

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2504

October 15, 1996

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The Honorable Hazel R. O'Leary
Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy
Federal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Ms. O'Leary:

The St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force has been working for the past two years at your request in developing a plan to clean up the St. Louis Formerly Utilized Sites Remediation Action Program (FUSRAP) sites. The Task Force now is submitting the plan to the Department of Energy. I am writing to ask that you carefully review the conclusions and recommendations of the Task Force that were developed at your request by those impacted by the contaminated sites.

In its report, the Task Force has listed the 100 sites to be remediated in priority and has indicated the standards against which each site is to be restored. The Task Force, representing many segments of the St. Louis community, unanimously agreed that the material should be excavated and transported to an approved radioactive waste disposal site -- rather than being stored in a bunker in St. Louis. The radioactive contamination at the St. Louis FUSRAP sites continues to threaten the public's health, the environment, and the economy of the region. The time for the Department of Energy to clean up our sites is now.

Recognizing that priorities must be established for use of limited resources, I believe that St. Louis should be given the highest priority for remediation. According to the Task Force Report, of the 46 FUSRAP sites across the country, the St. Louis site is the largest both in terms of acreage and of the quantity of radioactive waste material.

Because of the health and safety implications, and the effects on this region's ability to develop these sites, I request that you review carefully the

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recommendations of the St. Louis Site Remediation Task Force. The Task Force has complied with your request to develop a community-based solution on remediation of these sites in St. Louis, meeting the challenge to devise an approach that meets the needs of St. Louis and its citizens. With your assistance, we can return the sites to pristine condition and assure the continued growth and improved quality of life for all Missourians.

Sincerely,



John Ashcroft
U.S. Senate

JDA/las

cc: Mr. Thomas P. Grumbly, Under Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



U.S. Department of Energy