United States Government **Department of Energy**

memorandum

Idaho Operations Office

Date: March 8, 2006

Subject: Approval to Proceed with the Preparation of an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analyses for the Final Decommissioning of the CPP-601 Fuel Reprocessing Complex at the Idaho National Laboratory Site -(FMDP-RFDP-06-028)

To: Idaho Cleanup Project CERCLA Administrative Record File

Background:

Before April 1992, the INTEC mission included nuclear fuel reprocessing at the Fuel Reprocessing Complex (FRC), collectively CPP-601, CPP-640, and CPP-627. CPP-601, the Fuel Process Building (FPB), was the original processing facility at INTEC. It was activated in 1953 and was built with four levels below ground. The three primary processing levels below ground are the operating corridor, the service corridor, and the access corridor. Contained within these lower levels were over 20 cells used for various reprocessing activities. The Hazardous Waste Management Act/Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (HWMA/RCRA) permitted Deep Tanks, used for collection of contaminated liquids, are still operable and are located in the lowest level of the facility. Tanks VES-WG-100, VES-WG-101, VES-WH-100, and VES-WH-101 are known collectively as the Deep Tanks.

The FRC at the INTEC was used for reprocessing spent nuclear fuel. The complex was built in the early 1950s and operated until 1992. The FPB contained a complex chemical process involving hundreds of process and process chemical makeup vessels and thousands of feet of associated ancillary piping. This equipment processed solutions that contained hazardous constituents, intensely radioactive fission products, and a range of transuranic elements. Process equipment and structural surfaces in the process cells and downstream ventilation systems retain varying levels of radioactive contamination. In addition, several known releases exist beneath the FRC.

Proposed Projects:

An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) will be performed to evaluate suitable alternatives with respect to the general decommissioning methodology and end state condition. It will be up to the contractor to determine how to apply the CERCLA Non-Time Critical Removal Action (NTCRA) process (example; one EE/CA for each facility or an EE/CA for the entire complex). The selected alternative for the FRC decommissioning methodology and end state condition will be described in an Action Memorandum that will incorporate, as appropriate, regulatory agency and public comments. The EE/CA and Action Memorandum will be subject to the CERCLA Community Relations Plan requirements for stakeholder notifications and involvement. Due to the complexity, risks and public interest in the CPP-601 Fuel Reprocessing Complex, it is most likely that the public review period will go beyond the normal 30 days.

Approval to Conduct Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analyses (EE/CA):

Approval is hereby given by DOE-ID to prepare an EE/CA for decommissioning of the CPP-601 Fuel Processing Complex. Ms. Nicole Hernandez is designated as the DOE spokesperson for the NTCRA. The completed EE/CA shall be made available for public review and comment.

APPROVED:

Richard B. Provencher, Assistant Manager
Idaho Cleanup Project

3/8/04
Date

UFC: 6000.RFDP.3
FMDP-RFDP-06-028

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CONCURRENCE:
S. Van Camp SVC 3/8/06 w/ comment
N. Jensen NJ see comments.
D. Rasch DR 3/7
J. Cooper J.A.C. 3/06/06

RECORD NOTES:

1. This memo approves initiation of the CERCLA administrative record files for an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analyses (EE/CA) for CPP-601.
2. This memorandum was prepared by J. Cooper in cooperation with N. Hernandez and N. Jensen.
3. This letter/memo closes OATS number N/A
4. The attached correspondence has no relation to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program.

J. Cooper,(FMDP/RFDP)Jim Cooper 6-5698 March 6, 2006O:\DOE-ID\EM-ICP\FMDP\RFDP\RFDP Letters 2006\FMDP-RFDP-06-028 CPP-601 EECA Letter.doc