



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southwest District Office

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George V. Voinovich
Governor

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October 4, 2000

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

RE: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL REVISED OSDF PHASE III FINAL PACKAGE

Dear Mr. Reising:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has reviewed the responses to our comments on the subject package and we find them satisfactory with one exception. This letter provides approval of the package contingent on the satisfactory resolution of the sole outstanding issue.

Our original comment number 5 regarded the use of permanent versus temporary seeding in locations that will be disturbed before final restoration. We requested that a time limit be set to specify the interval between seeding and final restoration which would trigger the use of permanent or temporary seed mix. The DOE response proposed that 5 years be the minimum duration before using the permanent seed mix. The current standard has been two years. Lacking a convincing argument for a shorter duration, the Specification should be revised to include the two year duration to trigger the use of the permanent seed

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If you have any questions, please contact Tom Ontko or me.

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