



**Department of Energy**

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**AUG 11 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-0917-00

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:

**DOCUMENTATION OF DECISION TO PLACE TRANSITE BUNDLES IN CELL 3 OF THE  
ON-SITE DISPOSAL FACILITY**

Reference: Letter, J. Reising to G. Jablonowski/T. Schneider, "Transmittal of Meeting Notes and Revised Addendum 5 to the Impacted Materials Placement Plan for the On-Site Disposal Facility," dated June 30, 2000

The purpose of this letter is to document the decision to place transite bundles in the remaining space of Grid H13, Lift 7 in Cell 3 of the On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) using the approach described in the revised Addendum 5 of the Impacted Material Placement Plan (IMPP). When approved, Addendum 5 will allow side by side placements of transite bundles to improve placement efficiency while maintaining long-term stability of the OSDF. A field demonstration of the proposed approach was conducted in Grid H13 in June 2000 per the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (OEPA) request. Following the field demonstration and subsequent technical discussions with the OEPA, Addendum 5 has been revised and resubmitted, and is currently under review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and OEPA. Utilizing remaining space in Grid H13 will allow expedited placement of about twelve to fifteen transite bundles including all the thorium-contaminated transite currently staged in the Former Production Area. By placing these transite bundles expeditiously, potential spread of and exposure to thorium contamination will be minimized. This decision to place transite bundles in the remaining space of Grid H13, Lift 7 of Cell 3, was made during a conference call between the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) representatives and OEPA on August 3, 2000.

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Mr. James A. Saric  
Mr. Tom Schneider

-2-

AUG 11 2000

Since there are no unresolved technical issues for Addendum 5, current Decontamination and Decommission (D&D) transite inventory and production information is provided to assist in your evaluation regarding the need of Addendum 5 as also suggested by DOE during the call. Currently there are 2,245 cubic yards of transite staged at various locations in the Former Production Area. About 375 cubic yards more of the transite will be generated by December 31, 2000. An additional 729 cubic yards of transite has been estimated to be generated by October 1, 2001. Due to the limited staging capacity of transite bundles and potential health and safety concerns of the workers and the environment in maintaining these asbestos-contaminated materials, it is very important that these transite bundles be placed in the OSDF as soon as possible.

Under the Addendum 5 placement approach about 320 cubic yards of transite can be safely placed in a grid while the existing approach can only accommodate 220 cubic yards per grid and lift. The improved approach can, therefore, significantly reduce duration of staging before any D&D transite can be placed in the OSDF. This improvement is especially critical due to the accelerated Plants 5 and 6 D&D schedule and a lower soil generation rate expected in 2001.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Robert Janke at (513) 648-3124.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:R.J. Janke

3175

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Mr. James A. Saric  
Mr. Tom Schneider

-3-

cc:

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