



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGIONS 5  
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD  
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

Rec'd 10-6-06

OCT 05 2006

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:

Mr. Johnny W. Reising  
United States Department of Energy  
Fernald Closure Project  
175 Tri-County Parkway  
Springdale, Ohio 45246

SR-6J

RE: Proposed Railroad Trestle  
Alternative

Dear Mr. Reising:

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has completed its review of the United States Department of Energy's (U.S. DOE) September 21, 2006, proposed alternative to the Fernald Site railroad trestle removal. This proposal includes retaining the existing railroad trestle and modifying the design to ensure a safe post-closure configuration, stream bank protection and habitat enhancement.

U.S. EPA concurs that the negative impacts of removal of the trestle exceed the benefits that can be gained by appropriate modification and reuse of the structure. However, the document needs to more clearly specify the modifications that will be made to improve bat habitat. Further, details regarding monitoring for Indiana bats and Sloans crayfish in Paddys Run channel should be provided.

Therefore, U.S. EPA concurs with U.S. DOE's proposed alternative to the railroad trestle removal. Please contact me at (312) 886-0992 if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

James A. Saric  
Remedial Project Manager  
Federal Facilities Section  
SFD Remedial Response Branch #2

cc: Tom Schneider, OEPA-SWDO  
Con Murphy, Fluor Fernald  
Frank Johnston, Fluor Fernald