



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 10

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OFFICE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL
REVIEW AND
ASSESSMENT

November 7, 2016

Erik Anderson
Department of the Navy
Naval Sea Systems Command
1240 Isaac Hull Avenue South East, Stop 8036
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20376-8036

Dear Mr. Anderson:

In accordance with our responsibilities under Section 309 of the Clean Air Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Recapitalization of Infrastructure Supporting Naval Spent Nuclear Fuel Handling at the Idaho National Laboratory in Butte County, Idaho (EPA Project Number 94-032-DOE).

In our comments on the Draft EIS in August 2015, we expressed concerns with the project proposal due to its potential impacts on water and air resources. We recommended DOE continue to work with other entities to ensure protection of resources impacted by the project and requested additional information on air and greenhouse gas emissions, as well as seismic risk.

The Final EIS is responsive to our comments. Specifically, we appreciate inclusion of more clarifying information on water and air quality, and updated discussion on impacts of climate change, and changes made to the proposed new facility construction to reduce emissions and conserve energy. We are also pleased to note DOE's commitment to implement low impact development techniques during project construction to protect resources, to monitor impacts, and take corrective actions where adverse impacts would be detected. In addition, we appreciate other changes made to the EIS between draft and final based on comments received from other agencies and the public. Your responses address our concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on this FEIS. If you have questions about our comments, please contact me at (206) 553-1601 or by electronic mail at Littleton.christine@epa.gov or contact Theo Mbabaliye of my staff at (206) 553-6322 or by electronic mail at mbabaliye.theogene@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christine B. Littleton".

Christine B. Littleton, Manager
Environmental Review and Sediment Management Unit