



Citizens Advisory Board  
Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory

**Incinerator at the Waste Experimental Reduction Facility**

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The Department of Energy (DOE) recently decided not to upgrade the incinerator at the Waste Experimental Reduction Facility (WERF) to meet the Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standards required by the National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) for Hazardous Waste Combustors. The Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) supports that decision.

The INEEL CAB recommends that DOE-ID immediately develop an action plan to ensure that all workers affected by the decision are reassigned and/or retrained for jobs with comparable wages and benefits. That plan should be released for public review no later than September 30, 2000. The employees affected by the closure of the incinerator should be assured of continuous employment.

We expect that closure of the WERF incinerator will have economic impacts beyond the impacts on the affected workers. The INEEL CAB recommends that DOE-ID prepare an economic analysis of the reasonable alternatives it has before making final decisions regarding the schedule for closure.

We understand that the State of Idaho is currently reviewing air emissions from the incinerator and considering the possibility of issuing a Part B Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit for the incinerator.

The INEEL CAB recommends against incineration of any waste in the WERF incinerator until the State of Idaho approves operation pursuant to the Part B Resource Conservation and Recovery Act permit application. If and when approval is given, we support operation of the WERF incinerator until September 30, 2001. If approval is withheld, the INEEL CAB recommends no further operation of the WERF incinerator.

The INEEL CAB recommends that DOE immediately develop contingency plans for treating all waste slated for treatment in the WERF incinerator for implementation in the event that the State of Idaho does not issue a permit for the facility.