

fernald
Report

July 1998

- Message from Jack Craig
- Waste Pit Remedial Action Project Update
- Applegate Departs Citizens Advisory Board



message from
Jack Craig

Contract Extension/Path Forward

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recently extended Fluor Daniel Fernald's contract at the Fernald site through November 30, 2000. Our decision to extend the contract was based on significant accomplishments

the company has already achieved in safety, project acceleration, stakeholder involvement and its commitment to continue making progress into the year 2000.

DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald will continue to work closely with regulators and stakeholders to ensure the Fernald cleanup proceeds safely and efficiently.

I am proud of our successes at Fernald and look forward to working with Fluor Daniel Fernald to continue accomplishing the overall accelerated cleanup of Fernald.



Jack Craig
Director, DOE-Fernald

On the Cover: It took only about five hours for NSC crews to level the old Magnesium Warehouse using a Komatsu shear (6494D-0272).

DOE awards waste disposal contract

On June 30, the Department of Energy's Ohio Field Office awarded a \$66 million contract to Envirocare of Utah, Inc., to provide low-level waste disposal services to Fernald for a three-year base period, with options to extend the contract.

"The contract award is a turning point for the Waste Pits project," said Dave Lojek, DOE project manager. "We can now begin negotiations with Envirocare on specific waste disposal issues as well as with the railroad on future transportation of waste pit materials."

In August 1996, DOE issued the solicitation for the contract, but the contract award was placed on hold due to a lawsuit filed against DOE in 1997. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit dismissed the lawsuit in May, allowing DOE to proceed with the contract award.

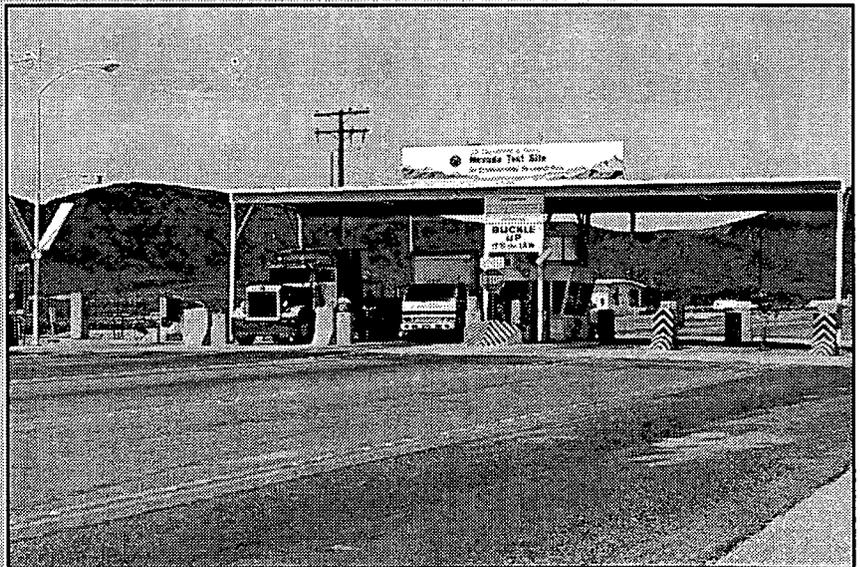
During the three-year base period, Fernald plans to ship approximately 260,000 tons of waste pit material to Envirocare, with the option to ship up to 700,000 tons if DOE decides to exercise the option period through fiscal year 2005.



Above: IT Corporation is scheduled to mobilize this month and begin work on removing approximately 1 million tons of waste from Fernald's waste pits (6901-110).

Nevada to assess Fernald's Waste Management Program in July

A team of representatives from the Nevada Test Site (NTS) will visit Fernald during the week of July 27, 1998 to conduct an assessment of Fernald's Low-Level Waste Shipping Program. This team conducted an audit of Fernald's Waste Shipping Program in October 1997, and identified eight areas of improvement (corrective actions). Two additional corrective action responses were issued by the audit team as a result of the December 1997 Kingman, Arizona incident. During this visit, the NTS audit team is expected to assess Fernald's implementation and resolution of all the identified corrective actions. The NTS team will take approximately one week to complete its assessment and is expected to release its findings in late August.



