



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

September 20, 1996

146837

OCT 2 11 27 ES96-014670
11 96

MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY

FROM:

Alvin L. Alm
Assistant Secretary for
Environmental Management

SUBJECT:

ACTION: Inquiries from Congressmen Clay, and Gephardt on
the St. Louis Site Cleanup Effort

ISSUE:

- The St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force was formed in 1994 to act as a liaison between the Department of Energy and the stakeholder community. Members of the Task Force include locally elected officials, impacted private property owners, private citizens, representatives from Federal and State regulatory agencies, and public health officials. The St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force is currently preparing their final report to be submitted to the Department on a recommendation to be considered for the remediation of the St. Louis site.
- The letter from Congressmen Clay and Gephardt strongly urges the Department to implement a swift cleanup action in response to the Task Force's specific recommendations, streamline its cleanup operation, and to establish a dedicated local management office, such as the Weldon Spring site.

SENSITIVITIES:

The Department of Energy recognizes that contaminated soil that exists in the St. Louis area is a direct result of past research and development work conducted by predecessor agencies. The Department accepts the primary responsibility to address the remediation of the St. Louis sites currently under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program.

To date, no decision has been reached for the final cleanup of the St. Louis sites. In the interim, cleanup of vicinity properties are ongoing and are typically prioritized by the St. Louis Site



Remediation Task Force. Vicinity property cleanups are generally based on the following priority:

- residential properties (all complete)
- active commercial properties before inactive/vacant properties
- removal of contamination from areas which require utility access
- addresses areas which minimize the spread of contamination or recontamination

Once the final submittal of the Task Force recommendation has been received by the Department, a meeting will be scheduled with the Task Force to discuss their recommendation.

POLICY IMPACT: None

RECOMMENDATION: Sign the attached letters to Congressmen Clay, and Gephardt.

Concurrence: Congressional/ 9/2096



146837

The Under Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

September 23, 1996

The Honorable William Clay
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clay:

I agree with your August 29, 1996, letter that we are on the verge of resolving the 50-year Cold War legacy in the St. Louis area, and that seizing this opportunity to continue progress toward a workable agreement on a cleanup plan is important. Thanks to the hard work of the St. Louis Remediation Task Force, which has served as a forum for community dialogue, I am confident that we can soon begin a large-scale cleanup to protect public health and the environment at these sites.

First, to respond to your specific recommendations, I will meet with the Task Force when it is mutually convenient. I agree that this will provide a vital opportunity to receive and discuss the Task Force's final report.

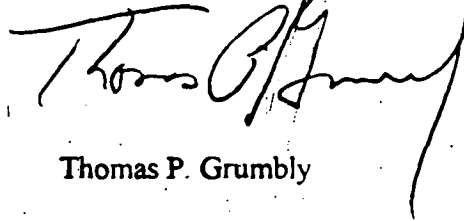
Second, we intend to do everything possible to control costs so that a maximum amount of funding goes to actual on-the-ground cleanup, and a minimum to overhead and management costs. We will examine which steps should be taken to ensure that cleanup project managers are where they can be accessible to the community on a daily basis.

I would like to respond to your concerns regarding the Task Force's impact on the Department's decisions. We take the Task Force recommendations seriously. I put this effort in motion two years ago to develop acceptable and achievable goals that are protective of the community.

Finally, as we develop a long-term cleanup plan, we will not wait to begin taking action. We intend to continue to take immediate action on the highest priorities to fully protect human health and the environment, such as ensuring that there is no migration from the St. Louis Airport site. To meet this commitment, we intend to significantly increase the fiscal year 1997 cleanup funding beyond the \$15 million initially earmarked for these sites. I should note that our commitment to provide adequate funding for these critical St. Louis cleanup projects is difficult to maintain because of the congressional budget cuts in the fiscal year 1996 and fiscal year 1997 of \$73 million and \$59 million in the environmental cleanup budget account from which these sites are funded.

