPP, Page 5-12 should be amended to reflect
21 that reality.

22 On the other hand, if ICPP injection of
23 radioactive effluent is contrary to Idaho state regulation
24 under any circumstances, the FEIS should reflect alternative
25 contingency plans for emergency disposal of radioactive

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5.17.3

1 liquid effluent.

2 I see my time is up, sorry I haven't gotten
3 through all my testimony today. Thank you for this
4 opportunity to speak.

5 HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of
6 Jonathan Stoke made on behalf of the Sierra Club Sawtooth
7 Group, which is a rather extensive 20-page document, will be
8 marked as Exhibit 278, and included in the record as
9 received.

10 Next scheduled commentor is Anita McCann on
11 behalf of the Groundwater Alliance.

12
13 ANITA McCANN,
14 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

15
16 MS. McCANN: My name is Anita McCann. I live
17 at 109 Mike Ivy Boulevard in Ketchum, Idaho. I'm speaking
18 on behalf of Groundwater Alliance, a Ketchum based group, we
19 work for peace and the elimination of nuclear weapons.
20 Therefore, we are opposed most definitely to the SIS
21 proposed for the INEL.

22 I am also speaking as a voting citizen of this
23 country, and as the mother of two small boys who I wish to
24 see grow up in a world preserved of all its beauty and
25 splendor and free of war.

1 I address this audience with the theory that
2 it is imperative that you, the DOE, and you, our
3 representatives, be exposed to the dangerous consequences of
4 your actions concerning the possible location of the SIS
5 plant here in Idaho. Old modes of thinking are being used
6 here. There is the belief that the more bombs America has,
7 the safer it will be. You don't seem to realize that the
8 plutonium that will be produced here in Idaho specifically
9 for nuclear weapons will in itself increase the risk and
10 probability of nuclear war simply because as more people
11 handle the deadly substance, statistically the chances for
12 risk and error increase.

13 Are the people who want jobs working with the
14 SIS willing to prostitute themselves to work for death and
15 not for life? For this is truly the moral question of our
16 time. Why do they not have the moral integrity and the
17 courage to question what they are doing?

18 As the Catholic Archbishop of San Antonio,
19 Texas, asked his parishioners who worked at the Tampax plant
20 which assembled the final parts of nuclear bombs, he said,
21 to paraphrase, go deep into your hearts and decide if there
22 is not some other way to make a living which is not so
23 contradictory to the teachings of Jesus Christ. As the
24 Beatitudes say, "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they are
25 the children of God."

2.7.8

2.7.11

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1 The total cost of the production of the SIS
 2 program is estimated at \$1 billion. The military industrial
 3 complex does not stimulate the economy, nor provide many
 4 jobs for this big amount of money. The DOE states that
 5 approximately 750 jobs overall would be created by the SIS.
 6 The same amount of money, and this is going to be a quote
 7 from Helen Caldecott, "The same amount of money would create
 8 1,500 jobs if spent on personal consumption or 2,000 jobs on
 9 education, a great necessity in our state." She goes object
 10 to state, "Military spending increases employment in
 11 specifically highly skilled and a few semi-skilled
 12 professions in such industries as aircraft production,
 13 electronics and engineering and skilled and semi-skilled
 14 metal work. More than 30 percent of the country's
 15 mathematicians work somewhere in the military industrial
 16 complex, as do 25 percent of the nation's physicists, 40
 17 percent of the astronautic engineers, and 11 percent of the
 18 computer programmers. On the other hand, domestic spending
 19 creates jobs in areas of high public interest; medicine,
 20 social work, civil engineering, construction and education.
 21 And as the defense sector becomes more capital intensive,
 22 fewer and fewer jobs are created for the new defense
 23 expenditures. The military industry also creates dead-end
 24 products in economic terms. Huge amounts of money spent on
 25 the most deadly weapons of mass genocide which, if they

5.27.6.7

1 function as intended, will never be used. They, therefore,
 2 sit on the shelves, so to speak, and the money is never
 3 injected back into the economy to contribute to further
 4 economic production. People can't eat bombs, they can't
 5 wear the bomb on their heads or use them for pleasure."
 6 She goes on to state, and I quote this because
 7 the job interest here is very imperative. "Conversion of a
 8 corporation from war to peace can be achieved not just by
 9 decision of the corporate heads but by initiative from the
 10 workers." Let me give you an example. In England the Lucas
 11 Aerospace industry made parts for missiles. After many
 12 years of making this equipment the workers finally became
 13 concerned about the global implications of their work. They
 14 called in some consultants, and they said, 'With our
 15 technical skills what could we make that would benefit
 16 mankind?' So the consultants designed electric cars,
 17 dialysis machines and mass transit systems. The workers
 18 then took these plans to the management and said, 'We are
 19 not going to make missiles any more. We are going to make
 20 this equipment.' Management was surprised but was
 21 influenced.

22 Other workers and hi-technologists are
 23 beginning to leave the military industry because of the
 24 proper profound moral concern and have formed an
 25 organization called Hi-Technologists for Social

5.27.7.17

1 Responsibility. These people help each other find jobs
2 doing peaceful work. At the moment, however, such jobs are
3 not easy to find as we all know her in Idaho. That is why
4 we need to create the political climate that will channel
5 government money into peaceful industry and abolish
6 appropriations for weapon production. It's easy. We, the
7 people, ultimately control our government through the vote.
8 We own the White House. We own the Pentagon and the
9 Congress. They are the -- they are our bombs and we pay for
10 them.

11 As parents, we have a tremendous
12 responsibility and privilege of saving all past and future
13 generations, all animals, all plants. I demand the rights
14 for my children's future. Bringing a plutonium factory to
15 Idaho increases the chance that my boys' future will be
16 shorter lived, that their nurturing environment will be
17 tainted with the possibility of greater disease. I want
18 them to know that I did everything I could to preserve a
19 clean and healthy life style for them to grow up in. There
20 are many environmental problems facing us in this planet
21 today. We do not need to create more. We do not need the
22 SIS.

23 Thank you

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Final organizational speaker

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1 this afternoon is Mr. Nick Massoth of Magic Valley Peace
2 Project.

3 What I'm going to have you do for the record
4 is each of you give your name and your address.

5
6 TED MACHACEK, NICK MASSOTH and SEAN BARRIGAR,
7 appearing as witnesses, testified as follows:

8
9 MR. MACHCEK: I'm Ted Machcek, Route 4, Buhl,
10 Idaho.

11 MR. MASSOTH: I'm Nick Massoth, Route 1, Box
12 50, Buhl.

13 MR. BARRIGAR: Sean Barrigar, 917 Gates in
14 Buhl.

15 HEARING OFFICER: Go ahead.

16 MR. MASSOTH: We are here as representatives
17 of the youth of today, the leaders of tomorrow. The SIS
18 poses a threat to our livelihood in the future. We are not
19 only concerned with the plutonium transportation problems
20 and possible leakage into the environment, our main concern
21 is our lives.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. BARRIGAR: The long half-life of plutonium
24 makes this radioactivity a threat not only to our generation
25 but also to all generations of the future. The poison waste

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6.1.2

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1 produced at the proposed SIS plant would exist long after
2 the human race has destroyed itself and its home.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. MACHCEK: I'm looking on to the future.
5 Here is a glass of freshly tapped water just outside the SIS
6 facility. Isn't it such a lovely shade of green?

5.27.2

7 Remember that everything you order comes with
8 a bill. This is our opinion of what the money will be spent
9 on. First off, the damage to the environment, which is
10 going to cost us \$5 billion. Second, socioeconomic damage,
11 \$3 million. Third, labor costs \$2 billion dollars. The
12 total cost of this \$10 billion dollars.

6.1.2

13 MR. MASSOTH: The SIS poses a threat to our
14 lives, our hopes, our dreams. They will all be stored in a
15 leaky barrel somewhere. Who knows, maybe in your back
16 yard. So we must band together to fight this terrible
17 proposal. Please say no to the SIS and give us a chance.

1.1

18 (Applause.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: That concludes our list of
20 organizational speakers. Let me call the names of two
21 individuals whose name I called earlier and were not here.
22 Governor John Evans.

23 (No response.)

24 BEARING OFFICER: Don Hancock.

25 (No response.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: That completes our
2 organization listing. At this point we will go to the
3 commentor list of preregistered commentors for this
4 afternoon's session.

5 The Chair would note that we have
6 approximately 90 individuals who are preregistered to
7 testify. My quick computation of the time involved, that
8 would take roughly seven hours. What we are going to do
9 obviously is try to accommodate as many of these folks as
10 possible this afternoon. And it would be our intent that in
11 the evening session, if you have not had a chance to speak
12 this afternoon, in the evening session I will accommodate
13 you on a priority basis. That is to say, after my opening
14 comments and the three organizational representatives have
15 had their comment this afternoon, we will go where we left
16 off on this afternoon's list and proceed all the way through
17 that. Then from there we will go to the evening session and
18 make a determination as to whether or not we will have a
19 continuation on Thursday.

20 At this point we are going to take a very
21 brief recess. Before we do that, I'd like to have those
22 individuals who are between, I'd say, from 1 to 15 on the
23 speakers list, if we could have you come up towards these
24 reserved seats and sit in the reserved seats, that will
25 assist us in terms of having people go through their

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1 comments a bit more rapidly.

2 We'll be in recess for five minutes.

3 (Recess.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: We will now formally resume
5 our public hearing on the DEIS of the SIS and begin order
6 number 1 on our speakers' list, Elaine Randell. Elaine
7 Randell.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: No. 2, Frank Harmon.

10
11 FRANK HARMON,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13
1.1 14 MR. HARMON: I wish to speak in support of
15 locating the SIS Project at the INEL. The Draft
2.1.1 16 Environmental Impact Statement for the project is concerned
17 with economic, environmental and safety concerns. I am
18 satisfied with the conclusions of that document. In
19 addition, I am in favor of siting the project at INEL for
20 the following reasons:

21 The legislative and executive branches of the
4.9.4 22 federal government have determined that a need exists for
23 weapon-grade plutonium. The AVLIS process upon which the
5.2.1 24 SIS project is based is the least expensive method of
25 providing for that need.

1 The INEL contractors have amassed an excellent
2 record for safety in their handling of materials. I believe
3 that WINCO will manage the SIS project with at least the
4 same degree of concern and safety. Furthermore, the project
5 represents only a small increase in the amount of nuclear
6 materials at the site.

7 The jobs represented by the operating staff at
8 the SIS will be replacement jobs for jobs that are being
9 phased out as other projects end. Without the SIS, total
10 employment at the INEL will decrease and the already
11 depressed economy of southeast Idaho will suffer.

12 The SIS offers a significant opportunity for
13 the manufacturing economy of the region. Some of the parts
14 and subassemblies for the project, both during construction
15 and during the lifetime of the project, are within the
16 current capabilities of the State of Idaho's firms. With
17 this opportunity and with federal and state cooperation and
18 assistance, Idaho vendors can upgrade their capabilities to
19 supply these parts and more products, not only for this
20 project but for others as well.

21 Laser isotope separation, upon which the AVLIS
22 technology is based, holds great promise for industrial and
23 commercial use. This project represents the first use of
24 the technology in a production situation. Individuals and
25 organizations involved at this early stage should have a

5.24.23

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5.27.12.5

5.27.6.1

5.27.9.2

1 significant competitive advantage as this technology, and it
2 surely will, grows toward commercialization in the next
3 century.

4 Thank you.

5 A VOICE: Excuse me. You didn't give your
6 address.

7 MR. HARMON: Oh, I'm sorry. My name is Frank
8 Harmon. I'm from, Pocatello, Idaho.

9 A VOICE: Oh, Pocatello, okay.

10 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 279 will be the
11 written comments of Mr. Frank Harmon.

12 The next commentor is Ernest France.

13
14 ERNEST FRANCE,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16
17 MR. FRANCE: I am Ernest France, and I live
18 southwest of Jerome, Idaho. I am in the cattle business
19 southwest of Jerome. With my wife and ten salaried
20 employees we operate Circle 4 Cattle Company. We maintain
21 an inventory of between 10- and 11,000 cattle. We have
22 three wells that furnish water for the livestock at our
23 place and a multitude of wells are used by my neighbors to
24 irrigate for culinary use.

25 I'm concerned that the proposed location of

1 the SIS only a short distance from the channel of the Big
2 Lost River and within seven or eight miles of the Big and
3 Little Lost River sinks. We should remember that this
4 (unintelligible) aquifer right at the point where it's
5 largely fit down by the springs of the rivers in this area
6 of the lava fields, these rivers sink into the lava beds and
7 reappear down in our area here and down at the Thousand
8 Springs. Our aquifer is far too precious to be jeopardized
9 in any manner. And in light of what EPA states may be
10 massive contamination problems at INEL, do we want to add to
11 the potential contamination of our aquifer?

12 The proposed jobs and infusion toward our
13 state's economy, is it only jobs and money or is it the
14 legacy that we are leaving to our children, our
15 grandchildren and our state?

16 In light of the INF treaty and the prospects
17 for a reduction in long range missiles, does it make sense
18 to invest another billion in producing plutonium? Does it
19 make sense that we do this in light of the these proposed
20 treaties?

21 I believe that we in the Magic Valley should
22 say no to the SIS.

23 Thank you.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: The written statement of

5.31.15

5.30.4.6

6.1.8

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1.1

1 Ernest France will be marked as Exhibit 280 and included in
2 the record as such.

3 Order number 4 is the Jeff Ruprecht family.
4 They have made prior arrangements with the Chair for all of
5 them to come forward.

6 And would you like this in the record as the
7 Jeff Ruprecht family?

8 MR. RUPRECHT: That's fine.

9 HEARING OFFICER: All right. We need an
10 address.

11 JEFF RUPRECHT FAMILY,
12 appearing as witnesses, testified as follows:

13 MR. RUPRECHT: I'm Jeff Ruprecht, 1520
14 Princeton Drive, Twin Falls. I'll introduce the rest of my
15 family for the interest of time. Johnny, Judy, Joey, Peter
16 Ollie and Carl.

17 I am speaking against the proposed SIS
18 installation anywhere but specifically in Idaho.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. RUPRECHT: I am compelled to speak because
21 I am a husband, a father, a follower of Jesus and an
22 inhabitant of the earth. The facility is to produce
23 ingredients for nuclear weapons. Nuclear weapons are

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1 anti-people, anti-earth and anti-God. They burn tissue,
2 they blister skin, they blow matter to bits, contaminate the
3 earth and snuff out lives indiscriminately, including souls
4 who have not yet come to know a loving savior.

5 Does the world need more of this? Is this our
6 vision for the future? Is this what we want our children
7 and grandchildren to remember us for?

8 Come on, Idaho! We can do better than this.
9 For several hundred jobs, many of which are doubtful in
10 tenure, many of which are going to go to people not now
11 living in Idaho, this price is too high. Idaho we can and
12 we must do better than this.

13 CARL RUPRECHT: I too am speaking against the
14 proposed SIS plant to be built at INEL. To me this is
15 another pork barrel project and is absolutely not needed.

16 According to John Herrington, U. S. Secretary
17 of Energy, the U.S. now has stockpiled approximately 100
18 tons of weapons-grade plutonium. To quote Mr. Herrington,
19 "We are awash in plutonium."

20 And this plutonium has a shelf-life of 2,000
21 (sic) years.

22 The signing of the INF treaty will free up two
23 tons of weapon-grade plutonium. If current negotiations on
24 a 50 percent strategic force is cutback are successful,
25 plutonium equaling eight times the amount to be produced by

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1 the SIS will be made available for new weapons production.
 2 The SIS plant is absolutely not necessary.
 3 PETER RUPRECHT: I would like to address the
 4 economic or, excuse me, the environmental hazards of the
 5 SIS.

6 I don't want the SIS
 7 'Cause if there is ever a leak, we've got an
 8 awful mess.

9 Now, they say it won't leak, they say it's
 10 closed up tight.

11 They say nothing is going to happen but you
 12 never know what might.

5.12.1

13 I don't want plutonium over my water supply
 14 'Cause if it soaks down in then we all could
 15 die.

5.29.87

16 The stuff will be trucking down the roads as
 17 well.

18 If some should crash outside your house,
 19 you're welcome to a living hell.

20 Now maybe nothing's going to happen, maybe
 21 it'll pass the test,

22 But if it don't, then friends, we are the
 23 Chernobyl of the west.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Written statements of the

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1 Jeff Ruprecht family will be marked as Exhibit 281 and
 2 included in the record as such.

3 The next commentor is Josephine Lowe.
 4 Josephine Lowe.

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: Next commentor is Vance
 7 Hanawalt, Vance Hanawalt.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Next commentor is Clint
 10 Stewart -- Stennet excuse me, Clint Stennet.

11 Give your name and address for the record,
 12 Mr. Stennet.

13
 14 CLINT STENNET,
 15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16
 17 MR. STENNET: Good afternoon. My name is
 18 Clint Stennet. I live at 811 Warm Springs Road in Ketchum,
 19 Idaho.

20 I own Channel 13 KWRV in Ketchum/Sun Valley.
 21 Until recently I published the Wood River Journal, a weekly
 22 newspaper in Hailey. I grew up on the north side of the
 23 Snake River here, and I attended college at the College of
 24 Southern Idaho in Twin Falls and Idaho State University in
 25 Pocatello.

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1 I'm a conservative businessman who, with a lot
2 of hard and a little luck, have been able to make a living
3 in Idaho in the 1980s, not an easy task to be sure.
4 However, because of tourism my businesses have grown and
5 prospered.

6 While I object to the construction of the SIS
7 on moral and environmental and philosophical grounds, I'm
8 here today to talk about the economics of the SIS. I am
9 here to challenge the economic sense of creating these jobs
10 for the SIS project, a projects that could endanger the
11 fastest growing segment of our economy today.

12 By the year 2000 tourism will be the number
13 one industry in the world. Idaho can capitalize on this
14 growth. With our blue skies, our pristine back country, our
15 clean rivers and unhurried life style, we can offer a
16 wilderness mecca to the throngs of people who are now caught
17 in the urban jungle.

18 Idaho is appealing to these urbanites.
19 Tourists come, spend money, they take home only pictures and
20 memories. Tourism is clean, renewable and it's profitable.
21 Tourism employs 29,000 Idahoans. Tourism, with over a
22 billion dollars in annual revenue, is Idaho's second largest
23 and fastest growing industry.

24 Yet here we are, talking about kicking the
25 legs out from under this industry by creating this monster

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1 in the shadow of the Lost River range, a monster that has
2 the capability of conjuring up the same images that now
3 shroud places like Savannah River, Hanford, Chernobyl, Three
4 Mile Island. These names don't make you feel all warm and
5 fuzzy inside, nor do they compel you to get the atlas out
6 and begin planning your summer vacation. Bring your kids to
7 swim at Savannah River just doesn't sound right in a
8 marketing brochure.

9 The cost of this project, the lack of proven
10 need for this project and the potential for disaster, either
11 at the plant or on our highways, which would turn our
12 tourism industry upside down are economic reasons enough not
13 to build the SIS.

14 Risk taking is a part of doing business. A
15 smart business person minimizes risk by careful planning.
16 We are not planning here. We are gambling that nothing will
17 happen at this plant. The economic upside is 750 jobs. The
18 downside is the potential for economic ruin of the only
19 bright spot in our economy today. It's just not worth the
20 risk.

21 The only plausible argument that I heard in
22 favor of this project is jobs. Well, I think jobs is the
23 very reason not to build the SIS.

24 Thank you for your time.

25 (Applause.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 288 in the record
2 will be the written comments of Clint Stennet.
3 The next commentor is Cody Walden, Cody
4 Walden.
5 (No response.)
6 HEARING OFFICER: Bill McDorman. Ben Walker.
7 Oh, excuse me, are you Bill?
8 MR. McDORMAN: Yes.
9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. We'll need your name
10 and address for the record, please.
11
12 BILL McDORMAN,
13 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
14
15 MR. McDORMAN: Bill McDorman, Ketchum, Idaho.
16 I just walked in and so I have a question, if
17 it's okay, about who you folks are and exactly what happens
18 to my testimony. Is that a fair question?
19 HEARING OFFICER: That was covered earlier by
20 the Hearing Officer. We are receiving testimony from
21 individuals that goes into a record, that goes to the
22 Department of Energy.
23 MR. McDORMAN: Do you present this personally
24 as a hearing officer or --
25 HEARING OFFICER: The record as presented here

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1 goes to the Department.
2 MR. McDORMAN: Okay. So it's just my
3 testimony and you folks aren't involved in carrying this on
4 in any way?
5 HEARING OFFICER: No.
6 MR. McDORMAN: Okay. So is there anyone
7 here --
8 HEARING OFFICER: The Department of Energy
9 people are sitting here.
10 MR. McDORMAN: Sitting here. Okay. So you
11 folks have a say-so in whether or not this project goes on.
12 Okay. I was just making sure.
13 I'm also an Idaho businessman, I own a seed
14 company in the Wood River Valley. I was born and raised in
15 Idaho. Just drove down here to do this, and I keep
16 wondering why I'm even here. The merits of this program to
17 me seem so dubious and the risks so great, that I can't even
18 understand why we are even having hearings about this.
19 (Applause.)
20 MR. McDORMAN: And I keep thinking maybe
21 there's something wrong with me, maybe I missed something
22 here, I don't know.
23 You know, I went to school and I got pretty
24 good grades, and I was a Boy Scout, and I went to college,
25 and I got my job, and now I hear about things happening

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6.2

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1 right in my own back yard that could affect the future of
 2 Idaho negatively for thousands and thousands and thousands
 3 of years, and I can't think of any reason why we should take
 4 that sort of risk. And to me it all boils down to the fact
 5 that we are dealing with the most, if not one of the most
 6 dangerous substances we have ever been able to conjure up on
 7 the planet, and we do conjure it up, it's not a natural
 8 substance. And how do we contain that? How do we keep that
 9 safe for, what is it, 150,000 year half-life or whatever it
 10 is? I mean, how do we keep people from finding and
 11 discovering this eons hence and warning them that it's
 12 dangerous? I've heard that there's a project with the
 13 federal government to try to come up with some sort of
 14 language so that we could commit that, feeling a danger to
 15 these people, so that they can know that, you know, we are
 16 trying not to harm them, right? It just doesn't make
 17 sense. We have no way of containing it, as far as I know.
 18 And again, if somebody does or if you come up with some new
 19 technical way, let me know because I'll sleep easier at
 20 night.

21 Beyond that, we don't have any social or
 22 political institution that can even contain it. I mean, we
 23 are talking about stability here. This is America and I
 24 love it, but we really haven't been that stable in the last
 25 few decades. I mean this is the country that brought us

1 Viet Nam, right? What political whims. We rush in and we
 2 change our mind, and we rush back out. And in the meantime,
 3 50,000 lives are lost somewhere along the line, wasted.

4 I mean, this is a nation that shows its
 5 technical promise by going to the moon, but it also brought
 6 us the Challenger disaster, I mean, we killed seven people.
 7 I mean, are technically adept enough as a nation to try to
 8 come up with a way of making sure this is safe.

9 And so the best way that I have been able to
 10 try to understand this and when I try to communicate this
 11 with people was a story that I heard from Wyoming from a
 12 friend, Joe Spence, who is a lawyer over there. And he was
 13 talking about the carpenter ants, and I'll try to make this
 14 brief. Agriculture was having problems with the carpenter
 15 ants. What do we do? Bring in the Agriculture Department,
 16 let's find a way to get rid of them, they are destroying our
 17 crops. All right.

18 So they come up with a poison. They put it in
 19 a food that the carpenter ants like, they spray it all
 20 around the field, and the ants come in and, sure enough,
 21 they eat the food and by the billions they die. Right? But
 22 it takes them about four days to figure out what's killing
 23 them.

24 Ants, society, there's a brain there
 25 somewhere. They stop eating the food and they go right on

1 for the crops. So they bring the Agriculture Department
2 back in, and they go, well, what do we do now, we have got
3 to come up with a new kind of poison.

4 So what they do is they put the poison in a
5 form so that it's absorbed through the feet of these ants,
6 so they don't even have to eat it now. They spread it in a
7 band around the farms about five or ten feet thick, real
8 thick this chemical. So the ants come charging in to get
9 the crops and, sure enough, they die by the billions. Well,
10 it took them about four days again to build bridges out of
11 the dead bodies of their fellow ants, to go over the poison
12 into the crops and they started eating again.

13 So they finally killed or stopped this plight
14 of the carpenter ants. And do you know how they did it?
15 They went back to the food routine but they put a delay in
16 it so the ants could eat the feed, go about their business
17 for a today or two and all of a sudden wake up dead some
18 day.

19 And that is what we are facing with plutonium,
20 in 20 years, none of us will see the effects, the jobs will
21 be gone, we'll have this substance, and we may wake up dead
22 in a literary sense.

23 Thank you very much.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Ben Walker. Name and

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T015

1 address for the record, sir.

2
3 BENJAMIN WALKER,
4 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

5
6 MR. WALKER: Thank you. I'll present this
7 after the presentation.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Need your name and address
9 for the record, sir.

10 MR. WALKER: Yes. My name is Benjamin
11 Walker. I'm a resident, have been a resident of the State
12 of Idaho for some time, and former businessman in Ketchum.

13 I'd like to present testimony here which was
14 written as a letter to Mr. Clay Nichols.

15 Dear Mr. Nichols, my wife and I are very
16 concerned residents, as very concerned residents of this
17 state are totally against the proposed SIS facility. Our
18 reasons are stated very clearly by the Natural Resources
19 Defense Council, the Snake River Alliance, the Idaho
20 Conservation League and Life-Guard Idaho. These
21 organizations are doing a remarkable job in detailing and
22 summarizing the effects of the SIS, mainly on the State of
23 Idaho.

24 We would find it extremely difficult, if not
25 almost impossible, to express our views any better.

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1 However, I have just a brief addendum here, and I think it
 2 is something that we all should be aware of, and I'm sure
 3 most of us are.

4 Having stated our formal position, I would
 5 like to add a final thought.

6 In all of mankind's history, he has never been
 7 confronted by the unseen enemy of human life, atomic
 8 radiation. What we do right now has irreversible effects to
 9 the human race as long as we are on this earth. We are not
 10 making decisions here today that can be changed tomorrow.
 11 What we are doing now will be with us forever.

12 Thank you.

13 (Applause.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: The written statement of Ben
 15 and Marilyn Walker will be included in the record as Exhibit
 16 No. 289.

17 Next scheduled commentor is Monica Mahr.

18

19 MONICA MAHR,
 20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

21

22 MS. MAHR: My name is Monica Mahr. I'm a
 23 resident of the Wood River Valley right between Ketchum and
 24 Idaho.

25 I'm talking today as a citizen of the world

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1 and really specifically Idaho, of course. I really
 2 adamantly support no action whatsoever on this SIS deal.

3 First, I want to talk about arms control. I
 4 mean, we are supposedly, as a nation here, saying arms
 5 control, we are trying to limit, we are trying to get rid of
 6 nuclear arms, and now we are going to build more bomb
 7 material, and it's right in my back yard, it's 50 miles
 8 away. I don't want that. That -- Well, okay.

9 With this dichotomy there, I don't understand
 10 the message that we are sending. We, as a nation, want to
 11 say no, and then the DOE is saying we want more plutonium.
 12 That doesn't make sense. We need to make peace, instead of
 13 making more stuff like this, we need to concentrate our
 14 energy and our money on making peace with our fellow
 15 earthlings.

16 Secondly, the DEIS doesn't really address
 17 need, and yet, the need is classified for more plutonium,
 18 but in usual EISs there is something classified that the
 19 Congress can look at to really see if we need this, and it
 20 isn't here and I want that here in a modified EIS.

21 The cost of building the SIS doesn't merit
 22 everything else. As someone else here before said, on the
 23 plus side we have a few jobs and these jobs are temporary,
 24 and that's -- well, I hope they don't start looking at
 25 commercial fuel somewhere down the line, when the fuel from

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1.1

4.14

4.11.1

6.2

5.26.2

5.1.1

1 Hanford is all over. It's temporary stuff, it's temporary
 2 up-stuff. And the downside is -- heaven forbid there be a
 3 major, major happening here, heaven forbid. I mean, I don't
 4 want anything major to happen here, I don't want anything to
 5 happen here as far as leaking or as far as anything. But
 6 the possibilities of that chemically are too great a risk.

5.27.3.3

7 There's the tourist angle of this. I live in
 8 a tourist area, it's like the fastest growing industry.
 9 This doesn't make sense. As someone else said, this is
 10 kicking the shins here, it doesn't make sense. A lot of
 11 stuff doesn't make sense here.

5.30.4.7

12 The environment. I am, I feel like I
 13 shouldn't even have to say anything about how this will
 14 affect, could affect, heaven forbid but it could affect the
 15 environment. And we are only going to live here a few
 16 years. This stuff, if anything happens, any little leakage,
 17 it's going to be around for a long time. I want my
 18 children, I want this earth to survive as it is, hopefully
 19 as it is, for a long, long time, more than my lifetime.

5.30.2.5

20 The waste that will maybe be kind of de facto
 21 stored at the INEL. The DOE has promised for a long time to
 22 get the waste that is already stored there out of there and
 23 it ain't happening, and I don't want more waste stored so
 24 close to me. I don't want for anyone to stumble on that, I
 25 don't want it to be stored there. I don't want it to be

65

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5.30.1.14

1 stored anywhere. I don't want nuclear stuff anywhere in
 2 this world, especially in my back yard. And a lot of
 3 tourists' backyards, what are they going to say? Look at
 4 this. I mean, on the cover of the New York Times, now they
 5 are reading this stuff.

5.27.3.3

(Applause.)

6
 7 MS. MAHR: Tourists are going to come here?
 8 Give me a break. You know?

5.30.4.7

9 And then the storage, that goes on a long
 10 time. Some little leak, well, there goes, both are number
 11 one and number two industries in Idaho. No one is going to
 12 eat hot potatoes. No one is going to come and ski on hot
 13 snow, you nothing? Nothing.

2.12.5

14 I have got a lot of stuff here.

3.2.15

15 Politically, why is this being considered
 16 here? It doesn't really make that much sense politically to
 17 have it here. How about Hanford? How about Savannah
 18 River? Why is it here? I have lived in other states that
 19 have had more experience with the DOE, and they said no.
 20 Idaho doesn't really have that experience. I don't want for
 21 Idaho to have that experience. They just don't have it
 22 yet. And hopefully, you and a lot more people too will tell
 23 DOE, hey, you know, you got kind of a poor safety record and
 24 we don't want it here, we don't want what other states
 25 already know.

5.24.22

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1 Job security. Jesus, I shouldn't even have to
2 say that, what this says. What I want to say as the very
3 last, I know my time is up, I'd like for everyone to just
4 really quietly either or here at home just for themselves
5 say, does this make sense on a worldwide level. Does it
6 make sense to support war? I think the answer will be no.
7 So why support the SIS? It's -- on a big level that's what
8 you are supporting.

9 Thank you.

10 HEARING OFFICER: Jason Salzman.

11
12 JASON SALZMAN,
13 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

14
15 MR. SALZMAN: My name is Jason Salzman. I
16 live at 1950 Calver Street in Washington, D.C.

17 When the EIS facility was first proposed to
18 Congress, the DOE asserted that the facility was needed for
19 three major reasons. Congress subsequently passed a law
20 stating that one of those reasons, making one of those
21 reasons illegal. Another one of those major justifications
22 has since been abandoned by the DOE. Other tangential
23 reasons for the SIS facility have also been abandoned.
24 Finally, with only one unnecessary mission left, the DOE
25 asserts in the DEIS the SIS facility is not necessarily

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1 needed for any mission but that it might be needed for some
2 unknown mission and therefore we need \$1 billion to
3 construct.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. SALZMAN: The major initial mission for
6 the SIS facility involves extracting plutonium from
7 commercial reactor spent fuel. Congress, this is the
8 mission that Congress declared illegal.

9 With the major mission for SIS declared
10 illegal, DOE then proposes a variety of new missions for
11 SIS. One of these missions was in DOE literature I call the
12 unknown mission and DOE asks, who knows what the nation's
13 needs will be in the year 2001. But in light of the fact
14 that this and other missions are not justifiable, DOE itself
15 questioned the need for SIS. In 1984 DOE stated to
16 Congress, and this is the DOE, there are alternatives to the
17 SIS which adequately address currently projected plutonium
18 requirements. That was in 1984, the DOE before Congress.

19 But even though the other plutonium powers
20 have decreased since 1984, DOE has continued to justify, try
21 to justify SIS. But with no justifiable mission for SIS,
22 DOE recently decided to give up trying to justify SIS on the
23 basis of need at all and tells us that it's needed for
24 emergencies. The DEIS, however, does not explain how SIS
25 will achieve this function. In fact, it's difficult to

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5.26.2

4.10.4

4.4.2

4.9.1

2.4

1 figure out what the DEIS says at all.

4.7.1

2 I have been amused at people who stood up at
3 other hearings and say things such as DEIS, a clearly
4 written and concise document, that I have read carefully and
5 understand perfectly. The DEIS, I find, tautology.
6 Tautology is a statement that has its own internal logic.
7 An example of tautology is the following: The world is
8 round because it's not flat. Now hear the DEIS: The SIS
9 Project is needed by DOE to provide redundancy in production
10 capability and technological diversity with respect to the
11 current dependence of weapon-grade plutonium on --

12 (Witness reading rapidly -- interrupted by
13 Court Reporter.)

14 MR. SALZMAN: Well, the point is made there,
15 the DOE has resorted to self-serving logic to justify the
16 SIS facility.

4.9.3

17 The history of SIS exposes the
18 self-perpetuating nature of the nuclear arms race
19 bureaucracy. Scientists at weapons laboratories and
20 bureaucrats in Washington have developed a self-interest in
21 projects costing billions of dollars that have absolutely no
22 use in the real world and, in fact, are dangerous.

23 Once projects are determined useful or not,
24 the arms race bureaucracy refuses to abandon them. SIS
25 provides an example of this phenomenon. DOE's justification

1 for SIS has evolved through time and is desperate and
2 creative. I think flexibility, dependency and redundancy
3 are very creative, unusual use of the words.

4.1

4 Desperate, creative efforts have been made to
5 justify the facility but all have failed, none are
6 justifiable. But people are catching on to the DOE, that's
7 what's great. And I think the DOE, in fact, is aware of
8 this, and it comes out, it leaks out in statements by DOE
9 officials. One was in yesterday's, Sunday's New York Times,
10 front page. SIS manager, project manager, Clay Nichols
11 said, "If we can't get a facility like this built here, you
12 wonder if we can build anything anywhere."

13 I don't think SIS will be built in Idaho or
14 anywhere.

15 Finally, on behalf the Natural Resource
16 Defense Council I'd like to thank the Hearings Officer, Roy
17 Eiguren, for doing a very outstanding job of running the
18 hearings. Thank you, Roy.

19 (Applause.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Our next commentator is Frank
21 Freitas.

T018

1 FRANK FREITAS,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. FREITAS: My name is Frank Freitas, 4563
5 First Street, Idaho Falls, and I own a small construction
6 firm there.
7
8 1.1 Due to the size of this project, it's really
9 doubtful that my firm will do any work there, but I'm still
10 for the SIS.
11
12 3.4 Most of us in this room have loved ones and
13 friends who over the years in one way or another have been
14 affected by wars and communists. Those few people who have
15 a need to know realize that this project is one of the
16 important ingredients that will help to insure future
17 battles are fought at the conference tables and not in the
18 fields.
19
20 Disregarding any emotional feelings concerning
21 the humanitarian issues surrounding nuclear weapons and
22 whether or not they are right or wrong, everyone here has to
23 admit if they are being honest with themselves that the
24 threat of nuclear conflict has kept the world from anything
25 approaching World War II for some 45 years now.
26
27 I am not qualified, and few here are, to
28 address the national need for the SIS. Smarter people than
29 I have determined that such a process is needed now to

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T019

1 upgrade our national nuclear arsenal. Far be it that I
2 should have to second-guess such decisions.
3
4 Granting, then, the premise that the SIS
5 process is required for our national security, then the
6 argument reduces to that of whether or not the facility
7 should be built in Idaho.
8
9 In my opinion as a private businessman, the
10 SIS should be built at the INEL.
11
12 Thank you.
13
14 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Freitas' written
15 comments will be marked as Exhibit 290 for the record. For
16 the record, his address is Post Office Box 1547, Idaho
17 Falls.
18
19 The next scheduled commentor is Mimi Amrit.
20
21 HEARING OFFICER: We'll mark your written
22 comments as Exhibit 291 for the record. Give us your name
23 and address, please.
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1 Their great, great grandfather was one of the original
2 settlers in the Wood River Valley. And they came to Idaho
3 in the 1800s because of what Idaho had to offer; beautiful
4 land, rich agricultural potential, and healthy place to
5 raise a family.

6 We have all chosen to continue to make our
7 home in Idaho because the same opportunities exist for us
8 today. The land is still beautiful, there is plenty of
9 economic potential. Idaho is still a healthy and wholesome
10 place to raise a family.

11 Let's not risk taking away any of these
12 opportunities for my kids' kids and the next 20 generations
13 for a few temporary jobs and a short-term influx of money
14 that the SIS may create. How can we ignore our emotions
15 with these issues? A single accident could destroy it all.
16 Nobody has special immunity from potential disaster, and
17 everybody's health and economic security will be
18 threatened.

19 What doesn't seem -- that doesn't seem like
20 it's going to make our families more secure. Idaho has much
21 more to offer without SIS.

22 Thank you.

23 (Applause.)

24 HEARING OFFICER: Our next commentor is
25 Reverend Kevin Lafey.

1 FATHER KEVIN LAFEY,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 FATHER LAFEY: My name is Father Kevin Lafey.
5 I live at 311 First Avenue South in Hailey, Idaho.

6 I'm here to speak out against the SIS
7 Project. I'm a Roman Catholic priest and, speaking as such,
8 I believe very strongly that the SIS Project is immoral.
9 You cannot separate the manufacturing of plutonium from the
10 ultimate goal of producing more nuclear weapons. The last
11 thing this world needs today is more nuclear weapons.

12 To clothe, house, feed and provide basic
13 health care and education for all those who don't have it in
14 the world would cost us \$17 billion a year, the amount of
15 money the human race is spending every two weeks on
16 weapons. This is an obvious injustice. That the United
17 States would even consider spending the incredible amount of
18 money this project will require for completion when
19 thousands and thousands of Americans are without adequate
20 housing and food is an outrage. That people in Idaho would
21 support this project on the grounds that it will provide
22 some 750 jobs is a scandal.

23 Archbishop Raymond Huntausen, the Roman
24 Catholic Archbishop of Seattle, has called the Trident
25 Nuclear Submarine Base in Bangor, Washington, the Auschwitz

1 of the Puget Sound. The concentration camps of the second
2 world war provided jobs for people, that didn't justify
3 their existence.

4 (Applause.)

2.7.2

5 FATHER LAFEY: The SIS Project, wherever it
6 may be built, is just as immoral, if not more immoral than
7 the concentration camps of the second world war era. The
8 world condemned the people at the time who failed to speak
9 out against the atrocities the German government was
10 perpetrating. The time has come for us to speak out loudly
11 and clearly against our own government policies that are
12 responsible for destroying human life all over the planet.
13 We can no longer sit back and allow our government to spend
14 millions of dollars on armaments when an incredible number
15 of people in the world is starving to death.

16 Even if these weapons were never used, the
17 money that is being diverted from helping the poor is
18 bringing about damage already. Millions of people all over
19 the world are dying as a result of this diversion of funds.

6.3

20 I urgently plead, therefore, that the SIS
21 Project never be allowed to become a reality, either in
22 Idaho or anywhere else.

23 Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Father Lafey's written
25 comments are marked as Exhibit 292 and included in the

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1 record.

2 Next scheduled commentor is Thane Lever.

4 THANE LEVER,

5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

7 MR. LEVER: My name is Thane Lever. My
8 address is Box 4003, Ketchum, Idaho, 83340.

9 I live in Ketchum, Idaho, and own a property
10 maintenance business. Our economy in Ketchum is based
11 almost entirely upon tourism. My business is directly
12 linked to tourism. The fact is tourism is big business in
13 Idaho. Thousands of people seek Idaho's pristine wilderness
14 areas and the recreational opportunities they afford each
15 year. Many of these people use Ketchum as a destination in
16 their pursuit of these activities while many just pass
17 through on the highway.

18 The road system in Idaho is such that there
19 are not a whole lot of options for people to take to reach
20 destination points. It is my understanding that you, the
21 Department of Energy, intend to transport plutonium and
22 radioactive waste created from its refinement on our road
23 system in Idaho. Even if you only had one transport
24 accident over the lifetime of the project, that would be
25 unacceptable, given the repercussions that national press

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5.27.2

5.27.2

5.30.4.7

1 releases would have in the minds of the people intending to
 2 travel to Idaho. If people felt our roadways were
 3 contaminated with plutonium, they would simply change their
 4 plans to another state without Idaho's problems. The same
 5 could be said to happen to Idaho's potato industry should
 6 radioactive waste enter the Snake River aquifer. People
 7 will just simply buy potatoes from Maine. Even if a
 8 potential accident is small with relatively no damage to the
 9 environment or human lives, any boycott on tourism and
 10 agricultural industries in Idaho would damage our economy
 11 further than it is now.

5.24.30

12 In spite of all of the assurances that the
 13 Department of Energy can offer us on the safeguards to be
 14 implemented into the SIS Project, I find myself not
 15 reassured. Common sense should dictate to most people,
 16 given the accidents that have happened with this sort of
 17 technology, that they are going to continue to happen.

18 For some people all this is going to make
 19 sense because they need a paycheck every month and this
 20 proposal will do that for a little while at least. But I
 21 ask myself and everyone in this room whether or not what we
 22 stand to gain from this project in an economic sense
 23 outweighs what we already have and should continue to have.

1.1

24 I will not support the SIS Project in Idaho.
 25 Thank you.

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(Applause.)

1
 2 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 293 in the record
 3 will be the written comments of Mr. Thane Lever.

4 Next scheduled commentor is Julie Wiethorn.
 5

6 JULIE WIETHORN,
 7 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 8

9 MS. WIETHORN: My name is Julie Wiethorn, and
 10 I live at 27 Deer Creek Road with my husband and daughter on
 11 my dad's farm.

12 I am unequivocally supporting the No Action
 13 Alternative concerning construction of a Special Isotope
 14 Separation Project. I oppose it in Idaho or in any state.

15 Every alternative has not been explored
 16 despite the obvious alternative which is that we don't need
 17 more plutonium. The Department of Defense has enough
 18 nuclear weapons to destroy any fraction of the population
 19 that we care to destroy.

20 Before this issue of isotope separation or
 21 plutonium production in Idaho came to the forefront, I would
 22 not have considered myself an activist, but now I'm forced
 23 to take a stand for my morals, and I am surrounded by fellow
 24 citizens in Idaho who are saying the buck stops here. We
 25 are people with families and personal responsibilities that

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1.1

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4.13

1 often preclude us from front line battle on every issue that
2 threatens us, but now an issue which threatens our very
3 existence on many levels has been brought right to our
4 doorstep.

5.30.3.6

5 We refuse to be contaminated, and I say that
6 knowing that numerous shipments of the worst type of nuclear
7 waste has been brought to Idaho from Three Mile Island.

8 As much as the Department of Energy would like
9 to make a precedence of producing plutonium here in Idaho,
10 we in Idaho would like to make a precedence of refusing to
11 take part in the Department of Defense's plot to overproduce
12 plutonium as if it were a mere agricultural product. And I
13 say that with a very bitter taste in my mouth.

5.30.5.7

14 I say deal with the waste at hand, if you
15 can. Why are you juggling waste at temporary sites?

5.30.4.9

16 The 440 tons of waste the SIS will produce
17 annually is unmanageable. There is but a fraction of that
18 waste, 4.4 million cubic feet, in temporary storage already
19 at INEL contaminating the sediment grounds and and aquifer
20 below where it's buried. Idaho has asked for 20 years for
21 the DOE to deal with the existing waste. You don't have
22 safe storage.

5.29.85

23 We don't want plutonium oxide shipped to
24 Idaho.

25 If the people who live near Banford on the

1 Columbia River have no qualms about plutonium production,
2 then so be it. But we, the people of Idaho, have no
3 intention of risking our environment for the sake of
4 warheads.

6.1.2

5 Continue to contaminate previously
6 contaminated sites if the residents of Hanford, Savannah
7 River, Livermore, et cetera, will allow it. We, in Idaho,
8 support only managing the millions of curies already
9 contaminating our air, water and soil now. However, I hope
10 the precedence that we need to achieve will inspire and
11 empower the minds and activity of those people to refuse
12 this business of bomb-making; thus I stand no action.

5.30.5.1

13 This is not a personal attack on any
14 Department of Energy employee. It's a personal plea to
15 continue or to begin to view this as a moral issue, one that
16 we are capable of squelching for the most intelligent
17 reasons.

2.7.2

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
21 Julie Wiethorn will be included in the record as Exhibit
22 No. 294.

23 Next scheduled commentor is Mr. Ed Moffet.
24
25

T023

1 DALE BATES,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. BATES: I'm Dale Bates, and I'm here for
5 Ed Moffet today. My address 228 Lapwai Drive.
6 I have a question. Would anybody want this
7 plant if they knew that an environmentally disastrous and
8 life threatening accident were inevitable?
9 Would many be against it if they were
10 convinced that such an accident were impossible?
11 What guarantee are we being offered that an
12 accident will not happen? We are assured that all
13 preparations to prevent an accident will be taken, and we
14 are told to look at the safety records. That's fine, I
15 understand that.
16 Among other things, I'm an athlete, a dancer
17 and a Yoga student. I have worked thousands of hours to
18 perfect my coordination and balance. With this preparation,
19 and based on my training record, I feel I can assure you
20 that I can perform simple daily exercise like walking
21 accident-free. Would you accept this guarantee?
22 Thank you.
23 (Mr. Bates fell down.)
24 HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of Dale
25 Bates will be included in the record as Exhibit 295. We're

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T024

1 not able to capture the fall, sorry.
2 Next scheduled commentor is Dan Alban.
3
4 DAN ALBAN,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
6
7 MR. ALBAN: I hope my time didn't dwindle
8 further for the time it spent me to walk up here.
9 HEARING OFFICER: It didn't.
10 MR. ALBAN: I'm a resident of Wood River
11 Valley. I have been the Blaine County Magistrate Judge for
12 the last 14 years. I'm here to give my comments on the
13 DEIS. They are my personal comments. I do not represent
14 anybody other than myself.
15 I have studied the Environmental Impact
16 Statement. I'm concerned about it. The Statement, when I
17 refer to Statement, I mean the Draft Environmental Impact
18 Statement. The Statement provides no assurance of safety to
19 the environment. It states that the Department of Energy
20 acknowledges that the United States Environmental Protection
21 Agency has jurisdiction over all hazardous waste at the
22 INEL. Yet, the Statement provides no assurance from the
23 Environmental Protection Agency that the increase in
24 contaminants, contaminated waste, that would be caused by
25 the proposed SIS can be adequately stored or safely stored

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5.1.3

5.24.25

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5.30.3.7

5.30.4.14

1 at INEL. In fact, the facts seem to be just the opposite.

2 According to the Environmental Protection
3 Agency itself, the agency that has jurisdiction over
4 disposal of hazardous waste, that it would take 30 years and
5 up to \$30 million to clean up the existing contamination at
6 the INEL, without the added contamination of the SIS
7 Project. These are the people that have jurisdiction over
8 taking care of the hazardous waste.

5.30.4.9

9 According to the Statement, the contamination
10 includes the detection of plutonium at a depth of 230 feet.
11 Snake River Aquifer is found at depths ranging from 200 feet
12 to 1,000 feet below the surface at INEL. Therefore, the
13 Snake River Aquifer is clearly in jeopardy of
14 contamination.

15 Yet, the Statement says, and I quote Page
16 3-14, "The current monitoring results indicate that detected
17 plutonium will not reach the aquifer, and the Department of
18 Energy currently is studying the extent of the contamination
19 and appropriate means of remedial action. The extent of the
20 potential contamination has not been determined."

5.30.4.4

21 How can the DOE assure us that the Snake River
22 Aquifer is safe from contamination when it is still studying
23 the subject, it doesn't know the extent of the existing
24 contamination, and they don't have any clue as to how they
25 would take remedial action in the event that contamination

1 does, in fact, occur. This must be why the Department of
2 Energy placed a disclaimer in the Environmental Impact
3 Statement disclaiming any responsibility disclaiming for any
4 facts or information provided in that Statement.

5 My conclusion from this is that the Department
6 of Energy is actually saying that we don't know whether or
7 not the environment is in danger by an SIS Project; but if
8 there is a danger, if there is a problem with storing
9 hazardous waste, it's not our problem, it is the problem of
10 the Environmental Protection Agency and us, the citizens.

11 You have done your job, you have proposed a
12 method or a way for the United States government to insure
13 the availability of the raw materials for atomic bombs, but
14 your statement of the environmental impact of this plant is
15 woefully inadequate in my opinion.

16 I'm also concerned about a statement that was
17 attributed to Mr. Nichols of the, or who is the project
18 director of the project proposed at INEL. The statement was
19 made in response to a revelation that the storage site
20 selected by the Department of Energy for radioactive solid
21 waste, which is a facility in Carlsbad, New Mexico, may not
22 be available because it's leaking right now. And
23 Mr. Nichols was attributed with this statement, that he
24 said, "We have time to work out the problem if WIPP is
25 unavailable since the waste would not be produced at the

2.3

6.5.7

2.1.1

5.30.2.1

2.1.6

1 IMEL project until the mid-1990s."

2 This attitude is totally irresponsible given
3 the deadly character of plutonium-239 and the fact that it
4 will last forever.

5 I think a new Draft Environmental Impact
6 Statement needs to be prepared by the Department of Energy.

7 (Applause.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Judge.

9 Our next scheduled commentor is order number
10 20, Bill McPherson, Bill McPherson.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen, we are
13 now at order 20 on the speakers' list, as I mentioned. What
14 I'd like to do is take a very brief recess so that our next
15 20 commentors might come forward to the front here. If you
16 would please check your name on the list in the back. We'll
17 be in recess for five minutes.

18 (Recess.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: I'd like to go back on the
20 record.

21 And there has been some confusion, I think, on
22 the part of folks, so just to make the record very clear;
23 because of the large numbers of people we have that want to
24 testify, I made the determination that we will have a
25 continuation of this hearing into Thursday. So it would be

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1 my intent at this point to continue on down the witness
2 list, I'm at order number 20 on the afternoon session list,
3 and I have 93 people scheduled to comment this afternoon.
4 We will continue on until 6:30, at which time we'll take a
5 break until 7:00, come back at 7:00. I'll go back to my
6 opening statement once again. And then we have three
7 individuals who are organizational speakers who will go on
8 at that point. Then I will go back to the afternoon session
9 list.

10 So if you are waiting this afternoon and want
11 to be accommodated, I can categorically tell you that we'll
12 either get you on before 6:30 or some time hopefully soon
13 after 7 o'clock. And then at some point, probably at 8:00
14 or 8:30, we'll commence with the list of preregistered
15 speakers for the evening session. Everyone got that?

16 In addition to that, if you are here and you
17 have a written comment and you decide that you don't want to
18 stay, for whatever reason, please feel free to bring that up
19 to the table when we take our next break, a number of people
20 have been doing that. And what I'll do is take all of those
21 comments, assign them as an exhibit, and include those in
22 the record. I want you all to know that a written comment
23 has the same weight, is treated with the same dignity in the
24 record as oral comments.

25 Okay. So let us return now back to our

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commentors' list, and we left off at order number 20, who is Mr. Bill McPherson. He did not respond when I asked for him, so I assume he's not here.

I'll move on to commentor number 21, Tal Neill. Give your name and address for the record, sir.

DeWITT T. NEILL,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MR. NEILL: My name is DeWitt T. Neill. I'm Professor of Engineering at Idaho State University. I live at 70 Davis Drive, Pocatello, Idaho.

I have worked in and around the nuclear industry for the past 30 years. Twenty of those years, while a professor at ISU, I have also worked with most of the INEL contractors as a researcher, a consultant and just a plain hired hand. I have already completed one small consulting project on the SIS, and I probably will do some more.

The SIS Draft Environmental Impact Statement is a good, thorough job. The SIS physical facilities will have a minimal impact on the INEL environment since they are relatively small, particularly when compared to the other INEL projects that already exist.

There is already a lot of plutonium on the

site; it is a natural by-product of the fission process. Both EBR-I and EBR-II reactor projects were specifically aimed at making enough plutonium to, in effect, replace, by plutonium, the amount of uranium fuel that is consumed in those reactors. Although the SIS Project will be the first one to handle plutonium in a metal form, there is a lot of plutonium on the site already.

The SIS Project will involve transporting plutonium off the INEL and over the public highways. However, the public and worker risk for such transportation are many thousands times less than general transportation risks. It is just sad that we can't get the other highway risks down to the level of plutonium transportation risks.

The weakness I find in the EIS is its failure to address the positive aspects of the SIS Project. Environmental impacts aren't all negative and EISs aren't restricted just to considering the negative ones.

One of the greatest positive impacts, benefits, of the SIS is it will be the industrial demonstration of the AVLIS process for isotope separation. There are many isotopes, both radioactive and stable, which have great beneficial potential if we can reduce the cost of separating them. A casual example of that might be the enrichment of mercury 198 from its 10 percent natural abundance to, say, 20 percent, which would significantly

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1 improve the efficiency of fluorescent lighting.

2 The AVLIS process promises a significant
3 reduction in the cost of isotopic separation, and we will
4 surely find a large number of benefits from it, however,
5 it's a fact that we need some overwhelming benefit to
6 justify the development costs of such a process. That
7 benefit is national defense in the form of nuclear weapons.

8 The SIS Draft Environmental Impact Statement
9 goes a lot further than any previous document I have seen
10 towards justifying the need for plutonium. It is clear from
11 the EIS that several committees at the highest government
12 level have certified the need for plutonium and for the SIS
13 Project. The U. S. Congress has agreed in its funding
14 decisions.

15 Most pro comments I have read about SIS over
16 the past few months have been directed at jobs and the
17 attendant economic impacts on eastern Idaho. Most of the
18 negative comments have centered against plutonium for
19 weapons. This battle on two completely different levels is
20 perhaps typical of a lot of public policy debates and the
21 reasons the decisions are so very difficult.

22 I am definitely a layman when it comes to
23 national defense and nuclear weapons. Nevertheless, I
24 believe we must have nuclear weapons to defend our
25 territory, our institutions and our culture. We couldn't

1 afford the necessary conventional weapons even if they
2 could, by some stretch of the imagination, do the job. We
3 should recognize that our fleet of submarines, perhaps our
4 greatest deterrent to war, are themselves nuclear weapons.
5 Even total nuclear disarmament is of questionable merit.
6 Most alternatives to nuclear weapons are equally dreadful
7 and much, much more expensive. Our goal should be to avoid
8 ever having to use nuclear weapons, not to eliminate them.

9 So in conclusion, I support the SIS Project
10 because of its many potential benefits outweigh its
11 potential consequences. The negative impacts are a bit
12 deficient in addressing the benefits in the Statement.

13 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 296 in the record
14 will be the written comment of Dr. DeWitt T. Neill.

15 The next scheduled commentor is Sean Barrigar.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Next scheduled commentor is
18 Loris Graves.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: I should point out, this is
21 an oversight of the Chair, our first speaker today was
22 Elaine Randell, and I learned during the break that we had a
23 misspelling of the name, it should have been Elaine McLain,
24 and she is here, so at this point we will have Elaine step
25 forward.

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1 If we could have your name and address for the
2 record.

3
4 ELAINE McLAIN,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MS. McLAIN: I'm a little nervous at this. I
8 don't think I have ever spoken in front of a microphone, so
9 if I'm not close enough or too close, let me know.

10 My name is Elaine McLain. I live in Bellevue,
11 Idaho.

12 First of all, I went to the Post Office to
13 talk to people about SIS, and I have a list here of names,
14 people who have signed, that were either old, too old or
15 blind or crippled or just not confident enough to write
16 their own letter. But I said if I write a letter, would you
17 sign it, and they were more than happy to, so I have that.

18 There's a lot of people like that. I only
19 spent three hours at the Post Office. If I had spent ten
20 days, how many signatures would I have gotten?

21 I'm a restaurant owner in Bellevue. And as a
22 business person, the 7,000 jobs don't mean a thing. We have
23 to learn to put our priorities where they should be. Money
24 is not -- only should be a means of providing our food and
25 our clothing and our shelter, not for anything else. We

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1 need to put our priorities in order.

2 We talk about teen suicide today as being a
3 big problem. What about global suicide? We are adults,
4 they are just teenagers, we should know better as adults.

5 Nuclear weapons do breed a lot of fear and a
6 lot of hatred. The USSR and the United States have built
7 most of the nuclear weapons, have been the beginners.

8 I will -- and in the history books in our
9 schools, grade school and junior high and high, there's a
10 lot of talk about fearing communism. We really don't need
11 to fear communism. We need to know the truths and we need
12 to look open-minded at all people. The Soviet Union has
13 people protesting nuclear weapons just as much as there is
14 here. And in every country on earth there are people
15 protesting nuclear weapons. We don't need to fear any other
16 country about overtaking us.

17 Bistory repeats itself. Every great nation
18 that's ever been, when the military got too much and the
19 economy got too low, that was the fall of the nation. Think
20 about that, even those that are for SIS. When the military
21 is too much and the economy too low. Watch the news, the
22 political analysts and economic people are saying the same
23 thing, that's the fall of any great nation.

24 We fear Taiwan right now because they are
25 using plutonium to make nuclear weapons. Why? We are doing

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1 it. Why are we fearing them? Because we fear what's
2 wrong. Let's just stop what's wrong.

3 We fear Japan because we dropped the atom bomb
4 on them. We fear Iran and Iraq because they are using
5 chemical weapons now. We fear a black president because we
6 let 100 million black people die trying to get 15,000 slaves
7 here. We don't need to fear; we just need to change our
8 attitude.

9 There's 42 wars going on around the world
10 today. The United States and the USSR has been very active
11 at pitting one person against another, one native against
12 another, one section of people against another, one country
13 against another. With nuclear -- they have used -- the USSR
14 and United States has used nuclear weapons, chemical weapons
15 and germ warfare.

16 I have an acquaintance who (unintelligible)
17 for 40 years working with the poor people there. She says
18 her fellow sisters in Nicaragua, that the Sandanista
19 government has done a lot toward bringing about good things
20 for that country. 80 percent more of the people can read
21 now than before, under the communist government. I'm not
22 saying communism is the right way or good, but let's not
23 categorize and stereotype. Let them work out their problems
24 and they are now with the peace plan.

25 Costa Rica has had no military since 1948,

1 they spent their money on education and nutrition. And I
2 just hope, I just hope that there isn't somebody going to
3 try and break up that peace there because now it's getting
4 all over the news.

5 My aunt is in the Philippines, she says that
6 there's literacy, there's improvement in Nicaragua. What
7 they fear most is that some big government might use germ as
8 they did in Mindanao years ago, and there was germ warfare
9 in Central America to cause trouble and to make it look like
10 peace can't work or to make it look like the government
11 trying to run things there won't work.

12 We talk about democracy in Panama and
13 Nicaragua, we talk about human rights in the Soviet Union.
14 What about South Africa? Do you know that the United States
15 is covertly supplying weapons to the rebels in Angola who
16 are fighting side-by-side with the South African government
17 against the people, people who can't vote like you and I?

18 HEARING OFFICER: Ma'am --

19 MS. McLAIN: There's real inconsistencies --

20 HEARING OFFICER: Excuse me, ma'am, your time
21 has expired.

22 MS. McLAIN: I think I have said enough
23 though.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

1 HEARING OFFICER: We will mark for the record
2 as Exhibit 297 the written comments of Elaine McLain. We'll
3 also mark as Exhibit 298 the letter she referenced that was
4 signed by approximately ten individuals with addresses from
5 the Bellevue area.

6 Our next scheduled commentor is Loris Graves,
7 Loris Graves.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Joan Huston.

10
11 JOAN HUSTON,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13
14 MS. HUSTON: My name is Joan Huston, 2525
15 Filer Avenue West, Twin Falls.

16 I stand to speak against the SIS Project for a
17 number of reasons. It's against my religious and moral
18 understanding in that its purpose is to enhance enemy
19 thinking and ultimately to destroy the creation.

20 My understanding of Christianity is that our
21 Creator loves each us of and calls us to live as brothers
22 and sisters, despite national boundaries, as well as to be
23 good stewards of creation. And nuclear weapons, plutonium
24 production stands acutely opposed to this.

25 I'm also opposed to SIS because it's

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1 unnecessary. We need deficit spending to have redundancy
2 production capacity. The DEIS statement itself states the
3 non-need of this project.

4 I stand against SIS because it's irrational to
5 produce that which we don't know how to render harmless.
6 But the SIS supporters don't really challenge these ideas;
7 they speak more to jobs. And I stand opposed to SIS because
8 it isn't economical. We do need jobs in Idaho; but if we
9 Idahoans had this kind of money, \$500 million to provide
10 jobs, the jobs we wanted, we could provide a lot more than
11 several hundred. Given the Twin Falls average teacher
12 salary, we could provide close to 5,000 jobs, teacher years
13 with this money.

14 I work as a home health nurse and am acutely
15 aware of people in our valley who are denied health care
16 because there's no money for it.

17 Recently our state legislature chose not to
18 fund hospice care, which is care for people dying at home,
19 because they wanted to spend the limited health care dollars
20 for neonatal and perinatal care. Our state and national
21 congresses are very aware that health care dollars are
22 limited, but for some reason they don't seem to acknowledge
23 the limitedness of dollars for death projects like the SIS.
24 I'm not representing Congress in this regard, but I am
25 resolved to work for life enhancing activities and projects

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1 in the world in which I live, and so I stand opposed to the
2 SIS.

3 I'd like to present a statement by our
4 Fellowship of Reconciliation of which I am a member.

5 (Applause.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: The written statement of the
7 Magic Valley Fellowship of Reconciliation presented by Joan
8 Huston will be included in the record as Exhibit 299.

9 Our next scheduled commentor is Brigid Alcid.
10 (Off the record.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Correction for the record,
12 it's Bridget Alcid.

13 MS. GILMOUR: Gilmour.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Gilmour, okay. Bridget
15 Gilmour. I'm sorry, excuse me.

16
17 BRIDGET GILMOUR,
18 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

19
20 MS. GILMOUR: My name is Bridget Gilmour, and
21 I live at 2421 Beaver Boat Drive, Hailey.

22 I live in the Wood River Valley because it
23 offers me a quality of life that I feel I would not be able
24 to find anywhere else. The possibility of the SIS plan has
25 threatened that. My family and I would have to seriously

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1 consider if we would want to continue living within such
2 close proximity to a plutonium plant and all the risks it
3 involves.

4 The INEL's original mission was to be a
5 nuclear reactor testing station, peaceful applications of
6 nuclear technology. The SIS plant at INEL would change that
7 with the production of plutonium for the use in nuclear
8 weapons. The fact that INEL sits on top of the Snake River
9 Plain Aquifer and that it is also in a geologically active
10 area makes the INEL poor choice for the SIS.

11 Tourism is crucial to Idaho's economy, and I
12 feel the SIS plant would have a negative effect on this
13 vital source of revenue. The SIS plant is not the remedy
14 for southeast Idaho's economic ills. The DOE does not even
15 mention the impact an accident would have on the tourist
16 industry if such a catastrophe were to occur.