Above: The Nevada Test Site, established as a U.S. proving ground in 1950, is located about 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas and occupies 1,350-square-miles of Nevada desert. (6082-6).

Cleanup **Progress** Update

Waste Pits Remedial Action Project (WPRAP)

- Received two excess locomotives from the Department of Defense
- Continued construction of rail and access road lighting
- Awarded contract for waste disposal to Envirocare of Utah, Inc.

On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF)

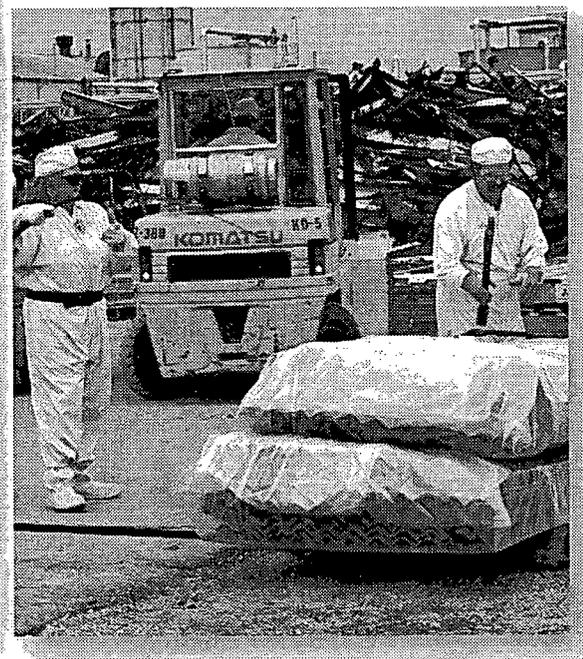
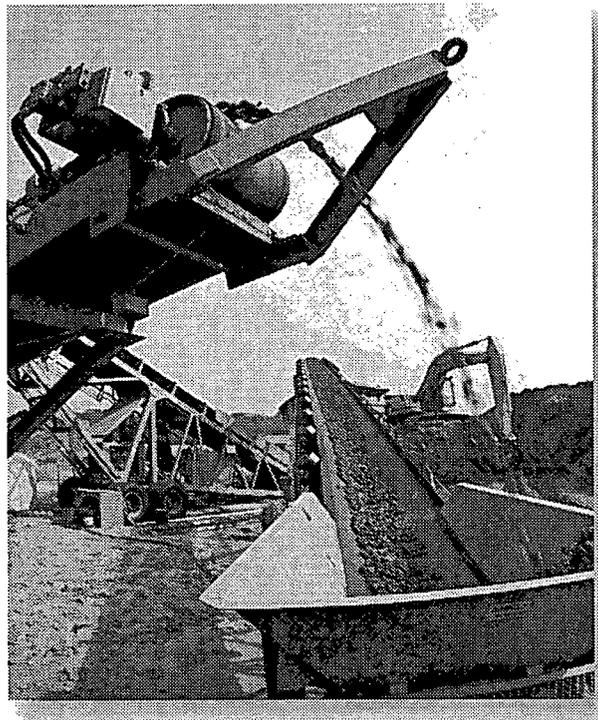
- Initiated OSDF Phase II/Southern Waste Units excavation
- Submitted *Final Waste Acceptance Criteria Attainment Plan* for the On-Site Disposal Facility to regulators on June 3, 1998
- Completed construction of Equipment Wash Facility
- Completed construction of OSDF access control and laboratory trailers



Above: Mike Janelli, (on engine) WPRAP project engineer and Brent Riede, mechanic, (left) look closely as the first engine pulls through the gate (6349D-1385).

Right: Screen machines capable of processing 250 - 300 tons of clay per hour remove pieces of clay larger than two-inches in diameter (6319D-1278).

Far right: Skids of transite are wrapped and banded before being moved to the OSDF Material Transfer Area (6902D-0023).



