

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 60

BY ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1
2 STATING FINDINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND URGING IDAHO ATTORNEY GENERAL
3 LAWRENCE WASDEN TO ALLOW THE IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY THE MATERIALS IT
4 NEEDS TO FULFILL ITS CLEAN ENERGY RESEARCH AND NATIONAL SECURITY MIS-
5 SIONS.

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

7 WHEREAS, the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) is the nation's lead nu-
8 clear research, development and deployment laboratory; and

9 WHEREAS, the 1995 Settlement Agreement between the State of Idaho and
10 Department of Energy designates INL the nation's lead laboratory for spent
11 fuel; and

12 WHEREAS, the INL is Idaho's fifth-largest private employer, accounts
13 for nearly 2.5 percent of statewide economic impact, spent nearly \$130 mil-
14 lion with Idaho's businesses in 2015 and generated an estimated \$58 million
15 in state and local tax revenues in 2015 while establishing Idaho as a clean
16 energy technology hub; and

17 WHEREAS, remarkable cleanup progress has been made at the INL site since
18 the Settlement Agreement was signed and ratified by voters, with, according
19 to a 2013 LINE Commission report, 959 of 964 mandated deadlines met and tons
20 of waste shipped out of state; and

21 WHEREAS, the Settlement Agreement allows the state to issue waivers,
22 including one granted in 2011 to import small quantities of commercial fuel
23 to INL for research; and

24 WHEREAS, the first shipment, from the North Anna Nuclear Power Station
25 in Virginia, has already been sent to the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in
26 Tennessee; and

27 WHEREAS, the second shipment, from the Byron Nuclear Generating Station
28 in Illinois, is vital to our national security; and

29 WHEREAS, the INL is the only place in the nation that contains the infra-
30 structure and personnel necessary to perform this important national secu-
31 rity work; and

32 WHEREAS, loss of the first shipment and continued delay of the second
33 shipment have cost Idaho millions of dollars and threaten the lab's future
34 ability to do the important work the nation's lead nuclear energy research
35 and development lab should be doing; and

36 WHEREAS, a small shipment of solid rods weighing approximately 100
37 pounds poses no risk to Idaho's environment, could not under any circum-
38 stance threaten the Eastern Snake River Plain Aquifer and furthers clean
39 nuclear energy as a vital part of our national energy mix; and

40 WHEREAS, the Settlement Agreement was never intended to hurt INL's re-
41 search and development mission.

42 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Ses-
43 sion of the Sixty-third Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and

1 the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature of the State of Idaho
2 strongly urges Attorney General Lawrence Wasden to issue a waiver allowing
3 research quantities of spent fuel into Idaho for research and development at
4 the INL.