

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND CONGRATULATING IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY ON ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AND RECOGNIZING STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS FOR THEIR LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINING THE LABORATORY'S FUTURE.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

WHEREAS, the year 2011 marks the 60th anniversary of a technological milestone that has forever thrust Idaho into a place of global prominence - that milestone being the world's first production of usable amounts of electricity from nuclear power at the Experimental Breeder Reactor I (EBR-I); and

WHEREAS, this pioneering first reactor built in Idaho, the 51 others that followed it and the supporting labs and related facilities that have risen on both the expansive Arco Desert site and within the city of Idaho Falls represent multibillion dollar good faith investments by the federal government to create globally distinctive facilities for the future of nuclear science and engineering; and

WHEREAS, scientific infrastructure renewal efforts began to accelerate anew in 2005, resulting in the construction or modification and occupation of six new facilities in Idaho Falls and five labs and offices on the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) Site between that time and the end of 2010; and

WHEREAS, ground was just broken on a massive new 91,000 square foot Energy Systems Laboratory on the INL campus in Idaho Falls, which is due for completion in late 2012, and which clearly demonstrates the U.S. Department of Energy's intentions to continue to perform national priority energy security work at Idaho's national laboratory; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Energy (DOE) and its cleanup contractors have created an enhanced environment for similar future investments in Idaho by cost-effectively accelerating the cleanup and shipment out of state of legacy wastes long stored at the INL Site; and

WHEREAS, the courage and leadership of Governor Otter, working collaboratively with Attorney General Wasden and the U.S. Department of Energy, has resulted in a critical new Memorandum of Agreement allowing Settlement Agreement-compliant quantities of used commercial fuel to be brought in for examination and testing at INL, thereby securing the ongoing scientific relevance of the lab and enhancing the economic stability of all of Idaho as a consequence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we hereby congratulate Idaho National Laboratory on the 60th anniversary of its EBR-I nuclear electricity milestone, acknowledge the federal government's historic and ongoing investments in creating and maintaining globally distinctive nuclear energy research facilities in our home state, encourage a continuation of the safe

1 and cost-effectively accelerated cleanup of the site, and applaud our Gov-
2 ernor, Attorney General and the U.S. Department of Energy for their vision
3 and leadership in crafting a means to protect Idaho's environmental inter-
4 ests while concurrently brightening the future mission prospects of Idaho
5 National Laboratory.