



April 9, 2004

The Honorable Jessie Hill Roberson
Assistant Secretary for Environment Management
Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585-0104

Dear Ms. Roberson:

We are writing to ask about the status of our letter dated December 3, 2003 regarding Risk Based End States (RBES) activities at the Fernald site. That letter was detailed and carefully considered and asked that RBES activities be halted at Fernald. To date, we have received no response from your office.

We were reminded of this issue when reading your March 1, 2004 remarks to the Waste Management Symposium '04. At that time, you reinforced your assertion that DOE cleanups have not taken risk into account in making decisions. As our previous letter described, this is simply not true at Fernald. All of the key decisions here were based clearly on risk reduction to a reasonable end use (in Fernald's case, an undeveloped park). In addition, risk to workers and transportation risks were carefully considered in making on- vs. off-site disposal decisions. It was this consideration of risk by stakeholders which resulted in over 70 percent of waste by volume remaining on site.

We have attached our December 3, 2003 letter here for your additional review and look forward to a response from you no later than May 6, 2004.

Sincerely,

James C. Bierer
FCAB Chair

Lisa Crawford
Vice-Chair

Attachment

cc:

Senator Mike DeWine
Senator George Voinovich
Representative John Boehner
Representative Steve Chabot

Representative David Hobson
Representative Rob Portman
SSAB Chairs
Robert Warther