If you have further questions, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Mr. Dirk Forrister, Assistant Secretary for Congressional, Public, and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5506.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas P. Grumbly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Thomas P. Grumbly



The Under Secretary of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

146837

September 23, 1996

The Honorable Richard A. Gephardt
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gephardt:

I agree with your August 29, 1996, letter that we are on the verge of resolving the 50-year Cold War legacy in the St. Louis area, and that seizing this opportunity to continue progress toward a workable agreement on a cleanup plan is important. Thanks to the hard work of the St. Louis Remediation Task Force, which has served as a forum for community dialogue, I am confident that we can soon begin a large-scale cleanup to protect public health and the environment at these sites.

First, to respond to your specific recommendations, I will meet with the Task Force when it is mutually convenient. I agree that this will provide a vital opportunity to receive and discuss the Task Force's final report.

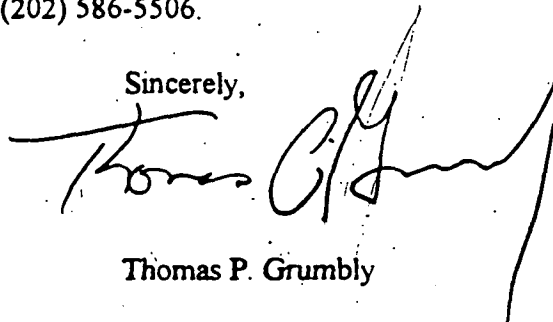
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I would like to respond to your concerns regarding the Task Force's impact on the Department's decisions. We take the Task Force recommendations seriously. I put this effort in motion two years ago to develop acceptable and achievable goals that are protective of the community.

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If you have further questions, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Mr. Dirk Forrister, Assistant Secretary for Congressional, Public, and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5506.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas P. Grumbly". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail that extends downwards and to the right.

Thomas P. Grumbly

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL TICKET

CI 146837

ESSENTIAL/CRITICAL
ES NUMBER: ES96-014670
EXTERNAL

*Em-40 prepare for
S-3 signature
CNC CP
Info EM-1, 2, 3, Terrell Hillis,
Barr*

DATE OF DOC: 08/29/96 REC'D: 09/04/96 CONTROLLED: 09/04/96 DUE: 09/11/96

FROM: CLAY, WILLIAM L
GEPHARDT, RICHARD A
MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

MO O
MO O

NOTES AREA:

See 9-6-96

SUBJECT: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING
SUMMARY: THE CLEANUP OF THE ST. LOUIS
RADIOACTIVE WASTE SITES

SOURCE: CONGRESSIONAL

DOCUMENT TYPE: FAX

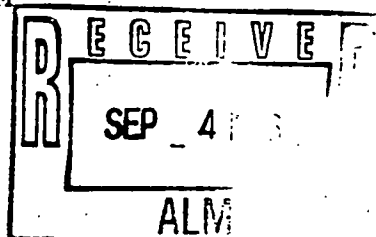
ADDRESSED TO: UNDER SECRETARY
FOR SIGNATURE OF: UNDER SECRETARY

ACTION TO: ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
ACTION TYPE: Prepare final reply
ACTION OFFICER:

1996 SEP 5 12:29

CONCURRENCE COPIES TO: CP
INFORMATION COPIES TO: US SP/ACK ES1 TEAM

CONCURRENCES COMPLETED:



REMARKS: FINAL RESPONSE OR INTERIM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT MUST REACH
THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT BY THE DUE DATE.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT CONTACT: G Holloway

----- EXEC SEC INTERNAL USE -----

SUBJECT CROSS REF:
RELATED CODE/NUMBER:
ACCRTS NUMBER:

SPECIAL INT. CODE:
SPECIAL INT. DATE:

FILE CODE: CCMULTI-ES96014670

COMPLETION DATE:

INFORMATION GENERATED ON 09/04/96 AT 11:28

ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, MISSOURI
COMMITTEE ON
ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITIES
RANKING DEMOCRATIC MEMBER
MAILING ADDRESS:
2205 RAVENHURST HOUSE DRIVE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-2501
TELEPHONE: (202) 224-2485
HARRIET PRITCHETT GRUBSBY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



146837

ST. LOUIS DISTRICT, MISSOURI
ST. LOUIS, MO 63101
TELEPHONE: (314) 247-4111
2205 RAVENHURST HOUSE DRIVE
BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE: (202) 224-2485
HARRIET L. EVANS
DISTRICT ASSISTANT
VIRGINIA M. COOK
DISTRICT COORDINATOR

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-2501

August 29, 1996

Mr. Thomas P. Grumbly
Under Secretary
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Grumbly:

Two years ago, under your leadership and guidance, the St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force was created to identify and evaluate feasible remedial action alternatives for the cleanup of radioactively contaminated sites in the St. Louis area.

