

6519

U-007-707 .5

**SITewIDE ECOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT, DATE FOR INITIAL  
MEETING**

**02/05/93**

**TC:CRU5:93-001  
FERMCO        DOE-FN  
1  
TELECON**

RECORD OF TELEPHONE CONVERSATION TC:CRU5:93-001

FROM: Steve Oberjohn *JO* DATE: February 5, 1993  
LOCATION: Fernald  
TO: Eileen Helmer LOCATION: U.S. EPA, Chicago  
SUBJECT: Sitewide Ecological Risk Assessment, Date for Initial Meeting

---

DISTRIBUTION:

Art Bomberger  
Jim Forrelli  
Bill Hertel  
Marc Nelson  
Lee Ann Sinagoga, NUS

Jim Skridulis  
Kathy Trapp, NUS  
Eric Woods, BAT/MTC  
Pete Yerace, DOE-FN

106.4.19

Ms. Helmer was called in order to reschedule the February 11, 1993 meeting between her and the FERMCO Ecological Risk Assessment team. During the discussion, I raised the question of "adequacy of existing data." Ms. Helmer responded that she was not going to tell us if we had enough data. She felt (very strongly) that this site was at square one in regard to the Ecological Risk Assessment, and that we need to develop and express in the Ecological Risk Assessment our idea of how the contaminants are affecting the environment. Once we accomplished this, it was her belief that we would be in the position to determine if existing data are adequate.

Ms. Helmer believes we probably have enough data, but we need to justify that in writing if it is true. If not, we should focus any additional field work on specific areas not targeted for remedial actions. She does not want the site to "dig up the soil just to remove a little contamination" if we can demonstrate through the Ecological Risk Assessment that it is not necessary.

Ms. Helmer also stated — unequivocally — that she will not tell us if we have enough data, but she is very willing to answer our questions and provide guidance in regard to concept, format, and other aspects of the Ecological Risk Assessment. I asked her for copies of some Ecological Risk Assessments that reflect her philosophy, and she agreed to forward them to me.

We also agreed that postponing the meeting until February 17 would enable FERMCO to examine the work completed to date and develop our conceptual approach to the Ecological Risk Assessment.

JSO

/