



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

STATE OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY
(573) 751-3222

MEL CARNAHAN
GOVERNOR

ROOM 216
STATE CAPITOL
65101

April 6, 1998

Colonel Thomas J. Hodgini
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District
1222 Spruce Street
St. Louis, MO 63103

SUBJECT: Public Hearing before the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, March 17, 1998

Dear Colonel Hodgini:

I commend the Corps of Engineers for its initial efforts related to the cleanup of federal nuclear weapons production waste sites in St. Louis City and County. I have worked closely with the Clinton Administration for several years on this issue and I look forward to working with you to achieve a complete and timely cleanup of these sites.

There is significant public support for the cleanup of the St. Louis federal nuclear weapons production waste sites. Elected officials from the St. Louis Metropolitan area and members of the Missouri Congressional Delegation continue to support a full and complete cleanup consistent with the recommendations of the St. Louis Sites Remediation Task Force.

As is evident from the March 17, 1998, public hearing on cleanup plans for the St. Louis Airport and Hazelwood sites, there continues to be not only significant public support but also a broad consensus on the technical criteria for how cleanup efforts should be conducted. Testimony from St. Louis City, St. Louis County, and the chairmen of the St. Louis Oversight Committee and the St. Louis Sites Remediation Task Force all supported proceeding with the cleanups but with the use of clean, uncontaminated fill.

I must join with those witnesses at the March 17 public hearing who expressed concern over the Corps' proposal to use contaminated material for backfilling. The stockpiling of this contaminated material is opposed by area citizens and their elected officials. As you may know, almost all of the owners of the affected sites had no role in the contamination of their property and deserve to be made whole through a full and complete cleanup.

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My office will steadfastly support the FUSRAP cleanup activities of the St. Louis District Corps of Engineers so long as area stakeholders agree with the Corps' plans and the plans are technically sound. In the case of the Airport and Hazelwood cleanups, an adjustment of the plans to reflect community opinion is in order.

I look forward to maintaining close communication with the St. Louis District as the cleanup projects progress. Please include this letter as a part of the formal record of comment.

Very truly yours,



Mel Carnahan

c: Senator John Ashcroft
Senator Christopher S. Bond
Congressman William L. Clay
Congressman Richard A. Gephardt
Congressman James M. Talent
Lieutenant General Joe N. Ballard



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