



FCAB UPDATE

Week of February 25, 2000
(Last update was dated January 31, 2000)

MEETING SCHEDULE

<p>FERNALD MONTHLY PROGRESS BRIEFING <u>Tuesday, March 14, 2000, 6:30 p.m.</u></p> <p>STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE <u>Wednesday, March 15, 2000, 6:30 p.m.</u></p> <p>REMEDIATION COMMITTEE <u>Thursday, March 16, 2000, 6:30 p.m.</u></p> <p>FULL CAB MEETING <u>Saturday, March 18, 2000, 8:30 a.m.</u></p>	<p>Services Building Conference Room</p> <p>Large Laboratory Conference Room</p> <p>Large Laboratory Conference Room</p> <p>Large Laboratory Conference Room</p>
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Please if you will not be able to attend any meeting, please call the FCAB office and let us know: 648-6478.

ATTACHMENTS

- Draft Agendas for March FCAB meetings
- Draft minutes of the January 15 meeting, please review and forward comments by 3/10/00
- Copy of Full DOE Briefing on 2001 Budget request to Congress
- Copy of final HQ reorganization
- New clippings

NEWS and ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Comments on 1/15/00 meeting minutes due to Doug by 3/10/00.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact Doug Sarno, Phoenix Environmental

Phone: 513-648-6478 or 703-971-0058

Fax: 513-648-3629 or 703-971-0006

E-Mail: DJSarno@aol.com



STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING

March 15, 2000, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Large Laboratory Conference Room

Agenda

Opening Remarks: Pam Dunn

Review Decision Process for Public Use of Fernald Site

Update on Native American Activities on site

Overview of information sent to HQ for NDAA Report on Long Term Stewardship



REMEDIATION COMMITTEE MEETING

March 16, 2000, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Large Laboratory Conference Room

Agenda

Opening Remarks: Gene Willeke

Results of inter-modal transportation test

Update on Waste Pits Project and monitoring results

Discussion of site-wide monitoring results: trends and observations



FULL BOARD MEETING AGENDA
Saturday, January 15, 2000

Draft 2/25/00

- 8:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. Call to Order
- 8:30 – 8:45 a.m. Chair's Remarks and Announcements
- 8:45 – 9:00 a.m. Results of February SSAB Chairs Meeting
Results of TEC/WG meeting
Results of Land Use Controls Conference
- 9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Silos decision update
- 9:15 – 10:00 a.m. Discussion of 2001 Budget and Impacts on Remediation Schedule
- 10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break
- 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. Review Plan for Public Access Decisions at Fernald
- 11:00 – 11:45 a.m. Barbara Crandall, Native American Alliance of Ohio
- 11:45 – 12:00 p.m. Public Comment
- 12:00 p.m. Adjourn and Lunch

Draft Minutes from the Saturday, January 15, 2000 Meeting

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board met from 8:35 a.m. until 12:15 p.m. on Saturday, January 15, 2000, at the Plantation in Hamilton, Ohio. The meeting was advertised in local papers and was open to the public.

Members Present	French Bell Jim Bierer Sandy Butterfield Marvin Clawson Jack Craig Lisa Crawford Lou Doll Pam Dunn Mike Keyes Gene Jablonowski Jane Harper Graham Mitchell Ken Moore Robert Tabor Fawn Thompson Thomas Wagner Gene Willeke
Members Present	Darryl Huff
Designated Federal Official	Gary Stegner
Phoenix Environmental Staff	Douglas Sarno Crystal Sarno
Fluor Fernald Staff	Tisha Patton Sue Walpole

Approximately 30 spectators also attended the meeting, including members of the public, the media, and representatives from Department of Energy and Fluor Fernald.

1. Call to Order

Jim Bierer called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

2. Remarks and Announcements

Bierer introduced two guests from DOE Headquarters: Jim Werner – Director of the Office of Long-Term Stewardship, and Martha Crosland, Director of the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Accountability.

The revised organization of Fluor Fernald was announced. It was also announced that the International Association for Public Participation Core Values has been awarded to DOE for its work on the FCAB and an award presentation will be held immediately following the FCAB meeting.

Bierer announced that the Steering Committee recommends to the full board that Steve Depoe be nominated as a full member of the Board. Lisa Crawford made the motion to nominate Steve for membership and Bob Tabor seconded. The motion carried by unanimous vote. A letter will be sent to DOE for their approval.

Jack Craig responded to the FCAB's request to identify its desired priorities for the FCAB in 2000. Craig referred to a letter that had been distributed and expressed DOE thanks for the past year's performance of the CAB. He noted that DOE would like the FCAB to continue to work on stewardship issues during the coming year. Graham Mitchell presented a letter from Ohio EPA that also expressed strong interest in the FCAB focussing on stewardship issues.

In response to these priorities and the steering committee recommendations, the FCAB decided to maintain the existing committee structure for the next year. The next SSAB chairs meeting will be in Idaho falls in February. Tom Wagner, Doug Sarno and Tisha Patton will be representing the FCAB at that meeting. The next meeting of the Transportation External Coordination Working Group will be Las Vegas in February. The Waste Management 2000 conference will be at the end of February in Tucson. Jim Werner said that that Waste Management 2000 would have a strong program on stewardship and there would be a great deal of audience participation. He recommended the CAB be represented as it will be a great opportunity for the CAB to increase their engagement in stewardship issues.

Two calendars were distributed, one identifying all FCAB meetings for the year and one showing Fluor Fernald 2000 work schedule and holidays. There is going to be a change in the hours people are working on the site – with many people off every other Friday. Some FCAB meetings will fall after a Friday when the site has few people working. Support issues during those months will have to be worked out. Lisa Crawford asked if that would affect cleanup being done on

schedule. She was assured by Fluor that this was not a real change, it was just the first time it was in print. Several schedule conflicts were identified and Doug Sarno indicated that a new calendar would be distributed soon.

Graham Mitchell announced that there is additional uranium materials at the Hanford site, and it appears likely that DOE is going to ship that material to Portsmouth where Fernald is shipping its uranium. Public comment is on-going on the Hanford site, the public comment has been extended for a month to February 22. There is concern at Portsmouth about receiving this material and there is a chance that new questions could be raised regarding Fernald's shipments as well. Lisa Crawford asked if FCAB members could get Portsmouth news clippings in addition to the Fernald clippings. FCAB staff promised to find a way to do that.

3. Silos Recommendation

Gene Willeke introduced the draft recommendation and noted that there has been a lot of discussion and that safety issues were also prominent in their considerations. There are differences in cost that show up in the preliminary analysis between stabilization and vitrification, but the committee regarded them as negligible. This proposed recommendation is very similar to the language that was presented in the draft last month. A few minor wording changes have been added to indicate that the recommendation was from the full board. The bulleted items identify issues that are important regardless of which technology is selected and are not necessary a priority list. Willeke recommended that the entire CAB endorse the recommendation. Doug Sarno added that the NTS CAB has been consulted but they will not be in a position to provide comment until the formal comment period, which should be in the spring. Doug also pointed out that there is a strong minority opinion for this recommendation which will be included in the final wording.

There was some discussion about the order of the items listed in the bullets. It was decided that a sentence would be added that said that the bullets were not listed in any particular order.

Pam Dunn and Lisa Crawford spoke as the minority opinion. They asked for the opportunity to rewrite the minority opinion paragraph to add to the recommendation. With the revised minority opinion in place, Gene Willeke moved to accept the recommendation, Marvin Clawson seconded. The motion passed with 11 votes for the majority and two votes for the minority.

4. Remediation Progress Update

Johnny Reising, DOE Fernald, provided an overview of the past year's accomplishments and plans for 2000. Overall, site remediation activities are on

schedule at this time. Doug Sarno asked how the volumes of waste being encountered compare to what had been anticipated. Reising said that so far volumes are lower than had been estimated, however, they would have to see if that continues throughout remediation. Based on current estimates, there may only to be seven cells built for the on site disposal facility as opposed to the 8 or 9 that had originally been estimated.

5. Presentation on DOE Stewardship Activities

Jim Werner provided a detailed presentation on DOE Headquarters activities with regard to Stewardship. Approximately two thirds of the sites in DOE's cleanup program are expected to require active long-term stewardship and DOE is now performing long-term stewardship about half of its 109 sites.

DOE is currently working on two reports on stewardship. The first was required in the settlement of the EIS lawsuit and will be completed soon. DOE has been getting stakeholder comments to help in the scoping of that report. The second is a report due to Congress this fall on the scope of the stewardship requirements at DOE sites. Each DOE site is collecting information which will be compiled by HQ this spring.

The DOE Ohio Field Office has identified a number of pilot projects for stewardship technology development and is awaiting funding. Several FCAB members expressed concern that this was the first time they had been notified of this and would like additional information.

Doug said that this is a critical point for Stewardship on Fernald. Both Jacks and Grahams letter to the cab stress stewardship.

John Applegate was invited to share the activities he is doing on stewardship as the chair on the Environmental Management Advisory Board (EMAB). John noted that the committee has been in place for about two years and their role is not to generate new data but to help the assistant secretary decided what to do with all of the information that is currently available. They have made several recommendations, their early recommendations were to bring awareness to the importance of the issue. They recommended the creation of site-specific stewardship plans. They are very gratified in the long term interest in stewardship, there has been a groundswell of interest. Sites are beginning to see this as something that could very much affect them. States, also are becoming active and involved in this issue. There is a long list of known studies on the stewardship web site. One big issue is funding. How are these containment facilities going to be maintained? Will the US government own them? As an organization that is budgeted annually, is that a good idea? He is personally pleased that Fernald is going to be weighing in on this issue.

Doug Sarno reviewed the next steps for stewardship activities at Fernald. For 80% of the site, the future use is known—the on-site disposal facility and ecological restoration. There are only 23 acres that are being held aside for future development. What has not been determined for the ecologically restored areas, however, is the type and level of public access to the site. Are there going to be hiking or biking trails? Could the public camp on the site. Should there be a facility that is left on site that will serve the public? A museum? Recognition of Native American cultures? The Living History Project video tapes? Other sites have explored these issues and Fernald needs to review their studies and determinations.

Graham Mitchell suggested that the CAB might want to think about having a round table or more than one, that explores the technical issues, and increases public information and communication. In its next meeting, the Stewardship committee will be discussing these issues and determining its activities for the year.

6. Membership Issues

It was brought to the attention of the Board that there is a member that has not been attending meetings regularly as required in the groundrules. According to the membership rules, this member should be asked to resign from the Board, so that the spot can be filled with a more active member. With this next year involving a great deal of work for the CAB, FCAB members were asked whether they wished to enforce these rules. Lisa Crawford said she strongly felt that if someone cannot be at the meetings very often, they should not be on the board. The member in question has not attended regularly for quite some time and has been notified of the attendance requirements on several occasions.

Tom Wagner moved that the membership rules be enforced. Lisa Crawford seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

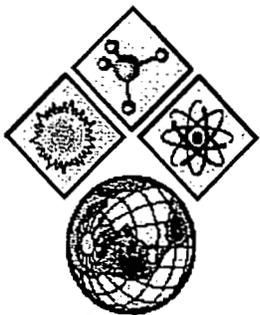
Lisa urged members of the board to seriously consider who would be good, hard working CAB members and notify a member of the steering committee. It was noted that both Hamilton County and Butler County are underrepresented.

7. Public Comment

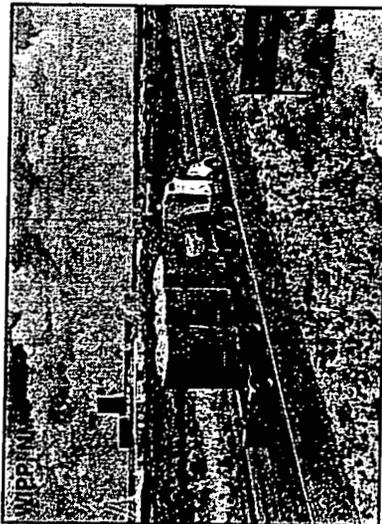
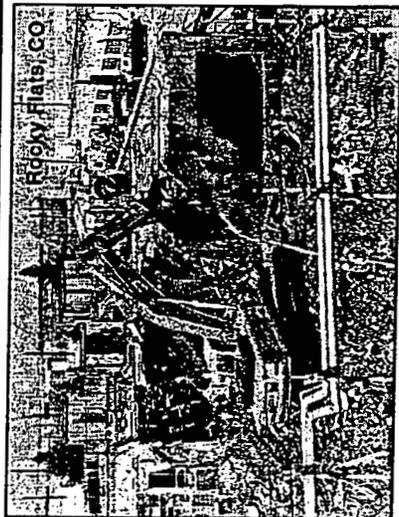
Bierer opened the floor to public comment. There was none.