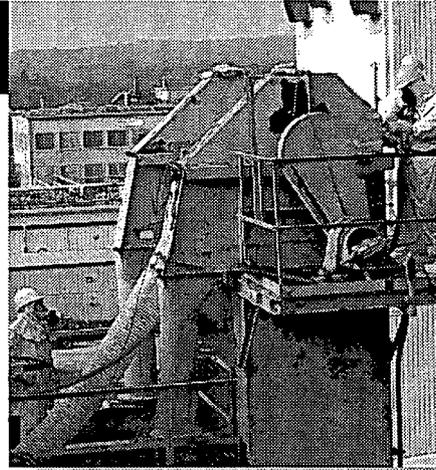
Facilities Closure & Demolition Project (FC&DP)

Safe Shutdown

- Plant 2 Continued asbestos, biohazard and holdup material removal
- Plant 6 — Sealed roof, sampled ductwork and isolated steam/condensate lines
- Non-Nuclear Facilities — Performed utility disconnects; continued removing equipment from Tank Farm Complex

Decontamination & Dismantlement

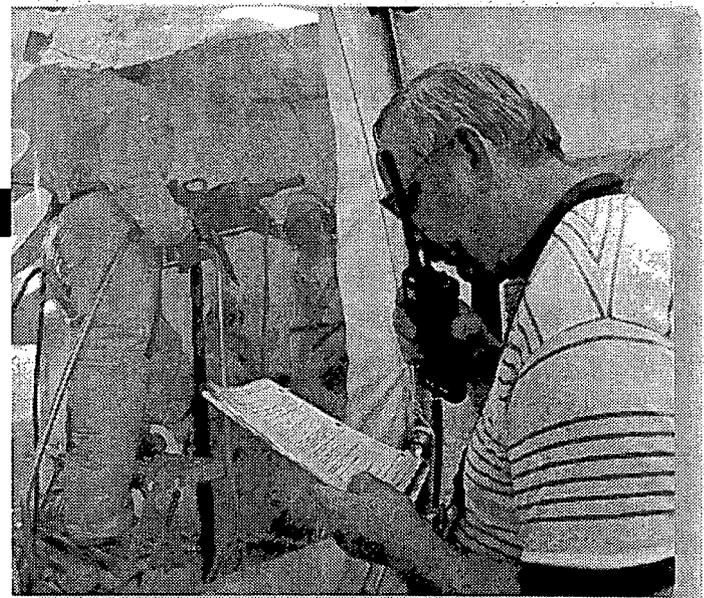
- Boiler Plant/Water Plant —
 - ◆ Completed demolition activities in north bay of Boiler Plant
 - ◆ Completed transite removal and asbestos abatement at old Cooling Tower
 - ◆ Began dismantling Boiler Plant Maintenance Building
- Thorium/Plant 9 Complex —
 - ◆ Completed D&D of Buildings 32A & 32B
 - ◆ Continued D&D activities in Buildings 69 and 78
 - ◆ Completed all exterior transite removal on Buildings 9B and 9D
- Sewage Treatment Plant Complex —
 - ◆ Completed mobilization of site support subcontractor (including installation of temporary utilities and construction fencing, and establishment of radiological control point)
 - ◆ Began construction of incinerator enclosure
 - ◆ Removed transite panels from loading dock
- Recycling Supplemental Environmental Projects —
 - ◆ Decontaminated and free-released 78 tons of rail as of June 29, 1998



Left: Safe Shutdown personnel prepare to clean out a conveyor system on top of Plant 2/3. Dismantling of this facility will begin in 2001 (6383D-0472).



Below left: Building 79, the Decontamination & Decommissioning Building, was demolished and size reduced in less than a week (6494D-0310).



Below: Roy Douglas, Maintenance supervisor, provides instruction to hot tap operators inside the Silo 3 temporary enclosure (6759D-0251).

Silos Project

- Awarded four Silos 1 and 2 Proof-of-Principle Testing contracts on June 3, 1998, substantially ahead of August 10, 1998 milestone
- Completed Standard Startup Review and initiated operations for Silo 3 Small-Scale Waste Retrieval Project
- Held pre-proposal conference on *Accelerated Waste Retrieval Project Request for Proposal* for interested contractors on June 23, 1998

Cleanup **Progress** Update

Right:
Dick Detmer from the Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant takes routine samples from Paddys Run Creek as part of monthly data collection for the Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan (6860D-0025).