17 As a nation we are supposedly moving towards a
18 more peaceful era. The SIS plant would be a contradiction
19 to this. We do not need this plutonium plant anywhere, let
20 alone in my back yard.

21 Thank you for listening.

22 (Applause.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 300 in the record
24 will be the written comment of Bridget Gilmour.

25 The next scheduled commentor is Micael

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1 McCann.

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3

4 MICHAEL McCANN,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

5

6 MR. McCANN: My name is Michael McCann, and I
7 live at 109 Mike Ivy Boulevard, in Ketchum.

8

9 I'd like to hold up this headlines from the
10 DOE Chief, John Herrington, he says we are awash in
11 plutonium. You guys over there that work for the DOE, you
12 should pay attention to your boss, you know, you could lose
your jobs, and you know how important jobs are.

13

(Applause.)

14

15 MR. McCANN: I would also like to make mention
16 that I just found out that Richard Stallings is supporting
17 the SIS, and I would encourage everybody to write Richard,
18 to call Richard and to tell him how strongly disappointed
19 you are in his position and that he should really think --
20 he should go through the process of rethinking the whole
situation.

21

22 The last thing I'd like to make mention is
23 that I would challenge you all to think on a global level.
24 Our planet is completely interrelated. The people in
25 Finland and Sweden found that out after Chernobyl, and I
would ask you all to view the big picture, the

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1 interrelationship of our plant.

2

Thank you very much.

3

(Applause.)

4

5 HEARING OFFICER: Do you want to include the
Seattle Times article in the record?

6

MR. McCANN: Do you want me to?

7

HEARING OFFICER: No, that's fine.

8

Next commentor is Lowell Greathouse.

9

10

11 LOWELL GREATHOUSE,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

12

13

14 MR. GREATHOUSE: I'd offer my testimony today
15 in opposition to the construction of the SIS plant. I'd
16 like to do so for a number of reasons, but only share one of
them.

17

18 I'd like to take a moment to explain what I
19 call upstream syndromes and downstream sentiments. I think
20 it relates to the SIS issue that's before us. I want to
21 take a moment to explain what I mean by that. As the years
22 have passed, I have noted that again and again there is a
23 tendency among us to decide one of two positions, depending
24 on whether we are upstream or downstream from the issue at
hand.

25

I'm sure you probably guessed where I will go

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1 with this comment, but I'd like to speak about it in regards
2 to SIS, the proposal for that plant to be built at the Idaho
3 National Engineering Laboratory in Idaho Falls.

4 In terms of upstream syndromes and downstream
5 sentiments, in terms of this particular project, it looks
6 like this: A lot could be said about whether or not we need
7 more nuclear weapons in a world that is already capable of
8 blowing itself up several times over. And while this has
9 something to do with upstream thinking and downstream
10 sentiment, I want to speak about something that I think is a
11 little bit more local in nature.

12 As I understand things, the arguments go
13 something like this: The upstream syndrome on this issue
14 translates into jobs. Those who are supporting SIS are
15 saying that, given the condition of our economy locally, we
16 need jobs in Idaho. It's always hard to argue against jobs
17 in a depressed economy. But there are a number of people
18 who happen to live downstream from INEL and are concerned
19 about what SIS means for those of us who live downstream.

20 The Idaho Statesman, which was already
21 concerned about this issue a number of years ago, said, "The
22 INEL site is one of the worst places to store wastes. It
23 sits on top of the Snake River Plain Aquifer, the source of
24 fresh water for much of southern Idaho. And it is also in a
25 geographically active area. The potential for problems in

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1 this area are too great to ignore."

2 And others have expressed a concern as we saw
3 in the paper this week about having toxic waste traveling on
4 our highways on a regular basis and evidently being done in
5 a way that is not regularly checked. I think these are
6 downstream questions that upstream thinkers don't tend to
7 think about. Here in the Magic Valley we are downstream
8 from INEL.

9 The issue will be decided in the coming days,
10 and for those of us who live downstream I'd like to make
11 these comments: I'll begin with the one who lives
12 downstream, I think the decision means for me and my family
13 that we have to live with upstream thinking if we build that
14 plant. What does it mean to my family, to our farms, to our
15 drinking water, to our water supply, to our way of life here
16 in the Magic Valley? And beyond that, what does it mean to
17 our great, great, great, great great, great grandchildren,
18 who will have to deal with the waste that we produce as a
19 result of SIS being produced in our valley?

20 Some years ago I watched a television program,
21 and I happened to watch barrels of toxic waste being dumped
22 overboard into the ocean. I thought about the upstream
23 people who were doing this and wondered if someday those
24 barrels of toxic waste might not for some reason leak into
25 our ocean and pollute the earth.

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1 What is true of that reminds me also of
2 something that happened fairly recently and we might recall
3 this as a conclusion. We had the garbage barge some months
4 ago that traveled for thousands of miles, and it sailed from
5 New York to a number of countries that happened to live
6 downstream from our garbage barge in New York. We attempted
7 to sell that garbage to a number of countries and didn't
8 have any luck. I think that those downstream countries
9 decided that they did not want New York garbage in their
10 country.

11 Well, as someone who lives downstream from
12 INEL, I don't want the garbage barge called SIS located in
13 my state. I don't want to buy it, I don't want to send it
14 to somebody else's neighborhood, I don't want it at all. I
15 wish the upstream thinking people at the Department of
16 Energy and at INEL would stop the proposed SIS Project
17 before more downstream cities like Chernobyl and Three Mile
18 Island make the news; only this time I'm afraid we'll be
19 able to locate them all too easily on the map and they'll
20 sound very familiar; cities like Twin Falls, and Pocatello,
21 and Hagerman and Piler.

22 I urge you not to build the SIS plant in our
23 valley for those of us who live downstream.

24 Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: For the record
2 Mr. Greathouse is from Piler, Idaho, and his written
3 comments will be marked as Exhibit 308 for the record.

4 Next scheduled commentor is Ted Machacek.

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: Suzy Alban.

7
8 SUZY ALBAN,
9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

10
11 MS. ALBAN: My name is Suzy Alban, and I live
12 at 122 Aspen Grove Lane in Ketchum, Idaho.

13 The risks associated with the SIS Project far
14 outweigh the advantages. We risk irreversible damage to the
15 environment such as contamination of the Snake River
16 Aquifer.

17 The DEIS statement has not answered our
18 concerns.

19 Please vote for no action on the SIS.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: Johna Fletcher, Johna
23 Fletcher.

24 (No response.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Susie Followfield.

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SUSIE FOLLOWFIELD,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MS. FOLLOWFIELD: My name is Susie
Followfield, and my address is Box 332, Ketchum, Idaho,
83340.

I have always considered myself an extremely
active person, but the hideousness of this total project has
driven me to my first involvement with activism, and I'll
tell you. It's been really exciting today to see the
commitment that the people, and their feelings and the
comments have really stirred me to convince other people to
stand up for what it they believe in. So I thank all of you
who have been involved in things like this.

I come to this hearing in opposition to the
proposed SIS Project to be located near Idaho Falls. I
lived in the Sun Valley/Ketchum area in the late 1960s and
left the region until my return three years ago. My major
goal during this 20-year absence was to return to the
environs of Idaho. This goal was fed by the lack of
contamination in the state and a general level of thinking
that focused on priorities to maintain this purity.

This level of thinking seems to have
degenerated. Our elected, representatives must not allow

this intolerable project to become reality. It stands as a
blatant condraction to the image Idaho has established, as a
refuge for those wanting beauty and authenticity in their
lives.

The environmental impact study makes no
concrete provisions for dealing with an accident or
catastrophe. Can anyone allow this project to move any
further to becoming a reality, without even a base concern
for human life, other than the claim that, "this facility
will be run as safely as possible"? Only an idiot would
start a fire without a hose nearby.

There are so many times in life that we are
forced to deal with circumstances and mistakes that are
irreversible. Please, let us have the wisdom to take
advantage of this rare opportunity to prevent a mistake
before it happens.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
Susie Followfield, Susan Followfield, will be entered into
the record as Exhibit 309.

Also for the record, this will just take a
moment, I need to read these names into the record. These
are individuals who have left statements at the desk that we
have previously marked as an exhibit.

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1 Exhibit 265, Leila Neilson. Exhibit 266,
 2 Diane Schiffler. Exhibit 267, Esther Nicholson. Exhibit
 3 268, Wanda Nelson. Exhibit 269, Michelle Morrison. Exhibit
 4 270 Rita Sellers Hoffman. Exhibit 271, Lynne Carpenter.
 5 Exhibit 272, Sandi Skott Larsen. Exhibit 282, Brenda
 6 Larsen. Exhibit 283, Alvin Perry. Exhibit 284, Arlene
 7 Perry. Exhibit 285, Melissa Josephy. Exhibit 286, Bill and
 8 Rose Mallory. Exhibit 287, E. J. Bernthal. Exhibit 301
 9 Mardo Eaton. Exhibit 302, Monica Mahr. Exhibit 303, Johnna
 10 and Del Fletcher. Exhibit 304, Tom Gabrinetti. Exhibit
 11 305, Ed Moffett. Exhibit 306, Jennifer Moffett. Exhibit
 12 307, Lynn, Keri and Jeff Spiller, S-p-i-l-l-e-r.
 13 We'll now return to our preregistered
 14 commentors, order number 32, Richard Shotwell, Richard
 15 Shotwell.
 16 (No response.)
 17 HEARING OFFICER: Order 33, Dave Hedge.
 18
 19 DAVE HEDGE,
 20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 21
 22 MR. BEDGE: My name is Dave Hedge, and I'm a
 23 resident of Sun Valley, Idaho. I am a retired engineer and
 24 retired accountant, so I can assure you that I have reviewed
 25 the SIS, I can both calculate and count. It does not make

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1 it as a viable document, the EIS is not what it should be.
 2 I would like to, therefore, support the No Action
 3 Alternative.
 4
 5 There is no need for the SIS anywhere. DOE
 6 has not supported the need in this document. In fact, they
 7 have said, as was pointed out, that we are awash in
 8 plutonium. They only address the need in a rather obtuse
 9 way by referencing another classified document and then not
 10 including this document as an appendix to this EIS, which it
 11 should be.
 12
 13 The reasons given by the DOE in this
 14 documentary; redundancy, flexibility and technological
 15 diversity, are very vague and need to be addressed in
 16 further detail.
 17
 18 There are other methods currently available to
 19 the DOE for plutonium production which is blending.
 20
 21 The amount of plutonium produced and the
 22 proposed SIS plant, which it will produce, will be limited
 23 to the feeder stock on hand from Hanford. That is, of
 24 course, unless the real reason for building the SIS is to
 25 use commercial reactor fuel in the future when they can try
 26 to get the present law changed.
 27
 28 There are several environmental problems not
 29 adequately addressed by the EIS. There is no current safe
 30 site for waste disposal due to the leakage problems in the

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1 New Mexico plant and there's no alternative site addressed.

2 There are no acceptable methods to safely

3 transport the waste at this time. The Department of

4 Transportation has said that the proposed plan right now is

5 not acceptable.

6 Temporary waste storage is not acceptable due

7 to the fact that we have seen leakage problems near the

8 groundwater and people have talked about that.

9 The final design for the SIS is not complete

10 and will be not complete until the plant is actually under

11 construction and, therefore, operational and safety problems

12 are really not properly addressed in the EIS.

13 The DOE furthermore has not shown in the past

14 a very adequate safety record. I'm not so sure that they

15 should be believed now about what they say is safe and what

16 is not safe. In addition, their safety record has been

17 established when they make up their own rules. I think that

18 if the SIS was to be built, then an outside oversight agency

19 should be watching them and making sure that they operate

20 safely.

21 The costs in environmental dangers, however

22 slight, cannot be outweighed by the benefits in additional

23 plutonium when there is no need for any additional

24 supplies. There are no benefits other than short-term

25 economic inputs to southeastern Idaho. Even these economic

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1 benefits may easily be offset by potential negative economic

2 impacts on the rest of Idaho in terms of agriculture and

3 tourism if there was even a minor accident.

4 In summary, we should not further our national

5 deficit problems in spending millions and millions of

6 dollars for what we do not need when there are much greater

7 needs in this nation.

8 (Applause.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of David

10 Bedge of Sun Valley will be included in the record as

11 Exhibit No. 310.

12 The next scheduled commentor is Sylvia Green.

13 And family.

14 SYLVIA GREEN (and family),

15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16 MS. GREEN: I'm Sylvia Green. This is

17 Exhibition A, Exhibition B and Exhibition C; Nathan,

18 Nicholas and Natalie.

19 We have lived in Hailey for ten years. Do you

20 want my address?

21 HEARING OFFICER: Please.

22 MS. GREEN: 200 Robinhood Drive.

23 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

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5.27.3.3

4.15.2

1 MS. GREEN: We have lived in Hailey for ten
 2 years. I was born and raised in Paul and Rupert.
 3 I've moved sprinkler pipe in the wheat fields
 4 of Norland, I've driven potato truck. My mother worked 12
 5 years in the trim room at Simplot's in Burley.
 6 My husband and I have -- we moved here ten
 7 years ago, and we want it on the record that we are not
 8 out-of-state infiltrators brought here for these hearings as
 9 was suggested on the news.
 10 I believe we should protect our heritage at
 11 all costs. The proposed SIS facility is a threat to our
 12 clean water, a threat to our clean air, it's a threat to our
 13 highways, a threat to the birds, fish, animals and human
 14 beings that should have the misfortune to be around the
 15 perimeters of the INEL. The SIS is a threat to world
 16 peace. We have enough bombs; we don't need any more.
 17 I'm angry that you politicians are willing to
 18 sell my children's future Idaho in the name of more jobs.
 19 Why not promote our beautiful state for film-making or
 20 tourism. I can't imagine people flocking to Idaho to view a
 21 plutonium refining bomb plant.
 22 The way inflation is going these days, it
 23 looks like the only inheritance my husband and I have to
 24 leave our children is this beautiful state and this
 25 beautiful country that we enjoy and love.

111

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1 I say we don't want the SIS in Idaho or
 2 anywhere.
 3 (Applause.)
 4 BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 311 in the record
 5 will be written comment of Sylvia Green.
 6 The next commentor is Denise Laverty.

7
 8 DENISE LAVERTY,
 9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

10
 11 MS. LAVERTY: Hello. My name is Denise
 12 Laverty. My address is Star Route Box 36, Stanley, Idaho.
 13 And I'd like to just try and highlight what I
 14 have turned in, and not repeat the facts and figures that
 15 have already been explained in that.

16 I'd like to go on record as supporting the No
 17 Action Alternative for the Department of Energy's
 18 Environmental Impact Statement concerning the construction
 19 of the Special Isotope Separation Project at INEL.

20 I see an ironic polarity in our governmental
 21 system that we elect and that we pay for in more ways than
 22 one.

23 I have a lot of gratitude in my heart for the
 24 steps that President Reagan has taken in the reduction of
 25 arms, of nuclear arms, and I support him in taking a

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1 valid -- in making a valid effort towards creating peace
2 between the United States and the Soviet Union. And this is
3 a peace that we only know in our hearts and we feel and we
4 wish to share globally.

5 And then there's another branch of our same
6 democratic system that is proposing to invest bills of our
7 tax dollars to build a plant for the sole purpose of
8 producing nuclear war-grade plutonium. The direction we
9 choose is up to each of us as an individual. I feel we must
10 clarify our own directions and our own beliefs so that we,
11 so that our government can represent our concerns in making
12 appropriate decisions.

13 I know in my heart that I do not choose to
14 continue supporting war in any form. I cannot agree with
15 the production of more plutonium for nuclear weapons. And I
16 believe that we have a unique opportunity here right now to
17 participate in the creating of that peace rather than
18 plutonium.

4.3

19 So I would support the ratification of
20 President Reagan's and Gorbachev's INF treaty. It will not
21 only free up two tons of weapon-grade plutonium, but
22 continued negotiations could provide as much as eight times
23 the amount that would be produced in the life of the plant
24 that is produced here in Idaho, and also, hopefully, lessen
25 the need for plutonium altogether.

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1 If our intent is truly peace, how can we
2 blatantly condone or allow the construction of this type of
3 plant right here in our backyards or anywhere?

4 Speaking from the fragile -- for the fragile
5 balance that we call life here on this planet, I think we
6 need to look -- I don't feel like the Statement has
7 addressed the environmental concerns. We, and I include the
8 best of our scientific minds, do not have -- have not
9 invented proper recycling for or safe storage for the
10 contaminated waste that we are talking about producing.

11 Considering our ignorance on the subject and
12 the contamination we have already established, the
13 contamination record we have already established, are we
14 willing to take full responsibility for our decisions, our
15 actions and reactions concerning the proposed SIS production
16 plant? Can we afford to risk the delicate dance of life,
17 not only human, animal and plant, but the mineral kingdom,
18 the life force of the water, the atmosphere and the earth
19 itself?

20 I ask for the clarity to consider every aspect
21 concerning this issue and the strength to follow through
22 according to our highest truths.

23 Investing in death will not, cannot, cannot
24 pay for the physical, mental or emotional needs of the men
25 and women who will be employed. I would rather spend our

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2.1.1

5.30.3.1

5.30.4.14

6.1.2

T036

5.27.7.17

2.1.1

1.1

5.27.6.9

6.2

1 tax dollars creating jobs that are creative and constructive
2 rather than death, creating death and destruction.
3 I have many questions that were not addressed
4 in the Environmental Impact Statement, and they still remain
5 unaddressed, but I strongly believe that besides the
6 establishing of a need, the economical and the environmental
7 concerns have not been addressed thoroughly to even consider
8 construction of this Special Isotope Separation plant.
9 Thank you.
10 (Applause.)
11 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 312 for the record
12 will be the written comment of Denise Laferty.
13 Rich Hall.
14
15 RICK HALL,
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
17
18 MR. HALL: My name is Rick Hall, and I live in
19 Ketchum.
20 I think the arguments against the SIS Project
21 greatly outweigh those for it. To build for purely economic
22 reasons is both wasteful and morally are arrogant. Passing
23 on environmental risks to generations for thousands of years
24 just to create some new jobs for now, I think, is selfish.
25 People are now dying in this country from groundwater

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T037

1 contamination. It's a real thing.
2 I think the people of southern Idaho should
3 examine their long-term industrial goals before jumping on
4 the SIS bandwagon.
5 Thank you.
6 (Applause.)
7 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 313 will be the
8 written comment of Rick Hall.
9 Next scheduled commentor is Steve Garmon,
10 Steve Garmon.
11 (No response.)
12 HEARING OFFICER: Debbie Edgers.
13
14 DEBBIE EDGERS,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
16
17 MS. EDGERS: My name is Debbie Edgers, and I
18 live in Ketchum, Idaho.
19 And I decided to make my home in Idaho 14
20 years ago because the state was unspoiled and so uniquely
21 beautiful.
22 Even here in Idaho local news reports indicate
23 that environmental accidents happen. I oppose the building
24 of the nuclear weapons plant.
25 (Applause.)

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5.1.36
1.1

T038

1 BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 314 will be the
2 written comment of Debbie Edgers.

3 Next commentor is Linn Kincannon.

4
5 LINN KINCANNON,
6 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

7
8 MS. KINCANNON: My name is Linn Kincannon. I
9 live at 302 Martin Waterway, south of Ketchum, Idaho.

10 I am a mother of two young children. I have
11 lived in Idaho for 12 years. I first came here for a
12 vacation with no real idea of the incredible beauty of the
13 state. I felt compelled to stay because of the clean air
14 and pure and unspoiled condition of the area. Thousands of
15 people visit here every year to enjoy a brief rest from the
16 general pollution of their own part of the country and
17 returned home refreshed and with renewed for the future of
18 our world.

19 Now the DOE wants to play Russian Roulette
20 with this irreplaceable national resource. It's bad enough
21 that the INEL exists here posing an immediate threat to the
22 residents of Idaho and the Snake River Aquifer. However
23 negligible you feel is the risk of an accident, there is a
24 risk, and the effect of such an accident would be
25 irreversible.

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1 I see no justification for the existence of
2 this project, it's not needed. I do believe in a strong
3 national defense, but I'm in favor of reduction and eventual
4 elimination of nuclear weapons. Any sane person must desire
5 the elimination of the threat of nuclear suicide. We just
6 don't need more bombs.

7 The most frightening aspect of this project to
8 me is its perfect illustration of a government gone wild
9 spending non-existent funds on unnecessary projects. This
10 is why we are unable to balance the federal budget; and if
11 we don't do that, all of us would feel a severe drop in our
12 standard of living. Our government is going to bring this
13 country and maybe the world to its economic knees with its
14 irresponsible and short-sighted spending.

15 Government spending reminds me a fire hose
16 filled with water, and it's out of control, no one is
17 holding on to it, it's just spewing money everywhere without
18 rhyme or reason, and I don't know who will ever be strong
19 enough to grab it and try to shut the flow.

20 A lot of people have talked about what an
21 accident would mean to the future of our children, but we
22 are going to cripple our children's economic future if we
23 don't start cutting down somewhere in our spending. Why not
24 here in this unnecessary project?

25 Thank you.

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4.15.4

4.13

5.27.6.11

1 (Applause.)
 2 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 315 will be the
 3 written comments of Linn Kincannon.
 4 The next scheduled commentor is Ellen Glaccum.
 5 We'll mark your written comments as Exhibit
 6 316.
 7
 8 ELLEN GLACCUM,
 9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 10
 11 MS. GLACCUM: Hi. I'm Ellen Glaccum, and I'm
 12 concerned about the purity of the Snake River Aquifer, and I
 13 find the Draft EIS of the proposed Special Isotope
 14 Separation Project woefully inadequate on this subject.
 15 I was interested to read the lead story in the
 16 March 18th Times-News detailing the life of the likelihood
 17 of the INEL being added to the SuperFund clean-up list.
 18 Wayne Pierre from the EPA is quoted as saying that the INEL
 19 has a number of corrective orders to deal with and that
 20 hazardous waste has already contaminated the Snake River
 21 Aquifer. "We know we have a release. The threat is to the
 22 future use of the aquifer," the EPA official said.
 23 This newspaper article further elaborates the
 24 scope of the problem by listing the following contaminations
 25 of the Snake River Aquifer at the INEL.

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1 Tritium contamination of the aquifer that is
 2 already migrating off the INEL property.
 3 Mercury contamination of the injection wells
 4 at the Chemical Processing Plant.
 5 Radioactive waste contamination of the
 6 groundwater of the Chemical Processing Plant.
 7 Trichloroethylene in drinking water at the
 8 Test Area North.
 9 Chromium in water above the aquifer at the
 10 Test Reactor Ponds.
 11 Trichloroethylene and carbon tetrachloride in
 12 the groundwater at the radioactive waste management
 13 complex.
 14 But yet, this Draft EIS blithely assures us
 15 that there will be no contamination of the Snake River
 16 Aquifer by the SIS. Who are they kidding?
 17 The aquifer is the life blood of southern
 18 Idaho. The entire population is dependent upon it. Without
 19 the use of the aquifer, none of us could afford to live
 20 here. We couldn't live here at all.
 21 Can we afford to risk our future to build an
 22 incredibly expensive factory designed to last only seven
 23 years which will produce something dangerous that the
 24 Secretary of Energy himself says we already have too much
 25 of? This is like a cartoon from The Far Side. Let's reject

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5.30.1.6

5.12.1

4.15.4

5.30.1.5

5.30.4.12

5.30.4.1

1 it for the bad joke it is.
 2 (Applause.)
 3 HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen, we are
 4 now at witness order 41. We'd like to take a very brief
 5 recess and ask the next 20 commentators, from 41 through 61,
 6 to step forward to the front here and we'll resume in three
 7 or four minutes.
 8 (Recess.)
 9 HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen, I'd
 10 like to come back to order, if we could.
 11 We are now at commentator order number 41 on the
 12 written witness or comment list we have in the back of the
 13 room. I'm finding that we're generally going through about
 14 20 commentators per hour, so it would be my intent to try to
 15 get to commentator order 61 by about 6 o'clock. We'll see how
 16 far we get.
 17 Our next commentator is Tim Reinke, Tim Reinke.
 18 (No response.)
 19 HEARING OFFICER: Ronald Woods, Ronald Woods.
 20 (No response.)
 21 HEARING OFFICER: Brad Pearson, Brad Pearson.
 22 Mr. Brad Pearson is going to do a little
 23 singing here. We can capture the lyrics, but it's hard to
 24 get the music on the record.
 25 Could we get it quiet, please?

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T040

1 BRAD PEARSON,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 3
 4 MR. PEARSON: My name is Brad Pearson, and I
 5 live in Bellevue. And before that, I used to farm in Moore,
 6 which is just north of the INEL.
 7 And I support the No Action Alternative for
 8 the SIS Project. And as my testimony here today, I submit a
 9 song, and the song is taken, with apologies to John
 10 Sebastian and the Lovin' Spoonful, from one of their albums
 11 back about 21 years ago called, "Do You Ever Have To Make Up
 12 Your Mind?" which seems particularly appropriate to the
 13 issue at hand.
 14 There are three choruses in the song, and I'd
 15 like to ask any of who join me in seeing that as a no SIS
 16 anthem, if you would like to sing with me on the chorus,
 17 which are capitalized, I'd appreciate it, and we'll get to
 18 the last chorus and repeat that once.
 19 (Singing.)
 20 Did you ever have to make up your mind.
 21 To say yes to life and leave the warheads
 22 behind.
 23 It takes some awareness to prevent being
 24 blind.
 25 Did you ever have to make up your mind.

122

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1.1

1 You love Idaho's blue skies, her potatoes and
2 rivers,
3 but this SIS plant, it gives you the shivers.
4 'Cause just when you thought that this state is
5 the best,
6 along come some strangers with a nuclear
7 mess...
8 And then you know you'd better make up your
9 mind
10 to say yes to health and leave the cancer
11 behind.
12 Well, if you are not greedy, then you won't be
13 blind.
14 Did you ever have to make up your mind?
15 Well, tourists love this state, spend money to
16 visit her
17 until they get distracted by her S-I-S-ter,
18 and in walks the DOE and took you in line
19 and said, "You'd better go home, folks, we've
20 made up your mind."
21 Well, then, you know you'd better finally
22 decide,
23 to say yes to life and let plutonium ride.
24 It takes some awareness to prevent being
25 blind.

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1 Did you ever have to make up your mind?
2 One more time.
3 Well, you know you'd better finally decide
4 to say yes to life and let plutonium ride.
5 It takes some awareness to prevent being
6 blind.
7 Did you ever have to make up your mind?
8 (Applause.)
9 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Pearson. In
10 my spare time I represent Columbia Records, I'd like to talk
11 to you.
12 Our next commentor -- excuse me, I'm sorry.
13 His lyrics are Exhibit No. 322 for the record.
14 I have been asked by Miss Paul to announce
15 that anyone who needs a ride back to Ketchum, to please meet
16 out in the lobby.
17 We are now at witness order no 44, Kirk
18 Charlson.
19
20 KIRK CHARLSON,
21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
22
23 MR. CHARLSON: I'm Kirk Charlson, and I'm from
24 Buhl, Idaho. And I'm a farmer.
25 And I'm really disappointed, I think, in the

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1 Burleys and the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce not having a
2 little more faith in agriculture. They don't realize that
3 the same mentality that's operating the military industrial
4 complex and wants to produce an SIS is also the ones that's
5 shootin' down agriculture.

5.27.7.8

6 And also we got to talk about jobs, and you
7 talk about Idaho Falls, it's got some of the lowest
8 unemployment in the state, and they are not talking about
9 putting SIS here, they are talking about putting it up there
10 and wrecking agriculture by destroying our aquifer.

5.27.2

11 I want to get a little ways back on this whole
12 thing and the people we are dealing with at INEL. There
13 aren't not very many people here, I don't think, that were
14 going to the meetings way back when and complaining about
15 injecting into our aquifer. But we had to listen to this
16 Dr. Bearclaw, I think was his name, wasn't it, that went on
17 and on and on about how safe the injection into the aquifer
18 was. And here we come back about four or five years later,
19 and I think it was McClure, himself, announced, we stopped
20 injecting into the aquifer because -- not because it's
21 unsafe, but because of public protest. And then five years
22 later we find out that Dr. Bearclaw wasn't even monitoring
23 his own wells at INEL; he was getting the readings from INEL
24 personnel, and we find out that it had migrated off the
25 boundaries of INEL. That plutonium -- I mean that

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1 radioactive material they put down that aquifer has moved
2 off the boundaries of INEL. And now we are supposed to sit
3 here and listen to them and they want to do a bomb thing.

4 Well, I've considered INEL a threat to the
5 Magic Valley for years, and it came in there and put that
6 all over the horizon, ionosphere radar system in at Mountain
7 Home to the tune of somewhere at 7- to \$11 million, I
8 figured we were going to get stuck with the NPR, the New
9 Production Reaction.

10 Well, maybe we are going to come out ahead on
11 this thing now, because it's definitely apparent that more
12 people in the Magic Valley and the Wood River are aware of
13 what's going on at INEL. And if we can stuff this SIS down
14 their throats, we might be able to find out what's really
15 going on on.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. CHARLSON: I'd also like to -- this is a
19 guy that's listed to speak, Terry White, No. 54, and he
20 couldn't make it because he's out harvesting trout, and he's
21 the owner and operator of Deep Creek Trout Farms. And he
22 does, in my opinion -- I mean his opinion is the same as
23 mine, that he considers the SIS a threat to the Magic Valley
24 and its aquifer, and he's opposed to it.

25 Thank you.

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1.1

5.12.1

1.1

1 (Applause.)
 2 HEARING OFFICER: We'll include in the record
 3 as Exhibit 323 the written comment of Terry White, the
 4 owner-operator of Deep Creek Trout Farm.
 5 The next scheduled commentor is Don Ivory.
 6
 7 DON B. IVORY,
 8 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 9
 10 MR. IVORY: Thank you, Roy.
 11 I would like to -- my name is Don B. Ivory. I
 12 live at 315 Clear Creek Drive, Meridian, Idaho. I'm an
 13 Idaho resident living in Ada County.
 14 I'm employed by the Idaho Electrical Joint
 15 Apprenticeship and Training Committee as a Training
 16 Director. We maintain offices in Boise and Pocatello. My
 17 duties are to recruit and process applicants for the
 18 Electrician Apprenticeship Program. I also maintain records
 19 and supervise the training of the apprentices as they learn
 20 their trade.
 21 Apprenticeship is a structured program where
 22 individuals are employed by a private contractor earning
 23 wages at the same time they attend evening classes to study
 24 and learn more about their trade. Our program requires five
 25 years from the time an apprentice starts until he completes

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1 and becomes a journeyman. The training of the electrician
 2 does not stop at this time. They continue to attend classes
 3 to keep abreast of new techniques and new wiring methods.
 4 During passing 15 years I have been working
 5 with this program, I have had the opportunity to become
 6 acquainted with hundreds of electricians.
 7 The INEL has provided more construction jobs
 8 and training opportunities than any other source within the
 9 State of Idaho. Thousands of manhours worked at the INEL
 10 have been converted into taxes and benefits for all Idahoans
 11 as well as the many small businesses that exist because of
 12 the INEL construction jobs.
 13 A VOICE: Possible benefits.
 14 MR. IVORY: The INEL safety work record --
 15 (Voices.)
 16 HEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please.
 17 MR. IVORY: There have been only a very few
 18 minor accidents; and, to my knowledge, there has never been
 19 any radiation exposure to our electricians working there.
 20 I have personally been provided guided tours
 21 of the facility on many occasions. I am very impressed with
 22 the well organized manner in which the employees perform
 23 their jobs at the site. There is absolutely no doubt in my
 24 mind that every precaution possible is taken to insure
 25 safety.

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5.27.12.4

5.24.22

1.1

1 Anyone who takes the time to study and inform
2 themselves of the many benefits that the SIS can bring to
3 Idaho would surely support the project. Idaho needs SIS and
4 SIS needs Idaho. Let us not stand in the way of the people
5 who know best about our needs for the project, and let's
6 give them our support and move ahead.

7 I have got a couple other comments outside of
8 my prepared text there. We have had a lot of people talk to
9 us today about Idaho is a tourism attraction. And if you
10 have been out here to the desk, why, they have a little rack
11 with him some of the tourist attractions. There's one
12 called the EBR-1. "While you're in Idaho see the world's
13 first nuclear power plant." In 1987 10,880 people visited
14 the EBR-1. It will only take me a second to tell you
15 EBR-1. "Have you ever seen a nuclear reactor? Ever
16 wondered how electricity is generated from nuclear energy?
17 Satisfactory your curiosity by visiting the Experimental
18 Breeder Reactor (EBR-1) at the visitor center, located on
19 U.S. Highway 20-26 between Idaho Falls and Arco.

20 "The facility, a National Historic Monument,
21 where electricity was first generated from nuclear energy in
22 1951, is open to the public from Memorial Day through Labor
23 Day weekend, seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
24 Admission is free.

25 "You'll see two nuclear reactors, a reactor

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1 control room, remote handling devices for radioactive
2 materials, radiation detection counters, and more, much
3 more. You'll learn how electricity is produced from
4 splitting atoms and see numerous explanatory displays and
5 exhibits. You can walk through the plant using the printed
6 tour instructions, or take a guided tour with one of the
7 tour guides on duty."

8 I hope that a lot of the people here that
9 don't understand what we are talking about here take the
10 time to investigate and learn the facts.

11 (Voices.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please, quiet.

13 MR. IVORY: I will turn this in to the Chair
14 here as part of my talk.

15 Thank you.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 324 for the record
19 will be the written comments of Don Ivory, along with the
20 document that he referenced in his comments.

21 Next scheduled commentor is Jonathan Marvel.

22 Your written comments will be Exhibit 325.

23

24

25

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1 JON MARVEL,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 MR. MARVEL: I'm Jon Marvel. I live at 316
5 East Bullion Street in Hailey, Idaho.

6 I have driven 70 miles today to speak out
7 against the installation of the Special Isotope Separation
8 Project proposed for Idaho. This project is not needed by
9 any stretch of imagination. The reasons provided for our
10 presumably credulous public consumption mention redundancy,
11 technical diversity for plutonium production, and the
12 ability to rapidly increase the production of weapons-grade
13 plutonium.

14 What are these people trying to tell us? They
15 are saying that production of nuclear weapons is a more
16 valuable use of our nation's resources than any of the
17 myriad needs of the people which currently go unmet.

18 If our honorable Senators McClure and Symms
19 could arrange it, I see innumerable ways that \$1 billion
20 could be spent in Idaho to benefit hundreds and hundreds of
21 communities in our state.

22 Let's take one simple example. Suppose we
23 took \$250 million for one year and provided public works
24 jobs. This alone would provide 10,000 jobs at \$25,000
25 each. Then we could take the remaining \$750 million and

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1 invest it in some reasonably conservative ways to provide
2 \$65 million a year in funds which could provide in
3 perpetuity 2,600 jobs at \$25,000 a year each. Hailey could
4 repave its entire street system every five years with funds
5 of this magnitude.

6 Why do our elected politicians pretend they
7 are serving our interests as residents of Idaho while
8 suggesting we be grateful for a project which could provide
9 440 technical jobs, but whose operative life may be no
10 longer than seven years and whose residues may be poisoning
11 our descendants for 25,000 years. This project should not
12 only not be built in Idaho, it should not be built
13 anywhere.

14 This country is in the midst of the greatest
15 opportunity in arms control since the beginning of the
16 atomic age 43 years ago, an opportunity at least partially
17 created by the most conservative, not to say extremist
18 president the country has ever seen. If his efforts are
19 successful, fully 60 percent of the existing nuclear arsenal
20 will have to be dismantled within the next ten years. Where
21 will all this plutonium go then? We don't have any way to
22 store the waste now.

23 We know there's tritium and plutonium in the
24 groundwater at the INEL. How much do we think will be there
25 in ten years if this plant is built?

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1.1
4.15.4

4.7.1

6.3

6.1.8

4.3

5.30.3.1

5.12.2

1 None of us should be surprised that this plant
2 proposal has come forth to be built in Idaho. I read
3 yesterday that Clay Nichols was quoted as saying that if
4 they can't get it built in Idaho, they can't get it built
5 anywhere. Well, that's a good sign. Because it means we,
6 the residents, of Idaho are finally taking our
7 responsibility seriously about the kind of environment we
8 wish to leave for our children.

9 This plant is a logical manifestation of the
10 sort of thinking which has given us the largest military
11 industrial complex in the world. A complex whose many goals
12 include its own growth and perpetuation. This project is a
13 fundamental demonstration of the moral cretinism of the
14 knee-jerk supporters of ever larger military
15 appropriations. Our government is paying large sums to
16 people at all the national scientific laboratories to
17 develop weapons ideas with the sole goal of making their
18 jobs more secure.

19 The \$90 million spent at Livermore for this
20 isotope separation process is wasted because when Congress
21 comes to its senses, there will be no funding for the SIS.
22 The political supporters of this project show an industrious
23 obedience to weapons and war-making capability to the utter
24 exclusion of moral quality. That is the simple truth of
25 this proposal. The security of the United States requires

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1 no more plutonium. The Department of Energy requires no
2 more plutonium. The State of Idaho needs no plutonium. My
3 children and your children need no plutonium. Who needs
4 this death machine? Let's stop it now.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

8 Next scheduled commentor is Andy Munter.

9 ANDY MUNTER,

11 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13 MR. MUNTER: My name is Andy Munter. And I am
14 a business owner and resident of Ketchum, Idaho, Box 4,
15 Ketchum.

16 I deeply oppose the SIS in Idaho or anywhere
17 for a number of reasons. Economically it threatens my
18 business. More importantly, it threatens my moral and
19 religious fiber to its very root. Most importantly, it
20 threatens the environment in Idaho like no other event
21 possibly could.

22 Six years ago I sat through the largest
23 earthquake in the continental United States in 20 years in
24 Hailey, Idaho. The epicenter was the same distance from me
25 as the distance to the INEL, but towards the northeast

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1 instead of the southeast. The other earthquake 20 years
2 ago? Also in eastern Idaho. DOE, look at your maps again.

3 Last week I was fortunate to spend a morning
4 at the DOE Atomic Test Site north of Las Vegas and witness a
5 non-violent civil disobedience where about 50 people were
6 arrested. Two weeks ago 6,000 people from all over the
7 country gathered there and participated in what one Las
8 Vegas paper described as the largest ever non-violent
9 disobedience event in the history of America. In the course
10 of a week over 2,000 people, including priests and
11 grandmothers crossed the line and were handcuffed, put into
12 a large holding pen and later taken to Tonopah, three hours
13 away, and released.

14 I want to keep my testimony relevant so
15 instead of wholeheartedly encouraging the need for targeted
16 civil disobedience in opposition to SIS, I will tailor my
17 remarks to comment on the economic problems associated with
18 the law enforcement costs of such a gathering.

19 I lost my place. I have been scribbling for
20 the last hour, so there's a lot of different things I have
21 in here.

22 What I saw in Idaho, I'm sure, will come to
23 Idaho. Again, according to the newspaper article in the Las
24 Vegas paper, the DOE or the federal government is taking no
25 responsibility the almost \$500,000 spent by the county and

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1 other agencies Nye County, Nevada, during that one event.

2 Do you want to do something different Mother's
3 Day? Mark May 6th through 8th on your calendar. Organizers
4 are hoping for 10,000 people at the Nevada Test Site.

5 A growing ground-level peace movement is
6 busting at the seams in this country, and I don't think it's
7 going to let the SIS be built. I think the DOE will get the
8 message and withdraw its recommendations for SIS. If not, I
9 think Congress will see the light and find the project --
10 will see the light and cut the funding of the project. And
11 if they don't, I think the people will unite and stop this
12 insane project at some level of its construction, like the
13 people of the Northeast are doing with Seabrook.

14 This hearing is the first step and an
15 important first step, and I thank you for listening to us.
16 But to summarize quickly, Idaho will not accept the SIS,
17 period.

18 Thank you.

19 (Applause.)

20 BEARING OFFICER: We'll accept as Exhibit 331
21 the written comments of Andy Munter for the record.

22 The next scheduled commentor is John
23 Stevenson.
24
25

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T045

1 JOHN STEVENSON,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. STEVENSON: My name is John Stevenson. My
5 address is 36 Hillside Ranch Road, Gannett, Idaho.
6 I grow malt barley on a 3,800 acre farm about
7 60 miles from the INEL.
8 I support Alternative 3, the No Action
9 Alternative.
10 The DEIS does not address seismic activity
11 effects, hydrologic effects or effects on increased
12 radiation on insects and crops in the area.
13 The DEIS does not satisfactorily address the
14 effect of collision with plutonium vessels. My family and I
15 live on U.S. 20, the route to Hanford.
16 I also can't help but question the need for
17 this. Our stock of plutonium is huge. President Reagan and
18 Gorbachev are moving to end the cold war. As a result of
19 the INF treaty and the proposed START treaty, our plutonium
20 stocks will increase further.
21 This project is left over from the arms race.
22 Our President, our Secretary of State and our adversary have
23 changed direction. The DOE has not.
24 (Applause.)
25 HEARING OFFICER: John Stevenson's written

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T046

1 comments will be marked as Exhibit 332 for the record.
2 The next scheduled commentor I have on my list
3 is A. R. Conroy. I believe he spoke earlier, didn't he? Is
4 Mr. Conroy here?
5 (No response.)
6 HEARING OFFICER: Next scheduled speaker is
7 Max Casbeau.
8
9 MAX CASBEAU,
10 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
11
12 MR. CASBEAU: My name is Max Casbeau. I live
13 at 319 Parkway in Ketchum, Idaho.
14 I'd like to address my comments to the Snake
15 River Aquifer. And needless to say, I'm against the SIS
16 proposal.
17 Also, I'd like to mention that I will send you
18 a letter, a copy, that I have written to Senator Pell, which
19 substantially amplifies my position and, unfortunately, I
20 didn't -- I misplaced it and didn't bring it today.
21 BEARING OFFICER: When we receive it, we'll
22 include it in the record.
23 MR. CASBEAU: Okay.
24 Some time in early the 1960 the Soviet Union
25 experienced a devastating melt-down and subsequent nuclear

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1 radiation, and this was the result of a possible explosion,
2 nobody really knows what happened, and this information was
3 kept from the world for probably ten years. It was
4 documented in a book which was published later.

5 The point I'd like to make is that if my
6 memory serves me correctly, over 150 square miles was made
7 into a radioactive wilderness, and we don't really know
8 anything about this yet and the Soviets haven't told us.
9 And beyond this, the point of this accident and the
10 speculation I'd like to make was or is that apparently it
11 was a reprocessing plant, and it took several months for the
12 contamination to move over 200 miles to a lead mine that the
13 Soviets were operating at the time. And interestingly
14 enough, they thought they had discovered a uranium mine
15 after that subsequent exposure.

16 I think that's enough said.

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Next scheduled commentor is
20 Laura Keresty.

22 LAURA KERESTY,
23 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

25 MS. KERESTY: Hi. My name is Laura Keresty.

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1 I live at 118 P Street, Washington, D.C.

2 I am a senior government major at Cornell
3 University and am currently an intern at Natural Resources
4 Defense Council. I am speaking here today in favor of the
5 no action alternative for construction of the SIS facility.

6 Until two months ago I was a college student
7 concerned only with daily student activities. I did not
8 know plutonium was, or even that the Department of Energy
9 managed the U.S. military weapons complex complex.

10 At my internship for the past two months I
11 have been reading and doing research about the SIS facility
12 and plutonium production. These are some of the things that
13 I have learned about plutonium.

14 In the United States plutonium-239 is used
15 almost exclusively for nuclear weapons production.

16 The primitive nuclear bomb which destroyed
17 Nagasaki contained about 13 pounds of plutonium. Currently
18 the U.S. has over 200,000 pounds of weapons-grade
19 plutonium.

20 A pound of plutonium will generate the
21 equivalent amount of energy as 20 million pounds of TNT.

22 Plutonium is one of the most hazardous
23 substances known and burns when exposed to air.

24 Experiments funded by the government
25 demonstrate that inhalation of less than 1-millionth of a

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T048

1 curie, which is a microscopic speck of plutonium, which will
2 be the final product of the SIS facility, results in an
3 incidence of lung cancer approaching 100 percent in beagle
4 dogs.

5 If the SIS is built, this deadly substance
6 will be brought to and processed in Idaho.

7 Working in Washington has helped me put the
8 political process in perspective. I was at the hearings in
9 both Idaho Falls and Boise, and I heard many SIS proponents
10 claim that Congress approves of this facility. The reality
11 is that the majority of Congress people do know know what
12 the SIS facility is. It is a minute, small part of the
13 budget. However, they are beginning to be educated. Your
14 Senators and Representatives and the Department of Energy
15 are telling Congressional leadership and the Administration
16 that Idahoans are fully behind this project. These hearings
17 demonstrate they are wrong.

18 I'm not speaking here today as an expert,
19 activist or Idahoan, but as a citizen who has sat down,
20 logically examined the arguments on both sides and concluded
21 that something senseless is going on.

22 \$1 billion of the taxpayers' money may be used
23 to build this facility for which the need has not been
24 justified publicly or in classified documents. A facility
25 which is contrary to the current administration policy of

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1 pursuing deep reductions in nuclear weapons arsenals; a
2 facility where the primary support depends on jobs offered
3 to a depressed economy.

4 The fact remains that more plutonium is not
5 needed. Why commit \$1 billion for redundancy? There's no
6 rational justification to begin construction of this
7 project. It's unnecessary, uneconomical and very, very
8 dangerous.

9 (Applause.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 333 will be the
11 written comments of Laura Keresty.

12 Next scheduled commentor is Elise Lufkin.

14 ELISE LUFKIN,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17 MS. LUFKIN: I come here in complete and total
18 opposition to the SIS Project. With each testimony I have
19 heard today I have been reminded of more reasons for the
20 opposition; however, I'm going to try to confine my comments
21 to refuting what -- what I see as three main reasons why we
22 are being told the SIS is not only safe but necessary and
23 beneficial to Idaho. None of them hold water.

24 The first reason is that the SIS will provide
25 a much needed boost to Idaho's economy. The boost it will

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1 provide is primarily a temporary one that will draw -- it
 2 will draw people from outside of Idaho to the area, as well
 3 as Idaho workers, and then leave them jobless with mortgages
 4 and loans to pay off. Newly built houses and businesses
 5 will stand empty without the permanent job market to support
 6 them. How long is seven years? Not very long.

7 And what happens when the SIS is built and the
 8 INEL realizes there is not the need for weapons-grade
 9 plutonium that was anticipated and the whole plant is shut
 10 down? What happens then? And how many jobs in agriculture
 11 and tourism will be lost should there be even a small, a
 12 minor accident? Would you take your children on vacation to
 13 Three Mile Island? Would you buy potatoes from Chernobyl?

14 This brings me to the second reason that the
 15 INEL has a very good safety record. This may be true; it
 16 may not be. With current monitoring and regulatory
 17 practices, it is very difficult to accurately assess the
 18 safety of INEL; however, it's not relevant here. What is
 19 relevant is that the stakes are too high to play the game,
 20 no matter how good or bad a player the INEL is. A nuclear
 21 accident of any size would be absolutely disastrous, and to
 22 risk it in any way is totally inane.

23 The third reason, perhaps the most significant
 24 one for the nation is that the United States needs more
 25 weapons-grade plutonium. We currently have the nuclear

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1 capacity to blow up the entire earth, the Himalayas, Africa,
 2 Twin Falls, Idaho Falls, many times over. What more do we
 3 need? The capacity to blow it up many, many times over?

4 On a more mathematical note, recycling, for
 5 example, the dismantling of weapons called for in the
 6 recently signed INF treaty will provide enough weapons-grade
 7 plutonium to supply any new weapons projects that the
 8 government feels is necessary. There's no need for more
 9 weapons-grade plutonium, no need for more bombs. This
 10 project is totally illogical. It's expensive, unnecessary,
 11 deadly to Idaho or any place else.

12 (Applause.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 14 Elise Lufkin will be included in the record as Exhibit 334.

15 The additional written comments of Robbie A.
 16 Freund, P. O. Box 1470, Ketchum, will be included as Exhibit
 17 335.

18 Exhibit 336 will be the comments of Barge
 19 Levy, P.O. Box 905, Ketchum.

20 And finally, the comments of Diane Karban,
 21 P.O. Box 4607, Ketchum, will be marked as Exhibit 337 and
 22 included in the record.

23 The next scheduled commentator is Terry White,
 24 Terry White.

25 (No response.)

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4.3

4.15.2

T049

1 BEARING OFFICER: Jennie Griffith, Jennie
2 Griffith.
3 (No response.)
4 HEARING OFFICER: Order 56, Elizabeth
5 Stevenson.
6
7 ELIZABETH STEVENSON,
8 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
9
10 MS. STEVENSON: I am Elizabeth Stevenson. I
11 live at Route 1, Box 310, Bellevue.
12 I oppose the building of SIS plant at INEL.
13 There appears to be no need for more plutonium. Energy
14 Secretary John Herrington said, "We have more plutonium than
15 we need."
16 Due to the current talks with the Soviet
17 Union, there will be more plutonium available as nuclear
18 weapons are dismantled.
19 Is it worth 750 jobs to transport this deadly
20 material across Idaho's highways, add more contamination to
21 the Snake River Aquifer and create more hazardous waste for
22 this country?
23 Thank you.
24 (Applause.)
25 BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 338 in the written

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T050

1 record will be the written comments of Elizabeth Stevenson
2 of Bellevue.
3 The next scheduled commentor is Cindy Thiede.
4 Could we get your name and address for the
5 record, please.
6
7 CINDY THIEDE,
8 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
9
10 MS. THIEDE: Senator McClure, Senator Symms,
11 I'd just like to call the Governor and these people even
12 though they're not here. Congressman Stallings, Governor
13 Andrus and, of course, members of the Department of Energy.
14 My name is Cindy Thiede. And I am a 15-year
15 resident of Idaho, and currently the Deputy Director of the
16 Global Environment Project Institute, which is a public
17 education organization involved with global environmental
18 issues. But also I am a mother who is deeply concerned with
19 the health and safety of my children and, of course, theirs
20 in future.
21 I believe the Special Isotope Separation Plant
22 threatens the safety, threatens that safety by endangering
23 our air, our water, our food, our state's economy, and, of
24 course, by producing more fuel for nuclear bombs. I believe
25 the SIS ultimately endangers life on planet earth.

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664

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5.27.3.1

4.2.1

1 I am concerned because DOE will be playing
2 with plutonium, one of the most toxic materials in
3 existence. More carcinogenic materials will be transported
4 back and forth across our highways, more hazardous wastes
5 will be generated at the INEL, more radioactive and chemical
6 pollutants will seep into the air and perhaps into the Snake
7 River Plain Aquifer, a major source, as you all know, of
8 fresh water for drinking and irrigation.

9 I am concerned because the SIS will be built
10 on a seismically active area at the INEL, a site already
11 under consideration for SuperFund clean-up dollars. I am
12 concerned because we are spending a billion dollars to
13 create another nuclear mess before cleaning up the tens of
14 billions of dollars of environmental damage already done at
15 other weapons material sites.

16 We are setting ourselves up for an
17 environmental disaster in a state here renown for its
18 natural, unspoiled beauty. If the SIS is built, Idaho's
19 reputation will suffer, I'm afraid. Central Idaho's
20 expanding tourist economy will be at risk, hunting and
21 fishing may seem less attractive, agriculture and, of
22 course, Idaho's famous tomatoes will suffer too. And for
23 what? For a bomb fuel plant we really don't need.

24 If we are "awash with plutonium" as Energy
25 Secretary John Herrington says, then there is no rational

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T051

1 justification for the SIS plant. It is unnecessary, unsafe
2 and uneconomical. So please, don't trade away Idaho's safe
3 and healthy future for whatever short-term gains you may
4 envision. Remember your children. Remember theirs.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: Could you give us the
8 spelling for the record of your last name?

9 MS. THIEDE: Sure, would you like a copy?

10 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Do you want to
11 introduce your assistant?

12 MS. THIEDE: Tyler. This is Tyler. He is my
13 little cherry tomato.

14 (Applause.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
16 Cindy Thiede will be included in the record as Exhibit 339.

17 The next commentor will be Stu Backstatter.

19 STU BACKSTATTER,
20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

22 MR. BACKSTATTER: My name is Stu Backstatter.
23 I live in Bailey, Idaho. I'm a property owner in the Bailey
24 and Ketchum areas of Blaine County, Idaho, which are not far
25 from the proposed location of the Special Isotope Separation

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1 Project.

2 I work as a first engineer supervising and
3 operating a 27,000 horsepower diesel engine plant aboard a
4 138,000 ton oil tanker.

5 I'm strongly opposed to the SIS Project and
1.1 6 spending any more tax dollars on the SIS Project's
7 construction.

8 Intelligent human beings do not endeavor to
9 create things that are not needed. There is no demonstrated
4.1 10 need for more plutonium and, therefore, no need for the SIS
4.3 11 Project. The lack of need is especially evident in light of
12 the recent weapons treaties, potential future weapons
4.14 13 treaties and the desire of the vast majority of the people
14 of the world not to destroy ourselves with plutonium-based
15 weapons.

16 The argument that the SIS is needed to create
17 jobs is especially irrational in light of the lack of need
4.15.2 18 for more plutonium. I find the DOE's desire to spend part
19 of the 30 percent of my hard earned money that I pay in
20 taxes on a useless project to be aggravatingly
21 unconscionable. I do not want my hard work given to other
22 people for a needless task. This is not good economics.

23 Even if one could find the need for more
24 plutonium, there are many more arguments and issues that
25 would require attention prior to the SIS Project

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T052

1 initiation. Particularly ugly among these issues are that
2 there is no effective waste treatment, the SIS technology is
3 not yet proven, and it has not yet been demonstrated that
4 the SIS technology is the most economical process to create
5 this plutonium, nor Idaho the most economical location to
6 create this project.

7 Thanks for the opportunity to voice my
8 opinion.

9 (Applause.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 340 will be the
11 written comments of Stuart Backstatter.

12 Commentor number 59, Mary Jones.

13
14 MARY JONES,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16
17 MS. JONES: Hello. My name is Mary Jones, and
18 I live in Ketchum, Idaho.

19 I am a member of the first generation to live
20 from the time of conception with a sense of the pervasive
21 ability to annihilate any portion of our world in six
22 seconds. I don't feel I can tell my daughter that she has a
23 chance to live to be an old person.

24 I live in Idaho, less than 100 air miles from
25 a place where it's being proposed that we create a facility

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5.30.3.1

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5.28.2

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1 to process weapons-grade plutonium. We don't need any more
2 plutonium, and we obviously do not need more weapons. We've
3 got enough to kill ourselves thoroughly and completely.

6.1.4

4 What we do need is more clean air, a water
5 supply that is not threatened with contamination and a new
6 attitude that peace can be profitable.

7 It seems that every day we are presented with
8 more reasons to start changing our ideas of mass consumption
9 and begin developing alternative measures, hopefully saving
10 ourselves from total depletion of all our natural resources.

11 I have heard the argument that the SIS is economically
12 sound. What good will all the jobs in the world do if we
13 poison ourselves and destroy those who are left?

6.5.5

1.1

14 Our children deserve a chance. Please vote no
15 on the SIS. Let's keep what we've got and help us build for
16 a safe and far-reaching future.

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 341 will be the
20 written comments of Mary Jones.

21 Next scheduled commentor is Roy Spain, Roy
22 Spain.

23 (No response.)

24 HEARING OFFICER: Lecia Hanawalt, Lecia
25 Hanawalt.

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T053

1 (No response.)

2 HEARING OFFICER: D. J. Yaeger, D. J. Yaeger.

3 (No response.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Albert Wilson, Albert
5 Wilson.

6 (No response.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: Michael McQueen, Michael
8 McQueen.

9 (No response.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: Cathy Lind, Cathy Lind.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Stoney Burke, Stoney Burke.

13 (No response.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Ronald Reagan -- I'm just
15 kidding.

16 Anne Hedge.

17 We'll mark your written comments as Exhibit
18 342 for the record. You may proceed.

19
20 ANNE HEDGE,
21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

22
23 MS. HEDGE: I'm Anne Hedge. I'm a resident of
24 Sun Valley, Idaho.

25 And most of the comments I had to make have

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5.30.2.1

1 already been made, but my primary concerns were the lack of
2 secured depository for the waste, especially with the new
3 recommendations for the National Academy of Science that a
4 restriction be placed on the use of the Carlsbad site, which
5 will mean that INEL cannot get rid of the waste that they
6 have acquired already, and this is a serious, serious
7 problem.

5.12.1

5.10.5

8 And, of course, the Snake River Aquifer and
9 the geologic factors must be considered, especially the
10 seismic activity in that area.

2.2.4

11 And the SIS demonstration facility, I feel,
12 should be completed and operated and tested before we build
13 a full scale version. And also I feel that there is a
14 chance with the the federal budget deficit as it is and with
15 Gramm-Rudman that the SIS Project could be initially funded
16 and then be dropped because the deficit cannot continue to
17 grow forever.

4.15.2

18 And the rest of my comments are written.

19 BEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

20 MS. BEDGE: Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: Diane Burks.

23 A VOICE: She went home to nurse her baby and
24 will be here in a few minutes.

25 HEARING OFFICER: We'll come back to her.

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T054

1 Would someone please identify her when she comes in or at
2 least tell her. Thank you.

3 Lee Whitting.

4 MS. WHITING: Whiting.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Whiting, I'm sorry. And I
6 see it's not Mr. Whiting.

7

8 LEE WHITING,
9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

10

11 MS. WHITING: My name is Lee Whiting. I live
12 at 109 River Grove Lane, one mile north of Hailey.

13 We have enough bombs in our arsenal to kill
14 every man, woman and child in this planet seven times over,
15 seven times over. We have 100 tons of plutonium now in
16 reserve. What we have now is overkill. We do not need any
17 more plutonium bombs, enough is enough.

18 If Chernobyl taught us anything, it is how
19 fast radioactive fallout can travel in the winds and that
20 country borders mean nothing. If we bomb someone else, the
21 plutonium fallout will come home to roost. We kill our own
22 selves.

23 We are bankrupting our nation's economy by
24 putting billions of dollars into production that has minimal
25 return on the investment. It is time to stop this absurd

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4.13

4.15.2

2.7.8

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6.1.2

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5.12.1

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1 destructive and hateful thinking process.

2 Statistics show that people downwind from

3 Rocky Flats, Colorado, where plutonium is now processed,

4 have a much higher incidence of cancer and birth defects

5 than normal. Cancer is an ugly death.

6 The SIS would poison Idaho's most precious

7 commodities; our clean water and air, our most productive

8 land and ourselves.

9 People of Idaho do not want this for

10 themselves or their children.

11 Geologically the INEL site is riddled with

12 fault lines. I'm sure we all remember Idaho's 1983

13 earthquake which registered 7.2 on the Richter scale and

14 whose epicenter was less than 60 miles from the INEL site.

15 To build the SIS over the Snake River Aquifer at INEL would

16 be insanity.

17 I would hope that sanity prevails and that the

18 SIS is not implemented anywhere, much less in Idaho.

19 Thank you.

20 BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 343 will be the

21 written comments of Lee Whiting.

22 We are now at commentor order number 72, Steve

23 Straiton, Steve Straiton.

24 (No response.)

25 BEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 73, Mary

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1 Ann Ward, Mary Ann Ward.

2 (No response.)

3 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 74, Darrel

4 Putrell, Darrel Putrell.

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: David Egan, David Egan.

7 (No response.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 76, Paul Caputo,

9 Paul Caputo.

10 (No response.)

11 BEARING OFFICER: Commentor 77, John, I

12 believe, Caccia, Caccia, John Caccia.

13 (No response.)

14 BEARING OFFICER: Commentor 78, Chris Barding,

15 Chris Harding.

16 MR. HARDING: I don't have any written

17 comments.

18 BEARING OFFICER: That's fine. State your

19 name and address, if you would.

20

21 CHRIS BARDING,

22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

23

24 MR. BARDING: My name is Chris Barding. I

25 live in Ketchum, 151 Burr Drive, No. 3.

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1.1

1 I oppose the SIS Project for a variety of
2 reasons that have already been stated, and I won't go into
3 all of them. I just would like to remind everybody that
4 today is the ninth anniversary of the Three Mile Island
5 accident. So happy Three Mile Island day.
6 As far as I can see, the only action is no
7 action.
8 Thank you.
9 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
10 (Applause.)
11 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 79, Richard
12 Wiethorn, Richard Wiethorn.
13 (No response.)
14 BEARING OFFICER: Doyle Beck, Doyle Beck.
15 (No response.)
16 HEARING OFFICER: Lita West, Lita West.
17 (No response.)
18 HEARING OFFICER: Bomer Biggers.
19
20 HOMER BIGGERS,
21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
22
23 MR. BIGGERS: I'm Bomer Biggers. I live at
24 2271 Mesa in Idaho Falls.
25 I have seen children up here that we care

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1 about, we really do. I have seen the ones with the swollen
2 joints, the distended bellies. If one of them were yours,
3 what would you do to save him? You'd do anything. You'd go
4 to the nextdoor neighbor, steal out of his potato field,
5 take a little grain, that's one meal at a time. How about a
6 year at a time? If your nextdoor neighbor had 2,300 acres,
7 3,500 acres, 5,000 acres, wouldn't you take 40 of them for
8 yourself, do a little wheat? Feed them all year-round.
9 Don't just feed them one meal. I would. I would do
10 anything for them. I think you would too.
11 The leadership of the foreign nations who are
12 destitute would do the same. Where do they find thousand
13 acres of wheat producing so much it can't be sold, and
14 potatoes that are producing so much that the market is
15 depressed? And cattle who have driven the market down
16 because there's too many cattle. Responsible leaders know
17 how their people are and know where the remedy is, where can
18 they solve that problem? Hungry, Czechoslovakia, the
19 Ukraine, Communist China, they are hungry, and we have got
20 the goods.
21 My wife wanted to see the Bemmingway memorial
22 in Ketchum and Sun Valley, and I'm very sorry that most of
23 those people have gone home or a lot of them have anyhow. I
24 took her there and we wandered in the beauty of the hills.
25 We wandered a little farther down the path and we came on to

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3.4

1 a big sign. Private jogging path, no entry, no trespassing,
2 big golf course, some nice grounds back there, beautiful
3 place. Don't jog on their jogging path.

4 I have stood on the Czechoslovakian border
5 with an M-16 rifle. I was company commander there for two
6 years. As a company commander, I had to know the
7 contingency plans; they were to secret then, they got
8 published in the Washington Post ten years later, so I can
9 talk about them a little bit. I think it's the 56 East
10 Block Armored Division sit on the other side of the border.
11 The NATO forces wouldn't hardly slow them down. According
12 to the latest scenario, in four days they would be sitting
13 on the English Channel.

14 What keeps them there? Why are they on the
15 other side of the border and not in Idaho Falls, Twin Falls,
16 Bailey, Ketchum? Why aren't they on your jogging path?
17 Nuclear deterrent. When the first tank crosses, would you
18 push the button? When the fifth tank crosses, the 105th,
19 the 1005th? At what point? They don't know. I don't know,
20 and you don't know. But most important, they don't know.
21 They have been over there 44 years. They are going to stay
22 there, I think. I hope they do.

23 The reason I hope they do is right here
24 (holding up photograph), 21 years old, U. S. Navy. The
25 other reason I hope they stay here (holding up photograph),

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1 19 years old, U. S. Marine Corps. If they don't stay there,
2 they are looking for that thousand acres, they are hungry.

