

Distributed on July 21, 2016

**DOE-ID Operations Summary
For the Period March 1-March 31, 2016**

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is a summary of contractor operations at the Idaho National Laboratory Site, managed by the 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)

March 4: An operator entered a hot cell at the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project without placing a lock on the cell alternative energy control lockbox. The cell's mechanical systems had been previously de-energized allowing for safe entry in the cell; therefore the entrant was not exposed to any uncontrolled hazardous energy. [EM-ID--ITG-AMWTF-2016-0004]

Notable Accomplishments:

Relocation of drums with certified waste to the Transuranic Storage Area-Retrieval Enclosure was completed in this period. ITG transferred 7,231 containers, increasing certified drums ready to ship to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant to 12,600 drums. Successful relocation of the drums allows AMWTP to efficiently manage the growing waste inventory. The project now has storage space for the Sludge Repackaging and Drum Repackaging Projects returns, which more than doubles the containers originally sent to the Accelerated Retrieval Project (ARP) for treatment, and additional space to store Accelerated Retrieval Project waste sent to AMWTP from ARP.

Idaho Cleanup Project (ICP)

Nothing to report for this period

Notable Accomplishments:

After repurposing the Accelerated Retrieval Project VII facility from a CERCLA waste exhumation facility to a RCRA-permitted waste treatment operation, waste management personnel began receiving boxes of large debris from the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project. The process opens each waste box, segregates large items debris for decontamination, and repackaging for shipment offsite as mixed low-level waste. The balance of the debris waste is repackaged and returned to AMTWP for processing through their waste characterization, treatment, and repackaging processes. The process has been very successful at removing large item debris that has been historically very difficult to manage.

Idaho National Laboratory (INL)

March 10: A Battelle Energy Alliance technician did not use the proper work control processes to adequately analyze a thermal energy hazard prior to conducting a repair on a boiler system located at the Materials and Fuels Complex. [NE-ID--BEA-MFC-2016-0003]

March 14: A container containing radioactive process material was removed from a glovebox at the Fuel Manufacturing Facility prior to all Technical Safety Requirements surveillance

inspection requirements being completed. During removal from the glovebox contamination surveys were performed on the items removed from the glovebox and no contamination was detected. [NE-ID--BEA-FMF-2016-0001]

March 31: In January 2016, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) was notified of a suspected diesel fuel leak due to a discrepancy in the fuel inventory. An investigation was initiated and the fuel oil distribution system was isolated and a temporary system put in place. Pressure testing of the underground fuel oil distribution piping between the Advanced Test Reactor Complex bulk fuel oil storage tanks and the Advanced Test Reactor building revealed the presence of a leak. The leak is of a very slow nature and no visible evidence of leakage on the surface of the ground was found. No personnel were exposed to leaking fuel oil. [NE-ID--BEA-ATR-2016-0005]

Notable Accomplishments:

- Steven Aumeier, INL associate laboratory director, and Anne Seifert, INL K-12 STEM manager, spoke at the Second Annual Tribal Energy Summit hosted by the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. Aumeier highlighted laboratory research, testing and analysis, plus opportunities for the tribes to engage with INL. Seifert discussed education issues and efforts important to the tribes. In addition, the U.S. Department of Energy, Bureau of Indian Affairs energy policy and program leaders, tribal leaders, Idaho energy leaders, and representatives from Sandia National Laboratories and National Renewable Energy Laboratory came together at the Summit to begin developing a Fort Hall Energy plan.
- Idaho National Laboratory hosted the 9th annual My Amazing Future event for eighth-grade young women to explore careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Students participate in a full day of hands-on sessions designed to be educational and engaging. The sessions will illustrate how a STEM education translates into exciting career options. The teens explored topics such as: *Fun with 3D Geometry*, *Our Amazing Bodies*, *Radiation and Life*, *Phenomenal Physics* and more. A total of 17 sessions were offered at the event.
- INL awarded five Idaho schools an Ultimate STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) grant, worth up to \$5,000, to enhance and supplement their STEM learning. In addition, 18 STEM Mini grants, worth up to \$500, were awarded. Teachers and counselors from public and private schools throughout the state apply each year for both types of grants, which are awarded based on the educator's plan, idea or classroom needs to bolster STEM education. The money can be used to purchase equipment and materials for classrooms.