UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
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CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

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REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: SRF-5J

Mr. Johnny W. Reising
United States Department of Energy
Fernald Area Office
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239-8705

Subject: Approval of Silos 1 and 2 Accelerated Waste Retrieval (AWR) Project Site Preparation

Dear Mr. Reising:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has reviewed the above-referenced document as part of its oversight activities for Operable Unit 4 at the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). The document, which is dated March 2000, was prepared by Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation, subcontractor to Fluor Daniel Fernald, for the U.S. Department of Energy. The document consists of the revised site preparation package for the AWR project and responses to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) comments on the site preparation portion of the December 1999 remedial design package.

U.S. EPA's review of the document focused on assessing (1) the technical adequacy of the comment responses and revised site preparation package and (2) whether the responses were properly incorporated into the revised site preparation package. U.S. EPA found that the responses are adequate and have been properly incorporated into the revised site preparation package, and therefore approves the document. However, U.S. EPA has comments on two drawings in the revised document that should be addressed prior to project start. U.S. EPA's specific review comments are enclosed.

If you have any questions, you may contact me at (312)886-4591.

Sincerely,

E Jablonowski

Gene Jablonowski
Remedial Project Manager
Federal Facilities Section
SFD Remedial Response Branch #2

Enclosure

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO
Bill Murphie, U.S. DOE-HDQ
John Bradburne, Fluor Fernald
Terry Hagen, Fluor Fernald
Tim Poff, Fluor Fernald

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ENCLOSURE

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMENTS ON "SILOS 1 AND 2 ACCELERATED WASTE RETRIEVAL (AWR) PROJECT SITE PREPARATION"

FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

(One Page)

TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMENTS ON "SILOS 1 AND 2 ACCELERATED WASTE RETRIEVAL (AWR) PROJECT SITE PREPARATION"

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SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Commenting Organization: U.S. EPA
Drawing #: 51FCD003 Page #: Not applicable (NA) Line #: NA
Original Specific Comment #: 1
Comment: The pipe bedding detail shown on this drawing indicates that power cables and fire alarm cables are to be installed in a trench containing a 2-inch-diameter water line. It is not standard engineering practice to install electrical cables above a water line in a trench. The cables to be installed are to be directly buried and will not be protected by a conduit or concrete encasement. These cables could be damaged whenever the trench is excavated to repair the water line. Electrical cables should be installed in a trench separate from that of any water line. If electrical cable must cross a water line trench, they should be installed in a conduit encased in concrete. Such installation is necessary not only to protect the cables themselves but to protect operators of excavation equipment. The drawing should be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: U.S. EPA
Drawing #: 61FCD002 Page #: NA Line #: NA
Original Specific Comment #: 2
Comment: This drawing shows a precast concrete manhole detail which uses precast concrete sections, including a transition cone section, in the upper portion of the manhole. Typically, such a cone section is 3 feet high, the monolithic base section is about 2 feet high, and the manhole frame and cover and any adjusting grade rings will have a total height of about 1 foot, making the manhole 6 feet deep. However, the profiles shown on the drawing indicate that two of the manholes are less than 4 feet deep and that the third manhole is less than 5 feet deep. The detail should be revised to clearly show a shallow manhole, or the sewer should be installed deeper if the precast concrete manhole shown is to be used. The drawing should be revised accordingly.