8. Adjournment

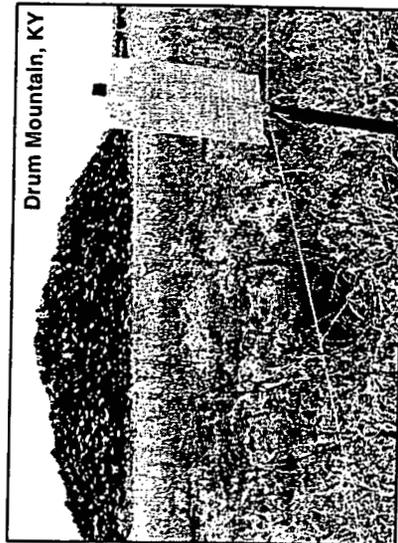
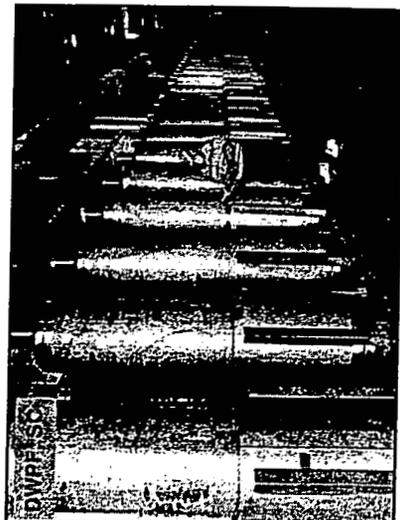
Jim Bierer adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.



STRENGTH THROUGH SCIENCE



The FY 2001 Environmental Management Budget Request *--Continuing Progress Towards Completion* February 7, 2000



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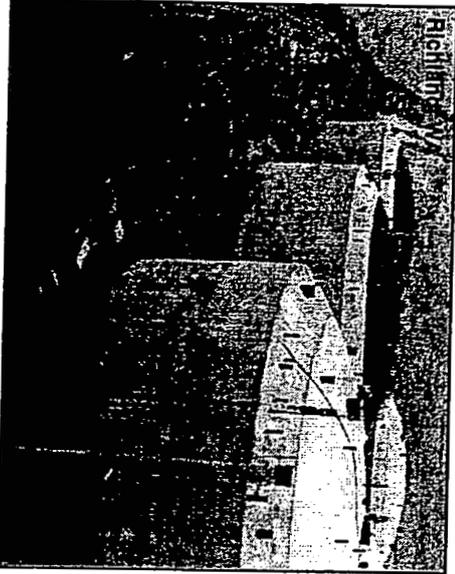


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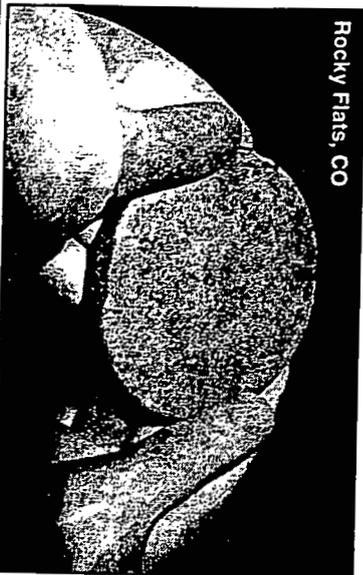
Environmental Legacy of the Cold War



INEEL, ID
 Mixed and TRU Waste -
 Over 160,000 cubic meters
 of radioactive and
 hazardous waste in
 storage.



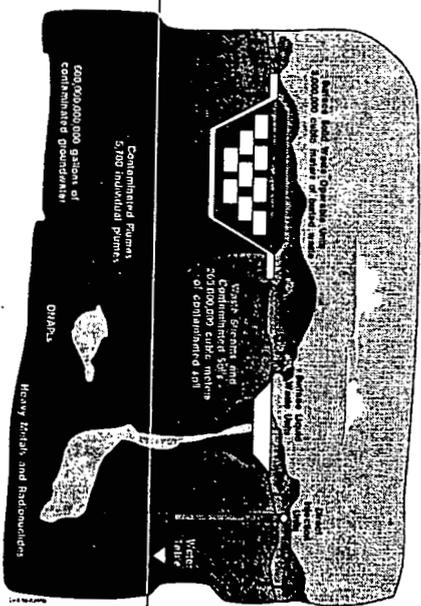
Richland, WA
 HLW Tanks - Over 100
 million gallons of
 high level radioactive
 and hazardous waste
 stored in about 240
 tanks.



Rocky Flats, CO
 Nuclear Materials -
 More than 18 metric
 tons of weapons-
 usable plutonium.



Fernald, OH
 Decontamination &
 Decommissioning -
 Nearly 4,000
 contaminated
 buildings needing
 deactivation and/or
 decommissioning.



Subsurface Contaminants - 3 million
 cubic meters of buried radioactive and
 hazardous waste.

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FY 1999 Accomplishments

- Opened the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant and received the first shipment of transuranic waste from Los Alamos National Laboratory, Idaho and Rocky Flats
- Completed EM cleanup activities at three sites: Sandia National Laboratory, CA; Ames Laboratory, IA; and Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory, NJ
- Completed off-site shipment of plutonium pits from Rocky Flats
- Completed deactivation of the Old Waste Calcining Facility at Idaho
- Began construction of cell cover for on-site disposal facility at Weldon Spring
- Transferred all completed UMTRA sites to the EM Long-Term Surveillance & Maintenance program
- Began operation of off-site groundwater treatment system for Brookhaven National Laboratory
- Shipped all low level and mixed legacy waste offsite from Mound, Ohio
- Produced 236 canisters of vitrified high level waste at Savannah River Site
- Restarted plutonium stabilization activities at the Plutonium Finishing Plant at Hanford
- Completed construction of Cells 3 and 4 at the Environmental Restoration Disposal Facility at Hanford to allow for the continued disposal of contaminated soils
- Deployed the "In Situ Redox Manipulation" technology at Hanford to treat chromium contaminated groundwater with estimated savings of \$6 million over conventional technology

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FY 2000 Accomplishments and Work in Progress

- Demolished first major plutonium contaminated nuclear weapons research building cluster (Building 779 Cluster) at Rocky Flats
- Signed a new contract to support the 2006 closure goal at Rocky Flats
- Give authorization to proceed with high level waste vitrification plant at Hanford
- Vitrify 200 canisters of liquid high level waste at Savannah River Site
- Remove high level waste from high risk tank (Tank 106-C) at Hanford
- Mitigate explosive gas generation and crust growth in high risk high level waste tank (SY-101) at Hanford
- Complete waste disposal at Weldon Spring
- Process, ship, and dispose of 112,000 tons of pit waste material (uranium refining process residues) from Fernald
- Begin shipping transuranic waste from Hanford and Savannah River Site to WIPP and continue shipments from Idaho and Rocky Flats
- Begin construction of the Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project at Idaho
- Award privatization contract for design/construction/operation of the Oak Ridge Environmental Management/Waste Management Disposal Facility
- Deploy the "Lasagna" electro-osmosis technology at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant to reduce soil contamination by 95% over two years.

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Increased Funding for Cleanup in FY 2001

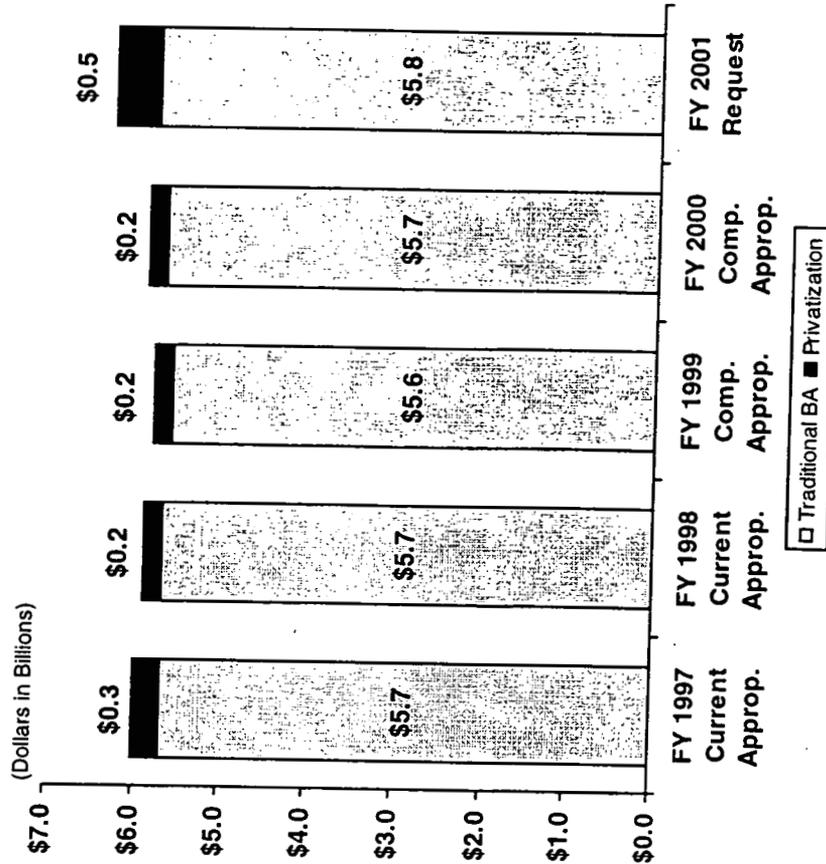
Continuing Progress Towards Completion...

Budget Authority

FY 2001 Request = \$6,318 Million

Increase for FY 2001:

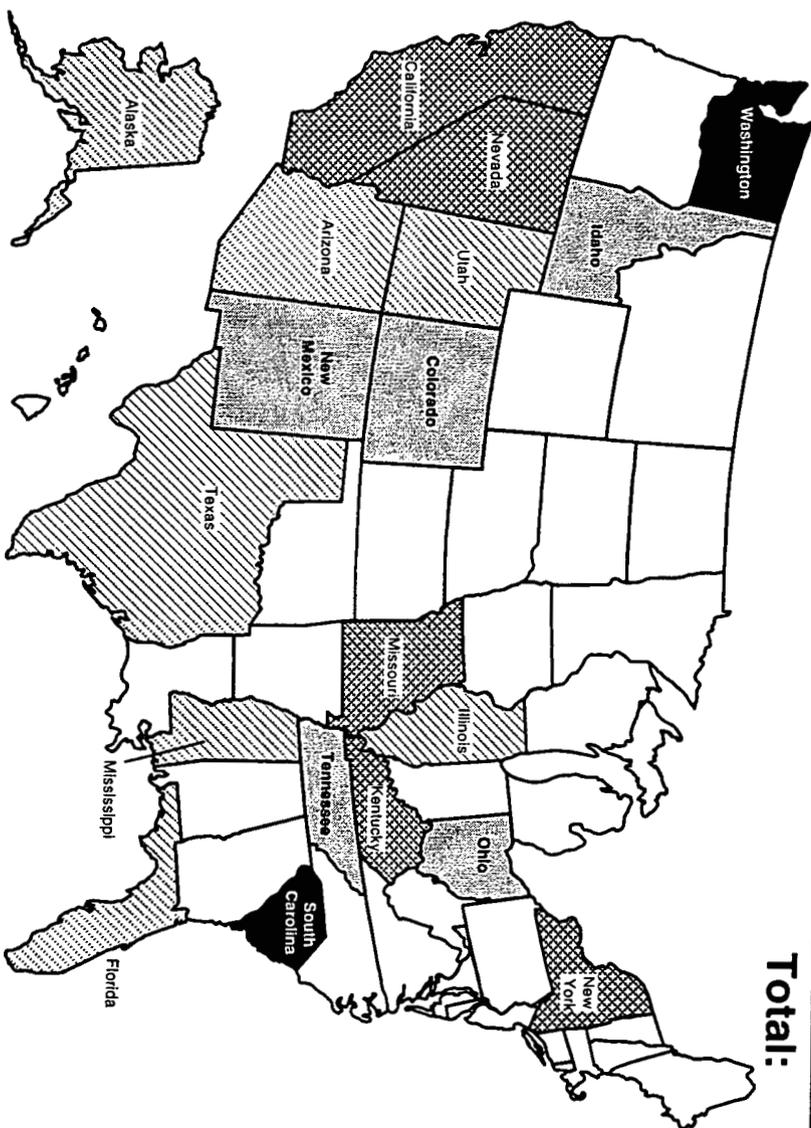
- \$147 million in Traditional BA
- \$327 million in Privatization
- \$474 million Total



Environmental Management Program FY 2001 Budget Request

Improving the Environment from Coast to Coast* ...

