



Snake River Plain Aquifer Presentations

IDAHO CLEANUP PROJECT

CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

INTRODUCTION

The Idaho Cleanup Project Citizens Advisory Board (ICP-CAB) Aquifer Subcommittee (Aquifer Subcommittee) was formed to address CAB members' concerns and understanding of how past, present and future activities at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) affect the Snake River Plain Aquifer. This action also reflects the CAB's recognition that aquifer protection is among the highest priorities for the Department of Energy (DOE), its contractors, the CAB and the public alike. Accordingly, the Aquifer Subcommittee believes that presentations to the CAB and the public about site activities and all efforts to monitor and protect the aquifer should be as clear, complete and effective as possible.

Subcommittee members were tasked with providing suggestions to the CAB for a framework for presentations, including essential content and context, in order to create better understanding among all stakeholders of how DOE's efforts may impact and protect the Snake River Plain Aquifer. The Subcommittee offers the following as a basis for CAB recommendations to DOE and partner agencies for how to meet CAB expectations for informative, comprehensive, understandable and relevant CAB meeting presentations concerning activities at INL in the context of securing the ongoing health of the Snake River Plain Aquifer.

RECOMMENDATION #1

RECOMMENDATION 1A. Aquifer Subcommittee recommends there be at least these four essential elements for future presentations to the CAB related to impacts of INL on the Snake River Plain Aquifer:

1. **Geology**
 - a. underlying hydrogeomorphology at and downgradient of the site
 - b. simplified descriptions of boring or sampling activities contributing to study of site geology
2. **Activities**
 - a. past, present and future activities--and associated events--within the site, potentially affecting the aquifer
3. **Monitoring**
 - a. what monitoring is done at and downgradient of the site, where, by whom, under what authority and how/where reported
 - b. monitoring results, explained and contextualized, including in context of 4., below; and, where applicable, including external contaminant sources (i.e. agricultural, industrial, residential)
4. **Mitigation & Remediation**
 - a. site-specific past, present and anticipated future mitigation and remediation measures, including references, where relevant, to re-remediation of past mitigation and remediation activities
 - b. short- and long-term effects/impacts of mitigation and remediation activities

RECOMMENDATION 1B. Due to the complexity of monitoring, mitigation, and remediation activities according to different jurisdictional requirements, the Subcommittee recommends creating a framework to explain them, to be known as the 'INL Aquifer Protection Framework.' We suggest the following methods for describing activities associated with monitoring, mitigation and remediation activities:

- 1. Framework of Presentation**
 - a. mitigation & remediation activities
 - b. monitoring
 - c. reporting
 - d. emergency response planning & protocols
- 2. Inclusion of Maps and Images**
 - a. base map - INL site, activity centers & waste area groups
 - b. layer depicting known releases, contaminants and plumes
 - c. layers depicting monitoring activities & federal, state, and contractor responsibilities
 - d. jurisdictional & regulatory labels/image (i.e. who is responsible for what is depicted in relation to the site)
 - e. law, agency, etc.
 - f. other??
- 3. Data & Reports generated, including reported by whom, to whom and where/whether/how they are publicly accessible**
 - a. include data and report summaries, salient conclusions, proposed actions (if any), etc.
 - b. explanation of trending data to show remediation over time
- 4. List and explanation of interagency, or interjurisdictional agreements**
 - a. laws, regulations, agency(s), delegation of responsibilities
- 5. Reference table or chart to accompany, or in some cases represent aspects of 2, 3 & 4, above. The maps and table could share, for example, color coding to ease cross referencing.**

RECOMMENDATION #2

Aquifer Subcommittee recommends at least one meeting per year dedicated to the INL Aquifer Protection activities within the framework discussed above.

1. Presentations will keep mind the importance of education for better public understanding and engagement
2. Outreach through the ICP CAB newsletter