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**MINUTES FROM MARCH 12, 1994 MEETING OF  
THE FERNALD CITIZENS TASK FORCE**

**03/12/94**

**TASK FORCE/PUBLIC**

**6**

**MINUTES**

# FERNALD CITIZENS TASK FORCE

A U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

Chair:

John S. Applegate

Members:

James Bierer  
Marvin Clawson  
Lisa Crawford  
Pam Dunn  
Dr. Constance Fox  
Guy Guckenberger  
Darryl Huff  
Jerry Monahan  
Tom B. Rentschler  
Robert Tabor  
Warren E. Strunk  
Thomas Wagner  
Dr. Gene Willeke

Alternates:

Russ Beckner  
Jackie Embry

Ex Officio:

J. Phillip Hamric  
Graham Mitchell  
Jim Saric

## Minutes from March 12, 1994 Meeting

**Members Present:**

John Applegate  
Rita Cestaric, EPA  
Marvin Clawson  
Lisa Crawford  
Pam Dunn  
Constance Fox  
Guy Guckenberger  
Phil Hamric, DOE  
Darryl Huff  
Graham Mitchell, OEPA  
Jerry Monahan  
Tom Rentschler  
Warren Strunk  
Bob Tabor  
Thomas Wagner  
Gene Willeke

About 25 spectators, including members of public, DOE, and FERMCO representatives.

1. Approval of Minutes:

- The draft minutes of the February 12, 1994, meeting of the Task Force were approved without amendment.

2. Remarks:

Chair John Applegate reminded members that Bill Weida, an expert on economic development at Colorado College who is studying economic and employment issues at DOE sites, will be speaking at the March 24, 1994, FRESH meeting. Weida has agreed to meet with the Task Force, even though economic development issues are not going to be addressed by Task Force now. However, because Weida will be available in March, he is

scheduled to meet with Task Force members over dinner on March 24 before the FRESH meeting. Applegate said he will send out more information prior to the dinner.

Applegate also reported that the Task Force and FRESH is co-sponsoring a workshop on Envirocare of Utah, Inc., which is a commercial disposal facility that is permitted to accept low-level radioactive waste. The workshop is scheduled for April 7, 1994. The subject of off-site disposal facilities is very much related to what the Task Force is doing in developing its recommendations, and Applegate said the Envirocare workshop will be helpful in letting Task Force members know a little more about what would happen if wastes were disposed off-site.

Applegate said more information would be distributed to Task Force members about both sessions.

The chair reported that DOE revised its plan to notify the Task Force and other interested parties about waste shipments from the site. (Copies of the revised letter were given to Task Force members at the meeting.)

The revised plan expands the list of interested parties that will be notified to include Morgan, Crosby, and Ross townships; emergency management officials from Hamilton and Butler counties; FRESH; the reading room of the Public Environmental Information Center, and any individual or group that requests it. The plan also will include providing monthly notification of incoming hazardous materials. DOE will provide information about tabular information about projected and actual shipments to and from the site. The information includes the scheduled date or actual date of shipment, the types of materials, the volumes, the mode of transport, and the destination.

Applegate said the letter from DOE conveying the details of the plan brings the matter to a close, although he said that DOE would welcome any comments for improving the notifications. Task Force members also were provided at the meeting a copy of information projecting waste shipments from the site in March and April, 1994.

Applegate noted that Rita Cestaric from U.S. EPA was sitting in for Jim Saric. He also introduced Don Ofte, the new president of FERMCO, and welcomed him to the Task Force meeting and to Fernald.

3. Report on the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement:

Applegate told Task Force members that Tom Wagner represented the group at a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement meeting in the Washington, D.C., area last month. He asked Wagner to report on the meeting.

Tom Wagner said others from the Fernald area also attended the meeting, including Vicky Dastillung of FRESH and DOE's Environmental Restoration and Waste Management Advisory Board, Doug Sarno, and Laura Hegge from Ohio EPA. This meeting was a follow up from an earlier session, and dealt with the risk assessment process that will be part of PEIS.

