



## Department of Energy

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OCT 18 1999

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Mr. James Saric, Remedial Project Manager  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region V, SRF-5J  
77 West Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

DOE-0051-00

Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager  
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
401 East 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
Dayton, OH 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

### STATUS OF WPRAP STARTUP OF FULL SCALE OPERATIONS

Reference: Johnny Reising, DOE-FEMP to James A. Saric, U.S. EPA and Thomas Schneider, Ohio EPA, Re: Transmittal of Schedule Dates for OU1 Startup of Operations, dated July 30, 1999.

The purpose of this letter is to provide the status of the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project (WPRAP) start-up of full-scale operations, and a request for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) concurrence with an extension. In the referenced letter of July 30, 1999, the Department of Energy (DOE) identified a date of October 18, 1999, for start-up of Full Scale Operations. In discussions leading to the establishment of the above-referenced commitment, DOE and Flour Daniel Fernald, Inc. (FDF) understood that it was your agencies' objective to ensure continued focus and progress related to full-scale operational capability. DOE believes this objective is being achieved as evidenced by the successful Systems Operability Testing for the dryers and support systems.

DOE recognizes the U.S. EPA and OEPA expectations that the October 18, 1999, commitment included successful completion of all required startup reviews. However, DOE believes WPRAP would benefit by continuing Phase 2 (Excavation Only) as we have been, until we are certain that the facilities and personnel are ready to handle all operating conditions. Specifically, WPRAP would use this additional time to maximize operation and maintenance training, readiness exercises, and testing. Current operations allow for

Mr. James A. Saric  
Mr. Tom Schneider

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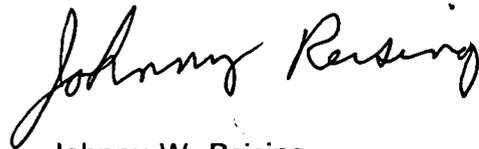
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WPRAP to maintain adequate operations during this time and do not require use of the full-scale facilities. Therefore, it is requested that the U.S. EPA and OEPA concur with an extension of the start of Phase 3 (Full Scale Operations) by approximately 30 days. Extending the start-up of Phase 3, as requested, would not result in any operational delays.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Dave Lojek at (513) 648-3127.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:Lojek

cc:

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