

Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

July 8, 2009

Mr. James A. Ajello Chair Environmental Management Advisory Board U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, DC 20585

Dear Chairman Ajello:

Thank you for your letter of May 5, 2009, transmitting the Board's report and recommendations regarding the Energy Park Initiative (EPI).

As the Office of Environmental Management (EM) makes continuing progress in remediating our sites and reducing the EM footprint, we are very cognizant of the need to work with our sites, local communities, and stakeholders to prepare them for transitioning the sites to future beneficial uses. These sites possess tremendous Federal assets, and we need to ensure that the returns on investment to the taxpayer are maximized.

We in EM have been holding discussions with Department of Energy senior management, programs, and the sites on the EPI concept and options to proceed. Your report and recommendations will be most helpful as the Department further develops the concept and evaluates options for implementation.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at (202) 586-7709 or Mr. Mark Gilbertson, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Engineering and Technology, at (202) 586-0755.

Sincerely,

Inés R. Triay

Assistant Secretary for

Environmental Management