

## **Public Involvement Plan - Pit 4 Accelerated Retrieval Project**

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This public involvement plan outlines various activities being planned to brief the public on the proposal to retrieve waste from a one half acre area of Pit 4. This plan is a living document and the activities defined within are subject to change. Details of the proposal can be found in the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis document.

The Pit 4 Removal Action is an important positive step.

Significant progress will be made in removal of transuranic waste from the Subsurface Disposal Area. Valuable data will be collected. Finally, the INEEL can demonstrate that it can efficiently remove waste buried above the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer.

Because of problems encountered during various removal attempts at Pit 9, and the public's ongoing interest in removal of buried waste at the Radioactive Waste Management Complex, there may be heightened public interest in the project. Because of this interest, the agencies intend to go far above and beyond the minimum requirements for informing the public and involving it in decision-making.

The agencies (the Department of Energy, the State of Idaho, and the Environmental Protection Agency) will collaborate to provide the public with timely, understandable, and accurate information about this project, while allowing the State of Idaho and the EPA to maintain their independence to ensure thorough and responsible review of the proposed project.

This plan is dynamic. It will change as circumstances dictate.

Planned public involvement activities for the proposed Pit 4 removal action include:

- 1) Availability of Pit 4 Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis document and 30-Day Public Comment Period (May 6 through June 4)
- 2) Idaho Falls Information Fair (May 17)
- 3) Twin Falls Public Meeting (May 19)
- 4) Boise Public Meeting (May 20)
- 5) Jackson Hole Public Meeting (May 25)
- 6) Ketchum Public Meeting (May 27)
- 7) Following completion of the design for treatment of the volatile organic compounds, a new series of public meetings will be developed to inform the public of that phase of the project and to receive any public comments or input regarding the proposed path forward for incorporation into the proposed design.
- 8) Provide specific briefings of the project and tours of the Pit 4 facilities upon request.

**The agencies have agreed that it is important to communicate to the public that:**

1. It is wise to act now.
2. This action will remove a high concentration of transuranic waste: plutonium and americium.
3. This action also targets the most mobile pollutants – which are solvents known as volatile organic compounds.

**Availability of Pit 4 Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EE/CA) Document and 30-Day Public Comment Period: May 6 to June 4**

- Post EE/CA to Administrative Record and begin public comment period
- Publish newspaper ads in local newspapers: Post Register, Idaho State Journal, Arco Advertiser, Idaho Unido, Moscow Daily News, Lewiston Tribune, Idaho Statesman, Twin Falls Times-News and Sho-Ban News.
- Issue news release.
- Mail about 900 postcards to stakeholder mailing list. These cards will let people know when the EE/CA and the public comments and agency responses are available for review.
- Brief stakeholder groups and news media proactively.
- Compile and post public comments and agency responses.

**Idaho Falls Information Fair**

- To be held May 17 at Bennion Student Union Building (Idaho Falls University Place Campus)
- Some communication materials used at the information fair will be specific to Pit 4, including fact sheets, posters and a presentation.

**Tentative Agenda**

Noon – Doors open for the information fair

1:30 – “Proposed Early Actions at the INEEL” by Katie Hain

3:30 – “The Future of Cleanup at the INEEL” by Bill Leake

6:30 – Nuclear energy presentation by John Kotek

7:30 – Public meeting on Pit 4 Remediation

7:30-8:00 – Project briefing – Jeff Perry

8:00 - Q&A

Formal comments taken upon conclusion of Q&A

### **Twin Falls Public Meeting**

- To be held on May 19, Taylor Building, College of Southern Idaho
- Public meeting specific to the Pit 4 retrieval project. No other INEEL topics will be discussed.
- Briefings with media, community organizations and stakeholder groups will be held earlier in the day.

### **Tentative Agenda**

6:00 – Availability session

7:00 – Welcome/Introductions

7:10 – Pit 4 presentation

7:30 – Question and answer session

7:45 – Formal public comment period

### **Boise Public Meeting**

- To be held on May 20, Doubletree Riverside, 2900 Chinden Blvd,
- Public meeting specific to the Pit 4 retrieval project. No other INEEL topics will be discussed.
- Briefings with media, community organizations and stakeholder groups will be held earlier in the day.

### **Tentative Agenda**

6:00 – Availability session

7:00 – Welcome/Introductions

7:10 – Pit 4 presentation

7:30 – Question and answer session

7:45 – Formal public comment period

### **Jackson Public Meeting**

- To be held on May 25, Jackson Hole Middle School, 1230 South Park Loop Road
- Public meeting specific to the Pit 4 retrieval project. No other INEEL topics will be discussed.
- Briefings with media, community organizations and stakeholder groups will be held earlier in the day.

### **Tentative Agenda**

6:00 – Availability session

- 7:00 – Welcome/Introductions
- 7:10 – Pit 4 presentation
- 7:30 – Question and answer session
- 7:45 – Formal public comment period

**Ketchum Public Meeting**

- To be held on May 27, Environmental Resource Center, 411 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.
- Public meeting specific to the Pit 4 retrieval project. No other INEEL topics will be discussed.
- Briefings with media, community organizations and stakeholder groups will be held earlier in the day.

**Tentative Agenda**

- 6:00 – Availability session
- 7:00 – Welcome/Introductions
- 7:10 – Pit 4 presentation
- 7:30 – Question and answer session
- 7:45 – Formal public comment period