Center:
Renfro Fain Jr. of Wise Construction stakes down bioengineered coconut fiber matting. The matting will be covered with a thin layer of topsoil followed by the planting of willows, sedges and prairie grass to control erosion (6690D-0120).



Bottom:
Rose Watson, an intern from Cincinnati State, takes soil samples near the old Sewage Treatment Plant looking for traces of technetium 99 (6846D-0053).



Aquifer Restoration & Wastewater Project

- Completed Standard Startup Review and began operating Southern Waste Units Retention Basins Transfer System on June 11, 1998
- Submitted *New Sewage Treatment Plant Start-Up Report* to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) on June 12, 1998
- Submitted *Integrated Environmental Monitoring Report* to regulators

Soil Characterization & Excavation Project

- Continued bioengineering stabilization at Paddys Run embankment in vicinity of Southern Waste Units retention basins; flooding from severe storms hindered this work and slowed construction progress
- Worked with Area 2 Phase I (Southern Waste Units) subcontractor to mobilize for excavation; included review of required work plans and successful completion of Standard Startup Review
- Began preliminary screening of vendor proposals for lead-contaminated soil treatability work in former Trap Range Area of Area 1 Phase II (Southern Portion of East Field)
- Natural Resource Restoration
 - ◆ Issued *Final Work Plan for Aesthetic Barrier Project* to regulators
 - ◆ Initiated two more Ecological Research subprojects (Area 1 Phase I Vegetation Plots and Ecological Restoration Case Study)
 - ◆ Continued public involvement process regarding final land use at Fernald with presentations at June meetings of Community Reuse Organization and Fernald Citizens Advisory Board On-Site Issues Committee

Waste Management Projects

- Neutralization/Precipitation/Deactivation/Stabilization Project — Treated 64 drums of waste materials in June, bringing project total to 824 drums
- Solvent Extraction Project — Completed radiological decontamination of equipment; inventoried and prepared equipment to be free-released
- Nuclear Materials Disposition Operations — Commenced repackaging of 30 ingots for shipment in support of contract for sale of low enriched uranium
- T-Hopper Repackaging System — Total of 49 T-Hoppers repackaged as of June 29, 1998; beginning June 1, 1998, this operation expanded to a seven-day work week



Below: Every month, Fernald donates recycled cans to area schools and organizations. In June, 719 pounds of aluminum was collected, which totaled \$258.84 for a scout troop from Harrison (6918D-0006).

