

7517

G-000-1012.170

RESULTS OF WELL SAMPLING

10/02/91

DOE-2261-91
DOE-FN CITIZEN
2
LETTER

7517

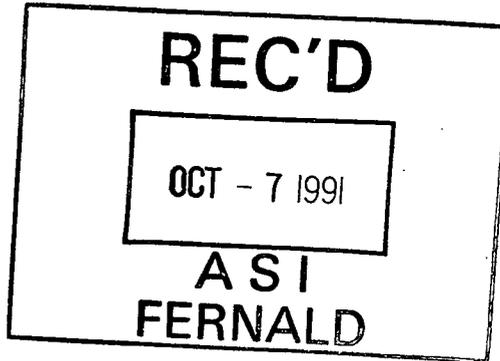
DS845



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

OCT 2 1991

DOE-2261-91



Mrs. Verdie Estes



Dear Mrs. Estes:

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 July 1991 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> |
| July 25, 1991 | 2.9 | 1.96 |

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 (0.068 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 (0.068 to 6.8 pCi/L) in most natural water within the United States.

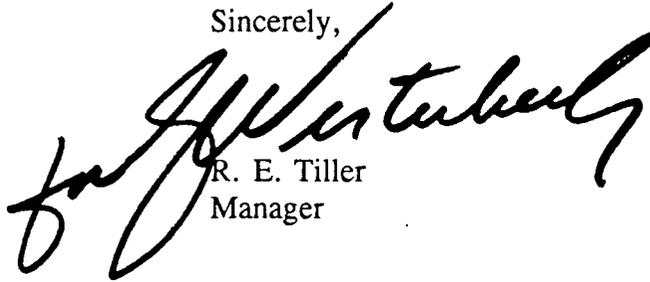
V. Estes

-2-

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; however, it is at the upper end of the range expected for naturally-occurring background uranium in this area. The result is consistent with those obtained and reported to you during previous periods, and no significant changes in the reported levels are apparent. Environmental Monitoring will continue to monitor your well on a monthly basis and advise you regularly of the results.

If you have any questions regarding the result reported to you in this letter or would like to discuss the option of receiving an alternative source for drinking water, please contact Wally Quaider by phone (738-6160) at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. E. Tiller", is written over the typed name and title.

R. E. Tiller
Manager

FO:Quaider