



## Department of Energy

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**3477**

26 JAN 2001

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-0276-01

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:

### **TRANSMITTAL OF THE DRAFT WETLAND MONITORING REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2000 IN SUPPORT OF AREA 1, PHASE I WETLAND MITIGATION PROJECT**

Enclosed for your review is the draft Wetland Monitoring Report for the Year 2000 in support of the Area 1, Phase I (A1PI) Wetland Mitigation Project. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) Clean Water Act 404 (b)(1) Guidelines promulgated in 40 Code of Federal Regulations Part 230 to replace wetlands which have been disturbed or destroyed on the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). The DOE negotiated a mitigation ratio of 1.5:1 acres with the regulatory agencies to replace ten acres of wetlands. This mitigation ratio results in a regulatory commitment of fifteen acres of mitigation wetlands.

To address a portion of the fifteen-acre mitigation requirement, DOE constructed approximately six acres of wetlands in 1999 within the northeast portion of the site (A1PI) to replace wetlands which have been destroyed by cleanup activities. This wetland system consists of an eight-basin freshwater cascade connected by gravity-flow channels with varied vegetative cover (trees, shrubs, herbs).

Mr. James Saric  
Mr. Tom Schneider

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This report summarizes the first on-site evaluation of a five-year wetland monitoring program, and is being conducted in accordance with the A1PI Wetland Mitigation Design Plan submitted to the Agencies on March 3, 1999. The purpose of this report is to determine the progression of replacement features and to provide recommendations, as necessary, for design modifications in the early years to improve or enhance wetland functions, and ensure the wetland replacement acreage is met.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Pete Yerace at (513) 648-3161.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising  
Fernald Remedial Action  
Project Manager

FEMP:Yerace

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:

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