Request
 Traditional Budget Authority: \$5,803 M
 Privatization: \$515 M
Total: \$6,318 M



State ^{1/}	FY 2001 EM Budget Request (\$ Millions) ^{2/}
South Carolina	\$1,266.9
Washington	1,108.4
Colorado	678.7
Ohio	493.8
Idaho	451.9
Tennessee	412.7
New Mexico	345.3
New York	137.1
California	84.2
Nevada	80.2
Kentucky	79.2
Missouri	56.6

^{1/} Table only includes states with \$50M or greater in EM funding.

^{2/} Table also does not include funding for Science and Technology, Program Direction, or Privatization (at Washington and Idaho)

Legend:

- Over \$1 billion
- \$300 million to \$1 billion
- \$50 million to \$300 million
- Less than \$50 million

*Map reflects states with cleanup sites; Map does not reflect all states receiving funding from the Office of Science and Technology or uranium/thorium reimbursements

EM Program Focus

- Safety First
- Reduce Risks
- Effective Use of Taxpayer Dollars
- Meet our Commitments
- Accelerate Site and Project Completion
- Improve the Impact of Science and Technology
- Integrate Materials Management and Waste Operations Among Sites
- Involve the Public
- Plan for Long-Term Stewardship

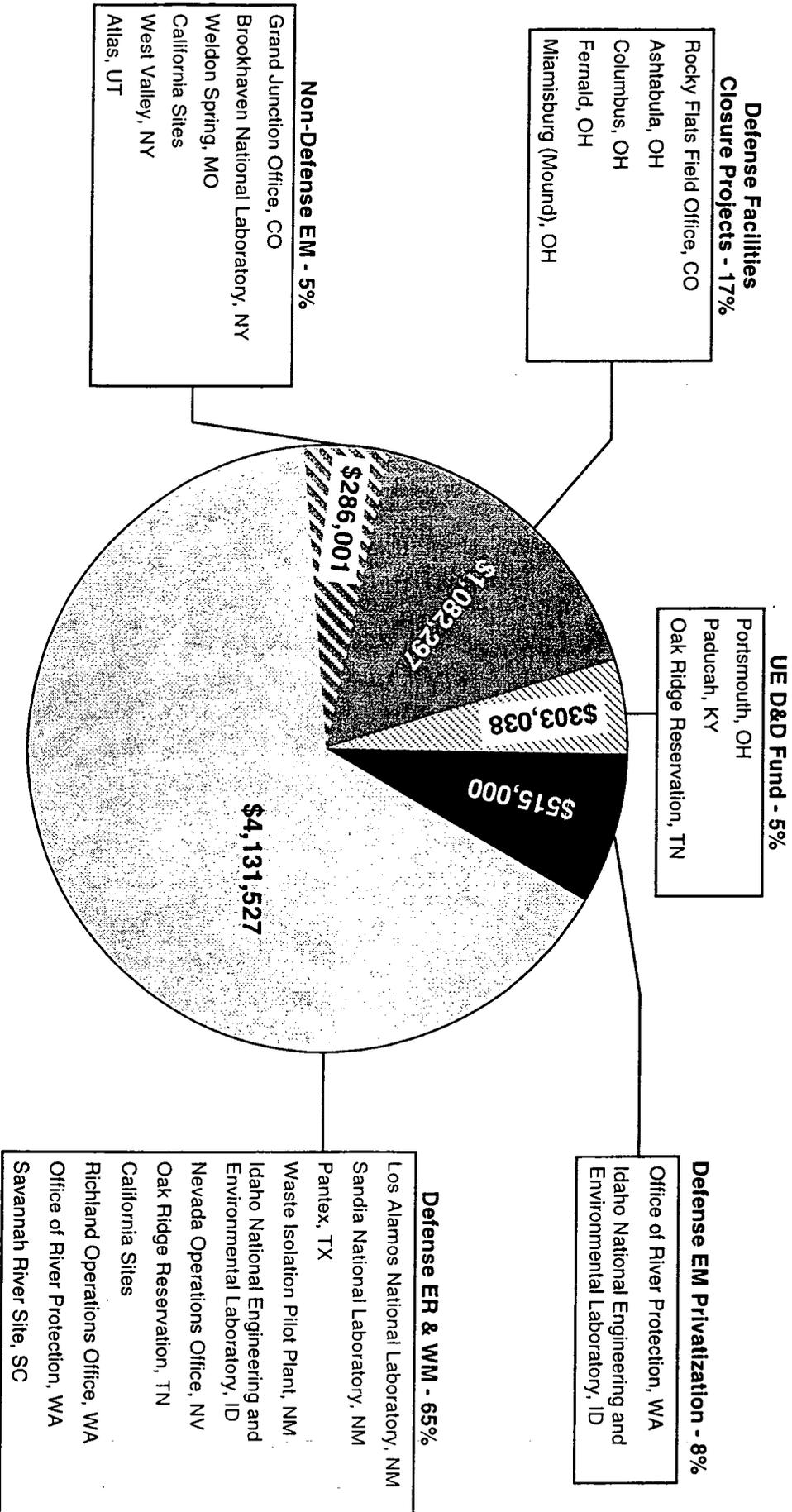
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EM's Five Appropriation Accounts

Distribution of the FY 2001 Request*

(Dollars in Thousands)

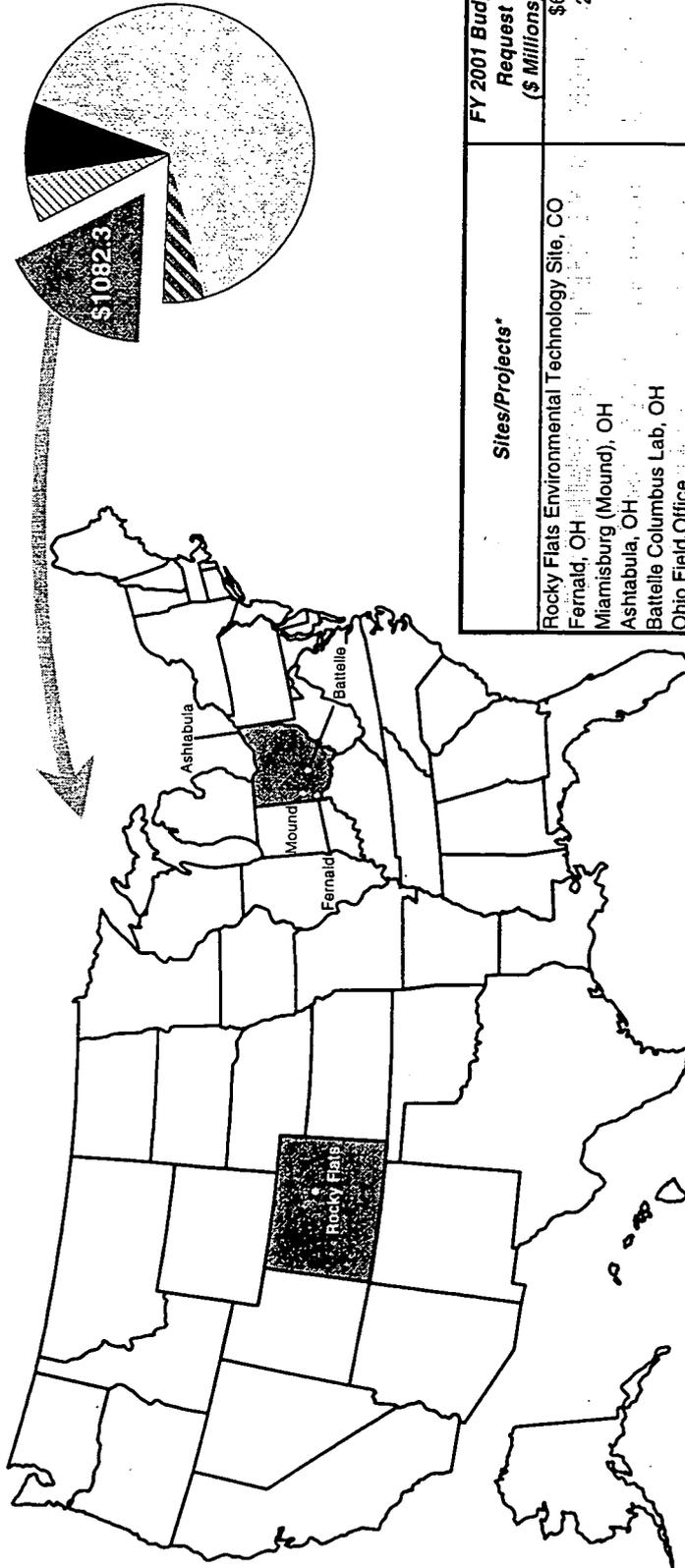


Total FY 2001 Request: \$6,317,863

* Listing of sites is not complete; funding amounts are net of all adjustments

Defense Facilities Closure Projects

Increase Funding by \$13.7 Million^{1/}...



FY 2001 Highlights

- Achieve 80% completion of planned off-site shipments of plutonium metals and oxides from Rocky Flats
- Place final cap on Fernald On-Site Disposal Facility Cell 1 using an innovative capping technology
- Accelerate tritium decontamination in buildings on the "critical path" for closure and complete the tritium Large Scale Decontamination and Decommissioning Demonstration Project at Mound

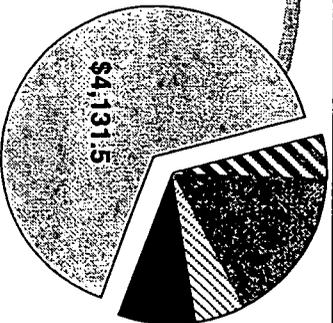
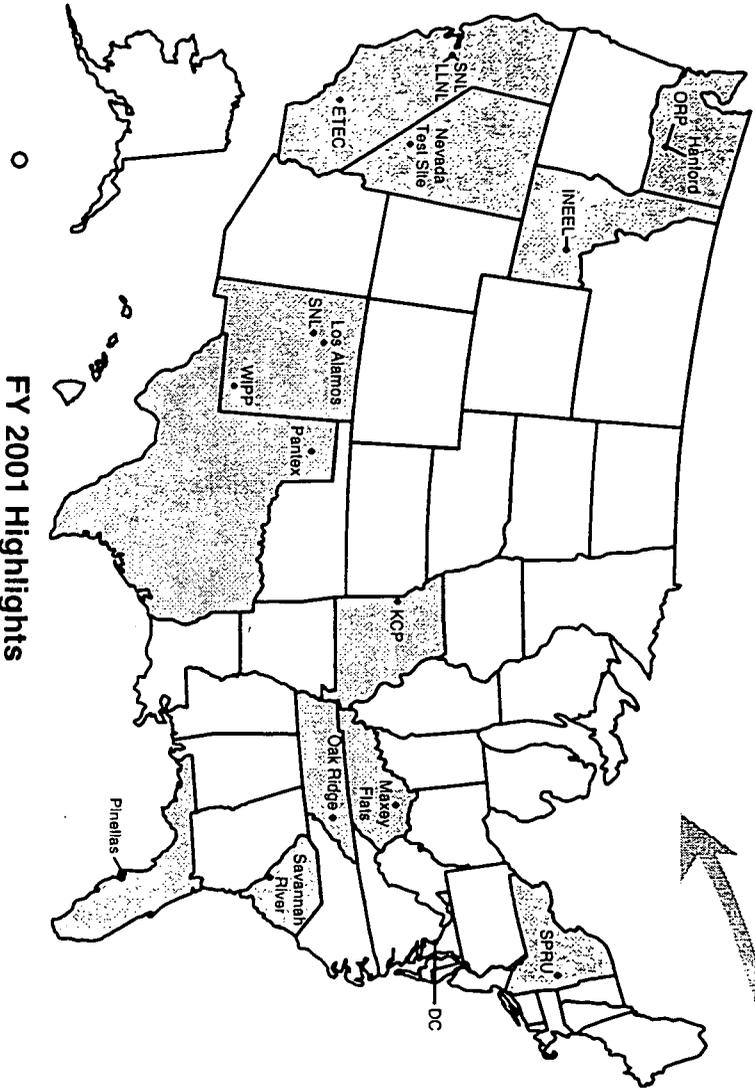
Sites/Projects*	FY 2001 Budget Request (\$ Millions)	Closure Goal
Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site, CO	\$664.7	2006
Fernald, OH	290.8	2006
Miamisburg (Mound), OH	94.4	2004
Ashlabula, OH	16.2	2005
Battelle Columbus Lab, OH	16.1	2005
Ohio Field Office	0.1	
Total: Defense Facilities Closure Projects	\$1,082.3	

*These sites may also receive funding from other Appropriations.

