



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

82289

NOV 16 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: 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 November 15, 2004 and received by EPA on November 15, 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. This version of the draft ESD was submitted to EPA to address comments in support of EPA approval of the document, which was previously conditionally approved.

DOE has addressed EPA's previous comments; therefore, EPA approves the ESD. 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