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**FERNALD COMMUNIT REUSE ORGANIZATION MEETING, AUGUST 17, 1996
AGENDA AND HANDOUTS (THIS PACKAGE OF HANDOUTS CONTAINS THE
DRAFT CHARTER)**

08/17/96

CRO
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AGENDA

CRO

FERNALD COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION**MEETING AGENDA**August 17, 1996

8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.**Welcome and Introductions**Jack Craig
Maria Kreppel
David McWilliams**Community Reuse Organization Mission**Jack Craig
Maria Kreppel**Path Forward**

Gary Stegner

National Council of Urban Economic Development

Scott Cody

10:15 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.**Tour (optional)**

Joe Neyer

FERNALD COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION

MEMBERSHIP

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>	<u>Initial Term</u>
Alisa Bollinger	FERMCO employee	2 years
Robert Copeland	Morgan Township trustee	3 years
Sharon Cornwell	FERMCO employee	3 years
Lisa Crawford	FRESH president; Fernald Citizens Task Force member	2 years
Louis Doll	Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council representative	2 years
Ralph Hennard	International Guards Union of America representative	2 years
William Hinkle	Hamilton County Communications Operations director	3 years
Maurice Hornbach	Crosby Township representative; former Fernald employee	2 years
Darryl Huff	Fernald Citizens Task Force member	2 years
Linda Krekeler	Fifth Third Bank Ross Banking Center manager	3 years
Dan Lawler	Crosby Elementary School principal	2 years
David McWilliams	Ross Local School District superintendent	3 years
Kenneth Moore	Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission development review administrator	2 years
William Neyer	DOE Fernald Area Office employee	2 years
Thomas Renck	Ross Area Merchants Association representative	3 years
Gary Storer	Crosby Township trustee	3 years
Robert Tabor	Fernald Atomic Trades and Labor Council representative	2 years
Donald Thiem	Ross Township trustee	3 years
Larry Thinnes	West Shell Realtors vice president and office manager, West Chester Plaza	3 years

August 16, 1996

Fernald Community Reuse Organization

CHARTER**DRAFT**

June 30, 1996

The Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO) is an independent, non-partisan, broadly representative advisory organization to the Department of Energy's Fernald site. The Fernald CRO works to ensure timely, meaningful and effective public and stakeholder involvement in decisions regarding future use of Fernald's resources.

MISSION

The Fernald CRO has a threefold mission focused on the future of this site and its surrounding communities:

- To serve as the Fernald communities' focal point for the Department of Energy on issues of site re-use and economic development.
- To create, from diverse and broad-based interests, a shared vision for incorporating Fernald land, labor, and capital resources into a strengthened regional economic base.
- To formulate, recommend and assist in implementation of informed strategies for future development and deployment of Fernald resources.

The Fernald CRO is charged to develop specific plans and proposals for economic development and community transition; for land use planning, in accord with the broad recommendations of the Fernald Citizens Task Force report, "Recommendations on Remediation Levels, Waste Disposition, Priorities, and Future Use," July 1995; and, for deployment of excess facilities and equipment at the site.

SCOPE

The Fernald CRO plays a key role in helping to determine, evaluate, and prioritize prospective actions taken to offset local consequences of the Department of Energy's downsizing at the Fernald site. CRO deliberations should give explicit attention to minimizing adverse transition effects on current Fernald employees; to ensuring adequate

restoration and protection of the environment in line with 1995 recommendations of the Fernald Citizens Task Force; and, to leveraging transition effects to create new opportunities for community development.

The Fernald CRO develops and submits local plans and proposals to the Department of Energy and participates in the implementation of funded development plans.

As a focal point of the Fernald communities, the CRO endeavors to link its own planning for the consequences of Fernald's clean-up mission with ongoing development planning throughout the surrounding communities. The CRO works cooperatively with appropriate counties and townships; with citizen, labor, and advocacy groups; with the Fernald Citizens Task Force; and with local, state, and federal agencies.

Within its mission, and to the extent feasible, the Fernald CRO will

- Convey public attitudes and concerns regarding major policy or planning decisions at the site.
- Review and make recommendations regarding site decisions affecting the local communities, and the decision-making processes leading to those decisions.
- Help resolve conflicts among diverse interests, and help establish shared positions among the Fernald communities.
- Serve as a communication link among the site, the surrounding communities, and citizen, labor, and advocacy groups.
- Help host and participate in public meetings.
- Assist in educating the public about policy or planning decisions and the decision making process.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE and OPERATING PROCEDURES

To carry out its mission, the CRO is structured to work cooperatively and productively with its various constituencies. The CRO is chartered by the Department of Energy and reports to the manager of the Ohio Field Office. CRO administration rests with its chair.

Specific details of CRO operation are determined through development of its ground rules. These Operating Procedures are to be recorded in the minutes as they are developed and approved by the CRO. The CRO has authority to create and amend Operating Procedures as it deems appropriate to its efficiency and effectiveness.

MEMBERSHIP

The Fernald CRO is composed of no more than 21 area residents who bring certain knowledge, skills, and community or technical expertise to the challenge of community planning for Fernald's clean-up mission. No individuals who have a conflict of interest may serve as members of the CRO.

Members shall be appointed by the DOE manager, Ohio Field Office. Upon the recommendation of the CRO convener, initial appointments of half of the CRO members shall be for three (3) years, and half for two (2) years. All subsequent appointment terms shall be for two (2) years. CRO members may be reappointed for subsequent terms.