The establishment of the Task Force marked a critical turning point in the Department of Energy's efforts to remediate the radioactive waste sites in the St. Louis community. Previously, the Department of Energy was often perceived as an impervious institution that was unwilling or incapable of addressing the concerns of the citizens of our community. This change is an excellent example of Secretary O'Leary's "Openness Initiative," a new policy that promises real results and savings for the taxpayers.

The St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force is expected to issue its recommendations to the Department of Energy this Fall. However, we believe the Task Force has already achieved a remarkable level of success. Through this body the various and often competing local interests - governments, civic groups and private concerns - have found common ground and made substantial progress toward a workable agreement on a plan of action for the cleanup and restoration St. Louis' radioactive waste sites.

We are very pleased with this progress. We are hopeful that the long history of policy making connected with the St. Louis radioactive waste sites, which had been characterized by discord, divisiveness and distrust, may be finally supplanted by the unity of purpose, spirit of compromise and commitment to accomplishment that is evidenced in the work of the citizens Task Force.

In recent weeks we have heard from members of the Task Force who have expressed concern that Department of Energy officials may not be prepared to give a full and unbiased hearing to the final recommendations of the Task Force. We hope this will not be the case. We believe it is of the highest importance that you give

full consideration to all recommendations of the St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force. To do anything less would jeopardize the unity of purpose that the Task Force has achieved in the St. Louis community and may once again set back all efforts to facilitate an acceptable cleanup of the St. Louis radioactive waste sites.

Also, we believe it would be of significant benefit if you were to meet with the Task Force to accept its final report. Such a meeting could greatly enhance DOE's future relations with the St. Louis community and vastly improve prospects for implementing a successful remediation program.

In addition, implementing swift cleanup action in response to the Task Force's specific recommendations will be a vital demonstration of the Department's good faith. We recommend that the DOE streamline its cleanup operations in the St. Louis area by establishing a dedicated local management office, such as was established at the Weldon Spring site. Not only will this help facilitate productive interactions with the community but it will help direct more resources into the physical cleanup of the sites and reduce the level of resources currently expended for paperwork - studies, reports and overhead costs of prime contractors.

In closing, we want you to know that we are most appreciative of the commitment the Department of Energy has demonstrated toward the St. Louis radioactive waste problems during your tenure. Your contributions have been especially helpful. We encourage you to continue to use the power of your office to maintain positive progress on the St. Louis radioactive waste cleanup program.

Sincerely,

William L. Clay
William L. Clay
Member of Congress

Richard A. Gephardt
Richard A. Gephardt
Member of Congress

WLC/mlb

146837

The Honorable William Clay
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Clay:

I agree with your August 29, 1996, letter that we are on the verge of resolving the 50-year Cold War legacy in the St. Louis area, and that it is important to continue progress towards agreement on a cleanup plan. Thanks in large part to the community consensus emerging from the St. Louis Remediation Task Force, I am confident that we can soon begin large-scale cleanup to protect public health and the environment at these sites.

First, to respond to your specific recommendations, I will meet with the Task Force as soon as it is mutually convenient. This will provide a vital opportunity to receive and discuss the Task Force's final report.

Second, we intend to do everything possible to control costs so that a maximum amount of funding goes to actual on-the-ground cleanup, and a minimum to overhead and management costs. Toward this end, we will examine which steps should be taken to ensure that the cleanup project managers are located where they can be accessible to the community on a daily basis.

I would also like to respond to the concerns you expressed regarding the Task Force's impact on the Department's decisions. We take the Task Force recommendations very seriously. I put this effort in motion two years ago, not to waste anyone's time, but to develop acceptable and achievable goals that are protective of the community.

Finally, as we develop a long-term cleanup plan, we will not wait to act. We will take immediate action on the highest priorities to fully protect human health and the environment, such as ensuring that there is no migration of contaminants from the St. Louis Airport Site.

