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Congress of the United States Pouse of Representatives

Washington, **DC** 20515–2502

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Dr. R. L. Mullins, Jr. PE, AICP FUSRAP Project Manager U.S. Army Corps Of Engineers 9170 Latty Avenue Berkeley, Missouri 63134

Dear Dr. Mullins:

I am writing to you with regard to the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis(EE/CA) for the removal of radioactive material from the Hazelwood Interim Storage Site(HISS) under the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program(FUSRAP) now being administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The primary purpose of the proposed action is to minimize the release of contaminated materials from the site thereby minimizing the potential for associated impacts to human health and the environment. Specifically, it is desired to eliminate the potential for migration of contaminated materials from these properties to off-site soils, surface water, groundwater or air. A secondary objective of this action is to restore these properties to beneficial use.

In light of these objectives, I am, hereby, submitting public comments in support of Alternative 3 in the HISS EE/CA. Alternative 3 provides for the removal and off-site disposal of impacted soils and the remediation of the Latty Avenue Vicinity Properties. In addition Alternative 3 will remediate these sites up to the 5/15/50(pCi/g) or residential use cleanup criteria.

I am supporting Alternative 3 instead of Alternative 2, which is the preferred alternative of the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Alternative 2 provides for the removal of contaminated soil from the 3 storage piles, the Latty Avenue Vicinity properties and the contiguous property. These soils would then be segregated based on radionuclide concentrations. Cleaner or below criteria soils would be stored on HISS for potential reuse as backfill in the HISS subsurface. The remaining impacted or higher level contaminated soils would be shipped off site for commercial disposal. Like Alternative 3, Alternative 2 would remediate these sites up to the 5/15/50(pCl/g) or residential use cleanup criteria.

While I greatly admire the Army Corps' desire to provide the most cost effective remedy for these properties, I feel that Alternative 3 will be more cost-effective in the long run as local governments try to convert these properties back to beneficial use. Alternative 3 is also the

preferred remedy of the impacted local governments such as the State of Missouri, St. Louis County and the City of Hazolwood, Missouri.

In closing, I would like to congratulate the St. Louis District Army Corps of Engineers for their commitment to cleaning up these contaminated sites in the St. Louis Area. In less than a year since the Corps assumed the cleanup responsibilities for all FUSRAP Sites, significant progress has been made in formulating a thorough and acceptable final remedy for the St. Louis FUSRAP Sites.

Sincerely,

Jim Talent

Member of Congress

JT/th