New members of the CRO shall be appointed by DOE, upon recommendation of the CRO's nomination subcommittee. In nominating new members, the CRO should seek representation from local government, business, education, the Fernald workforce, the general public, and special interest and advocacy groups. The selection process shall give consideration to individuals with experience and expertise that will complement the collective knowledge base and effective operation of the CRO.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHAIR

The CRO chair shall be appointed by DOE, upon recommendation of the CRO convener. In consultation with the designated federal official, the chair represents the CRO in all official communications; presides at meetings; sets the times, places and agenda for meetings; appoints special committees; retains consultants; and is otherwise responsible for CRO administration.

The chair shall be appointed for a two (2) year term, and may be reappointed. New chairpersons shall be appointed through the same process as new members.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The chair has authority to appoint special committees, both *ad hoc* and standing, as deemed appropriate to efficient and effective operation of the CRO. Special committees will include the nomination subcommittee, and may include subcommittees devoted to each of the specific charges enumerated within the CRO mission. The number and focus of special committees should remain flexible and responsive to issues that arise throughout the course of the CRO's operation. Except for the nomination subcommittee, special committees may include members who are not members of the Fernald CRO.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION and MEETINGS

The Fernald CRO shall have regular meetings to provide a public forum where citizens may voice their opinions on issues relevant to the CRO mission. All regular meetings and their agenda will be announced in advance. Agenda will designate opportunities for public comment. Minutes of regular meetings will be recorded and available to the public in the Fernald Public Environmental Information Center.

The CRO may vote to meet in closed executive session and formally vote during executive session. Minutes of executive sessions will be recorded and available to the public in the Fernald Public Environmental Information Center (PEIC).

DECISION MAKING

A majority of the full voting membership shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum shall be necessary for any formal vote of the CRO. Whenever a formal vote occurs, the results will be recorded and made available to the public.

The CRO shall work toward consensus reports of its recommendations; however, as may be necessary, minority reports may become part of the public record. In these instances, the CRO will establish in writing both the areas of agreement and disagreement, and the reasons why unresolved differences remain.

REPORTING and ACCOUNTABILITY

The CRO will provide annual progress reports to the Department of Energy. Prior to submission of the annual report, the CRO will evaluate its work to date in relation to its mission and specific charges. The CRO will operate at a pace that does not unduly impede planning and decision making of the DOE with regard to the Fernald site.

CONTINUATION of the FERNALD CRO

The CRO's annual evaluation of its work will include a decision as to whether or not the CRO will continue its operation. A decision to continue must be accompanied by a work plan identifying expected work products for the upcoming year. A decision to discontinue must be agreed to by two-thirds of the full voting membership of the CRO.

FUNDING and SUPPORT

The Department of Energy shall provide adequate funding for the CRO, for administrative and staff support, and for technical assistance deemed necessary by the CRO. Funding will be administered in such a way that timely access is guaranteed. CRO members will serve without compensation for their personal time and services.

AMENDMENT of the CHARTER

Changes to this Charter may be proposed by the CRO to the DOE, following approval by two-thirds of the full voting membership. Proposed amendments take effect upon concurrence of the DOE.

Fernald Community Reuse Organization
OPERATING PROCEDURES

DRAFT

THE GROUND RULES OF THE FERNALD CRO

June 30, 1996

The Fernald CRO conducts its business according to its Charter and these Operating Procedures. In all cases of conflict, the Charter is controlling.

MEMBERSHIP

Appointment terms for CRO members coincide with the calendar year. Initial members' terms officially date from January 1, 1997. Subsequent members' terms, no matter when they commence during a given year, will officially date from the beginning of the next calendar year.

CRO membership is personal and not representative. Members may not vote by proxy, and attendance and other requirements of membership cannot be satisfied by substitutes.

Attendance at regular meetings is required of all CRO members. When attendance is prevented by emergencies or other compelling circumstances, members should give notice to the CRO chair. Three or more unexcused absences over the course of any twelve-month period will be cause for review of that member's continued service. The chair is responsible for this review and determination.

MEETINGS

The chair is responsible for notifying all CRO members of the dates, times, and places of all regular meetings, and any additional special meetings the chair may choose to call. Except in emergencies, such notice will be given at least seven (7) days in advance, and will include the subject of the meeting.

Agenda for regular meetings will be provided to CRO members in advance of the meetings. Agenda will include date, time, and place, topics to be covered, identification of relevant documents, and appropriate information regarding non-CRO meetings of importance to the membership.

The public will be informed of the date, time, place, and subject of all CRO regular meetings, and will have opportunity to participate in all meetings. The manner of public participation may vary and will be determined by the CRO or its chair.

REPORTING and ACCOUNTABILITY

The CRO will conduct an annual review of its work in order to submit a report of its progress to the DOE in December of each calendar year.

AMENDMENT of OPERATING PROCEDURES

The CRO may amend these ground rules at any time by a two-thirds vote of a quorum of its full voting membership.

DOEFOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 13, 1996**NEWS**NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Gary Stegner
(513) 648-3153**FERNALD COMMUNITY GROUP FORMED TO ADVISE DOE ON SOCIOECONOMIC ISSUES**

CINCINNATI, Ohio, August 13 -- A new community group has been established to advise the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) about socioeconomic issues resulting from downsizing and eventual closure of the Fernald Environmental Management Project once cleanup is complete.

The 19-member community group, called the Fernald Community Reuse Organization, will serve as the Fernald communities' focal point for the DOE on such issues as:

- future land use planning of the 1,050 acre Fernald site;
- deployment of excess facilities and equipment; and,
- community transition and economic development opportunities for the surrounding communities.

