



Media Contact:  
Brad Bugger (208) 526-0833

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## **IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE NAMES NEW IDAHO CLEANUP PROJECT MANAGER**

**Idaho Falls, ID** – The Department of Energy Idaho Operations Office today announced that James Cooper has been named deputy manager of its highly-successful Idaho Cleanup Project, which oversees the environmental cleanup and waste management mission at DOE's Idaho site.

Cooper has more than 30 years of experience in commercial and government engineering and management, including an eight month stint as acting Deputy Manager for EM. He has extensive experience in business management associated with program planning, development and administration. His experience includes all project phases from conceptual planning, cost and scheduling, design, licensing, construction, testing, operations, maintenance and facilities decommissioning work. Cooper will assume his new duties beginning in July. He served as one of two interim deputy managers succeeding Rick Provencher, who was named Idaho Operations Office manager in May, 2010.

"Jim has shown skilled leadership as the assistant manager of the Idaho Cleanup Project's Facility and Material Disposition Program, which has demonstrated significant progress in decommissioning and demolishing contaminated facilities at the Idaho Site," said Provencher. "I'm confident he'll remain a strong leader as he assumes responsibility for managing the Idaho Cleanup Project."

As deputy manager of the Idaho Operations Office, Cooper will oversee 70 Federal employees and nearly 3,000 contractor staff who work at the Idaho Cleanup Project and carry out environmental cleanup and waste management functions at the Idaho site. Cooper will also be responsible for an annual federal and contractor budget that exceeds \$400 million.

"My goal is to continue to meet DOE's cleanup and waste management commitments to the people of Idaho," said Cooper. "We have developed an outstanding track record of meeting milestones through the Idaho Settlement Agreement and the Federal Facilities Agreement and Consent Order, and maintaining that record of compliance while making sure the work is performed safely is my top priority."

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