24754

IDAHO STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Dick Kempthorne
Governor of Idaho

Steve Guerber
Executive Director

August 2, 2002

Mr. Robert Starck
Department of Energy
Idaho Operations Office
850 Energy Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-1563

RE: Glovebox Excavator Project, Radioactive Waste Management Compex (TS-ESTD-02-109)

Dear Mr. Starck:

Thank you for requesting our views on the proposed excavation of Pit 9 within the Radioactive Waste Management Complex using a "glovebox" excavator.

In addition to concerns about prehistoric archaeological remains, please keep in mind that Pit 9 may be viewed as a historic dump associated with early nuclear development at the INEEL. Bechtel's archaeologists and historians should also be consulted about any significant historical discoveries made during the cleanup operations.

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 Pace, Bechtel BWXT

The Idaho State Historical Society is an Equal Opportunity Employer.