



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

October 23, 2014

Mr. Herb Bohrer, Chairman
Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management
Citizens Advisory Board
1425 Higham Street
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

Dear Mr. Bohrer:

Thank you for your August 7 letter to Secretary Moniz recommending the Department of Energy (DOE) to evaluate the long-term utilization of the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) as part of the National Transuranic Waste Program. AMWTP and its skilled workforce are a national asset, having successfully processed over 54,000 cubic meters of onsite stored legacy transuranic waste and approximately 700 cubic meters of transuranic waste from 15 other DOE sites to date. While our top priority is to utilize AMWTP to complete the processing and removal of Idaho transuranic waste in fulfillment of our commitments, we agree with the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) recommendation to evaluate potential future utilization of AMWTP.

Toward that end, we took steps to form an independent project team to evaluate potential future missions for AMWTP. Beginning in fiscal year (FY) 2015, this team will evaluate waste inventories that could potentially be processed at AMWTP, and provide recommendations to DOE senior management. Our evaluation and decision of AMWTP future missions will be made in consultation with regulators and stakeholders, including the INL CAB. Any extension of the mission for the AMWTP facility would be in full compliance with all applicable legal requirements.

We look forward to keeping the INL Citizens Advisory Board updated on our future plans for the AMWTP.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Mr. Frank Marcinowski, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Waste Management, at (202) 586-0370.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Whitney".

Mark Whitney
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Environmental Management