^{1/} Based on Comparable FY 2000 funding level

Defense Environmental Restoration & Waste Management

Increase Funding by \$96.4 Million^{1/} ...



FY 2001 Highlights

- Start moving K-Basin West spent nuclear fuel to safer dry storage at Hanford
- Complete cleanup of first Waste Area Group (Test Reactor Area) at Idaho
- Increase shipments of transuranic waste to WIPP from 5 to 13 shipments per week
- Verify 200 canisters of liquid high level waste at Savannah River Site

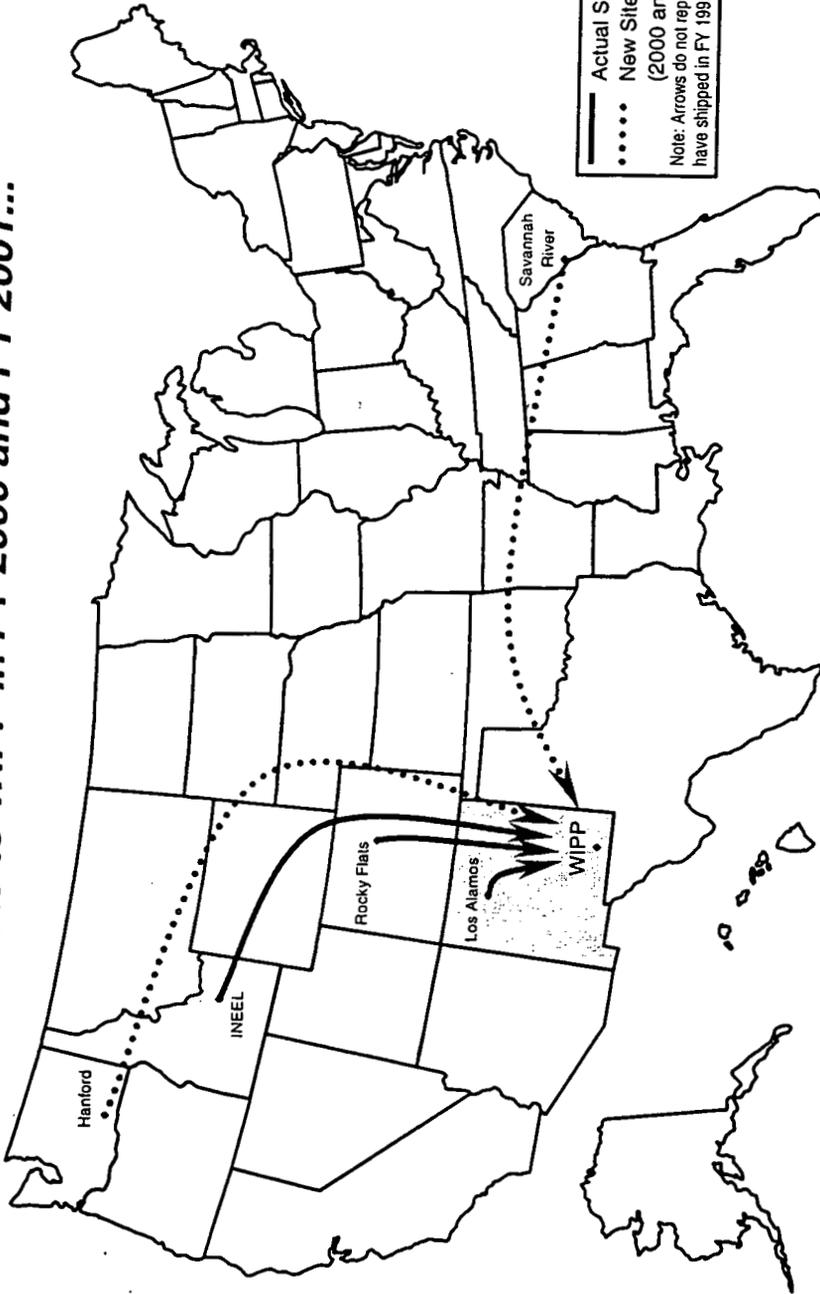
^{1/} Based on Comparable FY 2000 funding level

Site/Project*	FY 2001 Budget Request (\$ Millions)
Site/Project Completion	
Savannah River Site, SC	\$452.9
Hanford Site, WA	349.5
Idaho National Engineering & Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), ID	100.7
Sandia National Laboratories (SNL), CA & NM	35.0
Pantex Plant, TX	12.9
Pinellas Plant, FL	7.5
Abuquerque Operations Office, NM	7.2
Kansas City Plant (KCP), MO	3.5
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), CA	2.0
Maxey Flats, KY	1.2
Subtotal Site/Project Completion	\$972.4
Post-2006 Completion	
Savannah River Site, SC	\$814.0
Office of River Protection (ORP), WA	382.1
Hanford Site, WA	375.3
Idaho National Engineering & Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), ID	348.8
Oak Ridge Reservation, TN	293.9
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP), NM	194.5
Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), NM	92.1
Nevada Test Site (NTS), NV	78.9
Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), CA	48.5
Multi-Site Locations, VL	43.3
Nevada Operations Office, VL	11.3
Abuquerque Operations Office, NM	9.5
Separations Process Research Unit (SPRU), NY	2.5
Chicago Operations Office, IL	0.9
Oakland Operations Office, CA	0.9
Subtotal Post-2006 Completion	\$2,696.5
Program Direction	\$359.9
Science and Technology	196.5
Adjustments	(93.8)
Total Def. Env. Restoration & Waste Management	\$4,131.5

Note: Numbers are net of the D&D Contribution. VL = Various Locations
 *These sites may also receive funding from other Appropriations

Moving Waste to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant

More Sites Plan to Move Waste to WIPP in FY 2000 and FY 2001...



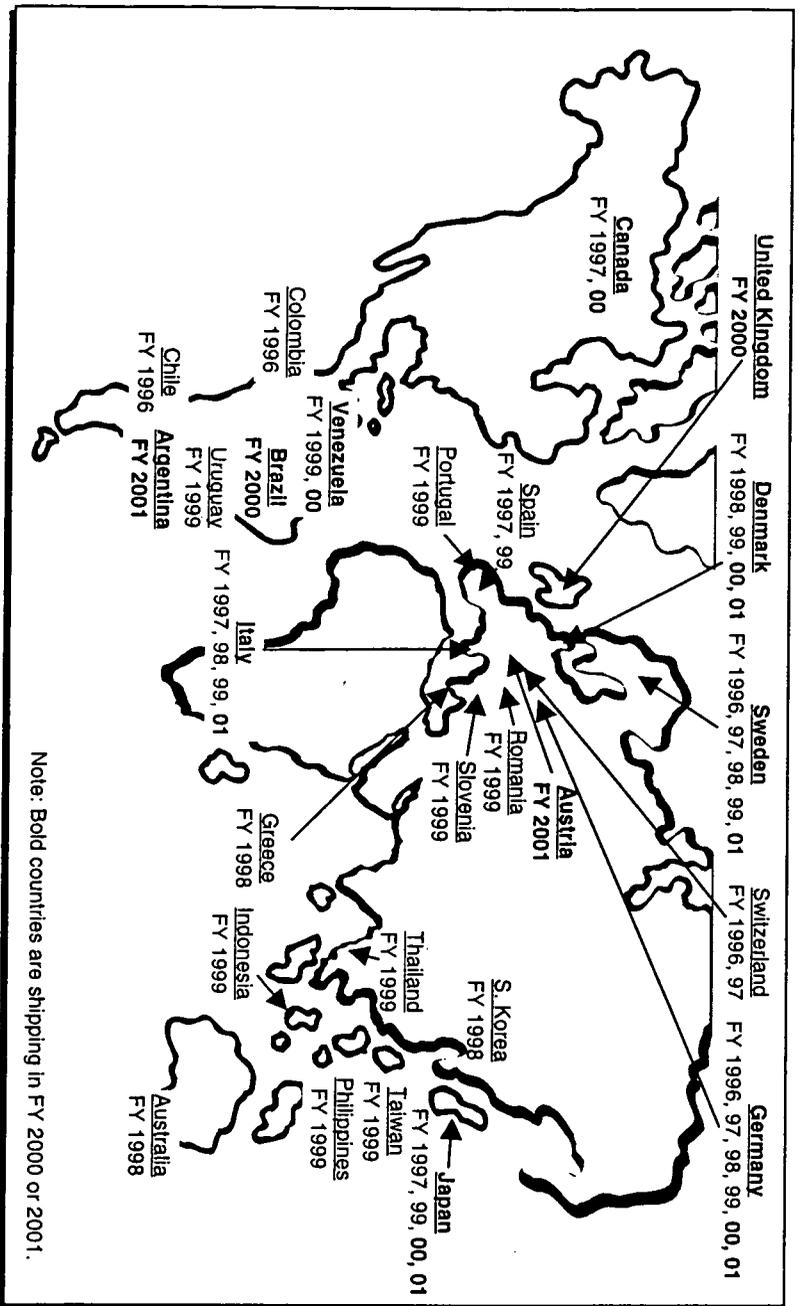
— Actual Shipments (1999 and 2000)
 New Sites with Planned Shipments (2000 and 2001)
 Note: Arrows do not represent actual travel routes. Sites that have shipped in FY 1999 will also ship in 2000 and 2001.

Site	FY 1999 Actual Shipments	FY 2000 Actual Shipments as of Jan. 2000	Projected FY 2000 Shipments	Projected FY 2001 Shipments
Los Alamos National Laboratory, NM	17	0	6	28
Idaho National Engineering and Env. Laboratory, ID	3	1	14	169
Hanford Site, WA	0	0	11	12
Rocky Flats, CO	12	11	86	270
Savannah River Site, SC	0	0	1	5
Total Shipments	32	12	118	484

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Supporting Global Non-Proliferation

Foreign Research Reactor Fuel Shipments (FY 1996 - FY 2000)...



