

May 7, 1998



Dr. Rob Mullins, FUSRAP Program Manager
Department of the Army
St. Louis District, Corp of Engineers
9170 Latty Avenue
Berkeley, MO 63134

Dear Dr. Mullins:

Several member companies of the St. Louis Regional Commerce & Growth Association have expressed a great deal of concern over the recently released Feasibility Study/Proposed Plan (FS/PP) with regard to the Corp's intentions to remediate the St. Louis FUSRAP. I am writing to apprise you of our organization's institutional concern as certain elements of the plan do not appear to be consistent with regional economic development goals.

Under the previous plan, the contaminated sites were to be cleaned and made essentially available for redevelopment. The FS/PP does not provide for such treatment. Much of the property affected does have local market appeal. Responsible remediation planning would seek to take advantage of such favorable market conditions. It is not clear why the FS/PP not only fails to leverage said conditions, but effectively removes these properties from the playing field in the immediate term - contaminated properties are at a distinct competitive disadvantage in the St. Louis area as available properties can be had readily which are not contaminated.

In addition to the plan's failure to envision new, short term growth on FUSRAP property, the plan clearly does not recognize the propensity, given historical tendencies, for near term expansion onto remediated parcels located on the Mallinckrodt facility.

The RCGA established a goal of generating 100,000 net new jobs by the year 2000. One of our most pressing economic development goals is therefore to foster expansion of existing operations and growth of new operations in the immediate term. Clearly, the FS/PP is inconsistent with that end. We would respectfully request, therefore, that you reconsider your strategy for remediation of the affected real estate.

Please do not hesitate to contact this office with any questions or if we can be of any assistance to you in the planning process.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Michael Alesandrini
Manager of Environment

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