

## ***Agencies Set Public Comment Period, Virtual Meeting on Proposal to Expand INL Site Disposal Facility***

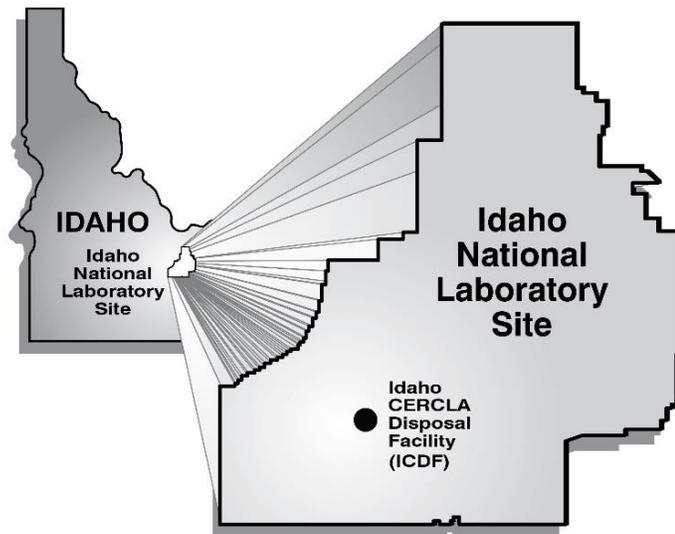
The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality have initiated a 30-day public comment period (beginning May 19 and ending June 17) on a proposal to expand an existing waste disposal facility at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site. A virtual public meeting will be held May 25, 2022, to address questions from the public.

The Idaho CERCLA Disposal Facility (ICDF), a 390,000-cubic meter disposal facility, provides central containment of onsite waste for long-term protection of human health and the environment. This facility has allowed DOE to consolidate waste material from the remediation of many areas of the 890-square-mile INL site, reducing the footprint into a single, managed, and controlled area. The ICDF landfill and evaporation ponds were designed and constructed with underlying geosynthetic liners, leak-collection

sumps, and leak-detection systems, and are compliant with Subpart C of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 USC 6901 et seq.). On-site disposal of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)-generated waste and construction of the ICDF was the selected remedy by the Operable Unit 3-13 Record of Decision. Disposing of CERCLA-generated waste at the ICDF reduces potential risk of groundwater contamination and has saved taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars versus shipping the material out of state across public highways for off-site disposal.

Since opening in 2003, the ICDF has accepted low-level and mixed low-level waste soil and debris from on-site CERCLA remediation activities that must meet specific waste acceptance criteria. The facility is prohibited from receiving or disposing of any waste from outside of the INL.

Located in the south-central portion of the INL Site, the ICDF landfill is now about 80 percent full and Waste Management personnel project that the landfill will be at capacity by the end of 2025, based on planned on-site CERCLA waste projections. Once filled, the existing landfill will be covered with a cap designed to prevent water from infiltrating into the disposed waste.



To continue implementation of the cleanup mission at the INL, the agencies propose to increase the capacity of the existing landfill and construct an additional disposal cell and leachate management system in the vicinity of the existing facility to allow for future on-site CERCLA waste disposal. Like the current landfill, the new disposal cell would also have strict waste acceptance criteria, including a prohibition of off-site waste, which would determine the waste constituents and amounts of material that can be disposed. The additional cell will be comparable in design and construction of the existing landfill and will meet the applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements (ARARs) of state and federal regulations. More information can be found in the Explanation of Significant Differences for Operable Unit 3-13 Record of Decision for an Additional Cell at the Idaho CERCLA Disposal Facility at the Idaho National Laboratory Site, which is available in the Administrative Record at: <https://idahoenvironmental.com/ARIR/>. Then click Search Documents by Document ID and enter in the following document number: DOE-ID-12043.

The public meeting will be held as a virtual video conference to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus during the pandemic. The virtual conference will be held on May 25, 2022, starting at 6 p.m.

To join, select from the following options:

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Enter the participant PIN: 351 0858 followed by # to confirm.

For more information, contact Sergio Hernandez at [hernans@id.doe.gov](mailto:hernans@id.doe.gov). Comments may be sent to:

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