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Sent: Wednesday, September 03, 2003 8:03 AM
To: weldoncomments@gjo.doe.gov; stewardship@wssrap.com; dan@wubios.wustl.edu
Subject: Groundwater Proposed Plan Comment

U. S. Department of Energy
Weldon Spring Site
Attn: Wendy Drnec
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Comment on the Overall presentation of the Chemical Plant Groundwater Operable Unit Public Meeting of August 13, 2003.

After following the story of the Weldon Spring Site Remediation through independent research and video review of meetings and site visits, I am offering the following comment:

The proposed plan is an unconvincing and embarrassingly shallow and ultimately inaccurate and dangerous governmental report that amounts to an immediate waste of taxpayers money. Moreover, such an incomplete and biased "Proposed Plan for Final Remedial Action for the Groundwater Operable Unit at the Chemical Plant Area of the Weldon Spring Site" as reality keeps emerging, is likely to betray the trust and respect for local, state and federal government that several generations of Americans have worked very hard to establish. I am far more worried about both the actual and potential consequences of toxic contamination of the land, air, and water around the Weldon Spring Site than I was when I began to follow this remediation story in 1998. I do not think local children at Francis Howell High School or most citizens of St. Charles County are aware of the dangers and possible precautions needed to deal with individual exposure to the remaining toxic and radioactive "legacy" that lies within both their front and back yards.

Most people in St. Charles County are not "engaged" in the business of monitoring and adapting to all the toxic and radioactive contamination that does currently and potentially affect their water sources, their land usefulness, their property values and their disaster preparedness, particularly that which has resulted from the historic activities at the entire Weldon Spring Site.

An important part of the reason most people could not spend much time and effort on such vital public concerns is that they are discouraged from finding, if not from seeking, the critical facts that everyone needs and deserves to know. Another reason is that most people, possibly by political design, work such long hours and/or have such irrelevant schooling that they could never find the time or maintain the intellectual strength it takes to make sense of

the
vague and omitted and otherwise deceiving plans and reports that are
customarily presented to the taxpayers (including local and state
officials, as well as
the general-public) by the progressively remote U. S. Department of
Energy.

Generally, the current "Proposed Plan" is unacceptable because it fails
to
include an active remediation alternative.

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