3 The government knows, I think, about these
4 nuclear devices, they have to be replenished. Shotgun
5 shells don't even stay good for ten years, fishing line rots
6 out. The equipment has to be replenished and reproduced and
7 repurified and have these isotopes separated every once in
8 awhile. That's classified information. I will not be a
9 self-appointed expert and tell you how often that has to
10 occur.

11 Thank you.

12 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

13 Next scheduled commentor is commentor number
14 84, Andrew Harding.

15 A VOICE: Diane Burks is here too.

16 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

17 We'll mark your written comments as Exhibit
18 344 for the record.

19
20 ANDREW HARDING,
21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

22
23 MR. HARDING: Thank you. My name is Andrew
24 Harding, and I live in Ketchum, Idaho.

25 As a resident of the State of Idaho, I'd like

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4.15.1

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1 to vote against this SIS Project for many reasons already
2 stated, so I won't take up everyone's time.

6.3

3 If the government determined to spend
4 \$1 billion for the benefit of the people, I'd rather see it
5 put towards educational purposes. I think everyone would
6 benefit in the long-term rather than a weapons-grade plant.

5.30.5.1

7 Also, perhaps maybe it should be spent on
8 research for the safe disposal of what nuclear waste we
9 already have around the country, and maybe paving the road
10 between Banks and Lowman, I think that would benefit Idaho
11 considerably.

12 That's it. Thank you very much.

13 (Applause.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Diane Burks.

15 We'll mark your written comment as Exhibit No.
16 345 for the record.

17
18 DIANE BURKS,

19 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

20
21 MS. BURKS: My name is Diane Burks, and I live
22 at 2073 Maple Avenue East here in Twin Falls.

2.2.1

23 The Department of Energy is choosing Idaho for
24 the location of the SIS because of the technical expertise
25 at INEL. It is also choosing Idaho because Idaho is

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1 sparsely populated and because both the Hanford and the
2 Savannah River residents have voiced their opposition.
3 Technical problems have halted plutonium production at these
4 sites, and they want no more of it. My intention here is to
5 voice my own concern about construction of the SIS plant
6 here in Idaho. But in doing so, I'm adding my voice to the
7 residents of South Carolina and Washington, thus opposing
8 its construction anywhere.

9 Having been given only two minutes to say
10 exactly how I feel about this important and complex issue, I
11 find that my biggest concerns are safety and need. As for
12 safety, adding 220 tons of plutonium contaminated waste
13 annually to a facility that already has much, much more than
14 it should seems absurd, especially in light of the fact that
15 this waste is directly over our supply of fresh water. And
16 little or no concern has been given to earthquake and
17 volcanic hazards.

18 Transporting this waste is questionable,
19 considering the fact that the Department of Transportation
20 refused to approve the \$100 million trust cash that was
21 has meant for this purpose. The Department of Energy
22 currently has nothing acceptable to transport the waste in.
23 Transporting the plutonium oxide from Hanford is immensely
24 dangerous as a possible accidental puncture would disburse
25 the powder throughout the air, making retrieval impossible,

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1 and one inhaled speck will cause certain death.

2 There's no mention of the type of emergency
3 response that would be needed to deal with such an
4 accident. What kind of medical treatment, clean-up
5 equipment, security considerations, evacuation and
6 alternative route procedures would we need? And having the
7 SIS would make us a prime target in the event of a war.

8 Concerning need, we have tons of plutonium,
9 stockpiled weapons, tons more in storage and tons more in
10 scrap. This could be recycled. With the INF agreement and
11 the START accord, we could have tons more. This, too, could
12 be recycled, saving millions of dollars. In light of this,
13 having the SIS, because -- having the SIS because no one can
14 accurately predict the nuclear materials requirement a
15 decade from now is ludicrous. At a time when we have a
16 horrendous national deficit, we should make a 500- to
17 900-million dollar investment in an unmarketable pacifier?

18 And finally, not having the SIS would not make
19 us more vulnerable. With 25,000 nuclear weapons currently
20 on hand, having more for redundancy or flexibility is
21 absurd.

22 Consider the vignette which has two children
23 standing knee-deep in a roomful of gasoline, each gathering
24 matches, thinking the more they have, the safer they will
25 be. I don't think it's possible to kill people more than

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1 once.

2 In conclusion, what I am seeing is a
3 self-regulating federal agency with no outside oversight,
4 telling me I need this dangerous and costly facility in my
5 neighborhood, and at the same time telling me for their
6 Draft Environmental Impact Statement that they make no
7 warranty, assume any legal liability or responsibility for
8 the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any information
9 in this statement. It's not hard to see why I don't trust
10 the Department of Energy.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 BEARING OFFICER: Commentor order number 86,
14 Kathleen McGinley.

15 KATHLEEN MCGINLEY,
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17 MS. MCGINLEY: I'm here to state that I am
18 absolutely opposed to the SIS plant being built anywhere,
19 and I, therefore, support the No Action Alternative.

20 I share the concerns of those people who have
21 spoken here today on the health and safety factors involved
22 in the transportation, production and storage of highly
23 toxic radioactive material which would be an inherent part
24

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1 of the operation of the proposed SIS plant.

2 As Senator John Glenn stated, "It will do
3 precious little good to protect ourselves from the Soviets
4 if in the process we poison or irradiate our own people."

5 The point I want to address, however, is the
6 basic assumption that we, as a nation, need the plutonium
7 which the DOE wants to procure at such a potentially high
8 cost to the environment and to ourselves.

9 At a time when hundreds of American farmers
10 are being forced from their land every week, at a time when
11 thousands of American children are sleeping in the streets
12 or on the beaches or in temporary shelters for lack of low
13 income housing, at a time when thousands of elderly
14 Americans are subsisting without adequate food, care or
15 shelter, we as a people of conscience, cannot allow billions
16 of American tax dollars to be spent stockpiling more
17 plutonium, the only use for which is to produce more nuclear
18 weapons. We already have enough nuclear weaponry to destroy
19 every living thing on the entire planet several times over,
20 a dubious achievement at best.

21 The time has come to put a stop to the
22 narrow-minded, heartless servitude of this nation, to the
23 politics of fear and destruction and use our resources
24 instead in the service of life and creative compassion.

25 Thank you.

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

2 Kathleen McGinley had previously submitted her
3 comments. They were marked as Exhibit 326 for inclusion in
4 the record.

5 We are now at witness order number 47, Gary
6 Park, Gary Park.

7 (No response.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: Edith Wiethorn, Wiethorn.

9 (No response.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: Gene Woodall, Gene Woodall.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: William K. Chisholm.

13
14 WILLIAM K. CHISHOLM,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16
17 MR. CHISHOLM: My name is William K. Chisholm,
18 Route No. 3, Box 431, Buhl, Idaho.

19 "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that
20 all men are created equal, they are endowed by their Creator
21 that certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life,
22 Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

23 The SIS is a spin-off from the smash of God's
24 atom which is anti-life. The nuclear arms race, of which
25 the proposed SIS is a component is anti-life. We are held

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1 hostage to the threat of nuclear annihilation and,
2 therefore, we are without liberty.

3 The Department of Energy has over 5,000
4 personnel, either employed or contracted, working in
5 security, another threat to liberty.

6 I just spent four and-a-half days in the Nye
7 County jail, Tonopah, Nevada, for protesting nuclear
8 weapons. I can tell you about the loss of liberty.

9 There can be no happiness when there is no
10 hope. And there can be no hope without the concept of the
11 future. And the nuclear arms race, of which the SIS is a
12 component, leaves that future in doubt. Not only from the
13 threat of nuclear war but the accidental contamination of
14 our air, water and land.

6.1.4

15 The only self-evident truth I find within the
16 EIS document is that it is a travesty. It could have been
17 written before the EIS scoping hearings. It deals with a
18 limited environment, with a limited environmental scope. It
19 didn't address the questions raised at the scoping hearings,
20 mine in particular.

2.13.4

21 The justification for the SIS is the arms race
22 for the Soviet Union. At the scoping hearings I presented a
23 list of 160 U. S. corporations doing business with the
24 Soviet Union. I got that list out of a book called "The
25 Best Enemy Money Can Buy" by a man named Anthony Sutton.

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1 This is a John Birch Society book. I'm not a member of the
2 John Birch Society.

3 As part of the EIS, I asked that type of
4 product and technology sold be detailed to see if these
5 businesses were profiting from both sides of the arms race.
6 I asked that a study be done as to the relationship of
7 corporate executives and U.S. Government officials be done
8 so that we might know what policy for profit was being
9 carried out by our government. And that if, in fact, we
10 eliminated such double-dealing, the whole justification for
11 this continued insanity might not be ended. My question was
12 not answered, it was not addressed.

13 I hold that truth to be self-evident. I want
14 to go on record as opposed to the SIS.

15 Thank you.

16 HEARING OFFICER: I have been informed that I
17 previously called Mary Ann Ward who was out of the room.
18 She's now returned, so we'll call commentator number 73, Mary
19 Ann Ward.

20
21 MARY ANN WARD,
22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
23

24 MS. WARD: My name is Mary Ann Ward. I live
25 at 7 Forreson Avenue in Hailey, Idaho.

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1 I would like to comment on two aspects of the
2 SIS proposal, neither of which has been adequately addressed
3 by the Environmental Impact Statement.

4 The first is need. I recognize that from the
5 DOE's national defense position, information on current
6 inventories and future needs of nuclear weapons materials
7 cannot be made public. However, those to whom we have
8 entrusted our decisionmaking powers, in other words,
9 Congress, should have access to this information. The EIS
10 does not provide even a classified appendix to supply such
11 information.

12 And I question, even if provided with this
13 data, whether an objective person would find a need for the
14 SIS. Statements by numerous individuals, organizations and
15 even the DOE indicate that the United States has more than
16 enough plutonium for our current and future defense needs.
17 Even Newsweek, a relatively benign publication, stated two
18 weeks ago, and I quote, "Now the nation is awash in
19 plutonium and U.S.-Soviets arms limitation agreements will
20 reduce the need further."

21 I urge the DOE to review its statements of
22 needs for the SIS, taking into account current stockpiles
23 and additional plutonium that will become available as a
24 result of the retirement of weapons under current and future
25 arms agreements.

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1 The second aspect on which I'd like to comment
2 is environmental degradation. Plutonium is a deadly poison,
3 with a lethal lifetime of 250,000 years. If it enters the
4 environment uncontrolled, untold numbers of wild and
5 domestic animals and humans could be killed. It seems only
6 logical, then, that any process involving plutonium should
7 be proven safe, from the first moment of production until
8 the plutonium decomposes. And yet, we have seen accidents
9 at nuclear power plants that have allowed plutonium and
10 other radioactive products to enter the environment.
11 Transportation accidents have added more lethal radioactive
12 poisons.

13 And perhaps most appalling of all, we have no
14 safe method of storage and disposal of nuclear products and
15 wastes. Incredibly, given the lethal nature of plutonium
16 and our disastrously poor safety record, the DOE is
17 proposing to build the SIS on top of one of the most
18 vulnerable and important aquifers in the country. This is
19 madness.

20 I demand that the DOE reexamine its assessment
21 of environmental danger. A thorough, objective analysis
22 will show that the SIS should not be built and, more
23 specifically, should not be built on Idaho's Snake River
24 Plain.

25 Thank you.

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(Applause.)

HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 346 will be the written comments of Mary Ann Ward.

We're now at commentor number 93, Julie Randell.

JULIE RANDELL,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MS. RANDELL: Hi. I am Julie Randell, Route 1, Kimberly.

What I see coming with the SIS is exploitation of Idaho. We are vulnerable, for this state is looking for jobs. The Energy Department calls us a favorable political climate.

I hope the sound of money doesn't drown out these very serious questions of safety and morality.

The Department of Energy asks for redundancy and in a product we can't eat, drink or live in. It is capable of destroying the eating, drinking and living.

Have we forgotten the government's promise to lower taxes and balance the budget? The same government, albeit different branches, through its changing policies, both foreign and domestic are in part largely responsible for breaking the economic backs of Idaho's farmers and

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business people.

I am disappointed in our state's officials and representatives for supporting plutonium redundancy. We can find other options for financial stability. No SIS here or anywhere.

(Applause.)

HEARING OFFICER: Our final scheduled commentor is Bill McMahan.

JEFF McMAHAN and BILL McMAHAN,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

JEFF McMAHAN: I'm Bill McMahan's son, Jeff. And, well, I don't think SIS is a good idea. SIS would ruin the plants, the rivers and the trees if we had a mistake. We can't make a small mistake with plutonium. Any mistakes with nuclear material could trash the state.

Money doesn't mean anything. Our children mean more than bombs and missiles. We don't need bombs and missiles. We have enough nuclear weapons, and we don't need any more.

I don't need a threat in Idaho. Idaho is a peaceful -- is so peaceful. If it's peaceful, why change it? I think -- Think. Do you want to change it? Please say no.

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5.27.6.11

1.1

1 (Applause.)

2 MR. McMABAN: Hi. I'm Bill McMahan, Box 3125,

3 Ketchum. I strongly oppose the SIS Project and support the

4 No Action Alternative.

5 Gentlemen, you have heard all of the

6 arguments. I will comment on a few.

7 The concept of supporting an immoral war

8 mentality.

9 The self-perpetuating DOE promotion of weapons

10 build-up in spite of national policy to reduce nuclear arms.

11 The economic issue of jobs as a sell-out of

12 the earth and the long-term balance of life for a few jobs

13 of questionable duration.

14 The economic impact on tourism, recreation and

15 public relations that the mere presence of a plutonium

16 project or a mistake at the site or transportation mishap

17 could be tragic.

18 The impact on the agricultural economy of

19 plutonium involvement in the aquifer or plutonium accident.

20 The issue of uncertain nuclear waste

21 management, and essentially the risks to our lives with the

22 presence of plutonium now and in the future.

23 I welcome the opportunity to declare to the

24 DOE that even though Idaho has a sparse population and a

25 history of nuclear technology, there are thousands of

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4.14

5.27.7.9

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1 Idahoans like me who are here to say we are no push-overs.

2 I oppose SIS.

3 I don't intend to vote for any legislator or

4 representative who continues to support it. We can't let

5 SIS happen. We won't let SIS happen. We don't need it. We

6 don't want it here or anywhere.

7 (Applause.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of, is

9 it Judge McMahan?

10 MR. McMABAN: Judd, J-u-d-d.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Judd, I'm sorry. Will be

12 included in the record as Exhibit No. 347.

13 Is there anyone in the room who was scheduled

14 to comment this afternoon and has not had the opportunity to

15 do so?

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: There not being anyone in

18 that category, let me state for the record that all those

19 individuals who were on the speakers' list this afternoon

20 and whose name I called but did not get a response will

21 automatically be included on the speakers' list for the

22 continuation of this hearing, which will be at the hour of

23 2 o'clock this coming Thursday, the 31st of March.

24 At this point we are going to be in recess

25 until the hour of 7 o'clock, at which time we will begin our

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1 evening session.

2 Thank you for your patience.

3 (Recess.)

4

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1 TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1988, 2:02 P.M.

2
3
4 HEARING OFFICER: I would now like to formally
5 recommence this public hearing concerning the review of the
6 Draft Environmental Impact Statement relative to the United
7 States Department of Energy proposed Special Isotope
8 Separation. This proceeding is officially designated as the
9 Twin Falls, Idaho, public hearing on Department of Energy
10 document DOE/EIS-0136, which commenced on the 28th day of
11 March, and has been continued over to this date to allow for
12 additional public comment. We are commencing our session at
13 2:02 in the afternoon.

14 My name is Roy Eiguren. I'm an attorney from
15 Boise, and I am serving as the hearings officer for this as
16 well as the other public hearings held to receive comment on
17 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed
18 siting, construction and operation by the Department of
19 Energy of a Special Isotope Separation Project that will
20 utilize the Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation process
21 technology. I will refer to this and the other hearings in
22 this proceeding as DOE's DEIS public hearings on the SIS
23 Project.

24 As I mentioned, I am an attorney, I am from
25 Boise, in private practice. I have been retained by the

1

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1 Department of Energy to conduct this series of public
2 hearings as an independent and unbiased party to assure the
3 opportunity for all interested organizations and individuals
4 to comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
5 Accordingly, I'm not an advocate for or against the proposed
6 action taken by the Department of Energy in this matter, or
7 I should say proposed position taken by the Department of
8 Energy in this matter. Rather, I am a neutral third party
9 who has coordinated the development of the procedures that
10 we're following as well as conduct the hearings themselves.

11 The issue that is the subject of this
12 proceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct
13 and operate an SIS facility at one of three locations in the
14 United States; DOE's Idaho National Engineering Laboratory
15 near Idaho Falls, Idaho; the DOE's Hanford Reservation near
16 Richland, Washington; or the DOE's Savannah River plant near
17 Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three sites is
18 designated as an alternative considered in the DEIS.

19 The fourth and final alternative under
20 consideration in the DEIS is the No Action Alternative which
21 would be a departmental decision to not site, construct and
22 operate an SIS facility. As stated in the Draft
23 Environmental Impact Statement, the Department's preferred
24 alternative is to site, construct and operate such facility
25 at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory.

2

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1 To put this hearing in perspective, I'd like
 2 to address a few fundamental aspects of the law that governs
 3 this process which is the National Environmental Policy Act
 4 of 1969, Public Law 91-910, generally known as NEPA. NEPA
 5 requires all federal agencies to develop procedures that
 6 insure that "environmental amenities or values are given
 7 appropriate consideration in federal government
 8 decisionmaking." This law also requires that
 9 recommendations for major federal actions significantly
 10 affecting the quality of human environment be first preceded
 11 by the development and completion of an Environmental Impact
 12 Statement or EIS, that fully and carefully examines the
 13 potential environmental impacts of the proposed federal
 14 action.

15 The Department of Energy has determined that
 16 this proposed action in siting, constructing and operating
 17 an SIS plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA,
 18 requires development and completion of an EIS. Accordingly,
 19 by the publication on October 31, 1986, a Notice of Intent
 20 to Prepare an EIS in the Federal Register, the Department of
 21 Energy commenced a process that has led to the development
 22 and publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 23 that is the subject of this hearing.

24 The DEIS was prepared by the Department, with
 25 the assistance of an independent contractor, the NUS

1 Corporation, after an extensive process of receiving public
 2 comment through the scoping or initial input phase of this
 3 EIS development proceeding. During scoping, public comment
 4 on the scope or magnitude of issues to be addressed in the
 5 EIS was received, as well as with specific comment on
 6 particular issues themselves. Scoping included the receipt
 7 of extensive written public comment, as well as oral comment
 8 from two lengthy public meetings; one was held in Idaho
 9 Falls on February 24th, 1987; one was held in Boise on
 10 February 26th, 1987.

11 As a result of scoping, the Department made
 12 the determination that the following issues would be
 13 analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.
 14 Accordingly, these are the 11 issues that are analyzed in
 15 the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. They are:

16 Issue No. 1. The off-site general population
 17 and radiological and non-radiological effects resulting from
 18 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

19 Issue 2. The effects on the general
 20 population from emissions of radiological and
 21 non-radiological releases caused by normal operations of an
 22 SIS facility.

23 Issue No. 3. Exposure of operating personnel
 24 to radiological and non-radiological releases during normal
 25 operations of an SIS facility.

1 Issue No. 4. Incremental differences in
2 environmental impacts between the operation of the existing
3 chemical processing facilities and the proposed action and
4 alternatives.

5 Issue No. 5. Effects on air and water quality
6 and other environmental consequences during construction and
7 operation of an SIS facility.

8 Issue No. 6. Cumulative effects of operations
9 of such a facility, including changes in support operations
10 related to it.

11 Issue No. 7. The on-site and off-site
12 transportation impacts of nuclear materials.

13 Issue No. 8. An analysis of applicable
14 federal, state and local regulations applying to the
15 construction and operation of such a facility.

16 Issue No. 9. The decontamination and
17 decommissioning of such a facility.

18 Issue No. 10. Irretrievable and irreversible
19 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials,
20 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other resources
21 related to the construction and operation of such a
22 facility.

23 And finally Issue No. 11. Mitigation measures
24 necessary to respond to the environmental consequences
25 associated with each of the alternatives.

1 The EIS preparation and review process in the
2 United States is governed by federal regulations that have
3 been established by the Council on Environmental Quality, or
4 CEQ, which is an agency within the Executive Office of the
5 President of the United States. In addition to that, the
6 Department of Energy has its own guidelines promulgated that
7 they follow in the development of EISSs.

8 The Council on Environmental Quality
9 regulations, as well as the DOE guidelines I referenced,
10 have been previously marked by me as Exhibit No. 1 and
11 introduced in the formal record in this proceeding.

12 The relevant CEQ regulations require that
13 after preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and
14 before preparing a final one, an agency must first obtain
15 the comment of, No. 1, any other federal agency which has
16 jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any
17 environmental impact; No. 2, request the comments of
18 appropriate state and local agencies which develop and
19 enforce environmental standards; No. 3, solicit comment and
20 input from Indian tribes; and, No. 4, solicit comment from
21 the public, with a particular obligation to affirmatively
22 solicit comments from persons or organizations who may be
23 interested or affected by the proposed federal decision.

24 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
25 where the Department determines that a substantial

1 environmental controversy concerning the proposed action
 2 exists. Accordingly, this hearing, as well as the other
 3 public hearings in this series, are being held pursuant to
 4 these regulations to receive public, Indian tribe and
 5 governmental comment on the various issues identified in the
 6 Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

7 Notice of this public hearing, as well as the
 8 others, was provided in a Federal Register Notice dated
 9 February 19, 1988, and another one on March 4th, 1988.
 10 Additional public notice was provided for publication of
 11 public notice in numerous newspapers throughout the state.
 12 The Federal Register Notices, newspaper notices and
 13 publication dates of each have been marked as Exhibit No. 2
 14 and included in the record.

15 Public comment will be received on the EIS at
 16 this hearing as well as the continuation of this hearing
 17 this evening. We have also received comment at hearings
 18 held in Boise and Idaho Falls. As of this point in time, we
 19 have received comment from over 453 individuals. Written
 20 comment, which receives the same weight and consideration by
 21 the Department in this proceeding, may be submitted to me
 22 today, if you would like, or you may mail it to the
 23 Department of Energy at an address that we can provide to
 24 you at the registration table outside this room. Oral and
 25 written comment will be compiled into a comprehensive record

1 and in turn will be considered by the Department in making
 2 its final decision on the EIS.

3 The CEQ regulations that I referenced earlier
 4 also provide that comments on an Environmental Impact
 5 Statement or on a proposed action shall be as specific as
 6 possible, may address the adequacy of the statements or the
 7 merits of the alternatives or both. So accordingly, we
 8 would ask that you would follow the CEQ regulations and try
 9 to keep your comments directed as specifically as possible
 10 to the issues in the EIS or the Draft EIS.

11 Although the Department has determined that
 12 certain issues, such as the need for an SIS Project, are
 13 beyond the scope of this EIS proceeding, I will allow
 14 comment on that issue as well as other issues individual
 15 commentors do feel relevant. However, as the hearings
 16 officer, I do reserve the right to ask commentors to keep
 17 their comments relevant to the subject matter if I determine
 18 that necessary to do so.

19 Moving on into the process. After we complete
 20 the development of the record through these hearings, the
 21 Department will then in turn review the record that we
 22 develop and then may choose to do one of the following: It
 23 may modify, supplement or reissue the Draft Environmental
 24 Impact Statement prior to issuing a Final EIS. It may also
 25 choose to issue a Draft Environmental Impact Statement as

1 the final EIS without modification. A record of decision
2 which will identify the environmentally preferred
3 alternative chosen by the Department, along with practicable
4 means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the
5 alternative selected, will be developed.

6 The Department, as a matter of federal
7 regulation, cannot proceed with this proposed action which
8 will be contained in the Record of Decision until a minimum
9 of 30 days has passed from the date of issuance of the Final
10 EIS. Under current schedules, the Department of Energy
11 intends to issue a Final EIS and a Record of Decision later
12 this year.

13 To govern the conduct of this and the other
14 public hearings in this proceeding, I have developed several
15 procedures, in consultation both with the Department of
16 Energy as well as the representatives of public interest
17 groups who are participating in these proceeding. These
18 procedures were finalized on March 24th, and distributed to
19 interested parties, along with interested individuals. I
20 have previously marked the procedures we are following as
21 Exhibit No. 3, and they have been included in the formal
22 record. In addition to that, Exhibit No. 4, which I have
23 submitted for the record, is a comprehensive listing of all
24 DOE public involvement activities associated with the
25 development of this Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

1 Now, turning for a moment to the procedures
2 that we are going to follow. The first one is that other
3 than my opening statement, which I am delivering at this
4 point, the Department of Energy or its contractors will not
5 be making comments at this hearing. However, senior
6 departmental staff members are here in the front row. Their
7 purpose in being here is to listen to comments firsthand to
8 assist them in making the final decision in this manner.

9 We have been receiving comments in the
10 following order throughout these hearings and will do so
11 again today. We'll first receive comment from elected and
12 appointed federal, state and local governmental officials;
13 followed by representatives of national, state and local
14 organizations who have been participating in these hearings;
15 followed by members of the public who preregistered to speak
16 prior to the end of business on March 18th, 1988, which was
17 the close date for preregistration; and finally we'll
18 receive comment from those members of the public who
19 registered at the door last Monday to participate in this
20 hearing.

21 If you represent an organization in this
22 particular matter, you will be allowed ten minutes within
23 which to make your comments. If you are an individual
24 speaking for yourself, we'll allow you five minutes. We do
25 have a series of signaling devices here at the podium in the

1 front to help you keep track of your time. After four
 2 minutes, if you have five minutes allowed, I'll give you the
 3 green light, which means that you have a minute left, and
 4 then when time is up, I'll turn on the red light. And the
 5 same will be true for organizational commentators, at nine
 6 minutes I will give you the green light.

7 Once again, let me emphasize that written
 8 comments receive the same consideration in this record as do
 9 oral comments. So if you do have written comments, we'd
 10 greatly appreciate receiving those here at the front. You
 11 may choose to orally comment and provide written comments
 12 both or, if you would like, you can just leave a copy of the
 13 written comments with me or mail them to the Department no
 14 later than April 21, 1988, which will be the close of the
 15 record in this proceeding.

16 I think most of you are aware of the fact that
 17 we do have speaker lists that are posted in the back of the
 18 room there, as well as outside the door. They give the
 19 order that we are going to follow with our speakers today.

20 We do solicit the receipt of questions from
 21 individuals here. Because of the press of time, we have not
 22 been able to respond orally to questions but, as I
 23 mentioned, we do greatly encourage those who have questions,
 24 to submit them to us. We do have a form that you can fill
 25 out, give us your name and address and the question you

1 would like to ask. Once we have it in hand, the Department
 2 will provide the written response to you and mail it to
 3 you. All questions and answers will be included in the
 4 hearing record of this proceeding.

5 Finally, I'd like to indicate that if you do
 6 have visual aids or charts or other types of materials, we'd
 7 ask that -- you can use them, whether or not instructive.
 8 We would simply ask that you have a record sized document
 9 that we could receive up here to include in the record if
 10 you are using visual materials.

11 Finally, this is a record proceeding.
 12 Everything that is being said at these hearings is being
 13 recorded by the court reporter who is here in the front of
 14 the room. So accordingly, in order to fully and accurately
 15 capture your comments for the record, we need to have you
 16 step forward when your time comes to comment to the podium,
 17 speak clearly into the microphone so that we can hear. I'd
 18 first ask that you give your name and address.

19 Any questions about the procedures or about
 20 the EIS process itself, I'd be glad to respond to those
 21 during the various breaks we are going to have throughout
 22 the course of this hearing. In addition to that, there are
 23 folks from the Department of Energy back at the registration
 24 table that can take those questions from you at any time.

25 With that, we'll move directly into our

1 receipt of public comment at this point in the afternoon. A
2 March 31, 1988, continuation hearing list has been provided
3 to those who want it. I have the master list here in front
4 of me.

5 I have been informed that the first
6 individual, former Governor John Evans, will not be
7 attending today, so we'll go on to the second person on our
8 list, Mr. Don Hancock, Southwest Research and Information
9 Center. Is Mr. Hancock here?

10 (No response.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: I should mention that I will
12 go through this list once, and then at the conclusion, after
13 we have gone through the list, anybody whose name is on the
14 list and I have not called your name, I would ask you to
15 identify yourself so that we can make sure we get your
16 comments.

17 We'll move now to witness number three,
18 Josephine Lowe, Josephine Lowe.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order number four, Vance
21 Hanawalt.

13

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T064

1 VANCE HANAWALT,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 MR. HANAWALT: Let me get organized here
5 first. My name is Vance Hanawalt. I live at Bailey,
6 Idaho. I have been a resident there for 15 years.

7 First of all, for the record, I would like to
8 say that I am adamantly opposed to the SIS Project that is
9 proposed to be built here in Idaho.

10 The second thing I would like to do is read a
11 statement that's on the first page of the Draft
12 Environmental Impact Statement which, to me, says it all.

13 "This book was prepared as an account of work
14 sponsored by an agency of the United States Government.
15 Neither the United States Government nor any agency thereof,
16 nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or
17 implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility
18 for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any of the
19 information, apparatus, product or process disclosed, or
20 represents that its use would not infringe privately owned
21 rights."

22 I oppose the SIS Project from two personal
23 points of view. One, from a moral -- morally, and the other
24 one from an environment standpoint.

25 There are 5 billion people, less or minus, on

14

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1 this planet. With taking the U.S.'s nuclear warheads and
2 combining it with the Soviet's warheads, it gives us
3 approximately 20,000 pounds of TNT per person. I think that
4 we have enough bombs. I don't think that we need any more.

4.14

5 It seems at a time when we are trying to wind
6 down the nuclear proliferation, it seems that negotiations
7 are starting to warm up towards the Soviet Union, that we
8 should not be thinking of making more plutonium for more
9 bombs. It seems insane. The weapons that will be disarmed
10 seem, to me, to fulfill the needs of any plutonium that
11 we'll need in the future.

6.1.2

12 My second reason for opposing the SIS facility
13 at INEL is one of environmental reasons. It seems to me
14 that we are building a facility that in the long-run is
15 going to just pollute this environment, the Arco desert.
16 Its effect will be one that affects not only the Arco
17 desert, the people of Idaho Falls, but the states that
18 surround us.

19 It amazes me that this thing, the planning of
20 it has gone this far without being brought to the public's
21 attention, that it could have even gotten this far.

22 The people that I elected, I hope, I know the
23 ones that I voted for, most of them lost, do not represent
24 my decision in bringing this project to this state. I would
25 say, and I will try, if this thing proceeds any further,

15

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1 with all my might, to bring this to a vote of the people of
2 this state.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. HANAWALT: I don't believe that the people
5 that are representing me in Congress have made the right
6 decision. So, therefore, the only way that the people of
7 Idaho can say what they really want is on a vote, on a
8 ballot, and I think that that's where it's got to go.

9 The other -- the other -- Am I out of time
10 already? Okay.

11 I just wanted to go down saying that I oppose
12 it.

13 (Applause.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: We'll move to order number 5
15 on our list, Cody Walden, Cody Walden.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Order 6, Bill McPherson,
18 Bill McPherson.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 7, Sean Barrigar,
21 Barrigar, Sean Barrigar.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Order eight, Loris Graves,
24 Loris Graves.

25 (No response.)

16

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1 BEARING OFFICER: Order 9, Ted Machacek, Ted
 2 Machacek.
 3 (No response.)
 4 BEARING OFFICER: Order 10, Johna Fletcher,
 5 Johna Fletcher.
 6 (No response.)
 7 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 11, Richard
 8 Shotwell, Richard Shotwell.
 9 (No response.)
 10 HEARING OFFICER: Order 12, Steve Garmon,
 11 Steve Garmon.
 12 (No response.)
 13 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 13, Tim Reinke,
 14 Tim Reinke.
 15 (No response.)
 16 HEARING OFFICER: Order 14, Ronald E. Woods,
 17 Ronald E. Woods.
 18 (No response.)
 19 HEARING OFFICER: Order 15, Terry White, Terry
 20 White.
 21 (No response.)
 22 HEARING OFFICER: Order 16, Jini Griffith,
 23 Jini Griffith.
 24 (No response.)
 25 HEARING OFFICER: Order 17, Roy Spain, Roy

17

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1 Spain.
 2 (No response.)
 3 HEARING OFFICER: Order 18, Lecia Hanawalt,
 4 Lecia Hanawalt.
 5 (No response.)
 6 HEARING OFFICER: D. J. Yaeger, D. J. Yaeger.
 7 (No response.)
 8 HEARING OFFICER: Order 20, Albert Wilson,
 9 Albert Wilson.
 10 (No response.)
 11 HEARING OFFICER: Order 21, Michael McQueen,
 12 Michael McQueen.
 13 (No response.)
 14 HEARING OFFICER: Order 22, Cathy Lind, Cathy
 15 Lind.
 16 (No response.)
 17 HEARING OFFICER: Order 23, Stoney Burke,
 18 Stoney Burke.
 19 (No response.)
 20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 24, Steve Straiton, I
 21 believe it's Steve Straiton.
 22 (No response.)
 23 HEARING OFFICER: Order 25, Darrel Futrell,
 24 Darrel Futrell.
 25 (No response.)

18

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T065

1 HEARING OFFICER: Order 26, Dave Egan, Dave
2 Egan.
3 (No response.)
4 HEARING OFFICER: Order 27, Paul Caputo, Paul
5 Caputo.
6 (No response.)
7 HEARING OFFICER: Order 28, John Caccia, John
8 Caccia.
9 (No response.)
10 HEARING OFFICER: Number 29, Richard
11 Wiethorn.
12
13 RICHARD WIETHORN,
14 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
15
16 MR. WIETHORN: My name is Richard Wiethorn. I
17 live in Bailey, Idaho, Box 2542, 83333.
18 This is a case for no action on the SIS
19 proposal.
20 In 1945 Albert Einstein wrote: "The unleashed
21 power of the atom has changed everything, save our modes of
22 thinking, and thus we drift towards unparalleled
23 catastrophe."
24 Forty-four years later the SIS symbolizes the
25 tip of the iceberg for this catastrophic mode of thinking.

19

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1 The U.S. has a 25,000 plus nuclear warhead arsenal with
2 approximately 100 tons of "redundancy," "technological
3 diversity" and "flexibility" in the form of weapons-grade
4 plutonium. The people of Idaho and the U.S. are being asked
5 to believe that the SIS, with approximately six tons of
6 legally available feed plutonium will provide an essential
7 element of national security. Instead, the SIS will provide
8 psychological, environmental and economic disaster for Idaho
9 and the U.S. This is a major degradation of national
10 security, the security of the lives and welfare of the U.S.
11 citizens and our fragile global ecosystem. This contrasts
12 with the SIS proposed security for some DOE and DOD jobs,
13 and the security of inanimate warheads and concrete silos.

14 The only permanent solution to our national
15 security will come from a change in our thinking to see that
16 war of any kind is no longer an acceptable mode of resolving
17 conflict.

18 If it is truly the DOE's wish to improve
19 Idaho and national security, the DOE could best utilize our
20 tax monies and scientific expertise by attempting to clean
21 up the grotesque and ominous mess from their past and
22 present projects.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. WIETHORN: INEL has been a temporary
25 storage site of transuranic waste for the past 35 years.

20

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5.30.2.5

5.30.5.7

1.1

1 With a growing 4.4 million cubic feet of transuranic wastes,
 2 which does and will include 150 tons of damaged Three Mile
 3 Island reactor core, INEL and I had are becoming know as the
 4 national waste storage site. Estimates range from an
 5 optimistic five to a pragmatic 30 years for the possible
 6 development of a permanent waste disposal site.

7 Waste storage at INEL can be viewed as
 8 temporary only in regards to the half-life of plutonium.
 9 Viewed from the eyes of the human population of Idaho, the
 10 storage reality stinks of permanency. The addition of tons
 11 of transuranic waste produced annually by the SIS plant is
 12 unacceptable to Idaho and, hence, the U.S. security at
 13 home. The growing gap between the desires of government and
 14 the living reality of its citizens represents an
 15 unacceptable shift towards a totalitarian form of
 16 government.

17 In 1776 Thomas Jefferson wrote in the
 18 Declaration of Independence of man's unalienable rights,
 19 life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. 212 years later
 20 these basic rights of the citizenry still still need a
 21 strong grassroots defense. I support the no action option
 22 for the Special Isotope Separator.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. WIETHORN: I also have another letter here
 25 from a lady named Carol Palmer who is opposed to it, and I

21

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T066

1 have another page which details the inadequacies of the
 2 DEIS.

3 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 4 Richard Wiethorn will be included in the record as Exhibit
 5 No. 768. The written statement will be 768, and the
 6 supporting document that goes with it will also be Exhibit
 7 No. 768. The written comments of Carol Palmer of Bellevue,
 8 Idaho, will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 769.

9 Moving now to order number 30 on the afternoon
 10 list, Doyle Beck, Mr. Doyle Beck.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Order 31, Lita West.

13
 14 LITA WEST,
 15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16
 17 MS. WEST: Good afternoon. My name is Lita
 18 West, and I live in Bellevue, Idaho. And I'm a cattle
 19 rancher and farmer in that area. And having testimony
 20 reviewed by the Department of Energy makes me feel like I'm
 21 talking to my mother-in-law about the shortcomings of her
 22 son, but anyway...

23 (Applause.)

24 MS. WEST: I feel very, very strongly about
 25 this facility. More than the facility itself being put

22

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2.7.8

1 anywhere in the world, I feel very strongly about the
2 philosophy behind it.

3 I had the good fortune one day to pick up
4 Johnathan Shell's book, which I recommend you look at,
5 called Fate of the Earth which talks in very detailed form
6 about what it means to have a nuclear war.

7 To have a nuclear war means to end life on the
8 planet as we know it. Less severe, but I think equally
9 devastating, would be to have some sort of accident.

10 To think of entertaining this facility in our
11 midst is to think that nuclear war is a reasonable and
12 logical path for resolving conflict in the world. I can't
13 conceive of it.

14 My own feeling is this; I would rather that I
15 and my child and my children's children live in slavery for
16 2,000 years or more rather than take away the option of
17 having any solution to their problems whatsoever.

18 A very limited nuclear war, even with
19 so-called clean nuclear weapons, would topple every
20 government and economy as we now know it. We, as a nation,
21 cannot survive such limited war. So then what are we really
22 discussing here? Are we really talking about meeting
23 expenditure levels to safeguard an arm of the DOE?

24 When I lived in California up in the Bay area,
25 I lived next to a janitor who worked at the Lawrence

23

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1 Radiation Lab, and he would tell me every year, before they
2 submitted their budget they would throw out all their office
3 furniture in order to keep their expenditure levels high.
4 And I see a recognized nod there.

5 Are we talking here of underwriting the
6 massive problems that Hanford has and try to figure out how
7 the hell it's going to get rid of and store nuclear waste?

8 When our nation's planes are being used to fly
9 drugs for the middle American dictators to fund their wars,
10 certainly the possibility that our government resources
11 could be used for the shoring up of scrap utilities is a
12 real possibility.

13 We have had a partial melt-down at the INEL.
14 I have friends and farmers in Carey who, as children,
15 remember the men coming around and telling them not to eat
16 the snow. They know that three men were buried in the
17 concrete shield that was poured over the reactor. We all
18 see the tumors on the fish taken from the fish farms in the
19 Thousand Springs areas where the Lost River flows into the
20 Snake.

21 If jobs are needed, cleaning these hot spots
22 should be our highest priority and would afford us any
23 number of jobs.

24 Tell me, why is the sage's growth pattern
25 different around the INEL?

24

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1 Who else can we look to to clean up the
2 radiation?

3 Solvency is power, but it is unnecessarily
4 expensive projects, such as this, such as submarines that
5 don't work; tanks, jets that don't work, that produce to
6 tangible good, that wastes United States talents and monies
7 and our limited resources. These have reduced our
8 government to unbearable indebtedness.

9 Insolvency leaves us wide open for take-over
10 by a totalitarian father to save us from the lack of
11 solvency and the breakdown of economic order.

12 No one is selling out our freedom but our
13 leaders, to buy their election and their reelection. Today
14 we have the best government money can buy.

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 32, Gary Park,
17 Gary Park.

18 (No response.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Order 33, Edith Wiethorn.

20

21 EDITH WIETHORN,
22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

23

24 MS. WIETHORN: My name is Edith Wiethorn, and
25 I live at Bailey, Idaho.

25

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1 I want to state today that I oppose building
2 the SIS plutonium refinery in Idaho, and I support the no
3 action option for the SIS.

4 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is
5 fatally flawed in two major ways. First, it does not take
6 into account the big picture, which is a biologically
7 sustainable future on the planet. Plutonium technology is a
8 grave threat to a sustainable future, whether it is used for
9 bombs or for nuclear fuel.

10 Plutonium technology threatens life on earth
11 because it increases background radiation, and there's no
12 level of radiation which is without biological effects.

13 Plutonium technology releases freon into the
14 atmosphere. We know that freon causes loss of ozone from
15 the atmosphere. Last fall, after a study by more than 100
16 scientists from around the world, an international treaty
17 was signed to phase out technology and products which
18 release freon.

19 Plutonium technology generates chemical toxins
20 which cannot be absorbed into the environment without harm,
21 and we know that pollution of groundwater is a rising
22 problem across America.

23 Nuclear weapons and a nuclear deterrent to
24 war, which seemed to exist when America invented the bomb,
25 have boomeranged back to us. Our military industrial

26

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5.13.10

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5.31.1

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5.24.30

1 complex has exported nuclear technology around the world,
 2 and today many small and politically volatile countries have
 3 nuclear technology. Today our great need is a new deterrent
 4 to war, and I do not mean a new generation of laser weapons,
 5 but a world view which supports a sustainable future on the
 6 planet.

7 The second major flaw of the Draft
 8 Environmental Impact Statement is that it ignores everyday
 9 reality; the reality that nuclear technology has proven to
 10 be unsafe. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement gives
 11 us circular, simplistic assurances about safety which simply
 12 are not credible. Anyone who has read the newspaper in the
 13 past several decades knows of the devastating accidents,
 14 spills, leaks and storage problems which have given rise to
 15 the SuperFund and multi-billion dollar clean-up bills at an
 16 array of nuclear sites which includes the INEL right here in
 17 Idaho.

18 The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 19 offers a safe and sunny version of the SIS, which is like
 20 looking at the sunny, tidy surface of things at INEL. The
 21 reality is that below the tidy surface, the aquifer is
 22 already polluted with tritium and threatened with the
 23 transuranic wastes which are leaching below their storage
 24 site.

25 The SIS would generate more transuranic

27

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5.30.1.15

1 wastes. Governor Andrus has stated that he does not support
 2 long-term waste storage in Idaho. Yet, the reality is that
 3 the INEL stores waste which the Department of Energy
 4 promised to remove many years ago.

5 People in New Mexico bitterly oppose the waste
 6 storage site which has been proposed there. And now there
 7 is seepage. And seepage was implicated where a Russian
 8 waste dump in the Ural Mountains exploded in March 1958.
 9 Clouds of radiation were blown miles hundreds of miles, and
 10 the area is now a wasteland. And drivers are warned not to
 11 stop as they pass through. I believe the people in New
 12 Mexico will succeed in rejecting the waste dump. And no one
 13 wants long-term waste storage now that the short-term
 14 realities have become common knowledge.

15 Life in Idaho depends on the aquifer. We
 16 can't call in water from some other place in the arid west
 17 if we screw up the aquifer. Agriculture depends on the
 18 aquifer and clean environment. Tourism depends upon the
 19 aquifer and a clean environment. To build a plutonium
 20 refinery on top of the Snake River Aquifer would be a
 21 reckless insult to the gift of life contained in our water.
 22 It would be a sacrilege. It reminds me of an observation
 23 from Jules Henry, the social psychologist. He said, "Life
 24 tempts us with small favors to commit great crimes."

25 I believe the jobs the SIS would offer are

28

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1 small favors as compared with the threat the SIS would offer
2 to the existing economy in Idaho and to the biosphere.

3 Yet, the need for jobs is not a small matter.
4 And when I look at the people who want the jobs, I see their
5 energy and strength and their can-do attitude, and I feel
6 like I'm looking at some of the best qualities in human
7 nature. But those qualities need to be applied to a worthy
8 task. I believe the highest challenge for our political
9 leaders and planners is to lead toward technology and
10 progress which is life supporting and to phase out death
11 industries.

12 There is such leadership in our national
13 Senate and House, but it's not coming from Idaho. It's
14 coming from California, Wisconsin, Montana, Massachusetts...

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 770 for the
17 written record will be written comments of Edith Wiethorn of
18 Hailey, Idaho.

19 Next scheduled commentor at this point is Gene
20 Woodall.

21 (No response.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: Is there anyone on the
23 preregistered list that I have just gone through that has
24 come in the room and not had a chance to yet comment?
25 Okay.

29

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T068

1 What I'm going to do is, I know there's one
2 individual on the preregistered list for the evening session
3 that is here, I'll go ahead and accommodate her at this
4 point.

5 Is there anyone else preregistered for the
6 evening session who would like to comment this afternoon?

7 Please state your name and address for the
8 record.

9
10 JUDI GREEN,
11 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

12
13 MS. GREEN: I'm Judi Green from Jerome,
14 Idaho.

15 I don't think we need the SIS here or anywhere
16 else.

17 (Applause.)

18 MS. GREEN: I believe the SIS Project would be
19 harmful to our children and future generations. I would
20 like to be a grandmother.

21 I'm an Idahoan and I don't believe it would be
22 right for Idaho to add misery to the rest of the world by
23 becoming a producer of plutonium. And I'm against the SIS
24 because I feel that it would be detrimental to the economy
25 and the environment of Idaho. It's real simple, we don't

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1 need death; we need life.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: At this point we will now
5 move on to the list of at-the-door registrations that we
6 received at the beginning of this hearing last Monday. I'll
7 begin with order number 1, Michael Freeman. Michael
8 Freeman.

9 (No response.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Judi
11 Green of Jerome, Idaho, will be included as Exhibit No. 771
12 for the record. And the written comments of Susan L.
13 Qualls, Q-u-a-l-l-s, of Jerome, Idaho, will be included in
14 the record as Exhibit No. 772.

15 We'll now move to order number 2 on the
16 afternoon at-the-door registration list, Michelle Winter,
17 Michelle Winter.

18 (No response.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 3, Phyllis
20 Gillette, Phyllis Gillette.

21 (No response.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: Order 4, Charles Park,
23 Charles Park.

24 (No response.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 5, Leah

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1 Peterson, Leah Peterson.

2 (No response.)

3 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 6, Patricia
4 Hanggi, Patricia Banggi.

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 7, Robert M.
7 Noyes, Robert M. Noyes.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Order 8, Ervin L. Huston,
10 Ervin L. Huston.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 9, Bill
13 McCann -- excuse me, Bill McMahan, I'm sorry, Bill McMahan.

14 (No response.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 10, Leila
16 Neilson, Leila Neilson.

17 (No response.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: Order 11, Gilbert R. Moore.

19 MR. MOORE: Here.

20 HEARING OFFICER: You are up, sir. State your
21 name and address for the record, please.

22

23

24

25

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1 GILBERT R. MOORE,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 MR. MOORE: Mr. Eiguren, ladies and gentlemen,
5 I saw Hiroshima and Nagasaki a few years after they were
6 bombed, Hiroshima with uranium-235 and Nagasaki with
7 plutonium. Plutonium is what we are talking about here.

8 One gram of plutonium was the activating
9 factor that blew up Nagasaki. It's a horrible, horrible
10 site, but it was war.

11 I'm against the SIS, either here or anywheres
12 else.

13 (Applause.)

14 MR. MOORE: There has been absolutely no
15 evidence in anything that has been presented so far to
16 establish a need for it. This is the first requirement of
17 anything, any project that goes on anywheres is to establish
18 a need. That has not been done.

19 Even the Secretary of the Department of Energy
20 says we are awash in plutonium.

21 The SIS is a Reagan carry-over from his evil
22 empire warmongering paranoia.

23 (Applause.)

24 MR. MOORE: Government officials are
25 confused. The policies are contradictory, the same as we

33

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1 see here in Idaho in agriculture. The SIS is a pork barrel
2 project. A WPA make-work blunder for would-be
3 scientists, --

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. MOORE: -- political hacks and fail
6 steadily upward govvies. Now, we used to say in industry
7 and government, we got kicked upstairs, that's not nice any
8 more. We say the fail steadily upward types.

9 Now, the total SIS program is dishonest, from
10 the false requirements to the many paid axes to grind
11 speakers that we have heard here. It also includes our
12 elected officials, politicians with highly questionable
13 motives and apparent misplaced loyalties, throwing away
14 billions of dollars, nobody believes this is going to cost
15 1 billion, not in their right mind, and eventually killing
16 many of our own people from pollution. This is a
17 vote-buying and a special interest action at its lowest
18 level.

19 (Applause.)

20 MR. MOORE: Our government supports terrorism
21 and killing in Israel, Lebanon, Nicaragua and El Salvador.
22 Now they want to broaden the category with another plutonium
23 plant, right here at home.

24 Accidents do happen. January 3rd, 1961, three
25 men were killed at INEL. There has been 14 notable nuclear

34

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1 accidents since 1957. Now, the word notable means they are
2 the ones we had to admit, we couldn't hide them.

3 (Applause.)

4 MR. MOORE: Now, there's been nine of these in
5 the United States. Human and equipment failures eventually
6 fall to the laws of averages. They have in the past and
7 they will continue to do so. You cannot legislate or buy
8 total freedom from accidents or we'd have bought it long
9 ago.

10 In my considered opinion, the EIS is seriously
11 deficient in three areas. They are:

12 First, there is no radiation maximum allowance
13 tables, making the rest of all of the radiation allowances
14 meaningless.

15 2. The estimated quantities and kinds of
16 materials unaccounted for, that's missing. Thousands of
17 kilos of radioactive material, called MUF, are unaccounted
18 for every year from these nuclear processing facilities. We
19 suspect most of it goes into the air as air pollution,
20 unreported.

21 Third, there is no study of the effects on
22 tourism or agriculture, short or long-term. And remember,
23 the ground gets just as polluted as the air we breath. And
24 everyone in this room, adults, both from natural radiation
25 and from man-made radiation, already has a substantial

35

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1 amount of it. We don't need more.

2 Now, we go to a little different subject
3 here. If a nuclear device -- oh, my goodness, I can't tell
4 you about EMP.

5 At any rate, thank you kindly.

6 (Applause.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Moore, we didn't get
8 your address, sir.

9 MR. MOORE: Oh, excuse me, I'll just give you
10 a copy of it here.

11 HEARING OFFICER: All right. Thank you. The
12 written comments of Gilbert Moore of Twin Falls, Idaho, will
13 be included in the record as Exhibit 773.

14 We are now to order 12, Debbie Kraal, Debbie
15 Kraal.

16 (No response.)

17 BEARING OFFICER: Order 13, Bob Ransom.

19 BOB RANSOM,
20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

21
22 MR. RANSOM: My name is Bob Ransom. I live in
23 Filer, Idaho. I'm a native of Idaho.

24 First, I'd like to acknowledge the Department
25 of Energy, for never have I felt such conviction to rise and

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5.1.36

1 be heard. I have heard a lot and read a lot about the flack
2 given to emotional testimony. I have not recognized
3 emotional constipation as an ailment in Idaho.

4 (Applause.)

5 MR. RANSOM: I believe emotion in testimony to
6 a deep-felt commitment to opposition through the knowledge
7 these people have should not be discredited. How can you
8 not be emotional about life?

9 Recently I spent three months in Bisbee,
10 Arizona. The experience afforded me a heightened
11 appreciation for the environment and respect for life and
12 its lack of permanence. I was awe-struck at man's
13 destructive force inflicted upon the environment in form of
14 an idle, open-pit mine where once stood a mountain.

15 Ironically, my respect for life developed
16 through working with death as a first-call man and an
17 embalming assistant. I heard many comments about an
18 accident's low probability as if that in itself could
19 prevent an accident. Let me tell you something about
20 accidents. No one need tell me about probability as I
21 wrapped my arms around a man's bloody body to free it from
22 wreckage. No one need counsel me on an accident's
23 unpredictability or suddenness as steam rose from a
24 half-eaten hamburger just beyond the body of a mother. And
25 no one can give life back to a child, and it's up to our

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1 imagination as to what could have been.

2 I pray that these sentiments are never
3 afforded Idaho in connection with SIS.

4 There's absolutely no way I would support a
5 project that poses such a tremendous threat to the
6 environment, economy and certainly life, not only that of
7 Idaho. The proposed SIS is such a project.

8 The difficult economic situation in this
9 region has encouraged some people to play host to a project
10 that comes to us under exaggerated governmental need and
11 benefit to the people of Idaho.

12 The fact that the Department of Energy would
13 consider a site in both a geologically active area and above
14 the Snake River Plain Aquifer shows its callous and
15 suspicious disregard to the environmental long-term
16 well-being of the people within the area of impact.

17 (Applause.)

18 MR. RANSOM: In 1971 the DOE assured our
19 Governor Andrus that existing waste would be removed from
20 its temporary holding at INEL. It never happened. Recently
21 studies have shown that plutonium has contaminated sediment
22 beds 230 feet below the burial grounds. Again, there is
23 much uncertainty over a site for the radioactive waste
24 produced by the SIS Project. This, added to the already
25 existing poor record in transporting waste, certainly marks

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1 the credibility of DOE's assurance of safety as dubious.
2 Not only do I oppose the SIS in Idaho, but I
3 oppose its construction anywhere. I do not consider support
4 for SIS as being support for peace. Any force will
5 gravitate to that which offers the least resistance. What
6 about the resistance to peace that we are now faced with, a
7 project designed with the sole intent to kill.
8 (Applause.)
9 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
10 Robert Ransom will be entered in the record as Exhibit No.
11 774.
12 Moving now to the 14th order, Amy Walker, Amy
13 Walker.
14 (No response.)
15 HEARING OFFICER: Order 15, Randall Morgan,
16 Randall Morgan.
17 (No response.)
18 HEARING OFFICER: Order 16, Arlo R. Kent.
19
20 ARLO KENT,
21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
22
23 MR. KENT: I'm Arlo Kent from Twin Falls.
24 I won't take much of your time, I just wanted
25 to voice my opposition to the SIS. I think we should make

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1 our minds up on this issue, and one of the main reasons I
2 have, I'll state it briefly, I do not have any confidence in
3 my government.
4 Now, one of the reasons even these standards
5 are set for radiation levels and so on, it's a simple matter
6 to change the standards, and I find this prevalent in so
7 many different governmental actions; that when the tests and
8 the standards are set, if the test does not meet the
9 standard, the standard is changed to meet the test.
10 Now, without confidence in our government and
11 our leaders, I don't know how that I can, as an individual,
12 accept this program.
13 Now, we are told those that support it, it's
14 for our best health, interest and our welfare. I'm so damn
15 tired of having my government do things for me that I don't
16 need -- that I'm sick of it.
17 Thank you.
18 (Applause.)
19 HEARING OFFICER: Order 17, Virginia Ash.
20
21 VIRGINIA ASH,
22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
23
24 MS. ASH: I'm Virginia Ash; address, 809 11th
25 Avenue North, Buhl. I'm a candidate for the Idaho House,

40

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1.1

1 District 23, Seat C.

2 In speaking with different people about this
3 hearing, I find there is some confusion. We need to
4 understand first that there is a difference between SSC and
5 SIS. The SSC is the Superconducting Super Collider. It is
6 to be the largest scientific instrument ever to be made and
7 needed a home. And in Idaho, we offered a home, we begged
8 for it, but we were turned down because we fell short in the
9 area of regional resources. We lacked the great research
10 university near INEL, the airport facilities needed, and
11 cultural, recreational, housing and employment opportunities
12 for staff and their families and a good educational system
13 for the children of the scientists who would be working on
14 the SSC. The SSC could be called in a term we all
15 understand, benign.

16 The SIS, the Special Isotope Separator, is a
17 laser separation technology to be used to purify plutonium.
18 I wonder how many here remember the old song we used to
19 sing, "Praise the Lord and Pass the Ammunition"? But we use
20 the term now, purify plutonium for nuclear weapons.

21 Some experts claim it is only a partially
22 developed technology and is experimental. In terms we can
23 all understand, the SIS could be labeled malignant. Are we
24 the ideal site, a wasteland?

25 We all understand that there are four choices

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1 that the DOA can make; Banford, the Savannah River plant,
2 INEL or no action.

3 I vote for the No Action Alternative because,
4 and I'm going to quote from Page S-11, the Executive Summary
5 from the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. I won't
6 quote all of it, but the idea is that "The No Action
7 Alternative would not result in changes to continuing
8 operations at the Banford site, the Savannah River plant or
9 any other DOE site. Blending fuel-grade plutonium with
10 newly produced plutonium and higher than weapon-grade purity
11 will continue to provide an option for the production of
12 weapon-grade plutonium irrespective of whether the SIS
13 Project is constructed and operated."

14 So why do we need this new operation,
15 especially when our national debt and deficit are so great?
16 And why should it be in Idaho? Why should it be built where
17 there is risk of high magnitude earthquakes along major
18 fault lines which extend southeastward beneath INEL?

19 Anything having to do with nuclear poses a
20 potential danger to the population, no matter how carefully
21 the jobs are done, but there seems to be worry and concern
22 about the SIS than usual. Some of these concerns are that
23 plutonium spontaneously ignites when exposed to air; a tiny
24 speck, inhaled or on skin, can cause cancer; the
25 transportation on public highways by armed carriers; Idaho

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5.24.18

1 could become the disposal site for long-lived radioactive
2 waste from SIS. A process called blending now in use by the
3 DOE at another facility can produce weapon-grade plutonium
4 from fuel-grade plutonium for less money, a factor of great
5 importance at this time in U.S. history, when we have become
6 the world's debtor nation. Our money has to go where it is
7 most needed.

8 Why do you think the states of Nevada, Utah,
9 Idaho, western Washington, Wyoming have been chosen for
10 nuclear bomb tests, toxic waste disposal, nuclear weapons
11 production afternoon and silo missiles? Because they want
12 to pump billions into our economy?

13 Is it because of the beautiful canyonlands of
14 Utah? Of the awesome scenery of Idaho and Washington, of
15 the vast empty, yet lovely, expanses of Wyoming, because of
16 the excitement of Las Vegas?

17 There is one were plausible, apparently
18 reasonable, answer; our sparse population. We are
19 expendable.

20 (Applause.)

21 MS. ASH: In 1981 Joel Garreau published a
22 book, The Nine Nations of North America, and he listed the
23 states I mentioned as being in this area called the "Empty
24 Quarter". And his prognosis for this area, these states,
25 rich in oil, gas, precious minerals, timber, farmlands, is

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1 that it will become the national sacrifice area.

2 Are we expendable?

3 I vote no to the SIS.

4 (Applause.)

5 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
6 Virginia Ash of Buhl, Idaho, will be included in the record
7 as Exhibit 775.

8 We'll move to commentor order 18, Edward C.
9 Shokal.

11 EDWARD C. SHOKAL,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

14 MR. SHOKAL: Mr. Hearing Officer, ladies and
15 gentlemen. This is my revised copy.

16 My name is Edward C. Shokal, and I live in
17 Hagerman, Idaho. I'm a member of the American Chemical
18 Society, 50 years, American Geological Society of America
19 and was made an honorary member of the University of
20 California Chapter of the Sigma Xi in 1952.

21 I want to go on record that the SIS plant
22 should not be built in Idaho or anywhere else at this
23 time --

24 (Applause.)

25 MR. SHOKAL: -- for the following reasons:

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5.24.18

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1 1. The need for the SIS is not urgent but
2 desirable. While a marvelous scientific project, it is
3 experimental and expensive with a cost of about a billion
4 dollars.
5 2. The military budget, as set, has urgent
6 projects that need attention for our national defense.
7 These projects should receive attention. They need the
8 funding that the SIS Project would use. It is to our
9 national interest to select urgent projects over desirable
10 projects. Further, regardless of other military needs, we
11 cannot afford to take on projects that have a low priority
12 on the need list, when United States Government is bankrupt
13 and heavily in debt.
14 3. The suggested location of INEL has not
15 been properly analyzed as evident on reading report DOE, et
16 cetera. INEL is already contaminated with radioactive
17 elements and is a candidate for SuperFund clean-funds.
18 4. It makes no long-term common sense to
19 build projects like SIS over Idaho's largest aquifer,
20 creating a possible environmental hazard that could not be
21 corrected with all the SuperFund money available. This
22 could practically destroy southern Idaho forever.
23 (Applause.)
24 MR. SHOKAL: 5. I cannot reconcile the
25 conflict between contaminating our atmosphere with lethal

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1 plutonium and uranium and technological progress.
2 Specifically I'm referring to the burning up of satellites
3 as they fall back to earth. The enriched uranium and
4 plutonium and other radio-isotopes make up the power
5 supplies, nuclear reactors and fuel cores in the various
6 satellites that are used for photography, communications,
7 military and civil agencies.
8 When these reactors burn up, the uranium and
9 plutonium is burned and converted to dustlike particles that
10 float around the world until they come to rest, perhaps in
11 your lungs, hair, water supplies or lettuce leaves.
12 As of 1986 there are about 50 potentially
13 hazardous radio-isotope satellites orbiting the earth
14 carrying over one ton of highly enriched uranium and
15 plutonium.
16 Since 1987 the Soviets have launched 30
17 nuclear powered surveillance spacecraft in low orbit. While
18 these spacecraft have been moved to the 600 mile orbit for
19 storage for safety, they are subject to collision.
20 Estimates indicate a hypervelocity particle collision with a
21 Soviet reactor could produce a million particles with a
22 diameter of 1 millimeter or more. These particles, ejected
23 into lower orbits, would be a hazard to low orbit satellites
24 or enter the earth's the atmosphere.

Six nuclear powered Soviet satellites have

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2.2.9

1 fallen back to earth, and a U.S. spacecraft SNAP-10A
 2 launched in 1965 which was expected to last hundreds of
 3 years started break up. In 1977 Soviet Cosmos No. 954 fell
 4 and spread radioactive debris over Canada. Since that
 5 accident, the atomic reactor parts of spacecraft have been
 6 redesigned so that everything burn up in the atmosphere. So
 7 Cosmos No. 1402 fell out of orbit in 1982, it burned up in
 8 the atmosphere.

9 In 1986 we had 2,860 pounds of nuclear fuel,
 10 plus highly radioactive spacecraft material in orbit. If
 11 the various space programs proceed as expected, we will add
 12 at least 330 pounds of nuclear fuel in orbit every year.

13 The Soviets send up 100 rockets as compared to
 14 five or six of the United States.

15 Today there are at least six countries that
 16 have developed nuclear capabilities and are compounding the
 17 problem.

18 We must become more active to resolve the
 19 radioactive contamination regionally and worldwide, before
 20 the radioactive contamination, man-made, overtakes us and
 21 insidiously gets all of us.

22 Credits to NASA, Teledyne Brown and nuclear
 23 Aviation Week and Space Technology.

24 Sorry, I have a bad throat.

25 (Applause.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 2 Edward Shokol will be Exhibit No. 767 in the record.

3 Witness order 19, Tom Siemen, Mr. Tom Siemen.

4 (No response.)

5 HEARING OFFICER: Order 20, Catherine Haynes,
 6 Catherine Haynes.

7 (No response.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: Order 21, Phyllis Faye
 9 Jalette, Phyllis Faye Jalette.

10 (No response.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Order 22, Sheryl Merritt,
 12 Sheryl Merritt.

