



**Department of Energy**  
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JUN 9 1997  
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**Mr. John Bradburne, President**  
**Fluor Daniel Fernald, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 538704**  
**Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8704**

Dear Mr. Bradburne:

**UPDATE TO THE OPERABLE UNIT 4 SAFETY BASIS**

A series of discussions and meetings related to radon treatment, silo dome integrity, and waste retrieval activities over the last several months have all had one fact in common, a need for a definitive and documented risk basis for making informed decisions. There exist perceptions of the public's and regulator's view on risks and hazards presented by the K-65 Silos; however, there have been only limited efforts toward quantifying the risks. In addition, the Preliminary Safety Analysis Report for Operable Unit 4 (OU4) now has only limited applicability in light of the path forward for the Vitrification Pilot Plant (VitPP). Given these considerations, the Department of Energy (DOE) believes that the safety basis for OU4 should be updated to reflect the current and potential avenues for continued interim storage, retrieval, and treatment of the K-65 residues. A determination is to be made concerning the applicability of existing safety basis documentation. A scope of work shall be developed and coordinated with DOE for completing the safety basis update.

A change proposal is to be developed which amends this scope of work to the current baseline and identifies the cost and schedule for completing the work.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Randy Janke at (513) 648-3123.

Sincerely,

for Jack R. Craig  
Director

FEMP:R.C. Janke

## cc:

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