



## Department of Energy

Ohio Field Office  
 Fernald Closure Project  
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 Springdale, Ohio 45246  
 (513) 648-3155

APR 15 2005



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-0215-05

Mr. Thomas Schneider, Project Manager  
 Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
 Southwest District Office  
 401 East Fifth Street  
 Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

### **REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF OPERABLE UNIT 5 SOIL REMEDIATION MILESTONE DATE - SUBMITTAL OF AREA 4A CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The purpose of this letter is to request your approval to extend the date for submittal of the Area 4A Certification Report from April 15, 2005 to July 1, 2005. This milestone date was established in the Area 4A Certification Design Letter (CDL) dated December 2004. Consistent with Section XVIII of the Amended Consent Agreement, DOE-FCP believes good cause exists for extending this milestone date due to extenuating circumstances encountered with weather this past winter and spring.

Area 4A represents the area of the Fernald Closure Project that is the southeast quadrant of the Former Production Area. It includes the footprints of the former Plant 4, Plant 5, Plant 6, and Plant 7. Remedial excavation activities began in this area during April 2002 and was completed in October 2004. Pre-certification of Area 4A began immediately following completion of excavation. During Phase I of pre-certification, four total uranium hotspots were detected. Following successful removal of the hotspots, pre-certification activities, including submittal for the CDL, were completed in December 2004, thus making Area 4A ready to be certified.

Snow during the winter and recent heavy rains have caused the excavated footprint of Area 4A to fill with deep pockets of water. Pumping water from Area 4A has been limited over the past few months due to the Storm Water Retention Basins (SWRBs) reaching operational limit. Administrative controls were placed on both volume of water and sequence of source areas that the SWRBs could receive. Sampling of the various pockets of water in both February and

Mr. James A. Saric  
Mr. Tom Schneider

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March 2005 revealed that a significant portion of the area contained greater than 30 parts per billion of total uranium, thus prohibiting the option of pumping the water to Paddys Run directly.

With the improved weather conditions, administrative controls have since been reduced and DOE-FCP is now able to pump more water from Area 4A. Certification sample locations that are in the higher elevation areas (drier areas) have been surveyed and sampled. As the pockets of water continue to be pumped from the area, the remaining sample locations will be surveyed and sampled. It should be noted that the turnaround time for radium-226 analysis is at least 30 days (due to in growth), therefore it is not anticipated that all of the analytical results would be available until mid- to late-May.

DOE believes "good cause," as consistent with Section XVIII of the Amended Consent Agreement, exists to extend the milestone date given the circumstances surrounding the weather as well as strong efforts by the FCP to pump and treat water from Area 4A. The Area 4A Certification Report is anticipated to be complete and submitted to the Regulatory Agencies on or before July 1, 2005.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Johnny Reising at (513) 648-3139.

Sincerely,



William J. Taylor  
Director

FCP:Reising

cc:

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