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MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM
WELDON SPRING SITE REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT

STATUS OF PROJECT TO DATE
JANUARY 1996

Significant progress, during this third year of the Agreement in Support (AIS), continues to be made by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources in its oversight role at the Weldon Spring site. Building on progress from the first two years, the accomplishments this year include participation in several workgroup meetings for work packages at the site, oversight of the start of the two operable units (Groundwater and Quarry Residuals), coordination between DOE and the various regulatory programs and continued independent analysis of the treated water discharges. Continued contact and maintenance of the interactions with local drinking water supplier and health departments has been accomplished.

A local Citizens Advisory Commission has been created as a result of a cooperative effort between DOE and the St. Charles County government. DNR/Hazardous Waste Program personnel have made strong efforts to work closely with this group by discussing issues and providing information and progress status from DNR's perspective. Additional community involvement efforts (aside from the local presence), provided by the full time field office, includes participation at public meetings and open house type events held during the year. One such meeting involved initiation of and the support for a cost saving measure that would have only one disposal cell built for the wastes at the DOE/WSSRAP and DOD/Weldon Spring Ordnance Works (WSOW). Previous plans were to have an independent cell for each site.

Currently, DNR personnel are oversighting, reviewing and commenting on major segments of the remedial activities, which include Groundwater Operable unit, Quarry Residuals Operable Unit, close out of the Quarry Bulk Waste Operable Unit, Confirmation Plan review, CSS, disposal cell design and review of budget impacts to remediation efforts. Concern for the potential slow down of remediation due to Congressional action on the WSSRAP budget is being closely tracked by DNR. These concerns are being worked on at various levels within DNR and State government.

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A unique opportunity this past year has allowed DNR to employ an independent consultant to assess the testing methods for radioactive constituent (specifically Thorium) and treatment processes being used at WSSRAP. The panel members on the selection of the consultant included representation from DOE and from one of the community concerns groups. This representation was chosen to ensure that an unbiased, independent assessment be made. Presentation of the consultant's findings will be made at a public meeting in the Fall of 1995.

The fourth year (February 1996-January 1997) budget submittal for the AIS has \$140,000 in cost estimates for Environmental Sampling that were included in prior budget year estimates. This funding situation occurred in last years budget, citing the delays in DOE's schedule for Foundations and Soils Removal (Work Package 420) as the cause for shifting the funding. That work package continued to experience scheduling delays that have again resulted in DNR budgeting the sampling costs in the FY96-97 estimate. It should be recognized that this funding is not "new money", but is simply a shift of dollars caused by scheduling delays. The five year AIS grant amount still remains the same.