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RESPONSE TO COMMENT CARD OF COMMUNITY MEETING OF RI/FS

05/10/90

DOE-1043-90
DOE-FN PUBLIC
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RESPONSE



Department of Energy

FMPC Site Office
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May 10, 1990

DOE-1043-90

Yana Keck
3255 Brotherton Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45209

Dear Ms. Keck:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the comment card you mailed to DOE after attending the most recent Community Meeting to discuss the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study being conducted at the Feed Materials Production Center.

We appreciate your involvement in the cleanup activities being conducted at the FMPC and we have added your name to our mailing list. You will now receive copies of the FMPC Update, announcements of meetings, and any special notices.

The question on your comment card reads, "I would like to know what plans are in the works for utilizing the existing workers for cleanup procedures at the Fernald plant?"

Westinghouse Materials Company of Ohio is committed to using the existing FMPC workforce to whatever extent is possible in the cleanup and environmental restoration efforts taking place today at the FMPC. This is also their intention as far as long-term plans are concerned.

The FMPC workers are actively engaged in several cleanup efforts, such as:

- repackaging and moving to environmentally safe storage the thorium oxides and metal which had previously been stored in silos, bins, and drums located on outside process area storage pads;
- decontaminating roadways, buildings and equipment in the process area;
- repackaging and shipping low-level radioactive waste;
- repackaging and storing of mixed radioactive/hazardous waste, along with various other cleanup efforts.

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In terms of the long-term environmental restoration effort, it is unclear exactly what activities and associated skills will be required. That determination will be made as part of the ongoing Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study which will result in identification of various cleanup alternatives. Ultimately, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will determine which alternative will be adopted for the various cleanup and restoration requirements. Thus, it is not possible to predict with certainty who will handle the work.

Some very preliminary work has begun on the feasibility of establishing a training/retraining program at the FMPC which would prepare workers for the environmental restoration and cleanup efforts, not only at the FMPC, but at other DOE sites as well. There are not, however, any programs in place to retrain the existing workforce.

If we can provide further information, please contact either Andy Avel or me at 738-6161 or 738-6319, respectively. Thank you for taking the time to get involved with our cleanup. We hope to see you at the next RI/FS Community Meeting.

Sincerely,



Gerald W. Westerbeck
FMPC Site Manager

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