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**SUBMITTAL OF OU 2 FINAL RECORD OF DECISION
(NOTIFICATION LETTER OF USEPA'S SIGNATURE ON
CONCURRENCE PAGE)**

06/12/95

USEPA
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LETTER

DOE-FN



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

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FILE:
REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

JUN 12 1995

Mr. Jack R. Craig
United States Department of Energy
Feed Materials Production Center
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

HRE-8J

RE: Submittal of OU 2 Final
Record of Decision

Dear Mr. Craig:

This letter serves notification that the Regional Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Region V has signed the Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit 2 at the United States Department of Energy's Feed Materials Production Center.

Please submit three (3) copies of the ROD with the signed cover page to U.S. EPA within fourteen (14) days of receipt of this letter.

Please contact me at (312) 886-0992 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James A. Saric
Remedial Project Manager
Technical Enforcement Section #1
RCRA Enforcement Branch

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO
Jack Baublitz, U.S. DOE-HDQ
Don Ofte, FERMCO
Jim Thiesing, FERMCO
Terry Hagen, FERMCO



DECLARATION

SITE NAME AND LOCATION

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) - Operable Unit 2
Fernald, Hamilton County, Ohio

STATEMENT OF BASIS AND PURPOSE

This decision document presents the selected remedial action for Operable Unit 2 at the U.S. Department of Energy FEMP site in Fernald, Ohio. This remedial action was chosen in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), as amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), and to the extent practicable, the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP).

The decision presented herein for the remedial action is based on information available in the Administrative Record for Operable Unit 2 maintained in accordance with CERCLA. This Record was made available for public review and comment. This decision is also based on the issues raised at the public meeting held on November 8, 1994 and the comments received during the public comment period following the issuance of the Feasibility Study/Proposed Plan-Environmental Assessment (FS/PP-EA). In making this decision, DOE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have considered all comments received during the public comment period on the FS/PP-EA.

The State of Ohio concurs with the selected remedy.

ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE

Actual or threatened releases of hazardous substances from Operable Unit 2, if not addressed by implementing the response action selected in this Record of Decision, may present a current or potential threat to public health, welfare, or the environment.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SELECTED REMEDY

Operable Unit 2 consists of the Solid Waste Landfill, the North and South Lime Sludge Ponds, the South Field, the Inactive and Active Flyash Piles, and berms, liners, and soils within the Operable Unit 2 boundaries. Soils outside the Operable Unit 2 boundaries and all groundwater will be remediated under the Operable Unit 5 Record of Decision.

Operable Unit 2 is the third of five operable units to begin remediation at the FEMP. Remedial actions for each operable unit will be coordinated to achieve overall risk reduction for the site.

The selected remedy for Operable Unit 2 includes excavation of all material with contaminants of concern above the established cleanup levels, material processing for size reduction and moisture control if required, on-site disposal in an engineered disposal facility with a composite cap and liner system, and off-site disposal of a small fraction of the excavated material that exceeds the waste acceptance criteria of the on-site disposal facility. A maximum waste acceptance criteria of 346 picoCuries per gram (pCi/g) of uranium-238, or 1,030 parts per million (ppm) total uranium, has been developed for the on-site disposal facility. It is estimated that 314,700 cubic yards of Operable Unit 2 material will meet the waste acceptance criteria and be disposed in the on-site disposal facility. DOE will not dispose of any off-site waste in this on-site disposal facility. It is estimated that up to 3,100 cubic yards of material will not meet the waste acceptance criteria for on-site disposal. This is

approximately one percent of the total amount of waste material that will be excavated. This material will be packaged and shipped to an off-site disposal facility. Soils containing lead from the Firing Range (approximately 300 cubic yards) will also not be disposed of in the on-site disposal facility. This material will be treated before being sent off site for disposal.

The location of the on-site disposal facility is subject to review and approval by EPA during the remedial design phase. The geology of the disposal facility location, in combination with engineering controls, will be protective of human health and the environment, based on evaluation of a series of soil borings made in the proposed area.

This alternative will include continued federal ownership of the site with access restrictions (fencing) and groundwater monitoring as institutional controls at the on-site disposal facility and the subunits.

The principal threats posed by Operable Unit 2 are addressed by this alternative through the removal of the contamination sources and containment in an engineered disposal facility.

STATUTORY DETERMINATIONS

The selected remedy is protective of human health and the environment, complies with Federal and State requirements that are legally applicable or relevant and appropriate to the remedial action (or justifies a CERCLA waiver), and is cost effective. The selected remedy utilizes permanent solutions and alternative treatment technologies to the maximum extent practicable. An EPA waiver is required from Ohio Solid Waste Disposal Regulations to allow waste disposal over a high-yield sole-source aquifer. The waiver is granted pursuant to CERCLA §121(d)(4)(D) which allows a waiver of an applicable or relevant and appropriate requirement (ARAR) if "the remedial action selected will attain a standard of performance that is equivalent to that required under the otherwise applicable standard, requirement, criteria, or limitation, through the use of another method or approach." The justification for this waiver is provided in the Decision summary of this Record of Decision and is supported by the Administrative Record for Operable Unit 2.

Because this remedy will result in contaminants remaining on site in an engineered disposal facility, a review will be conducted no less often than every five years after the initiation of remedial action to ensure that the remedy continues to provide adequate protection of human health and the environment [CERCLA §121(c)].



Regional Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5

6-08-95
Date



J. Phil Hamrie
Manager, Ohio Field Office
U.S. Department of Energy

5-12-95
Date