



Department of Energy

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JUL 26 2001

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V, SRF-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590

DOE-0759-01

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

Mr. Peter J. Sturdevant
Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services
Air Quality Management Division
250 William Howard Taft Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45219

Dear Mr. Saric, Mr. Schneider and Mr. Sturdevant:

QUARTERLY REPORT

The purpose of this letter is to transmit the following information to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), and the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services (H.C. DOES). In response to the OEPA comments on the Draft Remedial Action Package, the Department of Energy, Fernald Environmental Management Project (DOE-FEMP) agreed to provide quarterly reports of any deviations or excursions from emissions limitations, operational restrictions, and control device operating parameter limitations for the dryer stack. If no deviations or excursions occurred during the affected calendar quarter, a report stating so is required.

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The following information is being provided to support documentation of this commitment for calendar quarter April 1 through June 30, 2001. Specifically, there is only one incident to report for the time period. On April 3, 2001, a.m., the oxygen levels in Dryer B started to increase outside the acceptable range. A high oxygen level alarm was sounded, immediately stopping feed to the dryer and initiating a nitrogen purge. When nitrogen was introduced, a slight positive pressure was created inside the dryer, but was still less than the burst pressure of the rupture disk. As a result of an unrelated material failure, however, the rupture disk cracked allowing an escape of gas to the atmosphere. A consequent steam release was observed from the rupture disk. The speed of the off-gas exhaust fan was increased and the nitrogen purge was secured to bring the dryer back under negative pressure.

Since the steam release was uncontrolled, the incident was reported to the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services, and an estimate of potential releases was provided. A review of alarm printouts and process conditions determined that all safety interlocks performed as designed and operated as intended in the event high oxygen levels were detected inside the dryer.

No additional deviations or excursions occurred during the referenced time period.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Dave Lojek at (513) 648-3127.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FEMP:Hall

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Mr. James A. Saric
Mr. Tom Schneider
Mr. Peter Sturdevant

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cc:

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