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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for Maywood, New Jersey



U.S. Department of Energy



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Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831— 8723

November 21, 1995

Ms. Angela Carpenter
Federal Facilities Section
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
290 Broadway
New York, New York 10007-1866

Dear Ms. Carpenter:

MAYWOOD AND WAYNE SITES - RECOMMENDATION FOR PROCEEDING WITH PROPOSED PLANS

The purpose of this letter is to provide a recommendation for proceeding with the Proposed Plans for the Maywood and Wayne sites and also responds to the September 25 letter transmitted to Mr. Joe La Grone of DOE from Ms. Jeanne Fox of EPA Region II. As we have discussed, Mr. La Grone is no longer the Manager of DOE's Oak Ridge Operations Office; for future reference, Mr. Jim Hall is now the Manager.

The September 25 letter provided comments on the Proposed Plans which were submitted to EPA for approval in May 1994. Since that time DOE has undertaken a number of initiatives including removal and out-of-state disposal of the storage piles at both sites, cleanup of 37 vicinity properties of the Maywood site, an aggressive treatability study program, and a national stakeholder process to identify a path forward for the larger sites within the FUSRAP program, including the Maywood and Wayne sites.

The decisions to proceed with removal actions at the Maywood and Wayne sites have been in direct response to EPA's, NJDEP's, and the communities' desire to see on-the-ground progress at the sites. DOE has worked with the stakeholders to implement protective remedies that address the concerns of the communities. The actions being taken are, in effect, equivalent to Phase I of the Proposed Plans that were submitted to EPA. At Maywood, pile removal will be completed by the end of calendar year 1996, while vicinity property cleanups will likely continue through fiscal year (FY) 1999. At Wayne, pile removal will likely continue through at least FY 1998 based on our annual funding projections. With these actions DOE has committed to spending \$80-100 million over the next several years.

In addition, we are aggressively pursuing treatment as a potentially viable alternative for the remaining soils at these sites. We have just completed pilot-scale testing of the soils in the Maywood storage pile and have found that we can reduce the volume of contaminated soils for disposal by approximately 65-75 percent. In light of this information, we are

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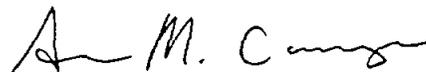
planning to issue a Request for Proposal for offsite treatment for the remaining 18,000 cubic yards of soils in the storage pile. We are also conducting laboratory studies of other Maywood site soils and plan to have results of these tests this year; vendor demonstrations are also being considered. At Wayne, we plan to conduct additional treatment studies of the soils in the subsurface, once more of the pile has been removed. Based on the results of our studies, at this time, we believe that treatment may play a vital role in achieving a protective and cost-effective remedy for the sites.

Plans for the next year also include continuing the series of national summit meetings with congressional members, senior managers from regulatory agencies, local government officials, and other key stakeholders to devise a path forward for addressing the problems at the larger FUSRAP sites. As you know from attending the FUSRAP committee meeting of the Environmental Management Advisory Board, that was held in Secaucus on October 30-31, input from the communities is currently being gathered and guiding principles will be developed that will assist us in remedy selection. I believe that this activity is consistent with the current emphasis in EPA on cost effective remedy development.

In light of the fact that we are (in effect) already implementing Phase I of the Proposed Plans, actively pursuing treatment as a possible portion of the remedies, and conducting a national stakeholder process, we believe that the appropriate timeframe for issuing a Proposed Plan for the sites is in the FY 1998 - FY 1999 period. By this time DOE will be ready to identify comprehensive remedies for the sites that are acceptable to the key stakeholders and are consistent with fiscally realistic program strategies.

I would like to discuss this proposal with you further. Please call me at (423) 576-5724 to arrange for a kickoff of discussions at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Susan M. Cange, Site Manager
Former Sites Restoration Division

cc: Nick Marton, NJDEP
Al Johnson, DOE-HQ