13 (No response.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Order 23, Cheryl Machacek,
 15 Cheryl Machacek.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Order 24, Dr. Peter
 18 Richards, Dr. Peter Richards.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 25 is Susan Qualls,
 21 Susan Qualls.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Order 26 is Charles J.
 24 Chapman.

25 I have gone through both of our registration

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1 lists for this afternoon's session once. I'd ask at this
2 point, is there anyone who registered to speak who has not
3 had the opportunity to do so?

4 Is there anyone who has not registered who
5 would like to do so? Okay, this lady in the gray.

6 MS. FAIRCHILD: I was registered for this
7 evening.

8 BEARING OFFICER: Fine. You may step forward
9 and speak now, if you would like.

10
11 DORIS FAIRCHILD,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13
14 MS. FAIRCHILD: My name is Doris Fairchild
15 from Buhl, Idaho. I'm representing the Prairie Falcon
16 Audubon Society, which is a local chapter of the National
17 Audubon Society.

18 Before any of you are tempted to close your
19 minds to the comments of one of those "so-called
20 environmentalists," let me hasten to add that I am a fourth
21 generation Idaho cattle rancher.

22 Speaking for the Prairie Falcon Audubon
23 Society and for myself, I wish to go on record as being
24 opposed to the building of the SIS anywhere, much less over
25 the Snake Plain Aquifer.

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1 In 1980 several groups organized to form the
2 Magic Valley Aquifer Coalition. As one of the founders of
3 that coalition, I can assure you that it was formed to
4 attempt to put a stop to the injection of radioactive wastes
5 and toxic chemicals into the Snake Plain Aquifer and,
6 hopefully, to protect the aquifer from future insults.
7 Mainly through our efforts, the injections were stopped. It
8 took four years, but then no one expects the democratic
9 process to be speedy.

10 I relate this bit of history to inform you
11 that I am not an imported obstructionist with no stake in
12 Idaho's past, present or future. I was born and raised on a
13 ranch near Buhl, Idaho, attended school there for 11 years
14 and three more years in Nampa, Idaho, training to be a
15 nurse. For several years I traveled and worked in other
16 states, but I came back to Idaho because it is one of the
17 last frontiers. Its scenic beauty, pristine wilderness,
18 wildlife habitat and quality of life are unsurpassed
19 anywhere.

20 I support a strong defense, but we have enough
21 bombs now to blow up this planet. We have plenty of
22 weapons-grade plutonium on the shelf. I do not support
23 overkill.

24 I am concerned about Idaho's economy and jobs,
25 but the SIS is not the answer. As a concerned human being,

50

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5.17.2

4.13

4.15.5

5.27.6.9

1 I shudder when I hear anyone trying to justify the building
2 of the SIS on the basis of jobs and dollars. In the first
3 place, it does not make economic sense. And secondly, the
4 cost to the environment and all living beings is
5 mindboggling.

5.29.97

6 The transporting of hazardous waste is very
7 risky. There have been several wrecks on our highways
8 involving such material in Idaho. One just a few months ago
9 near Burley, Idaho.

5.12.1

10 There are problems with the existing settling
11 ponds at INEL. There is already far too much pollutant in
12 the aquifer that cannot be cleaned up.

5.30.3.1

13 There is no safe place to store the existing
14 waste here in Idaho, anywhere in this country or anywhere in
15 the world. I keep hearing people saying we needn't worry

5.13.13

16 about any radiation exposure from the SIS because we are
17 getting radiation from the sun, from medical x-rays and from
18 the very rocks around us, and because we have water and air
19 pollution already. Am I missing something here? If we get
20 the SIS with its attendant radiation pollution, will we no
21 longer have these other pollution problems and radiation
22 exposures? In reality, won't we be compounding our
23 problems? I invite you to think about this.

3.2.23

24 As for having confidence in the Department of
25 Energy to safeguard us, I am sorry, folks, I have none. In

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1 the 1950s I worked at the Atomic Bomb Test Site at Mercury,
2 Nevada. The Atomic Energy Commission assured us it was safe
3 to work there and that there was no danger to residents of
4 the surrounding areas. Since then several of my co-workers
5 at Mercury have died of cancer or blood diseases. I don't
6 need to tell you what happened to hundreds of others in
7 Nevada and Utah.

8 We have been assured that these deaths, birth
9 defects and suffering are unrelated to the radiation
10 exposure. For those of us who were there, it is not very
11 comforting or even believable to hear these assurances. In
12 those days it was the AEC telling us not to worry. Today we
13 have the DOE assuring us this project is safe. Do changed
14 initials give us a more trustworthy agency? I think not.

15 Let me repeat, we do not want the SIS in
16 Idaho. We do not believe there is a need for it to be built
17 anywhere. We would respectfully suggest that you direct
18 your energy and our dollars toward peaceful, economical,
19 environmentally safe pursuits.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 776 will be the
23 written comments of Doris Fairchild of Buhl.

24 Are there others who wish to testify? Step
25 forward, please.

52

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3.1.3

1 We need your name and address for the record,
2 sir.

3
4 JOCK BELL,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MR. BELL: Okay. My name is Jock Bell, born
8 and raised in Idaho all my life. I live in Hailey, Idaho.

9 I am here today to tell you that the
10 manufacturing of all nuclear weaponry at this moment in our
11 time has become obsolete and outdated. There the new
12 technologies now known to only a few orthodox and
13 non-orthodox physicists that can dispel the myth that we
14 need future nuclear weapons. I am speaking to you, the
15 Energy Department especially.

16 And now you are probably asking yourself how
17 is this so. What I am speaking of here is Nikolas Tesla's
18 secrets. What he envisioned and but what a handful of these
19 physicists have discovered is that his scalar theory of the
20 creation of Scalar Potential Interferometry Technology has
21 created a new physics that has yet to be exemplified in the
22 mainstream of physics today, and it goes well beyond
23 classical physics and even the newer and most recent quantum
24 physics. It is called Scalar Physics. It is a
25 superrelativity of sense beyond Einstein's theory. This

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1 physics puts all particles and energy and mass and gravity
2 into one single unified field theory which can be directly
3 engineerable, engineerably, put together in the most
4 electronically simplified fashion that we could ever dream
5 of.

6 I am not here to expound upon how a vector EM
7 wave is two coupled Tesla Scalar waves, or how zero vectors
8 have the ability to create incomprehensible amounts of
9 electromagnetic primordial energy fields; and that is even
10 out of zero vacuums. But I am here to say that Scalar
11 Physics, the new physics of our future, has within its
12 potential the ability and has always had, since its
13 conception, since this conception of this theory by Tesla in
14 the early 1900s. By the way, he was put down because of
15 what his theories would have done to a large segment of the
16 energy field, what would have been, what would have
17 happened, he was completely dispelled, he was a non-person.
18 By the 1920s, he was a non-person.

19 What this does to nuclear physics is to make
20 this simply, this seemingly advanced technology totally
21 obsolete. So why are we putting our hard earned tax dollars
22 into nuclear warheads and weapons when they can be vaporized
23 by Howitzer particle beam blasters before they ever reach
24 their targets. The Soviets now have this technology, and I
25 sense that the Star Wars project now underway in the United

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T076

1 States is just not a laser beam project, and I hope it is
 2 not, but a counter-defense system that we must take to this
 3 threat, and that is where our defense tax dollars should be
 4 spent. In the long-run the benefits of this technology are
 5 far, far outweigh any disadvantages. There will never be
 6 any more need for nuclear weapons because both sides will be
 7 able to create Telsa shields over any area of their
 8 countries to protect them. And by the way, they can create
 9 different layers, using no radiation, all the radiation can
 10 be simulated because of the different forms of x-ray
 11 radiation and beta radiation, it can completely be
 12 disseminated.

13 On closing, I have a list of the future
 14 benefits this technology can give to all the races on Mother
 15 Earth. We can have an increase in life span. We can wipe
 16 out all diseases, and I am talking about AIDS. We can have
 17 super luminal communication with other races. Transmutation
 18 of matter in all forms. Free energy, oh, for a floating
 19 free seed of energy out there. Teleportation. We can
 20 create antigravity machines you have never even heard of.
 21 Complete control of telepathy. We can have mind linkages
 22 between one another in this room.

23 And finally, I will close, finally, we will be
 24 be able to evolve beyond reality, which is the first order
 25 of reality which is we live in right now, the three

55

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1 dimensional world. This takes us into 11 dimensions, one of
 2 them being time. It must be used to evolve mankind from our
 3 limited consciousness to an unlimited consciousness, which
 4 is the next stage of our evolution which will vanquish all
 5 wars. We will be able to cure man, not kill him.

6 Good-bye.

7 (Applause.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Jock
 9 Bell will be included in the record as Exhibit 777. Mr.
 10 Bell is from Hailey.

11 Are there others who wish to comment?

12 This lady right here, please.

13 MS. BEASLEY: I just wanted to comment that --

14 HEARING OFFICER: Please, I need to have you
 15 come up to the podium and give us your name and address.

16
 17 MARLESE BEASLEY,
 18 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

19
 20 MS. BEASLEY: I'm Marlese Beasley of Twin
 21 Falls, a lifelong educator and a grandmother. And I'd just
 22 like to say I'd like to see my grandchildren grow up. That
 23 other lady wanted to be a grandmother, I have already
 24 reached that plane.

25 And the main emphasis of the letter that I

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T077

5.12.1

1 turned in along with my friend was about the aquifer. We
2 are very concerned about that. That's the lifeblood of our
3 state, and we feel like that hasn't been given enough
4 concern.

5 And the eloquence of the other speakers puts
6 me ill at ease.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: This lady right here.

10
11 JANE FRITZ,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13
14 MS. FRITZ: My name is Jane Fritz, and I'm
15 from Sandpoint, Idaho, and I appreciate the opportunity to
16 testify here today in Twin Falls.

17 I'm the editor and publisher of the Idaho Arts
18 Journal, which is a statewide publication on the arts, and
19 it puts me in touch with hundreds of people around the state
20 who are innovative and creative and dedicated to life. And
21 although I cannot speak in an official capacity on behalf of
22 all those people, I would say that from what I have found,
23 that the people in this State of Idaho are concerned about
24 quality of life and not at just any cost. I do believe that
25 we are talking about life here and the purpose is toward

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T078

1.1

1 peace, and for that reason personally, I speak against the
2 SIS Project here in Idaho or anywhere else in the country.

3 Living very close to the Richland alternative
4 at Banford, the site up there, I believe the people in north
5 Idaho and the Spokane area are also very concerned about any
6 kind of alternative in that area.

7 I also think it's just a really appropriate
8 day to be having these hearings in Idaho. Being a religious
9 person and having it be Holy Thursday; and if I could just
10 say this for a moment, I think the challenge we were given
11 by Christ was to serve one another, not to destroy one
12 another. And I appreciate this opportunity.

13 Thank you.

14
15 PHIL BROWER,
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17
18 MR. BROWER: My name is Bill Brower. I'm a
19 transplanted Californian. I came here because I thought
20 this would be a safe place to live.

21 I have very little to say about this. I'm not
22 a scientist, I'm an accountant, and my background is in
23 accounting. My training in technology and science is rather
24 limited, but I do feel that if a project like this is
25 rejected by the community, it will make a contribution to

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1.1

6.5.2

1 world peace.

2 And that's about all I have to say.

3 (Applause.)

4
5 RAY TILLEY,
6 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

7
8 MR. TILLEY: My name is Ray Tilley, and I am
9 from south of Hansen.

10 And I don't have a prepared speech, but I do
11 have a little humor to put with this. There's a story of a
12 fellow, a grandpa was standing up and his little grandkids
13 was coming up to him and says, "Grandpa can you croak like a
14 frog?" And he said, "Hey, you guys, why do you want me to
15 croak like a frog?" He says, "Well, Grandma says as soon as
16 you croak, we are headed for Disneyland."

1.1

17 And I think we are not going to swallow this
18 any more than Grandpa did, you know, this project. We don't
19 need another bomb. Any intelligent person today would
20 realize that, we don't need any more bombs.

4.13

21 You know, they are looking for jobs,
22 naturally, those people want jobs up there. Well, you know,
23 if I took off my shoe, it didn't come from America. It come
24 from Spain, I checked before I come in here. About
25 everything I pick up is coming from another country. Can't

1 we build anything but a bomb any more for our people?

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. TILLEY: Don't you think we can? Really,
4 don't you think the ingenuity of the American people can
5 build something for us again? I used to pride myself when I
6 went to Los Angeles, but I don't now because I remember --
7 my brother-in-law just moved out here. (unintelligible) So
8 we went downtown, and his little daughter had to cover her
9 nose with a handkerchief in order to stand to breath, to go
10 downtown.

11 You know, I hear that the Department of Energy
12 was supposed to put a lot of money into research and putting
13 something into our cars besides this stinking gasoline.
14 They didn't do that, did they? No.

15 (Applause.)

16 MR. TILLEY: I think we can do better. But we
17 are going to have to get the ingenuity of the -- the
18 American people can do it, build us something. When I go
19 buy something, it's usually foreign.

20 I remember my nephew in Twin, he was showing
21 me last Christmas, this beautiful thing he bought for his
22 kids, it would play beautiful music. You could program it.
23 And as he was showing me this, I said, "Gary," I said, "I
24 bet you this wasn't made in America." We got down on our
25 knees and read the fine print on it, "Made in Japan."

1 I think folks are still bombing us. I think
2 we can do better.

3 (Applause.)

4
5 ANNE McNEVIN,
6 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

7
8 MS. McNEVIN: My name is Anne McNevin from
9 Jerome, Idaho.

10 I'm a fourth generation Idahoan. I have a lot
11 of pride in our state, and I care for it. And because of my
12 concerns about our fragile desert, ecosystem and the welfare
13 of our people here in Idaho, both those who are here now and
14 the future generations, I signed up to testify, though it
15 makes me do this.

16 Because I'm so late in the list of people
17 testifying, most everything that I had on my contribution
18 here have been said before, but I feel called upon to offer
19 you my brand of redundancy, flexibility and diversity.

20 I support the No Action Alternative. I have
21 read the Environmental Impact Statement, and I found it
22 seriously flawed in a lot of ways that have been mentioned
23 many times.

24 I find it real interesting that we can't
25 comment on need or at least that won't be into the official

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1 record of these hearings. My scientific training has taught
2 me time and again to start with the definition of a problem
3 and the need. And I can't see how we can even begin to be
4 eliminating that from the public hearing process.

5 The Environmental Impact Statement didn't
6 begin to address the many questions that I had about the
7 effect of the SIS Project. I am well aware that the INEL
8 has used injection wells to dispose of their wastes in the
9 past. They did stop it. I wonder if they don't have memory
10 of that, and would expect us to trust that the answers they
11 give us are always good ones.

12 Our Governor was governor previously, and
13 during that administration he was told that the INEL would
14 remove the wastes that were there. Be's back again, and
15 they still aren't removed. I think they think that
16 politicians turn over, people of power turn over, and you
17 don't have to be accountable and responsible.

18 Self-regulated agencies make me real nervous.
19 I don't know why we would begin to feel that they would act
20 in a more responsible way in the future.

21 And even if they did truck the waste away,
22 which they say they might do, who wants those trucks with
23 that waste on our highways? This is not the kind of an
24 accident where you can say, I'm sorry, and then it just goes
25 away.

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2.1.1

5.17.2

3.2.2

5.30.1.14

3.2.18

5.29.85

1.1

2.1.1

2.8.5

2.7.3

1 The ethical issues abound. As an American, I
2 am ashamed that our third highest export is arms and
3 ammunition.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. McNEVIN: To think that we, in Idaho,
6 contribute to that is just unspeakable. As a state where we
7 are populated with farmers and ranchers and timber and mine
8 workers, we are used to contributing to society, not helping
9 its demise. I think that the majority of Idahoans would say
10 no to SIS, and I hope they have that opportunity.

5.27.6.3

11 The economic gains that are purported have
12 just been greatly over-represented. The highly technical
13 jobs that would be available in this kind of an industry
14 would go to out-of-staters, not in-staters, and the
15 low-level paying jobs would probably go to Idahoans.

5.27.7.4

16 Once our land was contaminated, the highest
17 paid people would leave, and the lowest paid people would
18 probably have to leave too if they knew what was good for
19 them.

6.1.8

20 The small short-term gain is just not a good
21 reason to borrow on our children's future. The industries
22 we do have, if there was an accident, would be totally
23 destroyed.

5.27.3.4

24 I can't imagine visiting Chernobyl, nor eating
25 potatoes or drinking wine or milk that came from that area.

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1 I think that we would find it very difficult to find markets
2 for any of the other things that we do.

3 I agree with others who have said that this is
4 a pork barrel operation, and I think that Senator Symms
5 would like to take credit for that, he has publicly. I
6 think if he wants to bring money to Idaho, that surely even
7 he could find some decent way to do that. Or maybe he can't
8 and should be dealt with at the polls. I think this is a
9 very political issue.

5.27.6.9

10 I have heard it said that some person who is
11 high up in the Department of Energy said that, if not Idaho,
12 where can we put SIS. Well, I would like to answer that
13 question from my point of view. I don't know where you can
14 put it. I hope you can't put it anywhere, but definitely
15 not Idaho, not now, and never.

16 (Applause.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Anne
18 McNevin will be included in the record as Exhibit 778.

19 Were you preregistered?

20 MS. DAVIS: No.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Fine. Could we have
22 your name and address for the record, please.
23
24
25

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T081

1 DONNA DAVIS,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MS. DAVIS: My name is Donna Davis, and I'm
5 from Hansen, Idaho.
6 Don't throw rocks at me right away; my father
7 works for the INEL. And I learned a while back that even
8 though I come from the same nest, I have a totally different
9 flight pattern. And I fly for peace, for life, and for all
10 those wonderful things that I have somehow been blessed to
11 have in my lifetime.
12 I have five children. And when I hold them in
13 my arms and talk to them about war and about some of the
14 tragedies that people suffer, you know, I hurt badly. I am
15 very much against SIS. And I just hope that they don't have
16 to see it in their lifetime in this beautiful state, or I
17 don't want it anywhere, period. I don't think it's
18 necessary.
19 Thank you.
20 (Applause.)
21 HEARING OFFICER: Any other commentators? Yes,
22 sir, if you would step forward, please, and state your name
23 and address for the record. Were you preregistered?
24 MR. BERNTHAL: No.
25 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you.

65

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T082

1 ERWIN BERNTHAL,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. BERNTHAL: Mr. Chairman, distinguished
5 members of the staff, I am Mr. Bernthal, Erwin Bernthal, a
6 resident of Twin Falls here. As my lack of hair will tell
7 you, I am retired. I am a retired minister. I speak not
8 for the congregation that I am affiliated with, much less
9 for my church body, but just as a private citizen.
10 This might be a little disjointed, because I'm
11 going to skip some things that have been said over and over
12 and over again.
13 Herewith I am recording my strong and
14 calculated objection to the construction and operation of
15 the proposed Special Isotope Separation plant at Idaho
16 Nuclear Energy Laboratory located near Idaho Falls for the
17 following reasons:
18 There is no apparent need for continued
19 production of plutonium-239, commonly known as weapon-grade
20 plutonium. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement
21 prepared by the U.S. Department of Energy, in all its
22 approximately 200 pages, is strikingly devoid of
23 substantiating a need for this plant and its intended
24 production. The nearest approach to such substantiation is
25 found in the vague, ambiguous reference to a DOE allegation

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712

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4.1

4.7.1

1 that it is needed to provide "flexibility, redundancy and
2 technological diversity." Note the amazing admission,
3 "redundancy."

4.13

4 It's common knowledge that there already
5 exists some 25,000 nuclear weapons in the arsenal of the
6 United States Government. Each of which is estimated to
7 have firepower 100 times that of the Hiroshima bomb of
8 1945. A sufficient number to devastate every sizeable city
9 throughout the world and render the rest of our planet quite
10 uninhabitable.

4.14

11 It is morally equivocal and a travesty upon
12 responsible statesmanship to proclaim publicly that the
13 United States Government is for nuclear disarmament, while
14 at the same time most of the country's technological and
15 economic resources continue to be expended on more and more
16 armaments, plus prohibitively costly new inventions of mass
17 destruction. When is enough enough?

4.2.1

18 According to the public press, the DOE
19 admitted that the government's plutonium stockpile is
20 sufficient to meet foreseeable demands for new weapons.

4.3

21 Moreover, in the event of the INF treaty being
22 signed, which calls for a 50 percent cutback on strategic
23 weapons, an enormous amount of plutonium, estimated at eight
24 times the proposed production of the SIS plant, would be
25 made available.

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1

Whereas the Draft Environmental Impact
2 Statement is purportedly intended to address the impact upon
3 the environment of the proposed SIS plant, this important
4 consideration is not sufficiently explored.

2.1.1

5

To be sure, it is stated that contaminated
6 waste materials are to be disposed of in a New Mexico
7 approved dump. Such disposed, disposal allocation, however,
8 is not in existence, and the pilot plant project thereof is
9 beset with serious problems.

5.30.2.1

10

It is patently impossible to minimize an
11 environmental impact from the operation of the proposed SIS
12 site at this time since the experimental pilot plant at
13 Livermore, California, has not yet been tested, to say
14 nothing of a reliable evaluation of the environmental impact
15 of such SIS plant when in operation.

5.24.18

16

It is well known that the INEL plant is
17 located on a seismic fault. It hasn't occurred to date, but
18 who will predict a damaging quake will not take place at
19 some future time?

5.10.4

20

A life preserving aquifer underlies the area
21 of the proposed site of the SIS upon which thousands of
22 inhabitants rely. Please don't risk contaminating this
23 aquifer. Even now there are legitimate concerns about
24 possible contamination of this aquifer from the existing
25 INEL plant and its waste material.

5.12.1

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5.27.6.4

714

1 It is a myopic assumption that construction
2 and operation of the proposed SIS plant will materially
3 benefit the economy of Idaho Falls and Pocatello. Ask
4 citizens of Hanford, Washington, or Augusta, Barnwell and
5 Williston, South Carolina.
6 Regrettably, regrettably...
7 Thank you.
8 (Applause.)
9 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
10 E. J. Bernthal will be included in the record as Exhibit
11 780.
12 Would anyone else like to comment? Yes,
13 ma'am, step forward. Give your name and address for the
14 record.
15 MS. McALLISTER: I was preregistered for this
16 evening.
17 BEARING OFFICER: All right. Fine.
18
19 JUDY McALLISTER,
20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
21
22 MS. McALLISTER: My name is Judy McAllister.
23 My address is 615 Fillmore, Twin Falls.
24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
25 MS. McALLISTER: I am a clinical social worker

1 in Twin Falls and a psychotherapist in private practice.
2 I support the No Action Alternative on the
3 Special Isotope Separation Project for many reasons. And
4 I'm going to get free of my notes here, which I'll turn in,
5 but I want to say, to begin with, don't you see that the
6 tide has turned? We are no longer a nation of people who
7 support war. That is abundantly clear already in the kinds
8 of polls that have been taken and the issues that have come
9 up, and even Congress is already not listening. Please
10 listen to us.
11 First, my first concern is that of safety
12 regarding accidents that have forced already all but one of
13 the DOE's plutonium processing reactors to shut down. Until
14 the Department of Energy has developed storage and safety
15 procedures which will work without exception, I do not want
16 plutonium to be produced or separated in this state or any
17 other.
18 Responsibility lies with the DOE to prove
19 safety before production. The Draft EIS does not include
20 prudent safety procedures, but rather relies on past methods
21 which are clearly ineffective.
22 Between the DOE's errors and miscalculations
23 in the EIS and its past safety record, the DOE gets a no
24 confidence vote from me, and I strongly oppose operation of
25 the SIS in Idaho or anywhere else.

1.1

5.24.14

5.24.25

5.24.13

3.2.2

5.12.1

(Applause.)

MS. McALLISTER: Secondly, the environmental issues are of great concern to me, as discussed in the SIS, in the DEIS. Because the Snake River Plain Aquifer is a closed system aquifer and, therefore, whatever toxins are introduced here stay here, degradation of this aquifer is a very serious problem. Many people have spoken about this, but I'm not sure that we all understand what a closed system aquifer is. Essentially it is a basin for which there is -- that act as a collector. The Snake River is the only issue out of this basin, and whatever sinks to the bottom of the basin is still not carried out by the Snake River system and its tributaries. Only the surface water, up towards the surface, gets into the Snake River.

6.5.5

So I want as healthy as possible an environment for my children and grandchildren and for all Idaho residents.

5.24.25

I have read the Draft EIS, and the DOE has failed to provide positive proof that the SIS Project at the INEL not harm the environment. For example, the DEIS proposes the use of stand-alone storage vaults for storing by-product material for up to 30 years. That's how long the storage vault has to be good for. Unfortunately, storage storage units used by the DOE so far have failed to last through their designed lifetimes without leakage, and we are

5.4.1

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dealing here with by-products with a half-life of 2,000 years or more. Will someone transfer the by-products from storage vault to storage vault for the next 2,000 years without fail and check them regularly for leakage? The EIS does not propose that this be done.

5.30.3.1

Also, the proposed percolation ponds and infiltration beds are not working well at Savannah River, and there is concern about seepage into the Savannah River Aquifer. The possible inadequacies of this plant are not addressed effectively by the EIS. It does say that the depth of contamination may be up to 230 feet. The Snake River Aquifer goes from 200 to a thousand feet.

5.21.3

5.30.4.9

Waste produced is 440 tons a year, 20 tons of which are freon. Freon is now illegal to be used as a propellant in spray cans. The 20 tons released would be nothing less than a gigantic spray can, releasing freon to interact with hydrocarbons and create a chain reaction which will further destroy the protective ozone layer of the earth in a progressive manner, 40 percent greater each year currently, and the destruction of the ozone has been determined to be one cause of our rising skin cancer rate.

5.9.3

Many more things concern me, but let me finally just say that as John Glenn has said, "It will do precious little to protect ourselves from the Soviets, if in the process we poison or irradiate our own people."

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(Applause.)

HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Judith McAllister will be included in the record as Exhibit 781.

Are there other commentators? Yes, sir.

CHRIS WEST,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MR. WEST: My name is Chris West. I was just thinking about a movie I saw just about a year ago called Silkwood. The woman in that story was supposedly contaminated from just as little plutonium as possible because it takes less plutonium than you can see to kill one human being.

And if what -- you know, why should we build more, as everybody else has said, to build more than we need to totally eliminate the earth. And there's absolutely no way we can dispose of the waste or clean up the environment after they are polluted and take billions of dollars or more. But the defense budget can do more than cover enough, as much as we've spent, and we don't need that much.

And we have been sending all this help all over the world to Iran and Iraq and the Contras, when we really need to work on our own country, and trying to get

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economically ahead, because everybody talks about America and what a good life it is and our -- especially our moral standards with the drugs, we export -- I mean, we import millions of dollars of drugs, and the deaths are devastating with cancer and drugs too.

And the ozone layer is getting so thin that the rates of skin cancer have gone up in several hundred thousand deaths per year, this year. And in the North Pole, especially, there's absolutely no coverage up there, and the reason is unknown as to why the pollutants go up north, but perhaps wind pattern, or I don't know.

And I really don't feel that we should make anything that would destroy something as beautiful and sacred as life that's been given to us through, you know, it might be religion, most people believe in a religion, but it might be nature that causes it, a certain mixture in the cosmos, a certain mixture of elements created the earth, and we have that power to destroy or to rectify the earth.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

HEARING OFFICER: Any further commentators?
We need to have your name and address for the record, sir.

MR. MCCARTHY: Michael McCarthy.

HEARING OFFICER: Michael McCarthy. Were you

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5.9.3

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6.3

1 preregistered?

2 MR. McCARTHY: I was.

3
4 MICHAEL McCARTHY,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MR. McCARTHY: I'm Michael McCarthy. My
8 address is in Boise. I drove down this afternoon
9 specifically for this hearing. I missed my appointed time
10 up there. I think it's an important enough issue for
11 people, anyone to take the time. Obviously, people here
12 have done that. I guess I would encourage you all to
13 follow-up with it because this is the last rallying force,
14 but it's not going to be the final solution.

15 I'm a real estate developer in Boise and all
16 over Idaho, and the impact that this is going to have
17 economically in Idaho Falls, to be honest, in my opinion, is
18 going to be very short-lived and very short-term. It will
19 be a boom or bust type of a scenario or it has that
20 potential.

21 The short-term economic gains that would be
22 gained from this plant, this facility, are relatively minor
23 compared to the long-term deficit that we could, as a state,
24 be impacted with.

25 I am opposed to the facility due to most of

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1 the major issues most other people have. First and foremost
2 is the moral reason behind it all. But there are questions
3 about safety, safety in transportation, safety in
4 production. There's also questions about whether or not
5 there has been a demonstrated need for the product once it's
6 been produced.

7 Potential boom and bust, long-term and
8 short-term jobs for building the facility and long-term and
9 short-term jobs at the continued operations. I think -- I
10 don't think it should be built. I think it's also somewhat
11 questionable that the facility could be linked with INEL
12 that has a wonderful history of production and some of the
13 major things that they have been able to accomplish there,
14 couple that with a facility like the SIS, seems to me it's
15 either job security or else they are linking two things that
16 ought not be linked together.

17 With that in mind, as I did say, I am opposed
18 to it. I think that in Idaho Falls we are not -- Idaho
19 Falls has a tendency in Boise at least to be considered the
20 other side of the world. Yet, we are impacted by what goes
21 on there. The short-term/long-term costs to the Boise
22 economy are going to be felt as well as being felt in Idaho
23 Falls or Twin Falls. By not having that, we are going to
24 lose some dollars. And I'm willing -- my business requires
25 you people coming into the state for me to make a living, it

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5.29.97

5.24.30

4.1

5.27.10

3.3.1

5.27.6.1

1.1

5.27.10

5.27.6.10

1 requires things to grow and progress. I don't want those
 2 kind of dollars. Thank you.
 3 (Applause.)
 4 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
 5 Anyone further? Any further commentors?
 6 (No response.)
 7 HEARING OFFICER: With that, then, we'll be in
 8 recess until 7:00 this evening for the continuation of this
 9 hearing.
 10 Thank you.
 11 (The hearing was recessed at 3:55 p.m.)

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1 TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, MONDAY, MARCH 28, 1988, 7:04 P.M.
 2
 3
 4 HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen, I will
 5 now formally commence this public hearing concerning the
 6 review of the Environmental Impact Statement relative to the
 7 United States Department of Energy's proposed Special
 8 Isotope Separation Project. This proceeding is designated
 9 as the Twin Falls, Idaho, public hearing on Department of
 10 Energy document DOE/EIS-0136, held on the 28th day of March,
 11 1988, commencing at 7:04 in the evening.
 12 My name is Roy Eiguren. I'm the hearings
 13 officer for this and subsequent public hearings held to
 14 receive comment on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 15 for the proposed siting, construction and operation by the
 16 Department of Energy of a Special Isotope Separation Project
 17 utilizing the Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation process
 18 technology. I will refer to this, as well as subsequent
 19 proceedings, as DOE's DEIS public hearings on the SIS
 20 Project.
 21 I am an attorney engaged in private practice
 22 in Boise. I have been retained by the Department of Energy
 23 to conduct this series of public hearings as an independent
 24 and unbiased party to assure the opportunity for all
 25 interested organizations and individuals to comment on the

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1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Accordingly, I am not
 2 serving as an advocate for or against the proposed position
 3 taken by the Department of Energy in this matter. Rather, I
 4 am a neutral third party who has coordinated the development
 5 of the procedures to be followed, as well as conducting the
 6 hearings themselves.

7 The issue that is the subject of this
 8 proceeding is the Department's proposal to site, construct
 9 and operate an SIS facility in one of three locations in the
 10 United States; the DOE's Idaho National Engineering
 11 Laboratory near Idaho Falls; DOE's Hanford Reservation
 12 Richland, Washington; or the DOE's Savannah River plant near
 13 Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three sites is
 14 designated as an alternative that is considered in the Draft
 15 Environmental Impact Statement.

16 The fourth and final alternative under
 17 consideration of the DEIS is the No Action Alternative,
 18 which would be a departmental decision not to site,
 19 construct and operate an SIS facility. As stated in the
 20 Draft Environmental Impact Statement itself, the
 21 Department's preferred alternative is to site, construct and
 22 operate the SIS plant at the Idaho Engineering Laboratory.

23 To put this hearing in perspective, I think it
 24 is important that all of you first understand the key
 25 elements of the federal laws that requires that the

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1 Department's final decision in this matter be preceded by a
 2 comprehensive review of the environmental factors associated
 3 with each of the alternatives that I have mentioned. The
 4 National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, Public Law
 5 91-910, generally known as NEPA, requires "That all federal
 6 agencies develop procedures that insure that environmental
 7 amenities or values are given appropriate consideration in
 8 all federal government decisionmaking." This law also
 9 requires that recommendations for "major federal actions
 10 significantly affecting the quality of human environment" be
 11 first preceded by the development and completion of an
 12 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, that fully and
 13 carefully examines the potential environmental impacts of
 14 the proposed federal action.

15 The Department of Energy has determined that
 16 its proposal to site, construct and operate an SIS plant is
 17 a major federal action that, under NEPA, requires the
 18 development and completion of an EIS. Accordingly, by the
 19 publication on October 31, 1986, of a Notice of Intent to
 20 Prepare an EIS in the Federal Register, the Department of
 21 Energy commenced a process that has led to the development
 22 and publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 23 that is the subject of this hearing.

24 The DEIS was prepared by the Department, with
 25 the assistance of an independent contractor, NUS

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1 Corporation, after an extensive process of receiving public
 2 comment through scoping or initial input on the EIS itself.
 3 During scoping, public comment on the scope or magnitude of
 4 issues to be addressed in the EIS was received, as well as
 5 specific comment on particular issues themselves. Scoping
 6 included the receipt of extensive written comment from the
 7 public, as well as oral comment, in two lengthy public
 8 hearings; one was held in Idaho Falls, Idaho, on February
 9 24th, 1987, and one held in Boise, Idaho, on February 26th,
 10 1987.

11 As a result of the input received during
 12 scoping, the following issues were analyzed in the Draft
 13 Environmental Impact Statement relative to each of the four
 14 alternatives that I mentioned earlier. In other words,
 15 these are the 11 issues that are currently being reviewed in
 16 the DEIS:

17 Issue No. 1. Off-site general population of
 18 radiological and non-radiological effects resulting from
 19 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

20 Issue No. 2. Effects on the general
 21 population from emissions of radiological and
 22 non-radiological releases caused by normal operations of an
 23 SIS facility.

24 Issue No. 3. Exposure of operating personnel
 25 to radiological sources and non-radiological releases during

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1 normal operations of an SIS facility.

2 Issue No. 4. Incremental differences and
 3 environmental impacts between operating of the existing
 4 chemical processing facilities and the proposed action and
 5 alternatives.

6 Issue No. 5. Effects on air and water quality
 7 and other environmental consequences during construction and
 8 operation of an SIS facility.

9 Issue No. 6. Cumulative effects of operations
 10 of such a facility, including changes in support operations
 11 related to it.

12 Issue No. 7. The on-site and off-site
 13 transportation impacts of nuclear materials.

14 Issue 8. An analysis of applicable federal,
 15 state and local regulations applying to the construction and
 16 operation of an SIS plant.

17 Issue No. 9. The decontamination and
 18 decommissioning issues.

19 Issue No. 10. Irretrievable and irreversible
 20 commitment of resources in the use of land and materials.

21 And Issue No. 11. Mitigation measures
 22 necessary to respond to the environmental consequences
 23 associated with each of the alternatives.

24 The EIS preparation and review process is
 25 governed by federal regulations established by the Council

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1 on Environmental Quality, or CEQ, which is an agency within
 2 the Executive Office of the President of the United States.
 3 In addition to that, the Department of Energy has its own
 4 guidelines for the preparation of EISs. The Council on
 5 Environmental Quality regulations are found at 40 Federal
 6 Regulations, Parts 1500 through 1508. The DOE guidelines
 7 are found at 45 Federal Register 20694.

8 These regulations and guidelines have been
 9 previously marked by me as Exhibit 1 and has been included
 10 in the formal hearing record.

11 The relevant CEQ regulations require that,
 12 after preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and
 13 before preparing a Final Environmental Impact Statement, a
 14 federal agency must first obtain the comments of, No. 1, any
 15 other federal agency which has jurisdiction by law or
 16 special expertise with respect to any environmental impact;
 17 2, request the comments of appropriate state and local
 18 agencies which develop and enforce environmental standards;
 19 3, Indian tribes; and, 4, the public, with a particular
 20 obligation to affirmatively solicit comments from persons or
 21 organizations who may be interested or affected by the
 22 proposed federal action.

23 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
 24 where the Department determines that, "substantial
 25 environmental controversy concerning proposed action"

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1 exists. Accordingly, these hearings are being held pursuant
 2 to these regulations to receive public, any tribe and
 3 governmental comment on the various issues identified in the
 4 Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Notice of these
 5 public hearings was provided in the Federal Register Notices
 6 dated February 19th, 1988, and March the 4th, 1988.
 7 Additional public notice was provided for publication in
 8 numerous newspapers throughout the state of Idaho. Federal
 9 Register Notices, the text of the newspaper notices and the
 10 publication dates of each have been marked as Exhibit 2 in
 11 this proceeding and have been previously entered into the
 12 record by me.

13 Public comment on the Draft Environmental
 14 Impact Statement is being received through this and other
 15 hearings held throughout the state. Hearings have been held
 16 previously in Boise, as well as Idaho Falls, and will
 17 continue on in those two cities as well as here later in the
 18 week.

19 Written comment must receive the same weight
 20 and consideration by the Department in this proceeding and
 21 may be submitted by the public to me today, as the hearing
 22 officer, or you may mail them to the Department of Energy,
 23 and an address will be provided at the registration table.
 24 The close of record in this proceeding is April 21, 1988.
 25 To the extent that you do want to provide additional written

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1 comment, if you are going to submit written comment, you
 2 must do so by that date. Oral and written comment will be
 3 compiled in a comprehensive record that will be considered
 4 by the Department, thus the purpose of having a court
 5 reporter here.

6 The CEQ regulations also provide that comments
 7 on the Environmental Impact Statement or on the proposed
 8 action shall be as specific as possible and may address the
 9 accuracy of the Statement or the merits of the alternatives
 10 or both. Although the Department has determined that
 11 certain issues, such as the need for an SIS project, are
 12 beyond the scope of this EIS proceeding, I will allow
 13 comment on that issue as well as other issues but related to
 14 the project that individual commentors feel are relevant.
 15 However, as the Hearings Officer, I do reserve the right to
 16 ask commentors to keep your comments relevant to the subject
 17 matter of this proceeding and, when necessary, I'll ask you
 18 to do so.

19 After reviewing the record in this proceeding,
 20 the Department of Energy may choose to modify, supplement or
 21 reissue the DEIS prior to issuing a Final Environmental
 22 Impact Statement. It may also choose to reissue the DEIS as
 23 the Final EIS without modification. A Record of Decision
 24 will identify the environmentally preferred alternative
 25 chosen by the Department, along with any practicable means

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1 to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative
 2 selected will be prepared.

3 The Department, as a matter of federal
 4 regulation, however, cannot proceed with its proposed action
 5 which is to contain the Record of Decision until a minimum
 6 of 30 days has passed from the date of issuance of the final
 7 EIS. Under current schedules the Department of Energy
 8 intends to issue a Final EIS and the Record of Decision in
 9 August of this year.

10 To govern the conduct of this and other public
 11 hearings in this proceeding, I have developed several
 12 procedures in consultation with the Department of Energy as
 13 well as representatives of public interest groups who have
 14 either participated in the scoping meetings or who have
 15 indicated an interest to participate in these hearings.
 16 These procedures were finalized on March 24th and were
 17 distributed to interested parties as well as to
 18 organizational representatives and individuals who have
 19 preregistered to comment, those individuals who had
 20 preregistered by March 18th, 1988, the deadline for
 21 preregistration. The procedures that I have mentioned have
 22 already been entered in record as Exhibit 3. I have also
 23 submitted as Exhibit No. 4 a list of all DOE public
 24 involvement activities associated with the development of
 25 this Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

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1 At this time I will now turn to the procedural
2 rules we'll follow at this hearing which has been the same
3 at all the other hearings.

4 Other than my opening statement which I am
5 making now and previously received comments of Troy Wade,
6 who is the Assistant Secretary of Energy for Defense
7 Programs, there will not be any other remarks by Department
8 of Energy or its contractors. However, senior departmental
9 staff is here, sitting in front, and they are listening to
10 all the comments that are being received.

11 Comments are going to be received in the
12 following order: Any elected or appointed federal, state or
13 governmental officials will be given first chance to
14 comment. I believe we have two individuals in that category
15 this evening. Following that we will hear presentations by
16 representatives of national, state and local organizations
17 who are participating in these proceedings.

18 Following that we will hear from members of
19 the public who preregistered to speak prior to the end of
20 business on March 18th, 1988, which was the close of
21 preregistration. I would stress that the order of
22 commentators in this regard has been done by random
23 selection. We simply entered names into a computer, and it
24 came out with a list of commentators.

25 Finally, the members of the public who

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1 registered at the door of this hearing will be accommodated
2 as time allows.

3 Organizational representative will be allowed
4 ten minutes for comment. Individuals will be allowed five
5 minutes. Because of the large number of commentators in these
6 proceedings, I think there's been 832 individuals who have
7 signed up, not only here but throughout the state, we are
8 asking people to keep within the timeframe allowed. So if
9 you are speaking for an organization or a public official,
10 you have got ten minutes. And if you are an individual, you
11 have five minutes.

12 To assist you in organizing your time, we have
13 a signaling device up here. There's a green light that goes
14 on at four minutes, and you can see you have a minute to go.
15 And when the red light goes on, you are out of time. When
16 your time is up, do not go past the point in time the red
17 light goes on, or you'll be in very serious trouble if you
18 do.

19 The speaker list is posted at the back of the
20 room, actually at the front door as you come in. We have
21 been following the order of speakers that are listed on
22 those lists. And so to give you some idea of this
23 afternoon, we found that generally we were able to go
24 through about ten commentators, ten to fifteen commentators per
25 hour. We do not have any carry-over commentators from this

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1 afternoon. So after we hear from our four organizational
2 representatives at the beginning of our program, we will go
3 directly to public commentators.

4 We are prepared to go to at least 11 o'clock
5 tonight to accommodate people. To the extent that we still
6 have people who have not been accommodated by 11 o'clock,
7 which is probable, we are going to have a continuation of
8 this hearing starting Thursday, the 31st of March, that's
9 two days from now, Thursday, the 31st of March, back here in
10 this facility starting at two in the afternoon and at seven.

11 So if you have already preregistered to comment and have
12 not been accommodated by 11, or you signed up at the door
13 and you don't have a chance to speak tonight, we will allow
14 you to do so without any further action on your part next
15 Thursday.

16 If you do have questions, and we do solicit
17 questions, there are forms provided by the Department of
18 Energy at the registration desk as you come in. A written
19 answer to every question will be provided, and the answers
20 will be included in this hearing record.

21 Finally, I'd like to indicate that in terms of
22 the decorum that we are calling for in these hearings, you
23 people have been extraordinarily patient and very civil and
24 courteous to all the commentators, and we greatly appreciate
25 that. This is a somewhat emotional issue, and the fact that

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1 the people are listening to both sides of the view, is
2 greatly appreciated by the Chair.

3 We are not going to allow any combining of
4 speakertime. The five minutes you have allotted to you is
5 yours alone. However, if you represent a family and want to
6 bring your family members up and comment together, that is
7 fine.

8 Charts and other visual aids can be allowed or
9 are allowed, if you want. However, if you do have something
10 that you want included in the record, you must have
11 something that's of appropriate size that we can include in
12 the hearing record.

13 Finally, as I mentioned, this is a record
14 proceeding. As I mentioned earlier, everything that is
15 being said is being recorded by the court reporter in the
16 front of the room. Accordingly, in order to accurately and
17 fully capture your comments, we are going to ask you to
18 speak from the podium up here. When you come to the
19 microphone, please give us your name and your address for
20 the record. Once you do that, we'll start timing you for
21 the five minutes.

22 If you have questions about procedures or any
23 of the issues in this proceeding, feel free to ask me during
24 the breaks, we'll have a number of those throughout the
25 meeting. In addition to that, there are departmental folks,

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1 DOE folks in the back of the room and at the registration
2 table that are able to help you if you do have any
3 questions.

4 With that, we'll go ahead and begin with our
5 list of commentators tonight. The first scheduled commentator
6 is Senator John Peavey. I don't believe Senator Peavey is
7 here, so we'll have to go to our next commentator who I will
8 find out. Our next scheduled commentator is Mr. Clarence
9 Billem, County Commissioner.

10
11 CLARENCE BILLEM,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13
14 MR. BILLEM: My name is Clarence Billem.
15 (Unintelligible.) My address is Route 1, Rupert, Idaho.

16 I'll try to not to make any mistakes, I'll
17 read this presentation. First of all, I'd like to thank you
18 for letting me make this presentation here today.

19 My name is Clarence Billem, and I will give
20 you a brief background of myself so you can understand the
21 personal interest I have in the SIS. I attended the
22 University of Idaho, School of Mines; enlisted in the U.S.
23 Air Force during World War II; Pilot Officer with 2,000
24 flight hours, medium bombers, transport planes; honorable
25 discharge in 1945.

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1 I started farming by purchasing 40 acre farms
2 which were badly eroded via wind and water. I leveled them,
3 making it a highly productive farm. I am married and have
4 raised eight children. Currently I am a Minidoka County
5 Commissioner. I care for the quality of the air, water and
6 land, and like all the farmers, we are the original
7 environmentalists.

8 Idaho's tax base is being eroded by federal
9 land purchases, increased wilderness and other services
10 costs. Yet, we have to try to maintain status quo with
11 these entities' erosions. With this in mind, the additional
12 payroll and other expenditures at INEL would be a welcome
13 booster to the State of Idaho's eroded economy. Idaho is
14 approximately 85 percent federally and state owned. The
15 federal government pays 10 cents an acre for some land and
16 75 cents per acre for other land. The State of Idaho pays
17 nothing to counties that contain these lands, including
18 maintaining their roads, giving fire protection and a long
19 list of other services.

20 The radioactive material in various forms is
21 going to be transported through Idaho; either to Colorado,
22 New Mexico, South Carolina or Arco. We in Idaho have a lot
23 to gain from this facility and its technology. The proposal
24 of technology transfer would have far-reaching advancements
25 for Idaho's educational system. Our students and

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5.27.6.1

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5.27.9.2

5.23.23

1 instructors will gain from the laser and advanced computer
 2 technology out of SIS procedures. Usually, advanced
 3 break-throughs are made during such procedures which can
 4 further benefit Idaho and its people. Furthermore, our
 5 risks of receiving overdoses of radioactivity are far
 6 greater from fallouts that occur from poor nuclear device
 7 testing procedures that are ongoing both west of us, line of
 8 our prevailing winds, and all over the world, than could
 9 happen from SIS if located at Arco.

5.12.1

10 Our state being seated atop the Columbia Lava
 11 Flow, which starts in Canada and ends in Oregon, is another
 12 reason for alarm -- water pollution. Anywhere along that
 13 route water pollution of any kind can occur; yet, nowhere is
 14 it monitored for pollution as closely as at the INEL
 15 facility.

5.27.6.12

16 Here in Idaho we have we have to do all we can
 17 to keep the state financially sound. We have large populous
 18 areas areas dictating the policy for our resource
 19 management. These entities are mandating policy with no
 20 financial assistance and at the same time eroding our tax
 21 base. Yet, Idaho has to maintain roads, services, and
 22 schools at levels commensurate with the rest of the nation.
 23 SIS would be a source of status quo maintenance for Idaho.

5.24.23

24 INEL has been around a long time. Their
 25 safety record impeccable. With the addition of SIS to the

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1 INEL, I cannot foresee any deterioration of safety or
 2 degradation of the environment. The employees of INEL have
 3 been citizens of Idaho for a long time. I cannot see them
 4 putting fellow Idahoans in a greater risk mode by the
 5 addition of SIS.

6 We incessantly get opposition from resort reas
 7 of changes that may occur, such as wilderness extensions or
 8 SIS-type projects. Especially in regard to nuclear
 9 construction, hydropower dams or coal-fired facilities.
 10 Yet, from the same areas come massive structures with five
 11 or six furnaces, heated swimming pools, saunas, hot tubs and
 12 waterbeds. Multitudes of demands from the systems they
 13 continuously fight against. Where must this increasing
 14 demand for electrical energy come from? Someone else's
 15 backyard. In light of more wilderness, we sustain losses in
 16 mining, lumber and industry; therefore, we definitely need
 17 SIS to help maintain our eroding tax base.

18 SIS will promote jobs, new construction, new
 19 technology advances, constant monitoring of our resources
 20 and a general uplift in Idaho's economy. I undoubtedly
 21 support the SIS project to be an Idaho advancement.

22 Respectfully submitted, Clarence F. Bellem.

23 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you Commissioner.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Commissioner Billem's

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5.27.6.1

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1 comments will be entered in the record as Exhibit No. 354 as
2 received by the Chair.

3 Next scheduled commentor is Liz Paul on behalf
4 of Snake River Alliance.

5 (Applause.)

6
7 LIZ PAUL,
8 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

9
10 MS. PAUL: The Snake River Alliance is a
11 policy public citizens group based in Boise, Idaho. The
12 Snake River Alliance is a membership of 600 people. The
13 Alliance is supported by membership fees, contributions and
14 foundation grants. 95 percent of the individuals who
15 support the Snake River Alliance live in Idaho. 50 percent
16 of the Life-Guard Idaho campaign income is received from
17 Idaho.

18 The Snake River Alliance is opposed to the
19 construction and operation of the Special Isotope Separation
20 plutonium processing facility. The Draft Environmental
21 Impact Statement is inadequate and unacceptable. The
22 document omits critical data, including the fact that the
23 mission of the SIS will only last seven to eight years, and
24 that includes numerous inadequacies -- excuse me,
25 inaccuracies.

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1 The inclusion of a disclaimer on the inside
2 front cover which states that the United States Government
3 is not liable or responsible for the accuracy or
4 completeness of information contained within the document is
5 alarming. This is not a one time mistake on the part of the
6 Department of Energy. The Environmental Assessment on the
7 Fuel Processing Restoration project out at the INEL which
8 was released last year also includes such a disclaimer.

9 In view of these facts, the Snake River
10 Alliance requests that the Department of Energy reissue the
11 Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

12 I'm submitting a list of grievances in regards
13 to the hearing procedures, but before I get into the
14 complaints I would like to give my sincere thanks to Roy and
15 to Janine and the other staff that have made these hearings
16 run as well as they have considering the things which I will
17 get into now.

18 Our grievances include, but are not limited to
19 the following: The DOE ignored numerous requests from
20 citizens groups and elected officials and refused to
21 schedule hearings in Pocatello or Lewiston, Idaho. These
22 requests had been made for good reason. Hundreds of people
23 had expressed interest in presenting comments. The
24 additional hearings would have accommodated many more people
25 and lessened the burden on the three hearings that were

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2.3

2.1.6

2.8.9

2.8.3

2.8.13

1 scheduled.
 2 Having refused to schedule additional hearings
 3 or act in any way to accommodate the hundreds of people who
 4 were signing up, the DOE was faced with having 70 hours of
 5 testimony and only 24 hours in which to hear it. The
 6 situation was clear at least two weeks before the hearings,
 7 but the Department of Energy waited until the morning of
 8 hearings to do anything about it.

2.8.10

9 What they did was ask people to come back
 10 another time. There are three additional hearings
 11 scheduled; tomorrow in Boise, Wednesday in Idaho Falls and
 12 then back again here on Thursday. Many of these people had
 13 traveled many miles and took time off of work in order to
 14 come to the hearings and speak their piece. There's no
 15 excuse for this lack of planning on the part of the
 16 Department of Energy. I can't think of a better way to
 17 discourage public participation and limit public input.

3.2.2

18 Operation of the SIS plant calls for a
 19 considerable amount of planning and foresight, as well as
 20 the ability to respond quickly when necessary. The DOE's
 21 handling of these hearings should a warning to us. If this
 22 is any indication of the way in which they will operate the
 23 SIS plant, I'm truly fearful.

2.8.12

24 The Snake River Alliance would like to go on
 25 record now requesting that the DOE schedule 140 hours of

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1 hearings on the Final Environmental Impact Statement. At
 2 the rate the opposition to the SIS has grown, Snake River
 3 Alliance expects to at least double the number of people who
 4 want to testify at the next set of hearings.

(Applause.)

5
 6 MS. PAUL: The Snake River Alliance has argued
 7 for the last 18 months that there is no need for additional
 8 weapon-grade plutonium and, therefore, no need for the SIS
 9 facility. The United States already possesses an enormous
 10 stockpile of weapon-grade plutonium, and that stockpile has
 11 a shelf-life of 20,000 years.

4.15.1

12 On Friday, March 25th, DOE official, Troy
 13 Wade, admitted that the Snake River Alliance was correct.
 14 He said that there is no known need for additional sources
 15 of plutonium in the near-term or in the future. But like a
 16 chameleon, the DOE has now changed its color. The DOE has
 17 developed another way to justify this billion dollar laser
 18 toy. The DOE says we need the SIS to provide redundancy and
 19 technological diversity. Redundancy to provide something
 20 there is no need for?

4.2.2

4.7.3

21 The comparison that came to my mind is buying
 22 diapers for children who are already toilet trained. The
 23 SIS makes as much sense as buying 1,000 Huggies a year for
 24 children who are into make-up and fast cars. Or maybe you
 25 just want the diapers around to provide your household some

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5.22.2

1 technological diversity. I suggest that the DOE buy the
2 Huggies; they have something to put in them.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. PAUL: Seriously, what kind of line are
5 they feeding us and what kind of people do they think we are
6 that we are going to swallow it? There is a finite supply
7 of legally available feed material for the proposed SIS
8 plant. Any ability that the SIS has to provide redundancy
9 or technological diversity will diminish as the feed supply
10 dwindles and will vanish entirely after seven to eight
11 years.

5.22.3

12 I hear rumors that the DOE is, once again,
13 suggesting that the SIS be used for what's called weapons
14 return. That will mean the eventual processing of over 100
15 metric tons of plutonium in the SIS and the transportation
16 of that plutonium into and out of Idaho.

5.22.6

17 Or maybe the DOE hopes that the Hart-Simpson
18 amendment will be repealed and they will gain access to all
19 of the plutonium now locked within commercial nuclear
20 reactor spent fuel.

2.2.17

21 The Department of Energy has repeatedly
22 refused to inform the public of its long-term plans for the
23 SIS. The Snake River Alliance demands that the Department
24 of Energy disclose its plans for this facility and evaluate
25 the consequences of all possible missions for the SIS in the

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1 reissued Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Idaho has
2 the right to know.

3 (Applause.)

4 MS. PAUL: The SIS has been linked to national
5 security. Some think that the SIS would increase our
6 national security. The Snake River Alliance believes just
7 the opposite. The SIS is estimated to cost close to
8 \$1 billion, and I want to emphasize estimated. Where is
9 this money coming from? It's coming from other government
10 programs; programs needed to educate, house and feed
11 Americans. Programs needed to fix our highways and clean up
12 toxic wastes. Programs needed for basic research and
13 industrial redevelopment.

4.15.4

6.3

14 The SIS will not solve this fundamental
15 problem, no more than a few more life savers -- life
16 preservers would have saved the people on the Titanic. The
17 answer to America's problems will not be found in the
18 production of more weapon-grade plutonium.

5.27.7.17

19 This country needs jobs. Idaho needs jobs.
20 The union workers need jobs. To some, a job refining
21 plutonium for nuclear weapons may be better than no job at
22 all. But what kind of choice is that? Americans deserve
23 jobs that they can be proud of.

24 Senators McClure and Symms, Stallings and
25 Craig, and Governor Andrus all say they want to provide jobs

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1 for Idahoans. If they can't think of any better way than
2 the SIS to provide jobs, I suggest we replace them with
3 someone who can.

4 (Applause.)

5 MS. PAUL: I suggest we replace them with
6 someone who is willing to speak out on the behalf of both
7 the unions and the scientists and bring the real jobs to
8 Idaho, jobs with a future and jobs for the future.

6.3

9 The INEL is a vital part of Idaho's economy.
10 Let's put our politicians to work to secure funding for
11 peaceful research and development. Let's put Idaho and the
12 INEL to work on solving America's energy problems and
13 America's problems with hazardous and nuclear waste. Let's
14 put Idaho and the INEL to work building a stronger America.

15 The SIS can be stopped and it will be
16 stopped. A DOE official was quoted in the New York Times
17 yesterday saying, "If we can't get a facility like this
18 built here, you wonder if we can build anything anywhere."

19 If it has to do with nuclear weapons, I would
20 contend that the DOE will not be able to build it anywhere.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. PAUL: The American taxpayer knows when
23 enough is enough.

24 The overwhelming majority of speakers at these
25 hearings these last few days have opposed the SIS in Idaho

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1 or anywhere. Our electted officials must now speak out
2 against this horrendous waste of taxpayers' dollars, this
3 plutonium factory, if they are to represent Idaho's people.

4 I want to extend my sincere thanks to everyone
5 who has shown the courage and the responsibility to look
6 past the facade of short-term promises and hold forth a
7 vision for the future which does not include nuclear
8 weapons. Together, we will stop the SIS and build a
9 stronger America.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: It's hard to get that much
13 applause in the record.

14 The next scheduled commentor is Judith Hawkes,
15 representing the Global Environmental Project Institute.

16
17 JUDITH HAWKES,
18 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

19
20 MS. HAWKES: Good evening. My name is Judith
21 Hawkes, and I represent the Global Environment Project
22 Institute, Box 1111, Ketchum, Idaho. Thank you for giving
23 me the opportunity to testify this evening.

24 The purpose of the Global Environment Project
25 Institute is to educate citizens and students regarding the

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1 local connection to global concerns of population
2 environment and development. We show how people right here
3 in Idaho can make the world a better place for present and
4 future generations to live.

1.1 5 The Global Environment's position on the DEIS
6 suggests that the environmentally preferred alternative is
7 no action. The SIS should not be built in Idaho.

2.12.2 8 I think that few here tonight could disagree
9 that the world would be a better place if there was not a
10 need to construct the nuclear weapons facility such as the
11 SIS project, yet our elected officials tell us that we need
12 more weapons-grade plutonium. I personally have been told
13 that this project is already a given. They claim that the
14 SIS is going to be built somewhere, why not in Idaho. We
15 need the jobs and I also have been told there's been some
16 political trade-offs.

2.1.1 17 I thought our purpose in examining a draft
18 environmental statement was to determine whether or not it
19 can be built safely? Then, is it a given that the DEIS will
20 be approved in spite of the serious reservations to its
21 accuracy that have been raised by experts and concerned
22 citizens alike? Is this hearing for real? Do the concerns
23 of the average citizen of Idaho really matter?

2.8.2 24 Yes, I believe that you and I do have a voice
25 in this process and that we can stop this project from being

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1 built in Idaho or anywhere else. Just look around the room
2 to see that most of the concerns expressed here tonight is
3 not over a few hundred short-term jobs, it is the concern
4 for the long-term health and well-being of the residents of
5 this state, of this country and of the world.

6 One of the biggest concerns that the institute
7 has with the DEIS is the disclaimer at the front of the
8 document. It states that, I quote: "Neither the United
9 States government or any agency thereof, nor any of their
10 employees makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes
11 any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy,
12 completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus,
13 product or process disclosed."

14 Does this disclaimer mean that all the claims
15 of environmental safety, then, are to be discounted? With
16 this kind of disclaimer, the DOE is taking the coward's way
17 out. After all, what happens if that inevitable big
18 earthquake rocks the foundation of the INEL and the
19 plutonium leaks into the Snake River Aquifer? Or the ground
20 opens up like it did on Double Springs Pass five years ago
21 and swallows a truck transporting the waste from Banford.
22 Plutonium has to be handled in a vacuum at all times. It
23 ignites instantly when exposed to air, and a piece the size
24 of pinhead can cause cancer in whole populations.

25 I'm concerned about our responsibility to the

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6.1.8

2.3

5.1.38

5.1.40

5.29.56

5.24.28

5.1.45

1 rest of the world if such an accident happens. The
 2 repercussions of Chernobyl have touched many lives outside
 3 the Soviet Union. Today there are children dying of cancer
 4 in Sweden because of a simple human error in a country far
 5 away. If we haven't learned to control our own mistakes,
 6 how can the DOE hope to control what Mother Nature can do?

5.9.3

7 Say we're lucky and no mistakes happen and
 8 that no earthquakes or highway accidents occur. What about
 9 the radioactive freon that will be routinely released into
 10 the atmosphere through the operation of the facility? Our
 11 precious ozone layer is being depleted at an alarming rate
 12 causing skin cancer and immune deficiency problems
 13 worldwide. Freon is known to have an adverse effect on the
 14 ozone layer.

5.30.2.1

15 What about proper storage of the waste? If
 16 the WIPP plant in New Mexico continues to have leakage
 17 problems, it may not be a suitable site; and yet, the DOE
 18 has no alternative plans for waste disposal of the substance
 19 that is lethally dangerous for 24,000 years.

2.1.1

20 The proposed SIS plant is not a good bet for
 21 Idaho. The DEIS does not adequately address health and
 22 environmental safety for the people or the planet. It's not
 23 a good bet for the earth, and it's not a given. People just
 24 like you and me can stop this project. People like you and
 25 me can find better jobs, long-term jobs for those who want

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1 them. Idaho doesn't need to get into the bomb-making
 2 business. Even a five star general, Dwight D. Eisenhower,
 3 could see the writing on the wall, and I quote:

5.27.7.17

4 "Every gun that is made, every warship
 5 launched, every rocket fired signifies, in a final sense, a
 6 theft from those who hunger and are not fed, and those who
 7 are cold and not clothed. The world at arms is not spending
 8 money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the
 9 genius of its scientists, and the hope of its children."

6.3

10 And those who do not learn from history are
 11 doomed to repeat it. Idahoans, we can do better at the INEL
 12 than the SIS project. The world will thank us for our
 13 vision.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 17 Judith Hawkes made on behalf of the Global Environment
 18 Project Institute will be marked as Exhibit 356 for the
 19 record. And the Chair neglected to note that the written
 20 comments of Liz Paul on behalf of the Snake River Alliance
 21 will be admitted as Exhibit 355.

22 Next scheduled is Tom Pomeroy with the Wood
 23 River Chapter of the Idaho Conservation League.

24 MR. POMEROY: Hello. My name is Tom Pomeroy.
 25 I am not at this point going to represent the Wood River,

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1 Idaho, Conservation League. Do you want me to keep my place
2 in line or proceed ahead of the --

3 HEARING OFFICER: Let me make sure I have
4 this. We had two -- I was informed there were two
5 individuals speaking on behalf of organizations, Mr. Pomery
6 on behalf of the Wood River Chapter and Janet O'Crowley,
7 representing the Committee for Idaho's High Desert.

8 Are you ready to speak?

9 MS. O'CROWLEY: I am.

10 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Perhaps we'll let her
11 speak first. Thank you.

12
13 JANET O'CROWLEY,
14 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

15
16 MS. O'CROWLEY: Friends and fellow citizens of
17 Idaho, I am Janet O'Crowley of Picabo, Idaho. No more
18 address needed.

