



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

February 24, 2006

Reply To
Attn Of: ECL-117

Seth E. Beal
Chairman, Butte County Commissioners
Courthouse
P.O. Box 737
Arco, Idaho 83213

Dear Mr. Beal:

I am responding to your letter of February 2, 2006, to Michael Bogert, Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10 (EPA). Thank you for expressing Butte County's desire to have a more formal role in the planning and selection of remedies at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

EPA is happy to meet with you to discuss the County's perspective on its participation in remedial actions at INL. The Region is currently in the process of coordinating such issues with EPA Headquarters and it would be beneficial to those discussions to have a better understanding of the County's views. Please understand that the Region will not be in a position to provide any definitive response at this time, but we feel it is important to hear your thoughts and concerns.

We understand that you are arranging a meeting with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to discuss these issues during the next Citizens' Advisory Board (CAB) meeting on March 21-22, 2006 in Twin Falls, Idaho. Nick Ceto, Program Manager of EPA's Hanford/INL Project Office, will plan on joining you and DOE representatives.

Thank you again for your involvement at the INL site. EPA looks forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,

Daniel D. Opalski, Director
Office of Environmental Cleanup

cc: Elizabeth Sellers, Manager, USDOE, Idaho Operations Office
Toni Hardesty, Director, IDEQ
Kathleen Trevor, IDEQ