If you have further questions, please contact me or have a member of your staff contact Mr. Dirk Forrister, Assistant Secretary for Congressional, Public, and Intergovernmental Affairs, at (202) 586-5506.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Grumbly

CONCURRENCE
RTG. SYMBOL EM-7
INITIALS/SIG. WERNER
DATE 9/9/96
RTG. SYMBOL EM-20
INITIALS/SIG. BERKOV
DATE 9/9/96
RTG. SYMBOL EM-40
INITIALS/SIG. OWENDOF
DATE 9/10/96
RTG. SYMBOL EM-1
INITIALS/SIG. DEREMER
DATE 9/10/96
RTG. SYMBOL EM-1
INITIALS/SIG. ALM
DATE
RTG. SYMBOL CP-1
INITIALS/SIG. SEE ATTACH
DATE 9/19/96
RTG. SYMBOL
INITIALS/SIG.
DATE
RTG. SYMBOL
INITIALS/SIG.
DATE
RTG. SYMBOL
INITIALS/SIG.
DATE

GPO: 1989-2

09/24/96

Office of Environmental Management Correspondence Control Ticket

Page 1 of 2

EM96-04142

Correspondence From:

Person
CLAY, WILLIAM L
GEPHARDT, RICHARD A

Org
Congress

Correspondence To:

Person
GRUMBLY, TOM

Org
S-3

Assigned By Burphy, Nancy T
EM-2

As'gn Date: 09/04/96

Doc't Date: 08/29/96

Commit No: EM96-04142

E.S. No: ES96-014670

Assigned To Owendoff, James M
EM-40

Due Date: 09/11/96

EST-123 Date:

To ES Date:

Comp Date: 09/24/96

STATUS

CRITICAL ITEM

CLOSED

Document Type: Facsimile

Action Type: Action

Subject: EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE CLEANUP OF THE ST. LOUIS RADIOACTIVE WASTE SITES

External Concurrences Required:

By: CP

From:

Special Instructions: FINAL RES OR INTERIM ACK MUST REACH ES BY THE DUE DATE**Referrals:**

Referred From	Referred To	Orig Date	Due Date	For	Comp Date
Agee, P 40	Hevner, P 42	9/4/96	9/5/96	ACT	09/10/96

Comments:

Date	Commentor	Comment
9/24/96	BORDERS	COMEBACK COPY RCVD IN EMCC, /S/ GRUMBLY, DTD & DISP. BY ES, COPY RTND TO EM-42, CLOSEDOUT IN EMCC FILE
9/24/96	MATUSIK	SIGNED BY UNDER SECRETARY AND DISPATCHED BY ES 9/23/96; COMEBACK COPY TO EM-40 DESK OFFICER FOR PROCESSING; CLOSED IN ES PAS & EMCTS
9/24/96	MATUSIK	PACKAGE WITH UNDER SECRETARY'S OFFICE FOR SIGNATURE AS OF 9/23/96
9/20/96	HARRISS	RECVD IN EMCC, /C/CP, PKG FRWD TO ES FOR FURTHER PROCESSING, 9/20 (SRH)
9/16/96	HARRISS	Recvd in EMCC, /s/ALM, cpy sent to CP for conc, original pkg held in EMCC, 9/16 (SRH)
9/13/96	BORDERS	RCVD IN EMCC, PKG SENT TO FRONT OFFICE FOR RVW & SIGN
9/12/96	GILLIS	PER EM-1/DEREMER, EM-1/ALM TO DISCUSS THIS LETTER WITH OWENDOFF, GUIMOND AND/OR DEREMER BEFORE SIGNING
9/12/96	GILLIS	EM-2/GUIMOND FORWARDED PACKAGE TO EM-1/ALM FOR SIGNATURE (HE DID NOT CONCUR)
9/11/96	MATUSIK	EM-20 MAKING REVISIONS (EM-20/FRANKLIN HAS ORIGINAL PACKAGE (EM-2/GILLIS NOTIFIED EM-40/AGEE)
9/11/96	GILLIS	EM-1/IZATT GAVE VERBAL APPROVAL; TO EM-2/GUIMOND FOR SIGNATURE
9/10/96	GILLIS	EM-1/DEREMER /C/; TO EM-1/IZATT FOR REVIEW
9/10/96	GILLIS	TO EM-1/DEREMER FOR CONCURRENCE

