



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southwest District Office

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George V. Voinovich
Governor

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July 26, 2000

Mr. Johnny Reising
U.S. Department of Energy, Fernald Area Office
P.O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, OH 45253-8705

Re: Position on Wetlands formed Incidental to Construction

Dear Mr. Reising:

Ohio EPA has reviewed DOE's April 10, 2000 submittal, "The Department of Energy, Fernald Environmental Management Project on Wetlands Formed Incidental to Construction." Though Ohio EPA understands DOE's concerns with regard to incidental wetlands, we believe these wetlands have an intrinsic value and should receive due consideration. Therefore, we believe a case by case review of the wetlands are warranted prior to deciding whether mitigation is necessary. We recognize that these wetland will in most cases not require mitigation. A case by case review will allow for consideration of alternatives to destruction, options for re-establishment and the necessity of mitigation. Prior to destruction of any wetland, incidental or other, Ohio EPA must be consulted.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (937) 285-6466.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Schneider
Fernald Project Manager
Office of Federal Facilities Oversight

cc: Jim Saric, U.S. EPA
Terry Hagen, FDF
Mark Shupe, HSI GeoTrans
Francie Hodge, Tetra Tech EM Inc.
Ruth Vandergrift, ODH

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