



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

Handwritten: 6446.5
JAN 27 1998

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF _____

JAN 27 1998

Mr. Johnny W. Reising
United States Department of Energy
Feed Materials Production Center
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

SRF-5J

RE: Habitat Area
Environmental Project

Dear Mr. Reising:

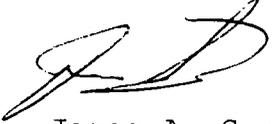
The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has completed its review of the United States Department of Energy's (U.S. DOE) proposal for establishing a wild bird/wild flower sanctuary on the Fernald site. This was required as part of the environmental projects involved in the Operable Unit 4 dispute resolution.

The overall approach to the proposal meets the goal and intentions of establishing a habitat area. However, more detail is required concerning the actual development of the habitat area and how it will meet the objectives of the project.

Therefore, U.S. EPA disapproves the proposal pending incorporation of adequate responses into a revised document. U.S. DOE must submit responses to comments and a revised document within thirty (30) days receipt of this letter.

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

Sincerely,



James A. Saric
Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Section
SFD Remedial Response Branch #2

Enclosure

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO
Bill Murphie, U.S. DOE-HDQ
John Bradburne, FERMCO
Terry Hagen, FERMCO
Tom Walsh, FERMCO

damage the wildflowers. The work plan should explain how the area will be mowed without damaging the wildflowers.

Commenting Organization: U.S. EPA Commentor: Saric
Section #: NA Page #: NA Line #: NA
Original General Comment #: 6

Comment: The DRA indicates that project costs include the costs for the installation of feeders and a bird blind, yet neither is mentioned in the work plan. These installation activities and their associated costs should be included in the work plan.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Commenting Organization: U.S. EPA Commentor: Saric
Section #: 2.1.1 Page #: 3 Lines #: 16 to 19
Original Specific Comment #: 1

Comment: The text provides a brief description of the small gravel parking area designed to provide access and accommodate automobiles. The parking area description should include a description of the proposed gravel material (for example, coarse aggregate, crushed limestone, crushed gravel, or other) and a description of the parking area drainage.

Commenting Organization: U.S. EPA Commentor: Saric
Section #: 2.1.1 Page #: 3 Lines #: 19 and 20
Original Specific Comment #: 2

Comment: The text states that a series of poles will be installed around the parking area. The text should indicate whether the parking area will be screened with vegetation from the remainder of the Habitat Area Project.

Commenting Organization: U.S. EPA Commentor: Saric
Section #: 2.1.1 Page #: 3 Lines #: 26 and 27
Original Specific Comment #: 3

Comment: The text states that parking area access will meet local transportation authority specifications, including those associated with elevations and dimensions, line painting, traffic signs, and others. The text should specify the agency responsible for the access road specifications (for example, the town, county, village, or other) and include "line-of-sight distances" as one of the listed requirements.

of against them. An "S-shaped" trail extending south along the contours to the area near the cluster of six Allegheny blackberries and then bending beneath the existing tree canopies back to the original trail would provide additional aesthetic qualities and reduce potential erosion impacts. In addition, Figure 1 lacks detail in a number of areas. The figure should (1) label Paddys' Run Road, (2) label the elevations of additional contour lines, (3) show different line symbols for any existing and any proposed contour lines and include the symbols in the legend, (4) indicate what the symbol on the nonmulched portion of the trail represents and include it in the legend, (5) include the symbol that appears to indicate an intermittent stream in the legend, and (6) indicate Habitat Area Project boundaries and any ecological research plot boundaries.