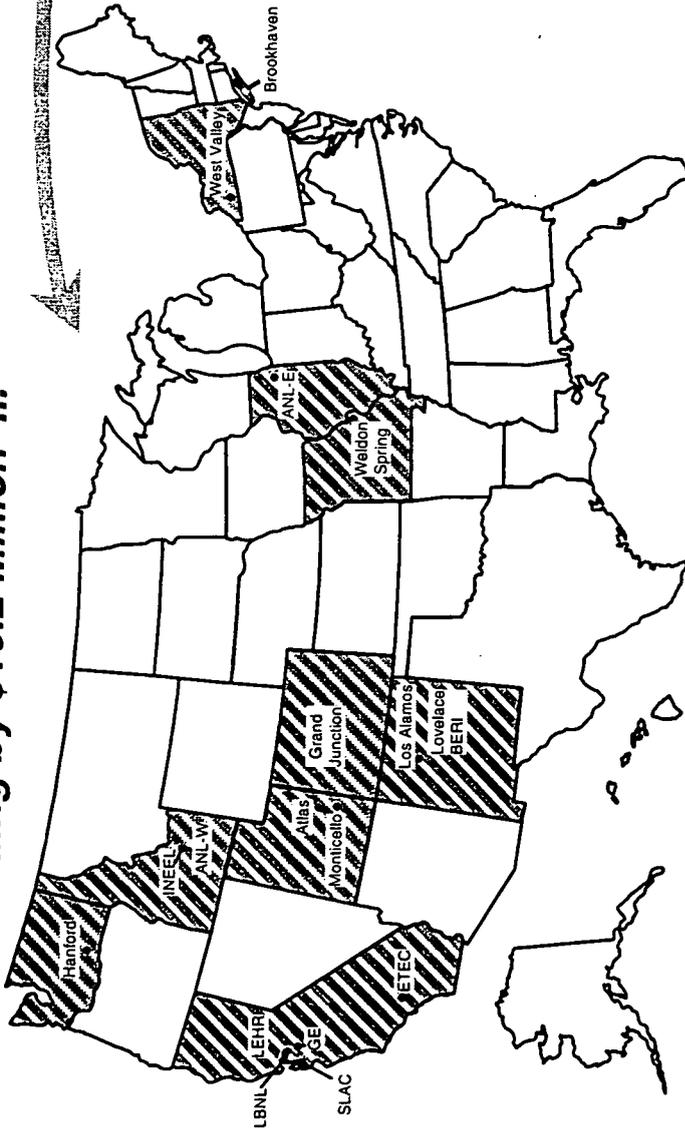
- 14 shipments completed to date -- all safely
- 3,354 spent fuel assemblies from 23 countries have been shipped to U.S.
- Approximately 590 kilograms of weapons-grade uranium, enough for nearly 24 crude nuclear weapons

- FY 2000 Shipments to Date**
- Brazil
 - Japan
 - Venezuela
- FY 2000 Planned Shipments**
- Canada
 - Denmark
 - Germany
 - United Kingdom
- FY 2001 Planned Shipments**
- Argentina
 - Austria
 - Denmark
 - Germany
 - Italy
 - Japan
 - Sweden

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Non-Defense Environmental Management

Decrease Funding by \$16.2 Million^{1/}...



FY 2001 Highlights

- Three geographic sites will complete EM cleanup in FY 2001: Argonne National Lab - West, Grand Junction Site, and Monticello
- Complete high level waste vitrification processing and begin vitrification facility/melter deactivation at West Valley
- Complete treatment of trichloroethylene (TCE) in groundwater at Weldon Spring
- Complete transfer of TMI-2 spent nuclear fuel from wet to safer dry storage at Idaho
- Includes \$10 million for the Atlas Site in Moab, Utah

^{1/} Based on Comparable FY 2000 funding level; funding decrease primarily due to site completions in FY 2000 and FY 2001.

Sites/Projects*	FY 2001 Budget Request (\$ Millions)
Site Closure	
Weldon Spring Site, MO	\$53.1
UMTRA-Groundwater, VL	13.4
Monticello, UT	9.1
Grand Junction, CO	6.0
Subtotal, Site Closure	\$81.6
Site/Project Completion	
Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL), NY	\$27.2
Atlas Site, UT	10.0
Argonne National Laboratory-East, IL	9.6
Laboratory for Energy-Related Health Research, CA	6.5
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), CA	5.0
Idaho National Engineering & Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), ID	1.9
Hanford Site, WA	1.5
Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC), CA	1.4
Argonne National Laboratory-West, ID	0.6
Lovelace Biomedical Environmental Research Ins, NM	0.6
Chicago Operations Office, IL	0.5
Oakland Operations Office, CA	0.2
Subtotal, Site/Project Completion	\$65.0
Post-2006 Completion	
West Valley Demonstration Project, NY	\$107.3
Energy Technology Engineering Center (ETEC), CA	17.5
Grand Junction, CO	5.1
Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), NM	4.0
Multi-Site Locations, VL	3.7
General Electric, CA	2.0
Subtotal, Post-2006 Completion	\$139.6
Adjustments	
Total, Non-Defense Environmental Management	(\$0.2)
Total	\$286.0

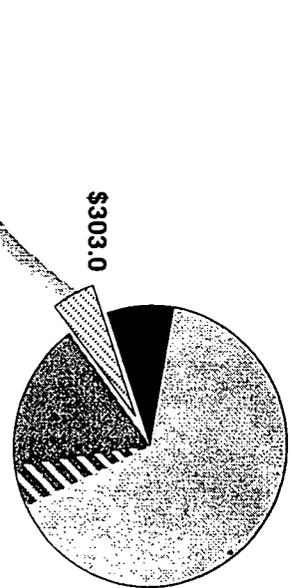
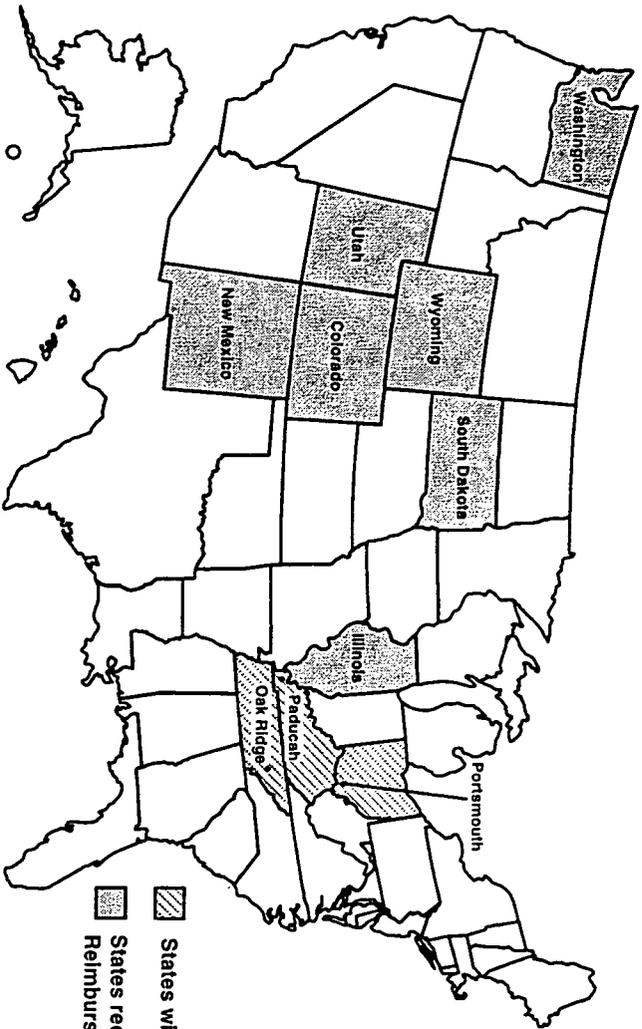
Note: VL = Various Locations

See background for explanation of adjustments

*These sites may also receive funding from other Appropriations

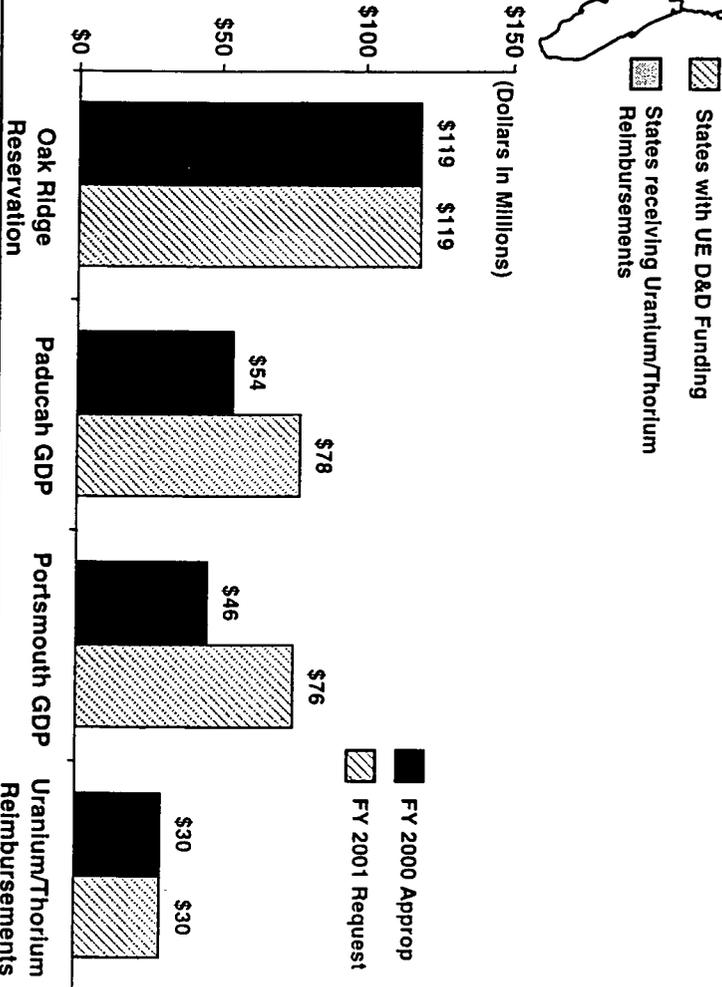
Uranium Enrichment Decontamination and Decommissioning Fund

Increase Funding by \$53.8 Million...



FY 2001 Highlights

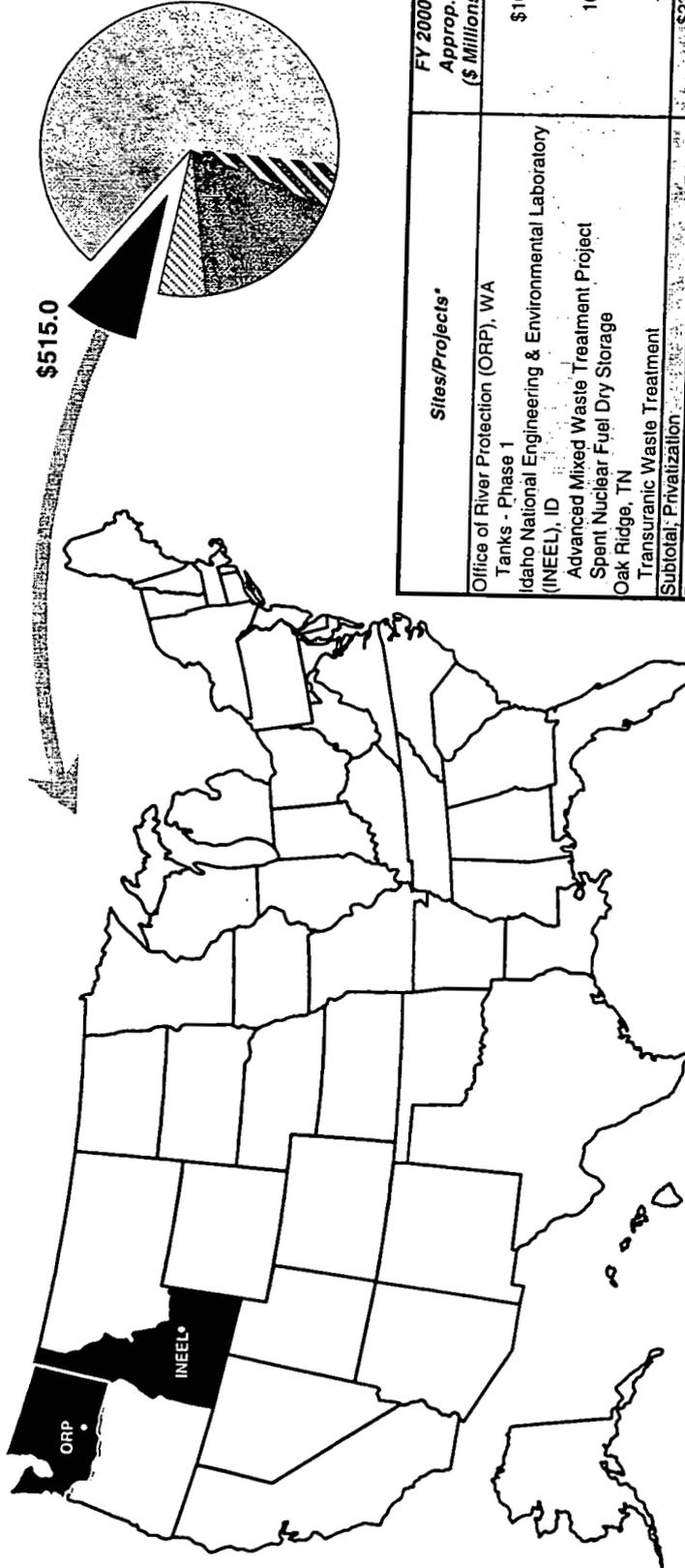
- Complete off-site disposal of "Drum Mountain" and initiate removal of other scrap piles at Paducah
- Complete disposal of high risk heavy metal sludge at Portsmouth
- Complete remediation of a major waste burial ground using innovative technologies at the East Tennessee Technology Park
- Complete decontamination of uranium facility at Oak Ridge to allow for commercial re-use



220000

Defense Environmental Management Privatization

Increase Funding by \$326.7 Million...