19 I have the honor to be known as the Chairman
20 of the Committee for Idaho's High Desert. It's the only
21 environmental organization in Idaho dealing exclusively with
22 the desert public lands of this state. We have a record of
23 having scrutinized every major land use action in the last
24 seven years. We have analyzed its effect upon the soil,
25 waters, the air, the wildlife, vegetation, the scenic

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1 characteristics and the esthetic quality. We have made our
2 recommendations to the land agencies involved. Our constant
3 concern is for the preservation of the essential
4 characteristics that make the high desert what it is. It is
5 a reservoir of natural ecosystems, operating as a
6 counterbalance to the extreme manipulation which takes place
7 everywhere else in the state, the occupied portion where
8 nature is a visitor and does not remain. That's a pun.

9 Okay. Just shortly, we as a people in the
10 last few years in the United States of America have begun to
11 appreciate the high degree of artistry that nature showed in
12 her arrangement of mountains, rivers, valleys, vegetation.
13 We have grown more cautious about interfering with the
14 artistry of nature, damming valleys, destroying vegetation,
15 and we have learned this the hard way because each time that
16 we violate a basic law of nature, it comes around and we pay
17 the price.

18 In the world of technology, no less than in
19 ecology, grizzly bears, whatever, nature reigns supreme, and
20 we all need to learn the nature, the laws of nature and live
21 within them because if we don't, we may pay the price.

22 Now, I'll skip over points that have been
23 mentioned very frequently to the point of not needing to be
24 mentioned any more.

25 The question of need has not been addressed in

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2.1.1

1 the larger context. The effects on the human environment
 2 have certainly not been addressed beyond radiation, rems
 3 that would be encountered by a workman in the INEL plant
 4 itself. Those things are obvious to everyone who reads it.

5.30.3.1

5 And the DOE's of our government can be excused
 6 if they have not had a great deal of experience in
 7 accounting for the effects on human environment or having to
 8 abide within a fixed cost or having to explain what their
 9 action will do to the resources. But you might reasonably
 10 expect them to have a proven disposal for the effluent that
 11 they are about to create. They don't. Sinking it in a salt
 12 cavern is not neutralizing it. And you would not allow a
 13 city government to build a sewage plant without knowing
 14 where the effluent was going to go.

6.3

15 We have not been told any compelling reasons
 16 why we should have this thing. They have not addressed the
 17 human effects, and very, very lightly has it been touched on
 18 here in these hearings.

19 The insanity of asking us to buy this package
 20 when there is no known means that we can pay for it. If you
 21 went to a banker and asked for a loan to buy a house, would
 22 he loan it to you if he knew that your income was not going
 23 to be sufficient to make the payments? And we can list all
 24 the things that DOE is responsible for in the next few
 25 years; cleaning up the city in Ohio, the place in South

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1 Carolina and the famous place on the banks of the Columbia
 2 River. Plus, we know about the pollution at INEL. They
 3 have not even budgeted funds to start cleaning these up, and
 4 there are 200, at least 200 weapons plants where the
 5 pollution is extreme, and they need to address how they are
 6 going to clean this up. And I would suggest that if they
 7 ask for a billion dollars, they apply it where it will do
 8 the most good.

5.30.4.14

9 But to deal with the desert. For the desert
 10 there are no benefits. Each time the Committee for Idaho's
 11 High Desert goes to the Bureau of Land Management to ask for
 12 one mile of fence to protect a stream, and the banks and the
 13 riparian vegetation, we are told, that would cost \$3,000
 14 just to build it and maybe \$90 a year to maintain it, and
 15 you know that your government doesn't have that kind of
 16 money.

6.3

17 All the BLM districts in Idaho are asking for
 18 volunteers this year to take over small chores normally
 19 performed by BLM personnel. For instance, they are asking
 20 for volunteers to patrol campgrounds because the land
 21 management funds have been cut again this year.

22 Now, who is going to stand up and tell these
 23 people here that all these nickels and dimes should be
 24 thrown into a big pot for DOE's use when they can't even
 25 show us any good we will receive from it?

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1 The Committee for Idaho's High Desert will
2 complain to BLM because they have not reseeded a burntover
3 area where the deer, the mule deer spent the winter. And we
4 are told, and this is a literal quotation, that only the
5 Director in Washington can approve reseeding the Kimama
6 burn, this is a couple of years ago, because the fire wasn't
7 in the budget.

8 We are not just tired and angry that the money
9 is continually drained away from the basic needs to keep the
10 range surviving, even in its present degraded state. We
11 want a billion dollars now for BLM to restore the native
12 grasses, maintain the roads, build visitor centers, keep the
13 fences up, protect the archaeological sites. We want them
14 to restore the degraded streams and provide for the wildlife
15 to return and stop soil erosion now.

16 The people of Idaho were never given a choice
17 on what we are going to buy with a billion dollars. We were
18 just offered a pig in a poke, it is a lot like a protection
19 racket. They tell us, give us a billion dollars and we'll
20 see that you get one-thousandth of it back in wages.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. O'CROWLEY: Now, let me tell you
23 something; only the poorest nations, and think of the
24 poorest nation that you can, doesn't have a shirt on its
25 back. Only the poorest nations spend their substance in

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1 day-to-day living and keep nothing back for the future.
2 There's no way the United States can keep paying a billion
3 dollars to clean up this and a billion dollars to clean up
4 that. And I'd ask you, let's not talk about building any
5 new ones.

6 Now, the spin-offs that we are told will offer
7 us this great advantage will be one, an unpayable debt that
8 our children will, to compare them to Cinderella. They have
9 an ugly stepmother that's going to snatch the bread off the
10 table, and there will be scattered all over this land
11 numerous sites where, to step on and to walk through will be
12 either fast or slow death. And our basic heritage of green
13 lands, pure water, clear air are all going to be sold for a
14 mess of plutonium and the ugly stepsisters got it all.

15 Thank you.

16 (Applause.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
18 Janet O'Crowley of Picabo will be included in the record as
19 Exhibit No. 357.

20 She's also handed me written comments of Bolly
21 Riviera, also from Picabo. We'll also include that in the
22 record as Exhibit No. 358.

23 At this time, ladies and gentlemen, that
24 concludes our list of organizational representatives who
25 were speaking this evening. As I mentioned earlier, they

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1 all had ten minutes within which to make their comments.
 2 We'll now go to the list of public commentators,
 3 and each of them will have five minutes within which to
 4 speak.
 5 For planning purposes, let me suggest to you
 6 that, as I mentioned earlier, it is our intent to go to 11
 7 o'clock this evening. We have found that on the average
 8 this afternoon we were able to do somewhere between ten to
 9 fifteen commentators per hour. So assuming that we are going
 10 to have about three hours to receive comment, we should be
 11 somewhere down into the late 40s or the 50s in this
 12 particular matter.
 13 In the event that, as I mentioned, you are not
 14 going to be able to testify tonight, we are going to have a
 15 continuation of these hearings next Thursday, the 31st of
 16 March, at 2 in the afternoon and at 7 in the evening, once
 17 again here. To the extent that your name is already on the
 18 list or you signed in at the door, and we do not accommodate
 19 you today, you'll have the opportunity to comment next
 20 Thursday.
 21 In addition to that, if you have brought
 22 written comments with you, and would like to leave them with
 23 me and not testify on Thursday, you may do so. We'll be
 24 taking breaks periodically throughout the evening, and I'd
 25 suggest that you bring them forward at that time.

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1 At this point we'll go ahead and begin with
 2 our regular public commentators, and the first order or first
 3 individual is Tony E. McNevin.
 4
 5 TONY E. MCNEVIN,
 6 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 7
 8 MR. MCNEVIN: I don't know if you are aware of
 9 it, but today is kind of the atomic age anniversary; it's
 10 the birthday of the Three Mile Island near melt-down,
 11 another nuclear accident that could have happened.
 12 I'm Tony McNevin from Jerome, Idaho, by the
 13 way.
 14 As is the case with all such phenomena arising
 15 from our internationally warlike and domestically violent
 16 society, the SIS controversy is rooted more deeply in the
 17 soils of political intrigue and economic greed than in those
 18 of pure science and rational national interest.
 19 This nation has attained, I would say
 20 degenerated to, if there had been any real effort to prevent
 21 it, a stagnant trade situs vis-a-vis the world community.
 22 Our greatest export from the harbor of New York is strap
 23 metal, and that from the large West Coast harbor is waste
 24 paper. Both of these exports are molded into projects by
 25 other nations and sold back to us.

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4.13

1 But there is one sphere in which the United
2 States reigns supreme, and that is in the manufacture and
3 worldwide selling of destruction. We are gunrunners to the
4 world, selling to any regime promising continued
5 subscription to our recipes for human misery. And if these
6 machines of war cannot be sold with the collaboration of
7 Congress, they can, as recently demonstrated, be
8 surreptitiously peddled by heroes of the military --
9 industrial.

10 (Applause.)

11 MS. McNEVIN: My point here is, you don't know
12 where this plutonium is going to go. Maybe Ollie does.

13 President Eisenhower, as was mentioned before,
14 an authentic military hero, maybe as time goes on a fairly
15 decent Republican, warned against the perils of a society
16 dominated by the manufacturers of weapons operating through
17 their political lackeys. We have, as a result of
18 shortsighted greed, failed to heed his warning.

19 And now Senator Symms, a shameless prostitute
20 to the arms industry --

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. McNEVIN: -- a man who actually drank the
23 wastewater at INEL to demonstrate his subordination, you
24 know -- It was interesting, at a later meeting in Idaho
25 Falls that a physicist told him what was actually in that

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1 water, and he has never -- I mean, he couldn't work there
2 in a white coat, he might clean up later. But when they
3 asked him, "Would you do it again?" He said, "You think I'm
4 crazy?" A man who has publicly delighted in the tragedy at
5 Chernobyl, is magnanimously cutting Idahoans in on
6 international crime.

7 Our farmers, builders, miners, loggers and
8 ranchers may someday send their children to the SIS Project
9 where they'll earn coolie wages for wiping sweat from the
10 brows of white-coated scientists who have traded
11 professional and personal morality for the opportunity to
12 pursue knowledge.

13 We, the citizens of Idaho, must rise against
14 the perversion of our moral and ethical traditions. We must
15 refuse positions at the foot of the table set by the arms
16 merchants. We must, while there's still time, set limits to
17 the extent we'll stretch our morality for the jingle of a
18 little silver in our pockets.

19 Just as I -- since the red light isn't on yet,
20 I'd like to say that I'd like to see this kind of enthusiasm
21 carried through against projects such as this in the
22 political arena, and the next time somebody like Symms, and
23 especially Symms, comes up for reelection, send him back to
24 his daddy's apple orchards or let him go to INEL and get a
25 job up there.

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5.27.7.1

2.7.2

1.1

T506

1 (Applause.)
 2 HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of Tony
 3 McNevin will be included in the record as Exhibit 359.
 4 Next commentor is Julie Rodman.
 5
 6 JULIE RODMAN,
 7 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 8
 9 MS. RODMAN: My name is Julie Rodman, Box 383,
 10 Bellevue, Idaho.
 11 I'd like to keep it short so everyone gets a
 12 chance to speak.
 13 Name is Julie Rodman. I'm 16 years old, and
 14 I'm opposed to the SIS on the grounds that the politicians
 15 who are proposing this SIS and the scientists that are
 16 developing it, and, in fact, the SIS itself may not be here
 17 in ten years. But I will, and so will the weapons, and so
 18 will the nuclear waste that they create. Isn't that a lot
 19 to leave for future generations? Isn't that a lot to leave
 20 for people who haven't even been born yet?
 21 So I'm requesting that you guys don't let this
 22 happen. Come up here and speak out and don't let them put
 23 the SIS anywhere.
 24 Thank you.
 25 (Applause.)

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1.1

5.30.5.12

6.5.5

T507

1 BEARING OFFICER: Next scheduled commentor is
 2 Ian VonLindern followed by Quay Marshall.
 3
 4 IAN VonLINDERN,
 5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 6
 7 MR. VonLINDERN: My name is Ian VonLindern.
 8 My address is 4250 Snow Road in Moscow, Idaho.
 9 I testify here tonight as a local citizen
 10 whose family, health, home and property can be affected by
 11 this project. I was born and raised on a fourth generation
 12 family farm not 20 miles from here. I still maintain a home
 13 there.
 14 I'm also an expert in the field of hazardous
 15 wastes, who is an Idahoan and who does not have an
 16 outsider's agenda testifying.
 17 I hold a PhD. degree in environmental
 18 engineering, 17 years of experience in this state in
 19 hazardous waste disposal and pollution control. Four of
 20 those years were with direct jurisdiction over the Snake
 21 River Plain Aquifer.
 22 I have reviewed this document from the
 23 hazardous waste perspective and find it inadequate. The
 24 only reference that's provided for waste disposal are about
 25 33 different versions of the following sentence: "Wastes

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2.1.1

5.30.4.14

1 will be handled in accordance with DOE Order 5480.1B and
2 RCRA as implemented by 40 CFR 260-280."

3 With that kind of information, I think the
4 only thing we can rely on in evaluating this proposal is
5 DOE's record. And that is universally acknowledged as
6 deplorable.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. VonLINDERN: Two numbers put it in
9 perspective for me; total cost of cleaning up all the
10 nation's domestic waste dumps, all from cities and states
11 and local governments, and all the commercial industry is
12 right now pegged at about \$10.5 billion. The estimated
13 costs to the U.S. taxpayers to clean up DOE's wastes alone
14 are from 100- to the \$250 billion dollars, ten to 25 times
15 as much as the rest of industry in this country. And each
16 of those projects that created that mess was justified by
17 the same generic sentence, all wastes will be disposed of in
18 accordance with DOE policy order 12345. DOE should spend
19 its money on cleaning up its past messes, not creating new
20 ones.

21 (Applause.)

22 MR. VonLINDERN: And where are the wastes from
23 SIS going to go? High-level wastes are supposed to go to
24 WIPP in New Mexico.

25 Let me draw your attention to that inch thick

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5.30.2.2

1 document I just gave Mr. Eiguren. That is a consent order
2 between the State of New Mexico and the Department of
3 Energy. And in that consent order are over \$700 million in
4 concessions given by DOE to the State of New Mexico to
5 alleviate New Mexico's concerns with wet waste. They
6 include such items as state indemnification for accidents
7 nearly, \$200 million in road improvements, funding for
8 health studies, emergency preparedness, monitoring forces.

9 Now, nearly one-third of the shipments
10 scheduled to go to WIPP are coming from INEL. If these
11 wastes are so dangerous, which DOE has to award almost
12 three-quarters of a billion dollars for New Mexico to take
13 them, why are they of no concern in Idaho? If they are so
14 dangerous for New Mexico, where they are processed, where
15 they are containerized and packaged for WIPP's disposal, why
16 are they not of concern in Idaho where they are produced,
17 processed, held in indefinite storage, transported over our
18 highways. You know what condition they are in. And all of
19 this takes place on top of our most precious water supply.

20 The answer is simple. If these types of
21 concessions and costs were admitted to, it would price this
22 project right out of Idaho and right back to Banford where,
23 if it's going to be built, that's where it should be.

24 One more thing about WIPP. Just last week DOE
25 announced it was reducing the amount of material to be

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5.30.2.1

2.5.4

1 accepted at WIPP by 75 percent. One-third of that waste was
 2 to come from INEL. Where is it going now? Nowhere. It
 3 will stay on the Snake River Plain. Where will the SIS
 4 waste go? Same place. If SIS is built at INEL, those
 5 wastes are probably going to be there for the rest of ours
 6 lives. Why is there no mention of that in this document?
 7 Same reason. Tell the truth about the perspective for waste
 8 disposal and provide concessions to Idaho that other states
 9 demand to handle these wastes would price this project right
 10 out of Idaho. INEL is willing to forgo those concessions
 11 and not provide the safety and considerations that other
 12 states demand, all for 700 jobs. I'm one Idahoan that's
 13 against it. INEL has a vested interest in not objectively
 14 evaluating the project. The DOE should reject this EIS and
 15 reexamine INEL status as a favored alternative.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 19 Dr. Ian H. VonLindern, as well as the supporting documents
 20 he was referenced during his comments, have been admitted
 21 into the record as Exhibit Number 360.

22 Next scheduled commentor is order 4, Quay
 23 Marshall.

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T508

1 QUAY MARSHALL,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 3

4 MR. MARSHALL: My name is Quay Marshall,
 5 Hailey, Idaho, Post Office Box 694.

6 I would like to address Congress, as well as
 7 the Department of Energy. Since we know from past actions
 8 the DOE doesn't listen to public when there are differing
 9 views, I hope that publicly elected officials will.

10 To some, Idaho has always been a quiet state
 11 that didn't speak out. That is rapidly changing. There are
 12 a growing number of people in Idaho who are speaking out
 13 against the SIS and what it stands for.

14 The things we have here are being threatened.
 15 The antelope herds of the Arco desert, and aquifer which is
 16 the life blood of the desert, and our farms, and the very
 17 air we breath will have the potential to come to an
 18 irreplaceable end. These are not crazy thoughts. The DOE
 19 wants to transport and and manufacture one of the most
 20 lethal substances we know in our backyard. They are willing
 21 to address our environment and our lives so that they can do
 22 something even crazier, build more nuclear bombs.

23 In a time when we should be trying to create
 24 peace, how can making bombs possibly help?

25 The facts are there for anybody to see.

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5.24.30

5.24.27

4.14

4.15.1

1 America has outrageous stockpiles of weapons-grade
2 plutonium. There is simply no need for this facility. Some
3 people talk of future needs. Wake up! We are dealing with
4 a substance that will remain radioactive for over 24,000
5 years. Our descendants will be trying to deal with our
6 garbage I find it insane to keep producing something we
7 can't even properly deal with now. There is no such thing
8 as a foolproof containment system. All we really have are
9 hazardous temporary storage facilities sitting over our
10 water supply which the DOE has done nothing about.

5.30.3.8

11 I sincerely hope that our public officials
12 will start treating this as the threat at this time is. We
13 won't get a second chance.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of Quay
17 Marshall will be included in the record as Exhibit No. 361.
18 He has also provided for the record a written comment from
19 Faye Kuhn of Hailey, Idaho. We'll mark that as Exhibit
20 No. 362.

21 Next scheduled commentor is Richard Curzon,
22 Mr. Richard Curzon.

23 (No response.).

24 HEARING OFFICER: He's not here, we'll pass
25 him over for the moment.

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1 Barb Heller. I understand that Barb Heller
2 has traded positions with Mr. Mike Sullivan.

3
4 MIKE SULLIVAN,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MR. SULLIVAN: My name is Mike Sullivan, and I
8 live in Hailey, Idaho.

9 It's unfortunate the SIS Project has gone this
10 far. It must be stopped before another dollar is spent on
11 it. I oppose it not only on environmental grounds, but
12 economic and health grounds.

13 We are told the purpose of this hearing is to
14 consider the environmental impacts, but that's a sham.

15 The EIS boldly states there's nothing to be
16 concerned about. That's nonsense. Accidents happen. And
17 consequences of an accident involving materials as deadly as
18 plutonium are monumental. The nuclear establishment has
19 been telling us for years there's nothing to be concerned
20 about; they have it under control. Meanwhile, we find that
21 thousands of unsuspecting citizens have been exposed to
22 radiation from nuclear bomb testing in Nevada. We've
23 experienced the accidents at Chernobyl and Three Mile
24 Island, and we've learned of the accidental discharges of
25 radiation at Hanford and Rocky Flats.

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1.1

2.8.2

5.1.36

5.24.27

3.2.23

5.30.4.14

2.7.9

1 I'm not reassured by this EIS.
 2 There's an aspect of environmental impact that
 3 can't be assessed in a document such as this. That's the
 4 impact on our global environment by the production of more
 5 plutonium for nuclear than weapons.

6 Everything we do has an impact, but the
 7 effects are not always immediately visible. Our global
 8 environment is sick because too many decisions have been
 9 made on the basis of greed, expediency, arrogance and
 10 cynicism. All these elements come into play on the SIS
 11 Project.

12 We see greed and desire to push ahead with
 13 this unneeded project so that it will create jobs and the
 14 cash flow of federal dollars, my dollars. I object to them
 15 being spent this way. How will Idaho's economy benefit from
 16 the introduction of nuclear weapons production if our
 17 government's stated goal is to reduce the number of these
 18 weapons? Who benefits? And for how long? Isn't it
 19 hypocrisy for our representative in Congress to say they're
 20 trying to cut unnecessary federal spending and then endorse
 21 this?

22 We see expediency in the belief the SIS will
 23 be developed somewhere, so why not Idaho? It's a take the
 24 money and run attitude.

25 We see arrogance in the attitude that the

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5.27.6.6

5.27.6.11

1 economic and social benefits to a handful of people outweigh
 2 to risks thousands of people that the SIS poses.

3 And we see cynicism in the attitude that the
 4 only way the United States can continue to compete in the
 5 world of today and tomorrow is through the possession of
 6 more nuclear weapons. These attitudes and beliefs impact
 7 the total global environment negatively and do nothing to
 8 improve either our collective safety or our quality of
 9 life.

10 My family came to Idaho because of what we saw
 11 as a clean environment. We continue to live here because of
 12 it. I won't compromise on this.

13 Is this state so morally bankrupt that it's
 14 willing to sell off its integrity in order to attract a few
 15 jobs?

16 I believe the SIS Project should be totally
 17 abandoned.

18 (Applause.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 363 will be the
 20 written comments of Mike Sullivan.

21 The next scheduled commentor is Tina Cole.

22

23

24

25

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6.5.1

4.13

2.7.9

6.5.2

T510

1.1
4.15.2

6.3

6.2

1 TINA COLE,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MS. COLE: My name is Tina Cole, Box 802,
5 Hailey, Idaho.
6
7 I oppose the proposal to construct, fund and
8 operate the Special Isotope Separation Project slated for
9 the INEL site. I feel that the cost of the production and
10 refinement of plutonium is an unnecessary waste in a country
11 whose arsenals are already full of nuclear warheads.
12
13 Military spending has a created terrible
14 deficit, while neglecting valuable educational, social and
15 environmental programs within the United States. I see very
16 little gain for the the State of Idaho economically with the
17 proposed seven year cycle of the SIS Project while the short
18 and long-range environmental risks are great. I would much
19 rather see the \$1 billion for this facility go to the sorely
20 lacking educational, environmental and social programs of
21 the state.
22
23 At this time I would like to submit for the
24 record letters from Matthew Wells, Daphne Cole and Thomas
25 Teitge who all oppose the SIS Project.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 364 will be the

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T511

1.1
4.15.5
4.13
4.4.2

1 written comments of Matthew B. Wells, P.O. Box 802, Hailey.
2 The next exhibit, 365, will be the written comments of
3 Daphne Cole, Star Route Triumph, Hailey, Idaho. Exhibit 366
4 will be the written comments of Thomas Teitge of Box 1780,
5 Hailey, Idaho. And Exhibit No. 367 will be the written
6 Christine N. Cole, P.O. Box 1508, Bailey.
7
8 Our next scheduled commentor is Patsy
9 Batchelder.
10
11 PATSY BATCHELDER,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
13
14 MS. BATCHELDER: Hi. I'm testifying against
15 the need to build the SIS in Arco or anywhere else on this
16 precious earth of ours. My first concern is that of the
17 need for plutonium. The U.S. has adequate stockpiles of
18 plutonium to meet national defense needs, and that 120 tons
19 of plutonium is not wore out. We already have 25,000
20 nuclear weapons, that's plenty to destroy the Soviet Union
21 or anyone else anywhere, lots of times. Even one Trident
22 missile could destroy every major city in the northern
23 hemisphere. Even the DOE in Washington, I read, made a
24 comment recently that, "The government stockpile is
25 sufficient to meet the foreseeable demand for nuclear
weapons."

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6.1.1

1 Next of all, I'm concerned about the effect of
 2 the SIS on our environment. I moved to Idaho about nine
 3 years ago from California because it was really getting
 4 crowded there, and I would go up in the foothills and would
 5 look down and the sky was just muggy and gray. I told my
 6 friend, Liz, about it, and I thought that I had discovered a
 7 place for us to live where it was clean and unspoiled.
 8 Well, lo and behold, only 50 air miles away a nuke plant. I
 9 figured that also would really give us a chance to focus our
 10 socially motivated energies, and it made me realize though
 11 that the nuclear weapons industry is something that we can't
 12 escape anywhere we go.

5.12.1

13 Idaho has really become a precious place to
 14 me, and it makes me realize that it's one of the few states
 15 left where there's wilderness and clean water. That's what
 16 I thought. Well, I found that at the INEL the water is on
 17 top of the Snake River Plain Aquifer, southern Idaho's main
 18 source of fresh water, and it's also a place that's
 19 geologically very active.

5.10.4

20 What comes to mind right now is standing in
 21 that hole in Challis this summer where the earthquake had
 22 split the earth in half.

2.7.9

23 Beyond these local concerns, locally what if
 24 the plutonium created at the SIS plant were used to explode
 25 the nuclear warheads that they create? The DEIS makes no

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T512

1 mention of the catastrophic environmental effects that would
 2 occur if these warheads were ever used.

3 Lastly my concern is economic. I work for a
 4 publication that promotes the joys of Sun Valley living and
 5 the numerous recreational opportunities that go on there. I
 6 do not see any analysis in the DEIS of the economic impact
 7 of the SIS. What happens to business next to a nuclear
 8 weapons plant? Are we also asked to ski in Nuke Valley,
 9 Idaho? That's not the image we need to create in our
 10 tourist based economy.

11 Finally, I understand that once you have
 12 completed this process, you will choose one of four options;
 13 those being to construct the SIS at the INEL, Savannah River
 14 or Hanford. The last is no action. Please consider all the
 15 facts and look at all the people that have come here and do
 16 not build the SIS anywhere.

17 Thank you.

18 (Applause.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor No. 9, Dick
 20 Meyers, Dick Meyers.

21 RICHARD MEYER,
 22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

23 MR. MEYER: I'm Richard Meyer architect,
 24
 25

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5.27.3.3

1 Ketchum, Idaho, lifelong resident of Idaho.

2 Over a month ago I called Governor Andrus'
3 office and asked him what was the need of more nuclear
4 bombs. I called again, since I got no answer I again last
5 week, and his only answer, and he really didn't answer me,
6 he said that he would take action according to what the
7 people want, referring to this hearing.

8 I called Congressman Stallings over a month
9 ago and requested a written answer, why do we need more
10 nuclear bombs. I received no answer. I called again to his
11 office last week, I was told that I would have my answer
12 tonight. I did not get it. I got a written statement from
13 Mr. Stallings which is not really worth throwing into the
14 garbage can.

15 I called Senator McClure's office over a month
16 ago requesting the same, an answer to my question, why do we
17 need more nuclear bombs. After waiting over a month, I
18 called again, and his secretary or whoever answered the
19 phone wrote the question down again, and I said I wanted a
20 written answer. She said, "Well, just a minute." I said
21 that I wanted a written answer. Well, she said, "Just a
22 minute."

23 Then she went away from the phone, and about
24 two or three minutes later she came back with an answer;
25 from whom she got it, I don't know. She said, Senator

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1 McClure was in committee, he seems to be always in
2 committee. Anyway, the answer she gave me was a very, very
3 thrilling one: "We are not going to make any more bombs.
4 We are only going to stockpile material." She didn't answer
5 my question.

6 So I'd like to -- if you want to come up. In
7 this little basket I have enough nuclear weapons to blow up
8 the world 50, 67 times.

9 If you can hear that (dropping BB in can),
10 that was all the firepower of World War II. (Dropping BB in
11 can) Can you hear here that?

12 HEARING OFFICER: Yes.

13 MR. MEYER: Then one Poseidon submarine
14 carries enough to destroy 200 cities in the world or it can
15 destroy all the towns in the State of Idaho and probably
16 have a little left over, about that much (dropping BB's in
17 can.) Think of it. Destroying all the towns in Idaho.

18 And those submarines are out in the ocean
19 right now, and we have about 41 of them, as I understand,
20 wondering around. The Trident submarine carries enough
21 firepower to destroy all the major cities in the northern
22 hemisphere, and this is what it would sound about like.
23 (Dropping BB's in can.) And the rest of this firepower,
24 about half of it is America's, and half of it, the other
25 half is in Russia, it would amount to something like that

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4.13

1 (Pouring BB's in can).

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. MEYER: That's destroying the world about
4 67 times. Yes, I guess we need some more plutonium.

5 This country is on a wagon. We the people
6 living now and those in future generations are on a run-away
7 wagon, pulled by two horses that are running, really a
8 run-away. It's the military industrial complex. I think
9 it's high time that we pull in the reins of those people,
10 and nobody denies that we don't need a strong defense, but
11 we need to pull the reins in so that we control them instead
12 of being taken to our destruction by them. I only can hope
13 that Governor Andrus will stand by what he says and listen
14 to the people and act accordingly, and I can only hope that
15 McClure, Symms, Craig and Stallings will humble themselves
16 to become one of us and listen, to listen to what the people
17 are saying and volt accordingly before they continue with
18 their are arrogance and high mindedness.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 HEARING OFFICER: As required by the rules,
22 there is a graphic description of what we just heard
23 presented at the podium. We'll include that in the record
24 as Exhibit No. 368.

25 Ladies and gentlemen, we are at the tenth

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1 order of speakers, we have been going for approximately 90
2 minutes. We'd like to take a five-minute recess and return
3 with speaker number ten, Ken Lagergren.

4 (Recess.)

5 HEARING OFFICER: If everybody would find your
6 seats, and we'll come back to order.

7 During the break, the Chair received a number
8 of written comments from individuals who have chosen not to
9 provide oral comment this evening. What we'll be doing
10 throughout the course of the evening, I'll read their names
11 for the record and assign an exhibit number so their written
12 comments are included as a part of the record.

13 Exhibit 317 will be the written comments of
14 Fay L. Kochuff. Exhibit 318, George Hoskins. Exhibit 319,
15 Bridgette Hoskins, Exhibit 320, Cheryl Machacek, that's
16 spelled M-a-c-h-a-c-e-k. Exhibit 321, Nadene Machacek,
17 spelled the same way. Exhibit No. 327, Darrell G. Long.
18 Exhibit 328, Gene Bergstrom. Exhibit 329, Albert E.
19 Wilson. Exhibit 330, David Levinskas, spelled
20 L-e-v-i-n-s-k-a-s. Exhibit 348, Judy Widener, spelled
21 W-i-d-e-n-e-r. Exhibit 349, Kay Phillips. Exhibit 350,
22 Jackie E. Vork, V-o-r-k. Exhibit 351, M. Dell Miller.
23 Exhibit 352, Julie Randell, R-a-n-d-e-l-l. Exhibit 353
24 Glenn Phillips.

25 At this point we are ready to resume our

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1 commentors, our list of commentors this evening. Commentor
2 number ten, Ken Lagergren.

3
4 KEN LAGERGREN,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MR. LAGERGREN: Hello. My name is Ken
8 Lagergren. I have been a resident of Idaho for over ten
9 years. I am employed as a structural engineer in Hailey,
10 Idaho, and have been a homeowner there for over six years.

11 I am opposed to the SIS plant proposed for the
12 INEL facility. I feel the long-range effects of the SIS
13 plant would be negative and perhaps the tragic. I would
14 strongly urge its rejection for many reasons, several of
15 which I have listed briefly below.

16 Number 1. Leakage of waste has always been
17 reported in Idaho and other nuclear facilities. A major
18 leakage would be a disaster to Idaho, permanently ruining
19 the Snake River drainage. Leakage into the irrigation
20 system would change our famous potatoes into nuclear
21 potatoes. Any leakage will have a negative effect on both
22 the tourist industry and the sale of contaminated produce.
23 My friends and I did use the Snake River as a source of
24 recreational boating. River runners presently come from all
25 over the world to go down the Snake River. Nuclear leakage

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1 would destroy this.

2 Point No. 2. Storage of nuclear waste is
3 getting out of hand. It is not fair to leave our children
4 with an inheritance of non-discardable nuclear waste to deal
5 with. I'm opposed to the production and storage of nuclear
6 waste in Idaho.

7 No. 3. Transporting nuclear waste is
8 dangerous. All it would take is one accident to create a
9 major disaster for Idaho. I'm opposed to transporting
10 nuclear wastes into Idaho.

11 No. 4. I'm opposed to INEL becoming a
12 military production center. This reclassifies Idaho as a
13 military. There is no need for Idaho to help escalate the
14 potential destruction of the world.

15 No. 5. Bigger is not necessarily better.
16 Idaho should look for its growth and economic stability in
17 constructive, non-polluting industries such as the
18 electronics and the computer industries instead of
19 temporary, destructive industries such as the SIS
20 facilities.

21 Please do not destroy Idaho and reject the SIS
22 proposal.

23 I would also like to submit at this time into
24 the record the report of Ginna Lagergren.

25 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

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5.30.5.12

5.29.87

3.3.1

5.27.7.17

1 (Applause.)
 2 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 369 will be the
 3 written comments of Ken Lagergren of Hailey, Idaho. And
 4 Exhibit No. 374 will be the written comments of Ginna
 5 Lagergren of Hailey, Idaho.
 6 Next scheduled commentor is Irv Houston.
 7
 8 IRV HOUSTON,
 9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 10
 11 MS. HUSTON: My name is Irv Houston. I reside
 12 at 252 Filer Avenue West here in Twin Falls.
 13 I'd like to stand in opposition to this
 14 program for a reason that hasn't been yet mentioned. In
 15 fact, I didn't realize it until this afternoon. When I was
 16 hearing people speak both for and against and those were
 17 speaking for made statements that really bothered me. Such
 18 statements as, smarter people than I know that we need this
 19 project, or, those who know best know we need this project.
 20 As I reflected upon these statements, I realized that those
 21 are the same type of statements I hear as an alcohol and
 22 drug counselor at Canyon View Hospital here in Twin Falls.
 23 Every prescription pill addict that has come
 24 in got hooked because they thought the doctor new best. We
 25 have to convince them that they know what's good for them,

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1 that the doctor is not responsible, that they have to take
 2 responsibility.
 3 The other statement that I have seen and heard
 4 is, it's going to be built somewhere so why not here.
 5 Sounds very similar to a teenager I treated, several
 6 teenagers, in fact, who said, it's being done by everyone,
 7 so why not me. Addiction. And the need for more and more.
 8 The Environmental Impact Statement fails to
 9 address the moral and psychological impact, especially on
 10 children and youth of living in a state or a community which
 11 is economically reliant, on producing weapons capable of
 12 destroying modern civilization and the global environment.
 13 There is increasing evidence from psychological studies that
 14 the arms race, the threat of nuclear war is contributing to
 15 the futurelessness anxiety and fear of young people and
 16 thereby contributing to suicides, drug and alcohol abuse and
 17 other psychological problems among youths.
 18 Can we justify this cost for a project that is
 19 not even necessary? Are we not robbing our children of
 20 their dreams, their future, their financial and
 21 environmental resources and perhaps even their psychological
 22 and physical health by insisting that projects like SIS be
 23 built at any cost?
 24 Also, I want to ask the designers of the Draft
 25 Environmental Impact Statement and the Final Environmental

236

2.7.2

3.6.1

1 Impact Statement; if there is an accident, just if there is,
2 may we, the people of Idaho, sue the Department of Energy
3 and its employees for damages? No.

4 If I would build a structure in my backyard
5 and a highway would come along and blow it over on my
6 neighbor's house, I would be held financially liable.

7 Why is not the Department of Energy willing to
8 take this same risk that everyone here has to take when you
9 build something on your own property? Why?

10 (Applause.)

3.2.1

11 MR. HOUSTON: Because they know, they know
12 their own track record.

13 Really jobs isn't the question because we are
14 being told there's just no more money for jobs in
15 education. Need isn't the issue. There's no further
16 funding for wider health care coverage.

17 Safety is important, but there's no more money
18 for road improvement.

19 The homeless have a real problem but there's
20 no more money for them.

21 We really should do more rehabilitation work
22 in our prisons as it relates to alcohol and drug addiction.
23 But we don't have the money to hire people to design those
24 programs.

25 It's too bad people are starving, but we can't

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1 get emotional about it. There's no money for them or for
2 our hurting farmers.

3 Why is there money for SIS? Who says there's
4 money for not needed plutonium production? Certainly not
5 the people I have been listening to at these hearings.
6 Certainly not the taxpayers who eat sleep and study and
7 travel. Who says there's money for SIS?

8 Who is it that wants this plant? I believe
9 it's basically those who are addicted to nuclear production,
10 and that's the reality.

11 Thank you.

12 (Applause.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 12, Lewis
14 Persons.

15 LEW PERSONS,
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17 MR. PERSONS: Hi. I'm Lew Persons. I'm from
18 Ketchum, Idaho. And I'm opposed to the production of any
19 additional nuclear weapons and, therefore, I certainly
20 oppose the construction of the SIS facility.

21 We have enough weapons-grade plutonium. We
22 have got more than enough weapons-grade plutonium to do
23 anything you can think of, including killing the world
24

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1.1

4.15.2

2.7.2

1 several times.

2 To me it's a simple question. My opposition
3 is based on morality. We are being offered a bribe, a very
4 big bribe, where you are usually offered money for
5 something, something that isn't good for them. I think we
6 are being offered money for our conscience. We are being
7 offered dollars for death.

8 Weapons-grade plutonium has just one purpose,
9 it's a weapon, it kills people, it kills a lot of people.
10 It kills people you'll never see. It kills the world. It
11 kills on a scale of a holocaust.

12 Whoever helps create such a weapon will be
13 responsible for more than just spending a paycheck.

14 Plutonium has but one purpose and that's
15 death, and that's what you'll be responsible for. You'd
16 only get money for six years. This stuff is going to kill
17 for 20,000 years if it's ever released.

18 I vote for life not for life. I vote against
19 the SIS.

20 Thank you.

21 (Applause.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Lew
23 Persons of Ketchum will be included in the record as Exhibit
24 No. 384.

25 The next scheduled commentor is Willy

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1 McCarty.

2
3 WILLY McCARTY,
4 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
5

6 MR. McCARTY: My name is Willy McCarty. I'm
7 from Ketchum, Idaho.

8 And it's -- I don't know what I'm going to
9 say. I changed about six times sitting out there wondering
10 what I was going to say to you all. I thought about the
11 people coming here that were coming here for jobs and wanted
12 to work. I thought about the people and who deserve to work
13 and it's important.

14 I think the first thing we want to think about
15 is Idaho and what Idaho is, and its wilderness and it's a
16 very, very special place on this earth. And there's not
17 very many places like that, certainly in the United States
18 that are so precious. Its recreation is one of the fastest
19 growing things we have going on in this world, it's real
20 exciting that it's growing. People are learning to
21 appreciate what's going in the world, appreciate the
22 animals, appreciate wildlife, appreciate the blue skies.

23 I'm a fitness consultant. I bring clients
24 from all over the United States, and they come here with
25 glee at how beautiful it is and excitement with how

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1.1

1 wonderful the fresh air smells. Let's save it. Let's keep
 2 it. It's real important. Let's have some confidence that
 3 this is what's going to happen here. That the world is
 4 going to start respecting more and more of the wilderness
 5 and paying more and more attention to it and wanting to come
 6 to places like Idaho, and we are going to reap the benefits
 7 that, and I think it's very important to understand. Let's
 8 be more confident like that.

9 The second part I want to talk about is --
 10 gee, I'm shaking. SIS is not going to happen. It's not
 11 going to happen here, it's not going to happen at Hanford.
 12 It's not going to happen anyplace else. It's not going to
 13 happen. If it takes four more years or five more years for
 14 it to be defeated, it's going to be defeated. The stuff is
 15 not going to happen for any of us, and that's for all of us
 16 to understand.

17 Whether we are going to fight it and spend our
 18 time now working against it or we are going to go on five
 19 years down the road, it's still not going to happen. We
 20 are wasting our energy. All of us could be out there
 21 playing and having a good time tonight instead of in this
 22 silly room, and that's what did it's all about. We could be
 23 doing things that are much more productive for us. So
 24 that's what it's about.

25 And there's not going to be a nuclear war,

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2.3

1 it's not going to happen. We don't need this stuff to do it
 2 with. It's not going to happen. There is not going to be
 3 another world war, it's not going to happen. I know, I need
 4 a disclaimer also to say that gee, he said some things that
 5 he can't prove. INEL can't either, or DOE can't either.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. McCARTY: Thank you for your time.

8 (Applause.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Can we go off the record for
 10 just a second?

11 (Discussion off the record.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: We'll go back on the
 13 record.

14 Our next scheduled commentor is Osa Chandler.

15
 16 OSA CHANDLER,
 17 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

18
 19 MS. CHANDLER: Hi. My name is Osa Chandler,
 20 I'm an Osa from Ketchum, Idaho.

21 Instead of reading my testimony, I will read
 22 off people who can't be here tonight, and they all object to
 23 the SIS. So I'll start with my own name; Osa Chandler, Jan
 24 Higginbotham from Ketchum, Mr. Isham from Ketchum, Milburn
 25 Hawkes, Jr., Deanne Baxter, Dick Edwards, Eudora Edwards,

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1.1

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1 Merlin McCrary, Jean McCrary, Lois Hawker, Warren Mitchell,
 2 Tom Blanchard, Mark Tunno, Bar somebody, he didn't print his
 3 name. Tom Branch, Pat Branch, Leslie Maniokian, Johnathan
 4 Gore, Carla Shockey from Burley, Elizabeth Conrod from
 5 Ketchum, Liza Paschall from Ketchum, Charles Larkey from
 6 Ketchum, Pat Hanggi, also from Ketchum, James and Lea Reed
 7 from Hailey, Mary Ann Chubb from Ketchum, Alison Beechert
 8 from Ketchum, Bruce Manheim from Ketchum, Dennis Donnelly
 9 from Pocatello, Suzanne Schwake from Ketchum, Janet Augustus
 10 from Bailey, Lynne Stone from Ketchum, and Ann Vanderbilt
 11 from Ketchum, Lyn Stallard from Ketchum, Wanda Tierney from
 12 Hailey, John Vladimiroff from Hailey, Jack Stallard from
 13 Ketchum, Jan Turzian from Ketchum, Candice Anderson from
 14 Ketchum, Jeanne Flowers from Ketchum, Virginia Glasscock and
 15 Daniel Glasscock, Robert Burns, Diane Gibson from Ketchum,
 16 William Cook from Ketchum, Phil Carney from Ketchum, Bob Day
 17 from Ketchum, Judy Heath from Buhl, and Dr. Bruce Leim from
 18 Bailey, Helen Newman from Burley, and Carolyn Hondo from
 19 Burley.

20 I can't believe I got through them all.

21 (Applause.)

22 HEARING OFFICER: The Chair will mark these as
 23 exhibits at the appropriate point in the program and read
 24 those into the record.

25 Next scheduled commentor is Katie Flood.

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1 KATIE FLOOD,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
 4 MS. FLOOD: Hi. Katie Flood, Picabo, Idaho.

5 My husband and I are in the ranching business.

6 We live between Carey and Picabo on Highway 20.

7 We are both deeply concerned with the
 8 environment, ecology and pollution and are vehemently
 9 opposed to the SIS Project in Idaho or anywhere, on the
 10 grounds that production of more weapons-grade plutonium is
 11 unnecessary.

12 Expensive and hazardous as the project is, why
 13 jeopardize our immediate environment or anywhere, for that
 14 matter, with such a plant?

15 The argument that the plant will provide jobs
 16 is spurious, in light of the fact that employment will be
 17 temporary, lasting less than one decade, unless the nuclear
 18 non-proliferation treaty is violated, a short time in
 19 industrial life.

20 I personally believe the entire nuclear
 21 question to be the most important in our time, for the
 22 dangerous nature of the substances, the plants, the wastes
 23 and the weapons themselves may be the cause of bringing the
 24 last day of history, Armageddon, a possibility within our
 25 own lifetime, let alone that of our children. Please, no

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1.1

4.15.4

6.1.2

5.22.6

2.7.9

T519

1 SIS.

2 Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 391 for the record
5 will be the written comments of Katie Flood. And she's also
6 handed me an additional document signed by ten different
7 individuals from the Picabo area. We'll include that
8 Exhibit 392.

9 Next scheduled commentor is Alison Barnes.

10
11 ALISON BARNES,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

1.1

13
14 MS. BARNES: I'm Alison Barnes form Hailey,
15 Idaho. I'm against the proposed SIS Project and support the
16 No Action Alternative.

17 I have a story which illustrates the point I'm
18 trying to make, and it's about a family who went into the
19 far northern reaches of Canada to escape whatever they were
20 trying to escape. And one day the gentleman was removing
21 his boot and his bone broke. The possible chain of events
22 which could have occurred here were that their main staple
23 was the caribou, and the caribou had eaten lichen, and the
24 lichen contained nuclear fallout.

25 There's a couple of points to the story. One

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1 of them being that you should have a diverse diet. The
2 other one is that there's no place that you can sit on earth
3 where you can escape this problem. And my point is why add
4 to it.

5 Thank you.

6 (Applause.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: We're at order 17 on the
8 commentors list, Jerry Ahlberg.

9
10 JERRY AHLBERG,
11 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

12
13 MR. AHLBERG: I'm Jerry Ahlberg, and I'm very
14 proud to be able to stand up here in front of everybody and
15 speak tonight because one thing gives me the right to do
16 that is freedom, freedom here in the United States of
17 America, which is very, very important. It is to me.

18 I'm not much of a speechmaker or anything, but
19 I have written this here and I believe it. I am proud to be
20 an American and live in the State of Idaho. I have lived in
21 Idaho Falls for the past 21 years, and I have worked on and
22 around the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory. While
23 working there I have seen antelope, deer, elk, rabbits mice,
24 insects, a lot of other animal wildlife around there, and
25 they all seem to be quite healthy.

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3.2.7

I have seen for myself the safety on the INEL. People and the environment are of top priority, and they will always remain to be the top priority with or without this SIS.

5.28.3

The SIS, there seems to be a lot of misconception here, I do believe, at least from what I am hearing from other people making comments. This is a separation facility, it is not a production facility. They do not make plutonium there. They're not speaking of plutonium that is being made, it's just a separation process.

4.9.4

The Congress has stated the need for the project. Might I remind you that these representatives are put in office by you to represent you. They have gone over information on the SIS and the need for the purification of plutonium from existing supplies is of national importance.

I believe that the long-term benefit from this here facility could have great benefits for the State of Idaho. I believe some people are being shortsighted on what the entire program is as a whole and what it could mean.

5.27.6.1

Anyone can see that we have an unemployment problem in the State of Idaho. Any jobs, regardless of how many, are better gained than lost.

This here reminds me a lot of -- I teach a hunter safety class, and one reason I teach that is that I

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believe that these kids need to learn all they can about that particular subject. One thing that I tell these kids or this reminds me see of a story that I tell them, I'll change it a little bit. Fear -- this here reminds me of a little kid sitting in the dark. He sits there and he gets scared. And out there in the dark there isn't nothing that's going to hurt that little kid. If that kid will educate himself, he will not be scared of the dark.

Our forefathers fought and died for the freedoms we have today, and I believe our rights and freedoms are still worth protecting, if not for ourselves, then for our children. We may be talking about plutonium here, but keep in mind your freedom and how you got it, and it is worth fighting for.

(Applause.)

BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 399 for the record will be the written comments of Jerry Ahlberg of Idaho Falls, Idaho.

The next scheduled commentator is and Andrew Blunt.

ANDREW BLUNT,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MR. BLUNT: I'm Andrew Blunt from Hailey,

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1.1 1 Idaho. I'm against the SIS Project for the following
2 reasons:

4.15.1 3 The purpose of the SIS project is to produce
4 weapons-grade plutonium. Plutonium's major use is as a key
5 element in nuclear weapons. As has been established, we
6 have plenty of them to destroy the world 10, 15, 20 times
7 over. Why make more?

5.27.7.2 8 Secondly, the reason I'm against it, jobs that
9 are going to be provided by this project are not long-term
10 jobs. These jobs are not going to do Idaho any good in the
11 long-run. I work construction, I know what happens. A
12 project goes for awhile, it ends, then what do you do? You
13 have got to go find a new job. What are you going to do
14 after that?

5.27.7.5 15 The people that are going to be used to run
16 the project, it's going to be a small crew of technicians,
17 six to eight years, and then what? The supply of available
18 raw material will be all used up, unless there's a change in
19 the Bart-Simpson act. We have to -- we'd be out of goods to
5.22.6 20 build this SIS stuff, and then what would happen? We'd have
21 to start trucking it in from Hanford or whatever, and then
5.29.95 22 you know what happens when a truck tips over on Idaho roads,
23 you've got a big mess going on. That kind of stuff happens
24 all the time. There's no guarantee that -- who is going to
25 clean all that stuff up?

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1 And then what about the waste? The INEL is
2 located on top of the Snake River Aquifer. Are we going to
3 store the stuff, the extra that's left over right on top of
4 all our drinking water? And what happens when it starts
5 leaking? And it always leaks.

6 And what about those roads? Who's going to
7 pay to make them safer? Where is all this money coming
8 from, a billion dollars to build a plant. It's probably
9 going to take a lot more than that.

10 And finally, tourism is a growth industry,
11 there's where the jobs are, non-polluting, already
12 established. People are saying we have got to have this
13 thing for the jobs are looking at the short-term picture.
14 What they should do is try to get something to last a long
15 time. I mean, how many people go on vacation to Three Mile
16 Island, Chernobyl or even to a pesticide plant? Plutonium
17 is the ultimate pesticide.

(Applause.)

19 MR. BLUNT: The SIS plant would be detrimental
20 to one of the healthy, growing industries in Idaho,
21 tourism.

22 So I'm in favor of taking no action on this
23 plant.

(Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 403 will be the

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5.30.4.7

5.29.63

5.27.3.3

5.1.45

5.27.3.3

1 written comments of Andrew Blunt.
 2 The next scheduled commentor is Brent Moore,
 3 Mr. Brent Moore.
 4 (No response.)
 5 BEARING OFFICER: Mr. Moore is not here.
 6 Commentor number 20, Jan Landon.
 7
 8 JAN LONDON,
 9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 10
 11 MS. LONDON: I am Jan Landon. I live at 535
 12 People's Drive in Idaho Falls, Idaho.
 13 I have read the Draft Environmental Impact
 14 Statement. I believe that I understand the basics of the
 15 Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation Process and DOE's
 16 rationale for selecting INEL as the preferred site for
 17 construction and operation of the SIS Project. A lot of
 18 time, effort and money has been spent by local businessmen,
 19 chambers of commerce and construction unions to show their
 20 support for the economic benefits that this project would
 21 bring to the State of Idaho. I think DOE has been impressed
 22 with this unusual outpouring of support from the usually
 23 silent majority.
 24 I do not see these hearings as the forum to
 25 openly discuss the need for the product of SIS. Congress,

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1 the President and elected officials are privy to the reports
 2 that emphasize the national defense need for additional
 3 plutonium and have determined that there is a need for
 4 redundancy, diversity and flexibility in DOE's production of
 5 nuclear materials.
 6 I also do not see the purpose of these
 7 hearings as a debate over the morality of nuclear war. I,
 8 of course, would prefer that we do not have a nuclear war
 9 and that we would have no future need for stockpiling
 10 nuclear weapons. The issues of war and peace have raged for
 11 centuries, and our protectors will use every opportunity to
 12 warn us of our impending doom.
 13 (Voices.)
 14 HEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please.
 15 MS. LONDON: I see these hearings, however, or
 16 these issues, however, separate from the content of these
 17 hearings.
 18 I do see the purpose of these discussions to
 19 review and critique the adequacy of the Draft Environmental
 20 Impact Statement and the merits of the alternatives
 21 presented. The need and purpose section is clear, concise
 22 and succinct. The proposed action and alternatives section
 23 describes in detail the construction and operation of the
 24 project at INEL, Hanford, Savannah River and taking no
 25 action. Other alternatives that were considered but not

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4.9.4

2.8.2

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5.31.11

5.19.4

2.1.1

3.2.2

1 analyzed in detail are also described.

2 Section 3 addresses the affected environment.

3 In the anti-SIS commercial made by a movie star shows

4 beautiful mountains in the background, and she appears to

5 ask if we want to destroy all this. INEL is located in a

6 remote desert and sagebrush climate, and although it is

7 beautiful to us Idahoans, it is a perfect natural barrier

8 for the minor amounts of atmospheric releases.

9 (Voices.)

10 BEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please, please.

11 MS. LANDON: Routine environmental monitoring

12 at the site is comprehensive and thorough. Air, water,

13 animals and plants are all checked on a continual basis to

14 assure compliance with the strictest of regulations.

15 Section 4, environmental consequences, is

16 probably the most controversial area for discussion.

17 Impacts of construction, operation, transportation and

18 postulated accidents are outlined, tough issues, like

19 cumulative effects and irreversible and irretrievable

20 commitment of resources are covered.

21 Although I believe there are risks associated

22 with this project, I think the Draft Environmental Impact

23 Statement has considered each and every one of them and has

24 adequately addressed them.

25 I am confident the Department of Energy will

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1 continue to emphasize the health and safety of the INEL

2 employees and subcontractors and will protect their

3 investment at the INEL. I support the construction and

4 operation of the SIS Project at the INEL in Idaho.

5 (Applause.)

6 BEARING OFFICER: The written comments of

7 Janice Landon will be included in the record as Exhibit No.

8 409.

9 Next scheduled commentor is Kent Laverty.

10

11 KENT LAVERTY,

12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

13

14 MR. LAVERTY: My name is Kent Laverty, and I

15 was born and raised in Idaho less than 80 miles from the

16 INEL site.

17 As a citizen of our state, I have driven

18 through the INEL without understanding exactly what occurs

19 there. I always thought it was research, research into

20 nuclear energy to learn how to make it safer for us.

21 If this was the case, construction of the SIS

22 Project would change that charter. With the SIS the INEL

23 will be part of the military industrial complex producing

24 plutonium fuel for bombs. INEL no longer would be working

25 toward making the world a safer, peaceful place.

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1.1

3.3.1

6.1.9

5.29.68

5.23.19

5.30.5.8

5.30.2.5

5.30.3.6

1 But this is only one of my concerns with the
2 SIS. Most of my concerns revolve around the hazards the SIS
3 could create and the potential threats to the quality of
4 life and the environment, the kinds of things the DEIS is
5 addressing.

6 I'm concerned about the potential of accidents
7 on our highways involved with the transport of plutonium
8 oxide powder from Banford. I'm concerned that our state
9 government does not have the ability, nor the funds, to deal
10 with a major accident that could occur in transport. No one
11 can deny that the likelihood of an accident on Idaho
12 highways increases as the number of shipments increase.
13 Simple probability statistics tell us that. I ask, is it
14 worth the risk?

15 I'm concerned over the increases of ongoing
16 radiation exposure at the site, and the cumulative effects
17 of background radiation. I'm concerned about the
18 transuranic waste, and I understand that the SIS will
19 generate 220 tons of transuranic waste, waste that remains
20 toxic in the environment for tens of thousands of years.

21 And we do not have a high-level waste
22 repository yet. INEL already receives shipments from Three
23 Mile Island as a temporary repository. Do we know enough
24 about this waste? What if, what if political events prevent
25 the construction of a high-level waste repository? Is it

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1 worth the risk to keep the SIS waste in Idaho's backyard?
2 What if New Mexico's WIPP site proves inadequate? These are
3 questions we all must think about.

4 I'm concerned that scientists and geologists
5 say that the DEIS has underestimated the earthquake hazard
6 of the area. One would think that a 7.3 magnitude
7 earthquake is a major earthquake, and the zone of impact
8 should be considered major, not minor, as the DEIS
9 contends. The Lost River range and the 1983 earthquake
10 fault is just miles away from the SIS construction site.
11 Again, is the SIS worth the risk?

12 Proponents of the SIS say that the economic
13 development and jobs are the issue. Is the debate between
14 bank accounts and life versus death in an untested
15 technology? Why do we have to risk it?

16 I advocate the No Action Alternative of DEIS.
17 There are better ways of developing the economy of our
18 state.

19 (Applause.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Kent
21 Laverty of Hailey will be included as Exhibit 412. He also
22 presented to the Chair comments, written comments of Anne
23 Pemberton of Hailey, Idaho, that will be Exhibit 413.

24 Next scheduled commentator is Kelly Murphey.
25

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5.10.2

5.28.8

1.1

5.27.7.17

1 KELLY MURPHEY,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 MR. MURPHEY: My name is Kelly Murphey, Route
5 1, metropolis Castleford, Idaho.

6 I'm a lifetime resident of the great State of
7 Idaho. I'm a high school teacher. Next year I will be the
8 principal at Castleford High School. I'm an advocate of
9 kids and the future of kids.

10 I have a varied background, including the
11 Fullbright Scholarship to Israel, a great deal of experience
12 in southern Idaho archaeology in historical research,
13 involvement with kids as a father, teacher, coach, Boy Scout
14 leader. But perhaps most importantly, I'm a graduate of the
15 U.S. Army's Chemical, Biological and Radiological Warfare
16 School at Fort Lewis, Washington.

17 I am an open-minded person, and I like to
18 weigh out issues before I make up my mind. Hey, I can't
19 believe this thing has got this far, it's nuts.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. MURPHEY: First of all, even if plutonium
22 arrives at the Arco site safely, given the record of
23 transport we are seeing for other hazardous materials, this
24 may be a pretty shakey given, that we are going to move this
25 material working on a geologically active vicinity seems

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1 crazy. Are we willing to take this chance with the Thousand
2 Springs Aquifer? We could have an earthquake or some other
3 such phenomenon occur here. Convince me it couldn't. What
4 if it does?

5 We now spend thousands attracting tourists.
6 Convince me the SIS related future workers jobs won't cost
7 thousands upon thousands in our tourist dollars. If
8 something goes wrong and this stuff hits our Thousand
9 Springs Aquifer, it will easily be the one, single greatest
10 tragedy in northwest history or prehistory and it has the
11 potential to damage the entire Snake-Columbia system. This
12 damage would rank as tragedy worldwide and certainly of
13 nationwide magnitude. Is the project worth the risk?

14 Third, in a recent poll of our senior
15 Castleford High School students; by the way, they created
16 the questions for the poll, did you know that these kids, 88
17 percent of them believed that there would be a terrorist use
18 of plutonium within their lifetime. Did you know that these
19 same kids said it was more important to cure AIDS than to
20 develop better nuclear technology, especially
21 weapons-related technology.

22 (Applause.)

23 MR. MURPHEY: Are we adults going to juggle
24 the values of our life and times making critical decisions
25 that our kids are going to have to live with? You bet.

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5.27.3.3

6.1.7

5.12.1

6.5.5

1 However, do we have the right to shove projects such as SIS
2 down their throats? I really don't think so. After all, if
3 it goes wrong, they will most likely be the ones that will
4 pay the price, not us.

5 And how can it go right? Are there positive
6 medical applications? Are there positive environmental
7 applications? Will the product clean our air, make our kids
6.2 8 smarter, stronger, healthier in 100 years or even 50 years
9 or even 30 years? Will Idaho be a better place for having
10 had SIS? I don't think so. Convince me it will.

11 Finally, can we as Americans and more
12 specifically, can we as citizens of the State of Idaho share
13 the funds related to SIS? Wouldn't they be better spent in
6.3 14 other ways? Let's take the money we in Idaho are trying to
15 spend attracting this project and do something that would
16 affect the related area of southeastern Idaho on a broader,
17 longer term basis.

18 One, I repeat, one industry which processed
19 agricultural goods could easily have a greater quality of
20 impact on the area than the total SIS Project. Let's spend
5.27.5.2 21 our money helping our friends sell southeastern Idaho over
22 the long-run. Don't give them the illusion of good times
23 and then jerk it away when the project ends. Use any
24 related recruiting money to lure a new farm related industry
25 or two into the area. Imagine the impact of just one

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1 potato, chilies, corn, onion project. Now, that would
2 affect a lot of folks in southeastern Idaho, and now that
3 makes Idaho sense.

4 In summary the SIS Project seems to shakey in
5 terms of risk. This may well be a project that our kids
6 don't want.

7 And finally, the related recruitment and/or
8 other related money would be better spent to improve the
9 economy of southeastern Idaho over the long haul; we'd
10 actually get something better for a better price.

11 Please do not support the proposed SIS
12 Project. It isn't worth the risk. It doesn't make Idaho
13 sense.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: The next scheduled commentor
17 is Ron Fowler.

18 (Off the record.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: I understand Mr. Fowler is
20 not here. This gentleman will present the testimony
21 instead.

22
23
24
25

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1.1

T525

T526

5.28.2

6.1.2

3.2.2

5.27.9.3

5.27.7.3

5.27.12.8

1 ED HUNTER,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 Ron Fowler lives in Pocatello, Idaho.
5 Ron states that the SIS Project is a very safe
6 process. The facility will not involve nuclear reaction.
7 It will not have an adverse environmental
8 impact on the INEL or the state. In 1980 the population
9 within a 50-mile radius of the SIS site was 110,000. By the
10 year 2010 it is forecasted to be 230,000.
11 DOE will operate the SIS Project in a
12 concerned manner for the safety of all citizens of Idaho.
13 The laser technology will contribute to
14 medical break-throughs. The laser and fiber optics research
15 will be of great benefit to Idaho State University.
16 On DEIS December 20, 1951, the National
17 Reactor Testing Station produced the first light of atomic
18 power. Now 36 years later, light may again play a vital
19 role in the development of technology and opportunity in
20 Idaho.
21 The SIS Project will provide employment for
22 440 construction workers and 750 permanent jobs, which Idaho
23 desperately needs.
24 The SIS will provide opportunities for many
25 large and small businesses in Idaho.

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1 It will bring back some of our hard earned tax
2 money back to Idaho.
3 SIS will contribute strongly to the growth of
4 regional and state economics.
5 SIS provide our children the opportunity to
6 stay and work and live in Idaho.
7 I also have testimonies from Terry Beemer, who
8 is on the schedule tonight but couldn't be here. And since
9 the ground rules do not allow for emotional testimony, and I
10 do not sing or have a tomato costume, I will simply turn in
11 my written testimony, as the rules request.
12 (Applause.)
13 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
14 Ed M. Hunter of Idaho Falls will be included in the record
15 as Exhibit No. 425. The written comments of Ron Fowler from
16 Pocatello will be included as Exhibit No. 426. And the
17 written comments of Terry L. Beemer of Idaho Falls will be
18 Exhibit No. 427 in the record.
19 Next scheduled speaker is Suzanne Murphey.
20
21 SUZANNE MURPHEY,
22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
23
24 MS. MURPHEY: My name is Suzanne Murphey, and
25 I live in Castleford, Idaho.

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5.27.6.1

6.1.2

1 I am a registered nurse, wife and mother of
2 two young children, and never have I felt greater threat to
3 my family's security than the SIS Project presents. More,
4 may I add, than the USSR.

5.24.27

5 There are numerous reasons for my only
6 objections. Plutonium, the most highly toxic substance
7 known to man. I am a nurse, and I have seen and held the
8 hands of cancer victims as they die. Can we increase that
9 risk even by one life?

6.3

10 Now is the time to take the initiative to
11 start shifting capital from the production of redundant
12 defense weapons to productive industries. It is time we
13 start converting the military economy to the service of
14 human needs, like housing and jobs, where we produce
15 something that we dare consume.

5.1.30

16 If this project is built, who will guarantee
17 that plutonium cannot fall into the hands of terrorists for
18 basement A-bombs? Isn't increasing the supply of plutonium
19 increasing this risk?

3.2.23

20 And finally, my regard for my family and for
21 all creation demands that I speak up and not sit silently by
22 while the world is made more frightening and more lethal.
23 Remember, these are the same people who 25 years ago were
24 telling the people of southern Utah and Nevada that they had
25 nothing to fear from the atomic bomb testing in that area.

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1 Many of these people are now dead, and the United States
2 Government will make no claim of responsibility even now.

