GWOU ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD
SECTION TITLE:
GW-800-801-1.20

PT

# Weldon Spring Citizens Commission

7295 Highway 94 South
Saint Charles, Missouri 63304

September 2, 2003

Ms Pamela Thompson
U.S. Department of Energy,
Weldon Spring Site Remedial Action Project
7295 Highway 94 South
Saint Charles, Missouri 63304

Dear Pam:

The Weldon Spring Citizens Commission (WSCC) continues to support the Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) in the effort to produce the Proposed Plan (PP) for the Groundwater Operable Unit (GWOU) and the Supporting Evaluation. The Commission is aware that the documents represent many years of planning, study and evaluation. The cooperative efforts of the parties involved have resulted in the production of two viable documents for public evaluation.

At the Public Meeting on Wednesday, August 13, 2003, DOE presented the PP to the public in attendance. The many members of the public voiced a substantial number of comments. The Commission is not necessarily in agreement with all of the comments, but we hope that you, EPA and MDNR, are truly listening to these members of the public who have been following and participating in the progress of the "cleanup for many years; some even before the DOE's efforts started" (quote from attendee at public meeting). It is important that all of the comments are thoroughly evaluated and a response developed for each one that indicates how the comment will be addressed and the rational behind the response.

The large number and tenor of the comments are a clear indication of the substantial involvement of the public and the complexity of the issues, as perceived by the public, concerning this site. The public comments reflect serious concerns regarding the final solution for the GWOU and future stewardship at the Weldon Spring site. We strongly urge you to pay serious attention to the public concerns because they were not lightly voiced.

Based on the information presented at the Public Meeting, it is also apparent that the cooperative efforts between DOE and MDNR that were responsible for producing the PP may not extend to the approval process. The current relationship between the two agencies is detrimental to the process and the overall path forward. The Commission asks that the two agencies fix this problem and get to the business at hand. We believe a formal agreement between DOE, EPA and MDNR, that defines the roles of each agency, as well as appropriate funding to carry-out their roles, will help to resolve the situation.

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As we have previously stated, our goal is to help all parties move forward with a solution that protects the health and safety of the large community involved and one that meets the concerns of the public.

Sincerely,
WELDON SPRING CITIZENS COMMISSION
Rick Hampel, Chair
Paul Mydler, Vice-Chair
Deborah Aubuchon
Fritz Hoffmeister
Donald Price
Thomas Nelsen
Larry Sharp

Cc: Mike Duvall, Deputy Director, SCC Div. Of Environmental Services
Mimi Garstang, Director, GSRAD
Dave Geiser, Director, USDOE Office of LTS
John Hoskins, Director, MDOC
Ben Moore, Environmental Engineer, MDNR
Joe Ortwerth, County Executive, SCC
Ray Plieness, Deputy Director, USDOE-GJO
Dan Wall, Project Manager Superfund Division, USEPA-Region VII