Sites/Projects*	FY 2000 Approp. (\$ Millions)	FY 2001 Budget Request (\$ Millions)
Office of River Protection (ORP), WA Tanks - Phase 1	\$105.7	\$450.0
Idaho National Engineering & Environmental Laboratory (INEEL), ID Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project	109.6	65.0
Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage Oak Ridge, TN	5.0	25.1
Transuranic Waste Treatment	12.0	0.0
Subtotal, Privatization	\$232.3	\$540.1
Prior year adjustments to other projects	(44.0)	(25.1)
Total, Privatization	\$188.3	\$515.0

See background for explanation of adjustments
*These sites may also receive funding from other Appropriations

FY 2001 Highlights

- Ramp-up of construction activities for the high level waste vitrification plant by the Office of River Protection at Hanford
- Continue facility construction for Idaho's Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project with completion expected in 2002
- Submit application for Nuclear Regulatory Commission license for Idaho's Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage Project

000023

Tank Waste Remediation System

Privatization:

- Funding increases by \$344 million
- Authorization to proceed decision in August 2000
- Achieve 60% detailed design
- Start construction preparation work
- Initiate long lead procurement actions (e.g., melters)

Traditional Budget Authority for Operations:

- Funding increases by \$44 million
- Continue construction of high level waste retrieval and transfer system in the AN tank farm
- Resolve safety issues (e.g., high heat tank, flammability) to remove all tanks from the "Watch List" of high risk tanks
- Initiate pumping of six single shell tanks

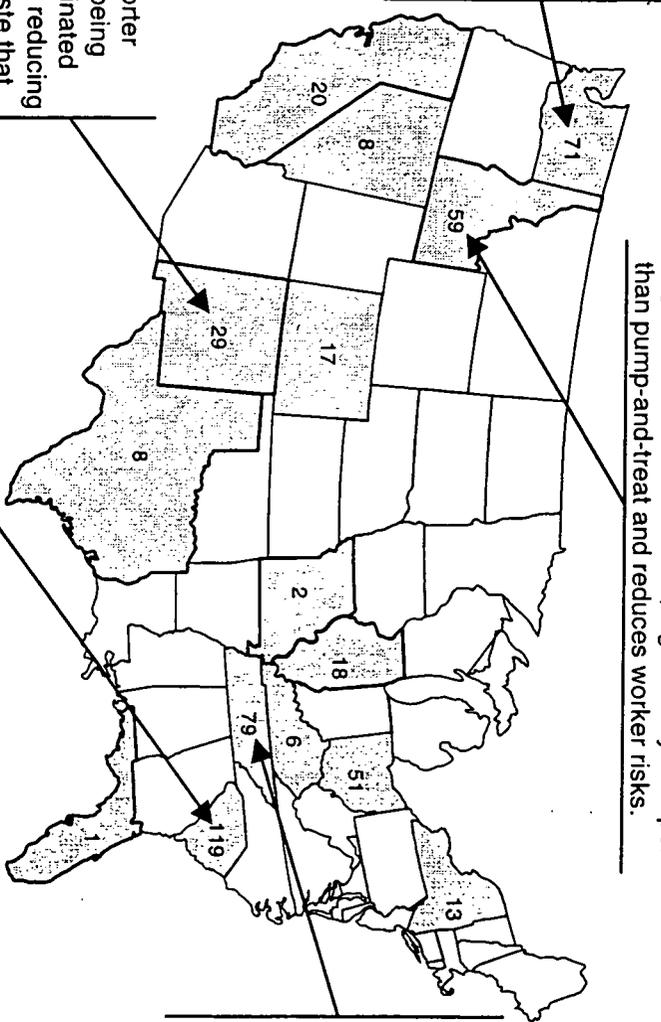
000024

Investments are Paying Off: Over 500 Deployments to Date

Critical Solutions to Cleanup Problems are Provided as Innovative Technologies are Deployed...

At Hanford, a device is being used within high level waste tanks (*Multifunction Corrosion Probe*) to determine the optimum amount of sodium to be added to control corrosion, thus limiting waste volume that must be treated.

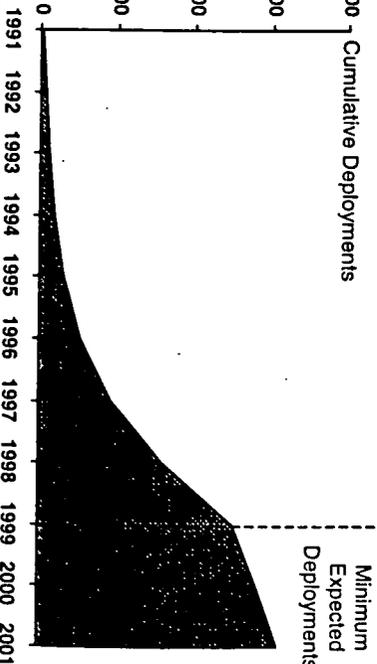
At Idaho, a natural process (*Enhanced In Situ Bioremediation*) is being used to increase degradation of contaminants, significantly cheaper than pump-and-treat and reduces worker risks.



At Oak Ridge, several "dovetailed" remote access technologies (*Modified Light Duty Utility Arm, Houdini II, Confined Sludging End Effector*) are being used to retrieve radioactive liquid and sludge from tanks. Combined with sludge mixing systems, over half of the Gunite Tanks sludge inventory and 70% of the radionuclide inventory have been removed.

At Sandia, NM, a mechanical sorter (*Segmented Gate System*) is being used to sort radioactive contaminated soil from clean soil, significantly reducing the amount of contaminated waste that must be disposed.

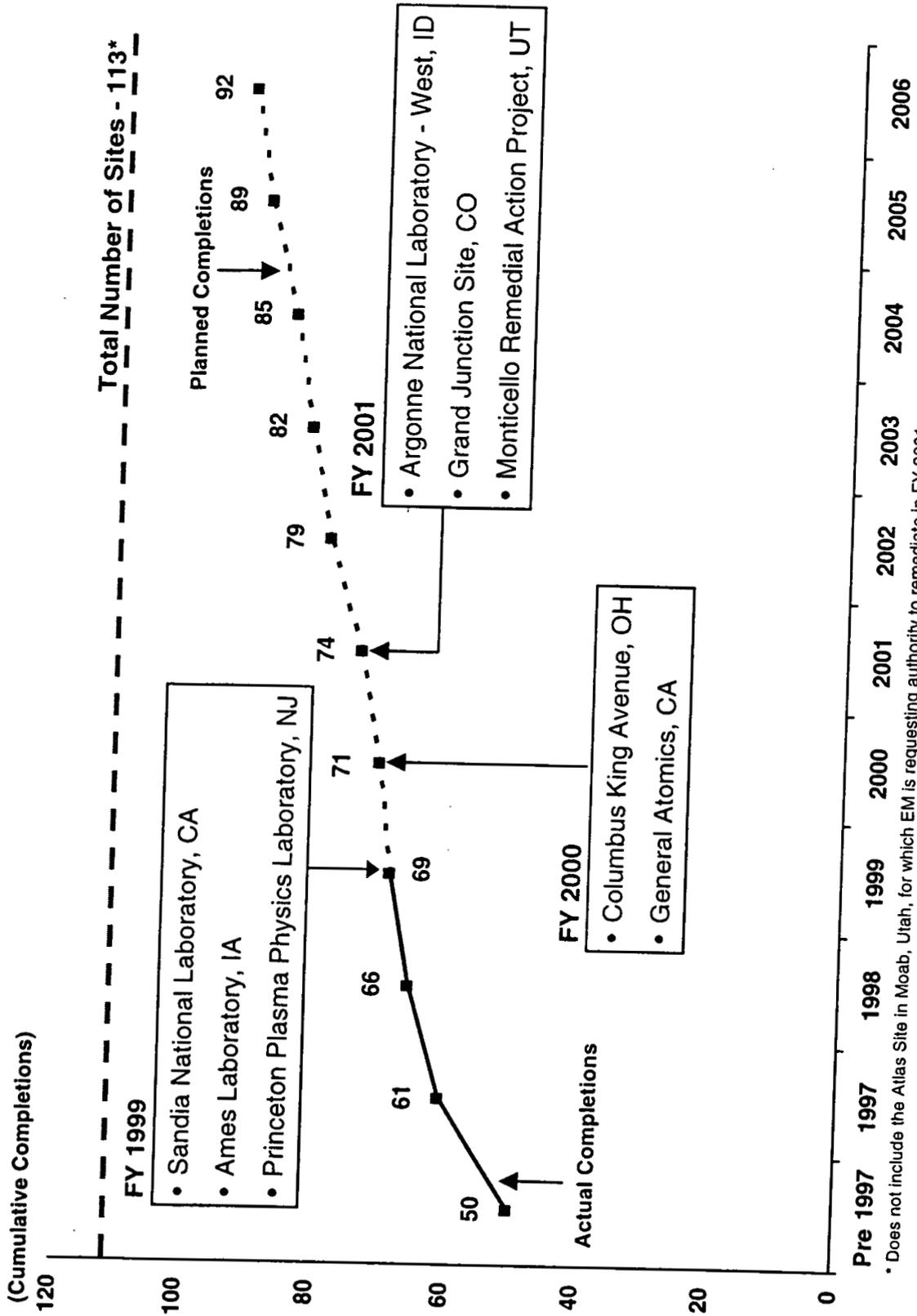
At Savannah River Site, a *Vadose Zone Monitoring System* is being used that can determine how fast and in what concentration contaminants are travelling to the groundwater. This "early warning" system provides opportunity to take appropriate action to protect the groundwater.



Note: Numbers on map represent deployments of new technologies developed with DOE investments. (501 Total)
February 7, 2000

Site Completion

Making Progress Towards Closure and Completion...



