



Idaho Site Cleanup By the Numbers

The Idaho National Laboratory (INL) site, an 890-square-mile DOE site located in the high desert of eastern Idaho, was established in 1949 on land once used as a Naval gunnery range. The cleanup involves contamination from legacy wastes generated from World War II-era conventional weapons testing, government-owned research and defense reactors, spent nuclear fuel reprocessing, laboratory research, and defense missions at other DOE sites. Main focus areas are reducing risks to workers, the public, and the environment, and protecting the Snake River Plain Aquifer, a sole source aquifer that sustains Idaho's agricultural base.

65,000 cubic meters of stored transuranic waste retrieved - 50,000 meters of it from under a soil berm inside a building large enough to house an aircraft carrier.

39-acre disposal facility designated for CERCLA waste with lined evaporation ponds and treatment, storage, and administrative facilities designed to safely contain contaminated soil and cleanup debris.



900,000 gallons of sodium-bearing liquid radioactive waste currently stored in underground stainless steel tanks will be treated at the newly constructed, first-of-a-kind Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU).

4,400 cubic meters of high-level waste is stored in stainless steel vessels located within six concrete silos called bin sets. The material, originally 9 million gallons of liquid radioactive and hazardous waste from the spent nuclear fuel reprocessing mission, was dried and reduced by an 8.1 ratio through a process called calcining.

73% 11 of the 15 high-level waste tanks have been emptied and grouted.

8,200 cubic meters of buried transuranic waste retrieved and readied for shipment to WIPP.



260 shipments of remote handled transuranic waste have been shipped off-site for permanent disposal.

53,000 cubic meters of transuranic waste have been shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in Carlsbad, New Mexico.

