

**4527**

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION  
FEMP WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL  
SHIPPING NEPA DOC. NO. 387**

**07/02/92**

**DOE/DOE  
NEPA DOC 387  
5  
CAT EX**

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)  
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION  
FEMP WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SHIPPING  
NEPA Document No. 387  
Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP)  
Fernald, Ohio

4527-

Proposed Action

The United States Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) proposes the shipment and receipt of various types of waste, hazardous materials and samples from the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) to various licensed disposal facilities, laboratories and other federal facilities and vice versa.

Location

Shipments will be made from the FEMP to various licensed disposal facilities, laboratories and other federal facilities and vice versa. Facilities that will receive the waste and hazardous material include but are not limited to the following: privately owned, licensed treatment/disposal facilities; privately owned laboratories; privately owned nuclear facilities; and federal facilities (e.g., Department of Energy [DOE] sites, Department of Defense's [DODs] Defense Consolidation Facility). The FEMP is located on 1050 acres approximately 18 miles northwest of downtown Cincinnati, Ohio.

Background

Past activities at the FEMP have resulted in the generation of a variety of wastes classified as Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous wastes, RCRA mixed waste, low-level waste, and Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) contaminated waste currently stored on-site and awaiting final disposal. In addition, past production operations resulted in the generation of a variety of other hazardous materials (e.g., low-level residues, high grade residues, orange oxide (UO<sub>2</sub>), green salt (UF<sub>6</sub>), uranium derbies, and refinery feedstock currently awaiting final disposition.

Future removal actions and routine maintenance projects at the FEMP will result in the generation of additional wastes and hazardous materials that will require packaging and shipment for characterization, treatability studies and/or disposal. The shipment of these wastes, hazardous materials and the potential environmental impacts associated therewith (as well as other sitewide environmental concerns associated with the remediation of the FEMP) are being evaluated in the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study, Environmental Impact Statement (RI/FS-EIS) for OU2. However, removal actions and interim routine maintenance activities that involve the disposition of waste and hazardous materials from the FEMP is required prior to the issuance of the Record of Decision (ROD) for the OU2 RI/FS-EIS.

### Description of the Proposed Action

The proposed action involves the packaging and shipping of existing wastes, hazardous materials, and samples that will be generated from FEMP Removal Actions and routine maintenance projects. Samples that are sent to laboratories for characterization and/or treatability studies will be shipped back to the FEMP for storage and final disposal. In some cases, it may also be necessary to receive waste and hazardous materials shipped back to the FEMP if the material is unacceptable to the receiving site and/or facility. All material received at the FEMP will be in compliance with an approved FEMP acceptance criteria for the receipt of sample waste.

Several FEMP Removal Actions involve the disposition of currently stored waste and hazardous material inventories (e.g., Removal Action 9 - Removal of Waste Inventories, Removal Action 12 - Safe Shutdown and Removal Action 15 - Scrap Metal Piles). These Removal Actions will require the packaging and shipping low-level waste and other hazardous materials that are currently stored on-site. Low-level waste material will be shipped to other facilities for treatment and disposal. Hazardous nuclear materials generated will be shipped to other federal facilities or their contractor's facilities for use in various production operations and/or storage.

In addition, there are numerous Removal Actions to be implemented that will generate low-level waste materials, RCRA hazardous waste, and RCRA mixed waste (e.g., Removal Action 13 - Plant 1 Ore Silos and Removal Action 24 - Pilot Plant Sump). The low-level waste will be packaged and shipped for disposal under Removal Action 9. The RCRA hazardous waste and RCRA mixed waste will be packaged and stored on-site in approved RCRA storage areas until they are shipped for disposal as a routine maintenance activity.

Other sources of waste and hazardous material shipped from the FEMP will be routine maintenance activities (e.g., activities required to maintain and preserve buildings, structures, infrastructures, and equipment). Stored inventories of RCRA hazardous waste, RCRA mixed waste, and PCB contaminated waste will be packaged and shipped for treatment and disposal as a routine maintenance activity. Ongoing FEMP routine maintenance activities will result in the generation of additional quantities of these wastes that will also be shipped off-site for treatment and disposal. Routine maintenance activities will result in the generation of additional quantities of low-level waste that will be handled under Removal Action 9.

