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**SILO PROJECT INDEPENDENT REVIEW TEAM DOCUMENTATION - SILOS  
PROJECT PATH FORWARD DECISION ANALYSIS PROCESS**

12/02/96

**C:WMTSP(SP):96-0039**

**FDF IEER**

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**LETTER**



Restoration Management Corporation

P. O. Box 538704 Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8704 (513) 648-3000

December 2, 1996

Fernald Environmental Management Project  
Letter No. C:WMTSP(SP):96-0039

Mr. Marc Fioravanti  
IEER  
6935 Laurel  
Takoma Park, MD 20912

Dear Mr. Fioravanti:

**SILOS PROJECT PATH FORWARD DECISION ANALYSIS PROCESS**

Thank you for your participation in the kick-off meeting for the Silos Project Path Forward Decision Analysis Process. I received your follow-up memo addressing potential variations in the approach to the "Vitrify Silos 1, 2 and 3" path forward alternative. Your recommendations are similar to comments made to the Evaluation of Silo 3 Alternatives report issued by Fluor Daniel Fernald, which are currently being addressed.

Open discussion of alternative approaches is essential to achieving our objectives of generating a mutual understanding and consensus over a course of action, and arriving at a path forward decision that accomplishes the project objectives of safe, cost effective remediation of Operable Unit 4 residues and facilities to the satisfaction of our stakeholders. Future meetings of the Independent Review Team will need to focus on the specifics of the alternative path forward approaches.

I have taken the liberty of distributing your recommendations to members of the Independent Review Team and participating stakeholders for their consideration. I hope we can count on your continued participation in the decision process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Paine".

Don Paine  
Silos Project Manager

MLD:kjc  
Enclosure

c: Path Forward Decision Distribution List  
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**INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH**

November 22, 1996

Don Paine  
Silos Project  
Fluor Daniel Fernald  
PO Box 538704  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8704

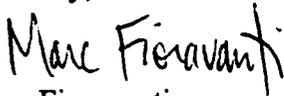
Dear Don,

I enjoyed your presentations at the Review Team meetings last week. I wanted to put down in writing something that we had discussed during one of the breaks, for the consideration of the panel.

One of the three path forward options put forth by Fluor Daniel Fernald for consideration in the decision analysis framework is "Vitrify Silos 1, 2, & 3." I would like to propose that this option be refined in order to include specific mixes of waste from different silos. For example, one option could be "Vitrify a mixture of Silos 1, 2, & 3" and another could be "Vitrify a mixture of Silos 1 and 2, and (in a separate process) vitrify Silo 3."

To date, the high sulfate content of Silo 3 seems to be presenting one of the largest technical challenges to the operation of the entire Pilot Plant. At the same time, the risks posed by the waste in Silo 3 appear to be much lower than the risks posed by waste in Silos 1 and 2 so far as specific activity is concerned. To the extent that the difficulty in treating Silo 3 waste holds up the vitrification of waste in Silos 1 and 2, the objectives of the cleanup at the Fernald site are being compromised. A priority-based approach to dealing with the risks posed by the radioactivity content of the waste in the silos would lead to Silos 1 and 2 being vitrified first. By defining the options so that they specify the mixture of waste to be vitrified, the review team can explicitly evaluate the kinds of tradeoffs mentioned above.

Sincerely,



Marc Fioravanti  
IEER

cc: Lisa Crawford, FRESH  
Mark Dehring, Fluor Daniel Fernald  
Bob Heck, Fluor Daniel Fernald  
Todd Martin, HEAL  
Lee Merkhofer, Applied Decision Analysis

**FEMP Silos Project  
Path Forward Decision  
Distribution List**

Independent Review Team

Gail E. Bingham, consultant  
Gilles Chevrier, NUMATEC  
Robert Cook, consultant  
Jim Edmondson, consultant  
Carol Jantzen, WSRC  
Bob Lawrence, WVNS  
Todd Martin, HEAL  
John Plodinec, WSRC  
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Jim Saric

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Tom Schneider

Others

Marc Fioravanti, IEER  
Ben Rusche, MTR Inc.  
Silos Project File 40000  
Fernald Public Reading Room

11/27/96