



Department of Energy

4033



Ohio Field Office
Fernald Area Office
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Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705
(513) 648-3155

17 DEC 2001

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Manager
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V, SRF-5J
77 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60604-3590

DOE-0177-02

Mr. Tom Schneider, Project Manager
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
401 East 5th Street
Dayton, OH 45402-2911

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Schneider:

SAMPLING OF WASTE PIT 4 COVER MATERIAL

During the December 4, 2001 weekly conference call involving the Department of Energy, Fernald Environmental Management Project, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, and Fluor Fernald, Inc., a discussion ensued regarding the planned sampling of Waste Pit 4 cover material. In accordance with that conference call, details of the planned sampling effort are addressed in this letter. Also, as agreed upon during the conference call, this information is provided in lieu of submitting a formal sampling plan.

Within approximately the next month, Fluor Fernald, Inc. will take samples from sixteen boring locations positioned across the footprint of the Waste Pit 4 cover as shown in the enclosed sketch. The focus of the sampling is the 14,600 yd³ of cover material placed on top of the waste material in Waste Pit 4. It is anticipated that some of this material will eventually be mixed with enriched restricted nuclear material (ERNM), resulting in a product which can be shipped via rail with the other waste pit materials for disposal at Envirocare. The information gained through the sampling effort will be used to ascertain mixing capabilities/needs for the ERNM mixing process based on characteristics of the cover material.

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Material will be collected at each of the boring locations in one-foot intervals. Samples for radiological and chemical analyses will be collected only from the cover material and will not include underlying waste material. Although the thickness of the cover material varies up to six feet deep, the hard clay consistency should be easily distinguishable from the underlying waste material. Only clearly identifiable cover material will be included in the sampling.

Attention to detail will be exercised during all sampling activities, including access to and egress from all sampling locations to ensure that the integrity of Waste Pit 4 Hypalon covering is maintained. Prior to sampling, care will be taken to remove just enough of the Hypalon material necessary to allow drilling of the sampling borehole. Following completion of each borehole, the borehole will be plugged and the hole cut in the Hypalon material will be covered with a similar non-permeable material and preserved with an adhesive designed to provide a lasting seal between the materials.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, please contact John Kappa at (513) 648-3149.

Sincerely,



Johnny W. Reising
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FEMP:Kappa

Enclosure: As Stated

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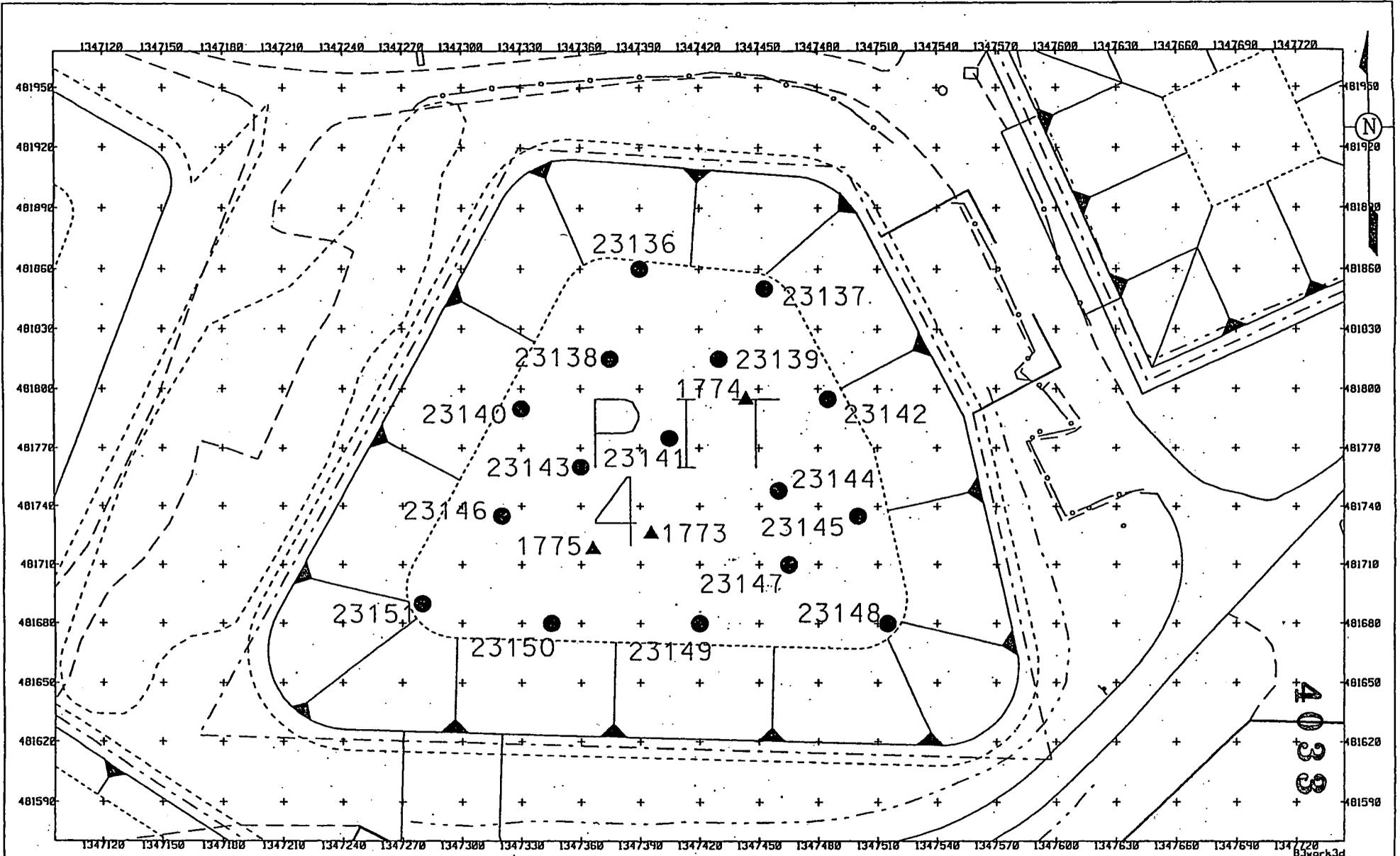
Mr. James A. Saric
Mr. Tom Schneider

cc w/enclosure:

R. Greenberg, EM-31/CLOV
N. Hallein, EM-31/CLOV
J. Kappa, OH/FEMP
D. Lojek, OH/FEMP
G. Jablonowski, USEPA-V, SRF-5J
T. Schneider, OEPA-Dayton (three copies of enclosure)
F. Bell, ATSDR
F. Hodge, Tetra-Tech
M. Schupe, HSI GeoTrans
R. Vandegrift, ODH
AR Coordinator, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS78

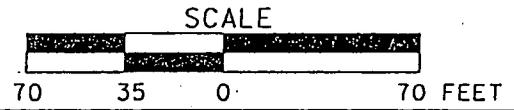
cc w/o enclosure:

A. Tanner, OH/FEMP
D. Carr, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS2
M. Cherry, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-1
D. Dalga, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-1
T. Hagen, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS65-2
R. Houchins, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-1
T. Walsh, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS46
D. Zdelar-Bush, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-1
ECDC, Fluor Fernald, Inc./MS52-7



LEGEND:

- PROPOSED BORING LOCATION
- ▲ EXISTING RI/FS BORING LOCATION



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PROPOSED BORING LOCATIONS IN PIT 4 CAP