The objective of the group is to seek consensus among affected or interested stakeholders on these issues and develop formal recommendations for the DOE. In return, the DOE has pledged to consider carefully, as part of its decision-making process, the group's recommendations and ensure adequate support and resources are provided.

Members were recommended by Maria Curro Kreppel, University of Cincinnati College of Applied Science associate professor, who served as the convener. Kreppel met with interested stakeholders (for more than four months) to determine the right mix of people to handle the group's challenging mission. She also developed the group's charter and operating procedures. Following a May public meeting on the new community group, Kreppel collected final applications to serve and submitted her recommendations for membership to the DOE in late June. DOE subsequently approved Kreppel's recommendations for the following stakeholder members:

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<u>Stakeholder</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Alisa Bollinger	FERMCO employee
Robert Copeland	Morgan Township trustee
Sharon Cornwell	FERMCO employee
Lisa Crawford	Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health president; Fernald Citizens Task Force member
Louis Doll	Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council representative
Ralph Hennard	International Guards Union of America representative
William Hinkle	Hamilton County Communications Operations director
Maurice Hornbach	Crosby Township representative; former Fernald employee
Darryl Huff	Fernald Citizens Task Force member
Linda Krekeler	Fifth Third Bank Ross Banking Center manager
Dan Lawler	Crosby Elementary School principal
David McWilliams	Ross Local School District superintendent
Kenneth Moore	Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission development review administrator
William Neyer	DOE Fernald Area Office employee
Thomas Renck	Ross Area Merchants Association representative
Gary Storer	Crosby Township trustee
Robert Tabor	Fernald Atomic Trades and Labor Council representative
Donald Thiem	Ross Township trustee
Larry Thinnes	West Shell Realtors vice president and office manager, West Chester Plaza

The convening process for the Fernald Community Reuse Organization was modeled after the highly successful Fernald Citizens Task Force, a citizens advisory group formed in 1993 to guide the DOE, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Ohio EPA in cleanup activities at the Fernald site. The Community Reuse Organization will build upon the Task Force's broad land use recommendations issued to the DOE and regulators in its July 1995 report.

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FERNALD COMMUNITY GROUP FORMED

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Like the Task Force, Community Reuse Organization members will serve voluntarily without pay or compensation, although travel and other expenses will be reimbursed by the DOE.

To lead the new community group, DOE has appointed David McWilliams, Ross Local School District superintendent, to serve as the chair. An educator for 26 years, McWilliams recently renewed his contract with the Ross Local School District through 2000. He has a master's degree and doctorate in language communications from the University of Pittsburgh.

The first public meeting of the Fernald Community Reuse Organization will be held this fall, following an orientation session and site tour for the new members.

The Fernald Community Reuse Organization was formed under the provisions of Section 3161 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993, administered by the DOE Officer of Worker and Community Transition. The community transition component is designed to help minimize social and economic impacts on communities affected by downsizing of defense-related facilities such as Fernald.

The Fernald Environmental Management Project is a DOE site being remediated under a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act agreement between the DOE and the U.S. EPA. The Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Corporation (FERMCO) is managing Fernald's cleanup for the DOE.

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Energy Department forms Fernald economic committee

By Gregory Flannery

Journal-News

FERNALD

The U.S. Department of Energy has established a community organization to make recommendations on the site of the former Fernald uranium plant.

The 19-member group, the Fernald Community Reuse Organization, will advise DOE on ways to ease the economic impact of the plant's closing, scheduled for 2006. The organization will advise DOE on land-use planning, use of facilities and equipment, and ways to spur economic development.

The former Feed Materials Production Center prepared components used in the manufacturing of nuclear weapons. DOE stopped production with the end of the Cold War, and the only work at the site now involves environmental cleanup.

About 2,000 contract workers and 60 DOE employees work at the site now, according to Gary Stegner, spokesman for DOE. The payroll at the 1,050-acre site was \$101 million in

1994, the last year for which data are available, he said.

The federal National Defense Authorization Act of 1993 requires DOE to solicit local input on ways to minimize the social and economic impact of the closing of military-production facilities.

The budget for the Fernald Community Reuse Organization is not yet known, Stegner said. Nor is the effectiveness of such efforts, he said, noting that DOE's experience with economic planning is limited.

"The two sites that are furthest along are in Pinellas (County), Fla., and the Mound facility in Miamisburg," he said. "They are essentially turning over parts of their site to local communities. At Mound, they're developing a sort of incubator-type facility for small businesses to get a start. We probably won't be going that route here in Fernald, because there won't be much left when we're finished."

DOE plans to raze all the buildings at the Fernald plant as part of its 10-year decontamination project.

Other communities affected by DOE plant closings do not provide useful models for Fernald's future because their demographics are not similar, Stegner said.

"Most DOE sites are located in pretty much company towns," he said. "Their economies are more dependent on DOE activities than necessarily is the case here, where we have a more diverse economy."

Stegner declined to speculate about possible uses of the Fernald site, saying that will be the role of the Fernald Community Reuse Organization.

"The contamination levels here would not be suited for high-density residential development or high-density agriculture, but with the cleanup we're going to have here, parts of it could be used for green space," he said. "Some could be developed."

