



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Rec'd 10-6-06

Southwest District

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Bob Taft, Governor  
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October 5, 2006

Mr. Johnny Reising  
US Dept of Energy  
Ohio Field Office  
Fernald Closure Project  
175 TriCounty Parkway  
Springdale, Ohio 45246

**RE: PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE TO TRESTLE REMOVAL**

Mr. Reising:

Ohio EPA has reviewed DOE's "Transmittal of Proposed Alternative to Fernald Site Trestle Removal" submitted September 22, 2006. Though we believe the document overstates the impact of trestle removal in areas outside of Paddys Run, we concur that the negative impacts of removal exceed the benefits, and that potential benefits can be gained by appropriate modification and reuse of the structure. However, the document should be modified to more clearly specify the modifications that will be made to the structure to improve bat habitat. Additionally, details regarding monitoring for Indiana bats and Sloans crayfish in Paddys Run channel should be provided. If as suggested in the letter, DOE wishes to further consult with appropriate subject matter experts prior to proposing habitat modifications and monitoring procedures, a date for submittal of such a plan for review and approval should be provided.

If there are any questions, please contact me or Donna Bohannon.

Sincerely,

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

cc: Jim Saric U.S. EPA  
Michelle Cullerton, Tetrattech

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