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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FEED MATERIALS PRODUCTION CENTER SOUTH PLUME EE/CA COMMENTS

05/31/90

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
FEED MATERIALS PRODUCTION CENTER
South Plume EE/CA Comments

by

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Harrison, OH 45030
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Dilution of the "South Plume" by sucking it out of the ground and discharging it through the effluent line into the Great Miami River without treatment is not a viable solution to the problem. It was the practice during the preceding 38 years of pouring chemicals, thorium, and uranium down drains, into pits, and leaving drums left to the mercy of the elements that has created the problem of the "South Plume." If you discharge this "South Plume" into the Great Miami River, we will be facing the problem again with aquatic life, residents, and soil being contaminated farther downstream. The argument of small amounts because of dilution does not stand up since it only takes a minute amount of these contaminants to enter a gene; later to be formed into cancer or passed on to our offspring.

By choosing Alternative 4 for the solution with an estimated cost of $10.7M, you are applying a very expensive bandaid to a monumental problem to justify more expenditures for research and jobs. All water must be treated for uranium, thorium, and chemicals before discharging instead of diluting it and tranferring it to another off-site location.

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May 31, 1990