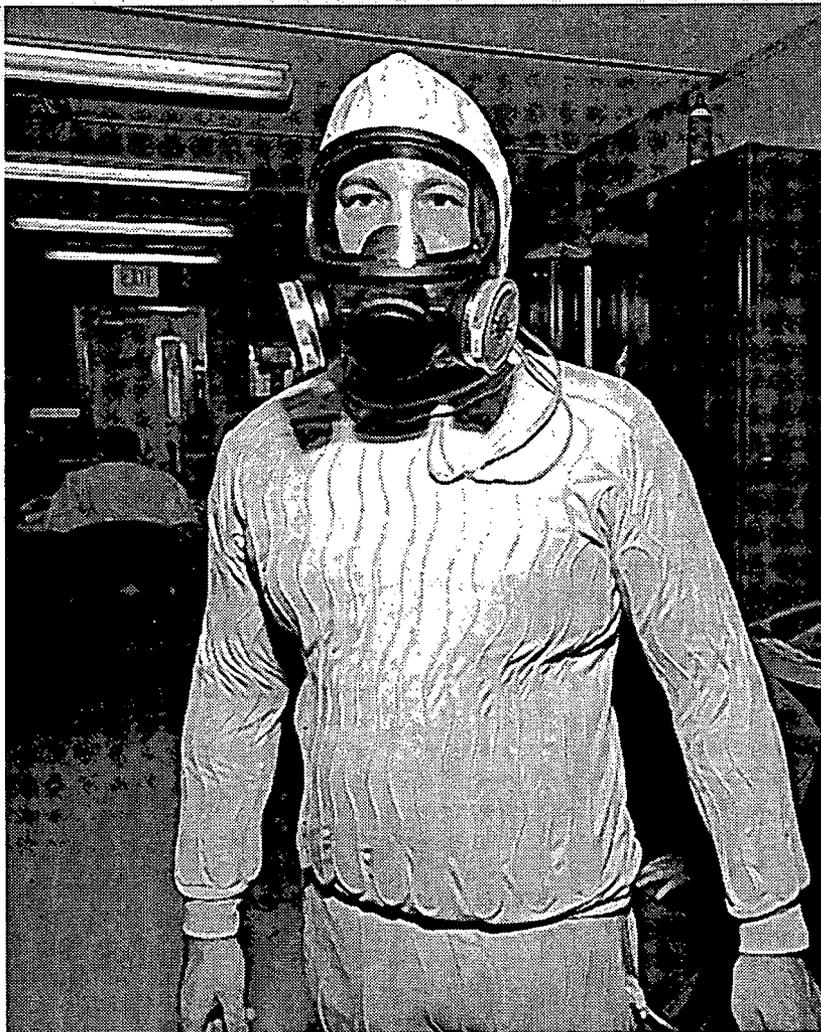


Above: Riggers remove 1600 pound ingots from 55-gallon drums as workers vacuum oxide from the sides and center of the metal. Ingots are then covered with herculite and placed in wooden boxes for shipment to British Nuclear Fuels (6826D-0025).

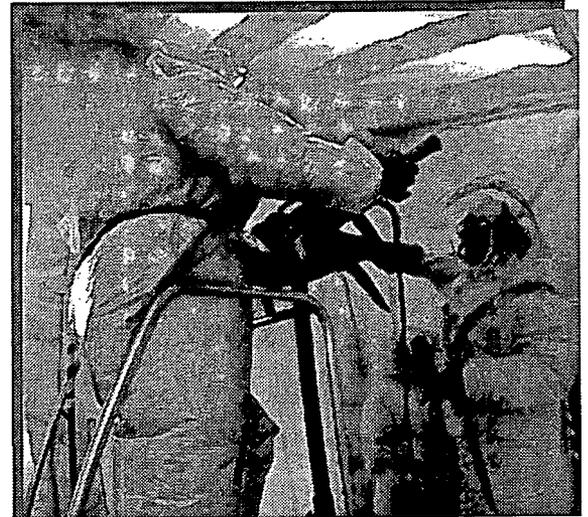
Cool Suit: A perfect fit

Thanks to the DOE Office of Science and Technology and Fluor Daniel Fernald Technology Programs, word about the Personal Ice Cooling System (PICS), or "cool suit," is traveling fast across the Fernald site and the DOE complex. The PICS, a 12-pound self-contained core body temperature control system, circulates cool water through tubing, allowing workers to perform more comfortably and safely during hot weather.

At Fernald, the PICS has been used by National Service Cleaning in Plant 9 and Wise Construction personnel in Building 65. Others interested in this technology include: the OSDF, south field excavation, mixed waste and the incinerator dismantling project. In addition, the Idaho National Laboratory is purchasing the PICS, while the Nevada Test Site, Savannah River, Hanford, and Rocky Flats have also expressed interest.



Above: The cool suit, pictured here, is a full-body garment (pants, shirt and hood) worn beneath personal protective equipment (6429-161).



Silo 3 Project moves forward

DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald continue to move forward with the Silo 3 Project. The *Silo 3 Remedial Design Work Plan* was approved by the U.S. EPA in June. This document provides additional details about DOE's plan to remediate Silo 3, which was previously approved in the *Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences* document. A contract for the Silo 3 remediation will be awarded by June 24, 1999, an enforceable milestone agreed upon between DOE and EPA.

In addition, DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald have received technical proposals in response to the *Silo 3 Request for Proposal*. They will evaluate the proposals through the end of August, and will then identify two competitive ranges for potential contractors — one for on site and one for off site treatment. Identified contractors will then be provided with a sample of Silo 3 material so they can test their proposed treatment method and ensure its effectiveness.

Top: Charlie Shouse (left) and Albert "Sonny" Windeler, (right) perform hot tap operations while Tony Roberts observes the drain to watch for metal shavings and Silo 3 material flow (6759D-0255).