09/24/96
EM96-04142

Office of Environmental Management
Correspondence Control Ticket

Page 2 of 2

9/10/96 HARRISS RECVD IN EMCC, /C/OWENDOFF, PKG FRWD TO FRONT OFFICE FOR FURTHER PROCESSING, 9/10 (SRH)

9/10/96 AGEE PKG CONCURRED ON BY JIM OWENDOFF, BERKOVITZ AND WERNER & FORWARDED TO EMCC FOR PROCESSING

9/10/96 MATUSIK PER EM-40/CRUPI LETTER BEING REWRITTEN AS A RESULT OF WHITE HOUSE MEETING 9/9/96

9/6/96 MATUSIK EXTENSION GRANTED PER CONVERSATION BETWEEN EM-40/KING AND ES/KENNEDY; NEW DUE DATE TO EM-1 9/11/96; COPY OF ES PAS PRINTOUT TO EM-40 DESK OFFICER FOR PROCESSING

9/4/96 HEVNER RECEIVED IN EM-42. ASSIGNED TO PAUL BLOM FOR ACTION (2:00 PM)

9/4/96 AGEE FAXED TO EM-42 FOR ACTION. RESPONSE FOR GRUMBLY SIGNATURE DUE TO FORRESTAL ON 9/5

9/4/96 BURPHY RECVD IN EMCC, FORWD TO EM-40 TO PREPARE FOR /S/ S-3 (/C/ CP), INFO COPIES TO EM-1, 2, 3, FARRELL, GILLIS AND BAM (NTB)

Department of Energy
Executive Secretariat Document Transmittal Form

146837

ESSENTIAL/CRITICAL

ES Number: ES96-014670	Related Code/No.: -
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Date of Incoming Doc: 08/29/96	Due: 09/18/96	Action Date: 09/24/96
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Description:	RESPONSE TO HONORABLE WILLIAM CLAY AND RICHARD GEPHARDT
Subject Summary:	EXPRESSES CONCERN REGARDING THE CLEANUP OF THE ST. LOUIS RADIOACTIVE WASTE SITES
From Org:	ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT
Officer:	ALVIN ALM
Alert Information:	SENSITIVITIES: THE DEPARTMENT RECOGNIZES THAT CONTAMINATED SOIL THAT EXISTS IN THE ST. LOUIS AREA IS A DIRECT RESULT OF PAST RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WORK CONDUCTED BY PREDECESSOR AGENCIES...
Action Requested:	UNDER SECRETARY SIGNATURE
Highlighted Policy:	NONE
Actions: Current:	THE ATTACHED LETTERS WERE SIGNED BY THE UNDER SECRETARY ON SEPTEMBER 23, 1996, AND DISPATCHED IN THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT. THIS COPY IS BEING FORWARDED TO YOUR OFFICE FOR YOUR FILES. A COPY IS BEING FORWARDED TO THE CONCURRING OFFICE. (CP)
Previous:	09/23 UNDER SECRETARY FOR SIGNATURE 09/23 ES/KENNEDY FOR REVIEW 09/23 ES/WEST FOR REVIEW-COMPLETED 09/23 ES/JONES FOR PROCESSING AND REVIEW-COMPLETED

Concurrences:	CP/FORRISTER 09/20/96 W/COMMENTS	
Additional concurrences not shown 0		

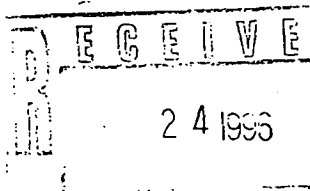
Please return folder and contents to the Office of the Executive Secretariat upon completion of action.

File Code: CCMULTI-ES96014670- PAULETTE JONES 6-5177

Completion Date: 9/24/96

Closed by: MICHAEL LOHR 6-0471

LE 6 1 12 1996



Bam
9-24-96
EM-40
EM 96-04142

146837
52-1074

00-2158

Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



U.S. Department of Energy

Property
of

ST LOUIS FUSRAP LIBRARY