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U-004-407 .18

RE: J. E. WALTHER LETTER CONCERNING OU2 PROPOSED PLAN

11/30/94

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LETTER

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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

NOV 30 1994

Mr. Jack R. Craig  
United States Department of Energy  
Feed Materials Production Center  
P.O. Box 398705  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

HRE-8J

RE: J.E. Walther Letter Concerning  
OU 2 Proposed Plan

Dear Mr. Craig:

On November 28, 1994, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) received a letter from Mr. J.E. Walther commenting on the Operable Unit (OU) 2 Proposed Plan. U.S. EPA is submitting the letter to the United States Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) for formal response as part of the OU 2 Record of Decision and Responsiveness Summary.

Given the nature of the comments, U.S. EPA requests a meeting with U.S. DOE to discuss this matter, before a formal response is submitted to Mr. Walther.

Please contact me at (312) 886-0992 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager  
Technical Enforcement Section #1  
RCRA Enforcement Branch

Enclosure

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO  
Don Ofte, FERMCO

November 21, 1994

**RECEIVED**  
NOV 28 1994

Mr. James A. Saric  
Remedial Project Director  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V - 5HRE-8J  
77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

OFFICE OF RCRA  
WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
EPA REGION V

**SUBJECT: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON PROPOSED REMEDIATION PLAN OF FEMP  
OPERABLE UNIT #2 LOW-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE (DUE  
NOVEMBER 25, 1994)**

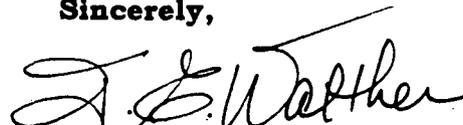
Dear Mr. Saric:

The Fernald Site is grossly inappropriate as a permanent storage site for any low level radioactive waste because of the following considerations:

1. Area geology and seismic activity.
2. Area demographics - increasing population density; 19 miles to Cincinnati.
3. Levels of precipitation and tornado-prone area.
4. Low depth to ground water - sand and gravel bottomland.
5. Site over Great Miami Aquifer currently the source of potable water for hundreds of thousands of people in Southwestern Ohio and future usage will be for millions of people.
6. People live in houses less than 100 ft. from the FEMP boundary.
7. The proposed FEMP nature preserve is no place for any kind of hazardous radioactive waste. What radiation does not kill, it mutates.
8. There is no minimum two-mile "safety" buffer zone between the proposed storage site and the FEMP boundary.
9. There is no permanent "fail-safe" radioactive waste containment facility under the above conditions.
10. There is no safe threshold for human exposure to cancer-causing ionizing radiation. There is danger of exposure to low levels of radiation.
11. No one likes radioactive waste in their backyard so why should we continue to be victimized under a "cloud" of cancer producing radioactivity for another 40 years and on into the future to hurt countless more generations!
12. Evaluation of rail transportation risks should be made for safest route to an existing or new isolated waste facility where the radioactive waste will not directly or potentially cause harm to any person for the foreseeable future and corrective action taken where needed to maximize assured success.

Your help to remove all radioactive waste from FEMP will be appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
J. E. Walther

6361



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5

77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD

CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

NOV 30 1994

Mr. J. E. Walther  


Dear Mr. Walther:

Thank you for your letter of November 21, 1994, providing comments on the Operable Unit 2 Proposed Plan for remedial action at the Fernald Site. Your letter specifically lists twelve issues for consideration as to why a low level radioactive waste site should not be constructed at the Fernald facility.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency understands your concerns, and is working with the United States Department of Energy to address them. On November 29, 1994, U.S. EPA forwarded a copy of your letter to U.S. DOE. They will be a formally respond to your comments, and include the response in the public record.

Thank you again for your letter, and if I can be of further assistance please contact me at (312) 886-0992.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James A. Saric".

James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager  
Technical Enforcement Section #1  
RCRA Enforcement Branch

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO  
Jack Craig, U.S. DOE

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