The real purpose of this meeting was to help DOE determine what is the best means for presenting the information that comes out of the risk assessment process. Wagner said he thought there were several issues relevant to the Task Force, including waste treatment and waste disposal. Wagner said DOE was discussing having up to 49 sites -- or as few as 4 sites -- become treatment facilities. DOE also is considering using up to 13 sites -- or as few as one site -- for disposal.

Wagner suggested that the Task Force be aware of these discussions going on at a national level. He also reported that the Superfund Reauthorization legislation contains proposed language that perhaps will redefine the composition of site-specific advisory boards (SSABs). He recommended that the Task Force make sure the legislation benefits the citizens of the Fernald area.

Applegate added that waste importation is likely to be a significant issue for the Task Force. He explained that, as part of the development of technology on site, a certain amount of material from other sites may be brought to Fernald for treatment to see if the technology works. This issue is relevant to the Task Force's transportation concerns if materials are going to be coming on to the site, as well as because of the implications for future use. Applegate suggested forming a sub-committee to look into waste importation. The Task Force agreed; Lisa Crawford, Darryl Huff, and Bob Tabor volunteered to serve on this subcommittee.

4. Discussion of Site Information:

Applegate introduced the "funnel" chart, which shows the process of working toward a future use recommendation. Applegate reviewed the progress so far: In January and February, Task Force members brainstormed about the various possibilities for the site; then those possibilities were organized into categories for land use. Now the Task Force will begin to identify legal constraints, develop criteria, and identify some reasonable future use options and evaluating their costs.

Applegate said he has asked Sarno to develop a mock-up of what final report may look like for members to review next month. Applegate then turned the discussion over to Sarno.

Sarno introduced new meeting work books for the Task Force, explaining that all the information will be in one place. Information will be added as it is developed. The categories in the new binders include:

- Future Use Criteria
- Land Use Categories
- Work Plan
- Site Background
- Site Maps
- Contamination Profiles
- Risk Assessment Overview
- Technology Profiles
- Demographic Profiles
- Future Use Options
- Glossary
- Overlays of various aspects of the site

5. Discussion of Contamination and Risks:

Sarno asked Task Force members to identify what threats they associated with the Fernald site. He said the information is relevant in addressing the question of future use. He also asked Task Force members to identify the major components of remediation that need to be understood. Task Force members and the public identified the following threats:

- Drinking water wells and contaminated water off site
- Air quality during remediation

- Risks of transportation
- Lack of funds
- Loading the aquifer with contamination
- Combined risks of multiple contamination
- Long-term impacts of not having information (secrecy)
- Impact of Paddy's Run Road Site
- Time management
- Complex-wide decision impacts
- Not having off-site disposal options
- Lawsuits from mismanagement
- Vulnerable populations
- Shipments from off-site
- Changes in laws and regulations
- Natural disasters
- Worker and resident health and safety
- Non-uranium contaminants
- Environmental risks from remediation to wildlife
- Stress/psychological risk from process and unknowns
- Agricultural products
- Exposure to any radioactivity
- Exposure to any toxics
- Property values
- Any residual contamination
- Radon
- Natural Resources
  - Aquifer
  - Wildlife
  - Land (soils)
  - Air
- Loss of jobs/impact on local economy
- Perception of mismanagement
- Unachievable goals

6. Opportunity for Public Participation:

There were no other public comments other than those earlier during the discussion identifying threats associated with the site.

7. Mal Weiss Survey:

Applegate introduced Mal Weiss from MIT, who is working

with DOE on public participation efforts. Weiss explained one of the issues he is studying is trust and confidence -- something that has been identified as a major barrier in previous studies. He asked Task Force members to complete a survey indicating their levels of trust and confidence in DOE. He promised to report the results to the Task Force.

8. New Business:

Applegate said Jack Craig of DOE will discuss at next month's meeting the baseline that is being developed for the Fernald site.

9. Materials Distributed at Meeting:

- Meeting portfolio containing various maps and site information
- DOE's revised letter containing the proposed notification plan for waste shipments
- Notification about waste shipments projected for March and April 1994 and about waste actually shipped in February from the Fernald site.
- Chart showing "funnel" process for developing final recommendations on future use

12. Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the full Task Force is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to noon on April 9, 1994, at the Amerisuites in Forest Park.

The meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m..

Approved April 9, 1994