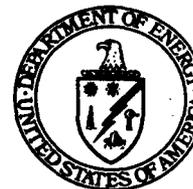




Department of Energy

**Ohio Field Office
Fernald Area Office**

P. O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705
(513) 648-3155



MAY 9 2002

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-0453-02

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

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

**TRANSMITTAL OF RESPONSES TO THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
COMMENTS AND THE FINAL SOUTHERN WASTE UNITS ACCELERATED NATURAL
RESOURCE RESTORATION DESIGN PLAN**

Reference: E-mail, J. Bartoszek to J. Homer, "SWU NRRDP Comments," dated
April 3, 2002

Enclosed for your approval are responses to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) comments and the final Southern Waste Units (SWU) Accelerated Natural Resource Restoration Design Plan (NRRDP). This document was revised based on the OEPA comments that were received via eDesk on April 3, 2002. This document details Spring 2002 restoration activities only. The SWU final NRRDP will address the remainder of restoration activities in 2002 and 2003, as well as monitoring and maintenance. The final NRRDP will be submitted this summer.

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

Sincerely,

Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FEMP:Yerace

Enclosures: As Stated

MAY 9 2002

DOE-0453-02

Mr. James A. Saric
Mr. Tom Schneider

-2-

cc w/enclosures:

R.J. Janke, OH/FEMP
D. Pfister, OH/FEMP
G. Stegner, OH/FEMP
P. Yerace, OH/FEMP
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (3 copies of enclosures)
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, SRF-5J
D. Bidwell, FCAB
D. Sarno, FCAB
F. Bell, ATSDR
M. Wojciechowski, Tetra Tech
B. Kurey, USFWS
AR Coordinator, MS78

cc w/o enclosures:

R. Greenberg, EM-31/CLOV
K. Nickel, OH/FEMP
E. Skintik, OH/FEMP
A. Tanner, OH/FEMP
D. Carr, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS2
J. Chiou, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS64
J. Foster, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-0
T. Hagen, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
J. Homer, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
G. Johnson, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS64
L. Ludwick, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
L. McDaniel, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS60
F. Miller, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS64
T. Patton, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS76
T. Poff, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
J. Shoemaker, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS90
H. Swiger, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
S. Walpole, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS76
E. Woods, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
ECDC, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-7

**RESPONSES TO OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY COMMENTS
ON THE DRAFT SOUTHERN WASTE UNITS ACCELERATED
NATURAL RESOURCE RESTORATION DESIGN PLAN
(20400-PL-0001, REVISION A)**

FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROJECT

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA
Section #: 1.1 Pg. #: 1-1 Line #: 18 Commentator: OFFO
Original Comment #: 1 Code:
Comment: Suggest rewording "Several deep basins will be left alone..." to "Several deep basins will remain..."

Response: Agree.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA
Section #: 1.1 Pg. #: 1-1 Line #: 14 Commentator: OFFO
Original Comment #: 2 Code:
Comment: Pluralize "objective".

Response: Agree.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA
Section #: 1.1 Pg. #: 1-1 Line #: Commentator: OFFO
Original Comment #: 3 Code:
Comment: One of the restoration objectives includes expanding the flood plain of Paddys Run.

Response: Agree.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA
Section #: 1.1 Pg. #: Line #: Commentator: OFFO
Original Comment #: 4 Code:
Comment: It may be prudent to mention here that some areas will be left ungraded/seeded to allow them to attain their natural angle of repose.

Response: Agree.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentator: OFFO
 Section #: 1.3 Pg. #: 1-2 Line #: Code:
 Original Comment #: 5

Comment: It is my understanding that the steps are interim grading by the remediation project, restoration grading by natural resources. Although it is understood that at times the interim grading will be the final grading, in which case restoration grading by natural resources will not be needed, that will not always be the case. It is assumed from the way this section is written that the interim grading is the final grading and natural resources will not do additional grading.

Response: Final grading and erosion control will primarily occur as part of remediation. Some "fine tuning" may be conducted during restoration, but for the most part, project areas will be configured for planting and seeding at the completion of remediation.

Action: None required.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentator: OFFO
 Section #: 2.2 Pg. #: 2-1 Line #: Code:
 Original Comment #: 6

Comment: Areas to be amended with woodchips (Spring and Fall) should be indicated on the figures.

Response: Agree.

Action: The text and figures will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentator: OFFO
 Section #: 2.3.4 Pg. #: 2-5 Lines #: 26-27 Code:
 Original Comment #: 7

Comment: Although the species list may be subject to change, some indication of target species should be given here (e.g., Salix and Fraxinus spp currently present on site, perhaps sycamore, etc.).

Response: Agree.

Action: The last sentence in Section 2.3.4 will be revised to read "DOE plans on retrieving some of the willow cuttings from on-site sources..."

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentator: OFFO
 Section #: Table 2-1 Pg. #: 2-7 Line #: Code:
 Original Comment #: 8

Comment: If possible, you may want to substitute some additional swamp white oak for cottonwood. The cottonwood tend to come in quickly on their own and the swamp white oak, an important riparian component, come in more slowly. Perhaps 13-15 swamp white oak and 8-10 cottonwood would be better. Buttonbush is missing from the plant list, will you be taking cuttings from existing plants on site for buttonbush?

Response: The amount of cottonwoods was already reduced in response to previous Natural Resource Trustee comments. The 16 individuals were ordered and are being installed as part of the spring planting effort. Therefore, the quantity of cottonwood cannot be reduced any more. Buttonbush can be added as part of maintenance activities.

Action: None required.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA

Commentator: OFFO

Section #: Table 2-3 Xeric mix Pg. #: 2-12

Line #:

Code:

Original Comment #: 9

Comment: It seems that I have seen switchgrass do very well in sandy, xeric habitats. Perhaps some switchgrass should be included in the xeric mix. The CW value of -1 seems not to support this, however a walk-through existing planted prairies does.

Response: Agree.

Action: Table 2-3 will be revised to include 0.5 lb/acres of switchgrass.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA

Commentator: OFFO

Section #: 3.1

Pg. #: 3-1

Line #: 9

Code:

Original Comment #: 10

Comment: I assume that the densities listed do not include the sandy area not planted. This excluded area should be stated here.

Response: Agree.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA

Commentator: OFFO

Section #: Appendix B, 3.02(D) Pg. #: 5

Line #:

Code:

Original Comment #: 11

Comment: For the purposes of certain sections of the SWU, this section does not apply. Specifically the area known as the grand canyon will not utilize coir matting and be allowed to reach a natural angle of repose. Unless there is a different plan, this section should be modified to reflect the condition in the SWU.

Response: Agree.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA

Commentator: OFFO

Section #: Appendix B, 2.01/Table 02930-2 Pg. #: 1 and 9

Line #:

Code:

Original Comment #: 12

Comment: Will seeding between July 1-September 20 be ReGreen as specified in these sections?

Response: Interim seeding with ReGreen is not planned.

Action: Text will be revised accordingly.