3 (Applause.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 428 for the written
5 record will be the written comments of Suzanne Murphey of
6 Castleford, Idaho.

7 Next scheduled commentor is Tina Goff, Tina
8 Goff, number 25.

9 (No response.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: Number 26, John T. Borton,
11 John T. Borton.

12 (No response.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Number 27, Preston Bills,
14 Mr. Preston Bills.

15 (No response.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 28, Robert Combe.
17 Your name and address for the record, sir.

18 ROBERT COMBE,
19 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

20 MR. COMBE: My name is Robert Combe. I live
21 in Idaho Falls, 333 East 13th Street.

22 I'm a sheet metal journeyman out of Local 60
23 out of Pocatello. I worked on the site for a number of
24

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5.24.23

1 years, and I can say that their safety record is probably
2 one of the highest in the state for construction or if not
3 the country.

4 Got to get my notes together here.

5 I was born in Challis, Idaho. My mother was
6 born in Challis. My dad were born in Arco. His mother was
7 born in Challis -- no, his mother was born in Arco, sorry.
8 Her mother was born in Menan. I'm a fourth generation
9 Idahoan. My great-grandfather was one of the original
10 pioneers in the Little Lost River or the Lost River Valley,
11 the whole thing out there. He was running cattle out there
12 on Big Butte before it was a site. We have a vested
13 interest of generations in Idaho. Of course, some of our
14 families had to move out because of no jobs.

15 The SIS is not a factory. It's been said a
16 lot tonight, that -- that plutonium, probably radiation
17 sickness --

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. COMBE: I have never been hurt out there.
20 I weld out there. I'm rad-con trained, I'm face-masked
21 trained when I shave, and it's very safe.

22 They keep talking about the plutonium being
23 shipped across Idaho, it's a terrible thing to do. I got
24 bad news for you, they are already doing it. They'll be
25 doing it in the future, it makes no difference. They say as

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2.2.10

5.29.32

1 a viable alternative maybe, if they're not going to build it
2 in Idaho, build it in Banford. Well, they still got to ship
3 it to Rocky Flats. They ship it regardless. They say build
4 it in Savannah, well, they still got to ship it, it will go
5 across Idaho. After all, they call Pocatello the gateway to
6 the west and it is, that's why the railroad is there.

7 If we don't need jobs in Idaho, why did the
8 Post Register report on a study that for every three people
9 moving into Idaho -- yeah, into Idaho last year, ten people
10 moved out? People can't find work. If you can't find work,
11 you got to go where it's at.

12 The farmers, they hire migrant workers. They
13 say it's hard to pay what it takes for a family to live on
14 which, incidentally, is not minimum wage, it's a lot
15 higher. Well, I can see that. I suppose we could all run
16 around each other's cities doing tourism. Lord knows, I
17 love to fish, and the bigger they are, the better I like
18 them. I like to hunt too. I do a lot of that.
19 Unfortunately, I got to have a job to pay for gas, buy
20 bullets. I dig my own worms, there's no problem there. I
21 don't know, tourism, it's great, I agree, but I don't think
22 we can do it by each of us chasing each other's cities,
23 taking snapshots of each other's houses.

24 I think Idaho is wonderful. I think America
25 is wonderful, the greatest land on earth. I defy anybody to

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5.27.4.5

1 say that different or to disagree with it. I'm sure the
 2 Russians would like to, but I don't think they can get it
 3 done.

4 I wonder how many of you are voters. It seems
 5 that you got a representative up there that you vote into
 6 office or you don't, and you don't necessarily agree with
 7 what they have to say, a lot of you are vocal minorities, as
 8 they call them in the newspapers. I think you just seem to
 9 not really understand what it's like to have to go out and
 10 fish for a living to eat than it is to get a job. I know
 11 I'm not one to talk about starving, I don't look like it,
 12 but I happen to be a heck of a good fisherman.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of
 16 Robert Combe of Idaho Falls, Idaho, will be entered in the
 17 record as Exhibit 437.

18 Next scheduled commentor is Bruce Lium,
 19 L-i-u-m, Mr. Lium. Is he here?

20 (No response.)

21 HEARING OFFICER: Next scheduled commentor is
 22 Ross Jensen, Ross Jensen.

23 (No response.)

24 BEARING OFFICER: Dan Kinghorn, Mr. Dan
 25 Kinghorn.

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T528

1 (No response.)

2 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Mike Breen.

3

4 MIKE BREEN,
 5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6

7 MR. BREEN: My name is Mike Breen. I live in
 8 Hailey.

9 I'm here tonight to voice my concerns about
 10 the proposed SIS Project. I feel the potential risks to our
 11 health, the ecosystem and our way of life far outweigh any
 12 benefits that might be derived from the six to eight year
 13 project.

14 I don't believe the Department of Energy has
 15 done an adequate and responsible job with projects similar
 16 to this one, and they have left us with more problems than
 17 solutions.

18 Senator Symms wrote in a letter to me, and I
 19 quote, "The SIS project will create 400 construction jobs
 20 within the first two to three years and 750 permanent jobs
 21 when it goes into production in the early 1990s."

22 This may be true if this project is approved
 23 at all, but what kind of jobs are we creating for our
 24 workers, scientists and engineers? Jobs that they can feel
 25 good about?

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6.2

3.2.2

2.7.12

1 The only usable by-product of the SIS plant
2 will be plutonium-239, the explosive used for nuclear
3 weapons. I think most of us want to feel good, spiritually
4 and morally, that the work we are performing will enhance
5 and better the world for ourselves and our children.
6 Production of more plutonium based weapons and the huge
7 risks involved do not justify the creation of any more
8 jobs.

9 We do create this world we live in. The
10 Department of Energy isn't the only one who is responsible
11 for the SIS Project. You know, we all are. There are many
12 of us who want and are working for peace throughout the
13 world. I feel that we can make it happen, but it has to
14 begin with each of us. Peace will begin to happen if we say
15 no to projects like SIS. We all need to raise our
16 consciousness and begin to create a world in which we feel
17 good about where we treat each other and the earth with
18 love, dignity and respect.

19 Our world has so many pressing problems to
20 deal with. The creation and consequences of more plutonium
21 based weapons will only hurt the earth and its people.

22 The defense industries of all the world's
23 nations place a great and unjust strain on all the peoples
24 of the world and their peaceful development. Real security
25 begins with seeing that people have enough food to eat and

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1 the proper tools to help themselves; that we are responsible
2 and sensitive stewards of the world's resources in life
3 instead of greedy and selfish exploiters; that we share,
4 conserve and recycle our resources and move away from
5 finite, centralized and often toxic solutions to our energy
6 problems; and that we treat others like we would like to be
7 treated.

8 We need to work for solutions, and not the
9 creation of additional problems and hazards to ourselves and
10 our children. We need to think in long-range ways instead
11 of the short-term, and we can do that by saying no to SIS.

12 (Applause.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 442 in the record
14 will be the written comments of Mike Breen of Bailey,
15 Idaho.

16 The next scheduled commentor is Judi Green,
17 Judi Green.

18 (No response.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Janice Belson.

20
21 JANICE BELSON,
22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

23
24 MS. BELSON: My name is Janice Belson.

25 To whom it may concern; to all of us that are

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1.1

5.27.7.17

4.14

6.3

1 concerned.

2 I have lived in and loved Idaho for 20 years.
3 I came to Idaho as a young bride in 1968. My husband was
4 second generation Idahoan. His father had come west in the
5 early '30s to farm the land in Idaho Falls. Through hard
6 work and determination his crops of baker potatoes became
7 known throughout the east as Belson Bakers. You know, the
8 extra large bakers that only grew in Idaho in the '30s and
9 '40s.

10 In the '50s Pop Belson was given -- In the
11 '50s Pop Belson was even more determined to tap the water
12 resources of the Snake River Aquifer. He was one of the
13 first farmers to bring water to the desert.

14 When I arrived in Idaho Falls in the summer of
15 1968, I visited the great AEC site, the INEL. I have always
16 been curious why they changed the name; perhaps Atomic
17 Energy Site was too threatening. My husband had been one of
18 the hundreds that worked at the site with the "perfect
19 summer job," back in the early 60s, a few hours of labor for
20 a full day's wage. He had the honor of cleaning up after
21 one of the major nuclear accidents. This allowed him even
22 more free time as he was allowed only a few minutes of labor
23 for a full day's wage. Perhaps they were worried that if he
24 had more than a few minutes, he could have burned.

25 As the years have progressed, I have been

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1 aware of the important work being done at the site, the
2 INEL. Something has changed my respect and has kindled
3 deep-rooted fear for all of us in our beautiful state,
4 country and planet. That fear is the economic compromise
5 our politicians are willing to make in order to turn INEL
6 into a nuclear weapons factory.

3.3.1

7 When my inquiring, bright third generation
8 Idaho child asked me what I was going to speak about, I said
9 that I could only recall the pride of the people that I
10 first met in Idaho Falls and southeastern Idaho. There is
11 now an economic crunch all over the country, and the people
12 that live in and around southeastern Idaho feel that jobs
13 are the most important issue and not the morality of those
14 jobs which will make nuclear material for bombs. Without
15 showing my complete negative attitude about the need for
16 more plutonium, and I'm sure that has been proved by much
17 wiser people than are at the Department of Energy, that is
18 the lack of real proof that we need more of the stuff. I
19 would only like to address the jobs issue.

4.1

20 I would like to ask the country of Idaho -- I
21 would like to ask the people of Idaho a question after I
22 spend a few minutes reading the PAC; that is, the political
23 action list of contributors to Senator James McClure's
24 campaign in 1983-84.

25 How much time do I have?

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1 HEARING OFFICER: You have about two minutes.

2 MS. BELSON: I would like to begin reading.

3 Boise Cascade \$1,000, Potlatch Employees
4 \$1,000, Champion International \$1,000, Homestake \$1,000,
5 Mountain Bell \$3,000, Chevron PAC \$1,000, Union Oil \$1,000,
6 Phillips Petroleum \$500, Atlantic Richfield \$1,000, Amoco
7 \$4,500, Mobil Oil \$1,000, Pacific Gas and Light \$1,000,
8 Carolina Light and Power \$1,000, Pennzoil \$750, SOHIO
9 \$1,000, HOUPAC \$1,000, Transpac (Houston) \$1,000, Conoco
10 \$1,000, Shell \$1,000, Puget Power \$1,000; San Diego Gas and
11 Electric \$300, Louisiana Power and Light \$500, Minnesota
12 Power \$250, Texas Gas Transmission \$500.

13 The list goes on and on and on and on. The
14 list, by the way, and for the most part are people not in
15 Idaho.

16 I would like to also read some of the personal
17 contributors to McClure's campaign. Mr. Parrott of Parrott
18 Oil Company, Dallas, \$1,000; Maxey Grossenbecker,
19 Grossenbecker Oil, \$1,000; Richard Smith, Ranse Oil Company,
20 \$1,000.

21 The listing goes on. And I'm sure that this
22 list I have is only partially complete.

23 The question I would like to pose to the
24 people of Idaho is: If jobs are such a necessity that we
25 have to bring jobs of the war machine to our land, then why,

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1 why, with all of Senator McClure's brains, resources and
2 very rich friends, can't he figure out a way to bring other
3 jobs that do not risk the future of our children, your
4 children and their future generations.

5 Greed and power have a sick way of working its
6 way into the fabric of our society. Idahoans are so gentle
7 and believing of their politicians. It is time that they
8 realize that it is Idaho's and that we must search out other
9 avenues of economic soundness. To depend on the next
10 generation of the arms race and to turn the INEL into a bomb
11 factory should be unacceptable for all of us.

12 I also have a letter from Joann and Philip and
13 Gerhart of Ketchum, Idaho.

14 Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments and
17 supporting materials of Janice Belson are entered in the
18 record as Exhibit 447.

19 Exhibit 448 are the written comments of Joann
20 and Philip Gerhart of Ketchum, Idaho.

21 I have been asked to announce that the bus is
22 leaving to Idaho Falls and Pocatello for those of you who
23 want to leave.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled commentor

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5.27.7.17

3.3.2

T530

1 is Cheryl Welch.

2

3

CHERYL WELCH,

4 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

5

6 MS. WELCH: I'm Cheryl Welch, and I'm a
7 resident of Hailey, Idaho. I was born and raised in
8 Pocatello.

9 And I want to say that I object to the
10 construction of the SIS.

1.1

11 I also have written comment from Lynn Zweifel
12 of Ketchum and Gail Freund of Ketchum.

13 (Applause.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 449 is the
15 written comments of Cheryl Welch of Pocatello -- excuse me,
16 from Hailey, I'm sorry.

17 Exhibit 450 will be the written comments of
18 Lynn Zweifel, P.O. Box 1027, Ketchum, Idaho.

19 And Exhibit 451 the written comments of Gail
20 Freund, F-r-u-e-n-d, P.O. Box 173, Ketchum, Idaho.

21 Next scheduled commentor is Kathleen Sursely.

22

23

24

25

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T531

1 KATHLEEN SURSELY,

2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3

4 MS. SURSLEY: My name is Kathleen Sursely. I
5 live at Route 3, Buhl.

6 According to Webster's Dictionary, environment
7 means all the conditions, circumstances and influences
8 surrounding and affecting the development of an organism. I
9 am a human organism, that is to say that I am a mental,
10 physical and spiritual being.

11 I assume that my government acknowledges that
12 I am a spiritual being, as we are given religious freedom
13 and it is upheld in this country. Also on the green pieces
14 of paper they give us that says "In God we trust."

15 I also assume that my government acknowledges
16 that I'm a mental being; they have established a national
17 education system. We are not just amoebae to be manipulated
18 and then disregarded.

19 Nowhere in your EIS do I find mention of the
20 psychological effects of the arms race or of the effects of
21 participating in the making of bombs that kill men, women,
22 children, plants and animals, all of life.

23 I suggest Dr. Margaret Brenman Gibson of
24 Harvard Medical School, who has been doing a study on the
25 psychological effects of the nuclear arms race, as a

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2.7.2

2.5.5

1 consultant on your Final EIS.

2 Our illustrious governor, Cecil Andrus,
3 evidently does not feel that we are spiritual beings, for he
4 has told us that he will not let moral considerations get in
5 the way of economic development. I can only assume you
6 agree, as I find no mention of the morality of this project
7 in the EIS as it relates to all of us who are involved. It
8 is a Godless mentality that seeks only material gain.

9 I also notice that you are not liable for the
10 accuracy of your document. Who, I ask, is responsible? If
11 there is an accident, who do we turn to? Who will give us
12 back our water and our air? Who will give us back our
13 lives? You do not address this in your EIS.

14 Finally and most frightening of all is that
15 this project is a perpetuation of a totalitarian controlled
16 economy, that of the military industrial complex. The
17 United States military industrial complex is the second
18 largest controlled economy in the world, second only to the
19 USSR. A democracy cannot function within the confines of a
20 controlled economy. People cannot vote their conscience,
21 they can only vote their paychecks.

22 I, as an American citizen, strongly object to
23 your destruction of our free enterprise system; that is free
24 as in freedom. This and all your projects of doom are
25 designed to destroy our freedoms by controlling the

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1 distribution of wealth in this country. I do not care to
2 live under communist or capitalist totalitarianism.

3 The very thing we are supposedly fighting, a
4 Godless government controlled society, is what you are
5 perpetuating. It is treason and I, as a sound-thinking
6 citizen, question your authority.

7 (Applause.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: No. 37 on the commentors
9 list is Dell Miller, Dell Miller.

10 (No response.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Mark Deagle, Mark Deagle.

12 (No response.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Michele Davis.

14 MICHELE DAVIS,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16 MS. DAVIS: I'm deeply opposed to the SIS and
17 see no valid reason for its installation at the INEL or
18 anywhere else, for that matter.

19 With one nuclear arms reduction treaty signed
20 and negotiations underway on further reductions, the
21 development of a new plutonium processing plant makes no
22 sense, especially if light of the fact the U.S. arsenal
23 already contains 25,000 nuclear warheads.

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2.7.2

2.3

1.1

4.14

T533

5.27.2

1 Economically I feel that the SIS could be
2 disastrous for Idaho in the event of a plant or
3 transportation accident. We must think about the economic
4 effects of a serious accident which could contaminate soil,
5 water or highways. The impact that even a minor accident
6 could have on public relations and marketing of Idaho
7 agricultural products and the recreational industry could be
8 very severe.

9 I've chosen to live and raise my children in
10 Idaho because I found it to be one of the cleanest, most
11 beautiful places in the world; a very healthy environment
12 for the growing of healthy minds and bodies. I don't want
13 them living in fear of being so close to such a lethal
14 environment, and I'm very concerned about the moral and
15 psychological impact on my children from living in a state
16 which is economically reliant on producing weapons capable
17 of destroying modern civilization and global environment.

18 Speaking as a citizen and a parent, I hope you
19 will carefully consider the long-range welfare of Idaho and
20 its people in making a about decision the SIS, and I pray
21 that your decision be no.

22 (Applause.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 452 in the hearing
24 record will be the written comments of Michele Davis, Box
25 1135, Ketchum, Idaho.

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1 Next scheduled commentor is Glen Hall,
2 commentor number 40, Glen Hall.

3 (No response.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 41, Kiko
5 Shatterly, Kiko Shatterly.

6
7 FRANCES SHATTERLY,
8 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

9
10 MR. SHATTERLY: For the record, I think that
11 should be Frances Shatterly.

12 Everything that I want to say has already been
13 said, so I'd like to allow my time to anybody who can use it
14 wisely.

15 Thank you.

16 I'm strongly opposed to it, by the way.

17 (Applause.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: Order 42, Karl Piottter.

19 MR. PIOTTER: Very good. People can make a
20 real mess of that.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Try Eiguren.

22 MR. PIOTTER: I have been all night and
23 haven't figured it out.

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1.1

1.1
4.14
6.3

1 KARL PIOTTER,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. PIOTTER: My name is Karl Piotter. I
5 represent my wife, Ginger; my son, Tony; and my daughter,
6 Jennifer, and we are all residents of Bailey, Idaho.
7 I'm here before you today because I oppose the
8 construction of the Special Isotope Separator.
9 My reasons for opposing SIS is that I don't
10 believe any more funds should be spent for our nuclear
11 arsenal. In fact, I support any and all moves to reduce
12 that force of arms. It is time to turn our swords into
13 plowshares or, more appropriately for our area, to spend our
14 money on tourism and broad based funding for education.
15 As our friend, the Reverend Jesse Jackson
16 would say, we the people, take no action on SIS.
17 (Applause.)
18 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Piotter's written
19 comments will be entered in the record as Exhibit No. 453.
20 Next scheduled commentor is Betty Schneider.
21
22 BETTY SCHNEIDER,
23 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
24
25 MS. SCHNEIDER: My name is Betty Schneider,
281

1 and I live at Box 1584, Ketchum, Idaho.
2 I come here as a person who moved to Idaho
3 over ten years ago as a lover of the wilderness and stayed
4 because of its unique pristine nature.
5 I am the owner of a residential design and
6 construction company, which has taken me the last ten years
7 of my life to develop. And my livelihood depends on a
8 healthy recreational economy.
9 In my experience, people who come to this
10 state, whether to vacation or start a new life here, choose
11 Idaho because of its truly wholesome image. We're lucky now
12 that people around the country associate Idaho with things
13 like wilderness, pure water, clean air, fertile soil and
14 potatoes. We would be trading our association with these
15 positive, pristine images for those of a plutonium factory
16 producing toxic gasses and leaving a trail of toxic waste.
17 It's not just an immediate problem but one we're handing
18 down to future generations. We'd be producing a
19 contaminated radioactive waste product for which we have no
20 means of disposal.
21 It's a little hard for me to speak about this
22 from an economic point of view when I feel strongly that
23 it's a moral issue. But an economic issue is what the
24 politicians have made it. So as a business person with an
25 economic interest, it seems to me that for the short-term
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1 economic gain of this project, we are risking every other
2 economy in the state. Will people buy potatoes from the
3 plutonium state? Will people come here to build their new
4 homes near a facility located so close to a major fault?
5 The potential for an accident is too great. I think they'll
6 choose another place to go.

7 The SIS is a direct threat to our livelihoods
8 and our lives here in Idaho. Please don't let this happen.

9 Thank you.

10 (Applause.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 454 for the hearing
12 record will be the written comments of Betty Schneider of
13 Ketchum.

14 Next scheduled commentor is John Griffith,
15 John Griffith.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 45, Donna
18 Billa.

19
20 DONNA BILLA,

21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

22
23 MS. BILLA: My name is Donna Billa. I live in
24 Bellevue, Idaho.

25 I'm proud to be an American citizen, and I'm

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1 proud to have the opportunity to participate in this very
2 important hearing. America is a free country and we do have
3 a choice.

4 We have traditionally trusted and given away
5 our power to others, specifically elected officials. But
6 now we do question authority. There is change in the air,
7 and we are trying to take responsibility for what's
8 happening to our planet.

9 It seems to me that those who live in Idaho
10 Falls and those in favor of the SIS are thinking in the
11 short-term. They don't seem to see, in my opinion, the
12 world views, the big picture.

13 I'm not going to do a lot of knee-jerk
14 emotional bleeding, although I would think that the
15 destruction of the environment is an emotional issue, war is
16 an emotional issue, but we can't legislate morality.
17 However, it's kind of unusual that now Harvard and all the
18 major business schools in the nation are teaching ethics
19 classes in business. And I do believe that the SIS is an
20 ethical issue.

21 There are winds of change in America. We are
22 beginning to do some introspective thinking. We are
23 beginning to question authority and beginning to realize
24 that we must take responsibility for the future.

25 Yes, I have a vested interest in this. I live

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1 in Bellevue, maybe I'm 60 miles as the crow flies. It will
 2 affect me, the SIS plant. Yes, the people who live in Idaho
 3 Falls have a vested interest; they want jobs. But there are
 4 others who don't have a vested interest but for whom this is
 5 an important issue, those who have a world view. Such as
 6 Richard Baskin who is against this, who is also involved
 7 with Barbra Streisand who is against this. They have a
 8 world view. They are not trying to protect their own little
 9 area of the world. It's been said that we don't care until
 10 they are doing something in our backyard, but this issue is
 11 so much bigger than any of us here in our own small, little
 12 ideas of what could happen to us personally.

13 I'm a very fortunate person. I organize
 14 safaris in Kenya, and so I get to go on these wonderful
 15 business trips to Africa. Isn't that great, to be able to
 16 go on business to Africa? So I'm lucky because I get to see
 17 that environment there, and I know how terribly important it
 18 is that we protect that very special place.

19 Idaho is one of a kind. Africa is one of a
 20 kind. I don't have to live in Kenya to know that saving the
 21 rhinoceros is a very important thing. People don't have to
 22 live in Idaho to know that this is a worldwide issue and
 23 that it's much more important than all of us here. And I
 24 hope that we can continue to speak up for conscious choice
 25 and taking responsibility into our own hands, and I hope

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T537

1 that we will oppose the SIS Project.

2 (Applause.)

3 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 4 Donna Billa will be included in the record as Exhibit 455.
 5 We are now at order 46 on the commentators'
 6 list, Mr. Bruce Jones.

7 MR. JONES: I pass my position.

8 MS. JONES: I'm number 29 on the list -- 129,
 9 I'm sorry.

10 HEARING OFFICER: Mrs. Bruce Jones.

11 MS. JONES: More commonly known as Mary
 12 Jones.

13 HEARING OFFICER: Mary Jones.

14 MARY JONES,
 15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16 MS. JONES: I'm a native of southern Idaho.
 17 And I have work with handicapped children for the past 14
 18 years.

19 I believe that nuclear war is immoral. Are we
 20 in Idaho going to stand by and add to the insanity of
 21 preparing for it? I, for one, wish to state my opposition
 22 to the construction of the Special Isotope Separator. Moral
 23 issues, environmental concerns, potential negative impacts
 24

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1 on Idaho's tourism, agriculture, aquaculture and safety
2 concerns are all reasons why this project should be
3 declined.

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4 And I have yet another concern. It is that
5 the potential for contamination of the atmosphere or water
6 exists. It is this potential that leaves the possibility
7 for exposure to radioactive materials which is known to
8 cause mutations, including birth defects.

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9 I would like to question whether there is any
10 clear evidence that can disprove a speculation that there
11 may be a higher incidence of specific birth defects in
12 regions of existing nuclear production facilities. Can it
13 be proven that even miniscule amounts of radiation are never
14 responsible for causing the occurrence of congenital
15 anomalies or chromosome abnormalities in the unborn fetus.
16 Sound research must be completed regarding incidence rates
17 of both genetic abnormalities and spontaneous abortions in
18 the impact zones of all nuclear facilities. A comparative
19 analysis with the overall national incidence rates of
20 congenital abnormalities should also be done.

21 The seriousness of this potential risk must
22 not be overlooked. This subject should be adequately
23 researched, and the Department of Energy should address this
24 in the Environmental Impact Statement. Let's not allow the
25 insanity of preparing for nuclear war cause us to accept.

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1 risks with which we, as a society, are unprepared to cope.
2 Let's protect our future generations. The mentality that
3 people adhere to that this will never happen, this will
4 never affect me, somehow parallels the sentiments that I
5 hear from parents of handicapped infants, I never thought it
6 would happen to me.

(Applause.)

8 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Mary
9 Jones of Route 1, Filer, will be included in the record as
10 Exhibit No. 456.

11 Next scheduled commentor is Steven J. Morris,
12 Steve Morris.

(No response.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Number 48, Larry Hansen,
15 Larry Hansen.

(No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 49,
18 Penelope Street.

20 C. W. POMEROY,
21 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

23 MR. POMEROY: I'm not Penelope Street. I'm
24 C. W. Pomeroy, and good evening. Thanks for the opportunity
25 to speak.

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1 What I would really like to know, I have a lot
2 of comments, but I'd like to see, if it's okay, I missed
3 some of the earlier stuff, the guys that are representing
4 the DOE, would you guys hold up your hands? I want to know
5 who I am speaking to.

6 HEARING OFFICER: You are speaking to the
7 Chair here. This is the Department of Energy staff down
8 here.

9 MR. POMEROY: All right. Great. You guys,
10 I'm going to get a little closer --

11 HEARING OFFICER: Sir, I can't let you do
12 that. You need to stay at the podium, I'm sorry.

13 MR. POMEROY: Okay. Well, I admire you in a
14 way. You have a lot of intestinal fortitude to come here,
15 but I really don't want you at all to try to shove this down
16 our throats. We are not stupid people in Idaho. I know
17 we're the last state you thought or that people think that
18 we are not going to raise an opposition, I think that you
19 are fighting the tide here, you are against it. Please
20 don't do it here. Every time you try to do something on
21 this, the tide is going to be against you. The war against
22 you is going to be unpleasant. People don't want it, for
23 every bloody reason. I am against the SIS vehemently. And
24 please take this message back from all the people in Idaho,
25 we don't want it, gents. It's, you know, it's old history.

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1 No, good, stupid, bad, any adjective you want to use.

2 Thanks.

3 (Applause.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
5 C. W. Pomery of Ketchum, Idaho, will be included in the
6 record as received by the Chair as Exhibit No. 457.

7 I'm not sure what happened to Penelope
8 Street.

9 Our next scheduled commentor is Mary Ann
10 Scott.

11 MR. SIEMON: Hi, I'm substituting for Mary Ann
12 Scott.

13 HEARING OFFICER: Your name is?

14 MARK SIEMON,
15
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17
18 MR. SIEMON: Hi. My name is Mark Siemon, I'm
19 from Ketchum, Idaho. My family has lived in Ketchum, Idaho,
20 for the past 22 years.

21 I'm opposed to the Department of Energy's
22 proposal to locate the Special Isotope Separator Project in
23 Idaho. I'm opposed to DOE's manufacture of plutonium
24 altogether.

25 I do not believe the DOE's Draft Environmental

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4.1 1 Impact Statement has demonstrated a need for further
 4.3 2 plutonium production in the United States. The recent INF
 3 agreement calling for a reduction in nuclear weapons and the
 4 upcoming Moscow summit show the United States Government may
 5 finally realize there's no future in the nuclear arms race.

6.3 6 You talk of our need for continued plutonium
 7 production to insure our national security; yet, the billion
 8 dollars the DOE would like to spend on plutonium, which can
 9 never be used, will do little to enhance our national
 10 security. What would your billion dollars do for national
 11 security needs if spent on our real war against drugs
 12 currently being lost by our government? Would your billion
 13 dollars spent on the education of our children, would that
 14 make this nation more secure? I believe so.

6.5.13 15 The official handbook of the federal
 16 government, the 1986/87 United States Government Manual,
 17 states that, "The Department of Energy provides the
 18 framework for a comprehensive and balanced national energy
 19 plan." I see no place for the SIS in this plan. Frankly, I
 20 see no balance or comprehensive national energy plan at all.

6.3 21 If Idaho's shortsighted politicians and the
 22 DOE want jobs for Idaho, I say great. How about a plant to
 23 design and manufacture a more fuel efficient automobile
 24 engine, or a billion dollar research center on solar energy?
 25 How would a comprehensive national energy plan based on an

1 energy independent United States enhance our nation's
 2 security for the future?

3 Our government fills us with first strike
 4 survivability and retaliatory capability. The fact is the
 5 United States and the Soviet Union share the fire power of
 6 6,000 World War IIs. One Trident submarine has the
 7 firepower of eight World War IIs, enough to destroy every
 8 major city in the northern hemisphere. I say no to SIS, no
 9 more bombs.

10 (Applause.)

11 MR. SIEMON: I'd also like to submit the
 12 written testimony in opposition of the SIS of Glenda Gibson
 13 of Burley, Idaho, and Nancy Norton of Grandview Lane,
 14 Burley, Idaho.

15 BEARING OFFICER: All right. The written
 16 comments of Mark Siemon of Ketchum, Idaho, will be included
 17 in the record as Exhibit No. 458. The written comments of
 18 did Glenda Gibson, Burley, Idaho, will be included as
 19 Exhibit No. 459. And the written comments of Nancy L.
 20 Norton of Burley, Idaho, will be Exhibit No. 460.

21 We have now come to witness order number 50.
 22 It would be the intent of the Chair, we are at 10:05, what I
 23 would like to do is we'll take a brief recess here, but I
 24 would encourage anybody who has written comments that does
 25 not anticipate returning on Thursday to bring those comments

1 forward as we take the break and we'll include those in the
2 record.

3 In addition to that, it would be the Chair's
4 intent to try to get to witness order 60, between 60 to 65
5 this evening, at which point we would cut it off.

6 Finally, it's been my practice in the other
7 hearings to give the opportunity to those individuals who
8 categorically, unequivocally, without reservation, beyond a
9 shadow of a doubt, cannot return to a subsequent hearing, be
10 accommodated at this hearing, if we can. I realize that a
11 lot of you have come long distances, and those are the ones
12 we would particularly like to accommodate, setting aside for
13 the moment that apparently most of the residents of Blaine
14 County are here. So we will be happy to try to accommodate
15 you, if we can.

16 Yes ma'am?

17 A VOICE: Could I ask you a question?

18 HEARING OFFICER: Could you come up here,
19 please, so we can hear it all?

20 FEMALE SPEAKER: I have noticed that a number
21 of people have come here from eastern Idaho, and I'm
22 wondering, are they going to be allowed to testify again
23 over there?

24 HEARING OFFICER: No no, no. The rules of the
25 game are very clear. Everybody who has preregistered or

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1 registered at the door at any of the hearings will be
2 entitled to the opportunity to comment at the continuation
3 of these hearings. You cannot sign up at the door, so folks
4 aren't going to have that opportunity to testify; everyone
5 gets one shot on the record, period.

6 FEMALE SPEAKER: That's all I wanted to know.
7 Thank you.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

9 Is there anybody in the audience who has a
10 written comment you would like to submit for the record at
11 this time? If so, I would just ask that you step forward,
12 and why don't you just come to the podium and give us your
13 name, and we'll give you an exhibit number.

14 Exhibit 461 will be the written comments of
15 Carrie Beezley of Twin Falls, Idaho.

16 Exhibit 462 will be the written comments of
17 Thomas R. Beezley of Twin Falls, Idaho.

18 (Voices.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Excuse us just a moment.
20 Could we have the podium mike on, please?

21 MS. THOMPSON: My name is Becky Thompson of
22 Twin Falls, and I'm against this.

23 HEARING OFFICER: That will be Exhibit 463.
24 Please give us your name and I'll assign a
25 number.

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1 MS. WOODS: I'm Cynthia Lou Woods of Twin
2 Falls and I'm against it.
3 HEARING OFFICER: That will be Exhibit 464.
4 MR. BRAY: I'm Rich Bray from Sun Valley, and
1.1 5 I'm very much against it.
6 HEARING OFFICER: That's Exhibit 465.
7 MR. GREEN: I'm Ron Green from Pocatello.
8 (Voices.)
9 BEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please. Ladies and
10 gentlemen, could we have it quiet, please? We are trying to
11 get testimony entered into the record. I appreciate your
12 forbearance.
13 Could I have your name again, please?
14 MR. GREEN: Yeah. I'm Ron Green, 829 Tanager,
1.1 15 Pocatello. I have three written testimonies; one from
16 Merlin Burwell from Pocatello and Scott Christensen from
17 Pocatello, and we are all for the SIS.
18 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Ron
19 Green will be entered in the record as Exhibit 466. The
20 written comments of Merlin Burwell will be entered, of
21 Pocatello, will be entered into the record as Exhibit No.
22 467. The written comments of Scott A. Christensen of
23 Pocatello will be entered in the record as Exhibit No. 468.
24 (Voices.)
25 HEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please.

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1 MR. JONES: I am Mary Jones from Ketchum and
2 Garden Valley, Idaho, and I am opposed.
3 HEARING OFFICER: Your comments will be 469.
4 MR. SMALL: Will Small from Picabo, Idaho,
5 very much against.
6 HEARING OFFICER: The comments of Mr. Small
7 will be entered in the record as Exhibit No. 470.
8 MR. QUINN: My name is Billy Quinn from
9 Hailey, Idaho, and I'd like for you to just say no to the
10 SIS.
11 BEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
12 Billy Quinn of Sun Valley, Idaho, will be entered into the
13 record as Exhibit No. 471.
14 MS. CHUPA: I'm Marge Chupa, 1860 Falls Avenue
15 East, Twin Falls. I'm very much against this. Please say
16 no to SIS.
17 HEARING OFFICER: Your comments will be
18 entered in the record as Exhibit No. 472.
19 MR. TERRA: My name is Michael Terra, and I'm
20 very much against the SIS and building bombs.
21 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
22 Michael Terra of Ketchum, Idaho, will be entered in the
23 record as Exhibit No. 473.
24 MS. WAHL: I'm Jackie Wahl of Twin Falls,
25 Idaho. I was wondering how big those fish that man that

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1 fished for living are going to be or how many heads they
2 would have or --

3 HEARING OFFICER: I'm sorry --

4 MS. WAHL: And is DOA a slip of the tongue on
5 previous testimony or a slip of subconscious of what might
6 happen.

7 HEARING OFFICER: Ma'am, thank you. The
8 written comments of Jackie Wahl of Twin Falls, Idaho, will
9 be entered into the record as Exhibit No. 474.

10 Are there further written comments for the
11 record? If not, we'll be in recess for five minutes.

12 (Recess.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: I'd like to come back to
14 order, if we could, and go back on the record. It's now
15 10:17, and we will begin this part of the hearing by reading
16 into the record those exhibit numbers and names of
17 individuals who have provided written comment for the
18 record.

19 Exhibit 370, Maggie Blair; Exhibit 371, Cara
20 Wilson; Exhibit 372, John Wilson; Exhibit 373, Harry
21 Massoth; Exhibit 375, K. J. O'Connor; Exhibit 376, John C.
22 O'Connor; Exhibit 377, Martha Woodwell Neilson,
23 N-e-i-l-s-o-n; Exhibit 378, W. B. and Bolly Hopple,
24 H-o-p-p-l-e; Exhibit 379, Carolyn Graham; Exhibit 380,
25 Dianne Schroeder, S-c-h-r-o-e-d-e-r; Exhibit 381, Bonnie

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1 Vincent; Exhibit 382, Steven P. Garman; Exhibit 383, Teresa
2 Drown; Exhibit 385, Julie Rodman; Exhibit 386, John Nycum,
3 N-y-c-u-m; Exhibit 387, Edward C. Shokal, S-h-o-k-a-l;
4 Exhibit 388, Julie and Robert Randell, R-a-n-d-e-l-l.
5 Exhibit 389 are a series of petitions received from
6 residents of Blaine County submitted by Julie Randell.
7 Exhibit 390 are the written comments of Osa Chandler;
8 Exhibit 393, Jan Higginbotham, H-i-g-g-i-n-b-o-t-h-a-m.
9 Exhibit 394 are petitions from the nine concerned citizens
10 from mud Lack Lake. Exhibit 395, Tom Blanchard; Exhibit
11 396, Mark Tunno, T-u-n-n-o; Exhibit 397, Tom Branch; Exhibit
12 398, Mary Pat Branch; Exhibit 400, Leslie J. Maniokian; Exhibit 401,
13 Johnathan Gore; Exhibit 402, Carla Schockey, S-h-o-c-k-e-y;
14 Exhibit 404, Elizabeth Conrod, C-o-n-r-o-d; Exhibit 405,
15 Liza Paschall, P-a-s-c-h-a-l-l; Exhibit 406, Charles Larkey;
16 four Exhibit 407, Pat Banggi, H-a-n-g-g-i; Exhibit 408,
17 Virginia Hansen; Exhibit 410, Curtis Neilson, N-e-i-l-s-o-n;
18 Exhibit 411, James and Lea Reed; Exhibit 414, Mary Ann
19 Chubb, C-h-u-b-b; Exhibit 415, Alison Beechert,
20 B-e-e-c-h-e-r-t; Exhibit 416 Bruce S. Manheim,
21 M-a-n-n-h-e-i-m; Exhibit 417, Dennis O. Donnelly,
22 D-o-n-n-e-l-l-y; Exhibit 418, Suzanne Simon Schwake,
23 S-c-h-w-a-k-e; Exhibit 419, Janet Augustus; Exhibit 420,
24 Lynne Stone; Exhibit 421, Ann S. Vanderbilt; Exhibit 422,
25 Bruce Augustus; Exhibit 423, Lyn L. Stallard;

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1 S-t-a-l-l-a-r-d; Exhibit 424, Wanda Tierney, T-i-e-r-n-e-y;
 2 Exhibit 429, John Vladimiroff, V-l-a-d-i-m-i-o-r-f-f;
 3 Exhibit 430, Jack Stallard, S-t-a-l-l-a-r-d; Exhibit 431,
 4 Jan and Michael Turzian, T-u-r-z-i-a-n; Exhibit 432, Candice
 5 Anderson; Exhibit 433, Jeanne Flowers; Exhibit 434 Virginia
 6 and Daniel Glasscock, G-l-a-s-s-c-o-c-k; Exhibit 435, Robert
 7 Burns; Exhibit 436, Diane P. Gibson; Exhibit 438, William V.
 8 Cook; Exhibit 439 Phil Carney, C-a-r-n-e-y; Exhibit 440, Bob
 9 Day; Exhibit 441, Judy Heath, H-e-a-t-h; Exhibit 443, Dr.
 10 Bruce Leim, L-e-i-m; Exhibit 444, Mr. Isham, I-s-h-a-m;
 11 Exhibit 445, Helen Newman; Exhibit 446, Carolyn Hondo,
 12 H-o-n-d-o.

13 We will now return to our witness order for
 14 the evening and call witness number 51, Ken Ashcom.

15 KEN ASHCOM,
 16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

17 MS. ASHCOM: First of all, I'd like the DOE to
 18 volunteer to give us that billion dollars for our children's
 19 education, not their potential deaths and so on.

20 (Applause.)

21 MR. ASHCOM: I wasn't going to talk about
 22 this, but I think I will. I worked for the Department of
 23 Energy years ago, and I'm real sad to say I did. I worked
 24

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1 at the Bennett's Atomic Engineering Laboratory, and I have
 2 seen tons of waste that has no place to go, and it's been
 3 there since the '50s. And it will stay there because it has
 4 no place to go. They want to ship it out here to us to get
 5 rid of it and down in New Mexico, and they can have it, I
 6 don't want it here.

7 I have seen photographs of the burial sites at
 8 INEL, and it's going to stay there, it's not going
 9 anywhere. These guys are creating a boondoggle that's just
 10 going to ruin us all. I'm going to read my paper now.

11 It's really a very simple question.
 12 Environmental contamination and more nuclear weapons for
 13 jobs. I believe Idaho's future is in its pristine
 14 environment, a rapidly disappearing commodity. And if you
 15 think about it, it is a commodity, and we can use it to our
 16 best advantage and protect it. It must be protected at all
 17 costs. It is in best long-term interests.

18 How many nuclear weapons do we need? We
 19 already have the capability to destroy the world several
 20 times over. Enough is enough. It's time the people of
 21 Idaho take a stand to stop this madness.

22 The price is too high, too high for a few jobs
 23 that will last only a few years. Therefore, I say no to
 24 SIS.

25 One other thing --

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1 (Applause.)
 2 MR. ASHCOM: (Inaudible) -- the disclaimer in
 3 this document is important, get real, guys. Somebody has
 4 got to be responsible.
 5 (Applause.)
 6 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. The written
 7 comment of were Ken Ashcom, Ketchum Idaho, will be marked as
 8 Exhibit No. 475 and included in the order and received.
 9 He's also submitted the written comment of Angie Smith of
 10 Box 4131, Ketchum, that will be admitted as Exhibit 476 for
 11 the record.
 12 The next scheduled commentor is Tracy Barr,
 13 Tracy Barr.
 14 (No response.)
 15 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 53, Thayne D.
 16 Kunz, K-u-n-z.
 17 (No response.)
 18 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 54, Linda
 19 Bergerson.
 20
 21 LINDA BERGERSON,
 22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 23
 24 MS. BERGERSON: My name is Linda Bergerson of
 25 Ketchum, Idaho.

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1 My premise is that the Special Isotope
 2 Separation plant is unneeded, unwanted and detrimental to
 3 Idaho.
 4 First, the United States has more than enough
 5 plutonium available for present needs and a lessening
 6 demand. We have 120 tons of plutonium stockpiled.
 7 Plutonium from outdated weapons can be endlessly recycled
 8 and the INF treaty will free up two tons of plutonium for
 9 for reuse. If necessary, there are other ways of obtaining
 10 weapon-grade plutonium without building a new installation.
 11 We now have enough nuclear weapons to destroy
 12 any adversary as well as ourselves. There is no need for
 13 more weapon-grade plutonium.
 14 Secondly, this plant would not be of long-term
 15 economic advantage to Idaho. The installation is designed
 16 to process a seven year supply of fuel, only about six tons
 17 of raw material are available.
 18 The presence of a nuclear weapons plant will
 19 detract from Idaho's image as a vacation land. Threats of
 20 air and water are what tourists want to leave behind.
 21 Southern Idaho is an agricultural center; what would be the
 22 cost of even a minor accident and lost sales?
 23 Transportation and site accidents are assumed
 24 by the DOE to never occur, but they do, and even a minor one
 25 with related publicity could damage the major industries of

302

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1 our state; agriculture and tourism, causing more economic
 2 loss than the seven years of employment would provide.

3 Thirdly, the INEL is now respected as a
 4 research center. Research on the SIS process is being
 5 conducted at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, leaving the
 6 INEL with the production. Accident potential in production
 7 is higher than in research. Three minor accidents have
 8 already occurred at INEL's Idaho chemical processing plant.

9 Will this emphasis on weapons production
 10 replace non-military research at INEL?

11 Lastly, great potential for environmental
 12 degradation has not been given enough emphasis. Using the
 13 word "potential" has given DOE too much credit if you look
 14 at its past record. The environment has been contaminated
 15 in DOE plants at Hanford, Rocky Flats, Fernald, Los Alamos,
 16 Oak Ridge and Livermore. Are they now abandoning these
 17 sites with of all their their problems and coming to Idaho?

18 Wastes already stored at INEL have been
 19 detected 230 feet below the storage areas. These wastes
 20 were to have been moved by DOE, but promises were not kept.

21 Wastes from the SIS operation are to be shipped to a New
 22 Mexico disposal site now under construction, but they have
 23 leaks developing, and that waste facility there may never be
 24 used.

25 How can we allow the Department of Energy,

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1 with their poor track record, to start production above the
 2 Snake River Aquifer? We are inviting disaster.

3 Let's tell the the Department of Energy that
 4 we know what they want to send to Idaho, and we want no part
 5 of it.

6 We like the quality of life here in Idaho.
 7 What will more nuclear weapons do to change that?

8 Thank you.

9 (Applause.)

10 BEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 11 Linda Bergerson are Exhibit No. 477.

12 The written comments of Mr. Michael Brown are
 13 Exhibit No. 478.

14 The next scheduled commentor is Tom Pomeroy.
 15 (Off the record.)

16 BEARING OFFICER: We apparently lost the
 17 sound.

18 MR. POMEROY: Okay. Can you hear me?
 19 VOICES: Yes.

20

21 TOM POMEROY,
 22 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

23

24 MR. POMEROY: Okay. Not a lot of new
 25 evidence.

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5.12.1

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1.1

1 Hi. My name is Tom Pomeroy, and I'm here
2 tonight to state my opposition, guess what? Against the SIS
3 being built anywhere in the United States. Therefore, I
4 support the No Action Alternative.

5 The SIS is vulnerable on a number of grounds;
6 so, therefore, Idaho is vulnerable if this facility is
7 built.

4.2.1

8 The need is seriously questioned. The
9 Secretary of Energy stated in February that the United
10 States is awash in plutonium. What more needs to be said?
11 Plutonium is not a product I want on this earth; so,
12 therefore, I certainly don't want any more produced.

2.7.9

13 The need for this facility is a deep concern
14 and problem facing America. We are destroying this country
15 and world with the conventional thinking that we can win in
16 a nuclear war. Precious natural resources, human resources
17 and precious time are all going to waste in America because
18 of this kind of thinking. We must reverse this trend and
19 stopping the SIS is an absolute must. There is no
20 compromise here.

5.9.1

21 The environmental risks of this facility are
22 enormous. Over 20 tons of freon will be released each year
23 into the earth's atmosphere, further reducing the
24 stratospheric ozone layer. What assurances are there that
25 this amount of freon is safe? With the increasing major

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1 health threats of cancer and immune deficiencies all being
2 tied to depletion of the earth's ozone layer, I want to see
3 how releasing more ozone (sic) can be considered.

4 The transportation of plutonium needed for the
5 SIS is also a serious concern. I don't want a to pass, look
6 at or even think about trucks entering and leaving Idaho
7 with this poison, knowing that a serious accident is a
8 possibility.

9 How will you evacuate Boise in case of a
10 serious accident? Will there be psychological effects on
11 Idaho's population because of the increased risk of highway
12 shipments? How will trucks carrying toxic and nuclear
13 materials deal with winter white-outs?

14 The Environmental Impact Statement seriously
15 underestimates the impacts of earthquakes and volcanic
16 activity. I'll never forget Mount Borah earthquake, and the
17 thought of the SIS being built near this seismic active area
18 is stupid. The half-life of plutonium is 24,000 years, and
19 it remains dangerous for that entire time. What assurances
20 can you make that we won't have a major earthquake in, let's
21 say, over the next 500 years?

22 The waste handling is also a major concern of
23 mine. How will radioactive and hazardous wastes be
24 handled? Do you today now have a proven and safe method to
25 store and render these materials 100 percent guaranteed that

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1 storage methods are safe? The EIS doesn't say you do.

2 The biggest reason and push for construction
3 of the SIS is the jobs argument. Senator McClure, Senator
4 Symms, Governor Andrus, Representative Stallings should be
5 ashamed of themselves for prostituting Idaho for these
6 dead-end jobs. Leaders are expected to think, but
7 unfortunately, these pea-brain politicians only think of
8 being reelected. This project is the classic pork barrel
9 deficit spending that the United States can't afford. Have
10 you studied the risks of increased military spending versus
11 the decline of social programs that benefit many more
12 citizens?

13 If jobs is really the issue, it's not fair
14 that labor unions and the general public have been misled by
15 our Idaho leaders offering this project as the only way for
16 economic expansion in Idaho. Senator McClure has whipped up
17 the jobs issue to only confuse Idaho's public, in the hopes
18 that the public won't question the need, the environmental
19 risks, the financial costs or the moral issue of the SIS.
20 Our leaders need replacing.

21 The main question is do we really want Idaho
22 to be further dependent on a one issue industry. Once this
23 project is built and its seven year life cycle is complete,
24 then what do we do? Will the government continue to
25 subsidize these dead-end jobs with further dead-end jobs?

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1 Is the SIS committing Idaho to the monstrous military
2 industrial complex and away from our decentralized agrarian
3 agricultural base?

4 The citizens of Idaho who believe that this is
5 a job issue need to remember that saying no to the SIS
6 doesn't mean you are turning your back on Idaho's future.
7 Agriculture and tourism are Idaho's best and healthiest
8 industries. Non-extractive, non-polluting and outdoor
9 oriented. The SIS could destroy significant parts of each
10 of these growing, decentralized and healthy industries. The
11 SIS could destroy Idaho. I say no to the SIS.

12 (Applause.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of Tom
14 Pomeroy of Ketchum will be included in the record as Exhibit
15 No. 479.

16 Next scheduled commentor is Matt Wells.

17 MR. WELLS: Mr. Eiguren, I'm Matt Wells, and
18 my testimony was presented by my wife, Tina Cole, she was
19 the seventh speaker this evening, but there's something
20 rather satisfying about giving personal testimony before a
21 government hearing, so I'd like to present mine.

22 HEARING OFFICER: You may do so.

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1 MATTHEW WELLS,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. WELLS: I am Matthew Wells. I make my
5 home in Haily, Idaho. I'm the son of a pioneer family that
6 came to the northwest territory in 1847, and I'd like to
7 state for the record that I am opposed to the construction
8 and operation of the Special Isotope Separation Project at
9 the Department of Energy has slated for the Idaho National
10 Engineering Laboratory.
11 I see no reason, economic, scientific,
12 strategic or patriotic, to develop and operate a project
13 with the stated goal of refinement for weapons-grade
14 plutonium. My study and reading indicates that the United
15 States has more than adequate stockpiles of nuclear material
16 and that the SIS INEL project be used, among other things,
17 to purify a plutonium stockpile from the crippled Hanford,
18 Washington, nuclear project.
19 I cannot help but be reminded of the
20 insincerity and the short-lived visions of the Department of
21 Energy and our national government when I consider the
22 building and the operation of such a project. The small
23 economic gain that Idaho would receive from the SIS is
24 shadowed by the greater enviornmental threat to our citizens
25 and the area.

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T544

1 Thank you.
2 BEARING OFFICER: Mr. Wells' written statement
3 was submitted previously for the record and has been listed
4 as an exhibit.
5 Next scheduled commentor is Buzz Short,
6 Mr. Buzz Short.
7 Yes, ma'am.
8 MS. STEWART: Could I be allowed to speak in
9 his place?
10 BEARING OFFICER: You may. Did you make
11 arrangements to do that?
12 MS. STEWART: No, but he isn't here. I'm
13 leaving with Matt.
14 HEARING OFFICER: All right.
15
16 MARGARET MACDONALD-STEWART,
17 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
18
19 MS. STEWART: My name is Margaret
20 Macdonald-Stewart, and I am a 14 year old -- year resident
21 of Ketchum, Idaho. Not quite 14 years old.
22 I could have chosen to speak tonight against
23 the creation of the SIS anywhere in our country for a myriad
24 of reasons, but the reason I finally did choose was that of
25 history and all of the lessons we have failed to learn as

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1 one of the world's most advanced and sophisticated nations.

2 In my lifetime I have been witness to our
3 nation fully supporting, both financially and militarily,
4 some of the cruelest, harshest and most corrupt dictators
5 modern history has ever seen. Our support was not based on
6 human need or compassion, it was not based on better health
7 and education for those in need. When all of the reasons
8 were reduced to their lowest factor, our support was based
9 solely on greed. And in our greedy wake we have left
10 economies shattered and entire societies in shambles and
11 millions of lives destroyed.

12 And now, without even leaving our own borders,
13 there are highly intelligent, advanced and sophisticated
14 minds that are trying to create by far the most cruel,
15 harsh, corrupt and evil dictator this world could ever
16 imagine. Their support is not based on human need and
17 compassion, nor is it based on better health and education.
18 Again, it is based solely on greed.

19 I don't for a moment believe that the proposed
20 building of the SIS facility here in Idaho or anywhere else
21 would stop just at the building and the seven year needless
22 life span of plutonium purification. It is easy to read
23 between the lines to see that this facility would become a
24 cancer, becoming larger and more deadly as more classified
25 programs are found for it and for its products. It would

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1 become a dictator of monstrous proportions, one that would
2 find in its wake economies shattered, societies in shambles
3 and, very likely, millions of lives destroyed, right here in
4 our own beautiful country.

5 But this will happen only if we allow it to
6 happen. I say we have learned enough lessons. There is no
7 justifiable need to create this facility, and I strongly
8 oppose any further action in planning, building or operating
9 the SIS anywhere.

10 (Applause.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
12 Margaret Macdonald-Stewart of P.O. Box 2044, Ketchum, will
13 be included in the record as Exhibit No. 480.

14 We'll go off the record for a moment.

15 (Discussion off the record.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: Going back on the record, we
17 are at witness order number 58, Kurt Aaron Davis. Is Kurt
18 Davis here?

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Witness number 59, Billy
21 Quinn.

22 A VOICE: He spoke already.

23 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

24 And witness number 60, Randy Christensen.

25 (No response.)

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4.1

1 HEARING OFFICER: At this point I would ask
2 how many of those remaining are preregistered to comment?
3 Okay. I think we'll go ahead, since you have waited so
4 long, we'll go ahead and accommodate you at this time.

5 We'll start right here with the lady in the
6 Levi coat, you.

7 I'd just ask that you step forward and state
8 your name and address for the record.

9
10 DANA MIKESELL,
11 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

12
13 MS. MIKESELL: My name is Dana Mikesell. I
14 live at Route 2, Box 5934 in Twin Falls, Idaho. And I may
15 get a little emotional when I talk about this, and I don't
16 apologize for that at all.

17 When I thought about what I wanted to say, I
18 knew there would be a lot of talk about waste, and the
19 aquifer and all the facts and statistics, and I thought,
20 well, maybe I'll just talk about me and how the whole
21 nuclear issue has affected my life, my entire life.

22 And I was real small when my awareness of
23 nuclear bombs kind of came into my consciousness, and that
24 was via the media. I grew up on television, sitting in
25 front of the TV. And my parents had Life and Time and

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1 newspapers in our home with all the graphic illustrations.
2 And I have told people before that my family ate dinner in
3 Viet Nam every night of my life via the six o'clock news,
4 very appetizing.

5 But anyway, as I said, I was real young. And
6 that wasn't positive, it wasn't positive at all. But as a
7 child, in order to survive, I employed a technique that kids
8 often do, it's called magical thinking. And I had a quilt
9 that my grandmother made me, and it was pink and had roses
10 on it, and I loved it because it was special, because she
11 made it and she loved me. And at night I would put the
12 quilt on me and I believed, I pretended that as long as I
13 had that quilt on me, no bombs could fall on me. Bombs
14 could fall all around, but they wouldn't penetrate my quilt.
15 And I believed that, it got me through a lot of scary
16 nights.

17 I also did things like, oh, I had rituals
18 where I would make myself say a hundred times before I would
19 fall asleep, no bombs can fall on me. And it's funny,
20 magical thinking is usually something children do, but the
21 school board of the school that I went to indulged in
22 magical thinking. They used to have us practice for when
23 the bombs came. And my teacher, this was in kindergarten, I
24 was five, my teacher said, "All the little bunnies run and
25 hide under your desks." And we would. And, you know, if

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1 that ain't magical thinking, tell me what is.
 2 But the fear and terror has carried over into
 3 my adulthood, and magical thinking doesn't work any more for
 4 me. So now I allow myself to think about what it would be
 5 like if it happened, if the bombs came. And I'm proud of
 6 that. I'm proud that I don't stick my head in the sand and
 7 turn away and hide and pretend it won't happen, that it
 8 can't happen to me.

9 And I guess I want to finish by saying I'm a
 10 mother of three children, and I don't want my children or
 11 anybody's children to go through that kind of terror and
 12 agony. And don't you, any of you even think about putting
 13 this here or anywhere else, don't you even think about it.

14 (Applause.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: We have just received the
 16 oral comment of speaker number 86, Dana Mikesell.

17 Could we move forward through the group here,
 18 who else had their hand up and wanted to testify? This lady
 19 right here, please.

20 I'd ask for your name and address for the
 21 record.

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1 ULAHWTI,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
 4 MS. ULAHWTI: My name is Ulahwti. I live at
 5 437 Jackson in Twin Falls, Idaho.

6 I have been sitting off and on all day
 7 listening to people talk about this, and there have been a
 8 lot of people who talk about not getting emotional, and I'm
 9 glad to see somebody finally did.

10 I'm glad to see that there have been a lot of
 11 people here off and on all day. I mean, this room has been
 12 packed several times today, and that gives me a lot of faith
 13 in the people of Idaho. And I need that faith.

14 I'm opposed to the SIS, and I think one of the
 15 reasons why is because I just don't trust enough any more.
 16 I was decided that I'm going to get a little emotional
 17 tonight too.

18 I am a victim of the A. H. Robbins and the
 19 Dalcon shield, a self regulatory business. And I am tired
 20 of me and other citizens of this country who have trusted
 21 too much, letting their trust be tromped on by the
 22 government and the business and others who think that they
 23 have the right to take away our lives bit-by-bit-by-bit. As
 24 a result of the Dalcon shield, I had major surgery, and I
 25 feel like a victim because of that.

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1 I look around and I see other victims. Karen
2 Silkwood was a victim. The people of Love Canal were
3 victims.

4 Now, several, a little while, several years
5 after Three Mile Island, a lot of other victims are starting
6 to turn up. And I have read about some of them. I have
7 read about people with 25 pound tumors removed. I have read
8 about people that are afraid to grow vegetables in that area
9 any more because they don't know what they are going to look
10 like when it's harvest time. I have read about people who
11 don't go sport fishing around there any more because they
12 are afraid of what the fish they pull out of the water will
13 look like. And don't tell me that all those people are not
14 victims one way or another. The Navajo uranium miners are
15 victims. The people affected by Agent Orange are victims.

16 And every single taxpayer in this country has
17 been a victim of the military industrial complex that has
18 charged us \$10,000 for 25 dollar wrenches and has charged us
19 hundreds of dollars for toilet seats, and et cetera,
20 et cetera. There's a whole booklet that you can look at
21 that lists the victim syndrome that the taxpayers have
22 suffered at the hands of the military industrial complex.

23 Because I'm tired of being victimized by
24 anyone, I decided to speak up. One of the things that
25 upsets me about this military industrial complex is that

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1 less than 8 percent of our military budget is spent on the
2 defense of North America. We are busy being police officers
3 of the world and it is making our nation bankrupt. It is
4 making me bankrupt. It is what makes the people in the
5 Idaho Falls area feel that they need jobs so badly. It is
6 that bankruptcy which is caused by those that are power
7 hungry and greedy and belong to this bureaucratic and
8 business system which we, as taxpayers, and voters have
9 allowed to evolve.

10 We have to stop it now. We are almost almost
11 over the edge if we aren't, in fact, already over the edge,
12 and we have to stop now. It's time for us to take our power
13 into our own hands and stop being victims of anyone.

14 The Department of Energy doesn't want to talk
15 about mistakes or accidents that they might make, but their
16 Environmental Impact Statement is riddled with them. The
17 most noticeable one, and perhaps the most laughable, is the
18 fact that the disclaimer on the cover page is an accident.
19 If this is any indication of what we can expect from them,
20 if we did allow them to put an SIS in this state, I just --
21 I just don't know what to say. I mean, you know, what can
22 we do with you people? I mean, it's like, well, there won't
23 be any accidents and we don't want to talk about accidents,
24 but your EIS has plenty of them.

25 Another one of the real good accidents in

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there is the one where a geological study is quoted, and instead of saying that the incidence of volcanic activity in the area at the INEL is every 3,000 years, ooh, a typo was made, and it says it's every 30,000 years. And I don't know how many other mistakes are in your Environmental Impact Statement; but if you can't even get your statement right, I don't think you should be planning on doing any kind of plutonium production anywhere.

(Applause.)

BEARING OFFICER: Who remains as a preregistered commentor? Sir, in the back, far back.

Gentleman in the green hat, we'll take you next after him, sir.

CAL SALONYA,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MR. SALONYA: My name is Cal Salonya, and I live in Bailey, Idaho. I didn't come here very well prepared for this. I have heard a lot --

BEARING OFFICER: Excuse me, we didn't get your name for the record.

MR. SALONYA: Oh, Cal Salonya, S-a-l-o-n-y-a. It was misspelled on the paper.

BEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

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MR. SALONYA: I'm against the SIS for numerous reasons. We don't need any more nuclear weapons. I think everybody here knows that. And I also believe the federal government and the Department of Energy have deceived the American public deceived for years about the nuclear energy and the production of nuclear power throughout the United States. Many people have been hurt physically. And I believe they are in no position now or ever to change that policy because of the military industrial complex. If not now, at some time in the future we will have an environmental problem with the SIS in Idaho or anywhere in the country. It should be tabled, it should not be built.

(Applause.)

(Off the record.)

HEARING OFFICER: The written comment of Cal Salonya will be included in the record as Exhibit 481.

MR. PAUL: It's very nice of you to save all us tough guys for last.

TAUL PAUL,
appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

MR. PAUL: My name is Taul Paul.

HEARING OFFICER: Could we get the spelling of the last name?

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1.1

1 MR. PAUL: My name is Taul Paul.
 2 HEARING OFFICER: Taul Paul?
 3 MR. PAUL: Period. Spelled T-a-u-l P-a-u-l.
 4 When I was in the service, I had a surname. I don't use
 5 that any more.
 6 For the record, I strongly, vehemently oppose
 7 this project in Idaho or any fuckin' where you want to put
 8 it. Thank you. Sorry for the language, but it's that
 9 strong.
 10 I am a veteran of the United States Armed
 11 Forces. I received the Purple Heart and other decorations
 12 for my actions in my tour of duty in Southeast Asia. I am a
 13 patriot. I have seen firsthand the awful effects of
 14 chemical and conventional warfare. It makes me sick, makes
 15 me sick to think about it. Warfare is a tragic waste of
 16 natural resources and human energy.
 17 Most of us have seen photographic evidence of
 18 what happened at Hiroshima, Nagasaki, more recently Three
 19 Island and Chernobyl. Nuclear war is an unacceptable means
 20 to settle any argument or disagreement on religious,
 21 political or economic philosophies.
 22 We must, each of us, strive to achieve peace.
 23 Peace will just not appear by itself. We have got to work
 24 for it. It will not come easily. Few things worthwhile
 25 do. We must nurture it in our hearts and show by our

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1 actions that peace is what we truly want.
 2 A little aside here. If that means passing up
 3 some easy to come by jobs, that's what we need to do.
 4 Our leaders are working towards peace, they
 5 are working towards reduction in nuclear arms. Let us show
 6 support for peace and oppose the production of weapons-grade
 7 plutonium.
 8 The DOE DEIS for the SIS Project does not show
 9 a real need for any additional weapons-grade plutonium. It
 10 doesn't even have an appendix that's classified.
 11 The N-reactor at the Hanford, Washington,
 12 plant was shut down. It produced plutonium. One reason
 13 stated by DOE staff was that we didn't need any more
 14 plutonium, in fact, we were awash with it.
 15 As a taxpayer, I cannot support spending a
 16 billion dollars or any amount of money, for that matter, on
 17 a project to produce a toxic substance, plutonium, the
 18 ultimate pesticide, that we don't need any more of.
 19 The disclaimer on the cover of the DEIS shows
 20 DOE's lack of responsibility for their actions. I don't
 21 want any part of the DOE's plans here in Idaho or anywhere.
 22 (Applause.)
 23 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 482 for the
 24 record will be the written comments of Taul Paul of Ketchum,
 25 Idaho.