DOE named David McWilliams, superintendent of the Ross Local School District, chairman of the new organization. Members will begin meeting in October. All meetings will be open to the public, Stegner said.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

David McWilliams, Ross Local School District
 Alisa Bollinger, Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Corp.
 Robert Copeland, Morgan Township trustee
 Sharon Cornwell, FERMCO
 Lisa Crawford, Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health
 Louis Doll, Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council
 Ralph Hennard, International Guards Union of America
 William Hinkle, Hamilton County Communications Operations
 Maurice Hombach, Crosby Township
 Daryl Huff, Fernald Citizens Task Force
 Linda Krekeler, Fifth-Third Bank, Ross Township
 Dan Lawler, Crosby Elementary School
 Kenneth Moore, Hamilton County Regional Planning Commission
 William Neyer, Department of Energy
 Thomas Renck, Ross Area Merchants Association
 Gary Storer, Crosby Township trustee
 Robert Tabor, Fernald Atomic Trades and Labor Council
 Donald Thiem, Ross Township trustee
 Larry Thinnes, West Shell Realtors, West Chester

Fernald loss studied

Post staff report

A new committee is studying the old Fernald plant, and it hopes to recommend ways the government can cut the economic sting of the plant's closure.

"Our goal is to figure out ways we can minimize that loss," said David McWilliams, superintendent of the Ross school district and head of the committee.

Fernald will close by 2006, taking with it the 2,000 jobs and a \$101 million annual payroll, said Gary Stegner of the Department of Energy. The department owns the 1,050-acre facility in Crosby Township, a former uranium processing plant.

McWilliams is one of 19 members appointed to the committee, which will recommend how the Fernald land, equipment and facilities can be used to offset the loss of the jobs when Fernald closes. The group was recommended by University of Cincinnati professor Maria Kreppel.

"If there's a large exodus of people, the potential impact of workers and on property value would go accordingly," McWilliams said.

The group will meet Saturday to tour the facility.

OHIO

Group will give advice on Fernald

A 19-member community group has formed to advise the U.S. Department of Energy on social and economic issues that will arise when the Fernald nuclear cleanup project is finished.

The former uranium-processing plant is not expected to be dismantled and ready for reuse for at least 10 years.

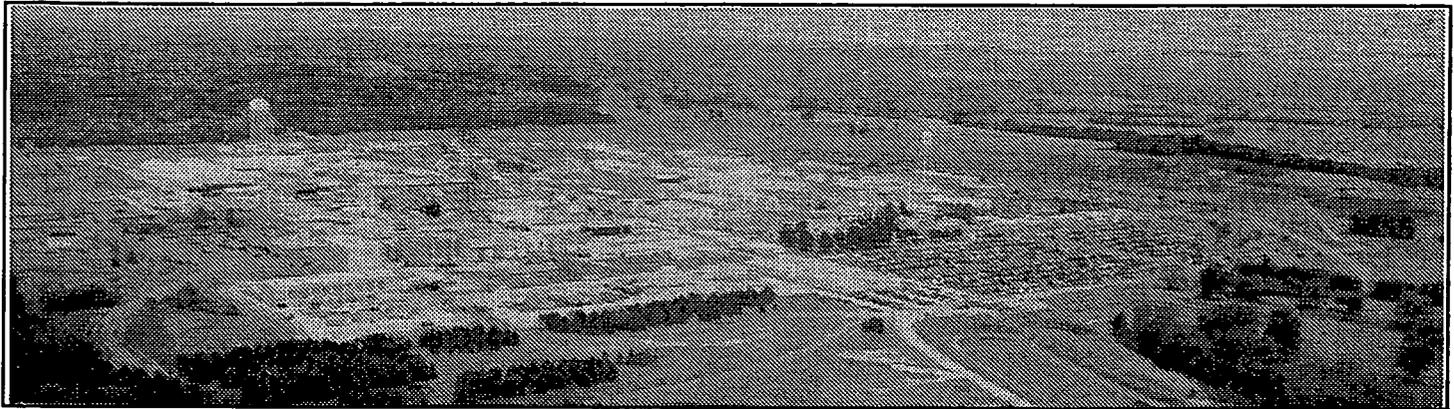
The group — called the Fernald Community Reuse Organization — will discuss and develop recommendations for the Energy Department on issues such as future land-use planning for the 1,050-acre Fernald site; deployment of excess facilities and equipment; and community transition and economic development opportunities for the surrounding communities.

The Energy Department has appointed David McWilliams, Ross Local School District superintendent, as chairman.



FERNALD
Environmental Management Project

FACT SHEET



Background

The Fernald Environmental Management Project is located about 18 miles northwest of Cincinnati, Ohio. Between 1953 and 1989, the facility produced uranium metal products for the nation's defense programs. Fernald's products were used in production reactors to make plutonium and tritium at other U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) sites. Fernald's uranium metal production was suspended in July 1989 to focus resources on environmental restoration.

The Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Corp. (FERMCO) is managing all cleanup activities at Fernald under a contract with DOE. FERMCO is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Fluor Daniel Inc., of Irvine, Calif. The FERMCO team is comprised of Fluor Daniel, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., Haliburton NUS Environmental Services, and Nuclear Fuel Services. FERMCO assumed responsibility for the cleanup in December 1992. Prior to that, a subsidiary of Westinghouse Electric Corp. was the managing contractor at Fernald from January 1986 to November 1992. Westinghouse was preceded at Fernald by National Lead of Ohio, the original managing contractor from 1951 to 1985.

