

ORIGINAL

PUBLIC HEARING

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE CONTAINER SYSTEM FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
NAVAL SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL
AT FORT HALL, IDAHO
JUNE 3, 1996
EVENING SESSION

MODERATOR: Lieutenant Timothy Sullivan, USN

SPEAKERS: Mr. Elmer Naples
Mr. William Knoll

REPORTED BY:
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1 know how. And that is through beading, through with
2 our hands. That's the way we make a living.

3 At this time for the sake of our health,
4 our well-being, for the sake of our children so that
5 they can have a life, I would like to ask thirty
6 million dollars for all of this nonsense that's going
7 through because this is really -- it's a bad stuff. I
8 dream about these things. In fact, I dream about the
9 future, how are we going to look and it's not pretty.
10 That's all I want to say. That's how much I'm asking
11 for my health and my people's health. Thank you.

12 LT. SULLIVAN: Ma'am, could you please
13 for Ms. McCoy's benefit state your name and spell your
14 last name and give us your address.

15 MS. TOWERSAP: Zell Towersap, P. O.
16 Box 22, Fort Hall, Idaho 83203.

17 LT. SULLIVAN: Thank you very much.

18 MR. HEVEWAH: My name is Hobby Hevewah.
19 I'm a Shoshone Bannock tribal member. I've spoken to
20 -- oh, Post Office Box 8, Fort Hall, Idaho 83203.

21 LT. SULLIVAN: Sir, how to you spell your
22 last name?

23 MR. HEVEWAH: Hevewah, H-e-v-e-w-a-h. I
24 don't really have a problem with the containers or
25 anything, but the document itself. You recognize the

1 tribe as a sovereign nation or you wouldn't be sitting
2 down negotiating with them.

3 This document you look at it as coming
4 from the Indian perspective, the Indian tribe, Indian
5 government, nothing in here pertains to that. Your EIS
6 does not show me the impact to my treaty. The treaty
7 here it has nothing in this document that addresses
8 that. There is nothing in this document that shows
9 that the INEL is the aboriginal territory of Shoshone
10 Bannock tribes. It should be in this document. If
11 you're dealing with the tribe as wholeheartedly as you
12 say you are, you recognize what your just
13 responsibilities are.

14 None of the impacts in here shows the
15 impacts to my people, impacts to the wildlife out there
16 on the transportation issue. It's not in here. You
17 don't even see that today. You don't see the
18 tradition. The cultures fall between the cracks of the
19 EIS, and you're naval process. And you don't -- I been
20 out there, looked at the new developments that happen
21 out there. And we walked over medicine plants that the
22 people, the archaeologists, the botanists, they don't
23 even look at. These are the impacts that should be in
24 this if you're going to deal with a sovereign nation
25 like the Shoshone Bannock tribes. It's not in here.

1 And I brought this up probably six years C
2 ago when you first started coming to the table talking
3 to the tribal government, and I was on the council. I
4 was on the land use department making comments about
5 why. Why isn't the treaty rights in the EIS here?
6 They should be if you're dealing with us. It has to be
7 in here. Some of your representatives here even from
8 the DOE and from the Navy representatives, yes, next
9 time we deal with your issues. They will be in this
10 document, but today it's not there.

11 I'm just mentioning this from a point of
12 view of a public official. It's really needed because
13 if this is going to be a legal document, it needs to be
14 in here. Thank you.

15 LT. SULLIVAN: I have no other
16 registrations. Does anyone else wish to make a
17 comment?

18 I want to thank you all on behalf of the
19 United States Navy for taking the time to participate
20 in this hearing tonight. We appreciated the
21 opportunity to hear your comments and will work to make
22 sure they are addressed in the Final EIS. We would
23 also like to thank the Shoshone Bannock tribes for the
24 use of their facilities and their hospitality this
25 afternoon and this evening. Thank you very much. This

Commenter: Hobby Hevewah - Shoshone-Bannock Tribe member, Idaho

Response to Comment:

A.&C. The impacts on treaty rights are addressed in the EIS by reference to the Programmatic SNF and INEL EIS. In Chapter 5, Section 5.4.1, reference is made to this EIS for a detailed discussion of land uses at Idaho National Engineering Laboratory. There it is stated that no on-site land use restrictions due to Native American treaty rights would exist for any of the alternatives. The Idaho National Engineering Laboratory site does not lie within any of the land boundaries established by the Fort Bridger Treaty. Furthermore, the entire Idaho National Engineering Laboratory site is land occupied by the Department of Energy, and therefore that provision in the Fort Bridger Treaty that allows the Shoshone and Bannock Indians the right to hunt on the unoccupied lands of the United States does not presently apply to any land upon which the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory is located. To clarify this issue, Section 5.4.2 will be revised to include these details rather than referencing another document.

The impacts on treaty rights due to hypothetical facility accidents are presented in the EIS in Table A.7 of Appendix A. There it states that some temporary restrictions on access may be required until cleanup is completed. No enduring impacts are expected.

- B. Chapter 7, Sections 7.3.5 and 7.3.6 of the EIS address these impacts. The analysis results provided in this EIS show that naval spent nuclear fuel can be safely managed, stored, and transported with no significant impact on members of the public. The analysis methods used in this EIS are recognized throughout the United States and the world as the standard techniques for determining the risk to the public. In Chapter 3, a perspective is provided so the public can compare the analysis results to risks associated with other activities encountered in daily life. In addition, Section 7.3.5 provides very specific information for Fort Hall Reservation residents which shows that over a 40 year period the entire aggregate radiation exposure to all residents of the reservation due to transportation of naval spent nuclear fuel is equal to that received during a single chest x-ray to a single individual. In Section 7.3.6, the EIS states that the impacts on the ecology along the transportation routes would be negligible.
- C. See the response to comment A above.