

7365

G-000-1012.157

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE HOMEOWNER WELL SAMPLING  
PROGRAM**

12/05/95

DOE-0257-96  
DOE-FN        EPAS  
5  
LETTER

E-7365



**Department of Energy**  
Fernald Environmental Management Project  
P. O. Box 398705  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705  
(513) 648-3155

**DEC 05 1995**

**DOE-0257-96**

**Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Director**  
**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**  
**Region V - 5HSF-5J**  
**77 W. Jackson Boulevard**  
**Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590**

**Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager**  
**Ohio Environmental Protection Agency**  
**401 East 5th Street**  
**Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911**

**Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:**

**PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE HOMEOWNER WELL SAMPLING PROGRAM**

The Department of Energy (DOE) currently samples well water from 33 properties in the vicinity of the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). These wells, shown in the enclosed figure, have been monitored, as required by DOE 5400.5, to determine the impact to the public and the environment from FEMP operations. Of the 33 property owners, 27 will be served by Hamilton County's soon-to-be completed public water supply line. In light of the upcoming availability of public water to these property owners and the completion of the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) process, the DOE has evaluated the need to continue monitoring these wells. Considered in this evaluation were DOE's regulatory requirements and commitments to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the public. As a result of this evaluation, the DOE recommends downsizing the homeowner well program. The following paragraphs outline the rationale which supports this downsizing of the homeowner well program as well as a listing of the specific wells which will continue to be monitored.

Beginning in calendar year 1996, after the public water supply is operational, the use of well water in the Fernald area will diminish, thereby limiting the potential for uranium intake. The substantive requirements of DOE 5400.5 will be met with the current and planned groundwater remediation monitoring. Remedy performance monitoring will be described in an upcoming Remedial Design and Remedial Action (RD/RA) documentation.

Information obtained from the Operable Unit 5 (OU5) RI/FS demonstrates that the decreased monitoring of drinking water wells will have no adverse impact on the public or the environment. The RI/FS documentation for OU5 defined the areas of the aquifer which have concentrations of uranium above 20 parts per billion (ppb) as well as the direction

and rate of contaminant movement. There are six properties that will not be serviced by the public water supply (Locations 55, 22, 30, 10, 3, and 4 in the enclosed figure). These properties are located outside the boundary of the 20 ppb uranium plume. Furthermore, since these locations are not hydrologically down gradient of the FEMP, the groundwater beneath these properties will not be impacted by FEMP contaminants. The planned aquifer restoration monitoring using DOE-maintained monitoring wells will continually evaluate the performance of the groundwater remedy. This monitoring will include an ongoing evaluation of the limits of the 20 ppb uranium plume throughout the life of the groundwater remediation project.

Based on this information, the DOE proposes limiting the homeowner well monitoring to two privately owned groundwater wells, which will be sampled on an annual basis. Well 13, located across Willey Road from the south access road to the FEMP, will be monitored to provide information useful in evaluating the performance of the groundwater restoration effort. Well 14, located just outside the southeast corner of the FEMP property, will also continue to be monitored due to its close proximity to the site and therefore, its usefulness in the evaluation of our groundwater restoration performance. The DOE will provide notification to the property owners before cessation of monitoring to explain the change, and to inform property owners of the comprehensive environmental monitoring program that will be continued by the DOE. The DOE anticipates conducting a meeting to present the ongoing monitoring programs and to solicit comments from the public.

If you have any questions, please contact Kathi Nickel at (513) 648-3166, or Robert Janke at (513) 648-3124.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FN:Nickel

