IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 9

BY ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, TO THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND TO LISA JACKSON, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY.

We, your Memorialists, the House of Representatives and the Senate of the State of Idaho assembled in the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has, for the past three decades, crippled industrial development in Shoshone County through its Superfund designation, based upon highly questionable scientific data; and

WHEREAS, this designation has resulted in the loss of thousands of well-paying jobs in the natural resource sector, while only creating a significantly lesser number of low-paying, seasonal jobs, which do not provide benefits to employees; and

WHEREAS, the abatement of any alleged local environmental "pollution" or "contamination" is neither necessary nor proper to effect the regulation of interstate commerce and is, therefore, a power reserved to the state or the people of the State of Idaho pursuant to the Tenth Amendment of the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, by the EPA's own admission, blood lead testing of local residents has proven that any alleged human health hazard has been effectively eliminated, to the extent that such a hazard ever existed; and

WHEREAS, the EPA is now proposing a plan in which it will perpetuate its unconstitutional, economically paralyzing usurpation of state and local authority for another fifty to ninety years at an estimated cost of nearly one billion dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Legislature was neither consulted nor given the opportunity to consider the EPA's recent, proposed Record of Decision (ROD) amendment in Shoshone County, as called for by Senate Concurrent Resolution 127, passed by the Second Regular Session of the Sixtieth Idaho Legislature in 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-first Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that the Legislature of the State of Idaho vehemently opposes and rejects the ROD amendment proposed by the EPA, and hereby demands that our local, state and federal elected officials do all in their power in order to ensure that the EPA restore all roads and other infrastructure in Shoshone County to a condition meeting or exceeding that prior to its presence in Shoshone County, and that it then end its presence in Shoshone County and rescind the Superfund designation within the next five years.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States, and to Lisa Jackson, Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.