000027

Looking Forward

- **Maintain Focus on Closures and Completions**
- **Strengthen Program and Project Management**
- **Reduce Costs Through Efficiency and Innovative Cleanup Technologies**
- **Do It Safely or Don't Do It at All**

820008

Background

FY 2001 EM Budget Request by State

Dollars in Thousands

State	FY 2000 Comparable Appropriation	FY 2001 Request					Subtotal Traditional BA	Privatization	Total
		Defense Facilities Closure	Defense ER&WM	Non-Defense EM	D&D Fund				
Alaska	\$1,591	\$0	\$7,281	\$0	\$0	\$7,281	\$0	\$7,281	
Arizona	3,811	0	0	8,900	0	8,900	0	8,900	
California	77,450	0	51,604	32,600	0	84,204	0	84,204	
Colorado	688,824	664,675	810	13,255	0	678,740	0	678,740	
Florida	2,787	0	7,522	0	0	7,522	0	7,522	
Idaho	438,632	0	449,403	2,467	0	451,870	90,092	541,962	
Illinois	14,508	0	914	10,069	0	10,983	0	10,983	
Kentucky	55,397	0	1,200	0	78,000	79,200	0	79,200	
Mississippi	551	0	1,229	0	0	1,229	0	1,229	
Missouri	53,543	0	3,500	53,116	0	56,616	0	56,616	
Nevada	83,365	0	80,232	0	0	80,232	0	80,232	
New Mexico	320,498	0	338,795	6,543	0	345,338	0	345,338	
New York	129,507	0	2,500	134,586	0	137,086	0	137,086	
Ohio	450,103	417,622	0	0	76,200	493,822	0	493,822	
South Carolina	1,199,865	0	1,266,884	0	0	1,266,884	0	1,266,884	
Tennessee	391,476	0	293,896	0	118,838	412,734	0	412,734	
Texas	14,829	0	12,919	0	0	12,919	0	12,919	
Utah	22,027	0	0	19,465	0	19,465	0	19,465	
Washington	1,061,017	0	1,106,919	1,500	0	1,108,419	450,000	1,558,419	
Program Direction**	357,806	0	359,888	0	0	359,888	0	359,888	
Science and Technology	205,631	0	196,548	0	0	196,548	0	196,548	
Various Locations*	70,772	0	43,300	3,700	0	47,000	0	47,000	
U/Th Reimbursement	30,000	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	30,000	
D&D Fund Deposit	420,000	0	420,000	0	0	420,000	0	420,000	
Subtotal, EM	\$6,093,990	\$1,082,297	\$4,645,344	\$286,201	\$303,038	\$6,316,880	\$540,092	\$6,856,972	
UE D&D Fund Offset	(420,000)	0	0	0	(420,000)	(420,000)	0	(420,000)	
Contractor Travel Offset	0	0	(9,500)	(200)	0	(9,700)	0	(9,700)	
Pension Offset	(8,700)	0	(50,000)	0	0	(50,000)	0	(50,000)	
Prior Year Balances	(10,077)	0	(34,317)	0	0	(34,317)	(25,092)	(59,409)	
Total, EM	\$5,655,213	\$1,082,297	\$4,551,527	\$286,001	(\$116,962)	\$5,802,863	\$515,000	\$6,317,863	
Privatization	188,282	0	0	0	0	188,282	0	188,282	
Grand Total, EM	\$5,843,495	\$1,082,297	\$4,551,527	\$286,001	(\$116,962)	\$5,802,863	\$515,000	\$6,317,863	

* Includes Multi-Site, Headquarters, and National Programs. ** Assumes approval of \$19 million reprogramming in FY 2000.

February 7, 2000

000030

FY 2001 EM Budget Request by Operations Office

Dollars in Thousands

Operations Office	FY 2000 Comparable Appropriation	FY 2001 Request						Total
		Defense Facilities Closure	Defense ER&WM	Non-Defense EM	D&D Fund	Subtotal Traditional BA	Privatization	
Albuquerque	\$207,819	\$0	\$169,000	\$48,163	\$0	\$217,163	\$0	\$217,163
Carlsbad	181,417	0	194,498	0	0	194,498	0	194,498
Chicago	37,389	0	914	37,913	0	38,827	0	38,827
Idaho*	437,827	0	449,403	1,856	0	451,259	90,092	541,351
Nevada	87,741	0	90,212	0	0	90,212	0	90,212
Oakland	77,506	0	53,882	32,600	0	86,482	0	86,482
Oak Ridge	543,550	0	293,896	53,116	273,038	620,050	0	620,050
Ohio	510,975	417,622	0	107,353	0	524,975	0	524,975
Richland	722,560	0	724,780	1,500	0	726,280	0	726,280
Richland/ORP	338,457	0	382,139	0	0	382,139	450,000	832,139
Rocky Flats	664,675	664,675	0	0	0	664,675	0	664,675
Savannah River	1,199,865	0	1,266,884	0	0	1,266,884	0	1,266,884
Multi-Site	70,772	0	43,300	3,700	0	47,000	0	47,000
Program Direction**	357,806	0	359,888	0	0	359,888	0	359,888
U/TH Reimbursement	30,000	0	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	30,000
D&D Fund Deposit	420,000	0	420,000	0	0	420,000	0	420,000
Science and Technology	205,631	0	196,548	0	0	196,548	0	196,548
Subtotal, EM	\$6,093,990	\$1,082,297	\$4,645,344	\$286,201	\$303,038	\$6,316,880	\$540,092	\$6,856,972
UE D&D Fund Offset	(420,000)	0	0	0	(420,000)	(420,000)	0	(420,000)
Contractor Travel Offset	0	0	(9,500)	(200)	0	(9,700)	0	(9,700)
Pension Offset	(8,700)	0	(50,000)	0	0	(50,000)	0	(50,000)
Prior Year Balances	(10,077)	0	(34,317)	0	0	(34,317)	(25,092)	(59,409)
Total, EM	\$5,655,213	\$1,082,297	\$4,551,527	\$286,001	(\$116,962)	\$5,802,863	\$515,000	\$6,317,863
Privatization	188,282							
Grand Total, EM	\$5,843,495	\$1,082,297	\$4,551,527	\$286,001	(\$116,962)	\$5,802,863	\$515,000	\$6,317,863

* Assumes approval of TMI reprogramming in FY 2000. ** Assumes approval of \$19 million reprogramming in FY 2000

000031

Defense EM Privatization

DOE's EM Privatization Effort Continues Increasing Private Sector Involvement to Reduce Risk and Cost...

**EM Privatization Projects
(Dollars in Millions)**

State	Site	Project Title	Fiscal Year					2001 Request	Future	Operating B/A	Total Project Cost
			1997	1998	1999	2000	2000				
Idaho	Idaho National Eng. and Env. Lab.	Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment	\$70	\$0	\$87	\$110	\$65	\$302	\$546	\$1,180	
Idaho	Idaho National Eng. and Env. Lab.	Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage	0	27	20	5	25	121	48	246	
Tennessee	Oak Ridge Reservation	Transuranic Waste Treatment	65	0	0	12	0	0	135	212	
Tennessee	Oak Ridge Reservation	EM Waste Disposal (EMWD)*	0	5	33	-19	0	0	169	188	
New Mexico	WIPP	Contact Handled TRU Transportation**	0	21	0	0	-21	0	0	0	
New Mexico	WIPP	Remote Handled TRU Transportation	0	0	20	0	-4	0	678	694	
Washington	Hanford	Tanks - Phase I	170	115	100	106	450	7,017	7,022	14,980	
Undistributed/ Use of Uncosted Balances			0	32	-32	-25	0	0	0	0	
Total			\$305	\$200	\$228	\$189	\$515	\$7,440	\$8,598	\$17,500	

000032

* The Energy and Water Appropriations Act for FY 2000 specifically applied the use of Uncosted Balances against the EMWD Project.
 ** Project will be funded using Traditional Budget Authority.
 NOTE: Undistributed = National Defense Authorization Act for Savannah River. Use of Uncosted Balances - The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 provided for distribution of \$193 million for the projects (excluding the closure projects) and includes \$25 million from in unused funds from projects no longer conducted as privatization projects to offset the program level.

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Environmental Management Program Budget Totals (FY 1999 - FY 2001)
FY 2001 Congressional Budget Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

State/Site (Operations Office)	FY 1999 Comparable Appropriation			FY 2000 Comparable Appropriation			FY 2001 Request			
	Defense*	Non-Defense	Subtotal	Defense*	Non-Defense	Subtotal	Defense*	Non-Defense	Subtotal	
Alaska										
Amchitka (NV)	848	0	848	1,591	0	1,591	0	0	0	7,281
Totals:	848	0	848	1,591	0	1,591	0	0	0	7,281
Arizona										
Monument Valley/Tuba City (AL)	0	1,934	1,934	0	3,811	3,811	0	8,900	0	8,900
Totals:	0	1,934	1,934	0	3,811	3,811	0	8,900	0	8,900
California										
Energy Technology Engineering Center	0	16,450	16,450	0	17,159	17,159	0	17,500	0	17,500
General Atomics (OK)	0	2,843	2,843	0	1,092	1,092	0	100	0	100
General Electric (OK)	0	0	0	0	500	500	0	2,000	0	2,000
Lab. for Energy-Related Health Res. (OK)	0	5,589	5,589	0	3,687	3,687	0	6,500	0	6,500
Lawrence Berkeley Nat. Lab. (OK)	0	4,339	4,339	0	4,872	4,872	0	5,000	0	5,000
Lawrence Livermore National Lab. (OK)	47,665	0	47,665	46,447	0	46,447	50,500	0	0	50,500
Oakland Operations Office (OK)	5,100	0	5,100	1,560	300	1,860	882	100	0	982
Sandia National Laboratory (AL)	0	0	0	433	0	433	222	0	0	222
Stanford Linear Acc. Center (OK)	0	1,250	1,250	0	1,400	1,400	0	1,400	0	1,400
Totals:	52,765	30,471	83,236	48,440	29,010	77,450	51,604	32,600	0	84,204
Colorado										
Grand Junction (AL)	0	8,931	8,931	0	14,246	14,246	0	11,080	0	11,080
Rio Blanco/Rulison (NV)	160	0	160	1,261	0	1,261	810	0	0	810
Rocky Flats Environmental Tech. Site	637,795	0	637,795	646,412	0	646,412	644,623	0	0	644,623
Rocky Flats Field Office (RF)	19,405	0	19,405	18,263	0	18,263	20,052	0	0	20,052
UMTRA-Groundwater (AL)	0	4,445	4,445	0	8,642	8,642	0	2,175	0	2,175
UMTRA-Surface (AL)	0	12,550	12,550	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	657,360	25,926	683,286	665,936	22,888	688,824	665,485	13,255	0	678,740
Florida										
Pinellas Plant (AL)	2,797	0	2,797	2,787	0	2,787	7,522	0	0	7,522
Totals:	2,797	0	2,797	2,787	0	2,787	7,522	0	0	7,522
Idaho										
Argonne National Laboratory-West (CH)	0	1,177	1,177	0	805	805	0	611	0	611
INEEL (ID)	438,608	9,983	448,591	419,934	17,893	437,827	449,403	1,856	0	451,259
Totals:	438,608	11,160	449,768	419,934	18,698	438,632	449,403	2,467	0	451,870
Illinois										
Argonne National Laboratory-East (CH)	0	11,435	11,435	0	12,062	12,062	0	9,564	0	9,564

February 7, 2000

* Includes the Defense Facilities Closure Appropriation and the Defense ER&WM Appropriation.

** Colorado sites include: Naturita, Maybell, Durango, Grand Junction, Gunnison, Rifle (2 sites), and Slick Rock (2 sites); Utah sites include: Mexican Hat, Salt Lake City, and Green River.

*** Assumes approval of \$19 million reprogramming in FY 2000.

Page - 1

Environmental Management Program Budget Totals (FY 1999 - FY 2001)
FY 2001 Congressional Budget Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

