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**COMMENTS FROM THE FERNALD COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION  
PUBLIC WORKSHOP ON MAY 28, 1996**

05/28/96

**PUBLIC            DOE-FN  
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COMMENTS**

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*Respondents are numbered 1 through 27.*

**I would like the Fernald communities to...**

- 1 - *no response*
- 2 - agree that the decisions made as to future use of the site are in fact the appropriate ones.
- 3 - work together.
- 4 - come together to make the CRO a true success.
- 5 - *no response*
- 6 - creatively solve the Fernald issue.
- 7 - have real insight on the large job (in making decisions) it will be to clean the site.
- 8 - *no response*
- 9 - look after each other's need.
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - take advantage of this opportunity to create some stability to the local economy (William Weida did some good studies on shift in workforce from white to blue collar; someone should revisit this study; call Alan Theykan 648-5283)
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - aggressively pursue and participate in the CRO.
- 14 - evaluate the regional economic impact of potential use for this site.
- 15 - improve image of community, infrastructure and economic base.
- 16 - use CRO to generate a real success for area.
- 17 - think of the big picture (part of Western Hamilton County Collaborative Plan).
- 18 - work together, come to meeting, get involved, be a part of this issue at large; leave private agencies at home -- come prepared to address issues beyond own issues.
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - establish a cooperative working relationship that will permit the CRO to make recommendations that will balance economic impact with environmental concerns.
- 21 - remember it takes a combined effort to accomplish any goals we really want to have taken seriously.
- 22 - the big picture -- insight for the large job (CRO).
- 23 - problem solve effectively and maximize our potential to make the best use of our resources.
- 24 - work together for the benefit of all.
- 25 - interact directly with the Miami and other concerned federal Indian nations and consider supporting the site's transformation to federal reservation states (via. Connecticut Mohegans).
- 26 - prepare for the future by developing a plan for the FEMP that will demonstrate the best of economic and community development while improving the physical environment.
- 27 - train and equip (e.g. computers/software) existing workforce so that they can be used to clean up Millcreek and similar polluted sites in the Tri-state; this could eventually become a free-standing decontamination company.

**I am glad to be a part of these communities because...**

- 1 - *no response*
- 2 - the decisions made here set an example for this country and the rest of the world.
- 3 - *no response*
- 4 - *no response*
- 5 - I work here.
- 6 - friendly, caring families.
- 7 - it has been a learning process for meeting people with interesting ideas and different ways to do things as far as community is concerned.
- 8 - *no response*
- 9 - part of rural -- I like the way it is now.
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - NA -- FERMCO -- live in Indiana.
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - *no response*
- 14 - we have a tremendous opportunity for growth at this site.
- 15 - involvement with WHCCP commitment
- 16 - mostly real down home folks.
- 17 - it gives us a chance to influence our future.
- 18 - this is my home -- we love it here; my husband's family has been here for years; it's rural, country -- we like it that way.
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - I would like to make a contribution to the future of these communities.
- 21 - I'm a third generation that has both lived and worked here and want my children able to do the same.
- 22 - it will help on the WHCCP; large family history.
- 23 - there is great potential here possessed by great people.
- 24 - *no response*
- 25 - they are communities, not aggregates of interest groups.
- 26 - they include all the things that makes America great; we have a cross section of social and political views, talents.
- 27 - *no response*

**I'm afraid that...**

- 1 - I live too far away to be able to contribute on a regular basis.
- 2 - the involvement and input of citizen's groups may impede progress to some extent.
- 3 - the cleanup will never totally be completed.
- 4 - *no response*
- 5 - groups will be "left out."
- 6 - activities will bog down in red tape.
- 7 - there are people who will be very greedy for their townships and not work to help others.
- 8 - *no response*
- 9 - communities have different issues.
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - the cleanup will end without long-term benefit to the area.
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - the makeup of the CRO will be directed to more distant communities that already have the resources (Cincinnati).
- 14 - communities may shy away from potential development due to the past problems with the industrial use at Fernald.
- 15 - too many issues; special issues dominate.
- 16 - I am from government and here to help.
- 17 - people will become parochial and protective; special interests and issues will dominate the CRO.
- 18 - Ross township trustees and merchants will dominate this CRO; money will be spent frivolously to certain folks; chair or facilitator must be independent -- not from here (no connection).
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - *no response*
- 21 - the local citizens are not really being heard and maybe even being used for public relations only.
- 22 - the communities have different issues; I'm from the government and I'm here to help.
- 23 - our work will not bare fruit.
- 24 - many decisions have already been made.
- 25 - a self-fulfilling prophecy is being created dooming the site to inevitable industrial, nuclear and military cleanup usable in perpetuity.
- 26 - the site end use will be a compromise between several divergent views without compiling the best of each view into a positive solution.
- 27 - *no response*

