

April 13, 1995
For Immediate Release

Contact: Frank Randall
External Affairs

NWTRB To Discuss INEL Spent Fuel Management and Research

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board's Panel on the Engineered Barrier System will hold a meeting on Tuesday, June 6, 1995, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. Discussion at the meeting will focus on Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL) management and research activities that could potentially affect plans to design and construct a permanent repository for civilian spent fuel and high-level defense waste. The panel also has scheduled a tour of the INEL site for Wednesday, June 7, 1995.

Both the meeting and the tour are open to the public; however, space on the tour is limited, and participants will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis until April 28, 1995 (non-U.S. citizens) or May 19, 1995 (U.S. citizens). See below for detailed instructions for registering for the tour.

The meeting on Tuesday, June 6, will be held at the Shilo Inn, 780 Lindsay Boulevard, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402; (Tel) 208-523-0088; (Fax) 208-522-7420. Panel members have invited the Department of Energy and its INEL contractors and INEL researchers to discuss a number of topics: (1) What are the plans for eventual disposal of government-owned spent nuclear fuel? (2) To what extent could contaminated scrap metal and greater-than-class-C waste activities managed at DOE's Idaho Operations Office have an effect on disposal at a permanent repository? (3) What is the status of current research and development activities on spent fuel dry storage at INEL? (4) What is the status of efforts to get INEL's high-level defense wastes, such as calcine and tank-stored liquids, into appropriate forms for transportation to and disposal in a potential repository?

As with all the Board's meetings, time is set aside on the agenda for comments and questions from the public. In order to ensure that everyone wishing to speak is offered time to do so, the Board encourages those who have comments to sign the *Public Comment Register* located at the sign-in table. Written comments for the record also may be submitted to the Board staff at the sign-in table.

During the tour on Wednesday, June 7, the panel will visit those INEL facilities discussed in the Tuesday meeting. Those participating in the tour should meet at the Shilo Inn in Idaho Falls at 8 A.M.; the group will return to the hotel at approximately 6 P.M. All wishing to join the tour must provide the information listed on the back to Frank Randall (Tel) 703-235-4473 (FAX) 703-235-4495. *Citizens of the United States must call or fax their data to Mr. Randall by May 19, 1995; non-U.S. citizens must call or fax their data to Mr. Randall by April 28, 1995.*

The following information is required of all who would like to participate in the tour. Please phone or fax the following information to Frank Randall (Tel) 703-235-4473 (FAX) 703- 235-4495.

1. Full name
2. Social security number

(more)

3. Date of birth
4. Daytime telephone number
5. Company or organization
6. Place of birth (city and state)
7. Country of citizenship (if non-U.S.)

The Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board was created by Congress in the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 to evaluate the technical and scientific validity of activities undertaken by the DOE in its program to manage the disposal of the nation's high-level radioactive waste and spent nuclear fuel. In that same legislation, Congress directed the DOE to characterize a site at Yucca Mountain, Nevada, for its suitability as a potential location for a permanent repository for the disposal of that waste.

Transcripts of the meeting will be available on computer disk or on a library-loan basis in paper format from Davonya Barnes, Board staff, beginning July 24, 1995. For further information, contact Frank Randall, NWTRB, 1100 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 910, Arlington, Virginia 22209; (Tel) 703-235-4473; (Fax) 703-235-4495.