



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

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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF

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

RE: Nuclear Material  
Dispositioning  
Milestones/Extension

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) June 1, 1999, letter proposing a schedule for disposition from the site of nuclear materials and a revised schedule for disposition of low-level legacy wastes. This letter was a June 1, 1999, milestone to establish dates for the disposition of nuclear materials and low-level legacy waste.

U.S. EPA concurs with the milestones of June 1, 2002, for disposition of nuclear materials from the site; May 29, 2003, for disposition of low-level legacy wastes, currently in inventory at the site; and December 31, 2005, for the treatment (as necessary) and disposition of uranium materials that were formerly considered nuclear materials, but were declared wastes in December 1998.

U.S. EPA understands that the processing and disposition of nuclear materials was not historically in the baseline budget for completion of environmental restoration at the Fernald site. Further, U.S. EPA recognizes the storage constraints for such additional materials considering the scheduled Decontamination and dismantling (D&D). As a result, U.S. DOE has also requested schedule extensions for implementation plan submittal for the following: Liquid Storage Complex, Plant 2 Complex, General Sump Complex, Plant 3 Complex, Electrical Station Complex, and the Pilot Plant. U.S. EPA concurs with the extension and U.S. DOE's proposed milestones in the June 1, 1999, letter.

Once the existing Plant 1 Pad ceases operation at the end of Fiscal Year 2002, to accommodate the remaining uranium waste materials and staging capabilities of the silos project, U.S. DOE has proposed constructing a two-acre concrete pad. This pad will be an extension of an existing storage pad to support the silo and waste pit activities. Although, U.S. EPA concurs with the future construction of the pad the Agency recommends U.S. DOE continue revisiting other existing storage options or expediting the

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disposition of materials to prevent the need for constructing another storage pad.

Now that the nuclear material treatment and disposition activities are included in the budget U.S. DOE must request funding for such activities from Congress in the annual budget. Failure to request funding may result in future requests for schedule extensions being denied based on good cause, as the 1991 Amended Consent Agreement specifically requires U.S. DOE to request funding for all activities.

In summary, U.S. EPA concurs with U.S. DOE's proposed dates for disposition of nuclear materials and low-level legacy waste, as well as the extension request for submittal of implementation plans for the above-mentioned complexes. These dates are enforceable milestones under the 1991 Amended Consent Agreement.

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

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

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