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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2504

May 8, 1998

Dr. Rob Mullins, Jr.  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
St. Louis District  
9170 Latty Avenue  
St. Louis, Missouri 63134

Dear Mr. Mullins:

I have reviewed the Army Corps of Engineers plans for remediation of the St. Louis Downtown Site (SLDS) under the Formerly Utilized Site Remedial Action Program (FUSRAP). I commend the Corps for developing these assessments and plans under a challenging schedule. I look forward to the timely completion of the work and elimination of the burden that residues from early weapons production place on property owners.

While I believe cost should be one factor in deciding which plan should be implemented, it should not be the only factor. I encourage the Corps to select an alternative that will minimize the future administrative and financial burdens to property owners and minimize impediments to future development. Please choose an alternative that will best preserve and enhance the cost-effective development and expansion of SLDS properties and the resulting economic benefits that flow to the local and regional community.

Also, I encourage the Corps to resolve the issue of continuing future responsibility for residues which are not removed under the current plan. Property owners must not bear a burden that is the government's responsibility, and it is appropriate and reasonable that the mechanism for establishing and guaranteeing such responsibility be established as prior to issuance of the Record of Decision.

Sincerely,



John Ashcroft  
United States Senate

JDA/cjd