

PRELIMINARY STATEMENT OF THE FERNALD CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD ON SILOS 1 AND 2 TECHNOLOGY SELECTION
December 14, 1999

On December 6, 1999, the Remediation Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board met to discuss its position on the Silos 1 and 2 revised Feasibility Study and pending Proposed Plan. Present were 12 of 14 FCAB members, Fluor Daniel Fernald, and Department of Energy. Several members of the Nevada Test Site CAB attended via conference call. Overall the discussion centered on the issues that were most important to the FCAB in the making of this decision. The Nevada CAB indicated that it would not be able to generate formal comments until mid January, 2000. In order to both provide the DOE with timely input and ensure that the Nevada CAB input was given necessary consideration, the FCAB decided to provide input in two parts. First, the results of the December 6, 1999 meeting provide DOE with an overview of FCAB issues and preliminary recommendations to help in continuing DOE's decision making process. Second, formal recommendations will be developed at the FCAB's January 15, 2000 meeting. While DOE and FDF were present at the December 6, 1999 meeting, the FCAB has summarized the results below to ensure that all parties have the same level of understanding.

Regardless of the technology selected, there are a number of overriding issues that the FCAB feels are important in the implementation of the Silos project. While many of these issues are redundant to the CERCLA nine criteria, our concern is that they be firmly entrenched in the implementation of the project, not just the decision-making. These concerns are listed below. They will be further described in our formal recommendations to be delivered in January, 2000.

- The qualifications and capabilities of the vendor selected
- The volume, treatment requirements, and disposal requirements of secondary wastes
- The ability to minimize the volume of waste and maximize recycling
- The ability to move forward with the project successfully including the implementation and successful completion of the project
- The ability to identify and implement a backup plan, should the primary technology fail
- The overall protection of workers at Fernald, during transport, and at the ultimate disposal site (currently NTS)
- The overall protection of the public at Fernald, during transport, and at the ultimate disposal site (currently NTS)
- The safety of transportation operations
- The long-term stability of the waste form at the disposal location

At the conclusion of the meeting, the FCAB conducted a preliminary vote to understand the direction of the FCAB as to the endorsement of a specific technology. Overall the CAB felt that it was important to provide DOE with an endorsement of a technology to assist in moving the process forward. The FCAB endorsed chemical stabilization by a vote of 9 to 2 with one abstention. The primary reason stated by the majority was the desire to implement a technology that presents the greatest chance of success and allows for recovery from failure while minimizing worker risk. The primary reason for the minority was a strongly held belief that we as a society should do everything possible to minimize the volume of waste produced and the amount of waste requiring transportation.

The FCAB will take a continuing interest and role in the Silos decision and would like to be involved to the maximum extent possible in the process of planning, selecting vendors, and designing the ultimate remedy as these are the activities which will determine success.

