



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



INL Home (<http://www.inl.gov>)  
INL News Desk Home (<http://newsdesk.inl.gov>)

INL News Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 3, 2018

**NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Sarah Neumann (208) 526-0490, [sarah.neumann@inl.gov](mailto:sarah.neumann@inl.gov)  
Lori McNamara (208) 526-1508, [lori.mcnamara@inl.gov](mailto:lori.mcnamara@inl.gov) April 3, 2018

**DOE, BEA conclude negotiations on contract extension terms**

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho — In December, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) decided to extend its contract with Battelle Energy Alliance (BEA) to manage and operate Idaho National Laboratory (INL). This week, DOE officially approved the contract modification that enables a five-year extension through Sept. 30, 2024. This followed a successful negotiation between DOE and BEA on terms and conditions of the INL contract.

The contract extension complies with Executive Order 13777, Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda, issued by President Trump on Feb. 24, 2017 directing agencies to eliminate unnecessary regulatory burdens, and reflects DOE's initiative to reform management and operating contracts. This has been accomplished by granting greater authority and accountability to the site contractor and eliminating contractual redundancies. This is all enabled by the outstanding partnership between DOE and INL.

"The agreed-upon terms bring clarity to what is expected of BEA and INL in the next several years," INL Director Mark Peters said. "The ultimate outcome is that INL is even better-positioned to serve the American taxpayer by helping resolve the nation's big energy and security challenges."

"It's rewarding to see the positive impact we have on Idaho's economy," INL Director Mark Peters said. "Ultimately, that means we are improving the lives of all Idahoans and their communities."

DOE originally awarded BEA the management contract in November 2004, when INL was created. That contract ran from Feb. 1, 2005 until Sept. 30, 2014. At that point, DOE exercised a five-year option period that was set to expire Sept. 30, 2019. With the new five-year extension, BEA is contracted to operate and manage INL through Sept. 30, 2024.

DOE originally awarded BEA the management contract in November 2004, when INL was created. That contract ran from Feb. 1, 2005 until Sept. 30, 2014. At that point, DOE exercised a five-year

option period that was set to expire Sept. 30, 2019. With the new five-year extension, BEA is contracted to operate and manage INL through Sept. 30, 2024.

Some key INL initiatives during the term of the contract extension will include:

- Providing world-class nuclear science and technology capabilities to the nation, including the Advanced Test Reactor (ATR), Transient Reactor Test Facility (TREAT), and the Materials and Fuels Complex (MFC), to revitalize the nuclear energy sector in the United States.
- Continuing research and development on advanced reactor designs, including partnering with the private sector to develop and demonstrate microreactor technologies for potentially powering remote communities and military bases around the world. This work will also include partnerships with industry and other stakeholders to develop and deploy the next generation of nuclear reactors including small modular reactors (SMRs).
- Improving upon INL's world-leading cyber security capabilities and expertise, including efforts to make the nation's power grids, transportation and water systems more resilient from cyber, physical and natural threats.
- Extending the electric vehicle corridor in the west, including longer-lived batteries and improved charging infrastructure.
- Developing integrated energy systems to stabilize the power grid and increase energy storage capabilities.
- Continuing support for biofuels research and turning captured carbon into usable products, something that could help the nation's coal plants reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Promoting STEM education and working with our college and university partners to fill the pipeline of potential future employees with talented scientists, engineers, technicians and support personnel.
- And finally, productive partnerships with academia, industry, and federal, state and local governments that allow us to solve complex problems while driving economic growth and making American industry more competitive on a global scale, now and into the future.

INL is one of the DOE's national laboratories. The laboratory performs work in each of DOE's strategic goal areas: energy, national security, science and environment. INL is the nation's leading center for nuclear energy research and development. Day-to-day management and operation of the laboratory is the responsibility of Battelle Energy Alliance.

--INL-18-004--