**The most important issue we face is...**

- 1 - how to use the technical skills of the workforce after the Fernald cleanup ends.
- 2 - the future of the Fernald site.
- 3 - the cleanup.
- 4 - community involvement, needs, desires -- what if the desires of the community do not match the criteria laid out by DOE guidance.
- 5 - communication.
- 6 - community and worker safety -- now and future.
- 7 - will there be enough money and will the plans work as they have planned? on the site?
- 8 - site cleanup proceed per ten year plan
- 9 - Fernald's cleanup.
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - maintaining property values.
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - local jobs and economic development.
- 14 - downsizing and accommodation of displaced workforce.
- 15 - clean site and many healthy and safe community and environment; keep regional ?? issues; fair future use of site.
- 16 - keeping regional interest above ?????????? interest.
- 17 - moving forward; not living in the past; fair future land use of the site.
- 18 - a cleaned-up site; a healthy and safe community and environment for all.
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - building trust.
- 21 - the future of the site and who will govern our destiny.
- 22 - a cleaned-up site and ???????; a healthy and safe environment; keeping regional issues primary; fair future land use of site (one is rural; one is business); each area have different ideas.
- 23 - pulling together to achieve the most we can.
- 24 - fair future land use.
- 25 - public health -- obviously interdependent with environmental safety and economic well-being.
- 26 - to not make the same mistakes (oversights) that were made in the 1950s - 60s.
- 27 - *no response*

**What I've heard tonight:**

surprises me because...

- 1 - *no response*
- 2 - so many people choose to be involved in the decision-making process.
- 3 - *no response*
- 4 - *no response*
- 5 - *no response*
- 6 - length of the project and CRO.
- 7 - doesn't.
- 8 - *no response*
- 9 - *no response*
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - people in this group feel that access to funds is a liability.
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - *no response*
- 14 - *no response*
- 15 - some negative concerns.
- 16 - number of people here.
- 17 - no Ross Township trustees present; property sales.
- 18 - no Ross Township trustees are here -- where the hell are they?
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - DOE is going to give thy CRO so much input into the future of the site.
- 21 - *no response*
- 22 - no one from Ross here tonight.
- 23 - more bureaucracy than I expected.
- 24 - *no response*
- 25 - the dollar amounts discussed applied to job retraining directly could accomplish great things.
- 26 - *no response* (respondent missed the open discussion)
- 27 - *no response*

## What I've heard tonight:

concerns me because...

- 1 - *no response*
- 2 - of negative attitudes.
- 3 - *no response*
- 4 - Ross Township is absent.
- 5 - FRESH appears to feel threatened.
- 6 - process seems like it could lead to energy being directed toward paperwork and funding -- not solution.
- 7 - have dealt with some of those that don't want to really be part of the whole.
- 8 - may be too late -- bulk of the work at the site should be done by 2001.
- 9 - *no response*
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - *no response*
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - the convener hinted that the locals may not have the resources -- does this mean Hamilton County (Cincinnati) dominance?
- 14 - *no response*
- 15 - off-site use as a negative should be a stimulus.
- 16 - number of people here.
- 17 - people might get greedy with money available; bulk of dirty work to be done in next five -- not enough time to plan for workforce transition.
- 18 - money causes problems sometimes (greedy folks); focus should be on all communities, not just Ross.
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - will DOE adopt recommendations of the CRO.
- 21 - I'm planning on living and working here for the rest of my life.
- 22 - money causes problems (site specific); most of work will be done in five years.
- 23 - the process may become too cumbersome.
- 24 - *no response*
- 25 - concept of who/what is Fernald community seems skewed -- are these three townships the only ones affected?
- 26 - *no response* (respondent missed the open discussion)
- 27 - *no response*

**What I've heard tonight:**

encourages me because...

