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LARRY CRAIG

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INL, WATER PROJECTS RECEIVE SENATE SUPPORT

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Senate Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee approved its fiscal year 2008 spending bill today.

As its name implies, the bill funds programs related to energy and water development, and is therefore an especially important bill for Idaho. Included in the bill are a number of initiatives for the Idaho National Laboratory in addition to water infrastructure projects around Idaho.

Craig, a member of the subcommittee that wrote the bill, said, **“The INL is the nation’s premier nuclear power research laboratory, and this bill reflects that important mission. This bill provides strong support to construct the nuclear power plant of the future at INL and, just as important, over \$500 million for continued cleanup activities at the Site. Nuclear power is reemerging as a vital part of our energy mix in the future. It is a proven technology that can meet our demands without emissions.”**

Listed below are the projects included for Idaho. Please call Senator Craig’s office for specific details about any project.

Idaho National Laboratory

Next Generation Nuclear Plant -- \$45 million
Infrastructure for the Advanced Test Reactor -- \$16 million
Idaho Cleanup Project -- \$532.9 million

Water Projects

Rural Idaho Environmental Infrastructure, various projects – \$5 million total
Paradise Creek in Moscow – no specific dollar amount
Salmon River in Challis – no specific dollar amount
Columbia River Fish Mitigation (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) -- \$83.5 million
Columbia and Snake River Salmon Recovery (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) -- \$15 million
Operations and Maintenance at Albeni Falls Dam -- \$1.614 million
Operations and Maintenance at Dworshak Dam -- \$4.073 million
Operations and Maintenance at Lucky Peak Lake -- \$1.741 million
Resource Management, Operations, and Maintenance at Lewiston Orchards -- \$603,000

The bill now goes to the full Senate Appropriations Committee for approval.