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**DOE-ID Operations Summary
For the Period September 30, 2013 through October 31, 2013**

***EDITOR'S NOTE:** The following is a summary of contractor operations at the Idaho National Laboratory, managed by DOE- Idaho Operations Office. It has been compiled in response to a request from stakeholders for more information on health, safety and environmental incidents at DOE facilities in Idaho. It also includes a brief summary of accomplishments at the Site. POC –Danielle Miller, (208) 526-5709.*

Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP)

October 15, 2013: A manager at the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) determined that the AMWTP Safety Analysis process required review due to an operational trend of fire/combustion events in the Treatment Facility (TF) box lines. Safety analysis for the TF is often based on historical data and should be readdressed when additional data becomes available. The current regulatory permit and operational procedures do not recognize fires as an expected event but rather as a possibility. The AMWTP management team is in the process of conducting a root cause analysis of the fires to determine appropriate corrective actions. The fires are in the box lines and do not pose a risk to the workers or equipment. [EM-ID--ITG-AMWTF-2013-0019]

Notable Accomplishments: On October 24, 2013, AMWTP received the final drum of sludge waste from the Idaho National Laboratory, marking another positive step towards meeting a 1995 Idaho Settlement Agreement milestone.

The 85-gallon drum of sludge represents a new waste stream for the AMWTP. As with any new source of waste, AMWTP's processes require a rigorous review of the drum's contents in order to ensure the container can be safely and compliantly accepted and processed at AMWTP. This involves validating and re-verifying the contents. Once AMWTP finds that the drum is in accordance with all safety parameters, it will be put into inventory to await permanent disposal outside Idaho.

The AMWTP is the Department of Energy's newest and most sophisticated transuranic waste treatment project. More transuranic waste has been treated and sent from the AMWTP to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) located near Carlsbad, New Mexico, than any other site in the Department's complex. AMWTP's advanced methods of waste processing and treatment continues to help the Department work towards meeting its obligations under the regulatory agreements in Idaho and other site offices across the country to safely and compliantly treat and ship transuranic waste out of the state to WIPP.

Idaho Cleanup Project (ICP)

October 3, 2013: A manager at the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU) determined that a review of the safety analysis document needed to be conducted due to the discovery of new information relative to nozzle temperature within the carbon reduction reformer (CRR). IWTU has not processed any hazardous or radiological material, and there was no potential for injury or release to the environment from this discovery. The IWTU was in standby mode.

October 23, 2013: On two separate occasions within 24 hours of one another, employees working on a Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) project at the Materials and Fuels Complex discovered that containers used to transfer waste during a sodium removal process had deformed. The D&D management determined the cause was a buildup of hydrogen gas inside the containers from an insufficient amount of an inert gas inside each container. Once determined to be in a safe condition personnel applied another layer of soda ash on to the containers and injected a sufficient amount of the applicable inert gas inside the container stabilizing the reactions. [EM-ID--CWI-BIC-2013-0001]

October 22, 2013: A manager at the Integrated Waste Treatment Unit (IWTU) determined that a review of the safety analysis document needed to be conducted. The current version of the safety analysis did not require controls for the differential pressure (DP) instrumentation isolation valves for the cells that make up the process confinement area. IWTU has not processed any hazardous or radiological material. There was no potential for injury or release to the environment from this discovery. The IWTU was in standby mode. [EM-ID--CWI-IWTU-2013-0012]

Notable Accomplishments: CH2M-WG, Idaho was recently recognized as a “Pollution Prevention Champion” by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for its metal recycling efforts and process changes that saved thousands of gallons of fuel and millions of gallons of water.

“CH2M-WG, Idaho LLC has been highly successful in its efforts to reduce air, waste, and water pollution by cutting gasoline use in fleet vehicles, water used in its waste treatment processes, and waste by establishing active recycling programs that have allowed the company to reuse or recycle millions of pounds of waste,” said Ben Jarvis, DEQ’s pollution prevention coordinator.

Pollution prevention is a term used to describe a technique or process employed to reduce or eliminate a waste form.

To qualify for the DEQ recognition, CWI submitted an application detailing its accomplishments to include recycling 120,000 cubic feet of scrap metal from a boiler deconstruction project, optimizing a fleet vehicle program to save 112,000 gallons of fuel and modifying water distribution systems, which saved 235 million gallons of water per year.

“These great pollution prevention ideas came from our employees and managers,” said CWI president and CEO Tom Dieter. “Such improvements not only protect the environment and our resources, they save the taxpayer money, which is an added bonus.”

Idaho National Laboratory (INL)

October 1, 2013: While a Battelle Energy Alliance technician was moving a transfer cart, the transfer cart quit moving. The technician discovered that the transfer cart power cable had been run over. The technician unplugged, rolled-up, and stored the power cable before notifying his supervisor. The technician potentially put himself at risk by rolling up and storing a damaged power cord that could have been energized. The power supply was tagged out-of-service. [NE-ID--BEA-FCF-2013-0002]

October 2, 2013: A light pole in the Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC) parking lot was severed due to high winds. The light pole landed on a privately owned vehicle damaging the hood, roof, trunk and breaking out the back window. No personnel were in the vicinity when the light pole

fell. The area and power to the pole were subsequently secured, and personnel were assisted in relocating their Personal Operated Vehicles out of the parking lot to an area away from other lighting poles. A Lockout Tagout (LO/TO) was installed to prevent personnel exposure to electrical hazards from the exposed conductors. [NE-ID--BEA-MFC-2013-0004]

October 15, 2013: It was discovered that a hazardous materials shipment originating at the Idaho National Laboratory had become unsecured from its shipping configuration during transport. None of the containers were broken open and there was no visible exterior damage. It was determined that there was no damage to the contents of the containers, and the containers were returned to their upright position, secured in place and the trailer was transported to the intended recipient. [NE-ID--BEA-ATR-2013-0035]

October 24, 2013: A supervisor at the Advanced Test Reactor and a Department of Energy facility representative were reviewing active lockout/tagout (LO/TO) record sheets when they discovered that some equipment required to perform a job task were not included in the LO/TO for the job. There was no electrical hazard present. [NE-ID--BEA-ATR-2013-0036]

Notable Accomplishments: Bill Gates, American business magnate and chair of the nuclear reactor startup company TerraPower, LLC, and his staff toured the Materials and Fuels Complex at Idaho National Laboratory. Terra Power has engaged Idaho National Laboratory to support certain aspects of design for their traveling wave reactor, and the visit focused on demonstrating the lab's expertise and capabilities. During his visit on Wednesday of this week, he proclaimed the studies conducted by scientists and engineers as "incredibly important."

When addressing employees after his tour Gates said, "Getting to visit INL was really enlightening. It was amazing to see reactor fuel analysis and how it can be conducted safely in a hot cell environment."

"Terrapower has many cooperative projects and there are lots of partnerships, but our work with INL is singularly important," said Gates. TerraPower has gained attention for both its traveling wave reactor design and the financial backing of clean technology investors. Several Cooperative Research and Development Agreements (CRADAs) established over the past few years enable the company to receive technical insight from the nation's nuclear energy laboratory and use its vast capabilities.