



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, LOUISVILLE
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 59
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40201-0059

June 27, 2000

Mr. Ronald E. Nabors
State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Northwest District Office
347 North Dunbridge Road
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402

RE: NASA Plum Brook Ordnance Works, Erie County, Ohio ID# 322-0552,
Ash Pits 1 & 3

Dear Mr. Nabors,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District, Environmental Engineering Branch, has reviewed your Comments on the draft, "Limited Site Investigation, Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)" and draft "Final Report" for Ash Pits 1 & 3 Areas at the former Plum Brook Ordnance Works, Sandusky, Ohio. Our responses to each of the comments are provided below:

Limited Site Investigation, Quality Assurance Project Plan

1. General Comment: The Ohio EPA, DERR, would prefer to receive the Quality Assurance Project Plan under separate cover and have it referenced in all site investigation Work Plan submittals.

Response: We apologize for not obtaining an OEPA, DERR preferred format to develop the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). We have prepared QAPP documents for projects in Illinois, Michigan and Ohio. The QAPP and associated FSP and DQO attachments were assembled for the Former Plum Brook Ordnance Works using the EPA Region 5 model QAPP, the format we typically use. We apologize for this inconvenience. If our office executes future phases of work for this Formerly Used Defense Site, we will incorporate the OEPA, DERR preferred format in preparing documents.

2. Section 1.2.1, Facility/Size and Borders: Please indicate the size and borders of Ash Pits 1 & 3.

Response: Both Ash Pits are approximately 1 acre in size. Ash pit 1 is located south of Maintenance Road and north of Powerhouse 1. The northern and southern boundaries of ash pit 1 are still somewhat defined by berms or rises in elevation. The northern and southern berms transverse in an east/west direction along Maintenance Road and

Powerhouse 1 respectively. The eastern and western boundaries of the pit are not clearly defined by a berm or rise in elevation, but have been identified from historical aerial photographs and drawings. Ash pit 3 is located west of Ransom Road and south of Maintenance Road within the boundaries of the NASA K-site research facility (formerly Powerhouse 3). The eastern border of Ash Pit 3 is the K-site research facility building. The remaining borders to the north, south, and west are thick vegetation. This information will be added to Section 1.2.1.

3. General Comment: The Figures, Referenced in the text of the QAPP and the Field Sampling Plan, are not labeled.

Response: The Figures will be labeled and referenced accordingly.

4. Field Sampling Plan, Section 4.0, Sampling Design and Rationale, page 7: The first sentence of the first bullet, for Ash Pit 1, is missing the number 1 following the word "pit".

Response: The number 1 will be added to the text following the word "pit".

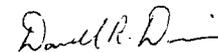
Final Report

General Comment: Since the Ash Pits 1 & 3 areas have been recommended for further studies/action, Ohio EPA, DERR will not request changes to this document.

Response: Thank you.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is submitting these corrections and clarifications for the approval of the Ohio EPA, DERR. It is requested that your office reply within thirty days of the date of this letter. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the responses please contact me at (502) 582-5561.

Sincerely,



Darrell R. Davis
Environmental Scientist

cf: Richard Meadows, Huntington District