



Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board
Idaho National Engineering Laboratory

FISCAL YEAR 1998 PRIORITIZATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

INTRODUCTION

On November 15, 1995, the Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board - Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (EM SSAB-INEL) recommended principles for incorporation into the INEL FY1998 budget prioritization activities. During the Board's meeting on January 16-17, 1996 in Boise, Idaho, a presentation was provided by Department of Energy (DOE) and Lockheed Martin Idaho Technologies (LMIT) personnel describing how those principles had been incorporated into the priority activity weighting criteria and the current status of the INEL budget prioritization activity. Board comments were requested.

Following the presentation and discussion, the Board participated in a facilitated, consensus-building process through which the following recommendation was developed. This recommendation was based on questions remaining among the members of the Board regarding how categories were weighted. The recommendation was unanimously accepted by the Board.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board would like to commend DOE and LMIT for their openness and efforts made to assimilate and present predecisional information. Realizing that this information is preliminary and still in development, the Board has the following observations and recommendations (*specifically responding to the following questions posed by the presenters to the Board*):

- Have Stakeholder Concerns been Adequately Addressed?
- What are the Board Concerns on the Draft Priority List?

This approach has incorporated most of the SSAB values from the November recommendation. The subsequent development of weighting factors and prioritization was done by groups of contractors and DOE personnel and executives and the results may not address stakeholder concerns. Even if the methodology is valid and adequate, the end result depends on the accuracy and validity of the cost numbers and weights. Many cases appear to be a best guess of DOE/contractor participants and do not represent many of the stakeholder concerns. The relative weights, cost numbers and assumptions used to develop the priority list have not been adequately validated.

Decision Units (DUs) that incorporate the necessary tasks are an improvement over the old approach to list all work tasks without evident interrelationships. We would like assurances that all DUs are adequately scoped and sufficiently funded to accomplish the overall project. We thus recommend that the scope and funding needs of the DUs be verified to ensure that adequate resources are applied.