



## Department of Energy

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MAY 15 2000

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-0662-00

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:

### ENHANCED PERMANENT LEACHATE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM - SCHEDULE

- Reference: 1) Letter, T. Schneider to J. Reising, "LCS Repair North of MH#2," dated June 23, 1999
- 2) Letter J. Reising to J. A. Saric and T. Schneider, "Permanent Leachate Transmission System", dated October 29, 1999
  - 3) Letter , T. Schneider to J. Reising, "Permanent Leachate Transmission System," dated December 15, 1999
  - 4) Letter , J. Reising to J. A. Saric and T. Schneider, "Permanent Leachate Transmission System, dated January 13, 2000
  - 5) Letter , T. Schneider to J. Reising, "Permanent Leachate Transmission System (LTS)," dated January 20, 2000

This letter provides a status update on the Enhanced Permanent Leachate Transmission System (EPLTS) design and construction. Also presented are realistic target completion dates based on the latest information available.

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Background

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Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) letter (Reference 1), had indicated that design, procurement, construction and start-up should be completed in Calendar Year (CY) 2000. As a result, Fluor Fernald, Inc. engineers, along with GeoSyntec consultants, began working on the EPLTS design in July 1999. However, shortly into the design process, the project team realized that this date was too aggressive and could not realistically be met. At a meeting with the agencies on July 27, 1999, Fluor Fernald, Inc. presented a preliminary schedule that showed a two-phase construction action. The first phase would be completed in February 2001 and would include Cells 1-4, and the second phase completed in November 2001 for the remaining work [Cells 5-7 to the Permanent Lift Station (PLS)]. The Agencies, however, verbally rejected this plan.

Following the July 27 meeting, the Fluor Fernald project team re-evaluated the design concepts and construction schedule. A new path forward was developed and proposed on October 29, 1999 (Reference 2). Under this plan two operational milestones would be met:

- 1) December 31, 2000 milestone for the complete installation and turnover to operations of the EPLTS from Cell 1 to 5, with a tie-in to the Interim LTS (ILTS) pipe; and
- 2) December 31, 2001 milestone for the remainder of the system, Cells 6, 7, Control Valve House to PLS. This path-forward was approved by the OEPA on December 15, 1999 (Reference 3).

Changes in the October 29 proposed path forward began soon after its issuance. Those changes are as follows:

- 1) The need and exact footprint for Cell 7 was evaluated and was later dropped from consideration along with its associated Valve House (VH) design in the EPLTS (References 4 and 5).
- 2) Significant design issues developed surrounding the ILTS tie-in. The issues included:
  - the inability to pressure test the system once the tie-in had been made;
  - the area grading would require the temporary tie-in to slope up and then down, creating a non-free flowing system; and
  - the requirement to shut down all three active cells for an unreasonable period of time to disconnect the tie-in, complete

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construction of EPLTS piping between VH5 and VH6, pressure test, perform Standard Startup Review (SSR) and turnover before releasing leachate to EPLTS (i.e., holding leachate within the cells for an extended period).

The combination of eliminating VH7 and the ILTS tie-in design issues resulted in the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) eliminating the two operational milestone approach and proceeding with a single-phase construction activity. These design changes were included in the 90% Design Package issued in January 2000 for a concurrent review by the Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and the OEPA review and the pre-review presentation on January 19, 2000.

#### Current Schedule

The single-phase construction plan, even though combined with an aggressive 5 day (10 hours each) work week assumption, delayed the first milestone beyond December 31, 2000, but significantly reduced the second milestone. The entire EPLTS is now planned to be operational by April 1, 2001. While the first milestone will be missed by three months, the overall project completion date has been accelerated. Further, once waste placement is completed for the 2000 construction season, no additional On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) waste will be placed until the EPLTS is complete.

This new schedule contains the same assumptions as were presented in the October 29, 1999 letter:

- 1) No significant weather delays;
- 2) Cells 8 and 9 (plus Cell 7) are not required;
- 3) Modifications to the existing OSDF Sedimentation Basin are to be completed by July 2000 (this work is now part of the EPLTS Project);
- 4) The EPLTS corridor will be certified before field work on the EPLTS begins (report approved by U.S. EPA and OEPA on March 7 and March 14, respectively);
- 5) FY 2000 funding is available for construction (full funding was not available; however, FY 00 funding was provided, FY 01 funding will be required to complete);
- 6) The lower portions of existing manholes at Cells 1, 2, and 3 along with interconnecting piping and anti-flotation slabs are abandoned in-place (the interconnecting piping will not be abandoned); and

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- 7) EPA approval of any additional Design Change Notices (DCN), within three days of submittal. (This is a new schedule assumption).

Status

The construction contract was awarded to The Staver Group, Inc. on May 2, 2000. Site Authorization-To-Mobilize is anticipated by June 1, 2000. The contractual performance period of 320 calendar days should allow all activities, including tie-ins at Cells 1, 2, and 3 to be completed by April 1, 2001.

If you have any questions on the EPLTS path-forward, please contact Robert Janke at (513) 648-3124 or Jay Jalovec at (513) 648-3122.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:Jalovec

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