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June 4, 2003

Mr. Lawrance E. Kokajko
Acting Chief
Environmental and Performance Assessment
Division of Waste Management
Office of Nuclear Material Safety
Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington D.C. 20555-0001

Our mission: to educate
through the identification,
preservation, and interpretation
of Idaho's cultural heritage.

RE: Section 106 Review of the Proposed Idaho Spent Fuel Storage Facility
No Historic Properties—Monitoring Recommended

Dirk Kempthorne
Governor of Idaho

Dear Mr. Kokajko:

Steve Guerber
Director

Thank you for requesting our views on the new construction of the Idaho Spent Fuel Storage Facility at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. The facility will be constructed on a eight-acre parcel at the Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center (INTEC) and will require the use of an adjacent four acres for construction laydown.

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The 12-acre project area has been surveyed for archaeological properties during several past archaeological surveys. No historic properties were identified within the project's area of potential effects. In May 2001, we reviewed the report summarizing this work (by Brenda Ringe Pace dated March 2001) and supported the conclusions that work could proceed with no effect on historic properties. No new sites have been identified since our last comments. Therefore, we still agree that the project, as planned, will have *no effect* on historic properties. We also agree that archaeological monitoring should be conducted during the initial phases of construction.

If archaeological remains are discovered during construction activities, work should halt, and Brenda Ringe Pace, archaeologist for the INEEL, should be notified immediately.

We appreciate your cooperation. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 208-334-3847.

Sincerely,

Susan Pengilly Neitzel
Deputy SHPO and
Compliance Coordinator

cc: Brenda Ringe Pace, Bechtel BWXT Idaho

