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SEP 06 2000

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

DOE-0984-00

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

Dear Mr. Jablonowski and Mr. Schneider:

ACCELERATED WASTE RETRIEVAL PROJECT CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES

As discussed during the August 15, 2000 meeting and the subsequent August 24, 2000 conference call with Fluor Fernald, Inc., the Department of Energy (DOE), the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), the Silos 1 and 2 Accelerated Waste Retrieval (AWR) Project is approaching the end of construction activities covered by the Site Preparation Package approved by the U.S. EPA and OEPA in May 2000. According to the current schedule, these site preparation activities will be completed by October 26, 2000. In an effort to maintain the momentum and fully utilize the construction labor force and construction season, DOE is requesting authorization from the U.S. EPA and OEPA to proceed with the following construction activities addressed in the draft Remedial Design (RD) Package submitted for the U.S. EPA and OEPA review on June 29, 2000.

1. Transfer Tank erection and setup (Tank 1A, 1B, 2A and 2B erection, painting, testing), scheduled September 13, 2000 to February 6, 2001.

2. Transfer Tank Area (TTA) wall erections (forming/rebar/concrete placement for TTA building corners and walls), scheduled October 4, 2000 to January 15, 2001.

3. TTA structural steel (erect interior columns and bracing and exterior wall columns), scheduled October 18, 2000 to January 21, 2001.

4. Radon Control System (RCS) Air Handling Building (pre-fabricate and rough in first floor ductwork, rough in first floor power, set condensate tanks, set condensate pumps, set electrical panels and the erection of the interior and external walls of the interior and external walls of the first floor of the RCS air handling building), scheduled upon approval to September 27, 2000.

5. Set-Up Electrical Building (set diesel generator, set air compressor, set make-up water tank), scheduled October 30, 2000 to November 7, 2000.

Consistent with our recent meetings, the construction activities listed above have been evaluated in relationship to comments recently received from the U.S. EPA and OEPA on the AWR RD Package. Based upon this evaluation, proceeding with the construction activities listed above will not impact the AWR project team's ability to address any of the U.S. EPA or OEPA concerns noted with the AWR RD Package. The only comment that could effect the proposed areas of construction is OEPA comments relative to the RCS design basis. "The design basis for the RCS appears to be theoretical, based on a small data set from bench-scale testing. If the RCS does not operate as designed, contingencies should be in place to rectify RCS problems. The design should allow for possible changes to the system." The AWR Project has taken the following design steps to ensure that the RCS operates as required, given the limited experience in treating radon:

- Two independent laboratories conducted testing of carbon radon adsorption coefficient.
- Two renowned radon experts evaluated design of RCS.
- Design consists of four carbon beds of 40,000 lbs. of carbon each and redundant chillers and desiccant dryer systems.
- RCS system was evaluated and sized as to meet the radon requirement with an engineering safety margin of approximately four times (for example, if only one of four carbon beds were functioning the radon emission requirements for worker exposure and fence line limits will be maintained).

The AWR project team remains committed to fully addressing all of the U.S. EPA and OEPA's comments and concerns with the AWR RD Package. A summary list is enclosed of all AWR construction activities scheduled between September 1, 2000 and November 1, 2000.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this issue, please contact Nina Akgündüz at (513) 648-3110.

Sincerely,

Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FEMP:Akgündüz

Enclosure

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cc w/enclosure:
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (three copies of enclosure)
F. Hodge, Tetra Tech
M. Schupe, HSI GeoTrans

cc w/o enclosure:
S. Fauver, EM-31/CLOV
N. Akgündüz, OH/FEMP
T. Binau, OH/FEMP
I. Brown, OH/FEMP
J. Lorence, OH/FEMP
A. Murphy, OH/FEMP
A. Tanner, OH/FEMP
J. Saric, USEPA-V, SRF-5J
R. Vandegrift, ODH
D. Carr, Fluor Fernald, Inc./2
R. Fellman, Fluor Fernald, Inc./2
T. Hagen, Fluor Fernald, Inc./65-2
J. Harmon, Fluor Fernald, Inc./90
B. Hensley, Fluor Fernald, Inc./44-0
S. Hinnefeld, Fluor Fernald, Inc./31
D. Nixon, Fluor Fernald, Inc./52-4
D. Paine, Fluor Fernald, Inc./52-4
T. Walsh, Fluor Fernald, Inc./65-2
AR Coordinator, Fluor Fernald, Inc./78
ECDC, Fluor Fernald, Inc./52-7

Accelerated Waste Retrieval Construction Activities

Foster Wheeler Construction activities for the period of August 25, 2000 through November 1, 2000 based on the Foster Wheeler RV 7 schedule.

Activity	Tentative Schedule	EPA Support Documentation
Administration Trailer Compound (Site Prep, Utility Tie-In and Trailer installation)	July 24 thru October 3	Site Prep Document
Electrical Bldg. and Equipment Pad excavation and foundation	September 14 thru October 26	Site Prep Document
RCS Air Handling Bldg. and Equipment setup (1st floor) (Pre-fab ductwork, set condensate tank, set pumps, set electrical panels, rough in power and ductwork)	September 6 thru September 27	Remedial Design Package
Set-up Electrical Bldg. and Equipment Pad (Electrical Tie-In and Equipment placement and piping) (Set generator, air compressor, make-up water tank)	October 30 thru November 7	Remedial Design Package
TTA 1st Floor wall erection	October 4 thru January 15	Remedial Design Package
TTA Tanks Erection/setup	September 13 thru February 6	Remedial Design Package
TTA area slab and TTA Tank Pad Foundations (Forms, install reinforcements, concrete placement)	July 21 thru October 3	Site Prep Document
TTA Structural Steel (Erect interior columns and bracing, erect wall columns)	October 18 thru February 15	Remedial Design Package
Carbon Bed Building (Excavation and placement of mud mat for carbon bed culverts to set on)	August 30 thru September 5	Site Prep Document
Pipe Rack (Excavation, Foundation and Erection) (Erection of electrical cable rack from the pipe rack to electrical building)	October 17 thru November 6	Remedial Design Package