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**IDENTIFICATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE  
TRUSTEES**

**10/13/93**

**DOE-2005-93  
DOE-FN/US INTERIOR  
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LETTER**



**Department of Energy**  
**Fernald Environmental Management Project**  
 P.O. Box 398705  
 Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705  
 (513) 738-6357

DOE-2005-93

Ms. Shiela Huff  
 U.S. Department of Interior  
 Regional Environmental Officer  
 175 Jackson Boulevard  
 Room A1147  
 Chicago, Illinois 60604

**IDENTIFICATION OF NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEES**

Dear Ms. Huff:

I am writing to you regarding the identification of Natural Resource Damage Trustees for the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) provides for the designation of Federal and State trustees who shall be responsible for the assessment of potential damages for injury to, destruction of, loss of, or threat to natural resources, as a result of a release of a hazardous substance or a discharge of oil.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has determined that the Consent Agreement, as amended under CERCLA §§ 120 and 106(a), identifies the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) as the responsible party within the meaning of Section 107 [Consent Agreement as amended, VII(B)(5)]. The U.S. Department of Interior (DOI) may have trusteeship for certain resources, and under CERCLA, may be entitled to act in the trustee capacity. As such, DOE requests that you indicate how you wish to participate in future natural resource trustee activities involving the FEMP site. Following the identification of interest by the Natural Resource Trustees, we plan to initiate a series of meetings to address the natural resource damage assessment process.

In managing the facilities, the DOE is charged with the dual role of CERCLA lead agency and natural resource trustee. The Consent Agreement, as amended between DOE and U.S. EPA, governs the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) process for the FEMP. For efficient management of the CERCLA activities, the site has been divided into five Operable Units. The RI/FS process requires the development of baseline risk assessments for each of the site's operable units, and will include ecological and environmental data. Operable Unit 5 is responsible for the sitewide ecological risk assessment which may identify impacts to natural resources resulting from activities of DOE and its predecessor agencies. The Consent Agreement as amended further requires the coordination of plans, studies, and assessments of hazardous sites. This coordination is currently being conducted by DOE and U.S. EPA, with the assistance and cooperation of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA).

DOE is very interested in working with you in our natural resource efforts. If you are interested in participating in the trustee activities, please contact Pete Yerace, the DOE Authorized Official for the FEMP, at (513) 648-3161.

Sincerely,



J. Phil Hamric  
Manager

cc:

W. Kurey, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
J. A. Saric, U.S. EPA  
K. A. Chaney, EM-424 TREV  
K. L. Alkema, FERMCO/65-2  
J. K. Mailander, FERMCO/19  
Administrative Record, FERMCO