

**Final Mission Report  
Travel to Idaho Falls, Idaho  
January 4, 2006**

**Executive Summary:**

Honourable Greg Melchin travelled to Idaho Falls, Idaho on January 4, 2006 to lead a group of representatives from government, industry and the University of Calgary on a tour and meetings with officials from the Idaho National Laboratories (INL) Power Research Centre.

**Mission Objectives:**

- To gather information to assess and improve the power system in Alberta.
- To learn from the research the Idaho national centre is conducting on the U.S. power grid to help ensure Albertans continue to receive reliable electricity service.

**Accomplishments**

The delegation found the one-day trip to be informative and productive. The Idaho centre is a science-based, applied engineering national laboratory dedicated to supporting the U.S. Department of Energy's missions in energy and nuclear research, science, and national defense. Currently, the lab is conducting research to improve the reliability of the U.S. power grid in response to the August 2003 blackouts.

The Idaho centre combines unique educational, management, research and scientific approaches in a world-class national laboratory. Some 2,000 scientists work on a range of energy projects including physical and cyber security of energy corridors.

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Minister Melchin, along with the members of the delegation, toured the Idaho National Laboratories (INL) Power Research Centre, met with INL officials, and received presentations on the Centre's current research projects. In addition, the delegation met with Mr. Jim Yost, Energy Advisor to Idaho Governor Kempthorne.

The group returned to Edmonton that evening.

**Official Delegation**

Honourable Greg Melchin, Minister of Energy

The delegation consisted of:

MLA Advisory Committee on Transmission, Chair, George VanderBurg, MLA Whitecourt-St. Anne and members Fred Lindsay, MLA Stony Plain and Mel Knight, MLA Grande Prairie-Smoky. Other members of the delegation included: Dr. Robert Mansell, special advisor to the President of the University of Calgary on Energy and the Environment and Managing Director of the Institute for Sustainable Energy, Environment, and Economy at the University of Calgary; and TransCanada representatives including Alexander Pourbaix, Executive Vice President of Power.

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