

DEC 22 2003

Mr. Dan Wall
Project Manager
Superfund Division
U.S. EPA
Region VII
901 N. 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

Dear Mr. Wall:

**DRAFT FINAL RECORD OF DECISION (ROD) FOR FINAL REMEDIAL ACTION
FOR THE GROUNDWATER OPERABLE UNIT AT THE CHEMICAL PLANT
AREA OF THE WELDON SPRING SITE**

Enclosed are three copies of the above-referenced document, which presents the Department of Energy's draft final decision for addressing groundwater contamination at the area of the former Chemical Plant. This document builds on the Administrative Record for the Groundwater Operable Unit and is a direct result of review and comment by EPA and MDNR of the draft ROD sent to you on September 30, 2003. All written agency comments are responded to in the separate attachment to this letter.

The draft final ROD maintains the preferred alternative from the draft ROD, a remedy of Monitored Natural Attenuation (MNA) for the contaminants in the groundwater, institutional controls and contingency activities in the event MNA does not progress as expected. The most significant change from the draft to the draft final version is the removal of specific design details based on EPA comments suggesting deferral to the Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plan.

This document is a primary document under the Federal Facility Agreement (FFA) and is subject to a final 30-day agency review. This time period offers the opportunity to mutually resolve minor issues that may remain regarding the revisions made in response to comments on the draft ROD. We are also making additional distribution of this document to those who had received the drafts of the Proposed Plan and the draft ROD. Following this draft final 30-day review period, DOE expects to sign the ROD as final and transmit it

