



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**Fluor**  
IDAHO

## News Release

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: October 23, 2017**

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### **50<sup>th</sup> Waste Shipment From Idaho Arrives at New Mexico Repository**

IDAHO FALLS, ID -- The U.S. Department of Energy's Idaho Site and Idaho Cleanup Project contractor Fluor Idaho recently completed its 50<sup>th</sup> shipment of Cold War weapons waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant since the New Mexico repository reopened in April.

Fluor Idaho crews at the Idaho Site's Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project continue to characterize, treat, certify and ship an inventory of radioactive and hazardous waste in support of a 1995 environmental cleanup agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy and state of Idaho. As many as four shipments leave the Idaho facility each week for permanent disposal at WIPP.

"Our facility is unique in the DOE complex in that we not only have one-of-a-kind equipment, but we also have the skilled workforce with more than a decade of experience in preparing multiple shipments per week safely and compliantly for our customer," said Fluor Idaho Waste Operations Manager Jim Floerke. "I'm proud that we sent off this 50<sup>th</sup> shipment and look forward to many, many more."

Approximately 900 cubic meters (the equivalent of more than 4,300 55-gallon drums) of waste at AMWTP are ready for shipment to WIPP. Approximately 8,400 cubic meters (the equivalent of more than 40,000 55-gallon drums) have been treated and are awaiting certification and shipment.

"The Idaho site is very pleased that we're able to continue to ship waste to WIPP for disposal, and that we continue to be the No. 1 shipper of waste," said Jack Zimmerman, deputy manager for DOE's Idaho Operations Office.

The waste was generated primarily at the former Rocky Flats Plant near Denver, Colorado, during the Cold War and was shipped to Idaho until the late 1980s. It was stored on an asphalt pad and covered with soil until 1995 when a building was erected over the mound. Fluor Idaho retrieved the last of the waste containers in February 2017.

Since 2003, AMWTP has used both conventional and unique retrieval concepts, high-tech characterization equipment – including real-time radiography and radioassay – robotics and automated treatment processes to retrieve and treat a total of 58,000 cubic meters of transuranic

waste. The facility has undergone several million dollars of equipment upgrades recently that will prepare the facility for many more years of operation and the potential for treating wastes from other DOE sites in the future.

*Fluor Idaho, LLC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Fluor Corporation with partners comprised of CH2M, North Wind Inc., Portage, and Waste Control Specialists. Fluor Idaho manages the Idaho Cleanup Project Core contract at the Department of Energy's Idaho Site located 45 miles west of Idaho Falls. The 5-year, \$1.4 billion project, funded through the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Environmental Management, focuses on early risk reduction and protection of the Snake River Plain Aquifer.*

For more information visit the Idaho Cleanup Project on the Web at <https://idahocleanupproject.com>

ICP-17-003