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1 Who else remains as a preregistered commentor,
2 anyone?

3 (No response.)

4 BEARING OFFICER: That being the case, then, I
5 will once again state for the record that any individual who
6 was preregistered to testify in the Twin Falls evening or
7 afternoon session that was scheduled for today or who
8 registered at the door, will be accorded the opportunity to
9 testify this coming Thursday, March the 31st, here at this
10 facility which is the -- the Canyon Springs Best Western.
11 It's Tuesday -- or Monday, I must be in Twin Falls. We will
12 begin the hearing at 2 p.m. and at 7 p.m., and we'll use the
13 same lists that we have posted earlier. Plus, we'll add to
14 that any other individuals who register to testify.

15 So with that, we thank those of you who are
16 here, for your patience and your courtesy and attention,
17 it's much appreciated.

18 With that, we will formally close this evening
19 session and continue the hearings over until next Thursday.

20 Thank you and good night.

21 (The hearing was recessed at 11:00 p.m.)

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1 TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1988, 7:00 P.M.

2
3
4 HEARING OFFICER: Ladies and gentlemen, we
5 will once again commence this public hearing concerning the
6 review of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement relative
7 to the United States Department of Energy proposed Special
8 Isotope Separation Project. This proceeding is officially
9 designated as the Twin Falls, Idaho, public hearing on
10 Department of Energy document DOE/EIS-0136, which commenced
11 on the 28th day of March, and has been continued over to
12 today, the 31st.

13 My name is Roy Eiguren. I'm the hearings
14 officer for this as well as the other public hearings held
15 in this particular series held to receive comment on the
16 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed
17 siting, construction and operation by the Department of
18 Energy of a Special Isotope Separation Project that will
19 utilize the Atomic Vapor Laser Isotope Separation process.
20 I will refer to this and the subsequent meetings or prior
21 proceedings as DOE's DEIS public hearings on the SIS
22 Project.

23 I am an attorney engaged in private practice
24 in Boise. I have been retained by the Department of Energy
25 to conduct this series of public hearings as an independent

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1 and unbiased party to assure the opportunity for all
 2 interested organizations and individuals the opportunity to
 3 comment on the DEIS. Accordingly, I'm not an advocate for
 4 or against the proposed action taken by the Department of
 5 Energy in this matter. Rather, I am a neutral third party
 6 who has coordinated the development of the procedures that
 7 will be followed in the hearings, as well as conduct the
 8 hearings themselves.

9 The issue that is the subject of this hearing
 10 is the Department's proposal to site, construct and operate
 11 an SIS facility at one of three locations in the United
 12 States; at the Department of Energy's Idaho National
 13 Engineering Laboratory near Idaho Falls; the DOE's Hanford
 14 Reservation near Richland, Washington; or the DOE's Savannah
 15 River plant near Aiken, South Carolina. Each of these three
 16 sites is designated as an alternative and are considered in
 17 the DEIS.

18 The fourth and final alternative under
 19 consideration in the DEIS is the No Action Alternative which
 20 would be a decision by the Department not to site, construct
 21 and operate an SIS facility. As stated in the DEIS, the
 22 Department's preferred alternative is to site, construct and
 23 operate such facility at the Idaho National Engineering
 24 Laboratory.

25 To put this hearing in perspective, it's

1 important that we understand the basis of the federal law
 2 that governs these hearings. The National Environmental
 3 Policy Act or NEPA, as it's generally known, is the law that
 4 mandates that these hearings be held. NEPA requires that
 5 all federal agencies develop procedures that insure that
 6 environmental amentities are given equal consideration as
 7 other matters in federal government decisions. This law
 8 also requires that recommendations for major federal actions
 9 significantly affecting the quality of human environment be
 10 first preceded by the development and completion of an
 11 Environmental Impact Statement, or EIS, that fully and
 12 carefully examines the potential impacts of any proposed
 13 federal action.

14 The Department of Energy has determined that
 15 this proposed action in siting, constructing and operating
 16 an SIS plant is a major federal action that, under NEPA,
 17 requires development and completion of an EIS. Accordingly,
 18 by the publication on October 31, 1986, a Notice of Intent
 19 to Prepare an EIS in the Federal Register, the Department of
 20 Energy commenced a process that has led to the development
 21 and publication of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 22 that is the subject of this hearing.

23 The DEIS was prepared by the Department of
 24 Energy, with the assistance of an independent contractor,
 25 the NUS Corporation, after an extensive process of receiving

1 public comment through the scoping or initial input phase of
 2 the DEIS proceeding. During scoping, public comment on the
 3 scope or magnitude of issues to be addressed in the EIS was
 4 received, as well as specific comment on particular issues
 5 themselves. Scoping did include the receipt of extensive
 6 written comment from the public, as well as oral comment
 7 from two lengthy public meetings that were held in Idaho.
 8 One was held in Idaho Falls, Idaho, on February 24th, 1987;
 9 and a subsequent one was held in Boise on February 26th,
 10 1987.

11 As a result of the public input received
 12 during scoping, the following issues were decided to be
 13 included in the DEIS and have been analyzed as different
 14 alternatives or as different issues, excuse me, related to
 15 each of the alternatives that I mentioned. The issues that
 16 are the subject of this EIS are as follows:

17 Issue No. 1. The off-site general population
 18 and radiological and non-radiological effects resulting from
 19 potential accidents at an SIS facility.

20 Issue No. 2. The effects on the general
 21 population from emissions of radiological and
 22 non-radiological releases caused by normal operations of an
 23 SIS facility.

24 Issue No. 3. Exposure of operating personnel
 25 to radiological sources and non-radiological releases during

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1 normal operations of an SIS facility.

2 Issue No. 4. Incremental differences in
 3 environmental impacts between the operation of the existing
 4 chemical processing facilities and the proposed action.

5 Issue No. 5. Effects on air and water quality
 6 and other environmental consequences during construction and
 7 operation of an SIS facility.

8 Issue No. 6. Cumulative effects of operations
 9 of such a facility, including changes in support operations
 10 related to it.

11 Issue 7. The on-site and off-site
 12 transportation impacts of nuclear materials.

13 Issue No. 8. An analysis of applicable
 14 federal, state and local regulations applying to the
 15 construction and operation of an SIS plant.

16 Issue No. 9. The decontamination and
 17 decommissioning of such a plant.

18 Issue No. 10. Irretrievable and irreversible
 19 commitment of resources in the use of land, materials,
 20 scarce and strategic materials, fuels and other resources
 21 related both to the construction and operation of the plant.

22 And Issue No. 11. Mitigation measures
 23 necessary to respond to the environmental consequences
 24 associated with each of the alternatives.

25 The EIS preparation and review process in the

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1 United States is governed by federal regulations established
 2 by the Council on Environmental Quality, or CEQ, an agency
 3 within the Executive Office of the President of the United
 4 States. In addition to that board, the Department of Energy
 5 has its own guidelines that it follows in addition to the
 6 CEQ regulations. These regulations were previously marked
 7 by me as an exhibit to the record and included in the formal
 8 hearing record as Exhibit No. 1.

9 The relevant CEQ regulations require that
 10 after preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement and
 11 before preparing a final one, a federal agency must first
 12 obtain the comments of, No. 1, any federal agency which has
 13 jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any
 14 environmental impact contained in the document. 2. Request
 15 the comments of the appropriate state and local agencies
 16 which develop and enforce environmental standards. No. 3.
 17 Solicit comment from Indian tribes. And 4. Solicit comment
 18 from the public, with a particular obligation to
 19 affirmatively solicit comments from persons or organizations
 20 who may be interested or affected by the proposed federal
 21 action.

22 Public meetings or hearings are to be held
 23 where the Department determines that a substantial
 24 environmental controversy exists concerning the proposed
 25 action. Accordingly, this hearing, as well as the other

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1 hearings in this proceeding, are being held pursuant to
 2 these regulations for the purpose of receiving public,
 3 Indian tribe and governmental input on the various issues
 4 identified in the DEIS.

5 Notice of these public hearings was provided
 6 in a Federal Register Notice dated February 19, 1988, and
 7 March 4th, 1988. In addition to that, public notice was
 8 provided for publication in numerous newspapers throughout
 9 the state. The Federal Register Notices, the text of these,
 10 and the newspaper notices and publication dates of each have
 11 been marked as Exhibit No. 2 and are included in the formal
 12 record.

13 Public comment on this Draft Environmental
 14 Impact Statement will be received tonight at this
 15 continuation of the Twin Falls hearing, as well as at
 16 previous hearings that were held both in Boise and Idaho
 17 Falls.

18 Written comment must receive the same weight
 19 and consideration by the Department in this proceeding. It
 20 may be submitted to me tonight as the hearings officer, or,
 21 if you would like, you may mail your written comments to the
 22 Department of Energy at an address that we can provide to
 23 you at the registration table by the front door.

24 Oral and written comment will be compiled into
 25 a comprehensive record and will be considered by the

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1 Department when it makes a final decision on the EIS.

2 The CEQ regulations that I previously
3 mentioned also provide that comments on Environmental Impact
4 Statements from the public or others on a proposed action
5 shall be as specific as possible and may address the
6 adequacy of the proposed Environmental Impact Statement or
7 the merits of the alternatives contained therein or both.

8 Although the Department has determined that
9 certain issues, such as the need for the SIS Project itself,
10 are beyond the scope of this EIS proceeding, we have and
11 will continue to allow comment from those of you that wish
12 to comment on that issue or other issues you feel relevant.

13 After the record is compiled in this
14 proceeding, which will include not only the written comments
15 that we receive but also the transcript of these hearings,
16 the Department will review the record and, after doing that,
17 may choose from one of the following options: It may choose
18 to modify, supplement or reissue the Draft Environmental
19 Impact Statement prior to issuing a Final EIS. It may also
20 choose to issue the Draft Environmental Impact Statement as
21 the Final Environmental Impact Statement without
22 modification. A Record of Decision which will identify the
23 environmentally preferred alternative chosen by the
24 Department, along with any practicable means to avoid or
25 minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected,

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1 will also be prepared. So out of these hearings will come
2 two documents, the Environmental Impact Statement and the
3 Record of Decision.

4 The Department, as a matter of federal
5 regulation, can't proceed with its proposed action which
6 will be contained in the Record of Decision until a minimum
7 of 30 days has passed from the date of issuance of the Final
8 EIS. Under current schedules, the Department of Energy
9 intends to issue both a Final EIS and a Record of Decision
10 sometime later this year.

11 Now, to govern the conduct of this and the
12 other public hearings in this proceeding, I have developed,
13 with the assistance of both the Department of Energy staff
14 as well as representatives of public interest groups who are
15 participating in these proceedings, a set of guidelines or
16 procedures that we have been following. These procedures
17 were finalized on the 24th of March and distributed to
18 interested members of the public as well as public interest
19 groups. They are included in the record as Exhibit 3. Also
20 included in the record as Exhibit No. 4 is a complete list
21 of all Department of Energy public involvement activities
22 associated with the development of the Draft Environmental
23 Impact Statement.

24 Now, the guidelines that we are following,
25 which I mentioned were included in the written record as

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1 Exhibit No. 3, are as follows: First, other than my opening
 2 statement, which I am now delivering, the Department of
 3 Energy itself will not be making remarks in this hearing.
 4 However, senior members of the Department of Energy staff
 5 are here in the front row, and they are listening to
 6 testimony as it is given.

7 Comments have been received and will continue
 8 to be received in the following order tonight. Any comment
 9 we may have from elected and appointed federal, state and
 10 local governmental officials; following that we will have
 11 representatives of national, state and local organizations
 12 who have been participating in these proceedings; following
 13 that we'll receive comments from members of the public who
 14 preregistered to speak prior to the close of preregistration
 15 on March 18th, 1988; and finally, we'll receive comment from
 16 members of the public who registered at the door at the
 17 beginning of this hearing, which was on Monday.

18 In order to give you some idea as to where you
 19 are at in your allowed time, we do have these signaling
 20 devices here at the podium in the front. Those members of
 21 the public who are going to comment will have five minutes
 22 within which to deliver their comment. At the end of four
 23 minutes, we will give you the green light which signifies
 24 you have a minute remaining, and then at the end of the five
 25 minutes or the close of your time, we'll give you a red

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1 light. We ask that you strictly adhere to the timeframes.

2 We do have speakers' lists posted in the back
 3 of the room, at the front door. We will be following that
 4 list as we go through the order of commentators this evening.

5 We actively solicit the receipt of written
 6 questions from you. We do have forms in the back of the
 7 room that you can fill out if you do have questions. A
 8 written answer will be provided at a later date to all the
 9 written questions that you might submit to us. We will
 10 include all the answers and questions in the hearing
 11 record.

12 Finally, I would mention that this is a record
 13 proceeding. Everything that is being said is being recorded
 14 by the court reporter here. So when it comes your turn to
 15 testify or to comment, we would ask that you would come
 16 forward to the podium, first give your name and address,
 17 speak very clearly in the microphone so that we can pick up
 18 your comments.

19 With that, ladies and gentlemen, what we will
 20 do is go ahead and begin our receipt of oral comment this
 21 evening. I will start with the list, I think some of you
 22 may have already picked up, which is entitled March 31,
 23 1988, Continuation Hearings, Twin Falls, Idaho, Evening
 24 Session.

25 Our first scheduled commentator is State Senator

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1 John Peavey. Senator Peavey spoke day before yesterday in
2 Boise, so his comments are already in the record.

3 We'll go to commentor number 2, Mr. Richard
4 Curzon, Richardson Curzon.

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: I have been informed that we
7 do have a commentor that's scheduled later on that has a
8 scheduling conflict, he's a medical doctor here on call, so
9 in order to accommodate his needs to perhaps leave early,
10 I'd like to call on Dr. A. C. Emery.

11
12 DR. A. C. EMERY,
13 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

14
15 DR. EMERY: Thank you very much. I appreciate
16 being allowed to talk out of turn.

17 My name is Ace Emery, and I'm a practicing
18 physician in Twin Falls. I have lived here 14 years. I was
19 born in Rexburg, Idaho, and I have relatives that work at
20 the INEL.

21 I grew up in Salt Lake City. And while I was
22 in high school, it was a time when they were performing
23 above-ground nuclear bomb testing in Nevada. I remember the
24 assurances that were given to the citizens of southern Utah
25 and Nevada that these tests were perfectly safe and that

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1 they could go outside and bask in the harmless nuclear
2 fallout. They were also given dosage meters to wear.

3 Our high school physics teacher in Salt Lake
4 City would bring his Geiger counter to the high school and
5 he would show us the difference in the readings before and
6 after these tests. And then he would say to us, "Do you
7 think this is safe?" I didn't think much of that at the
8 time. Eight years later I did start to think about it.

9 At that time I was working my way through the
10 University of Utah Medical School, and it became very
11 obvious that there were numerous children that were being
12 brought in directly from southern Utah with leukemia and
13 thyroid cancer. The leukemic children weren't as
14 noticeable. The University of Utah treated a lot of
15 children with leukemia, and they sort of all looked the
16 same; no hair, puffy faces.

17 The children with thyroid cancers couldn't
18 were different. These children had deformed, grotesque
19 necks, twice the size of normal, and because of this they
20 were extremely obvious. They were slowly and painfully
21 being strangled to death. You just don't see a large amount
22 of thyroid cancer in children in normal circumstances. And
23 they were being car-pooled up from southern Utah.

24 After persistent questioning, we finally get
25 the answer; don't tell anybody, but these are the victims of

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3.2.23

3.2.2

2.1.1

1 the radioactive fallout.

2 These young victims sacrificed their lives for
3 our national defense. They are every bit the American
4 heroes as those men who died on the assault of Normandy
5 Beach. Where are their monuments? Where are their medals?

6 To this very day the Department of Energy and
7 the Department of Defense denies they exist. Even though
8 the medical evidence is just as compelling that the
9 radioactivity caused these cancers as the evidence that
10 smoking causes lung cancer, the attitude of the Department
11 of Energy and Department of Defense is the same as the
12 American tobacco industry. It is important to realize what
13 type of people we are dealing with at these hearings.

14 And now to the environmental report. It is a
15 joke, both for its discrepancies and, worst of all, for what
16 it's left out. We could go on for hours about the questions
17 it does and does not raise. I know it, teachers know it,
18 farmers know it, housewives know it. It is insulting to me
19 that the Department of Energy thinks the people of Idaho are
20 so stupid.

21 (Applause.)

22 DR. EMERY: Some say we should just trust the
23 Department of Energy. Believe me, we should not.

24 If this is the best report that the top minds
25 of their Department can come up with, their stupidity and

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1 ignorance are chilling.

2 If, on the other hand, and I'm afraid this is
3 the case, this report is an organized sham to make the
4 people of Idaho think this is a safe project, then the
5 powers that be in the Department of Energy are immoral,
6 unethical and criminal.

7 (Applause.)

8 DR. EMERY: They would be put in jail much
9 longer than someone robbing a 7-Eleven Store to support
10 their drug habit.

11 And this is the reason for their disclaimer;
12 that they are in no way responsible legally or otherwise for
13 the incompleteness and inaccuracies of their report.

14 My father is an attorney, and he taught me at
15 a very young age that I couldn't put a sign on my back
16 stating that I'm not responsible for rape and then proceed
17 to rape at will. What makes the Department of Energy think
18 they can rape us because of this disclaimer? If they want
19 us to sell our souls to the devil, we deserve to know what
20 hell would be like.

21 I'd like to make one final plea since we have
22 members of the Department of Energy here tonight. If there
23 is one ounce, one millicurie of conscience left in someone
24 in your department, please give some recognition to the
25 people of southern Utah and Nevada who have died from and

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2.1.2

2.3

3.2.23

1 are still developing cancer from the radioactive fallout.
2 You don't have to pay them any money; you can continue to
3 give the billions of dollars to Westinghouse and other
4 contractors for your needless, dangerous projects like the
5 SIS. Just tell them that we feel for their loss and we
6 appreciate the sacrifices they have made.

7 Thank you.

8 (Applause.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Our next commentor is
10 Mr. Brent Moore, Brent Moore.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 4, Ron
13 Fowler, Ron Fowler.

14 (No response.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: Tina Goff, Tina Goff.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: John T. Borton, John T.
18 Borton.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Preston Bills, Preston
21 Bills.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Eighth order, Bruce Lium,
24 Bruce Lium.

25 (No response.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Ninth order, Ross Jensen,
2 Ross Jensen.

3 (No response.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Tenth order, Dan Kinghorn,
5 Dan Kinghorn.

6 (No response.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: Our 11th commentor, Judi
8 Green, testified this afternoon.

9 Number 12, Dell Miller, Dell Miller.

10 (No response.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 13, Mark
12 Deagle, Mark Deagle.

13 (No response.)

14 BEARING OFFICER: Commentor 14, Glen Hall,
15 Glen Hall.

16 (No response.)

17 BEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 15, John
18 Griffith.

19 MR. MacMURRAN: My name is Donald MacMurran,
20 and I'm substituting for him.

21 BEARING OFFICER: You may. Give your name and
22 address for the record, sir.

23

24

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5.29.94

2.12.2

1 DONALD MacMURRAN,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. MacMURRAN: Ladies and gentlemen, my name
5 is Donald MacMurran. I live at 525 Washington North here in
6 Twin Falls.
7 I'm not a public speaker, but I feel this
8 issue is real important, and I'd like to speak about how I
9 think this will affect me and my family.
10 About ten years ago I moved up here because
11 Idaho has a way of life that I love. We go hunting, we go
12 fishing, we go camping, and we can enjoy ourselves. But
13 most of you have been reading in the paper lately about
14 these trucks overturning, spilling and falling in the river,
15 killing our fish out; and when you start messing with my
16 fishing, ladies and gentlemen, you are making me damn mad.
17 (Applause.)
18 MR. MacMURRAN: Now, I don't know about lot of
19 you, but I would hate to drive down the road with my family
20 in my camper or my car and past these signs on the road that
21 says, please do not stop here; your help may health may be
22 in hazardous because there's been a chemical spell here and
23 can't get out. Now, how many wants that?
24 Now, it's been said at these hearings that it
25 was a foregone conclusion that we was going to have the SIS,

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1 that these hearings is a farce. And let me state again, if
2 this is true, this damn well makes mad because the people
3 needs to be heard from, ladies and gentlemen. We are tired
4 of this. Let's not have these hearings and not get no good
5 out of it. You know, we can sit around and we can talk --
6 (Applause.)
7 MR. MacMURRAN: -- but until we actually do
8 something about it, and it may call for demonstrations,
9 ladies and gentlemen, but we are going to have to do
10 something about it because your health, my health, my
11 children's health, and everyone's health it's going to
12 affect here, and besides that, like I said, it's going to
13 spoil the way of life here in Idaho, and I'm sure we don't
14 want that.

15 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

16 (Applause.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Our next scheduled commentor
18 is Steven J. Morris, Steven Morris.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 17, Larry F.
21 Hansen, Larry F. Hansen.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 18, Tracy Harr,
24 Tracy Harr.

25 (No response.)

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6.1.1

6.1.9

1 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 19, Thayne D.
2 Kunz, Thayne D. Kunz.
3 (No response.)
4 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 20, Kurt Aaron
5 Davis.
6 (No response.)
7 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 21, Randy
8 Christensen, Randy Christensen.
9 (No response.)
10 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 22, Rich Bray.
11 MR. SMALL: I'm going to take his place.
12 HEARING OFFICER: Fine.
13
14 WILL SMALL,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
16
17 MR. SMALL: Hello. I am Will Small, a
18 photographer and thinking person from Picabo, Idaho. I have
19 attended both hearings here Monday, and it was very
20 encouraging, and as a result, I have completely revamped
21 what I want to say.
22 Dearly beloved, we are gathered here to mourn
23 ou deceased control over our representatives and some woeful
24 actions that they have taken because of this.
25 (Applause.)

1 MR. SMALL: Bow often, if ever, have your
2 representatives sent you a ballot, asking you how they
3 should vote on various bills before them? They don't do
4 that? How do they determine what most of the people want?
5 Late at Monday's hearing, well dressed SIS
6 supporters were overheard saying, the decision has been
7 made. Well, I say, oh really? I wonder if the citizens
8 have been heard or if they have had their say in this or if
9 they will assert their right to be heard in this decision.
10 Will you?
11 (Applause.)
12 MR. SMALL: Some seem to think that all are
13 created to squat and that they are endowed by their
14 government with certain alienable privileges, such as life,
15 liberty and the pursuing of happiness and that to secure
16 these governments these privileges and fat military
17 contracts are granted and not to be questioned by mere
18 citizens. Phew! Sorry to twist some fine words that way.
19 This is how they are supposed to read: We
20 hold these truths to being self-evident that all are created
21 equal with rights and that to secure these rights
22 governments are instituted and that whenever any form of
23 government becomes destructive of these, it is right of the
24 people to alter it and organize powers in such form as to
25 them shall seem most likely to effect to safety and

1 happiness.

2 In addition, the Idaho State Constitution
3 says: The people shall have the right to instruct the
4 representatives. Oh really? So we have the right to
5 instruct them on their decisions? So now what do we need?
6 We need a way to determine what the will of the majority is
7 so that they may be then instructed to our representatives.

8 I have a proposal, something I was working on
9 before this SIS issue came along. Let's poll the citizens
10 of Idaho, via the newspapers, on how they feel about the
11 SIS, on how is they feel about some other topics of interest
12 to all, and on if they would like to have a regular and
13 certified people's poll, obedience to which, if not
14 mandatory, would be highly advisable to our
15 representatives. What do you say, Idaho? Shall we do it?

16 (Applause.)

17 MR. SMALL: I need your suggestions, help and
18 support to make this happen. There are some forms going
19 around and out in the hall that I would like your feedback
20 on too and some way to make this happen.

21 Thank you.

22 (Applause.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. We'll mark as
24 Exhibit No. 785 and include in the record the written
25 comments of Will Small from Picabo, Idaho.

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1 Moving on down our list, we are now at order
2 number 22, Rich Bray, Mr. Rich Bray.

3 (No response.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Jim Ford, Jim Ford.

5 (No response.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: 24, Mr. Walter Boward,
7 Mr. Walter Howard.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Order 25, John Flood,
10 Mr. John Flood.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 26, Nicola
13 Potts.

14 MR. DUHL: I'll substitute, I'm Herb Deuel.

15 HEARING OFFICER: For who, sir?

16 MR. DEUEL: I'm from Buhl.

17 HEARING OFFICER: No, who are you substituting
18 for? I didn't hear you.

19 MR. DEUEL: Miss Potts.

20 HEARING OFFICER: Okay, fine. Nicola Potts.
21 If you would step forward.

22 MR. DEUEL: Pardon me for being in my work
23 clothes.

24 HEARING OFFICER: We need your name and
25 address for the record, sir.

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1
2
3 HERB DEUEL,
4 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
5
6 MR. DEUEL: Deuel, Buhl; Buhl; Buhl, Idaho.
7 HEARING OFFICER: Your name for the record.
8 MR. DEUEL: Oh, Deuel.
9 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. First name?
10 MR. DEUEL: Herb.
11 HEARING OFFICER: Herb Deuel, all right, from
12 Buhl. It's all yours.
13 MR. DEUEL: Pardon?
14 HEARING OFFICER: It's all yours, go ahead.
15 MR. DEUEL: I can't hear too good because I
16 have been driving a cat all day, and my ears are still
17 ringing.
18 HEARING OFFICER: Okay.
19 MR. DEUEL: Well, we got a lot of hippies here
20 tonight, don't we?
21 (Applause.)
22 MR. DEUEL: I'm a red neck John Bircher.
23 A VOICE: You are still important.
24 MR. DEUEL: Do we have anybody from the
25 Department of Energy here?
 HEARING OFFICER: The Department of Energy
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1 staff is in the front, sir.
2 MR. DEUEL: Well, could those people --
3 HEARING OFFICER: Those people are in the
4 front row.
5 MR. DEUEL: In the front row. Are they hired
6 full-time or just consultants or what type of person do we
7 have that are listening to what these folks have to say?
8 HEARING OFFICER: Sir, this is the time for
9 your comments, why don't you go ahead and give us your
10 comments.
11 MR. DEUEL: Well, I just want to know who --
12 HEARING OFFICER: I told you, the Department
13 of Energy staff is here. I already made that clear. Okay?
14 MR. DEUEL: Oh. Well, seems like the
15 Republican hierarchy and maybe some of the Democratic
16 hierarchy has already decided what we are going to have
17 here.
18 We have a hot springs, it's a hot mineral
19 springs resort right at the tailend of the waterflow that
20 comes out from underneath the INEL. And I'm a little
21 concerned about contamination of water because I worked in
22 it for 24 years as a plumber, and we had to deal with
23 contaminated water and people getting sick and all that good
24 stuff.
25 I would like to log my family's feeling about
 102

1.1

1 it and that is we don't want it.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. DEUEL: When President Kennedy was in
4 office, he made a statement, I'm not endorsing it, he made a
5 statement when I was involved with the plumbing and heating
6 business back in Pennsylvania, in fact, I worked at John's
7 old naval station as a volunteer fireman and took the
8 decontamination course that we had to know, being in the
9 fire service, in order to deal with a highly toxic or
10 radioactive spill.

11 It never dawned on me till about two or three
12 years ago, talking with a hippie friend of mine who just
13 kept on beatin' on me all the time, what's going to happen
14 to that radioactivity and contamination when the water is
15 totally saturated with it. We're told that that's how we
16 decontaminate, they wash it down, and it'll run right off,
17 you know, go away from you. Well, where's the water go?
18 Who made the water? Is he going to make us any more when it
19 all gets polluted or are we just going to be disintegrated
20 by fire? If that's the deal, it says it in the book,
21 (unintelligible) disintegrated by fire; well, what are you
22 worried about? The planners have got it all mapped out for
23 us, and I'm not going to take any more time. Thanks.

24 (Applause.)

25 BEARING OFFICER: We are at order number 27,

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T553

1 Claudine Martin, Claudine Martin.

2 (No response.)

3 HEARING OFFICER: Carrie Beezley.

4 CARRIE BEEZLEY,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6 MS. BEEZLEY: Hello, there. My name is Carrie
7 Beezley. I live in Twin Falls, Idaho.

8 And I'd just like to go on the record and say
9 that I oppose the SIS being built at southeastern Idaho or,
10 for that matter, anywhere else in the world.

11 And that's all I really had to say except for
12 on many of Idaho's highways there's the words painted "Keep
13 Idaho Green" so I say let's keep I had green but not green
14 with plutonium. Thank you.

15 (Applause.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 29, Fernando
17 Hall, Mr. Fernando Hall.

18 (No response.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: Order 30, Ron Reynoso.

20 MR. GABRINETTI: Substituting.

21 HEARING OFFICER: You may. Give your name and
22 address for the record when you come up, please.

25

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1.1

T554

1 TOM GABRINETTI,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MR. GABRINETTI: My name is Tom Gabrinetti. I
5 live in Ketchum, Idaho, Box 690.
6 1.1 I'm opposed to the project, the SIS Project.
7 I support the fourth alternative, the no action.
8
9 4.14 I feel that this action, that if the SIS was
10 to be put together, I think it would jeopardize a lot of our
11 work that's gone on in government to reduce arms. I think
12 if we go on and build more nuclear weapons, we are going to
13 have more trouble trying to eliminate them. I think at this
14 point we should be thinking about that more than building
15 them.
16
17 6.3 I think the money that we have also should be
18 probably going to our deficit, and in that direction.
19
20 5.10.4 Living in California for 20 years, I have been in about
21 three or four different earthquakes and I felt what it's
22 done, I have seen houses destroyed, I have seen the earth
23 open up. I have seen massive destruction. I have a hard
24 time believing that you can make a nuclear power plant safe,
25 let alone go on and make another one that we already oppose
here.

I think what we should be thinking about is
how to take care of the problems that we have already caused

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T555

1 and created instead of trying to go out and create more.
2
3 Thank you.
4 (Applause.)
5 HEARING OFFICER: Order 31 on the list, Ron
6 Green, Ron Green.
7 (No response.)
8 HEARING OFFICER: Order 32, Terry L. Beemer,
9 Terry Beemer.
10 (No response.)
11 HEARING OFFICER: Order 33, Barge Levy.
12 MR. TILLEY: I'm substituting.
13 HEARING OFFICER: Fine.
14
15 MARTIN TILLEY,
16 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
17
18 MR. TILLEY: Martin Tilley, Route 1, Hansen.
19 It seems redundant to stand up here and repeat
20 the same facts about how is foolish and dangerous this SIS
21 proposal is; however, we all know how important the DOE
22 considers redundancy.
23 (Applause.)
24 MR. TILLEY: I do not have a wife or children,
25 but I do have a dog named Klinger. Klinger is a beautiful
dog. He's part Collie, part Sheltie. Unfortunately, Klinger

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908

4.7.1

1 is not too smart. For example, he likes to chase birds. He
2 chases small birds in bushes, he chases ducks and geese
3 flying far overhead. I've even witnessed Klinger trying to
4 catch spray planes on numerous occasions.

5 Although Klinger is dumb enough to chase
6 airplanes, he is smart enough to see SIS for what it really
7 is, an immoral, life-threatening government waste program
8 that would be detrimental to our economy from start to
9 finish. Klinger concludes that the No Action Alternative is
10 the only alternative.

11 Here is Klinger's writ, paw print.

12 Through active pursuit, Twin Falls has managed
13 to bring a sizeable company named Trus Joist to community.
14 With clean air and water, along with inexpensive electrical
15 power, there is no reason why we can't attract many more
16 companies like Trus Joist to our community and other
17 communities in Idaho. Trus Joist will employ more Idahoans
18 within the coming year than the SIS Project will, since most
19 of the SIS jobs will be filled by technicians from
20 out-of-state.

21 If this insidious SIS proposal is implemented,
22 our chances of attracting more companies like Trus Joist to
23 the region will be greatly frustrated. There is another
24 means in which Idaho's economy would suffer from the word
25 go. Millions of enlightened people will look at Idaho as

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1 yet another state whose people were willing to commit global
2 treason for a chance to lick the outside of a billion dollar
3 pork barrel. So much for Idaho's image. Even if
4 plutonium-239 was as safe to process, ship and store as
5 vitamins, thousands of people will stop doing business with
6 Idaho due to a moral conviction alone.

7 (Applause.)

8 MR. TILLEY: Incidentally, plutonium-239 is
9 dangerous for up to ten half-lives or a quarter of a million
10 years.

11 When you build an artificial economy, you
12 decrease your ability to build a true, steady growth
13 economy. Once they get that hook in your mouth, it's there
14 to stay. And once dependent on this financial hook, people
15 will be reluctant to vote for peace for fear that a policy
16 change would threaten their livelihood. Moral judgment
17 takes a back seat to job security time after time.

18 The reason Idaho has not realized slow, steady
19 economic growth in recent years and why even that would seem
20 inadequate is because we, the working class, are being
21 robbed by defense contractors that, incidentally, do
22 business with Eastern Block countries as well as terrorist
23 regimes.

24 As for SIS, I vote for the No Action
25 Alternative.

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5.27.6.9

6.5.2

5.24.34

2.7.12

4.13

5.27.6.4

5.27.7.4

5.27.5.3

2.3

1 Now the good part. I have come up with a few
2 of the many possible proposals which could be drawn up by a
3 committee of Idaho citizens and submitted to the DOE for
4 serious consideration as an alternative to SIS. Since I
5 don't turn in shoddy work, like the DOE's EIS, I won't
6 elaborate on any of my ideas at this time. I wouldn't want
7 to have to put a disclaimer on them.

8 If implemented, a proposal such as mine would
9 have an immediate and long-term positive impact on Idaho's
10 image and economy and the hundreds of spin-offs would
11 benefit planet earth and her fragile ecological balances as
12 well as benefit all mankind.

13 The DOE has grossly insulted the intelligence
14 of every Idaho citizen. They have even insulted my dog's
15 intelligence. Besides that, they have trampled on the
16 sacred trust of every American, if not all living things.

5.30.1.14

17 There is only one way that the people of Idaho are going to
18 forgive and forget. First, the DOE's office of Civilian
19 Radioactive Waste Management needs to guarantee Idaho that
20 every ounce of radioactive waste that is now stored at INEL
21 will be removed from our state and stored properly in a
22 safe, stable place, Mars would do nicely.

6.3

23 Second, the DOE must consider and act on a
24 proposal drafted by Idaho's most brilliant minds as an
25 alternative to SIS. Since the DOE has demonstrated they

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1 have nearly \$1 billion they don't know what to do with, I
2 suggest the alternative program be implemented before the
3 year is out and at an overall budget of no less than 900
4 million the next ten years. The program should also be
5 designed in such a way that little work force is needed from
6 outside the state. This program, unlike most government
7 funded programs, could be set up in such a way that it could
8 continue operation after ten years as a self-funded
9 institution. Boy, that would be rare.

10 Let's put Idaho's best minds together and
11 draft a viable proposal to serve as an alternative to DOE's
12 proposed SIS facility. After all, SIS is dead.

13 I vote for no action.

1.1

14 (Applause.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
16 Martin Tilley from Hansen, Idaho, will be received in the
17 record as Exhibit 786.

18 On to order 34, Alison Levin, Aliosn Levin.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 35, Shirley Held.

21 MR. JOHNSON: Substitute.

22 HEARING OFFICER: All right. Substituting for
23 Shirley Held, sir?

24 MR. JOHNSON: Yes, Johnson, Buhl, Idaho.

25 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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T556

1.1

6.1.1

1 AL B. JOHNSON,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 3
 4 MR. JOHNSON: I'm Al B. Johnson. I live at
 5 Buhl, Idaho. I have lived at Buhl for 30 years. I am
 6 totally against this SIS.
 7 I have been a farmer all my life. We have a
 8 good, clean state, we have got clean air, clean water. I
 9 would like to see it stay that way.
 10 In my opinion, I believe that this could be
 11 detrimental to us. And I believe that we, as people, should
 12 protect our state, our resources, our aquifer first, and
 13 then go from there.
 14 I appreciate your time. I thank you. I'm not
 15 a speaker, but by the time I get through with this thing, I
 16 might be as I am running for State Representative.
 17 (Applause.)
 18 MR. JOHNSON: -- from Twin Falls County here,
 19 Seat D. So bear with me, we'll see what we can get done.
 20 If I get in Boise, you'll just have an old farmer there
 21 that -- I don't have any degree in anything except
 22 agriculture and just good common sense.
 23 Thank you.
 24 (Applause.)
 25 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 36, Michael

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T557

1 Terra, Michael Terra.
 2 (No response.)
 3 HEARING OFFICER: Barb Heller.
 4 MR. ROWE: Substitute.
 5 HEARING OFFICER: We'll have Mr. Substitute.
 6
 7 CARL ROWE,
 8 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 9
 10 MR. ROWE: My name is Carl Rowe from Ketchum.
 11 HEARING OFFICER: Rowe?
 12 MR. ROWE: Rowe.
 13 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.
 14 MR. ROWE: What if a pound of dynamite were
 15 strapped to your back and the fuse was remotely connected to
 16 my car. If I have an accident, you blow up. Would you
 17 personally agree to be so intimately tied to my skills as a
 18 driver, however spotless my record? If you did so agree,
 19 I'd think you were crazy because it's a crazy proposal. I
 20 think that's what you are asking us to do here in Idaho with
 21 SIS.
 22 Why should I turn over to you my personal
 23 well-being and safety? Why would I ever willingly give you
 24 that much power over me? I'd be crazy to do so.
 25 What if you offered to us tonight, instead of

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6.1.2

3.2.1

2.7.9

6.1.1

4.13

1 the SIS, a proposal to give 4,000 families in Idaho a
2 quarter of a million dollars for their youngest child who
3 would be sold to wealthy Arabs. For your billion dollars
4 4,000 families would receive a lifetime of wages and would
5 contribute greatly to the state's economy.

6 I guess you'd agree that anyone who would even
7 consider accepting such an offer was crazy. It's a crazy
8 proposal. It's a nightmarish idea, appealing to human greed
9 in a hideous way.

10 The present idea to spend a billion dollars on
11 the SIS which contributes and directly -- which continues
12 and directly contributes to the nightmarish idea of nuclear
13 war and which threatens the livability of one of the most
14 naturally blessed states in this country, is, to my mind,
15 even more hideous than the child swap. This idea threatens
16 not only the youngest child of 4,000 families but every
17 child of every family and their children in turn. If the
18 risk of disaster does not come from the SIS plant itself,
19 and I think it does carry such a risk, then it comes from
20 what this plant produces, the very stuff of the nuclear
21 nightmare.

22 Why should we consent to such a deal? We all
23 should jeopardize our existence for 400 jobs? For
24 technology? There is nothing that you can offer us that can
25 make nuclear weapons less insane. There is nothing you can

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1 offer us that we need that we don't already have in
2 abundance.

3 We are offered jobs, money and death. No
4 thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 MR. ROWE: If I accept an insane idea, then
7 I'm insane. Nuclear war is insane and the SIS is part of
8 it. I'm here tonight to say publicly that I am not insane.
9 This plant should not be built anywhere. It's crazy. Let
10 Idaho send a message to the rest of our countrymen that we
11 will not participate.

12 (Applause.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 787 will be the
14 written comments of Carl Rowe.

15 We are now at order 38, John A. Qualls, Jr.,
16 John Qualls.

17 (No response.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: Order 39, Connie Weismuller,
19 Weismuller, Connie Weismuller.

20 (No response.)

21 HEARING OFFICER: Order 30, Matt Hall, Matt
22 Ball.

23 Order 41, Scott Christensen, Scott
24 Christensen.

25 (No response.)

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1.1

1 HEARING OFFICER: Order 42, Lanny Simmons,
2 Jr., Lanny Simmons, Jr.
3 (No response.)
4 HEARING OFFICER: Order 43, Donald G. DePew,
5 Donald DePew.
6 (No response.)
7 HEARING OFFICER: Order 44, Bruce McMurtrey,
8 Bruce McMurtrey.
9 (No response.)
10 HEARING OFFICER: Order 45, Ken Putnam, Ken
11 Putnam.
12 (No response.)
13 HEARING OFFICER: Order 46, Suresh Shiv--
14 MS. BROWN: Substitute.
15 HEARING OFFICER: All right. Thank you.
16
17 CAROLYN BROWN,
18 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
19
20 MS. BROWN: My name is Carolyn Brown. I'm a
21 resident of Ketchum, Box 344. I have lived in Ketchum for
22 ten years, and I am opposed to the SIS because I feel that
23 the risks far outweigh the benefits. I am for the No Action
24 Alternative. And I'd like to talk about some of these
25 risks.

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1 We know accidents can and do happen, we have
2 heard about them. There are probably some that we haven't
3 heard about. We are risking possible exposure to radiation
4 if we allow this project to be completed. I have heard that
5 these 700 jobs for seven years or so are justification for
6 the risks involved. I have also heard that we need more
7 weapons-grade plutonium and that this need also justifies
8 the risk. What is the risk?
9 By the way, I'm a mother. I work as a 911
10 emergency dispatcher for the City of Ketchum and also the
11 City of Sun Valley. I'm a volunteer firefighter in the
12 Ketchum Fire Department, and I'm an emergency technician
13 with the Sun Valley Search and Rescue Unit.
14 I would like to read a few paragraphs from a
15 book here that is Prehospital Emergency Care and Crisis
16 Intervention, this is a book that the Emergency Medical
17 Service uses to train emergency medical technicians in the
18 State of Idaho. And I'll be reading out of the section
19 Radiation Emergencies.
20 "None of your five senses can detect
21 radiation. And exposure to large amounts of radiation is a
22 relatively new danger as people are exposed to x-rays or to
23 accidental contamination from nuclear power plants and from
24 radioactive transport vehicles. Radiation can have the
25 following effects upon the body: Redness and swelling of

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5.1.36

6.1.1

1 the skin, itching, flaking, weeping, blistering, ulceration
 2 of the skin, temporary or permanent sterilization,
 3 suppression of menstruation, reduction in sperm count,
 4 swelling and inflammation of the lungs, obstruction of the
 5 airways, damage to the blood vessels and air sacks of the
 6 lungs, damage to the blood vessels throughout the body,
 7 cataracts, cancer, and genetic damage. Immediate effects
 8 can include nausea, vomiting, lowered plasma content, shock,
 9 dehydration, tremors, convulsions, drowsiness, listlessness
 10 and a high concentration of death. Cell damage to the body
 11 occurs with all kinds and amounts of radiation exposure."
 12 This is a direct quote, I'll read this one again. "Cell
 13 damage to the body occurs with all kinds and amounts of
 14 radiation exposure. During the first two days following
 15 exposure a sharp increase in the number of white blood cells
 16 occurs. The number of white blood cells then decreases,
 17 reaching a below normal level. As the number of white blood
 18 cells decreases, the body becomes extremely susceptible to
 19 infection. At the same time the white blood cell number is
 20 diminishing, the amount of platelets, the cells responsible
 21 for clotting the blood also decreases, introducing the
 22 possibility for uncontrolled bleeding. Simultaneously the
 23 number of red blood cells drops, leading to anemia.
 24 Long-range exposure to radiation or to large doses can
 25 result in leukemia. All cells in the body are subject to

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1 damage, depending upon the amount of radiation absorbed, the
 2 type of radiation and the body (unintelligible) -- causes
 3 disruption of the normal cell functions, scientists are now
 4 convinced that the cancer-causing ability of
 5 (unintelligible) radiation is second only to death itself."

6 These risks are not acceptable for me and for
 7 my children.

8 I think we need to stop and ask a few
 9 questions. Does more of this substance increase our
 10 national security? Do we need more of this substance? Does
 11 the refining and use of this substance increase our quality
 12 of life? Are there alternatives? And for the 700
 13 short-term jobs, you are risking thousands of tourist and
 14 agriculture related jobs. It doesn't make sense to me. I'm
 15 very much against it.

16 Thank you.

17 (Applause.)

18 BEARING OFFICER: We are now at order number
 19 47, Nancy Crossen.

20 MS. DONART: Substituting.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Okay.
 22
 23
 24
 25

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5.13.14

4.15.1

5.27.2

1 SALLY DONART,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 MS. DONART: My name is Sally Donart, and and
5 I reside at 214 Cottonwood Lane in Ketchum. I have been a
6 resident in Idaho nearly 40 years, 15 years in Blaine
7 County. I speak in opposition to the proposed Special
1.1 8 Isotope Separator and support the no action option.

9 I wish to thank the representatives of the
10 Department of Energy for extending the hearings so that we
11 here tonight may be heard.

12 Some proponents say this is an economic
5.27.6.1 13 issue. I say yes, it is an economic issue, an example of
14 bad economics. Any Economics I class in college teaches
15 that a healthy expanding economy is fostered when products
16 are produced which, in turn, stimulate the production of
17 additional goods and services. However, during the past
18 seven years our national debt has skyrocketed, and much of
6.3 19 that money has gone to develop frightfully expensive, yet
20 unreliable weapon systems, weapons which when made then just
21 sit, perhaps rust, certainly become obsolete, and then we
22 are told we need an even more expensive system.
23 Economically, each is a dead-ed project.

24 Some who were looking for votes from eastern
25 Idaho to support this project say this SIS Project will

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1 benefit the economy there. Wrong again. It only will
2 create a nightmare of boom and bust, a strain on the
3 infrastructure, at a time when new jobseekers will not only
4 compete for jobs which the project may contract for locally,
5 but for the jobs now held by residents in the area. New
6 schools, roads, mass housing, social services will be
7 needed, and for how long? Only seven years? And who will
8 pay for these schools? Not the Department of Energy. Who
9 will pay for additional city and county services? Not the
10 Department of Energy. No wonder that, according to
11 newspaper accounts, nearly one-half of those testifying in
12 Idaho Falls felt compelled to challenge this project, even
13 in their own backyard.

14 And what benefit to the state's revenue? None
15 of the past practice is example, for firms doing business
16 with INEL currently pay no Idaho sales tax on that
17 business. It would behoove the Governor and the legislature
18 to repeal that exemption before telling us that the SIS
19 would help Idaho revenues.

20 If SIS is bad economics, it's even worse when
21 viewed from military need. Those of you who may have been
22 here Monday night heard Richard Meyer's excellent
23 demonstration of this point. Already we have enough nuclear
24 bombs to wipe out all life on earth over and over and over
25 again. In fact, we already have enough bombs to wipe out

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5.27.10

5.27.11.5

5.27.6.12

4.13

6.3

4.14

5.30.3.1

1 all life on Monday, and then again on Tuesday, and on
 2 Wednesday, and again on Thursday, and once more on Friday.
 3 And then, as you know, it wouldn't matter really if we had
 4 to send out more missiles, we even could send out more
 5 missiles because after Monday, there wouldn't be anyone
 6 alive to launch them.

7 I become very angry when I think of all the
 8 potential housing, education, nutrition programs,
 9 environmental clean-up, job training, support for new
 10 businesses locked up in those bombs already sitting there.

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. DONART: And just when missile reductions
 13 are planned, we are asked to throw a billion dollars at a
 14 dead horse or, should I say, a pork barrel.

15 When in the Bay area recently I heard a
 16 discussion on the radio on how this nation might warn future
 17 generations away from existing atomic dumps during the
 18 lifetime of the radioactive material; that is, 25,000
 19 years. At Easter time we can barely think 2,000 years
 20 back.

21 How do we face the responsibility of
 22 protecting people from inadvertent contamination and deaths,
 23 the contamination we just heard about, for a period in the
 24 future that is far longer than we have known and recorded
 25 history? There is no fence, no sign that lasts that long.

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1 There is not a single government that exists that long to
 2 make protective loss to send out guards to enforce those
 3 laws.

4 Perhaps, as the discussion on the radio which
 5 I heard, the only way to protect these future lives is to
 6 start a public legend, a myth to be told by parents to their
 7 children through the generations and generations about
 8 staying away from that part of the earth. And we are being
 9 asked to support, adding to the mass and adding to the
 10 intensity of this death producing waste? Incredible.

11 In manufacturing, it is wise to produce your
 12 product either near the source of your raw materials or near
 13 the point of utilization. In regard to the SIS, Idaho is
 14 neither close to Banford, Washington, the source of our,
 15 quote, raw materials or close to Rocky Flats, Colorado,
 16 where the plutonium is ask scheduled to be made into bombs.

17 So I ask the Department of Energy, is this SIS
 18 proposal the first step in transferring the aging Rocky
 19 Flats operation to the INEL site, away from a metropolitan
 20 from which vocal protests repeatedly come?

21 My husband, who would love to have been here
 22 tonight but can't because of illness, and I join our voices
 23 with those who say no to SIS here in Idaho or anywhere else.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of

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5.29.31

2.2.16

1 Sally Donart will be marked as Exhibit No. 788 for the
2 record.
3 Moving on to order 48, Anne Pemberton, Anne
4 Pemberton.
5 (No response.)
6 HEARING OFFICER: 49, Doyle Wood, Doyle Wood.
7 (No response.)
8 HEARING OFFICER: Ginna Lagergren.
9 MR. ANTHONY: Substitute.
10
11 GEORGE ANTHONY,
12 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
13
14 MR. ANTHONY: My name is George Anthony, I
15 live at Route 2, Filer, Idaho.
16 And I was going to wear what I call my
17 Gorbachev suit tonight, but I thought nobody would recognize
18 me.
19 When I was over in Moscow, one of the things
20 that I was informed was that the Soviet scientists and
21 engineers had undergone a toughening experience as a result
22 of the Chernobyl incident. And to the extent that they
23 actually had expressed, somewhat plaintively, for world
24 assistance, world experience in handling the situation and
25 in follow-ups, I would hope perhaps that this experience is

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1 catching.
2 I have a master's degree in physics, and I
3 wrote my thesis on uranium graphite criticality
4 measurements, various versions of certain type of reactors.
5 I worked at the Hanford Atomic Products Operation, and among
6 the things was the area of physicists at the F-reactor which
7 was the newest plutonium and tritium production reactor at
8 the time. Among the numerous things that I did, I
9 calculated, for example, the various configurations and,
10 more specifically, highly idealized calculations of
11 plutonium mixed with various moderators, including hydrogen,
12 and I'll get back to that.
13 Another physicist and I prepared the
14 determination on the production of neptunium-238 in the
15 production reactors there, which I'm sure the Department of
16 Energy representatives recognize as the basis for the only
17 truly successful nuclear space power that has been developed
18 by the United States.
19 We also went through the process of
20 irradiating tagum pellets. I doubt that anybody here has
21 ever even heard of that. But the tagum pellet was for the
22 purpose of setting up a, believe it or not, a corridor
23 across the 38th Parallel in Korea so that if the communists
24 dared cross the line, they would get themselves burned to
25 death. That's a fact. They never tried it, never got that

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1 far.

2 Subsequent to that, I spent three years
3 developing the system preliminary design for the SNAP-8
4 nuclear space power system. The reason I bring that up is
5 because the nuclear reactor for that was a metallic, it had
6 a metallic core, a hydrited tritium core, one with real
7 small size and relatively small weight and a small amount of
8 uranium-235 for criticality, and I'll come back to that
9 again. As I vaguely recall, it was along the order of a
10 cubic foot or so in size, maybe a little larger than that.

11 So when I read in this Environmental Impact
12 Statement of the glove box design, if we want to loosely
13 call it that, in which plutonium that is collected, is
14 reacted with hydrogen, forming hydrited plutonium, which
15 later is spilled off into a container and collected. And
16 then I recall from my calculations of several decades ago,
17 that under idealized calculations, admittedly, hydrogen and
18 plutonium, in the right concentration, that it only takes
19 746 grams of plutonium to achieve a critical mass. And here
20 in this operation they are claiming they are going to have
21 three kilograms at risk at any one time in the processing.
22 Then I begin to question the design in the first place.

23 So anyway, I looked further through, gleaning
24 some of aspects of the design, and their equipment is what
25 they call criticality grade, that means that there's going

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1 to be loose water in there, that's more hydrogen, right?
2 When I said the 746 grams of plutonium was sufficient for
3 criticality, that's what's called an untamped sphere, all
4 that means is a neutron escapes from the surface, it never
5 gets back to it. If you have got water around, you are
6 going to reflect neutrons back into whatever, in all
7 directions, of course.

8 The plutonium processing building itself has a
9 cooling water system for heat removal from the glove box.
10 And for shielding against the spontaneous emission of
11 neutrons from this conglomeration of plutonium isotopes,
12 they are using hydrogenous material. So when you look at
13 the basis of the calculations, here is what I find: It's
14 designed in accordance with the DOE Order 5480.395 and
15 DOE-Idaho Order 5480.1; in other words, it's a handbook
16 calculation, and you can't use handbook calculations on this
17 kind of design and -- woops, red light, so --

18 A VOICE: Keep talking.

19 (Voices.)

20 MR. ANTHONY: Thank you.

21 HEARING OFFICER: Quiet from the audience,
22 please, let him finish.

23 MR. ANTHONY: So I suggest that the -- to wrap
24 this thing up -- that the Environmental Impact Statement is
25 grossly incomplete and no facility should be based on such

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1 elementary notions of how you handle critical material.
2 Thank you.
3 (Applause.)
4 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 51, Thomas R.
5 Beezley.
6 MR. CHISHOLM: Substitute. I'm Bill Chisholm,
7 but I'm representing Walt Coiner.
8 HEARING OFFICER: All right. Go ahead.
9
10 BILL CHISHOLM,
11 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
12
13 MR. CHISHOLM: Okay. Walt Coiner's address is
14 Route 1, Kimberly, Idaho.
15 This is a letter from him to Clay Nichols.
16 "Please reject the DEIS document on the SIS
17 Project at the INEL near Idaho Falls, Idaho. I request this
18 from you on the grounds that the site itself lies upon an
19 area that is too environmentally fragile and geologically
20 unstable for the handling, separating and transporting of
21 DOE-owned plutonium.
22 "As a sixth generation southern Idaho farmer,
23 I'm quite concerned about the precautions that are to be
24 taken at the SIS project to insure that my underground water
25 and the ecosystem above remain clean and pure for the next

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1 six generations.
2 "As a member of the millions of people who
3 support the eventual elimination of nuclear weapons, I hope
4 you will support the fourth alternative from your abstract,
5 no action, or not constructing and operating the SIS
6 project."
7 (Applause.)
8 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit No. 789 in the
9 record will be the written comments of Walt Coiner of Route
10 1, Kimberly, Idaho.
11 We'll move to order 52 on the commentors list
12 this evening, Joann Levy, Joann Levy.
13 (No response.)
14 HEARING OFFICER: Order 53, Victor B.
15 Braegger, Victor Braegger.
16 (No response.)
17 HEARING OFFICER: Number 54, Charles Pace.
18
19 CHARLES PACE,
20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
21
22 MR. PACE: I want to thank the DOE for
23 providing this opportunity to testify. I would have
24 preferred to have been able to attend a hearing in the
25 Pocatello area, but that's -- I do want to express my

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1 gratitude.

2 My name is Charles Pace. I'm the Director of
3 Economic Analysis for the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and I am
4 representing the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes here tonight.

5 I talked briefly with the Chairman of the Fort
6 Hall Business Council, Marvin Osborn, and I would like to
7 summarize his concerns and the concerns of the Tribes and at
8 the same time --

9 HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Pace, if you are
10 representing the Tribe, we'll go ahead -- our rules allow
11 you ten minutes to comment.

12 MR. PACE: That's fine. I think my summary
13 may take less than that.

14 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

15 MR. PACE: But I am -- do want to point out
16 that I am going to summarize here the Tribes' concerns, and
17 a letter will be forthcoming to Mr. Nichols from
18 Mr. Osborn.

19 The Tribes' basic position is that they feel
20 they should be involved on a government-to-government
21 relationship with the Department of Energy in consideration
22 of this project. And I would like to state for the record
23 that the Department of Energy has initiated a dialogue with
24 the Tribes, and the Tribes do appreciate that and hope that
25 that effort will continue.

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5.27.14.3

1 There's two areas of concern that Mr. Osborn
2 asked me to express. One is the safety and protection of
3 the Tribes' homeland. As you may know, the Fort Bridger
4 Treaty, if you'd look at the legal status of the Tribes, the
5 Fort Bridger Treaty of 1868 secured the Fort Hall Indian
6 Reservation in southeastern Idaho as a permanent tribal
7 homeland. In addition, Article IV of the Treaty guaranteed
8 the continuation of a broad array of use rights on lands
9 outside the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, including all of
10 the Lost River country and indeed all the unoccupied lands
11 in the United States.

12 The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes collectively
13 comprise a single federally recognized Indian tribe. The
14 governing body of the Fort Hall Business Council is duly
15 recognized by the Secretary of the Interior and obligated to
16 protect the individual and communal interests of tribal
17 members, the successes and interests of the Indian
18 signatories to the Treaty that I mentioned before, the Fort
19 Bridger Treaty of July 3, 1868.

20 By virtue of Article IV the Tribes expressly
21 reserve the right to hunt, fish, gather natural resources,
22 for subsistence and cultural purposes, and for purposes of
23 engaging in commerce on unoccupied lands in the United
24 States. The Tribes are concerned that the extreme danger of
25 contamination of air, land and water posed by the transport

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1 of plutonium in and out of INEL and the SIS Project in
 2 particular, but the Department of Energy activities at INEL
 3 in general do pose a substantial risk to the continuation of
 4 the Tribes' existence.

5 And when you are looking at the creation and
 6 protection of a permanent homeland, you have to take what
 7 Professor Wilkenson at the University of Colorado has coined
 8 a deep time approach, looking far into the future hundreds
 9 of years and attempting to analyze and assert how tribal
 10 interests will be affected.

11 So an interest in a formal framework is
 12 required with a formal and explicit treatment of associated
 13 uncertainties and risks. And of the various concerns that
 14 the Tribes have, my impression is that the protection of the
 15 permanent homeland comes first.

16 (Applause.)

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17 MR. PACE: I would like to point out the
 18 Tribes have not yet taken a position for or against the SIS,
 19 so your applause may be premature. They believe that more
 20 information is required.

21 But on the second area of vital concern to the
 22 Tribes is the issue of economic development. And we believe
 23 there are two keys there, two key concerns. The first one
 24 is the notion of technology transfer, and there are two
 25 basic linkages there. The first one is from Lawrence

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1 Livermore to INEL, and then from INEL to Idaho's world. And
 2 the Tribes are somewhat disturbed by the asymmetry in the
 3 allocation of resources to effect the transfer from Lawrence
 4 Livermore to INEL as opposed to the transfer from INEL to
 5 Idaho. Our understanding is that there are roughly two
 6 dozen individuals trained at Lawrence Livermore to effect
 7 the first leg of the transfer and that the effort to effect
 8 the second part of the transfer is confined to an individual
 9 working part time at Idaho State University.

10 The second concern that we have in terms of
 11 economic development is the revenue services. The
 12 production exemption was mentioned before, but Idaho is a
 13 very poor state and the potential for jobs associated with
 14 this project should be carefully looked at, taking into
 15 consideration things such as the exemption on contracting
 16 and research.

17 The Tribes also would be very interested in
 18 participating in the services that would be provided if the
 19 INEL is actually selected as the preferred site and the SIS
 20 goes forward. At the same time, Mr. Osborn asked me to
 21 question and state for the record that the Tribes are very
 22 concerned about what kind of assurances they have in the
 23 area of protection of private homeland and, should the SIS
 24 Project go forward, the participation of the Tribes in Idaho
 25 and the region and the economic -- and the economic impacts

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1 that are beneficial.

2 In terms of the Draft Environmental Impact
3 Statement, as I said before, the Tribes feel that DOE is
4 compelled to take a hard look at the potential for impacts
5 on the Tribes' permanent homeland and the potential for
6 economic development. We believe that the Draft
7 Environmental Impact Statement fails in a number of areas to
8 comply with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969,
9 NEPA.

10 The linch pin of NEPA is the preparation of an
11 adequate EIS evidencing that the affected federal agency has
12 taken, quote, a hard look at the environmental consequences
13 of the proposed action. Accordingly, the EIS must attempt
14 to identify and discuss all foreseeable environmental
15 consequences. This principle was established in Warm
16 Springs Dam Force -- Warm Springs Dam Task Force versus
17 Grittle. And that identification and discussion of all
18 foreseeable environmental impacts, consequences, must be
19 sufficient so that federal agencies are fully aware of
20 present and future environmental impacts of their decision.
21 It also must be sufficiently comprehensive in detail so that
22 other officials, Congress and the public can evaluate the
23 environmental consequences independently.

24 We do not feel that the Draft Environmental
25 Impact Statement embodies a hard look at probable impacts on

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1 the 1868 Treaty rights; rather, it overlooks such rights
2 entirely. So we believe that there's a need to clarify,
3 amend, revise and augment the Draft Environmental Impact
4 Statement and that this is a Treaty imposed duty upon the
5 Department of Energy, buttressed and supported by NEPA and
6 other environmental laws.

7 As I said before, the Tribes do not oppose or
8 support, at this time, the project. It has received a
9 cautious reception at Fort Hall, and I think a consensus is
10 emerging that we need more information and that we should
11 move very carefully. The Tribes' intent here is not to
12 delay the project but that DOE must understand that this is
13 the Tribes' permanent homeland; and whereas, other people
14 can move, even move away, the Tribes cannot do that.

15 So the permanent homeland, protection of the
16 safety of the permanent homeland, promotion of tribal
17 interests, requires the continuing government-to-government
18 relationship between the Tribes and DOE. This is
19 particularly important in monitoring and evaluation. There
20 must be a sustained commitment on the part of DOE to include
21 the Tribes on a government-to-government basis in monitoring
22 and evaluating this project.

23 That's the extent of my comments. Thank you.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

25 (Applause.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: We are now at order number
2 55, Marge Chupa.

3
4 MARGE CHUPA,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
6

7 MS. CHUPA: I appreciate the opportunity to
8 present my testimony.

9 I understood this afternoon, when I was told
10 by somebody who has gone through these kinds of things
11 before, that any emotional testimony will simply be set
12 aside and not considered; the only thing that's of interest
13 to the decisionmakers will be that testimony which indicates
14 that there might possibly be some liability involved.
15 Something that somebody can sue somebody for. Of course,
16 that's the ways we operate, so I guess there may be
17 something to that.

18 I'm actually feeling a little sorry for the
19 people whose lives are involved with death and destruction,
20 whose mortgages are involved, whose children's careers and
21 colleges are involved, whose bills are involved, and they
22 are more or less between a rock and a hard place if they
23 have any conscience at all about what they are doing. Many
24 of us are able to deny what's going on and continue on that
25 way, but we pay a price for that emotionally, physically,

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1 mentally, at some level, and it's a very, very serious place
2 to be, and I speak from experience.

3 I'm a retired R.N. I left the medical
4 profession when I found that what I was doing was
5 destructive to women and their babies, so I walked away from
6 that profession, when I tried for many years to mediate,
7 moderate, educate and nothing worked, so I left. The women
8 themselves have taken over and changed that themselves.
9 They are taking care of their bodies and they are taking
10 care of their babies.