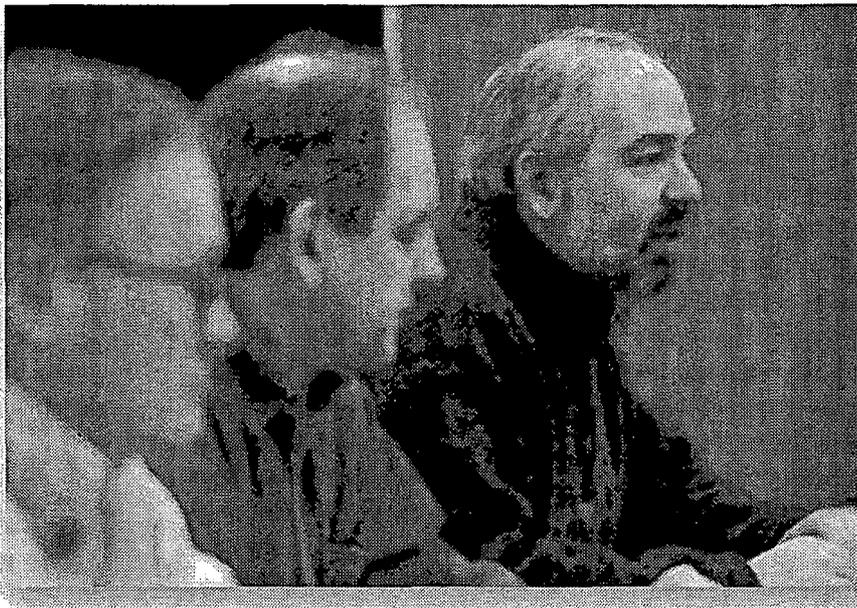
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board pays tribute to John Applegate

John Applegate, chair of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) since its inception in 1993, officiated at his final meeting this month as the DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald hosted a dinner meeting in his honor. John received a citation for "exceptional public service" from former DOE Secretary Federico Peña, as well as a book of memorabilia including anecdotes and testimonials from his five years of service to the Fernald community.

"His calm, balanced style of leadership has been invaluable in helping the CAB make informed recommendations on difficult issues facing the Fernald community," said Gary Stegner, DOE-Fernald Public Affairs director. In its 1995 report, *Recommendations on Remediation Levels, Waste Disposition, Priorities, and Future Use*, the CAB issued a major set of recommendations to DOE, and to state and federal regulators. Since that time, the CAB has continued to make recommendations and monitor activities at the Fernald site, while work has moved from the study phase to the field.

Applegate will be succeeded by Jim Bierer, another CAB member of long standing and experience, who has functioned as vice-chair of the group for the past year, and served as chair of the Natural/Cultural Resources Committee.

Below: John Applegate (right) addresses the Fernald CAB, as Tom Wagner (left) and Jim Bierer look on (6838D-008).



Above: Cell 1 (forefront) received its first impacted material in December 1997. The liner of Cell 2, when completed, will be five feet thick (6901-007).

More impacted material headed for Cell 1

This month trucks began hauling waste from the Southern Waste Units to the On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) via the Haul Road. A new group called the Waste Acceptance Organization has been established within the Soil & Water Project to ensure all soil and debris placed in the OSDF meets the waste acceptance criteria (WAC). The *Final Waste Acceptance Criteria Attainment Plan* for the OSDF was placed in the Public Environmental Information Center in June. This document includes a list of the OSDF WAC, strategies for meeting the WAC requirements, and a description of independent oversight of the WAC attainment process.

Later this summer, dismantled building debris will be placed in Cell 1. Also during the summer, trucks will be taking clay from the southeast field, known as a borrow area, to be used in the construction of Cell 2. By early November, the liner of Cell 2 will be completed and a protective layer of impacted material will be placed over the liner by the end of the year.

Fernald wins Mentor-Protégé Program of the year award

Fluor Daniel Fernald recently received top honors from DOE for its participation in the Mentor-Protégé Program. DOE's Director of the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Corlis Moody, presented Fluor Daniel Fernald with the 1998 Mentor-Protégé Program of the Year Award.

