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IDAHO ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION

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Cleanup Crews Making Progress on Idaho Site Reactor Decommissioning

Crews demolish one of two massive steam condensers at the Naval Reactors Facility's Aircraft Carrier 1st Gen. Westinghouse prototype facility. It was the prototype for the USS Enterprise, the nation's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier.

IDAHO FALLS, October 25, 2023 – The Idaho Environmental Coalition (IEC), contractor for the Department of Energy Office of Environment Management (**EM**) at the **Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site,** is making significant progress decommissioning the prototype for a reactor plant used for the first nuclear-powered submarine.

Known as the Submarine 1st Generation Westinghouse (**S1W**) prototype, the land-based reactor was built inside a section of a submarine hull at the Naval Reactors Facility on the Arco Desert west of Idaho Falls. The Office of **Naval Reactors** entered into an agreement with EM to carry out the **S1W facility demolition** and other deactivation and decommissioning (D&D) efforts.

IEC crews remove a steam dump condenser from the westside of the S1W prototype.

IEC crews are dismantling the S1W's hull and engine compartments. They have also begun deactivating the reactor compartment and associated systems by removing shielding components to prepare the reactor vessel for eventual disposition at the Idaho CERCLA Disposal Facility at the INL Site. CERCLA stands for the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act.

To date, the project has sent an estimated 250 tons of non-radiological contaminated metals for recycling. The S1W deactivation and demolition (D&D) project is scheduled for completion in November 2025.

IEC workers have begun early deactivation and decommissioning activities at the Aircraft Carrier 1st Gen. Westinghouse (A1W) prototype with D&D work on the ancillary buildings around the A1W aircraft carrier prototype. They have demolished a non-contaminated concrete retention basin and one of the massive steam condensers for A1W. This early work has cleared space to support equipment staging for future D&D work inside the prototype.

Turnover of the main A1W facility for D&D, which remains on schedule, is being done in a phased approach in close coordination with the EM and **Naval Reactors** contractors.

Between 1954 and 1995, the INL Site's Naval Reactors Facility was home to three active nuclear propulsion prototypes — the S1W, A1W and the Submarine 5th Gen. General Electric. Although these historic prototype facilities are no longer used, they provided important testing opportunities for the Navy and training for nearly 40,000 personnel.

About the Idaho Environmental Coalition

The Idaho Environmental Coalition (IEC), led by Jacobs and North Wind Portage, manages the Idaho Cleanup Project at the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site, located 45 miles west of Idaho Falls. The 10-year, $6.4 billion project, funded through DOE's Office of Environmental Management, focuses on safely dispositioning transuranic waste, managing spent nuclear fuel, treating radioactive liquid waste, removing legacy structures, and closing facilities that have completed their missions. IEC is committed to protecting its employees, the public, and environment while meeting all existing and future milestones necessary to further the INL's mission.