

Public Notice: INTENT TO APPROVE A PERMIT RENEWAL REQUEST



Notice of Intent to Approve a Permit Renewal Request to the Idaho Nuclear Technology and Engineering Center Post-Closure Care Partial Permit INL [Docket # 10HW-1308]

Department of Environmental Quality
1410 N. Hilton
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Notice Issued: December 16, 2013

What is the Purpose of This Notice?

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is proposing to approve the INTEC Post Closure Care Partial Permit Renewal. The Waste Calcine Facility (WCF) is located at the Idaho Nuclear Technology and Environmental Center (INTEC), on the Idaho National Laboratory (INL). Permit renewals are not unilaterally approved by DEQ. Prior to approving a permit renewal, you (the public) and the applicant are provided an opportunity to comment on the draft permit prepared by DEQ.

What Is Proposed & What are the Proposed Actions? DOE has requested to renew the expiring INTEC Post-Closure Permit. The WCF and Buildings CPP-601/627/640 were closed with waste in place in accordance with approved closure plans. Because these units were not clean closed, they were closed as landfills subject to post-closure care permitting. The ten year duration of the initial post-closure care partial permit has expired and the Permittee is seeking to renew the permit. The draft Permit continues to require site security, inspections, personnel training, and ground water monitoring. DEQ is proposing to continue the waiver for a Preparedness and Prevention Plan because both units were filled with grout as part of the closure process making a standard Preparedness and Prevention Plan unnecessary. The draft Permit contains one significant change. The current permit requires monitoring the perched aquifer underlying the site. A goal of the INL Clean Up activities has been to

eliminate recharge of the perched zone resulting in the reduction or elimination of the perched zone. The draft permit addresses the possibility that the perched zone may be de-watered by including contingent permit conditions requiring monitoring of the regional aquifer if samples of the perched zone cannot be collected.

Describe the Facility Subject to Permitting:

INTEC is located in the south-central portion of INL which is in Butte County, Idaho. INTEC is operated for the United States Department of Energy (DOE) and by their contractor. The WCF was used to treat high level liquid waste prior to 1983. The WCF was closed with waste remaining in the below ground portion of the building. The WCF was filled with grout and a concrete cap is in place on the site. CPP-601/627/640 was part of the nuclear fuel re-processing conducted at INTEC. Fuel re-processing ceased in 1993. CPP-601/627/640 was closed with waste remaining in the portions of the buildings that were not demolished. The buildings were filled with grout, covered with a concrete cap, and an earthen cover was placed over the concrete.

What Permit Conditions are Affected?

The entire post closure partial permit is subject to comment.

Where Can I Get More Information?

In person: The draft Partial Permit and fact sheet may be reviewed at DEQ's State Office located at 1410 North Hilton in Boise, Idaho or at DEQ's Idaho Falls Regional Office located at

900 North Skyline, Suite B, in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

Online: A copy of the fact sheet, draft modified permit and permit modification request are available online via the DEQ Web site (www.deq.idaho.gov/public-comment-opportunities).

By phone: Contact Ms. Jennifer Shafer (208) 373-0502.

Persons wanting to be added to or deleted from the facility mailing list should contact Ms. René Anderson at the same address and/or at (208) 373-0210.

Public Hearing

A public hearing has not been scheduled. A request for a public hearing must be in writing and shall state the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

When are Written Comments Due?

5 p.m. on January 30, 2014. Comments or requests for a hearing should be addressed to Robert Bullock, c/o Ms. Jennifer Shafer, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, 1410 North Hilton, Boise, ID 83706.

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DEQ Contact Name: Robert Bullock

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E-mail:

Jennifer.shafer@deq.idaho.gov

Who Will Be Responsible for Implementing This Partial Permit?

DOE, CH2M-WG Idaho, LLC and contractors

What Are DEQ's Responsibilities?

DEQ is the regulatory agency that helps protect and enhance Idaho's water and air quality, and helps ensure proper management and disposal of hazardous and solid wastes. One way DEQ does this is by requiring permits for certain activities.

What Legal Requirements Apply?

Idaho's rules require that DEQ provide an owner or operator and the public, through a newspaper notice, the opportunity to submit written comments on the draft Partial Permit for storage.

What Happens Next? DEQ will consider any comments and/or requests for a hearing on the draft Partial Permit, and will either announce a time and place for a hearing, modify the draft Partial Permit, or approve the Partial Permit as proposed.