



Fernald Environmental Management Project
P. O. Box 538704
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8704
Fernald Web site: <http://www.fernaid.gov>

2125

**FLUOR DANIEL
FERNALD**

NOTE TO EDITORS:
March 17, 1999

NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS

Gary Stegner
DOE-Fernald Public Affairs
513-648-3153
gary_stegner@fernaid.gov

Kathy Graham
Fluor Daniel Fernald Public Affairs
513-648-4072
kathy_graham@fernaid.gov

Major Project, Completion of Safe Shutdown, Finished at Fernald

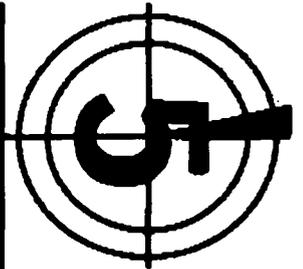
CINCINNATI, March 17, 1999 -- The Department of Energy and Fluor Daniel Fernald have taken one giant step closer to achieving its mission at the Fernald site by completing one of the site's highest priority programs -- "Safe Shutdown."

Employees at the site have spent the past several years shutting down the former production buildings by removing hazardous material, disconnecting all the utilities, eliminating salvageable equipment, and decontaminating the buildings so they can be safely demolished within the next few years.

For the next 4 days, you will receive a fact sheet highlighting each of the site's major facilities that have been safely shut down (see attachment). To learn more about the significance of completing Fernald's Safe Shutdown program, members of the press should plan to attend a site tour and recognition ceremony on Monday, March 22, at 11:30 a.m., at the site. The Secretary of Energy, Bill Richardson, will serve as the keynote speaker and share his views on the importance of completing this project.

If you plan to attend the ceremony, please arrive at least 15 minutes early for shuttle service to Plant 6, the former Metals Fabrication Plant, where the event will take place. Media will be permitted to take photos and video of the plant and will also be provided with background footage.

See Attachment



Plant 5, Metals Production Plant



Demolition date:

2001



Material removed:

Employees removed more than 182,000 pounds of hazardous material from the 100,000 square foot facility.



Interesting fact:

This building contained uranium-contaminated magnesium fluoride which posed an airborne contamination concern.



Safe Shutdown:

Began in October 1996 and ended in March 1997.



Function:

Used to reduce green salt to high-purity uranium derby metal, remelt derbies and recycled uranium metal for casting into ingots, and for sawing uranium ingots to size.



**Fernald Milestone
Completion of Safe Shutdown
Monday, March 22, 1999
11:30 a.m., at the Fernald site**

2