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RESULTS OF THE WATER SAMPLING OF WELL

08/10/92

**DOE-2109-92
DOE-FN/CITIZENS
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LETTER**



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Department of Energy
Fernald Environmental Management Project
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705
(513) 738-6357

AUG 10 1992

DOE-2109-92

Mrs. Ruth Sellet

Dear Mrs. Sellet:

The Westinghouse Environmental Management Company of Ohio (WEMCO), in cooperation with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Health, has been collecting water samples from your well and others in the area as part of our continuing environmental monitoring program. These samples are analyzed for uranium concentration in order to assess any possible effects of Fernald Site operations on groundwater quality.

The purpose of this letter is to provide you with an update on the results of our sampling. The laboratory result from the month of May 1992 is expressed below in parts of uranium per billion parts of water (ppb), and picocuries of uranium per liter of water (pCi/L). Picocuries per liter are the units used to express groundwater data in the Annual Environmental Report.

<u>Sampling Date</u>	<u>Uranium Concentration</u>	
	<u>(ppb)</u>	<u>(pCi/L)</u>
May 26, 1992	7.9	5.3

For comparison, a groundwater study conducted by an independent consultant for the Fernald Site determined that background concentrations of naturally-occurring uranium in the groundwater for this area range from less than 0.1 ppb to 2.7 ppb (0.07 to 2.0 pCi/L). Also, a U. S. Geological Survey study (J.D. Hem, 1970, Geological Survey Water-Supply Paper 1473) reported a range of uranium concentration of less than 0.1 ppb to 10 ppb (0.07 to 6.8 pCi/L) in most natural water within the United States.

R. Sellet

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The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed an interim drinking water standard for total uranium of 20 ppb (13.5 pCi/L). The uranium concentration in your sample is well below this limit. Although this result indicates an upward trend, it is within the range typically identified for your water. Environmental Monitoring will continue sampling your well and reporting the result to you on a monthly basis.

If you have any questions regarding the result reported to you in this letter or on any aspect of our environmental program, please contact me by phone (738-6160) at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Wally Quaider, Branch Chief
Environmental Compliance

FN:Quaider