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**RESPONSE TO CONCERNS ON THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO
THE HOMEOWNER WELL SAMPLING PROGRAM**

01/29/96

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RESPONSE



Department of Energy
Fernald Environmental Management Project
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(513) 648-3155

JAN 29 1996
DOE-0454-96

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Director
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V - SRF-5J
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

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

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

RESPONSE TO CONCERNS ON THE PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO THE HOMEOWNER WELL SAMPLING PROGRAM

- Reference(s):** Letter, T. Schneider to J. W. Reising, "Proposed Modifications to the Homeowner Well Sampling Program," dated January 12, 1996.
- Letter, J. A. Saric to J. W. Reising, "Modifications to the Homeowner Well Sampling Program," dated January 9, 1996.

The above referenced letters express concern that changes to the homeowner well sampling program could be implemented by the Department of Energy, Fernald Area Office (DOE-FN) without sufficient technical justification and public input. Although the DOE-FN does anticipate reductions to this program, no action will be taken without the approval of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), and input from the public.

The DOE-FN is currently preparing a remedial action document entitled "Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan" (IEMP). The IEMP will be identified as a remedial action submittal in the Operable Unit 5 (OU5) Remedial Design Work Plan (RDWP). The IEMP will provide information on all environmental media sampling programs that will be conducted throughout the duration of the remedial action. Due to its broad scope, the document is expected to be a living document that will require periodic modification. The IEMP is anticipated to be transmitted to the U.S. EPA and OEPA for review and approval

sixty days after submittal of the RDWP. The IEMP will formally present the Fernald Environmental Management Project's (FEMP) plans for continuing the homeowner well program, as well as all other environmental sampling programs. DOE-FN intends to satisfactorily resolve all comments and concerns raised through review of the document.

The DOE-FN also realizes that environmental monitoring is of great concern to the community. As suggested in the November 9, 1995, meeting, the FEMP is planning on conducting a roundtable to discuss the purpose and scope of the IEMP with interested citizens. Additionally, representatives from OU5 anticipate meeting with the Fernald Residents for Environment, Safety and Health (FRESH) and the Fernald Citizen's Task Force subcommittee on environmental monitoring to gather additional input through the development of this document.

If you have any questions regarding this issue please contact Kathleen Nickel at (513) 648-3166 or Robert Janke at (513) 648-3124.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FN:Nickel

cc:

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