



## Department of Energy

Ohio Field Office  
 Fernald Closure Project  
 175 Tri-County Parkway  
 Springdale, Ohio 45246  
 (513) 648-3155



JAN 18 2005

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 Region V-SR-6J  
 77 W. Jackson Blvd.  
 Chicago, IL 60604-3590

DOE-0125-05

Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager  
 Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
 401 E. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
 Dayton, OH 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

### **NOTIFICATION OF WATER TREATMENT PRIORITY CHANGE, FERNALD CLOSURE PROJECT**

The purpose of this letter is to notify your agency that a temporary deviation from the Operation & Maintenance Master Plan (OMMP) for Operable Unit 5 the Aquifer and Wastewater Remediation Project at the FCP is necessary due to the large amount of rainfall at the site along with the heavy snow melt.

In the OMMP, the water flow from the On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) takes priority over remediation water from the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project (WPRAP). The Department of Energy (DOE) is proceeding to temporarily prioritize pumping of remediation wastewater from the WPRAP ahead of OSDF pumping. The DOE will cease pumping from the OSDF for the next two to three days in order to pump the WPRAP water being held at capacity in the Storm Water Management (SWM) pond to the Bio-Surge Lagoon (BSL). This repriority will provide capacity in the SWM pond for WPRAP so that higher contaminated water from the unlined pits, in particular Pit 3, can be transferred to the lined SWM pond. The SWM pond is currently full and has been since last week. The large inventory of remediation wastewater currently being held in the pits and in the SWM pond has a uranium concentration on the order of 10,000 ppb, whereas the OSDF leachate concentration is approximately 60 ppb. The OSDF pumping has totaled more than 3.2 million gallons since January 1st and ponding in the cells at this time does not appear to be excessive.

Mr. James Saric  
Mr. Tom Schneider

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Water discharge to the Great Miami River will remain in compliance with the 30 ppb monthly uranium discharge limit and there is no adverse impact expected to the 600 pound annual uranium discharge limit from this one-time deviation.

The subject matter of this letter was verbally concurred on by all parties in conference calls held in the afternoon of January 12, 2005. If you should have any further questions on this subject, please call Dave Lojek at (513)-648-3127.

Sincerely,

  
William J. Taylor  
Director

FCP:Lojek

cc:

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