



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southwest District Office

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George V. Voinovich  
Governor

October 4, 2000

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

**RE: APPROVAL OF PSP FOR PPDD PUMP TEST**

Dear Mr. Reising:

This letter provides Ohio Environmental Protection Agency approval of the Project Specific Plan for Pumping Test in the Pilot Plant Drainage Ditch Plume Area. We approve the PSP without conditions but we would like to amplify several of our original comments.

We continue to maintain as we stated in original comment number 1 that as a result of our walk-down ecological impacts were minimized. Several walnut trees were saved by moving monitor well 32766 another 50 feet further from the control well. By changing the overall strategy of clearing the area from the rather indiscriminate use of a bulldozer to a more surgical approach a number of trees of various species were saved.

We also continue to hold the opinion that moving this well from 50 feet to 100 feet from the control well will provide higher quality data. As you know, the rule of thumb for pump tests in an unconfined aquifer is that a monitor well should be farther from the pumping well than the saturated thickness of the aquifer. Since the Great Miami Aquifer is estimated to be 85 feet thick, our change should reduce errors caused by a partial penetration effects.

We agree with your response to comment number 3 regarding the collection and analysis of soil and pore water samples to estimate the distribution coefficient. We look forward to reviewing the proposed PSP which will attempt to refine our understanding of uranium

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partitioning onto the aquifer matrix.  
If you have any questions, please contact Tom Ontko or me.

Sincerely,

*for* 

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