

RESOLUTION NUMBER 797

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KETCHUM, IDAHO URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO RE-PRIORITIZE THE CLEANUP FUNDS BEING SPENT AT THE INEEL TO ADDRESS THE REMOVAL OF BURIED WASTE CURRENTLY THREATENING THE SNAKE RIVER AQUIFER.

WHEREAS, the Ketchum City Council is interested in the health, safety, welfare, and economic viability of the community and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, water quality, source protection, and conservation have been and continue to be one of the Ketchum City Council's top priorities in its legislation and budgeting; and

WHEREAS, the Snake River Aquifer is designated by the Environmental Protection Agency as the sole source of drinking water for over 200,000 Idahoans; and

WHEREAS, 25% of the potatoes grown in the United States are grown with Snake River Aquifer water; and

WHEREAS, 25% of all the beer brewed in the United States is brewed with Idaho barley; and

WHEREAS, 75% of the United States' commercial trout are raised in Snake River Aquifer water; and

WHEREAS, the potential carcinogenic effects of plutonium remain for 240,000 years; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) currently stores radioactive material underground in unlined pits and trenches; and

WHEREAS, the INEEL sits above the Snake River Aquifer, and plutonium has been found in the aquifer beneath the INEEL; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government's radioactive material removal efforts at INEEL have focused on removal of some of INEEL's most safely stored above-ground nuclear waste.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Ketchum hereby support and endorse the reprioritization of cleanup funds spent at INEEL for removal of some of the most safely stored waste, and urges a shift in funding to address removal of INEEL's buried waste currently threatening the Snake River Aquifer.

PASSED by the City Council and APPROVED by the Mayor this 17th day of December, 2001.



ATTEST:

Sandra E. Cady, CMC
City Clerk

DAVID C. HUTCHINSON
Mayor