Cleanup Mission

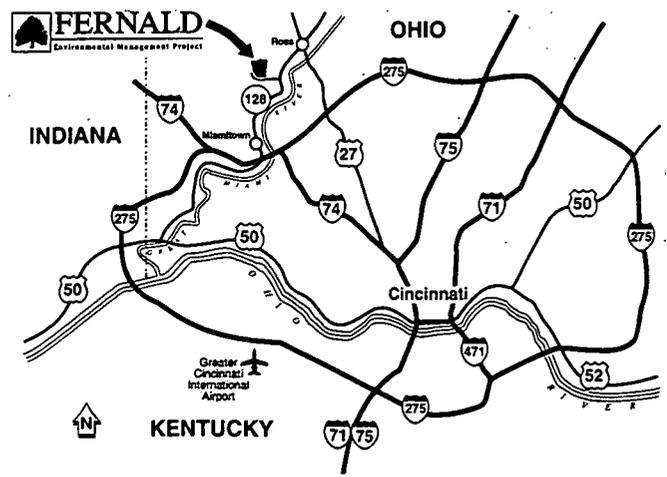
Since production operations were discontinued in 1989, the Fernald work force has been dedicated entirely to environmental restoration. In December 1989, the site was added to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Priorities List of federal facilities in need of remediation. In February 1991, the DOE announced its intention to formally end Fernald's production mission. That closure

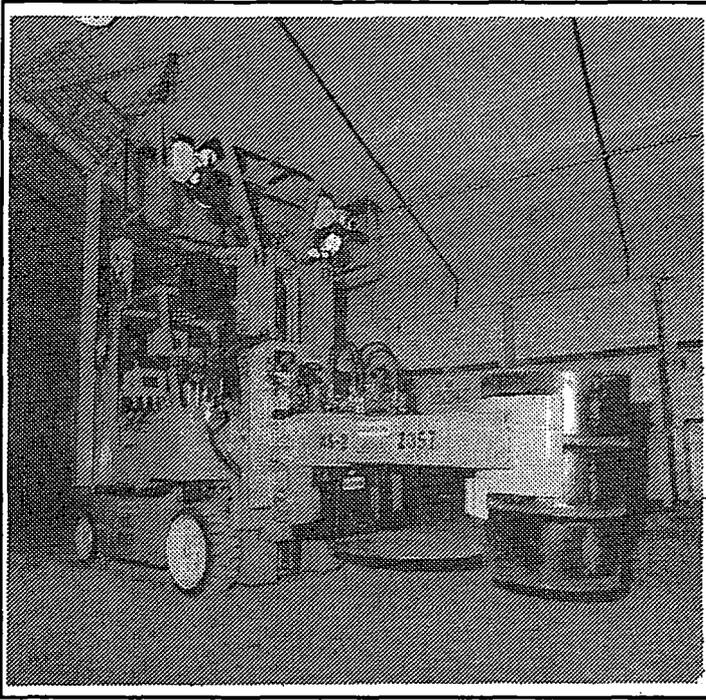
became effective in June 1991. During the following October, program management responsibility within the DOE was transferred from Defense Programs to the Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (now the Office of Environmental Management). The DOE Ohio Field Office located in Miamisburg, Ohio, oversees the DOE Fernald Area Office, which has responsibility for all aspects of Fernald's full-scale environmental restoration and waste management effort. Under an accelerated remediation plan, the final cleanup effort at Fernald is expected to be completed in approximately 10 years, with aquifer restoration activities extending another five years.

Fernald Environmental Management Project

Fernald Site Vitals

Owner: United States Department of Energy
 Managing Contractor: Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Corp. (FERMCO)
 Historical Mission: Production of uranium metal forms (1953-1989)
 Current Mission: Environmental restoration
 Total Area of Site: 1,050 acres
 Former Production Area: 136 acres





A remote-controlled forklift aids in the safe relocation of drums requiring overpacking.

Environmental Compliance

Many of the environmental, safety, and health regulations that are now applicable at the Fernald site did not exist in the 1950s and 1960s when the plant was in full production. It was not until the early 1970s that environmental consciousness was raised on a national scale, with particular focus on the environmental effects of the industrial revolution.

To address the releases and threats of releases of hazardous substances from containers and facilities at Fernald, the DOE and the U.S. EPA entered into a Consent Agreement, in 1991, under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). As part of CERCLA, a comprehensive remedial investigation/feasibility study (RI/FS) is being conducted in and around the Fernald site in conjunction with the U.S. EPA and the Ohio EPA to identify appropriate remedial actions. Nearly complete, the RI/FS has resulted in thorough site characterization, evaluation of cleanup alternatives, public review and comment, and selection of preferred final remedial actions. Environmental restoration efforts under the RI/FS have been divided into operable units, addressing specific areas/facilities and remedies at the site.

Operable Unit 1 includes Waste Pits 1 through 6, a burn pit and a clearwell. Operable Unit 2 includes a sanitary landfill, lime sludge ponds, an inactive fly

ash disposal area, an active fly ash pile, and the South Field Area. Operable Unit 3 encompasses the former production area, including all former process buildings, structures and equipment, inventoried hazardous materials, scrap metal piles, and the fire training area. Operable Unit 4 includes K-65 Silos 1 and 2, which contain radium-bearing wastes; Silo 3, which contains dried uranium-bearing wastes; and Silo 4, which is empty. Operable Unit 5 includes groundwater, surface water, soil, sediments, air, vegetation and wildlife throughout the Fernald site and surrounding areas.

By the end of 1996, all key cleanup decisions for the Fernald site will have been made, with full participation from federal and state regulators and the public. Fernald's primary cleanup plans include: excavation, treatment, and off-site disposal of the site's most contaminated materials; excavation and on-site disposal of less contaminated waste materials in an on-site engineered disposal facility; dismantling of buildings and other structures; and treatment and discharge of contaminated groundwater. A determination of the final disposition of building materials from the interim remedial action will be included in the Operable Unit 3's final record of decision (ROD), scheduled for completion this summer.

