

# CLEANUP PROGRESS BRIEFING SUMMARY

**Silos Project**  
**July 13, 1999**

**2403**

- On July 13, 1999, a DOE-sponsored public meeting was held featuring the Fernald Silos Project. Approximately 55 individuals attended, including members of the public, regulatory representatives, DOE personnel, vendor representatives, and Fluor Daniel Fernald personnel.
- After a welcome and safety briefing from Gary Stegner, DOE-Fernald Public Affairs Officer, Dave Yockman, DOE-Fernald Silos Project Engineer presented a brief outline of activities over the past month in the Silo 3 Project and the Accelerated Waste Retrieval Project. Dave also presented updated timelines for both of these projects showing public involvement points.
- Participants observed a 5-minute video describing the recent Silos 1 and 2 Dome Seal Repair and showing actual work progressing on the domes. The few questions received immediately after the showing of the video centered around making sure that radon monitoring continues at the customary locations and frequency across the site, regardless of post-repair monitoring results showing what appear to be immediate reductions in radon emissions.
- Terry Hagen presented the main body of the material for the meeting, which was a very preliminary discussion of the results of the four *Final Proof-of-Principle Testing Reports* recently released to the public and regulators. The discussion included a reminder about the purpose of the Proof-of-Principle tests, an updated timeline showing public involvement opportunities in the development of the Revised Feasibility Study for Silos 1 and 2, a list of other types of input which must be gathered in addition to the test report data, and a preliminary look at various categories of raw data from the four test reports.
- Almost all ensuing questions and comments centered around the raw data from the test reports, and the tabular format in which it was presented to the public. Silos Project management agreed to take another look at the "data tables" and find a more user-friendly way to present the information. Requests for clarification seemed to fall into two main categories: 1) categories of information in each table (such as, "waste loading," "bulking factor," etc.) need to be carefully defined, in print, for users; and 2) "holes" in data (such as the lack of listed process challenges, for instance, or missing information about vendor assumptions regarding schedules, downtime, etc.) should be requested from the vendors as soon as possible and incorporated, either into revised tables or into some combination of a revised table and accompanying explanatory sheet.
- Terry's presentation provided to the public an overview of how events leading up to the issuance of the Revised Feasibility Study would progress. At a minimum, public meetings will be held in September and November of 1999. In September, Proof-of-Principle testing data, along with other inputs to analysis of alternatives (such as life-

cycle cost estimates, risk evaluations, and industry surveys) can be examined to begin building a framework for each separate technology under consideration. In November, the nine CERCLA criteria for examination of technology alternatives can be laid out in detail for each technology and put together to reach preliminary conclusions. The discussion also left open the possibility for other public meetings, as requested by the stakeholders.

- Terry specifically requested that stakeholders feel free to comment on the public involvement process leading to the revised Feasibility Study or on whether the various areas of the testing reports highlighted as key by the Silos Projects are in actuality viewed as key by the stakeholders. Ideally, the project would like to receive initial comments within the next two to three weeks, but will continue to accept comments as long as is necessary. It was made clear that the testing reports are the final product of the individual vendors, and that the Silos Project is not soliciting comments on the structure or format of those individual reports.
- **The Silos Project will begin immediately to work on clarification of the data tables for the four technologies and will place these adjusted tables in the PEIC as soon as they become available.** The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board Remediation Committee has offered to assist the Silos Project in developing a sample table that would be more readily understandable. Meanwhile, copies of the final testing reports, the handouts from the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, and an audio tape of the meeting are already in the PEIC.
- Only five meeting evaluations were turned in. Evaluations received indicated that the level of detail of information presented was appropriate, at least at this point in the process. There were no questions or action items resulting from these evaluations.

Prepared by tisha patton  
July 15, 1999