STATE OF MISSOURI

Mel Carnahan, Governor • Stephen M. Mahfood, Director

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

— OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR –

P.O. Box 176 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0176

July 9, 1999

Ms. Sharon Cotner U.S. Army Corps of Engineers St. Louis District – FUSRAP Project Office 9170 Latty Avenue Berkeley, Missouri 63134

Dear Ms. Cotner:

I recently reviewed the US Army Corps of Engineer's (USACE) newsletter <u>The St. Louis Sites</u>, Spring 1999 edition. The newsletter serves as a useful tool to inform the public and other agencies of the current operations at the St. Louis Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). I am glad to see that it is directed to the general public and is not filled with technical jargon as with many government publications. The newsletter is visually attractive and easy to read. The format and color photographs bring the project to life and encourages the reading of the newsletter. The St. Louis Oversight Committee and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources can and do distribute copies of the newsletter to broaden public awareness.

The timely information contained in the newsletter is the highlight, which makes this newsletter a beneficial communication tool. The up-to-date information also portrays a sense of efficiency in government operations. Often publications are irrelevant by the time of printing and can give the public a feeling that their money is being wasted.

The inclusion of the "What's Next?" section is a good way to include the upcoming activities at each of the FUSRAP sites. In future issues, you may want to emphasize the USACE participation in community events, such as Earth Day, as another resource for the public to gain information on FUSRAP and an opportunity to interact face to face with USACE personnel. The very visible "Keeping in Touch" section of the newsletter and the offer to do public presentations gives an open community-oriented tone of the FUSRAP and of the USACE.

Public relations are an integral part of the FUSRAP, and the USACE has developed a useful tool in the St. Louis Sites newsletter. We look forward to continuing to work on community outreach activities with you and your staff to maximize effectiveness. If we can be of any assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to contact our field staff at (314) 887-3250, our Community Relations Coordinator Ramona Huckstep at (573) 751-6796, or me.

Sincerely,

HAZARDOUS WASTE PROGRAM

Robert Geller, Section Chief Federal Facilities Section

c: Colonel Thomas Hodgini, USACE Dan Wall, U.S. EPA

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