After 10 years, Fernald is nearing the conclusion of the RI/FS process, with RODs approved for four out of the five operable units. As the RI/FS concludes, attention at Fernald is now being directed to the safest and most efficient implementation of remedial actions.

Waste Management

Waste at Fernald falls generally into three categories: low-level radioactive waste, hazardous waste, and mixed (radioactive and hazardous) waste. The waste is stored in six pits, three silos, and thousands of 55-gallon drums and other containers. The treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste must meet requirements of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (RCRA) and its subsequent amendments. Characterization and analysis of all waste material at Fernald is necessary to determine the precise nature, quantity, and location of each kind of waste, and how each should be handled under RCRA. Ongoing waste management activities include sampling of suspect RCRA materials, overpacking deteriorated drums to prevent escape of radioactive and hazardous materials into the environment, and proper storage and handling of RCRA regulated waste.

Waste material regulated under RCRA requires stringent storage and handling methods. Under its RCRA Implementation Plan, DOE has established configured hazardous waste accumulation areas at several locations throughout the facility and implemented procedures for regular and frequent inspections. RCRA storage warehouses are equipped with security, emergency response, and environmental protection capabilities. Other buildings on site also have been refurbished to allow safe storage of hazardous materials.

DOE has an aggressive program in place to ship low-level radioactive waste offsite for disposal. This waste includes waste generated from construction and restoration activities, characterized backlog waste, and scrap metal.

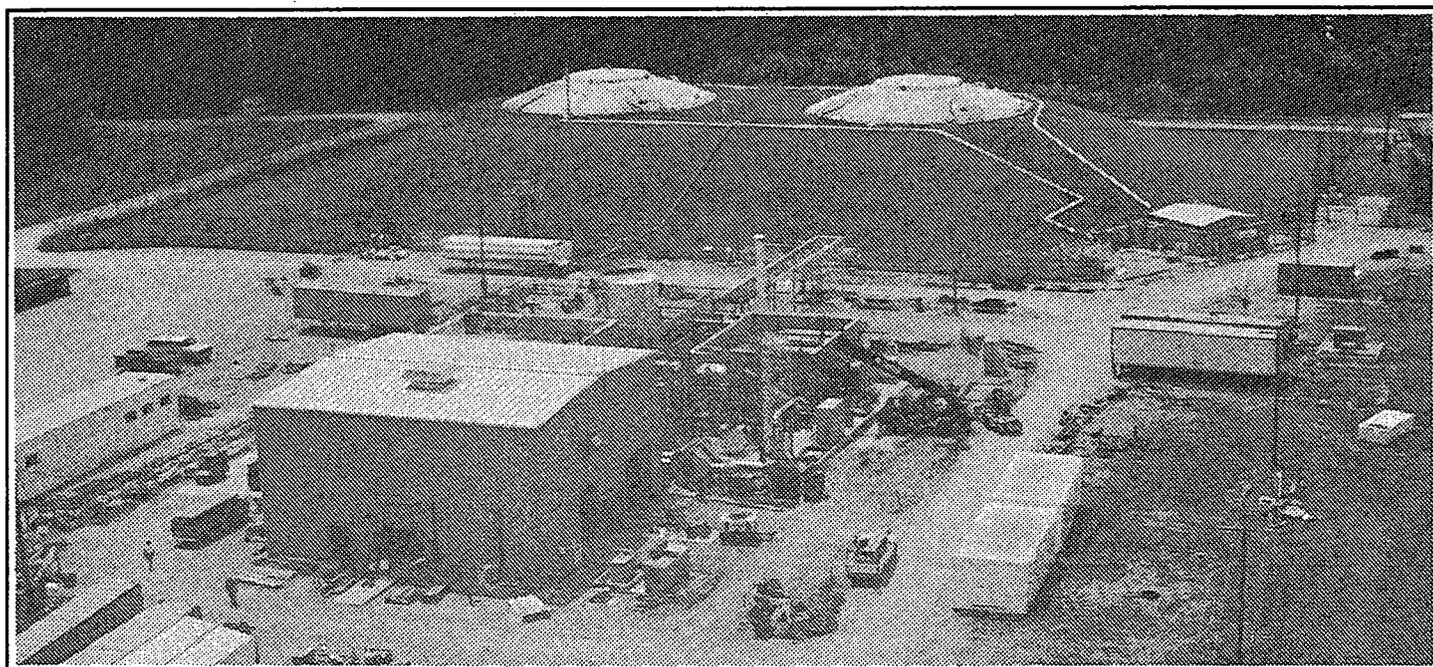
In 1995, Fernald completed treatment and stabilization of over 205,000 gallons of uranyl nitrate hexahydrate (UNH), 6,000 gallons of hydrofluoric acid (HF), and 21,000 gallons of 30,000 total gallons of nitric acid. In addition, final rinse of the thorium nitrate holding tank was completed less than two months after the processing of the acid material began and six

months after the contractor for the project was selected.

After completing its fiscal year 1995 waste shipping goal early. As of May, approximately 113,288 cubic feet of waste were shipped to NTS. The fiscal year 1996 goal is to ship 309,000 cubic feet of waste to NTS.

DOE is also preparing to activate a vitrification pilot plant facility in which Operable Unit 4 surrogate and silo wastes will be transformed into a stable, durable glass-like substance to be shipped off site for disposal.