### CX to be Applied

The Amendments to Section D of DOE's NEPA Guidelines, published in the Federal Register on September 7, 1990, add classes of actions generally applicable to all DOE actions that normally do not require Environmental Assessments (EA) or Environmental Impact Statements (EIS).

The Amendments specifically list the following as types of actions that are included:

Removal actions under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) (including those taken as final response action and those taken before remedial action) and actions similar in scope under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and other authorities (including those taken as partial closures actions and those taken before corrective action).

The authority for finding this project to be subject to Categorical Exclusion is the following language contained in Section D of the DOE NEPA Guidelines at the end of the subsection entitled "Classes of Actions Generally Applicable to All of DOE" and under the column entitled "Normally Do Not Require EAs or EISs" (52FR47662, December 15, 1987, p. 47668):

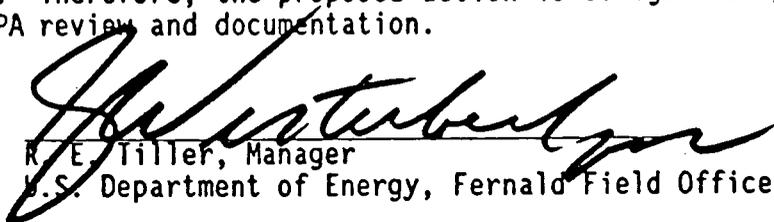
Actions involving routine maintenance of DOE-owned or operated facilities.

The proposed action will not violate applicable statutory, regulatory, or permit requirements; it will not require siting and construction or major expansion of waste disposal, recovery or treatment facilities; and it will not impact any environmentally sensitive areas (e.g., wetlands, floodplains, or the sole-source aquifer underlying the site).

Compliance Action

I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for the CX referenced. Therefore, the proposed action is categorically excluded from further NEPA review and documentation.

Approval:

  
R. E. Tiller, Manager  
U.S. Department of Energy, Fernald Field Office

Date:

JUL 02 1992

EH-25 has reviewed this determination and has no objection.

Signature:

Carol Borgstrom, Director  
Office on NEPA Oversight, EH-25

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

# memorandum

DATE: JUL 02 1992  
DOE-1988-92

REPLY TO:  
ATTN OF: FN:Skintik

SUBJECT: CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION (CX 387) - FEMP WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SHIPPING - FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT (FEMP), FERNALD, OHIO

TO: Carol Borgstrom, EH-25, FORS

The subject categorical exclusion (attachment) under Section D of the Department of Energy's National Environmental Policy Act Guidelines has been approved and is being forwarded for your review.

The Department of Energy, Fernald Field Office (DOE-FN) requests that you notify us within two (2) weeks, in accordance with the Interim Procedural Guidelines for implementation of SEN-15-90, whether you have any objection to this determination.

If you have any questions, please contact Ed Skintik at FTS/Commercial (513) 738-6660.



R. E. Tiller  
Manager

Attachment: As Stated

cc w/att.:

R. S. Scott, EM-20, FORS  
K. A. Hayes, EM-424, TREV  
L. Lawson, EM-431, TREV (2)  
C. J. Brown, WEMCO

FMPC  
ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE-NEPA/EMISSIONS REPORTING  
NEPA DOCUMENTATION STATUS

4527-

PROJECT TITLE:  
FEMP WASTE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SHIPPING

NEPA DOCUMENT NUMBER:  
387

COGNIZANT PROJECT ENGINEER:  
S. W. Heisler  
S. A. Kaushiva

NEPA DOCUMENT STATUS:

Approval by DOE/HQ on July 2, 1992  
A copy of the approval memorandum is enclosed for your files.

Reviewed and needs additional information.

Disapproved by DOE on \_\_\_\_\_ for the following reason(s):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c: AR Coordinator  
E. Schonegg  
S. M. Beckman

If you have any questions regarding this action, please contact the NEPA Group at Extension 8660.

*C. Brown*  
NEPA COORDINATOR

*July 10, 1992*  
DATE

If this document has been approved, please retain this sheet and the attached coversheet for your files. If this document requires further work, please sign and return this form with your revised NEPA document.

\_\_\_\_\_  
COGNIZANT PROJECT ENGINEER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE