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MISSOURI

COMMITTEES:
APPROPRIATIONS
AGING, HOUSING AND
URBAN AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS
BUDGET
ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC WORKS

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2503

June 3, 1996

The Honorable Pete Domenici
Chairman, Appropriations Subcommittee
on Energy and Water Development
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Pete:

It is a little known fact that St. Louis City and St. Louis County bear a substantial radioactive waste burden from Cold War uranium refining operation in the 1940's and 1950's and also from the Manhattan Project uranium operations.

St. Louis is the location of this country's first nuclear weapons site. Unfortunately, the wastes are in the midst of the St. Louis metropolitan area and are for the most part uncontrolled (lacking even minimal signage). The waste continues to be moved and spread and there are now more than 100 properties contaminated above Department of Energy's (DOE) cleanup standards.

Except at one site, the owners of these contaminated properties were not Atomic Energy Commission or DOE contractors and did not cause the contamination that exists on their properties. The owners are innocent victims of DOE negligence. For comparison purposes, you should know that in St. Louis there are more off-site contaminated properties above DOE's standards than at Rocky Flats, Idaho National Engineering Laboratory (INEL), Los Alamos, and Sandia combined.

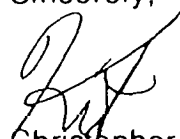
This is all clearly DOE's responsibility. I would like to see some positive steps taken in the fiscal year 1997 Energy and Water Appropriations bill to address this problem. Specifically, I would like St. Louis removed from the FUSRAP program line item and established as its own separate line item. In doing this, St. Louis' \$17 million existing currently within the FUSRAP core budget should be transferred out of FUSRAP and into the new St. Louis line item. In addition, I would like to request an increase of \$24 million dedicated to the St. Louis cleanup for a total of \$41 million in the St. Louis line item.

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These two steps will allow the State of Missouri and the citizens of St. Louis to move forward with a cost-effective cleanup of the St. Louis metropolitan area. I know the funding constraints which you face for your Subcommittee; however, I believe it is imperative that a sufficient appropriation be made to allow an economy of scale during this cleanup period. DOE's activity to date in facing up to its St. Louis responsibility has been tardy and woefully inadequate at best.

Thank you for your consideration and assistance in this important matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact myself or Tracy Henke of my staff at 224-5721.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Bond", written over the printed name.

Christopher S. Bond

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Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP)

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD

for the St. Louis Site, Missouri



U.S. Department of Energy