11 Being between a rock and a hard place is not
12 as dangerous as you think it is. It is possible to walk
13 away, and it doesn't destroy your life. It didn't destroy
14 mine. We took an economic plunge in our family, and my poor
15 kids had to work their way through college, and three of
16 them have done that. And I have their admiration and
17 respect and love, and I don't think that any amount of money
18 I could have earned could have bought that.

19 I don't think any of us should just vent here
20 at these hearings. Venting sometimes lets off the pressure
21 and you can go home and feel good about yourself, you have
22 done your deed and now you can go take a rest. I think what
23 we need to do is just get started here, and I think the
24 mothers need to get together. In my time the mothers fought
25 against the Korean War and we got our guys home. And we

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1 fought, with our guys, against the Viet Nam War. And it
2 looks like the boys are out of order again.
3 (Applause.)
4 MS. CHUPA: I was told not to use motherhood
5 as an argument against the SIS. I am using motherhood
6 against the SIS. I suggest that we all get together with
7 the guys that have a conscience about this and we go for it
8 and we take care of those boys in Boise and the ones in
9 Washington, D.C.
10 (Applause.)
11 MS. CHUPA: Representative Bustamonte of
12 Texas, who is a member of the House Armed Services
13 Committee, wants the one billion dollar laser driven
14 facility killed. He plans to introduce a bill in the House
15 Armed Services Committee this week, there's a place we can
16 get our word out to. He wants that money for Texas for the
17 Air Force, let him have it.
18 Mr. Stallings, who I understand is a bright,
19 shining star, a political star, I understand, he states he
20 believes the majority of Idaho citizens support the SIS and
21 want it built in Idaho. "During my testimony at the Idaho
22 Falls hearing, I stressed that the INEL has a good public
23 safety and environmental protection record. I have been
24 convinced that there are no significant public health risks,
25 environmental impacts, transportation problems or safety

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1 concerns associated with the project."
2 Let's go, mothers, we have work to do.
3 Thank you.
4 (Applause.)
5 HEARING OFFICER: We need to get your name and
6 address for the record.
7 MS. CHUPA: Marge Chupa, 1860 Falls Avenue
8 East.
9 (Applause.)
10 HEARING OFFICER: Next is witness number 56,
11 Larry Connor, Mr. Larry Connor.
12 (No response.)
13 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 57, John A.
14 Wodskow, John A. Wodskow.
15 (No response.)
16 HEARING OFFICER: Order 58, Steve Luber, Mr.
17 Steve Luber.
18 DR. RICKARDS: Substituting.
19 HEARING OFFICER: I'm sorry?
20 DR. RICKARDS: Substituting.
21 HEARING OFFICER: All right.
22
23
24
25

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1 DR. PETER RICKARDS,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 DR. RICKARDS: Hi everybody. My name is
5 Dr. Peter Rickards, and I run the Twin Falls Foot Clinic,
6 and this is my son, Tysun, and he's three years old.

7 As a health practitioner, I'm just stunned
8 that we are still talking about this, after Chernobyl and
9 Three Mile Island, the question has got to be how much
10 stupid are we, and I guess the answer has got to be pretty
11 stupid. And it's not that I am against nuclear weapons, I
12 think they have done a lot, at least since they are present,
13 we are still fighting like mad, but we haven't blown off the
14 surface of the earth, so I'm not for the elimination of
15 nuclear weapons. But when we can blow up the surface of the
16 earth ten times over, I think we can consider the job
17 covered.

18 As I see it, politicians are a lot like
19 prostitutes. Sure, prostitutes charge less.

20 (Applause.)

21 DR. RICKARDS: But they do both have diseases
22 that can kill 'ya.

23 (Applause.)

24 DR. RICKARDS: It's just politicians can kill
25 more people.

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1 It's politicians that are political
2 prostitutes in the sense they seek economic pleasure as
3 their greatest source of pleasure, and they are willing to
4 do anything for a little economic spurt.

5 So we are here today to talk about Senator
6 McClure's love child, the SIS Project. (unintelligible)
7 When they ask you to bend over on this, they don't have a
8 condom big enough to make SIS safe.

9 (Applause.)

10 DR. RICKARDS: I would like to talk directly
11 to the folks here who are going to be part of the
12 decisionmaking process in DOE. It really occurs to me that
13 when it's come down to this point, there's going to be a few
14 people in the DOE that may have veto power, and we are all
15 going to try and shout loud enough to get him use it, but I
16 call on Governor Andrus to make an all-out assault on the
17 SIS Project by offering a job to anybody in the DOE who's
18 going to stand up with the moral fortitude to say no.

19 (Applause.)

20 DR. RICKARDS: Because for sure, when the
21 whitewash comes down, anybody who stands up and says no in
22 the DOE will lose their job and, like most people, we have
23 families to look after. And that's why I am serious when I
24 call on Governor Andrus to do that because we have to do
25 something for someone who is going to save Idaho for us. We

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1 have the best state in the union but every state and every
2 country must stand up and say no. And I'm asking you, don't
3 bend over on this. Enough is enough.

4 We just want to say we love 'ya. Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 59, Tommy V.
7 Race, Tommy V. Race.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Order 50, Jerry B. Goodwin,
10 Jerry B. Goodwin.

11 (No response.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Order 61, Anne E. McNevin,
13 testified be earlier today.

14 Order 62. Karen Jean Simpson, Karen Jean
15 Simpson.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Order 63, Margaret Blair,
18 Margaret Blair.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 64, Charles Putnam,
21 Charles Putnam.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: John Heinrich, John
24 Heinrich.

25 (No response.)

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1 HEARING OFFICER: Order 66, Charon
2 Vandersteen.

3 (No response.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Dr. Peter Rickards' written
5 comments will be submitted for the record as Exhibit No.
6 790.

7 Order 66, Charon Vandersteen.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Order 67, Linda Anderson.

10 (No response.)

11 HEARING OFFICER: Order 68, Marc Oliver, Marc
12 Oliver.

13 (No response.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: Order 69, Michael N. Lott,
15 Michael Lott.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Order 70, Pam Reynoso, Pam
18 Reynoso.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 71, Ralph Litzsinger,
21 L-i-t-z-s-i-n-g-e-r.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Order 72, Darrel Brown.

24 (No response.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Order 73, Ruth Maxwell, Ruth

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1 Maxwell.
 2 (No response.)
 3 HEARING OFFICER: Order 74, Clifford M.
 4 Hammond, Clifford M. Hammond.
 5 (No response.)
 6 HEARING OFFICER: Order 75, Dorian Crow,
 7 Dorian Crow.
 8 (No response.)
 9 HEARING OFFICER: Buzz Short, Buzz Short.
 10 (No response.)
 11 HEARING OFFICER: Order 77, Jock Bell,
 12 testified earlier today.
 13 Order 78, Craig Cazier, Craig Cazier.
 14 (No response.)
 15 HEARING OFFICER: Order 79 Steve Bezdeka,
 16 Bezdeka, Steve Bezdeka.
 17 (No response.)
 18 HEARING OFFICER: Order 80, Al Christensen, Al
 19 Christensen.
 20 (No response.)
 21 HEARING OFFICER: Order 81, Richard Howard,
 22 Richard Howard.
 23 (No response.)
 24 HEARING OFFICER: Order 82, Brian Barber,
 25 Brian Barber.

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1 (No response.)
 2 HEARING OFFICER: Tom Gabrinetti spoke earlier
 3 evening.
 4 Order 84, Will Small.
 5 MR. SMALL: I testified earlier.
 6 HEARING OFFICER: Oh, I'm sorry, Will, excuse
 7 me. Do you have anything else to say?
 8 Darrell Long, Darrell Long.
 9 (No response.)
 10 HEARING OFFICER: Order 86, Phil Hoene.
 11
 12 PHIL HOENE,
 13 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
 14
 15 MR. HOENE: My name is Phil Hoene. I live in
 16 Hailey, Idaho.
 17 I'm against the construction of the Special
 18 Isotope Separator Project in Idaho or anywhere else. The
 19 Department of Energy's Draft Environmental Impact Statement
 20 does not adequately portray the need for more weapon-grade
 21 plutonium. Many high-ranking government officials are now
 22 saying we have too many warheads and too much weapon-grade
 23 plutonium. President Reagan, a president that has prided
 24 himself in rebuilding our military strength, has recently
 25 negotiated the INF treaty and is presently planning a treaty

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1 that would reduce our strategic forces by 50 percent. The
2 result of these treaties would be the availability of many
3 tons of weapon-grade plutonium.

4 You will pardon me if I am a bit confused.
5 But in one ear I hear a Republican president admitting there
6 are too many warheads and too much weapon-grade plutonium,
7 and in the other ear I hear Idaho's two ranking Democrats,
8 Governor Cecil Andrus and Representative Richard Stallings,
9 voicing support for the SIS Project because of our nation's
10 desperate need for more weapon-grade plutonium. This is
6.5.1 11 quite a turn-around. So much so that it begins to sound a
12 little fishy or, more accurately, a lot like pork.

13 With 25,000 nuclear warheads at our disposal,
14 we could more than adequately destroy any conceivable enemy;
4.13 15 unfortunately, destroying ourselves in the process. In my
16 opinion, the greatest nuclear threat to the United States
17 today is an accident at a nuclear factory or a nuclear spill
6.1.3 18 on our highways.

19 I respectfully suggest to Mr. Andrus,
20 Mr. Stallings and the DOE that what this country desperately
21 needs is for someone to find the lid to this pork barrel and
22 slam it down tightly.

23 I feel the real threat to Idahoans, their
24 children and their children's children is not a shortage of
25 weapon-grade plutonium and not a declining economy because

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1 of the lack of governmental projects, but a failing economy
2 due to our political leaders' casual disregard are for
3 deficit spending. The use it or lose it philosophy of
4 government spending, which is what the SIS Project
5 represents, in my opinion, is the greatest threat to Idaho
6 and the United States today.

7 I respectfully implore you to turn down this
8 wasteful, unneeded and dangerous project for Idaho or
9 anywhere else.

10 Thank you.

11 (Applause.)

12 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 791 for the record
13 will Phil Hoene of Hailey, Idaho.

14 We'll move to order 87, Michael L. Stapleman,
15 Michael Stapleman.

16 (No response.)

17 HEARING OFFICER: Garry M. Nielsen.

18
19 GARRY M. NIELSEN,
20 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

21
22 MR. NIELSEN: I'd like to present my testimony
23 to the Department of Energy concerning the placement of the
24 Special Isotope Separator plant at the Idaho Nuclear
25 Engineering Laboratory located in Idaho.

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2.7.8

1 First, I'd like to thank the DOE for holding
 2 these hearings and for allowing me to present my testimony.
 3 I would like to make it known that I am a resident of the
 4 State of Idaho, living south of Hansen, Idaho.

5 When we talk about the enviornmental impact of
 6 this proposed plutonium processing plant, we need to look
 7 further than just the local impact. I refer to the product
 8 and its ultimate purpose and use. Environment is the
 9 immediate life sustaining requirements and any far-reaching
 10 effects on the life support requirements of life in general
 11 or specific. Therefore, the effect of the end product must
 12 be considered when looking at the environmental impact. The
 13 end product of this plant is nuclear incinerary devices or
 14 simply put, bombs.

15 Now, a nuclear bomb has but one purpose and
 16 that is to destroy life. Not just human or enemy life, but
 17 all forms of life. When the true environmental impact is
 18 considered, then any one of any reasonable intelligence can
 19 only say that this project is environmentally unsafe and
 20 should not be continued.

21 I believe that it is prudent to look at the
 22 nature and attitude of the division of government that will
 23 be the guilding force behind this project. In this case the
 24 controlling force is the Armed Forces of the United States
 25 of America.

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1 It is sad but true that the military does not
 2 have a very good track record when it comes to projects of
 3 this nature. In the early 1950s above-ground nuclear tests
 4 were conducted in Nevada. The result was radiation
 5 poisoning of civilians in southern Utah.

6 Now, mistakes can be made; but when an error
 7 is made, it should be corrected as best as possible. The
 8 military did not correct their mistake in Utah, instead they
 9 openly denied it, and it took years of investigationas and
 10 countless lawsuits to make the military tell us the truth
 11 about this. Only recently through the court system the
 12 people of southern Utah were told to go to hell because the
 13 Army doesn't have to pay you a thing for killing you and
 14 your loved ones. One can only wonder if we will ever get
 15 the full story on this incident.

16 If this was the only breach of honesty from
 17 our defense department, we might overlook it, but it is not.
 18 In Skull Valley, Utah, in the 1970s the Army released deadly
 19 nerve gas and told no one. It may have been only luck that
 20 a flock of sheep were killed, but the point is that it took
 21 years of investigations and more lawsuits to get to the
 22 truth. Once more, the military has been proven to lie.

23 Just recently declassified documents revealed
 24 that the military released highly radioactive gases form
 25 their plant in Hanford, Washington. This was not an

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3.2.11

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3.2.11

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3.2.11

1 accident but a deliberate release to study the effects of
2 such a gas release. Even in the face of needed research,
3 human life must be considered. This is but another example
4 of the military not telling anyone of the danger that they
5 are being placed in.

6 The United States, while under the leadership
7 of Presidents Kennedy, Johnson, Nixon, Ford and Carter was
8 revered and respected as not only the world leader in space
9 exploration but as the leader in safety. This held true
10 until Ronald Reagan. Then the military became heavily
11 involved in our space program. Under the pressure and
12 careless leadership of the military, the space program
13 became a war tool. We all know too well the despicable
14 results of the Challenger shuttle and its crew when the
15 military push was on. Now thanks to our military, we
16 virtually have no space program.

17 The point that I am getting to is that the
18 military will lie, if necessary, to cover up its activities.
19 When the military becomes involved with the scientific
20 community, it only leads to ruination of scientific
21 research. It will also conduct deadly and highly illegal
22 activities and not tell anyone. Now, I ask you this, can we
23 even trust our own government when the consequences are
24 death?

25 Let me get back to the plant itself. The

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1 worst atrocity man has ever imposed upon his fellow man was
2 the gas chambers of Nazi Germany. This is looked upon by
3 historians as so horrible that it cannot even be
4 comprehended by some people. It has been vowed that this
5 type of atrocity will never be allowed to ever exist again
6 anywhere in the world. Well, folks, hold onto your hats
7 because all the Jews killed in Germany, added to all the men
8 killed in World War II, added to all the people ever killed
9 in all the wars of mankind, added to all the murders of
10 people will not equal the number of people that one of these
11 bombs can kill. Now, I ask you, is this what you want built
12 anywhere?

13 The combined nuclear destruction capability of
14 the nuclear bombs now in the world is enough to destroy all
15 forms of life on not just the planet earth but 140 such
16 planets. Why do we even think of making more?

17 When we think of the environmental impact, we
18 must consider the waste products. Can we go on forever
19 producing more radioactive waste? We have no safe place to
20 store any of this waste now, let alone create more.
21 Remember, these products will be with this planet for
22 hundreds of years.

23 I ask you, what will your children or
24 great-grandchildren read in their history books about the
25 nuclear war called World War III? Well, you don't need to

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4.13

5.30.3.1

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1 wonder because there will be no history books to read.
 2 There will be no one to read them, if there were any, and
 3 there will be no one to write the history of nuclear
 4 insanity. There will be only a charred, blackened globe
 5 drifting endlessly in space for time and eternity, so
 6 poisonous and radioactive that no form of life known to us
 7 could possibly survive. Is this what you want?
 8 If you can but imagine for just a moment this
 9 cinder devoid of life, then you can picture the monument to
 10 the Reagan administration and its insane nuclear arms
 11 build-up.
 12 If we are to look at the impact of this plant,
 13 then we must look at the need for it. At the present time,
 14 we are looking at removing 500 nuclear missiles from Europe.
 15 What are we going to do with the plutonium in these? If we
 16 are to continue the course of nuclear disarmament in future
 17 treaties, then why do we need to spend a billion dollars to
 18 build a plant we are trying to talk ourselves out of?
 19 A more sane and humane project would be to
 20 build a plant that might dispose of these nuclear warheads.
 21 If we were to do that, then in our treaties we could bring
 22 Russia's bombs here and jointly dispose of them, then there
 23 could be no cheating on treaties by either side.
 24 We are being told of the multitude of safety
 25 factors being planned into this plant. We are being told of

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1 the simplicity of its operation. I ask you, why can't it be
 2 put into downtown Boston or Los Angeles? The answer is
 3 simple. It is deadly and dangerous and would be a prime
 4 target in case of a nuclear attack. This, I submit, is the
 5 real reason they want to put it in the middle of a desert
 6 somewhere out in Idaho.

7 This plant, if constructed, would only produce
 8 death; therefore, it must be called a death plant. I
 9 strongly feel that we must improve the economy of Idaho, but
 10 I am not ready to sell my soul to the devil for a few
 11 dollars. Must we resort to the death of other people in
 12 order to bring us wealth? Where will that thought put us in
 13 the books of history? How can you sell industries on the
 14 quality of life when they know we manufacture death here?
 15 Please don't lower the standards of Idaho to this despicable
 16 level.

17 In summary, I would like to say that this is
 18 an insane project, run by a lying, insane military, and
 19 being sold to the people of an economically depressed state
 20 as a money promoter only. It makes one wonder if the
 21 economy of Idaho has been purposely set up so the people
 22 would consider such a horrifying project. Please stop the
 23 nuclear madness.

24 In closing I would like to make two quotes.
 25 These are found in the Holy Bible. They were spoke by Jesus

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2.7.10

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5.27.6.9

1.1

1 during his sermon on the mountain. First, there is St.
2 Matthew, Chapter 7, Verse 15: "Beware of false prophets
3 which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are
4 ravening wolves."

5 Second I will quote St. Matthew, Chapter 5,
6 Verse 9: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be
7 called the children of God."

8 (Applause.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 792 will be the
10 written comments of Garry M. Nielsen for the record.

11 The next order, number 89, Diane Romano.

12 (No response.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Glen Phillips, Glen
14 Phillips.

15 (No response.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: Order 91, Richard Hawkes,
17 Richard Hawkes.

18 92, Carolyn Graham, Carolyn Graham.

19 (No response.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Order 93, Tara Bell, Tara
21 Bell.

22 (No response.)

23 HEARING OFFICER: Order 94, Lita Welch.

24 (No response.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: That includes the entire

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T567

1 list of preregistered speakers for this hearing. Is there
2 anybody on the evening preregistration list that is here
3 that hasn't spoken? Are you on the evening list?

4 A VOICE: I was on the afternoon list.

5 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. I'm just calling for
6 the evening list, and then I'll go to the afternoon list.

7 Anyone on the evening preregistration list
8 that hasn't had a chance to comment? Okay. What we're
9 going to do is take a brief recess. When we come back, I
10 will call anyone who was on the afternoon preregistered list
11 first, then we'll go into the walk-in registrations.

12 Thank you.

13 (Recess.)

14 HEARING OFFICER: We are coming back to order,
15 ladies and gentlemen.

16 At this point in time, what I would like to do
17 is any individuals who were registered to speak this
18 afternoon but couldn't come but are here this evening, allow
19 you to present your comments at this point.

20 If you would please step forward.

21

22 CATHERINE HAYNES,
23 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

24

25 MS. HAYNES: My name is Catherine Haynes, and

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1.1

5.12.1

5.17.2

5.21.3

5.30.4.9

5.30.1.6

3.2.7

5.27.7.4

1 for the record, 157 Wasman Avenue in Twin Falls.

2 I am strongly opposed to construction and
3 operation of the SIS facility even in Idaho or anywhere.
4 The Snake River Aquifer is the INEL's only source of water.
5 Since 1952 the Department of Energy has been discharging
6 liquid low-level radioactive chemical wastes into the
7 subsurface from the ICPP. Until February of 1984, they used
8 injection wells to do this. Now they are using percolation
9 ponds. Now recent monitoring of groundwater has detected
10 carbon tetrachloride and in core samples have detected
11 plutonium, as far down as 230 feet. Chromium has also been
12 detected in the INEL perched groundwater.

13 The DOE says in their Environmental Impact
14 Statement, in here, that they haven't determined, quote, the
15 extent of contamination at this point, and they haven't
16 decided yet whether remedial action is required. That means
17 whether they should clean it up yet or not.

18 The INEL safety record is also in serious
19 question. Just this past month they had another minor
20 accident when three workers were injured.

21 And then there's also the job factor. 750
22 jobs sound great, but in the Statement that they put out it
23 says these jobs are primarily what they call in-migrating
24 jobs. That means these are not jobs that go to out of work
25 Idahoans, these are jobs that go to out-of-state workers.

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1 They even addressed the problem of
2 overcrowding the schools down in that area.

3 There's also the issue of Idaho's tourist
4 industry. The wilderness bill is up now in Washington.
5 There's a move to have the Carters of the Moon declared a
6 national park. I think that would be a great boon to
7 tourism, but not with the SIS 19 miles away from the Craters
8 of the Moon. When was the last time you planned a vacation
9 at Love Canal or at Hanford?

10 There are too many major concerns to allow the
11 SIS to be built anywhere. The jobs go to in-migrating
12 people, risks of accident are too great, the DOE has not
13 even cleaned up the mess they have already made at Hanford
14 and the INEL, our health is in danger. I believe that. I
15 am scared. The hazardous waste issue has not been resolved
16 to anybody's satisfaction. The INEL's safety record is in
17 serious question, and there's the inescapable fact that even
18 the Department of Energy admits begrudgingly, but they do
19 admit that we have enough nuclear weapons to blow the entire
20 world up a couple times over. It only takes one.

21 I also take exception to the accuracy of the
22 DEIS as it now stands, and I would ask the Department of
23 Energy and our government to take responsibility for the
24 accuracy and the content of their own environmental draft
25 impact statement.

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5.27.11.6

5.27.3.3

6.2

5.30.4.14

4.13

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T568

1 I strongly urge the Department of Energy to
2 choose Option 4 which is no SIS at all. Thank you.

3 (Applause.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: We will now begin -- or is
5 there anyone else who was scheduled to testify this
6 afternoon and has not had a chance? Yes, sir.

7 MR. CHAPMAN: Charles Chapman.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Step forward.

9
10 CHARLES CHAPMAN,
11 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

12
13 MR. CHAPMAN: My name is Charles Chapman. I
14 live in Twin Falls, Idaho.

15 Due to my strong feelings about this, I have a
16 list of words here I am not supposed to use, so I'll keep
17 this real brief.

18 My biggest concern with this is, everybody has
19 gone over everything else, is the safety factors. In the
20 critical analysis of the DEIS on Page 9 is the following
21 statement: "The clustering of large heat sources with
22 large, flammable ethanol sources adjacent to a facility in
23 which large quantities of plutonium are deliberately
24 vaporized has obvious safety implications."

25 Very good. I'm really impressed with that.

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1 The other thing that bothers me is the
2 evacuation measures. On the DEIS, Section A.2.5 you find
3 this: "In this assessment no evacuation or special
4 sheltering measures were assumed."

5 Well, we all know what happens when we
6 assume.

7 I have some letters here from three or friends
8 of mine that live in the area, and we all oppose the SIS.

9 (Applause.)

10 HEARING OFFICER: We will take these
11 individual letters and mark them as exhibits for the
12 record. There are four. Exhibit 793 is the written comment
13 of Richard E. Mitchell, Twin Falls. The second is a letter
14 from Helen B. Sohman of Twin Falls, Exhibit 794. The
15 written comments of Jerry Thompson of Twin Falls will be
16 Exhibit 795. And Exhibit 796 will be the written comments
17 of Charles J. Chapman of Twin Falls.

18 Anyone else that was registered to testify
19 this afternoon that would like to testify now?

20 (No response.)

21 HEARING OFFICER: There being no further
22 people in that category, we'll begin at the top of our
23 evening session of at-the-door registrations.

24 We'll start first with order 1, Regina
25 Richardson.

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5.20.11

1.1

5.24.1

1 REGINA RICHARDSON,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
4 MS. RICHARDSON: My name is Regina
5 Richardson. I live at 615 Fillmore, Twin Falls. I'm 17
6 years old, and I have been a resident of Idaho all my life,
7 I live in Twin.

8 And I'm here on behalf of myself and my
9 family, and I'd like to start off by saying that I watched
10 my aunt die from cancer and I watched as it slowly ate her
11 away until the only thing they could do was hospitalize
12 her. And as I look out across this audience, I know that
13 I'm not the only one here who has watched a family member or
14 a friend die. As we sat by her bed, there was nothing we
15 could do.

16 Well, there is something we can do now. We
17 can fight and get this SIS project stopped from being put in
18 Idaho or anywhere else. We don't have to sit back and feel
19 helpless as we have before. We don't have to let them
20 destroy our homes or our families. We have the right to
21 live in a bomb-free, chemically-free world, without being
22 afraid of the water and the food. We have the right to
23 raise children without being afraid of what they would look
24 like if they are born with birth defects from the water and
25 the food that is poisoned. Our small children have the

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1 right to live and to be happy and not afraid of their own
2 world.

3 Let me ask you a question. Why, when we don't
4 even have a cure for cancer and birth defects, do you people
5 want to cause more?

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. RICHARDSON: I want a chance to live and
8 grow and experience life, the very things you people are
9 trying to take away from me and everyone else. Don't do
10 this to us and don't do this to yourself. I feel sorry for
11 you people because you are closing your eyes and your ears
12 to the truth and hearing and seeing only what you want to.

13 Please, I ask you for my sake, my family's
14 sake and my future family, no SIS anywhere.

15 90 percent of the trout on the world market
16 comes from the Snake River, and 10 percent of the fish that
17 my mom and I catch we are afraid to keep because of the way
18 they look; they are deformed, they have tumors.

19 I vote no. It's Idaho's choice. You people
20 are asking us to sit by and watch you destroy our homes and
21 our lives. But just because I'm not old enough to vote, I'm
22 sure not just going to sit back and watch you put this in
23 and destroy our homes and our lives and our families.

24 (Applause.)

25 HEARING OFFICER: Speaker number 2, Sherry

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6.1.1

5.6.9

1.1

1 Dillard, Sherry Dillard.

2 Order 3, Teresa Drown.

3
4 SHERRY DILLARD,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MS. DILLARD: Hello. My name is Sherry
8 Dillard, and I reside at Route 5, Box 5068, Buhl, Idaho.
9 I'm addressing this meeting because I strongly oppose the
10 SIS facility being built anywhere.
11 I am a photographer, and nature and wildlife
12 are my specialties. It's the one thing that I do that I
13 love more than anything. I have always dreamed, since I was
14 a child, to go to Africa and photograph lions and the other
15 inhabitants of the country. I'm quite worried as to whether
16 or not there's going to be anything left by the time I can
17 afford to go over there. I'm not married, and it's
18 extremely expensive to live. The government takes more and
19 more away all the time, only so they can have their little
20 war games and shuffle around funds the way they want to.

21 (Applause.)

22 MS. DILLARD: You may ask what Africa and
23 Idaho Falls have in common. In most cases, they don't have
24 hardly anything in common, but they are both on the same
25 planet, and we are destroying this planet every day in every

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1 way that we can think of.

2 There's deterioration of our ozone layer,
3 pollution of our waters and our lands, destruction of
4 wildlife inhabitation; they all equal extinction, and it
5 will happen to us too if we let it.

6 It's extremely alarming to me, as it should be
7 to anyone who reads the disclaimer on the inside cover of
8 the Draft that was given to me; the government holds no
9 warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability
10 for accuracy, completeness or the usefulness of any of the
11 information within.

12 Why should we be asked to pay the price of
13 destruction of our state when the government won't take
14 responsibility for what it produces and its own actions?
15 You can't just clean up the waste from a nuclear mishap like
16 you would with a grain or or hay truck overturning.

17 Once plutonium is in our backyard, it's here
18 to stay for every and ever and ever. We don't need it, no
19 one needs it. There is plenty enough to go around for
20 everybody, and I'm sure that everyone who could get their
21 share doesn't want it. It only takes one mishap and then
22 it's too late.

23 I recently made a trip from Atlanta to here,
24 and I was showing some people there where I was from, and on
25 the map it has pointed out, Clear Springs Trout, that's the

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2.3

5.24.27

6.2

1 largest trout producing company around. So anyway, you
2 know, if that was to spill into the aquifer, sooner or later
3 it would reach it, you know. I don't think that a thousand
4 jobs, I don't think that 10,000 jobs is worth the risk to
5 lose our water and everything that's in it.

6.3

6 President Reagan had the audacity to veto the
7 clean water act. I suppose he thought it's not necessary to
8 have clean water or perhaps it just cost too much. There's
9 never enough money for our government agencies to care for
10 the homeless, to clean up our lands or our waters, to
11 educate our children, support social services, keep our
12 farmers on their lands. There's never enough money for the
13 minor events in our lives, so they think. Yet, there are
14 billions and billions of our tax dollars that are being
15 spent on weapons and nuclear plants. I think it's time we
16 get our priorities straight. I know what the government's
17 priorities are. I think it's time that the people's
18 priorities be heard once again.

19 (Applause.)

20 MS. DILLARD: Why not spend the billions of
21 dollars to build space stations because the day will come
22 that this planet will be too polluted and too dangerous to
23 live on, and then we will have extinction of our species.

3.1.2

24 This is also a federal agency; it pays no
25 taxes. They tell us that it's going to bring income into

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1 the state. Yet, they don't have to pay no taxes on it and
2 everyone who works at the plant and helps dig it and pour
3 the cement and work in it after it's built, they all have to
4 pay taxes. I really don't think it's very fair that the
5 government, with the shape that it's in financially, to
6 allow their own agencies to be free and exempt from taxes
7 when we are being taxed to death.

3.1.2

8 I read this in the Draft that was given to us,
9 that during operations of the SIS facilities, accidents
10 could occur that might result in atmospheric emissions of
11 radioactivity. In yesterday's newspaper I also read that
12 the ozone shield over the Antarctic has already greatly
13 reduced in the springtime, with the depletion reaching a
14 record 50 percent this last year. Scientists attribute the
15 destruction of the ozone to man-made chemicals called
16 chlorofluorocarbons or CFCs. The Northwestern Hemisphere
17 has greatly reduced its ozone layer now, and skin cancers
18 are up 70 percent.

5.1.36

5.9.1

19 In yesterday's paper they had an incident from
20 Richland, Washington, a design flaw that is causing erosion
21 in about 1 percent of the steam condensers in the Washington
22 Public Power Supply System's No. 2 nuclear plant at the
23 Hanford Nuclear Reservation. 106 tubes in the plant's
24 cooling system are wearing out because steam is striking
25 them too hard on its way out of the generators. Of those

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3.2.18

5.23.3

1 about five tubes are leaking. It is the third time since
 2 January that the plant has had to be shut down to repair
 3 this.

4 Greg Cook, spokesman for the Federal Nuclear
 5 Regulatory Commission, said, condenser tube leaks are common
 6 to leaks in nuclear plants. "It's virtually impossible to
 7 design a condenser that will never leak."

8 That should tell us enough. We don't need
 9 this stuff in our yard or anyone else's.

10 The DOE is telling us that we are below the
 11 safety standards set by these guidelines. That's like
 12 telling the fox to watch the hen house.

13 There are no safe limits. It's labeled as
 14 hazardous, and that is exactly what it is.

15 I hope that the action taken will be not to
 16 build at all. I don't believe that the number of jobs that
 17 they are saying that will come from this project will amount
 18 to what the outcome of disaster could be.

19 Thank you.

20 (Applause.)

21 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
 22 Shelly Dillard -- Sherry Dillard, excuse me, will be
 23 included in the record as Exhibit 797.

24 Order number 3, Teresa Drown.

25

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T571

1 TERESA DROWN,
 2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

3
 4 MS. DROWN: My name is Teresa Drown. I'm from
 5 Box 4486 Ketchum, Idaho.

6 In a country which has the military capacities
 7 to devastate the earth a dozen times over, I simply fail to
 8 find any possible reason why the SIS Project is necessary,
 9 especially given the amount of nuclear defense that the U.S.
 10 already has. Nuclear destruction is not a responsibility
 11 that I, as an Idahoan, as an American, as a member of the
 12 human race, am willing to carry. I oppose it in every
 13 form.

14 It is my belief that we, as human beings,
 15 should be channeling our energies into protecting life
 16 rather than building weapons to deplete it.

17 There are those who argue that this project
 18 will provide news jobs for Idahoans; however, we would be
 19 extremely foolish to believe that some 6- to 800 job
 20 openings are going to solve our stagnant economy. Surely we
 21 can provide better and significantly more ethical employment
 22 alternatives for our citizens that will benefit more than
 23 one small section of the state. Planning for a nuclear
 24 holocaust cannot even save the earth, much less the economy,
 25 and we will eventually pay the price with our lives and

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4.13

5.27.7.17

6.5.5

1.1

1 those of our children. It's a heavy responsibility.

2 It is so imperative that we, as cohabitators of

3 this earth, work together to insure a healthy, nuclear-free

4 future for our children and their offspring. Once the

5 environment is poisoned and defiled, it is absolutely

6 irreplaceable. At this point in time we must cease to be

7 divided in the face of realization that we all share this

8 planet in order to avoid annihilation.

9 I urge you to choose life; opt against the SIS

10 Project. It may very well be the most important decision

11 you can make on behalf of a child, and certainly the most

12 important choice on behalf of our planet.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. DROWN: I also submit the written comments

16 of John Gibson, Box 1415, Ketchum, Idaho; Thomas G.

17 Heinrich, Jr., Box 459, Bailey, Idaho; and David Hutchinson,

18 Box 2216, Sun Valley.

19 (Applause.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 798 will be the

21 written comment of David Hutchinson, Sun Valley, Idaho; 799

22 will be the written comments of Thomas G. Heinrich, Jr. of

23 Bailey, Idaho. Exhibit 800 will be the written comment of

24 Teresa Drown of Ketchum, Idaho. Finally, 801 will be the

25 written comment of John E. Gibson of Ketchum, Idaho.

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1 Order number 4, Charles A. Lenkner, Lenkner,
2 Charles A. Lenkner.

3 (No response.)

4 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor No. 5, Glenda
5 Gibson, Glenda Gibson.

6 (No response.)

7 HEARING OFFICER: Carla Shockey.

8
9 CARLA SHOCKEY,
10 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

11
12 MS. SHOCKEY: My name is Carla Shockey. I'm
13 from Burley, Idaho. I have lived in this state for 32
14 years.

15 Your Draft Environmental Impact Statement
16 alludes to, but does not explore, the economic effects of an
17 accident while plutonium is being transported to or from the
18 SIS, or an accident at the INEL, or radioactive releases
19 from the SIS, or just a rumor from any of these. These are
20 all likely to have adverse effects on Idaho's economy
21 whether or not they really happen.

22 The Northern European and Scandinavian
23 farmers, after the Chernobyl accident, suffered heavy
24 financial losses, even though many of them had no
25 radioactive fallout on their crops.

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5.27.2

5.27.2

1 Suppose a rumor of an accident was responsible
 2 for just 1 percent of the sale of agricultural goods in the
 3 three-county region around the INEL. This would cost the
 4 farmers in that area alone \$669,000. Or if a rumor of an
 5 accident at the SIS was responsible for lowering the real
 6 estate values in Idaho Falls by just 1 percent, it would be
 7 a loss of \$11 million. These estimates were taken from
 8 William Weida's Review of the Economic Implications of the
 9 Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Super(sic)
 10 Isotope Separator. He is a professor of economics and
 11 business at the College of Colorado.

5.6.1

12 The effects of construction of the SIS on the
 13 wildlife population are stated on Page S-5 of the DEIS, and
 14 I quote: "Construction of the SIS would directly affect 37
 15 acres of the sagebrush community which supports a diverse
 16 wildlife population including endangered species such as the
 17 bald eagle and peregrine falcon." And I'm still
 18 quoting: "During construction, plant and animal associated
 19 with a sagebrush vegetation community would either be lost
 20 or displaced," and then it goes on to say, "but would
 21 eventually revert back." I don't know where you got your
 22 information on this statement, but endangered species, once
 23 lost, do not eventually revert back.

24 (Applause.)

25 MS. SHOCKEY: The jobs created by the SIS

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1 Project and benefiting the people and community in that
 2 surrounding area do not outweigh or even balance the overall
 3 negative effect on Idaho's two strongest industries, tourism
 4 and agriculture, employing people not only in this one
 5 community but people statewide. And please tell me, after
 6 SIS is gone and all the paychecks have been cashed and the
 7 money has rippled down through the economy, what's left? A
 8 glowing Idaho economy? And will the price we pay be worth
 9 it to us then? Or will we want our Idaho back?

10 In summary, I'm against the SIS. I'm
 11 concerned about the adverse economic effects it would have
 12 on Idaho's greater industries. I'm deeply concerned about
 13 the effects it would have on wildlife, human life and all of
 14 Mother Earth. And I'm concerned that YES SIS people may
 15 only see the money and not the long-term effects of the SIS
 16 Project.

17 The Department of Energy keeps saying they are
 18 looking for a new home for the SIS Project. When the
 19 Superconducting Super Collider was looking for a new home,
 20 there were 35 states competing for it. So if this is such a
 21 good deal, if this project will create new jobs and improve
 22 the region's economy, if this project poses no significant
 23 public health risks, environmental impacts, transportation
 24 problems or safety concerns associated with the project,
 25 then tell me one thing; why aren't there 35 states competing

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1 for this project?

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. SHOCKEY: Thank you.

4 HEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 802 will be the
5 written comments of Carla Shockey.

6 We will now go to Order number 7, Carolyn
7 Hondo.

8 This is a very special moment, ladies and
9 gentlemen, we need to take a pause here, and I should
10 indicate for the purposes of this hearing record, this is
11 the 500th commentor in this series.

12 (Applause.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: I'm pleased to tell you that
14 you get absolutely nothing for being the 500th commentor,
15 other than the psychic reward.

16 You may proceed.

17
18 CAROLYN HONDO,
19 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

20
21 MS. HONDO: My name is Carolyn Hondo. I live
22 in Burley, Idaho, 412 Hillcrest Road, and I teach first
23 grade, and I have three children.

24 In my opinion, it is ventures like the SIS
5.27.6.11 25 that have put the U.S.A. trillions of dollars in debt. In

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1 your own EIS under the No Action statement it states that
2 "The No Action Alternative would not result in changes to
3 continuing operations at the Banford site, SRP or any other
4 DOE site. Blending fuel-grade plutonium of with newly
5 produced plutonium of higher than weapon-grade purity will
6 continue to provide an option for the production of
7 weapon-grade plutonium irrespective of whether the SIS
8 Project is constructed and operated."

9 If it's not going to make a difference, why do
10 it?

11 (Applause.)

12 MS. HONDO: To me, the taxpayer, this is just
13 another example of how our government is being led down the
14 path of financial ruin by those whose spending knows no
15 limits, as long as the money being spent belongs to the
16 American people. It is so easy to spend someone else's
17 money. To me, this hi-tech billion dollar toy is a waste of
18 my hard earned money.

19 If this project is so great, if it will do so
20 much for laser technology, why not run it as a business? If
21 you let this out to private enterprise, the venture will
22 never get off the ground. Why? You'll never find anyone
23 willing to put up a billion dollars for it. They'd never
24 get a return on their investment. And if you did get
25 someone to do it, I guarantee that even Lloyd's of London

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1 wouldn't insure it.

2 (Applause.)

3 MS. BONDO: This is a bad move, and I say no
4 SIS anywhere.

5 So one more thing in the interest of fairness,
6 I'd like to use the remaining amount of time outlining the
7 advantages of the SIS.

8 (Silence.)

9 (Applause.)

10 BEARING OFFICER: For the record, she has
11 three minutes remaining.

12 We'll move on to the eighth order, Liene
13 Bergstrom.

14 (No response.)

15 BEARING OFFICER: Order number 9, Thomas B.
16 Branch, Thomas Branch.

17 (No response.)

18 HEARING OFFICER: Order 10, Mary Pat Branch.

19 (No response.)

20 BEARING OFFICER: Order 11, Sally Donart,
21 spoke earlier; order 12, George Anthony, spoke earlier; and
22 order 13, Martin Tilley, spoke ealier.

23 Kevin Kraal, Kevin Kraal.

24 (No response.)

25 BEARING OFFICER: Commentors 15 and 16, Judy

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1 McAllister and Doris Fairchild, also spoke earlier today.

2 Order 17, Jeff Jarvis.

3

4 JEFF JARVIS,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6

7 MR. JARVIS: 1407 Eleventh Avenue East, Twin.

8 HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

9 MR. JARVIS: I'm opposed to SIS, like
10 everybody else I think tonight, and I urge DOE to adopt the
11 No Action Alternative.

12 Before we decide yes or no on the project, we
13 must look beyond our short-term needs and think about the
14 future. What will they say about our decision 100 years
15 from now, if you allow this? Will the future forgive us for
16 making the area inhospitable? If there is an accident, will
17 they say, it's okay to get jobs? We don't think so.

18 Idaho needs jobs, but we don't need them bad
19 enough to accept plutonium. There is no dirtier
20 manufacturing job than the production of plutonium.

21 I was discussing the proposal with a few
22 friends the other day, and we started fanticing about
23 projects that were as bad, wasted as much money and created
24 as few jobs as SIS. And you guys beat us, we couldn't come
25 up with anything close.

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1

(Applause.)

2

MR. JARVIS: We don't want DOE to take that as
a challenge because we know you probably have worse.

4

I would rather see Idaho's farmers raise
heroin poppies and our businessmen pedal pornography than
our factories produce plutonium.

7

We don't need SIS. It's bad economics, it'll
drive away tourists and buyers of our produce, it will cause
unacceptable pollution, you have already created tremendous

5.27.2

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6.5.11

10

problems in the past, you have a terrible record, and you'll
only get worse with additional plutonium. We don't need it
for our defense, and we can't afford to waste tax dollars.
There's no good reason to support the project.

14

The EIS has errors in the calculation of jobs.
My family and I moved to Idaho for the quality of life.
Plutonium doesn't fit in our equation of quality. We won't
live in the shadow of SIS.

18

The Final EIS should reflect that our jobs
will be available if the plant is built. So add two more.
And others like us that will leave or, worse, never come to
Idaho if this plant is approved. And, by the way, we have
no intention of moving.

23

(Applause.)

24

MR. JARVIS: There have been numerous good
ideas at these hearings for solving the problems of Idaho.

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1

One of the best was for DOE to clean up its existing
hazardous sites. You'd create plenty of work already just
to clean up what you have created. To put up and clean up
your sites would put us on the edge of technology because,
as far as I know, you have not cleaned up any of the sites
you have already created. So if Idaho would be one of the
first to clean up hazardous waste, we would be really in the
forefront.

5.30.5.1

9

(Applause.)

10

MR. JARVIS: And finally, I want to explain
why I am really afraid of plutonium. This is difficult.
But I have had three operations for taking out tumors. And
I have had the -- I can't talk about the symptoms, and I
have watched my mother do this too, and I'm real afraid.
It's unacceptable. We don't need this. I practiced this so
I could talk to you guys about it, but I can't. But we
don't -- There's no reason, there's no acceptable reason for
it.

19

(Applause.)

20

MR. JARVIS: Ron VanDeusen wanted me say he
doesn't like it either, and I have his statement, but I
can't read it to you.

1.1

23

(Applause.)

24

BEARING OFFICER: Exhibit 803 will be the
written comment of Ron VanDeusen, V-a-n-D-e-u-s-e-n, of Twin

25

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1 Falls, Idaho.

2 Now moving to order number 18, George Knaup.

3
4 GEORGE KNAUP,
5 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

6
7 MR. KNAUP: My name is George Knaup. I live
8 in Jerome, 530 Yellowstone Drive. I'm a lineman by trade,
9 and I work throughout the Magic Valley.

10 I got to sit here for a minute -- I'd like
11 to -- I'm thankful for the National Environmental Protection
12 Act and the opportunity to speak. I believe that it's not
13 only part of our American way but part of our American
14 duty. There's a roomful of diehards tonight, including you,
15 ma'am.

16 I'm not a member of any alliance, coalition,
17 chamber of commerce or commission. I represent only myself
18 and my family, and I'd like to speak for any others like
19 myself. But I got a little note here that says I'll keep it
20 short.

21 I'm opposed to the SIS being built at all.
22 Our nation's nuclear deterrent to me is clearly required,
23 and I may differ on benefit. (unintelligible) -- is
24 definitely adequate. Instead of a billion plus dollars
25 wasted on the SIS and all the other things that have been

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T576

1 mentioned tonight, it's redundant, and they are all
2 accurate, I'd rather see the money spent on the SDI, a
3 project truly worth funding, and it would have the potential
4 of making nuclear weapons obsolete, which is a dream maybe,
5 but I hold onto it. And I'd like to see it at least tried.

6 (Applause.)

7 MR. KNAUP: I have environmental concerns of
8 the SIS, while there may be a trumped up need for this
9 project, a concern stated many times over, I don't need to
10 repeat them, but I will continue to oppose the SIS, speak to
11 my fellow citizens, my family, my children, my co-workers
12 and the diehards who are here tonight.

13 Thank you.

14 (Applause.)

15 HEARING OFFICER: Order number 19, Edward
16 Sellers.

17
18 ED SELLERS,
19 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

20
21 MR. SELLERS: My name is Ed Sellers. I'm from
22 Ketchum. And the first thing I'd like to say is that of all
23 the 502 people --

24 HEARING OFFICER: 503.

25 MR. SELLERS: 503 who have stated things in

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1 opposition to the SIS, I say yeah.

2 (Applause.)

3 MR. SELLERS: I couldn't have put it better
4 myself in a year.

5 I'm standing on a platform of education, I
6 have a BS degree in a natural resources related field, and I
7 can see from this platform that this makes no sense, it's
8 against all common sense. It's -- in the environmental
9 sites sense, economic sense. In a political sense, it makes
10 pretty good sense, I guess, because that goes to say that --
11 doesn't make much sense really.

12 So going -- it comes down to the base line
13 fact that it's kind of, with the escalation and the arms
14 race and everything, it reminds me of two kids playing.
15 Well, I'll call them Little Russell and Little Sammy. And
16 Russell accuses Sammy of throwing some sand in his face, and
17 he picks up a stick and shakes it at Little Sammy, and Sammy
18 says, "Oh, I don't like this," and picks up a bigger stick
19 and shakes it at Russell, and Russell picks up a rock. And
20 pretty soon they are picking up stones and rocks, and they
21 are not doing anything, just threatening each other with
22 them. And, well, who is it that's responsible for these
23 little turds? They are pretty dangerous. Russell and
24 Sammy, you know, Russia and the United States.

25 And it's where we take this opportunity in

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1 forums such as this, and I'm happy to be able to do this,
2 and I'm glad everyone has done this to stand up and speak
3 out in opposition to the SIS.

4 Thank you.

5 (Applause.)

6 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor number 20, Curtis
7 Nielson, Curtis Nielson.

8 (No response.)

9 HEARING OFFICER: Commenter 21, Dr. A. C.
10 Emery was our first commentor this evening.

11 Number 22, Ed Hunter, Ed Hunter.

12 (No response.)

13 HEARING OFFICER: Commentor 22, Brian Hammond,
14 Brian Hammond.

15 (No response.)

16 HEARING OFFICER: And finally, commentor
17 number 23, Ed Bamberry, Ed Bamberry.

18 (No response.)

19 HEARING OFFICER: It has been my custom
20 throughout the course of these hearings, these continuation
21 hearings, to allow anybody who didn't have a chance to
22 preregister that's here that wants to comment, to have that
23 opportunity. Is there anybody who would like to do that?
24 This young lady would. Go ahead and come up.

25

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1.1

1 KORRINE KREILKAMP,
2 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
3
4 MS. KREILKAMP: Korrine Kreilkamp, Route 3,
5 Buhl.
6 I like to play outside, but in order to do it,
7 we got to get all this poison out.
8 Thank you.
9 (Applause.)
10 HEARING OFFICER: How old are you, Korrine?
11 MS. KREILKAMP: Six.
12 HEARING OFFICER: Six. You're the same age as
13 my little girl. You write a little better though.
14 The written comment of Korrine Kreilkamp will
15 be included in the record as Exhibit No. 804.
16 If there are any big people out there who want
17 to comment, you're going to have to pay me \$100 bucks at
18 this point.
19 Please step forward.
20 (Off the record.)
21
22 KATHYRN ANN GARDNER,
23 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:
24
25 MS. GARDNER: I felt bad enough being the only

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1 proponent here, but then when I have to follow someone as
2 well spoken as that, I really am getting scared.
3 I am Kathyryn Ann Gardner. I live at 806 North
4 Elm Street in Twin Fall. I am here as a representative of
5 the Idaho College Republicans, also probably not a highly
6 popular group with a lot of you.
7 In the past several weeks, we have listened to
8 impassioned pleas --
9 (Voices.)
10 HEARING OFFICER: Quiet, please.
11 MS. GARDNER: -- from those who desire that
12 the Special Isotope Separation Project, SIS, be built
13 elsewhere or not at all. While I respect their feelings,
14 I just cannot agree with their rationale. The overriding
15 concern appears to be that the plutonium will be hazardous
16 to Idaho's environment, and that the production of nuclear
17 weapons will make Idaho a first strike in event of nuclear
18 war. Am I right?
19 VOICES: No.
20 HEARING OFFICER: Just go ahead and give your
21 comments.
22 MS. GARDNER: All right.
23 Should this country become embroiled in a
24 nuclear confrontation, I cannot believe that Idaho will
25 remain unscathed just because we have no part in the

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2.7.8

1 manufacture of weapons. The aquifers of the entire nation
 2 will be contaminated, as will our air and ground. In a
 3 worst-case scenario, Idaho would really come out behind
 4 because we weren't a first strike site, because all of the
 5 displaced persons in the country would make their way out
 6 here. For those who wish Idaho to remain unchanged, I hope
 7 they will consider that.

8 Accidents. Every year one hears about farmers
 9 who have have accidentally spilled pesticides into the
 10 groundwater and contaminated an area. I have not yet heard
 11 an outcry to make Idaho a farm-free zone. Personally, I
 12 have a great deal more faith in the federal government than
 13 I do in amateurs who use chemicals in their everyday work.
 14 It is a proven fact that the federal government has much
 15 higher safety specifications than any of the states.

5.24.23

16 INEL has been in Idaho for quite some time,
 17 and I have yet to hear of a really hazardous accident
 18 emanating from the site. Some would charge that accidents
 19 have been repressed. I think not.

5.27.7.16

20 The current employment situation in Idaho is
 21 also a concern which is SIS opponents would have us ignore
 22 or delineate quite a bit. They casually dismiss the 750
 23 jobs which would be created as a result of the SIS. I can
 24 dismiss 750 jobs, although with much misgiving; but what I
 25 cannot dismiss is the jobs which would materialize

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1 indirectly as a result of the project. Jobs service in the
 2 service sector. The persons working on the SIS will have
 3 automobiles to be repaired, plumbing to be fixed, children
 4 to educate. They will purchase food and clothes. They will
 5 take vacations.

6 For years Idahoans have commiserated about the
 7 dismal shape of our economy and have wished that some
 8 miracle might occur which would provided the needed capital
 9 to get the economy back in good fiscal health. It is
 10 trickle-down economics economics probably at its best.
 11 Money aside, the needs of the workers would force us to
 12 elevate our current standards of workmanship and would even
 13 provide the needed money with which to do this.

14 Finally, I would beg you to consider the
 15 opinions of people that are most directly affected by this
 16 project, the average person. You have heard a lot of those
 17 tonight. You have also heard quite a few in commercials
 18 that are not. For example, Mariel Bemmingway does a
 19 beautiful job but is not really a true representative of our
 20 population. Most of us are not actresses who own
 21 restaurants in New York City. She can afford to
 22 magnanimously give away an opportunity which the rest of us
 23 desperately need.

24 Please, use Idaho as the site for the SIS. I
 25 speak on behalf of 30 people; I can get depositions, if you

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1 wish.

2 Thank you very much for your time. I realize
3 I'm not taking the popular side.

4 (Applause.)

5 HEARING OFFICER: The written comments of
6 Kathryn Ann Gardner are included in the record as Exhibit
7 784.

8 Anyone else wish to testify? Way in the
9 back.

10 MS. MCGINNIS: Can I ad-lib it?

11 HEARING OFFICER: You can ad-lib it, but you
12 need to do it from the podium, please.

13 MARY MCGINNIS,
14 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

15 MS. MCGINNIS: I'm Mary McGinnis. I live in
16 Twin Falls, 422 Polk Street. And I got late on the
17 bandwagon, I didn't even know about registration and all
18 that. I'm glad that I have this opportunity, thank you.
19 I'm also glad for the opportunity for all the people to
20 speak like this.

21 When I read about this in the paper, which is
22 where I got the main information, and I haven't got all the
23 facts, I thought surely there must be something I'm
24

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1 overlooking. And in discussing it with the people around,
2 you know, what do you think about this, one of the main
3 things that come up, well, you know, we need jobs. And I
4 heard somebody mention something about manufacturing heroin
5 or something. I sort of said, well, you know, we could make
6 drugs legal and that could provide a lot of jobs for
7 everybody. And they said, oh, you know, come on and get
8 real, don't you know what drugs do to people? They kill
9 people. And I thought, well, you know, what do you think
10 this stuff, you know, can do to people.

11 And I have even talked to my 11 year old son
12 about this. And there has been a lot of articulate people
13 here with lots of degrees and education, and they said some
14 things that I don't frankly understand. But I said to my
15 son, okay, here is the stuff they want to build, and here is
16 the potential hazard of it. And we don't really need this
17 stuff. And he said, well, why, and he's 11.

18 And just to get a little more critical about
19 it, everybody has something that they can say about the
20 government and how the money is spent and where it could be
21 better spent. But this is a son who has a severe learning
22 disability, which I need to get outside tutoring for because
23 in the school system the teachers aren't trained in the
24 specific way that he needs for education, and you know why
25 is because they say there's not enough money. And I think

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5.27.6.1

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1 what a billion dollars could do for all the kids that have
2 special needs, let alone just educate all our kids anyway.
3 There's where our money should go, there's where our future
4 is. That's where all the jobs, economics, everything we are
5 going to leave our kids and --

6 (Applause.)

7 MS. MCGINNIS: Our Governor just made a plea
8 on television a week or so ago saying more money and he was
9 ignored, and I can't figure that out. I don't know what is
10 our priorities there.

11 To people whose jobs are vested in this
12 project, I know that it takes courage sometimes to go
13 against the tide, but you have to live your conscience, you
14 can't ever get away from yourself, ever, ever, ever. You
15 can move away from in-laws you don't like or divorce your
16 spouses, but you can't ever get away from yourself, and you
17 have got to go deep inside yourself for the answer to this.

1.1 18 And it's totally crazy, immoral. I'm against it.

19 (Applause.)

20 HEARING OFFICER: Is there anyone else who
21 would like to testify? This lady --

22 MS. WALKER: Well, I was --

23 HEARING OFFICER: Ma'am, we can't hear you.
24 You'll have to come to the microphone.

25 MS. WALKER: I was waiting for you to read my

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1 name and you never did.

2 HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Well, what I said
3 earlier, if we have gone over your name if you are
4 preregistered or signed up to speak, you may do so at this
5 point.

6 I'll note for the record that Exhibit 805 is
7 going to be the written comment of Mary McGinnis of Twin
8 Falls, Idaho.

9 MS. WALKER: I was preregistered at 2 o'clock
10 on Monday.

11 HEARING OFFICER: Give your name and address
12 for the record.

13
14 AMY WALKER,
15 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

16
17 MS. WALKER: My name is Amy Walker, and I live
18 at 1 Clover Creek Road, Bliss, Idaho. The address we had to
19 make up for UPS because it was just Star Route.

20 My husband and I are pure-bred red Angus
21 breeders, and I'm about two-thirds of the way through with a
22 wonderful crop this year. We ranch and grow grain and hay.

23 I want to thank you, Mr. Eiguren, for hearing
24 me and all the rest of us, and I hope that you aren't
25 totally numb from more than 500. But I hope that you can

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1 really listen to us as well as your fellows, listen to the
2 people from Banford and Savannah. They have been living
3 with plutonium separation for a long time, and I respect
4 their position and honor their point.

5 We are a small and truly powerless group as
6 far as the entire nation is concerned, and I feel when I
7 read this thing that it isn't even real to me. The
8 contribution of exposure modes to the bone surface doses and
9 cancer fatalities per million person, rems, these are things
10 that are just -- they are about as hard for me to grasp as
11 the trillion dollar national debt, but it's one of the
12 things that I do not want to leave to my children and
13 grandchildren.

14 (Applause.)

15 MS. WALKER: And I'm terribly frightened by
16 the potential economically for the farmers and ranchers. We
17 have had enough, we don't need the threat of the injection
18 of the issues that can come from these chimnies that are
19 cumulative. I guess our cattle can maybe eat the grass the
20 first year, but it builds year after year in the tissue.
21 It's terrifying, and it builds in our tissue. I don't see
22 the value of it.

23 Thanks.

24 HEARING OFFICER: Do we have any other
25 commentors at this point?

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1 I see Liz Paul raising her hand, she knows the
2 rules, you can only comment once.

3 MS. PAUL: I have some comments.

4 BEARING OFFICER: All right. To read in the
5 record? Very good.

6 This is Liz Paul presenting comments on behalf
7 of a fair number of folks.

8 LIZ PAUL,
9 appearing as a witness, testified as follows:

10 MS. PAUL: Just like he said, other folks.

11 "Under no circumstances do I support nuclear
12 weapon production in Idaho. As I live in Idaho, pay taxes
13 in Idaho, vote in Idaho, I feel it is my right and duty to
14 not support this industry and to give my strongest objection
15 to its presence in our state." Linda Terra, Sun Valley,
16 Idaho.

17 "I would like to go on record as being opposed
18 to the Special Isotope Separation Project being built in
19 Idaho or any other state.

20 "Technology always promises us to help us live
21 a simpler and more contented life; however, that rarely
22 happens. Inventions we have forsaken because they were too
23 labor intensive or which require a slower pace of life, by
24

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1 and large, created fewer environmental complications. The
 2 hand loom, for example, has been replaced by huge textile
 3 mills spinning artificial fabrics out of a complex array of
 4 coal and petroleum based chemicals. Many of these chemicals
 5 pollute our air and end up poisoning our groundwater when
 6 they leak out of supposedly safe waste dumps.

7 "It might seem silly to suggest going back to
 8 the hand looms to weave cloth or catapults to protect our
 9 country from attack, but when you see where scientific
 10 advances have gotten us, the possibility makes more sense.

1.1 11 "Stop the SIS indefinitely." Florence
 12 Blanchard, Bellevue, Idaho.

13 "I am writing in opposition to the
 14 establishment of the Special Isotope Separator at INEL. It
 4.1 15 appears there is inadequate documentation to support the
 16 need for more plutonium. If there is a need for more
 17 plutonium, the need for the SIS appears to be uncertain. It
 18 is my understanding that it would only be operational for
 19 about eight years if it were created. If that is the case,
 20 one has to really question whether or not it is really
 21 needed at all.

6.2 22 "While there appears to be much public support
 23 in southeastern Idaho for the SIS, as there is a need for
 24 additional jobs, I feel that the average citizen supporting
 25 the SIS really does not understand what this means. This

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1 potential gain that could be noted by the development of SIS
 2 at INEL is far outweighed by the risks associated with this
 3 project.

4 "We can no longer think only of our day-by-day
 5 needs; we must realize that our current actions can and will
 6 have a major and often devastating effect on the future
 7 environment and mankind." Dr. June Heilman, Pocatello,
 8 Idaho.

9 I am opposed to the SIS Project in Idaho. I,
 10 too, question the credibility of movie stars and
 11 out-of-state people. There's one in particular that I
 12 seriously question, Ronald Reagan. Liz Paul.

13 HEARING OFFICER: For the record, we'll read
 14 these exhibits into the record. Exhibit No. 808 will be
 15 Dr. June Heilman. Exhibit 807 seven is Florence Blanchard.
 16 Exhibit 806 is Linda Terra. These are all written
 17 comments. 809 will be the written comment of Cinda
 18 Anderson. Exhibit 810 will be the written comment of Paul
 19 Caputo.

20 A VOICE: (Unintelligible.)

21 HEARING OFFICER: And finally, from Elizabeth
 22 Paul, from the Snake River Alliance, an addendum to her
 23 prior submitted comments. There's a written comment that
 24 will be attached to it.

25 For purposes of keeping the record, let me

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1 just quickly indicate that we have received a number of
 2 written comments at the table. They started at order
 3 Exhibit No. 757, Kellie Rhoads; 758, Rita Bybee; 759, Cathy
 4 Sher; 760, Judy Cantrill; 761, Bobbi Rahder, Exhibit 762,
 5 Charles E. Naftzger; Exhibit 763, Raylene A. Naftzger,
 6 N-a-f-t-z-g-e-r; 764, Dante Cantrill, spelled
 7 C-a-n-t-r-i-l-l; Exhibit 765, Kathleen Carney; Exhibit 766,
 8 Marlese, M-a-r-l-e-s-e, Breasley -- Beasley, excuse me,
 9 B-e-a -- Teasley? T-e-a-s-l-e-y. Exhibit 779, Anita C.
 10 Henna, H-e-n-n-a; Exhibit 782, Charles A. Lenker,
 11 L-e-n-k-e-r; Exhibit 783, Barbara Tilley, T-i-l-l-e-x;
 12 Exhibit 784, Kathryn Ann Gardner. And we just received
 13 another one we will leave in the record as Exhibit 811,
 14 Regina Richardson.

15 We'll also note for the record that the
 16 Department has received a number of written comments for
 17 inclusion in the record, we started those at Exhibit 483
 18 with written comments from Richard B. Knighton, and they go
 19 through Exhibit 716 with written comments of Brandy Auld.
 20 And we will submit those to the Court Reporter as additional
 21 exhibits for inclusion in the record.

22 I'd like to note the following statistics.
 23 These are all subject to verification and confirmation, but
 24 it appears at this point that we have had 508 commentors in
 25 total in the public hearings that we have had over the

1 course of the past week in this proceeding. We have taken
 2 testimony for a total of approximately 53 hours. We have
 3 logged into the record 811 exhibits. I, on behalf of both
 4 the Department of Energy as well as myself -- Yes, ma'am.

5 A VOICE: Can I talk?

6 HEARING OFFICER: No, I'm going to cut it off
 7 at this point. I'm sorry.

8 I would like to indicate that I appreciate the
 9 help and assistance that I have received from everybody in
 10 this endeavor. In particular I would thank the various
 11 special interest groups whose representatives worked with us
 12 in advance to work out the procedures to conduct these
 13 hearings. And I particularly appreciate the fact that we
 14 did have a very difficult problem trying to accommodate
 15 large numbers of people. But with the forbearance and
 16 assistance of a lot of people, we got it done and I think we
 17 did it adequately, so I thank you very much for that.

18 With that, I will formally close this, the
 19 Twin Falls, Idaho, public hearing on the DEIS for the SIS,
 20 and I will formally close this series of public hearings on
 21 the document itself.

22 Thank you.

23 (The hearing was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.)
 24
 25

1 AUTHENTICATION

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3

4 This is to certify that the foregoing

5 proceedings held in the matter of the Draft Environmental

6 Impact Statement Regarding The Special Isotope Separation

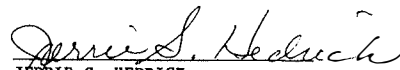
7 Project, commencing at 2:00 p.m., on Monday, March 28, 1988,

8 at the Canyon Springs Inn, Twin Falls, Idaho, is a true and

9 correct transcript of said proceedings and the original

10 thereof for the file of the Department of Energy.

11

12 

13 JERRIE S. HEDRICK

14 Certified Shorthand Reporter

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