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State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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September 2, 2005

Mr. William Taylor
US Dept of Energy
Ohio Field Office
Fernald Closure Project
175 Tri-County Parkway
Springdale, OH 45246

Re: Response to Comments - Borrow Area NRRDP Wetland Mitigation Phase III

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Ohio EPA has reviewed DOE's July 25, 2005 submittal of the "Transmittal of Responses to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Comments on the Borrow Area NRRDP Wetland Mitigation Phase III (DOE-0290-05)" Based upon our review, Ohio EPA has the attached comments on this document.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (937) 285-6466.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Jim Saric, U.S. EPA
Mike Smith, OEPA DSW/401
Bill Kurey, USFWS



RESPONSES TO RESPONSES TO
OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
COMMENTS ON THE BORROW AREA NRRDP
WETLAND MITIGATION PHASE III

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentor: DSW/401
Section #: General Pg #: NA Line #: NA Code: C
Original Comment #: 3

Comment: A map with the conservation easement shown and the easement as well as who will hold it must be part of the mitigation package. Approval is contingent upon receipt of this information.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentor: DSW/401
Section #: 2.0 Pg #: NA Line #: NA Code: C
Original Comment #: 8

Comment: The response refers to agreement reached on restoration, not mitigation issues. The mitigation wetland planting rate for shrub seedlings should be on 6x6 foot spacing as stated in the original comment. However 1 gallon (or larger) container shrubs can be planted at larger spacing intervals. Tree seedlings should be planted on 8x8 foot centers.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentor: DSW/401
Section #: 2.2 Pg #: NA Line #: NA Code: C
Original Comment #: 9

Comment: The confidence that DOE has that soil meets the parameters listed is not shared by Ohio EPA. The soil test and parameters as stated in the original comment must be performed and met.

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentor: DSW/401
Section #: 4.2 Pg #: 4-2 Line #: NA Code: C
Original Comment #: 28

Comment: It is incumbent upon DOE to demonstrate the mitigation wetlands achieve a Category 2 rating or better. Implementation monitoring on restored wetlands is not sufficient for monitoring of mitigation wetlands. Section 4.2 recognizes that wetland mitigation monitoring will be more intensive and that "...monitoring will include water level measurements, water quality measurements, wetland plant surveys and soil analyses ...".

Commenting Organization: Ohio EPA Commentor: DSW/401
Section #: 4.2 Pg #: 4-2 Line #: NA Code: C
Original Comment #: 32

Comment: Mitigation monitoring is based (currently) on five years, with ten years of monitoring proposed. Section 4.2.2 does not reflect this requirement.