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State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southwest District Office

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LOG C-01280

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2002 MAY 23 A 11:49
Bob Taft, Governor
Maureen O'Connor, Lt. Governor
Christopher Jones, Director

FILE: b444.6060

May 23, 2002

Mr. Johnny Reising
U.S. DOE FEMP
P.O. Box 398705
Cincinnati, OH 45329-8705

Copy

RE: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL - PSP FOR 3A/4A CHARACTERIZATION AND PRE-CERTIFICATION, RTC, REVISED EMS REPORT AND UPDATE TO THE REAL-TIME USER'S MANUAL TO INCORPORATE THE EMS

Dear Mr. Reising:

Ohio EPA has reviewed the Transmittal of Draft Comment Responses to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Comments, Revised Project Specific Plan for Area 3A/4A Characterization and Pre-Certification, Revised Excavation Monitoring System Report and Update to the Real-Time User's Manual to Incorporate the Excavation Monitoring System on April 10, 2002. Ohio EPA approves these documents with the following conditions:

- 1.) After a phone conversation between Flour and Ohio EPA, a revised Figure 2-3, Utility Trench Characterization Flowchart, was faxed to the Ohio EPA on May 22, 2002. Please include this revised flowchart in the document.
- 2.) Some recent problems with the sodium iodide detectors used with the Excavation Monitoring System have resulted in the minimum detectable activity of uranium being higher than was previously achieved with other detectors. Although this is not an issue with using the EMS to detect areas of above-WAC soils, the higher MDA will not allow the detection of uranium hot spots. Our approval of this Plan is contingent on not using the EMS for pre-certification activities. Therefore, trenching operations should not be performed until this issue has been resolved. The Ohio EPA will expedite our review of any new data on the EMS and we are optimistic that strategies can be devised to lower the MDA.

If there are any questions, please contact Michelle Waller or me at (937) 285-6466 .

Sincerely,

Michelle Waller
for

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

cc: Jim Saric U.S. EPA
Terry Hagen, Fluor Daniel Fernald
Mary Wojceichowski, Tetra Tech
Ruth Vandegrift, ODH
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