



Citizens Advisory Board
Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory

**Community Forum to Discuss the Future of the Idaho National
Engineering and Environmental Laboratory**

The Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) applauds the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s pursuit of a Strategic Plan for Long Term Stewardship.

One area that appears insufficiently addressed is the concerns of INEEL neighbors for the future of the site. Some portions of the site may become available for release from federal ownership at some point in the future, and thus will require cleanup standards that would offer adequate protection under unrestricted use patterns. Other portions will likely require continued federal ownership to assure adequate protection for many years to come. In either case, the INEEL CAB believes that INEEL's neighbors should have a role in defining the future for land within site boundaries, including identification of a range of potential future site missions as well as end states for all areas requiring cleanup. Consequently:

The INEEL CAB recommends that DOE host a community-based forum to identify the range of acceptable future site missions and desired end states for INEEL property. Invited participants in the forum should include adjacent communities; federal, state, and local land management agencies; the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes; regional interest groups, private landowners; and the general public. The forum should be designed following a series of preliminary meetings with city councils, regional economic development organizations, civic organizations, etc. to generate interest in the forum and solicit input on how to design it.

We suggest that the proposed community forum would be timely if conducted in the near future, given the recent Top-to-Bottom Review and the anticipated September 30, 2003 release of the DOE-ID Long Term Stewardship Strategic Plan. The INEEL CAB would be happy to assist in such an endeavor. If DOE-ID is interested, we could prepare a draft Plan of Work along with a proposed budget, sponsoring partnerships, and a timeline.