In support of the on-site disposal facility construction project, several significant field activities have begun on the east side of the Fernald site. Workers have begun identifying the location of drain tiles and characterizing soils in the east field. Trenching activities will be performed to determine if water will be encountered during construction of the disposal facility. Also, cultural resource artifact recovery activities will be conducted at three locations in the east field area.



Pilot Plant will convert waste in K-65 silos to glass pellets for shipment to NTS for permanent disposal.

For More Information

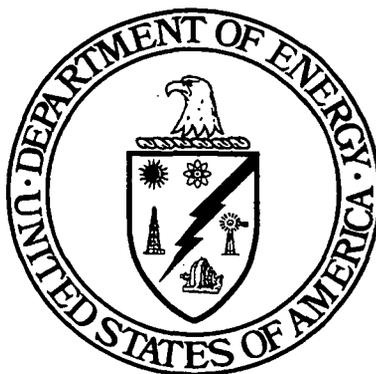
Fernald's active public participation program keeps Fernald area residents and other "stakeholders" informed of cleanup and other activities in progress and provides opportunities for public input in key decision-making process. Fernald's Envoy Program is designed to improve decision making by using site employees to build closer relationships with stakeholder groups on a person-to-person basis.

The Fernald Citizens Task Force — EM's first site specific advisory board comprised of Fernald community leaders from key stakeholder groups — was created to help guide cleanup at Fernald. The task force is comprised of representatives of the constituencies affected by cleanup decisions, including Fernald area residents, labor organizations, local governments and local businesses. In July 1995, the Fernald Citizens Task Force issued its final report to the DOE. The final report recommended remedial action priorities; cleanup levels projected to save \$1 billion if adopted; waste disposition alternatives; and future uses for the Fernald site following remediation.

Fernald area citizens and employees are forming a new community group to advise the DOE on local community transition and economic development issues following remediation of the Fernald site. This new community group, the Community Reuse Organization (CRO), will be a diverse mix of local residents; elected officials; representatives from educational, local business and financial institutions; Fernald employees; economic development agencies; the Fernald Citizens Task Force; and representatives of other public interest groups.

Numerous publications are available about the Fernald Environmental Management Project. The Administrative Record, a compilation of detailed reports, records, and other documents related to the CERCLA cleanup effort at Fernald, is available for public viewing in the JAMTEK building located at 10845 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, Ohio, just south of the Fernald site.

For more information about Fernald, please call 513-648-3153 or write to: Gary Stegner, Public Information Director, DOE Fernald Area Office, P.O. Box 538705, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45253-8705.





THE FERNALD STORY: PROGRESS, SAFETY, AND OPENNESS

The Cold War

When the Atomic Energy Commission, the predecessor to the Department of Energy (DOE), broke ground at Fernald in 1951, the Cold War was a national priority. Nuclear weapons production at reactor sites across the country called for "feed materials" or uranium products including derbies, ingots, billets, fuel cores and targets. Fernald, located about 18 miles northwest of Cincinnati on a 1,050-acre site, began producing feed materials in 1952.

With the end of the Cold War and the subsequent scaling back of military spending, Fernald's chapter as producer of feed materials ended. In 1989, uranium metal production at the facility was suspended and Fernald became the first DOE site to focus all of its resources on environmental restoration and waste management activities.

The Cleanup: The Early Stages

During the same year, 1989, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) placed Fernald on the National Priorities List, which is composed of the Superfund sites most in need of cleanup. To address the releases and threats of releases of hazardous substances from containers and facilities, the DOE and the EPA entered into a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Consent Agreement. In June 1991, the Fernald facility was officially shut down for production and the Feed Materials Production Center was renamed the Fernald Environmental Management Project to reflect its new mission.

FERMCO's Involvement Begins

In 1992, the DOE hired the Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Company (FERMCO), a subsidiary of Fluor Daniel. Today, as a result of the cleanup project's study phase to determine the nature and extent of environmental contamination, the former uranium-processing facility is now on the fast track to complete final cleanup under an accelerated 10-year remediation plan. In fact, interim cleanup activities to address immediate environmental concerns have already been completed, and final cleanup is now in progress.

FERMCO: A Commitment to Progress, Safety, and Openness

Three operating principles -- progress, safety, and openness -- have shaped every aspect of FERMCO's culture and have contributed to the company's solid record of accomplishment.

Since beginning the cleanup, FERMCO has:

- Treated more than 650 million gallons of contaminated water;
- Shipped more than 2.6 million cubic feet of radioactive waste off-site for safe disposal;
- Demolished more than 8,500 tons of contaminated building materials;
- Maintained an excellent safety record, far better than the industry average.

Four Million Safe Work Hours

In early 1996, FERMCO surpassed four million consecutive safe work hours without a lost workday injury, the second longest streak in the 40-year history of the Fernald site and the longest since FERMCO arrived on site. In terms of lost-time days, a nationally recognized yardstick for measuring safety, FERMCO's 1995 safety record was 43 times better than the industry average.

Working with Regulators and Stakeholders

FERMCO is reviewed regularly by its client, the DOE, as well as by the Ohio EPA, the U.S. EPA and the Department of Transportation. FERMCO works closely with these agencies and regulators to ensure compliance with federal and state laws governing industrial plants.

FERMCO welcomes the involvement of concerned individuals and stakeholder groups. For instance, organizations such as the Fernald Residents for Environment Safety and Health (FRESH) and the Fernald Citizens Task Force have made valuable recommendations, driving the process forward and helping to ensure that the cleanup is proceeding according to everyone's satisfaction.