- 1 - the opportunity and resources exist to solve the problem(s).
- 2 - DOE is committed to community involvement.
- 3 - *no response*
- 4 - money available through grants.
- 5 - variety of group
- 6 - opportunity for community input.
- 7 - maybe I am wrong.
- 8 - *no response*
- 9 - *no response*
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - *no response*
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - *no response*
- 14 - a great amount of expertise and concerned residents are coming together to develop this site.
- 15 - level of support.
- 16 - number of people.
- 17 - *no response*
- 18 - maybe some people will finally get involved, work together, show up and act concerned.
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - *no response*
- 21 - *no response*
- 22 - the U.S. government didn't walk away; wide diversity of attendees here.
- 23 - we have the people and resources to make it work.
- 24 - *no response*
- 25 - process seems open yet well-charted.
- 26 - *no response* (respondent missed the open discussion)
- 27 - *no response*

Five years from now, I will think the Fernald CRO has been a real success if...

- 1 - we have begun to utilize the skills of the RIFed employees.
- 2 - its recommendations have been implemented and agreed to by the community.
- 3 - the cleanup efforts have gone ahead of schedule.
- 4 - a plan has been approved which meets the collective needs of the diverse community groups represented.
- 5 - all groups still cooperate.
- 6 - a workable solution is found -- that the various groups are happy with the recommendations.
- 7 - money and ?????????????? is not the issue; safety and cleanup are prime importance in deciding what's to happen.
- 8 - an integrated plan has been prepared and implementation of the plan has started.
- 9 - the CRO members have divided the wealth evenly.
- 10 - *no response*
- 11 - *no response*
- 12 - it is working with the cleanup process and assisting local communities in reducing the impact of lost of the economic support provided by the site employees.
- 13 - the local business community (Ross) is thriving, and there are good jobs available in the local area (three townships).
- 14 - a well, thought-out plan for site reuse, and workers welfare of what was formerly FERMCO be evaluated.
- 15 - economic development on site.
- 16 - we have a plan.
- 17 - the local communities are no longer dependent upon DOE for their livelihood.
- 18 - all are involved, participating, making sound recommendations (cohesive); one voice hearing many voices -- all involved, all inclusive, represent all and not one set group.
- 19 - If a plan is developed which allows for an acceptable use of Fernald site, test of the success will be determined by the acceptance of this reuse by the community as a whole.
- 20 - the CRO has developed and established a process for future planning and development.
- 21 - the disposal cell never happens.
- 22 - establish a fire district for Ross, Morgan, and Crosby Townships (e.g. mutual aid for EMS, fire and training).
- 23 - a workable plan is in place that reflects the interests of all of the Fernald communities.
- 24 - no disposal cell; each community benefits.
- 25 - *no response*
- 26 - the sight contractor can build the CRO recommendations into its remedial construction work.
- 27 - *no response*

## I would also like to say...

- 1 - *no response*
- 2 - *no response*
- 3 - *no response*
- 4 - *no response*
- 5 - *no response*
- 6 - *no response*
- 7 - what a great convener -- I hope we can work and be a good group you'll be proud of.
- 8 - *no response*
- 9 - *no response*
- 10 - will copies of the plans of the nine other CROs be available? What will be the relationship between the Citizens Task Force and the CRO?
- 11 - *no response*
- 12 - *no response*
- 13 - *no response*
- 14 - the region should welcome and be thankful for the federal government involvement and cooperation in the use of this site.
- 15 - *no response*
- 16 - *no response*
- 17 - *no response*
- 18 - this may not work -- large concerns with the CRO; needs a lot of thought and answer many questions. Who will watch and see money closely?
- 19 - *no response*
- 20 - thank you for the opportunity to participate
- 21 - I truly thought I could make a difference but believe we're being used.
- 22 - thank you.
- 23 - *no response*
- 24 - it seems the beginning is very slow.
- 25 - *no response*
- 26 - the CRO will have been a success in 25 years if the FEMP site is a self-maintaining operation combining economic growth while optimizing the positive environmental health of the great Miami Valley.
- 27 - *no response*