



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southwest District Office

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Bob Taft, Governor  
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May 10, 2002

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

Re: **DISAPPROVAL - WPRAP DCN 1103**

Dear Mr. Reising:

FILE:  
2002 MAY 13 A 11:28  
FERNALD  
LOG N-1202

Ohio EPA has reviewed DOE's February 28, 2002 and March 3, 2002 DCN 1103 facsimile submittals. Ohio EPA disapproves the DCN as submitted. The Best Available Technology requirements were clearly laid out to DOE during the initial stages of design for the waste pit remediation. WPRAP has one of the highest probabilities of generating highly contaminated fugitive emissions on the site. In fact, it is clear from environmental monitoring data that WPRAP operations are increasing airborne fenceline contaminant concentrations. Additionally, the waste pit excavations have yet to reach some of the most hazardous materials from a fugitive emissions perspective.

DOE's proposal that to end tarping of trucks, because the maintenance is too burdensome, is insufficient to justify a failure to comply with BAT requirements. Actually, it is disappointing that DOE would consider maintenance an acceptable basis for proposing such a change in light of on-going fenceline concentrations and the level of contamination in the material being handled.

Ohio EPA would consider a revised DCN to address tarping that put in place material consistency requirements/weather requirements for the deployment of the tarp. Specifically all transport trucks within WPRAP would have and maintain operational tarps. A combination of waste materials maintaining a liquid/flowable state (e.g., pit 5 saturated sludges) and suitable weather conditions would not require the truck tarp to be deployed. Based upon my 4/17/02 telephone conversation with Con Murphy (WPRAP project), we believe this approach would meet the projects intent. A revision of the DCN to place specific requirements on when tarps are not required should be drafted and submitted for review. All reference to maintenance as a basis should be removed. The basis for this change would be an equivalent or greater performance standard than provided by the tarps. If, following implementation of this change, observational or monitoring data suggests it is not providing an equivalent or superior performance, then a return continuous tarping will be required.

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If you have any questions feel free to contact me at (937) 285-6466.

Sincerely

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Thomas A. Schneider  
Fernald Project Manager  
Office of Federal Facilities Oversight

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