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U.S. EPA COMMENT RESPONSE

07/06/1993

**USEPA
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LETTER**

CITIZEN



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

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A.R.
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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Ms. Norma Nungester
8574 Mount Hope Road
Harrison, Ohio 45030

RE: U.S. EPA Comment
Response

Dear Ms. Nungester:

Thank you for your comment regarding the April 9, 1993, resolution of the dispute between the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the United States Department of Energy (U.S. DOE). Your comment and U.S. EPA's response is presented below.

COMMENT

Please reduce the allowable amount of uranium in the other years (1994 and beyond) to below 1700 pounds, and give U.S. DOE a goal.

RESPONSE

U.S. DOE has agreed on its own behalf, as a result of an October 1990 dispute resolution settlement between U.S. EPA and U.S. DOE, to discharge not more than 1700 pounds of uranium per year to the Great Miami River. If not for this agreement between both agencies (there is no regulatory limit for uranium discharge) U.S. DOE would be allowed to discharge a greater amount of material into the river.

Recognizing the need and public concern to reduce uranium discharges below 1700 pounds per year, U.S. EPA proposed a reduction of the uranium discharges to the river as a supplemental environmental project. U.S. DOE then agreed to implement the \$2,000,000 supplemental environmental project, which will reduce uranium discharges to the river below the 1700 pound per year limit. Specifically, U.S. DOE must implement activities which will reduce uranium discharges to approximately 1529 pounds in 1994, 1042 pounds per year between 1995 and 1998, and below 702 pounds per year beyond 1998.

U.S. EPA and U.S. DOE have discussed the possibility of setting interim goals, however until the south plume groundwater pumping system is operational and more accurate estimates of the amounts of uranium collected during pumping are calculated, setting limits may be pre-mature.

If you have any question regarding the above, matter please contact me at (312) 886-0992.

Sincerely,

James Saric
Remedial Project Manager