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State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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January 14, 2000

Mr. Jim Bierer, Chairman
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board

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Re: FCAB PRIORITIES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2000

Dear Jim:

At the start of another year, it is appropriate once again to reflect on our progress as we plan for the future. For several years the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) and the Task Force before it have fundamentally improved the decision making guiding the remediation of Fernald. The cleanup at Fernald is better in many ways because of the dedicated efforts of the FCAB members.

In the coming year, there are three major areas in which the continuing input of FCAB will be critical. First, completion of the remedy selection process for Silos 1 & 2 and working to expedite the remediation of all three silos will require the continued support and participation of the FCAB. Next, continuing the dialogue and building on our relationships with other site CABs on issues such as transportation and waste disposition will be important for completing our cleanup objectives. Finally, the CABs input will be very important as the concept of stewardship at Fernald is developed.

Probably the most important issue for the FCAB and the site to address in the coming year is stewardship. The concept of stewardship has many interpretations and we must determine what it will mean at Fernald. In the years that follow the restoration at Fernald, stewardship decisions reached in the next few years will have far reaching consequences for the community surrounding Fernald. Many issues in this area are yet to be resolved and the input of the FCAB will be a vital part of any successful and tenable stewardship plans.

Several specific stewardship issues are now under active consideration. A recommendation on and possible advocacy for the establishment of an on-site education center or museum should be considered. The future of native American re-internment, ongoing monitoring, and acceptable public uses must also be determined. Input on these and other stewardship issues from the FCAB and other stakeholders will be needed as this next phase of the cleanup process begins to take shape. Ohio EPA recommends the

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FCAB take a leadership role on such issues while coordinating with other stakeholder groups such as the CRO.

Ohio EPA appreciates the opportunity to make these recommendations. As always, we are available to assist the FCAB in any of these or other important matters. We look forward to working with the FCAB in the new year and to the FCAB's continued contributions to the cleanup of the Fernald site.

Sincerely,



Graham E. Mitchell, Chief
Office of Federal Facilities Oversight
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

cc: Jack Craig, DOE
Gene Jablonowski, USEPA