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APPROVED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION - MARCH 1995

04/09/96

DOE-0751-96
DOE-FN FERMCO
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CAT EX



Department of Energy

**Ohio Field Office
Fernald Area Office**

P. O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705
(513) 648-3155



APR 09 1996
DOE-0751-96

Mr. Terence Hagen, Director
Environmental Compliance
Fernald Environmental Restoration
Management Corporation
P.O. Box 538704
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8704

Dear Mr. Hagen:

APPROVED CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION - MARCH 1995

The enclosed categorical exclusion (CX) under Subpart D of the Department of Energy's National Environmental Policy Act Procedures and Guidelines, 10 CFR 1021, effective May 26, 1992, has been approved by the Department of Energy, Ohio Field Office (DOE-OH). The proposed action that was approved is:

CX 478 Disposition of Normal Nuclear Material Inventory

If you have any questions on this subject, please contact Ed Skintik at 648-3151.

Sincerely,

David R. Kozlowski
Associate Director
Office of Safety & Assessment

FN:Skintik

Enclosure: As Stated

cc w/enc:

V. Daub, FERMCO
W. E. Woods, FERMCO
Administrative Record

cc w/o enc:

M. Gareis, DOE-FN
J. Reising, DOE-FN

memorandum

Ohio Field Office

DATE: March 19, 1996

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: OH:Smiley

SUBJECT: **CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION ON PROPOSED ACTION AT THE
FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

TO: Jack Craig, Director, FN

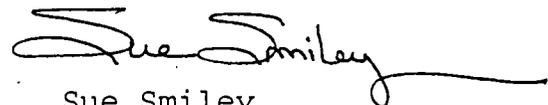
Attached please find an approved environmental checklist for the following proposed action at the Fernald Environmental Management Project:

CX No. 478 Disposition of Normal Nuclear Material
Inventory

Please note that in order to further streamline the NEPA process, a draft checklist was previously submitted to me electronically by Ed Skintik of your staff. My comments on the draft were incorporated in the attached final checklist.

I have reviewed the proposed action in accordance with DOE's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulation found at 10 CFR Section 1021, and have determined that this action is **categorically excluded** from the requirement to prepare additional NEPA documentation in the form of either an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

If you have any questions on this categorical exclusion determination, you may contact me at (513) 865-3987.



Sue Smiley
NEPA Compliance Officer

Attachment: As Stated

cc w/o att:
Ed Skintik, FN
Mary Beth Gareis, FN



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Ohio Field Office

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Project/Activity Title: Disposition of Normal Nuclear Material Inventory	NEPA ID Number: Date: CX No. 478	Rev. #:
Contractor Project Manager: Vernon Daub	Phone: 648-5954	
Contractor NEPA Coordinator: W. Eric Woods	Phone: 648-5268	
DOE NEPA Document Manager: M.B. Gareis/E.P. Skintik	Phone: MGB: 648-3181 EPS: 648-3151	

A. BRIEF PROJECT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION: (Attach detailed description or statement of work, if necessary)

Nuclear materials at Fernald have historically been dispositioned from the site as part of ongoing CERCLA remedial actions, waste management activities or routine activities associated with facility operation. The majority of shipping activities at the site have focused on the disposition of waste off-site for disposal. However, an inventory of normal uranium products are stored on-site as a carry over from former production operations. A total of approximately 500,000 pounds of normal uranium is currently available for off-site disposition. This material is in a variety of forms of product uranium materials with market value.

The proposed action involves the disposition of approximately 500,000 pounds of nuclear product inventory from the Fernald site. The final disposition of the remaining inventory must be examined in independent NEPA evaluations for each specific material type. A Request for Proposal to identify a buyer for the normal material was issued by DOE. Subsequently, a buyer has been identified and a contract is being awarded for the sale of that material. The normal material will likely be purchased by AlliedSignal Corporation in Metropolis, Illinois. Upon purchase being finalized, the material will be shipped to Aerojet, Inc. in Jonesborough, Tennessee for oxidation and then shipped to AlliedSignal. Shipment of the material will require approximately 17 truck loads leaving the Fernald Site. It is expected that the disposition of the material would begin as early as April of 1996.

Because there is a relatively small amount of normal material that will be dispositioned (approximately 500,000 pounds) from the Fernald Site to the selected buyer; FERMCO is recommending that the disposition of the normal material be excluded from detailed NEPA review (i.e., a CX be prepared) utilizing basis B6.1 in Subpart D of 10 CFR 1021. Although disposition of this material is not a CERCLA action, the CX basis can be justified because the action is a required action before the implementation of a CERCLA Action.

