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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

October 13, 1995

Mr. Bruce Venner
New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Federal Case Management
401 East State Street
CN-028
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Dear Mr. Venner:

NEW JERSEY SITES - PLANS FOR FISCAL YEAR 1996

This letter is being written to provide you with an update of the progress being made at the sites in your state that are part of our Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program. DOE is committed to carrying out interim actions supported by the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) to expedite cleanup. As such, we have a number of activities planned for fiscal year 1996 (FY96) that will continue over the next three to five years.

At the Maywood site we plan to begin our first phase of remedial action at vicinity properties this fall. Additionally, we plan to complete the removal of the storage pile at the DOE-owned Maywood Interim Storage Site (MISS) by the end of calendar year 1996.

Phase I remedial action at the vicinity properties is estimated to take three to four years to complete (the actual time is based on annual congressional funding) and will involve removing contaminated soil from 37 properties and transporting the material to an out-of-state, licensed disposal facility. Of these properties, 31 are residential. The remainder includes three municipal parks, a fire station, an undeveloped tract, and a highway right-of-way. The majority of the properties are in Lodi. During FY 96 we plan to cleanup 13 of these vicinity properties; 12 residential properties and the Interstate 80 right-of-way.

We have been working closely with city officials in Maywood concerning the use of MISS as a staging area for soils excavated in Lodi. Our plan is to transport the Lodi soils to the storage site in Maywood where they would be loaded into rail cars for transport to the disposal facility.

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At the Wayne site we recently awarded a turnkey subcontract for excavation, transportation, and disposal of the storage pile. As is the case in Maywood, this CERCLA interim action assures continued progress prior to a site-wide decision on all in situ soils. Pile removal will begin this month and is expected to take three to five years to complete. The Wayne pile materials will be loaded into trucks at the Wayne site and taken to a nearby rail line where they will be transferred to rail cars and transported out of state to a permanent disposal site. All vicinity properties to the Wayne site have been cleaned up.

At both Maywood and Wayne, DOE continues to evaluate possible treatment technologies that may be applicable to the substantial volumes of remaining in-situ contaminated material. If a suitable technology is identified that will effectively reduce the volume of material that must be transported and disposed of as radioactive waste, the savings to the taxpayer could be substantial.

Interim cleanup activities are also planned at the Middlesex Sampling Plant. Our plans this fiscal year include cleaning up a ditch, outside the boundaries of the site, that contains low concentrations of radionuclides. This material will be brought to the Sampling Plant for storage. At the same time we will be making some modifications to the surface drainage system at the site to prevent possible recontamination of the ditch. Treatability studies for the soils in storage at the site are continuing. By the end of 1996 we hope to have an understanding of the viable treatment alternatives available for consideration for remediation.

Our plans for FY96 also include remediation of the New Brunswick site. This site is owned by DOE and is a 5.6-acre tract of property in an industrial area that is currently unoccupied. A number of options for cleanup of this site are being evaluated including an approach that would allow DOE to release the property, either to the municipality or to a private entity, for industrial use. Cleanup of this site will be conducted using CERCLA removal authority. As such, we plan to release an engineering evaluation/cost analysis for public comment this spring. Remediation is planned to be complete by September 1996.

I understand that your staff is preparing the paperwork that will allow DOE to provide funds for NJDEP's oversight of our FY96 activities. Once we receive your application for funds we can begin the negotiation process.

I also understand that we have a meeting scheduled on October 27 with Commissioner Gimello to discuss some of the more important issues remaining to be addressed in New Jersey. I hope that you will be available to attend and am looking forward to seeing you again.

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If you have any questions regarding our activities in New Jersey, please contact me at (423) 576-0948.

Sincerely,



Lester K. Price, Director
Former Sites Restoration Division

cc: Kathy Callahan, USEPA
Jim Wagoner, USDOE

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Sincerely,



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