Enclosure: As Stated

000002

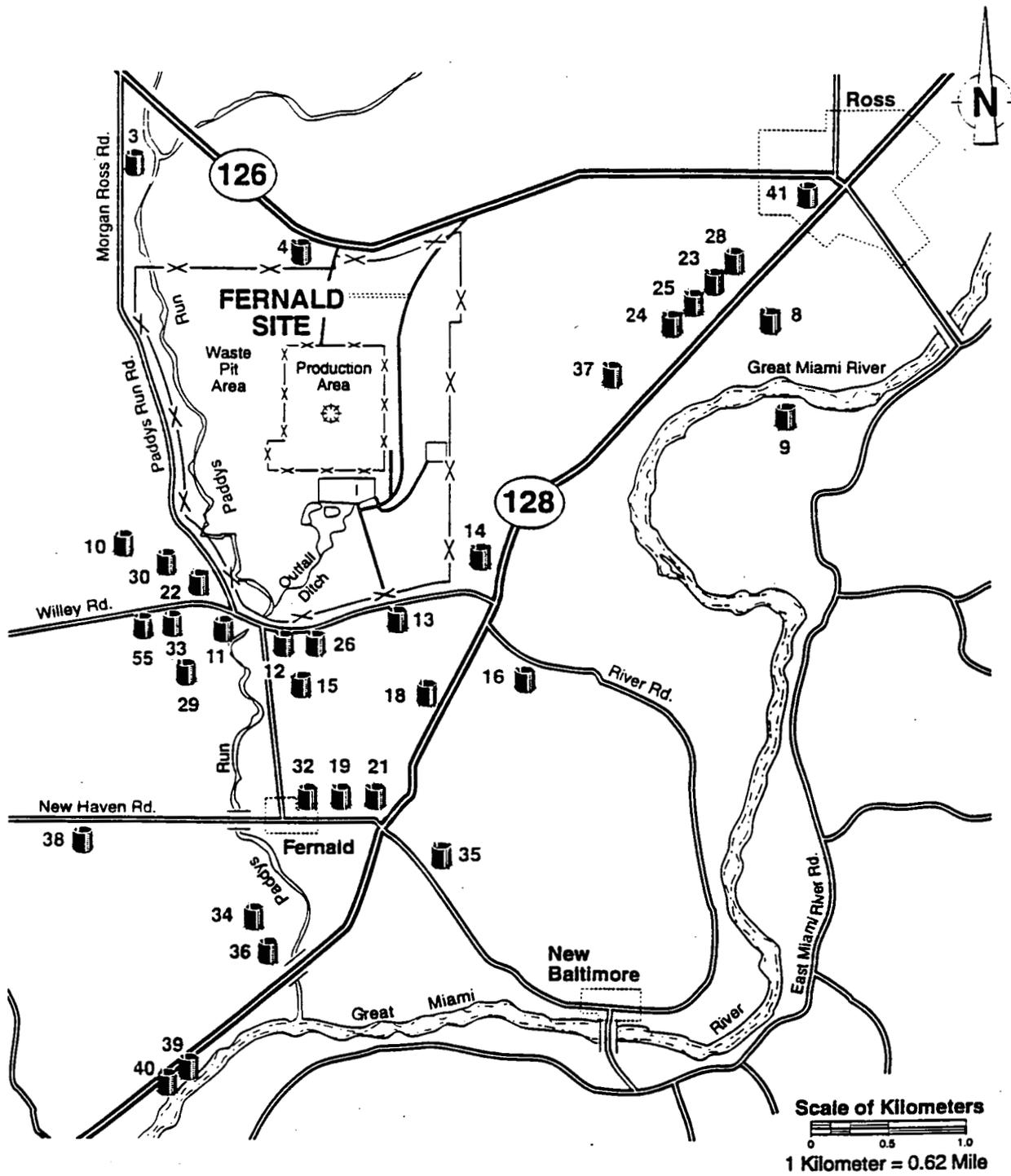
## cc w/enc:

K. H. Chaney, EM-423/GTN  
L. Griffin, EM-423/GTN  
B. Skokan, EM-423/GTN  
B. Barwick, USEPA-V, 5HRE-8  
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, 5HRE-8  
Manager, TSPP/DERR, OEPA-Columbus  
F. Bell, ATSDR  
D. S. Ward, GeoTrans  
R. Vandergrift, ODOH  
S. McClellan, PRC  
J. Carr, FERMCO/52-5  
M. J. Cherry, FERMCO/52-2  
R. D. George, FERMCO/52-2  
T. Hagen, FERMCO/65-2  
M. A. Jewett, FERMCO/52-5  
AR Coordinator, FERMCO

## cc w/o enc:

C. Little, FERMCO  
M. Yates, FERMCO

Private Well Monitoring Locations



LEGEND

Sampling Location

Plant Perimeter

Production Area Perimeter

000004