In fact, the Fernald Citizens Task Force has become a model for effective citizen involvement in government cleanup efforts. The task force -- comprised of representatives from labor, academia, local and regional government, and area residents -- played a critical role in the approval of the accelerated cleanup plan for Fernald.

The Accelerated 10-Year Cleanup Plan

In the wake of congressional efforts to pare government spending, the DOE announced dramatic budget cuts in November 1994. The DOE and FERMCO viewed this as an opportunity to save money over the long-run. Together, DOE and FERMCO worked closely with the Fernald

Citizens Task Force to develop a 10-year accelerated cleanup plan that will restore Fernald to a safe, usable green space in record time.

The plan, which reduces the previously estimated cleanup time from 25 years to 10 years, will result in an estimated cost savings to taxpayers of more than \$3 billion.

The U.S. EPA, Ohio EPA, the Fernald Citizens Task Force, and F.R.E.S.H. have endorsed the 10-year plan.

Priorities for the 10-Year Cleanup Plan

In keeping with FERMCO's commitment to progress, safety, and openness, the 10 year cleanup plan represents a logical progression of remediation activities: risk reduction, regulatory compliance and overall project completion.

During the first few years of the plan, which began in early 1996, focus is being placed on immediate risk reduction and the treatment of K-65 silo materials -- the most contaminated materials onsite. FERMCO's highest priority is the design, construction, and operation of facilities for the treatment of the radium-bearing wastes in the K-65 silos. Also, FERMCO will accelerate the off-site shipment of the "legacy" wastes stored on-site in thousands of individual containers. These "legacy" wastes are by-products from the former uranium metal production activities.

The safe-shutdown program is another high priority outlined in the plan. This effort involves removing contaminated equipment and residual by-product wastes from within the former production buildings and disposing of them appropriately.

Finally, FERMCO is moving forward in the design and construction of facilities in order to begin, as expeditiously as possible, the shipment of waste pit materials off-site. The waste pits contain more than 600,000 cubic yards of radioactive and hazardous wastes generated during the early years of production. No waste has been placed in any of the pits since the mid-1980s.

The 10-year plan also centers on the remediation of the large volumes of debris and soil-like material that generally exhibit lower, but still unacceptable, levels of contamination. A number of current FERMCO activities already support this effort: the construction of an on-site disposal facility; safe-shutdown; the decontamination and demolition of contaminated buildings; and the excavation of soils beneath the buildings.

Contaminated soils that meet the stringent requirements for safe on-site disposal will be disposed of in an engineered facility at Fernald. Everything else will be disposed of off-site.

When these activities have been completed, FERMCO will have addressed all the sources of contamination at Fernald. And based on the recommendations of the Fernald Citizens Task Force, the DOE has ruled that the future use of the site will be determined closer to the time of reuse by those people most affected by the site.



CHRONOLOGY

- 1951 Construction of Fernald facility by Atomic Energy Commission; National Lead of Ohio assumes responsibility as managing contractor.
- 1952 Full production of uranium metal feed materials starts.
- 1986 Environmental remediation begins; Westinghouse Electric Corp. assumes responsibility for production and cleanup.
- 1989 Production suspended; site placed on cold stand by.
- 1989 Fernald added to National Priorities List, the Superfund sites most in need of cleanup.
- 1990 DOE and EPA enter into CERCLA Consent Agreement (in accordance with Superfund regulations) initiating a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and setting forth specific legally-binding milestones by which cleanup progress is measured.
- 1991 DOE announces intention to formally end the production mission at Fernald; closure of the facility becomes effective in June.
- 1992 In December, Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Corporation (FERMCO) assumes responsibility for managing Fernald cleanup site.
- 1993 Fernald Citizens Task Force, an independent group chartered by DOE, Ohio EPA, and US EPA, is established to review information and provide recommendations concerning cleanup activities.
- 1994 The DOE and FERMCO initiate the Fernald Envoy Program, designed to facilitate two-way communication and improve the decision-making process at Fernald by building closer relationships with numerous stakeholders.
- 1994 Record of Decision signed for Operable Unit 4, an area that includes K-65 silos 1 and 2, both of which contain radium-bearing wastes, Silo 3, storing dried uranium-bearing wastes, and Silo 4, which is empty.

- 1995 Record of Decision signed for Operable Unit 1; an agreement covering Waste Pits 1-6, a burn pit, and a clear well. Record of Decision approved for Operable Unit 2, an area including a sanitary landfill, lime sludge ponds, an inactive flyash disposal area, an active flyash pile, and the South Field Area.
- 1995 DOE and FERMCO announce accelerated cleanup plan to save taxpayers money-- lobbying 15 years off the schedule and prioritizing and organizing projects in support of the plan.
- 1995 In July, Fernald Citizens Task Force issues recommendations for long-term cleanup plans.
- 1995 In advance of the final decision for Operable Unit 3, the EPA approved a Record of Decision for Interim Remedial Action, allowing early dismantling of approximately 125 buildings in the former production area.
- 1996 Four million consecutive safe work hours logged with no lost workday accidents. Reached on February 15, this is the longest period of safe work since FERMCO arrived on site, and the second-longest period in the 40-year history of the Fernald site. The 4-million hour countdown began March 27, 1995.
- 1996 DOE appoints a 19-member community group -- the Fernald Community Reuse Organization -- to serve as the local communities's focal point for the DOE on socioeconomic issues resulting from the downsizing and eventual closure of the Fernald site once cleanup is complete.