The Mentor-Protégé Program provides historically under-utilized businesses, small disadvantaged and/or women-owned businesses with developmental assistance to perform as subcontractors at Fernald or other DOE facilities. Fluor Daniel Fernald initiated its Mentor-Protégé Program in 1995. Three protégé firms — Horizon Environmental Group, a Cincinnati-based environmental organization; Village Building Services of Cincinnati, a mechanical construction company; and International Consultants, Inc. of Dayton, Ohio, an engineering and technical organization, were competitively selected to participate in the program for a two-year period. "In addition to providing quality work, all three companies have made valuable contributions to the Fernald cleanup including helping to meet our safety standards and improving our efficiency," said Gwen Jones, Small Business Program manager. Program mentors were chosen based on their ability to help the protégé firms accomplish their goals and expectations.



"Fluor Daniel Fernald definitely deserves recognition for its participation in the Mentor-Protégé Program," said Gene Tate, DOE-Headquarters Mentor-Protégé program manager. "They have undoubtedly demonstrated their dedication to the concept, which is proven by the fact they are the first company to graduate protégé firms from the program." Since the start of the program, the three businesses have graduated and two more companies have been added including International Trade Bridge of Beavercreek, Ohio and Padia Environmental, Inc. of Columbus, Ohio. Both companies specialize in environmental services. One additional mentor has also been added to the program.

(from left) Barbara Zilli, Fluor Corp. Mentor-Protégé Program director; Corlis Moody, DOE director for the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity; John Bradburne, president and CEO Fluor Daniel Fernald; John Harmon, mentor Fluor Daniel Fernald; Daniel Eapen, president Horizon Environmental; and Donna Noble, director Government Contracts Administration Fluor Corp. (6921-1).



Communications programs honored again!

The Cincinnati Editors Association (CEA) recently presented awards to the Fluor Daniel Fernald Public Affairs Department.

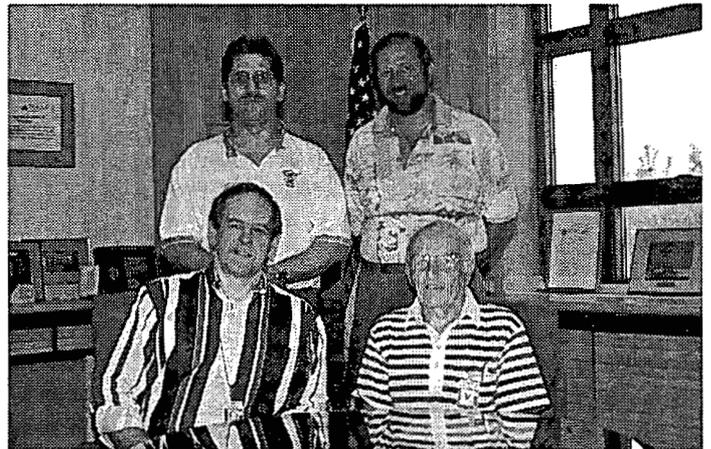
CEA honored both the *Cleanup Progress Report* and *Forward*, Fluor Daniel Fernald's employee publication, with second place awards in the Total Communication category. The judges found the progress reports to be informative and easy-to-read and *Forward* to be visually appealing and well-written.

From left: Julie Doering, Jeff Wagner and Kathy Graham accepted the communication awards on behalf of Fluor Daniel Fernald at the annual Cincinnati Editors Association Banquet. Fernald publications reach over 4,000 stakeholders per month (6906D-005).

Recent Tours

On June 24, Mr. Dick Telfer, member of the Nevada Test Site Community Advisory Board (CAB), spent the day at Fernald learning about our Waste Management program. Jim Bierer from the Fernald CAB met with Mr. Telfer and discussed issues similar to both sites.

(Seated) Jim Bierer; Dick Telfer; (standing) Dave Rast, DOE Waste Management; Lew Goidell, Fluor Daniel Fernald (6810-D0103).

