



**Department of Energy**  
Germantown, MD 20874-1290

JAN 13 2000

Mr. William Augustine  
Deputy Director  
Programs Management Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Department of the Army  
Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

Dear Mr. Augustine:

I am writing to notify you that two facilities are eligible for the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial action Program (FUSRAP). These sites are the former Dayton Unit 1 and a former Warehouse, both located in Dayton, Ohio. The former Manhattan Engineer District (MED) and the former Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) used these sites for early atomic energy development. Usage of these facilities ended when the former AEC established the Mound Plant in the late 1940s.

Unit 1 was located at 1515 Nicholas Road and was used for research, chemical, and quality control purposes. After the cessation of AEC activities, additional research (including the use of licensed nuclear materials) was conducted by the owner. Nuclear material license termination documents (and other records) are available from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The Warehouse facility was used by the AEC and MED for research and development in conjunction with the other Dayton facilities.

Both the City of Dayton and the State of Ohio have contacted the Department of Energy (DOE) regarding concerns about radioactivity at these sites. Both facilities are DOE-predecessor facilities. The contaminants of concern from AEC activities might include industrial chemicals (metals, beryllium, solvents, fuel oil, acids, bases, etc.) and radioactive substances (e.g., Po-210, Ra-226, and trace radioactivity in polonium sources).

Section III.D.1. of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DOE and the Army Corps of Engineers regarding the program administration and execution of FUSRAP provides that DOE:

- a. Shall perform historical research and provide a FUSRAP eligibility determination, with historical references, as to whether a site was used for activities which supported the Nation's early atomic energy program;
- b. Shall provide U.S. AEC with the determination, a description of the type of processes involved in the historical activities at the site, the geographic boundaries of those activities (as reflected by documentation available to



Printed with soy ink on recycled paper.

ENCL

DOE), and the potential radioactive and/or chemical contaminants at the site; and

- c. Shall maintain records of determination of eligibility and other files, documents, and records associated with the site.

In accordance with the MOU, DOE has performed historical research regarding the former Dayton Unit 1 and the former Warehouse, located in Dayton, Ohio, and has concluded that these sites were used for activities which supported the Nation's early atomic energy program. Some historical references supporting this conclusion have been previously transmitted to the Corps in materials relating to other sites in Dayton or provided to staff from the Corps' Buffalo District Office. These documents show the extent of DOE's knowledge of residual radioactivity at these sites. A search of classified holdings at the DOE Ohio Field Office and at the DOE Oak Ridge Operations Office is underway for additional documents that pertain to these sites.

The Department had previously considered these sites for FUSRAP. DOE eliminated both sites from consideration because of a low potential for residual radioactivity. In addition, the Dayton Unit 1 facility had been licensed by NRC, which was previously a disqualification for eligibility. We understand that the City of Dayton has expressed concerns to the Corps regarding these sites.

Accordingly, Dayton Unit 1 and the Warehouse would be eligible for inclusion in FUSRAP if the Corps determines, under Section III.D.2 of the MOU, that response action under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act is required to address FUSRAP-related contamination at the sites.

Please call me (301-903-7216) if you would like to discuss this issue or if you would like further information related to the sites.

Sincerely,

/S/

William E. Murphy  
Acting Director, Ohio Office  
Office of Site Closure

cc: S. Miller, DOE/Office of General Counsel (GC-51)  
O. Vincent, DOE/Ohio Field Office  
G. Mitchell, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency