



**Department of Energy**

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DEC 17 1999

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

DOE-0242-00

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

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

**TRANSMITTAL OF: 1) THE INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING STATUS REPORT FOR THIRD QUARTER 1999 (DECEMBER 1999), AND 2) RESPONSES TO THE U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY COMMENTS ON THE INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING STATUS REPORT FOR SECOND QUARTER 1999 (SEPTEMBER 1999)**

This letter transmits the subject documents to meet the quarterly reporting obligation defined in the Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan (IEMP) for the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). Furthermore, in an effort to improve the data reporting process defined in the IEMP, the Department of Energy (DOE) has posted the Integrated Environmental Monitoring Status Report for Third Quarter 1999 on the internet. As previously discussed with the agencies, it is DOE's intent to streamline and improve the IEMP quarterly reporting process by using the internet and other net-based communication technologies as the primary vehicles for transmitting data and publishing the IEMP quarterly reports. DOE is very interested in working with the agencies in developing this net-based reporting approach with the eventual goal of eliminating the hard copy report deliverable.

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Internet reporting offers a number of benefits over conventional hard copy reporting, specifically in the areas of usability, data presentations, report accessibility, and additionally in report development and production. These benefits are realized in the following manner:

- The document on the Internet allows the reader to directly access a section and subsection of interest. Additionally, the structure of the Internet document now permits the reader to easily move between text, tables, and graphics within each section and subsection. This approach allows reviewers to quickly focus on a topic of interest and provides for greater efficiency in navigating through the report.
- Special features have been added to the data presentations (i.e., tables, graphs, and maps) within the Internet document. These special features include the following:
  - The ability to magnify portions of maps so that the reviewer can look at a detailed area.
  - The ability to obtain additional technical information pertaining to a specific data point within a graph. Specifically, graphs may be enhanced with what is termed as a "pop-up." Pop-ups allow the reader to click on a box within the graph to obtain textual information pertaining to a concentration or value of interest. Within this report, there are several pop-ups specifically in the Air Monitoring Section (Figures 4-5, 4-10, and 4-11 associated with AMS-3, AMS-8A, and AMS-9C, respectively).
  - The ability to differentiate and enhance information within data presentations by the use of multiple colors. Consistent with the site standards for hard copy document production, the IEMP quarterly status report has been produced as a black and white document. By providing the information on the internet, color data presentations can be used to highlight important information and provide greater clarity in the communication of environmental and operational data.
- There is greater access of information for the Fernald Stakeholders. Stakeholders will be able to access the IEMP quarterly status report through Fernald's web site at [www.fernald.gov](http://www.fernald.gov). For those stakeholders who do not have Internet access, the report will be available at the Public Environmental Information Center both in hard copy and via the Internet through use of computers provided at this location.
- Report development and production are streamlined in order to minimize costs relating to materials and time spent in generating these reports. Specifically, the document does not have to be printed in its entirety for the review cycle or for formal distribution (e.g., minimization of waste). This is consistent with Fluor Daniel Fernald's, Inc. (FDF) and DOE's "paper smart" initiative. The elimination of the quarterly hard copy reports for draft reviews and final publication will save a significant amount of paper along with preparation and production time.

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Through utilization of the Internet, DOE will be able to provide future improvements to these reports as new technologies become available. It is DOE's commitment to continue to improve the product provided to the regulatory agencies and Fernald Stakeholders, while realizing cost savings. It should be noted that the first initiative for future improvements is to establish a net site for transmitting data to the regulatory agencies. This site would replace the current practice of transmitting data via CD-ROM and would allow the U.S. EPA and OEPA access to environmental data in a more expedient manner. This project will be initiated during First Quarter 2000 and is anticipated to be in place and available for the agencies' access during the second quarter.

The IEMP quarterly status report is located on [www.fernald.gov](http://www.fernald.gov) under the menu item Key Projects and within the project description for Environmental Monitoring. After clicking on the link for the quarterly status report, the main menu for the quarterly report, which is very similar to the outline of previous reports, will appear as follows:

- Groundwater
- OSDF
- Surface Water
- Air Monitoring
- Natural Resources
- Meteorological
- Acronyms
- References

The internet report will be available for viewing by Monday, December 20.

As agreed to with the U.S. EPA and OEPA, agency comments on the Integrated Environmental Monitoring Status Report for Second Quarter 1999 have been addressed through the enclosed comment response document, rather than through a revision of the report. At this time, OEPA comment responses have been completed and are provided for transmittal. However, responses to the U.S. EPA comments on the second quarter status report, which were received in early December, will be sent under a separate transmittal at a later time.

Included with this transmittal is a CD-ROM, which contains the data used in the development of the quarterly status report. The following Word files are included on the CD-ROM and identify all electronic files associated with each media: GW1299.doc (groundwater including on-site disposal facility information), SW1299.doc (surface water), and AIR1299.doc (air and meteorological).

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If you have any questions concerning the enclosed documents or access to the internet site, please contact Kathleen Nickel at (513) 648-3166.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:Nickel

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:

N. Hallein, EM-42/CLOV (w/CD-ROM)  
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, SRF-5J  
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (three copies of enclosure) (W/CD-ROM)  
J. Saric, USEPA-V, SRF-5J (w/CD-ROM)  
F. Bell, ATSDR  
M. Schupe, HSI GeoTrans (w/CD-ROM)  
R. Vandegrift, ODH  
F. Barker, Tetra Tech (w/CD-ROM)  
AR Coordinator, FDF/78

cc w/o enclosures:

R. J. Janke, OH/FEMP  
A. Tanner, OH/FEMP  
D. Carr, FDF/52-2  
T. Hagen, FDF/65-2  
J. Harmon, FDF/90  
R. Heck, FDF/2  
S. Hinnefeld, FDF/31  
T. Walsh, FDF/65-2  
ECDC, FDF/52-7