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Department of Energy

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APR 15 1998

DOE-0655-98

Mr. Thomas A. Winston, District Chief
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
401 East 5th Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Winston:

REQUEST TO DISCONTINUE GROUNDWATER MONITORING AT WELLS 1675 AND 1676 ADJACENT TO THE COAL PILE RUNOFF COLLECTION BASIN

Monitoring Wells 1675 and 1676 were installed adjacent to the coal pile runoff collection basin in March 1991. These wells were installed and sampled in accordance with the Department of Energy's (DOE) Permit to Install (PTI) application that was submitted as required by the 1988 Consent Decree between the State of Ohio and the DOE. The PTI (Application No. 05-4172) was issued by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) in September 1990. Data collected from the wells have been included in the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) Annual Site Environmental Report as specified in the Permit. The PTI did not specify the conditions under which monitoring of the wells would cease; however, the DOE is proposing that monitoring be discontinued for the following reasons:

- The coal storage area that drains to the basin will no longer be utilized for bulk coal storage and the useable coal has been removed.

- The entire site is undergoing Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) cleanup in accordance with the established Records of Decision (ROD) for the five FEMP operable units. In particular, the Operable Unit 5 (OU5) ROD requires that site soil be remediated to Final Remediation Levels (FRL) that are protective of human health and the environment (including the underlying Great Miami Aquifer). This cleanup includes soil underlying both the former coal storage area and the associated runoff collection basin.

- The seven years of groundwater data collected from Monitoring Wells 1675 and 1676 do not indicate a threat to human health and/or the environment.

- Laboratory test data collected to support the permit indicate the permeability of the glacial overburden underlying the basin to be approximately 10^{-8} cm/s^2. The low

permeability of the overburden will provide sufficient protection to the underlying Great Miami Aquifer in the interim, until the basin is removed and soil in the area of the basin is remediated.

Accordingly, the DOE will discontinue monitoring Wells 1675 and 1676 on June 1, 1998, unless otherwise directed by the OEPA.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Robert Janke at (513) 648-3124, or Kathleen Nickel at (513) 648-3166.

Sincerely,

Johnny Reising

FEMP:Nickel

Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

cc:

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