Document 5, Congressman Mike Simpson, Idaho Falls, ID
Page 1 of 1

HLW & FD EIS PROJECT - (AR) PF
Control # DC-05

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STATEMENT BY
Representative Mike Simpson
High-Level Waste and Facilities Disposition
Environmental Impact Statement
February 2000

The U.S. Department of Energy has some important decisions to make regarding management of high level waste and mixed transuranic waste now stored at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. High-level waste management is a complex technical subject, but it's important for Idahoans to understand that these decisions will determine how DOE will treat large amounts of radioactive and hazardous material stored over the Snake River Plain Aquifer, and how it will close contaminated facilities when they are no longer needed.

The Idaho High-level Waste and Facilities Disposition Draft Environmental Impact Statement that DOE Idaho has just issued for public review and comment is the critical first step in this decision-making process. While it is not a decision document itself, it provides the scientific information about the potential impacts to the environment of various management alternatives that DOE is considering. The document gives Idahoans the opportunity to study these environmental issues, compare the impacts of different actions, and to make their voices heard under the National Environmental Policy Act process.

5-1
IX.A(2)

The DOE project staff have obviously worked hard to convey technical information in a manner that the general public can understand. I encourage all Idaho citizens to review the EIS and send their comments on to the Department of Energy. Public comment is an important part of federal agency decision making and is one of several factors that the Secretary of Energy will consider when choosing a course of action.

Document 6, Senator Larry E. Craig, Idaho Falls, ID
Page 1 of 1

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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1203

February 7, 2000

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STATEMENT ON TRANSMITTAL OF THE IDAHO HIGH-LEVEL WASTE & FACILITIES DISPOSITION DRAFT
By U.S. Senator Larry E. Craig

The Department of Energy in Idaho has managed dry granular calcined mixed high-level waste in above-ground storage tanks and liquid mixed transuranic waste in tanks below the ground according to regulatory requirements for many years.

With the agreement made between the State of Idaho and the Department of Energy, this waste will be treated for transportation in the highest and most safely effective way possible. This Draft Environmental Impact Statement analyzes five waste treatment alternatives that span the years between the years 2000 and 2035. It also analyzes six facilities disposition alternatives.

6-1
IX.A(2)

I am ~~very~~ impressed with the readability of this document. It is very unusual for a Draft Environmental Impact Statement to be a document that is "user-friendly". I must congratulate the project staff for their efforts to provide scientific information in a manner that the general public can understand. It is important to know that the decisions made from this document and the public input will determine how DOE will treat the great amount of radioactive and hazardous material for shipment out of Idaho.

I encourage all Idahoans to review this DEIS and send their comments to the DOE by the deadline of March 20, 2000.

Thank you!

Larry E. Craig
United States Senator

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EXHIBIT #3
HLW&FD Draft EIS
Idaho Falls, ID
February 7, 2000
Name: Georgia Dixon