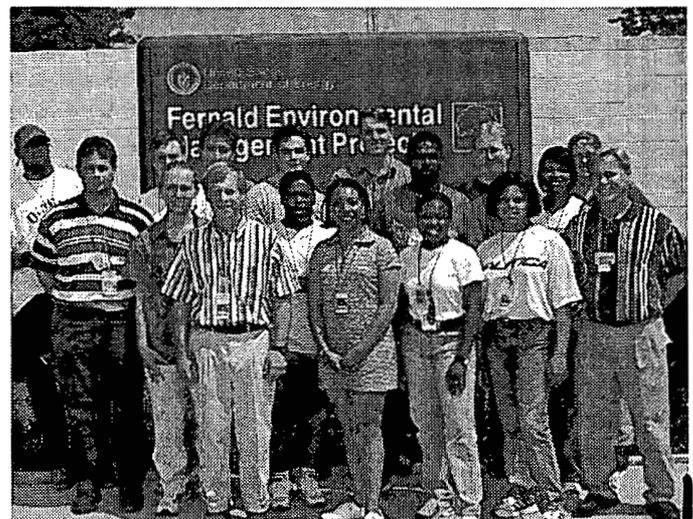


Mr. Donald Schregardus, Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) and several members of his staff met with DOE and representatives from Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health (FRESH). Afterwards they took a bus tour of the site with Dennis Carr, Fluor Daniel vice president.

(Seated l to r) Leah Dever, director Ohio Field Office; Lisa Crawford, FRESH; Johnny Reising, DOE-Fernald; Pam Dunn, FRESH; (2nd row l to r) Tom Schneider, OEPA; Edwa Yocum, FRESH; Laura Hafer, OEPA; Vicky Dastillung, FRESH; Don Schregardus, OEPA; (back row l to r) Tom Winston, OEPA; Graham Mitchell, OEPA; Bill Murphie, DOE-HQ; Bob Heck, Fluor Daniel Fernald; and, Glenn Griffiths, DOE-Fernald (6810-D0102).

Fluor Daniel Fernald has a number of college students working during the summer as interns. This program gives the students an opportunity to gain valuable experience in their field of study. A tour of the entire project made it easier for students to understand the complexities of the site.

Right: This summer's group of interns along with Human Resources program coordinator Steve Wade (far right) prepare to board the bus for their tour. A total of 44 students from 26 schools participated in Fernald's internship program (6810-0104).



New documents added to the Public Environmental Information Center

The following information was recently added to the Public Reading Room, Administrative Record files and Post Record of Decision files at DOE's Public Environmental Information Center (PEIC):

- Waste Pits Remedial Action Project
 - ◆ Transportation and Disposal Plan
 - ◆ Draft Final Remedial Design Package and responses to regulator comments
- On-Site Disposal Facility and Soil Characterization & Excavation Project
 - ◆ Site Preparation Work Plan Package for Area 1, Phase II
 - ◆ Final Waste Acceptance Criteria Attainment Plan
 - ◆ Draft Final Sitewide Excavation Plan
 - ◆ Waste Acceptance Criteria Attainment Report for the West Impacted Soil Stockpile
- Facilities Closure and Demolition Project
 - ◆ Comment Response Package and Revised Implementation Plan for Scabbling of the Plant 8 Muffle Furnace Area
 - ◆ Approved Maintenance/Tank Farm Implementation Plan
 - ◆ Amendment to the Thorium/Plant 9 Implementation Plan for Above-Grade Decontamination and Dismantlement
 - ◆ Comment Responses and Revisions to the Draft Implementation Plan for Above-Grade Decontamination and Dismantlement of the Sewage Treatment Plant
 - ◆ Geotechnical Engineering Report for the Investigation of the Former Production Area
- Silos Project
 - ◆ Responses to regulator comments on the Draft Silos 1 and 2 Accelerated Waste Retrieval Request for Proposal
- Miscellaneous
 - ◆ Site Treatment Plan Annual Update
 - ◆ Addendum to the Sitewide Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Action Quality Assurance Project Plan
 - ◆ 1997 Integrated Site Environmental Report
 - ◆ Revised Work Plan for Ecological Restoration Research Grants and associated responses to regulator comments
 - ◆ Accelerating Cleanup-Paths to Closure



Fernald Report

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