



## Annual report shows potential INL radiation doses well below safe regulatory limits

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**Idaho Falls, ID** – The U.S. Department of Energy’s Idaho Operations Office reported this month that radiation from the site falls well below limits established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The report’s conclusions are supported by direct environmental monitoring data routinely taken during the year, and show that activities at the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) site are protective of human health and the environment.

Data shows that the INL site dose is less than 1% of the limit of 10 mrem established by the EPA and is about 2% of the amount of radiation a person receives during a dental x-ray. In comparison, according to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, the radiation dose a person receives from a typical single chest x-ray is approximately 10 mrem, and a typical single dental x-ray results in a dose of approximately 1.5 mrem.

The maximum annual radiation dose that any member of the public could have received from activities at the INL site for 2009 was 0.0687 millirem (mrem) – if they stayed a full year, every hour of every day, at the INL site southern boundary.

Operations at the Advanced Test Reactor, an operating nuclear reactor at the INL, resulted in a dose of 0.00796 mrem and is about 11.6% of the total INL site dose.

This information was reported in the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants – Calendar Year 2009 INL Report for Radionuclides that was submitted to the EPA and the State of Idaho at the end of June.

The report is required by the National Emission Standards for Emissions of Radionuclides Other than Radon from Department of Energy Facilities, as part of federal air quality regulations. The regulation can be found in the Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Part 61, Subpart H. The report lists the sources, or points, where radionuclides were released, the types and quantities of radioactive materials released to the air, and a description of radioactive material handling and processing activities at INL facilities. The INL site provides this report to the EPA and State of Idaho annually. It is available online at:

[http://www.id.energy.gov/NEWS/PressReleases/PR100721-Annual/NESHAP\\_CY2009\\_INL\\_Report\\_for\\_Radionuclides.pdf](http://www.id.energy.gov/NEWS/PressReleases/PR100721-Annual/NESHAP_CY2009_INL_Report_for_Radionuclides.pdf) - 1.2 Mb .

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