



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
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0288

NOV 12 2004

Mr. Johnny W. Reising
United States Department of Energy
Fernald Area Office
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: SR-6J

Subject: Conditional Approval of the Draft Explanation of Significant Differences For Operable Unit 4

Dear Mr. Reising:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has completed its review of United States Department of Energy's (DOE) above-mentioned draft Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) document, dated October 26, 2004 and received by EPA on November 1, 2004. The draft ESD was prepared by DOE to modify the approved remedy for OU4 to allow the option for temporary offsite storage of Silo 1,2, and 3 materials, prior to permanent offsite disposal at the Nevada Test Site or a permitted commercial disposal facility.

EPA has one editorial comment on the draft ESD (attached) that needs to be addressed, therefore, EPA conditionally approves the ESD. DOE should address the editorial comment for full approval and prior to issuance of the draft ESD for formal public review.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (312) 886-4591.

Sincerely,

Gene Jablonowski
Project Manager
Federal Facilities Section
Superfund Division

Enclosure

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO
Johnny Reising, U.S. DOE-Fernald
Jamie Jameson, Fluor Fernald
Terry Hagen, Fluor Fernald
Frank Johnston, Fluor Fernald