B. SOURCES OF IMPACTS: Would the proposed action involve, generate, or result in changes to any of the following?

	YES	NO		YES	NO
1. Air emissions	—	<u>X</u>	12. Water Use/Diversion	—	<u>X</u>
2. Liquid effluents	—	<u>X</u>	13. Water Treatment	—	<u>X</u>
3. Solid waste	—	<u>X</u>	14. Waterway modification	—	<u>X</u>
4. Radioactive waste/soil	<u>X</u>	—	15. Radiation/toxic chemical exposures	<u>X</u>	—
5. Hazardous waste	<u>X</u>	—	16. Pesticide/herbicide use	—	<u>X</u>
6. Mixed waste	—	<u>X</u>	17. High energy source/explosives	—	<u>X</u>
7. Chemical storage/use	—	<u>X</u>	18. Transportation	<u>X</u>	—
8. Petroleum storage/use	—	<u>X</u>	19. Noise levels	—	<u>X</u>
9. Asbestos	—	<u>X</u>	20. Workforce adjustment	—	<u>X</u>
10. Utilities	—	<u>X</u>	21. OTHER	—	<u>X</u>
11. Clearing or excavation	—	<u>X</u>			

Explanation and Qualification of specific responses of "YES."

Number	Explanation
<u>4</u>	<u>Radioactive material will be packaged and shipped off-site</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>If material was declared waste, less than 2% would be a RCRA hazardous waste</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>Potential exposure to the public through shipping</u>
<u>18</u>	<u>Shipping material for treatment and then disposal</u>

C. CATEGORY EVALUATION CRITERIA: Would the proposed action:

	YES	NO
1. Be related to a proposed action with potentially significant impacts?	—	<u>X</u>
2. Take place in an area of previously or ongoing disturbance?	<u>X</u>	—
3. Create uncertain, unique or unknown risks?	—	<u>X</u>
4. Require any federal, state or local permits, approvals, etc.?	<u>X</u>	—
5. Create hazardous, radioactive or mixed waste for which no disposal is available?	—	<u>X</u>
6. Impact a RCRA-regulated unit or facility?	—	<u>X</u>
7. Threaten or violate any statute, regulation or DOE Order?	—	<u>X</u>
8. Disturb hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants that pre-exist in the environment?	—	<u>X</u>
9. Require siting, construction, or expansion of a waste treatment, storage or disposal facility?	—	<u>X</u>
10. Adversely affect any environmentally sensitive resources including, but not limited to, structures of archaeological, historic or architectural significance; threatened or endangered species or their habitat; floodplains or wetlands; wildlife refuges, agricultural lands or vital water sources (e.g., sole-source aquifer)?	—	<u>X</u>
11. Force a low-income or ethnic minority population to shoulder a disproportionate share of the negative environmental impacts of pollution or environmental hazards because of a lack of political or economic strength (i.e., an issue of "Environmental Justice")?	—	<u>X</u>
12. (if the proposed action will involve air emissions, will the action) be located within an air pollutant <i>non-attainment</i> or <i>maintenance area</i> for any of the criteria pollutants? (if YES, then additional analysis may be required to determine if emissions would be above <i>de minimus</i> thresholds and/or if emissions would be regionally significant. Pending completion of this analysis, requirements stated in 40 CFR 93.158 may be imposed before the proposed action could proceed).	—	<u>X</u>

Explanation and Qualification of specific responses of "YES."

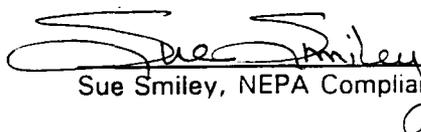
Number	Explanation
2	Packaging will take place in process area
4	Approvals for transportation will be required

D. RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL

The proposed action meets the criteria specified by 10 CFR, Subpart D, and/or DOE Policy and Guidance for:

- Categorical Exclusion (Subpart D, Appendix B, Class of Action B6.1)
 Environmental Assessment (Subpart D, Appendix C, Class of Action _____)
 Environmental Impact Statement (Subpart D, Appendix D, Class of Action _____)
 Integrated Documentation for a CERCLA or RCRA action.
 Variance (Emergency Action per 40 CFR 1506.11 and 10 CFR 1021.343)

Approval by:

 Date: 3/19/96
 Sue Smiley, NEPA Compliance Officer

NOTE: DOE Order 451.1 entitled "National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Program" (dated September 11, 1995), paragraph 5.d.(2) delegates authority for categorical exclusion (CX) determinations to the NEPA Compliance Officer. This authority heretofore resided with the Field Office Manager. Section D, "Recommendation and Approval," of the Ohio Field Office Environmental Checklist (ECL) has been modified accordingly to show that CX determination authority now resides at the NEPA Compliance Officer level (i.e., the signature of the Manager is no longer required). Revision 2 of the Ohio Field Office NEPA Compliance standard operation procedure (OH-6.1.01) will reflect this change in authority for CX determinations, as well as other non-substantive changes required to ensure consistency with DOE Order 451.1. An issuance date for Revision 2 of OH-6.1.01 has yet to be established. Any questions regarding the Ohio Field Office NEPA Compliance Program should be directed to Ms. Sue Smiley, NEPA Compliance Officer, at (513) 865-3987.