



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

OCT 11 2011

Mr. Willie Preacher, Chair
Idaho Citizens Advisory Board
c/o North Wind Services
1425 Higham Street
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

Dear Mr. Preacher:

Thank you for your July 21, 2011, letter providing a recommendation from the Idaho National Laboratory Site Environmental Management Citizens Advisory Board to maintain the site's funding in fiscal years (FY) 2012-2015 at \$460 million.

Despite constrained economic times, we believe the FY 2012 President's budget request for Idaho, when coupled with the \$467.9 million in Recovery Act funding, will enable accomplishment of critical activities at the site. Specifically, the FY 2012 budget will support hot startup in January 2012 of the Sodium Bearing Waste treatment facility. The request will also support requirements of the Idaho Settlement Agreement to dispose of low-level waste and mixed low-level waste, as well as characterization and certification of transuranic waste for shipment to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. Finally, the request will support decontamination and decommissioning of the Department of Energy (DOE)-Nuclear Energy liabilities agreed to in the February 2009 Memorandum of Agreement and completion of the Accelerated Retrieval Project.

We appreciate the benefits of your insights and hope that you will continue to share your concerns. During the FY 2013 budget formulation process, DOE will continue to place the protection of workers and public health and safety as its highest priorities. DOE will balance activities with the greatest risk-reduction benefit, regulatory compliance obligations, and DOE's Strategic Plan to maximize cleanup progress in a safe, cost-effective manner, throughout the nation.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 586-8754.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teresa Tyborowski".

Teresa Tyborowski
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Program Planning and Budget

