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**FLUOR DANIEL  
FERNALD** 

**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

March 20, 1999

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**Major Project, Completion of Safe Shutdown, Finished at Fernald**

**CINCINNATI, March 20, 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.

Tomorrow, you will receive the last in a series of fact sheets highlighting one 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 2, Ore Refinery Plant



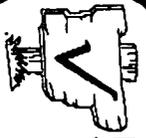
**Demolition date:**  
**2003**



**Safe Shutdown:**  
Began in October 1996 and ended in December 1998.



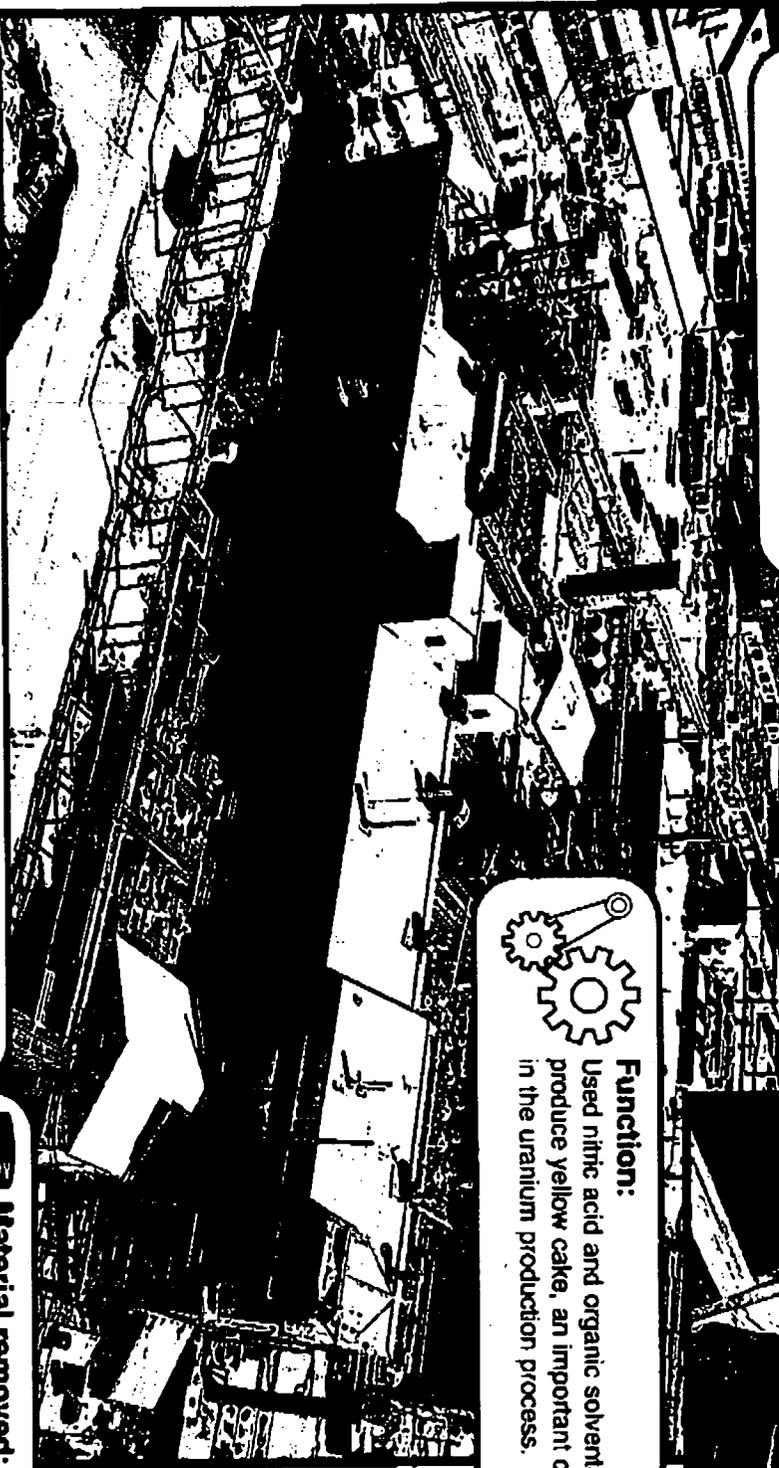
**Function:**  
Used nitric acid and organic solvents to produce yellow cake, an important component in the uranium production process.



**Interesting fact:**  
To reach much of the thousands of feet of piping in this facility, employees had to construct numerous platforms so they could access the pipes and drain the nitric acid, sodium hydroxide, kerosene, or phosphates the piping contained.



**Material removed:**  
Employees removed more than 90,000 pounds of hazardous material.



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