State/Site (Operations Office)	FY 1999 Comparable Appropriation				FY 2000 Comparable Appropriation				FY 2001 Request			
	Defense* Non-Defense D&D Fund	Subtotal	Privat.		Defense* Non-Defense D&D Fund	Subtotal	Privat.		Defense* Non-Defense D&D Fund	Subtotal	Privat.	
Chicago Operations Office (CH)	1,570	319	0	1,889	991	1,455	0	2,446	914	505	0	1,419
Totals:	1,570	11,754	0	13,324	991	13,517	0	14,508	914	10,069	0	10,983
Kentucky												
Maxey Flats (AL)	1,200	0	0	1,200	1,194	0	0	1,194	1,200	0	0	1,200
Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (OR)	0	0	35,865	35,865	0	54,203	0	54,203	0	0	78,000	78,000
Totals:	1,200	0	35,865	37,065	1,194	54,203	0	55,397	1,200	0	78,000	79,200
Mississippi												
Salmon Site (NV)	832	0	0	832	551	0	0	551	1,229	0	0	1,229
Totals:	832	0	0	832	551	0	0	551	1,229	0	0	1,229
Missouri												
Kansas City Plant (AL)	1,706	0	0	1,706	1,742	0	0	1,742	3,500	0	0	3,500
Weldon Spring Site (OR)	0	67,500	0	67,500	0	51,801	0	51,801	0	53,116	0	53,116
Totals:	1,706	67,500	0	69,206	1,742	51,801	0	53,543	3,500	53,116	0	56,616
Nevada												
Central NTS (NV)	5,627	0	0	5,627	6,709	0	0	6,709	1,343	0	0	1,343
Nevada Test Site (NV)	72,859	0	0	72,859	76,656	0	0	76,656	78,889	0	0	78,889
Totals:	78,486	0	0	78,486	83,365	0	0	83,365	80,232	0	0	80,232
New Mexico												
Albuquerque Operations Office (AL)	15,800	0	0	15,800	16,957	0	0	16,957	16,730	0	0	16,730
Ambrosia/Shipprock (AL)	0	904	0	904	0	385	0	385	0	2,000	0	2,000
Gasbuggy/Gnome Coach (NV)	235	0	0	235	973	0	0	973	660	0	0	660
Los Alamos National Lab. (AL)	81,106	1,611	0	82,717	90,522	5,333	0	95,855	92,129	3,981	0	96,110
Lovelace BERI (AL)	0	499	0	499	0	537	0	537	0	562	0	562
Sandia National Laboratory (AL)	29,353	0	0	29,353	24,374	0	0	24,374	34,778	0	0	34,778
Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (CB)	185,405	0	0	185,405	181,417	0	0	181,417	194,498	0	0	194,498
Totals:	311,899	3,014	0	314,913	314,243	6,255	0	320,498	338,795	6,543	0	345,338
New York												
Brookhaven National Laboratory (CH)	0	23,206	0	23,206	0	22,076	0	22,076	0	27,233	0	27,233
Separations Process Res. Unit (OK)	0	0	0	0	489	0	0	489	2,500	0	0	2,500
West Valley (OH)	0	107,224	0	107,224	0	106,942	0	106,942	0	107,353	0	107,353
Totals:	0	130,430	0	130,430	489	129,018	0	129,507	2,500	134,586	0	137,086
Ohio												
Ashtabula (OH)	15,405	0	0	15,405	15,346	0	0	15,346	16,248	0	0	16,248
Columbus (OH)	10,853	1,219	0	12,072	15,973	100	0	16,073	16,134	0	0	16,134
February 7, 2000												

* Includes the Defense Facilities Closure Appropriation and the Defense ER&WM Appropriation.
** Colorado sites include: Naturita, Maybell, Durango, Grand Junction, Gunnison, Rifle (2 sites), and Slick Rock (2 sites); Utah sites include: Mexican Hat, Salt Lake City, and Green River.
*** Assumes approval of \$19 million reprogramming in FY 2000.

Environmental Management Program Budget Totals (FY 1999 - FY 2001)
FY 2001 Congressional Budget Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

State/Site (Operations Office)	FY 1999 Comparable Appropriation			FY 2000 Comparable Appropriation			FY 2001 Request		
	Defense*	Non-Defense	Privat.	Defense*	Non-Defense	Privat.	Defense*	Non-Defense	Privat.
Fernald (OH)	279,002	0	0	274,522	0	0	290,793	0	0
Miamisburg (OH)	83,859	0	0	97,998	0	0	94,353	0	0
Ohio Field Office (OH)	237	0	0	94	0	0	94	0	0
Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (OR)	0	29,453	29,453	0	46,070	46,070	0	76,200	76,200
Totals:	389,356	1,219	29,453	403,933	100	46,070	417,622	0	76,200
South Carolina									
Savannah River Operations Office (SR)	32,328	0	0	35,539	0	0	25,844	0	0
Savannah River Site (SR)	1,189,618	0	0	1,164,326	0	0	1,241,040	0	0
Totals:	1,221,946	0	0	1,199,865	0	0	1,266,884	0	0
Tennessee									
East Tennessee Technology Park (OR)	37,072	107,658	144,730	40,554	105,974	146,528	34,610	111,345	145,955
Oak Ridge National Laboratory (OR)	83,398	0	83,398	71,147	0	71,147	72,802	0	72,802
Oak Ridge Offsite Locations (OR)	1,826	0	1,826	3,692	0	3,692	14,442	0	14,442
Oak Ridge Operations Office (OR)	14,919	5,835	20,754	13,095	6,417	19,512	13,332	0	3,688
Oak Ridge Reservation (OR)	99,865	13,704	113,569	104,619	6,583	111,202	112,155	0	3,805
Y-12 Plant (OR)	25,216	0	25,216	39,395	0	39,395	46,555	0	46,555
Totals:	262,296	127,197	389,493	272,502	118,974	391,476	293,896	0	118,838
Texas									
Pantex Plant (AL)	11,251	0	11,251	14,829	0	14,829	12,919	0	12,919
Totals:	11,251	0	11,251	14,829	0	14,829	12,919	0	12,919
Utah									
Atlas Site (AL)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10,000	10,000
Monticello (AL)	0	34,800	34,800	0	21,915	21,915	0	9,140	9,140
UNTRA-Groundwater (AL)	0	241	241	0	112	112	0	325	325
Totals:	0	35,041	35,041	0	22,027	22,027	0	19,465	19,465
Washington									
Hanford Site (RL)	645,876	1,859	647,735	680,259	1,394	681,653	682,189	1,500	683,689
Off. of River Protection (RP)	310,445	0	310,445	338,457	0	338,457	382,139	0	382,139
Pacific Northwest Nat. Lab. (RL)	14,620	0	14,620	12,481	0	12,481	14,874	0	14,874
Richland Operations Office (RL)	34,268	0	34,268	28,426	0	28,426	27,717	0	27,717
Totals:	1,005,209	1,859	1,007,068	1,059,623	1,394	1,061,017	1,106,919	1,500	1,108,419
Wyoming									
Riverton/Spook (AL)	0	200	200	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	0	200	200	0	0	0	0	0	0

000036

February 7, 2000
 * Includes the Defense Facilities Closure Appropriation and the Defense ER&WM Appropriation.
 ** Colorado sites include: Naturita, Maybell, Durango, Grand Junction, Gunnison, Rifle (2 sites), and Slick Rock (2 sites); Utah sites include: Mexican Hat, Salt Lake City, and Green River.
 *** Assumes approval of \$19 million reprogramming in FY 2000.
 Page - 3

Environmental Management Program Budget Totals (FY 1999 - FY 2001)
FY 2001 Congressional Budget Request
(Dollars in Thousands)

State/Site (Operations Office)	FY 1999 Comparable Appropriation				FY 2000 Comparable Appropriation				FY 2001 Request						
	Defense*	Non-Defense	D&D Fund	Subtotal	Defense*	Non-Defense	D&D Fund	Subtotal	Defense*	Non-Defense	D&D Fund	Subtotal	Privat.		
Multiple States															
Multi-Site	55,666	3,756	0	59,422	67,091	3,681	0	70,772	43,300	3,700	0	47,000	0	0	
Program Direction	355,515	0	0	355,515	357,806 ***	0	0	357,806	359,888	0	0	359,888	0	0	
Science and Technology	223,215	0	0	223,215	205,631	0	0	205,631	196,548	0	0	196,548	0	0	
D&D Contribution	398,088	0	0	398,088	420,000	0	0	420,000	420,000	0	0	420,000	0	0	
Ur/Th Reimbursements	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	0	30,000	30,000	0	0	
Y2K Supplemental	13,840	0	0	13,840	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals:	1,046,324	3,756	30,000	1,080,080	1,050,528	3,681	30,000	1,084,209	1,019,736	3,700	30,000	1,053,436	0	0	
Adjustments															
UE D&D Offset	0	0	-398,088	-398,088	0	0	-420,000	-420,000	0	0	-420,000	-420,000	0	0	
Prior Year Balances	-29,447	-9,565	0	-39,012	-10,077	0	0	-10,077	-34,317	0	0	-34,317	-25,092	0	
Contractor Travel Offset	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-9,500	-200	0	-9,700	0	0	
Pension Offset	0	0	0	0	-8,700	0	0	-8,700	-50,000	0	0	-50,000	0	0	
Totals:	-29,447	-9,565	-398,088	-437,100	-18,777	0	-420,000	-438,777	-93,817	-200	-420,000	-514,017	-25,092	0	
EM Totals:	5,455,006	314,699	-175,573	5,594,132	228,357	5,523,766	302,200	-170,753	5,655,213	188,282	5,633,824	286,001	-116,962	5,802,863	515,000

000037

* Includes the Defense Facilities Closure Appropriation and the Defense ER&WN Appropriation.
** Colorado sites include: Naturita, Maybell, Durango, Grand Junction, Gunnison, Rifle (2 sites), and Slick Rock (2 sites); Utah sites include: Mexican Hat, Salt Lake City, and Green River.
*** Assumes approval of \$19 million reprogramming in FY 2000.

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James M. Owendoff, Principal DAS (EM-2)
Director of Site Operations (EM-3)
Elisabeth G. Feldt, Chief of Staff (EM-4)

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Manager, Ohio Field Office
Manager, Office of River Protection
Manager, Richland Operations Office
Manager, Rocky Flats Field Office
Manager, Savannah River Operations Office

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(A) - Acting (positions currently being advertised)
(P) - Positions will be advertised

OCTOBER 26, 1999

INEEL, HANFORD PRIVATIZATION PLANS PROMPT HIKE IN CLEANUP REQUEST

Three privatization projects at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and the Hanford Site account for most of the \$400-million increase sought by DOE for environmental management in FY-01. All told, the department is requesting \$6.3 billion for that program.

The request includes \$515 million for privatization, an increase of \$326 million over the \$188 million Congress provided in FY-2000.

One of the INEEL projects, which involves a controversial plan to build an incinerator to burn highly radioactive mixed waste, would receive \$65 million in FY-01, \$44 million less than it received in FY-2000. Residents in Jackson, Wyo., and other communities have sued DOE over the project, claiming the incinerator would disperse toxic chemicals into the atmosphere and contaminate the region.

The EM request would also provide Idaho's Spent Nuclear Fuel Dry Storage project \$25.1 million, \$20 million more than the \$5 million it received from Congress in FY-2000.

The third privatization project, involving the cleanup of tank wastes at Hanford, would receive \$450 million, \$344 million more than it got this year (related story elsewhere).

While those three privatization projects add up to \$540 million, DOE's plans to use prior-year balances and other adjustments lowered the department's request to \$515 million.

Among other EM accounts, the budget request includes \$1.1 billion for defense facilities closure projects, 2% more than Congress provided in FY-2000. The account funds activities that will lead to completion of cleanups at some sites by 2006. Those sites are the Miamisburg Environmental Management Project (formerly known as the Mound Site), the Ashtabula Environmental Management Project, the Fernald Environmental Management Project and the Battelle Columbus Laboratory in Missouri, all in Ohio, and the Rocky Flats Environmental Technology Site in Colorado. The request consists of \$417 million for the Ohio sites and \$664 million for Rocky Flats.

The request would provide \$286 million for non-defense environmental management, 7% less than the amount provided in FY-2000. The account supports site closure, site/project completion and post-2006 completion activities. The site closure request includes \$81.6 million, down 62% from FY-2000. Among the efforts it would support are those aimed at completing environmental restoration at the Weldon Spring Site in Missouri by 2003.

The site/project completion includes \$64.7 million, down 10% from this year. It would support cleanup of three reactor facilities at INEEL.

The non-defense post-2006 completion request would provide \$139.6 million, up 639% from the \$18.9 million Congress provided those activities in FY-2000. The request would support a program at Los

Alamos National Laboratory to continue accepting and disposing of "sealed" radioactive materials as well as provide long-term surveillance and maintenance at closed disposal sites.

The FY-01 request for defense environmental restoration and waste management would provide \$4.5 billion, up 2% from FY-2000. The account funds site/project completion activities and post-2006 completion cleanup work. The request for site/project completion would receive \$971 million, up 0.4% from this year. The request would support 11 projects at INEEL and allow shipment of 1,160 cubic meters of transuranic waste from the Idaho lab to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico.

The request for the defense post-2006 completion account includes \$3.1 billion, up 4.5% from FY-2000. It would support 21 projects at Hanford, including cleanup and safe disposal of surface contamination along the Columbia River; monitoring, mitigation, and remediation of chemical and radioactive contaminants that have migrated into the vadose zone and groundwater beneath the site. The funds would also support various projects at the Oak Ridge Reservation in Tennessee, the Savannah River Site in South Carolina, the Pantex Plant in Texas, the Nevada Test Site and WIPP.

The EM Office of Science and Technology is also funded in the defense environmental restoration and waste management account. It would receive \$196 million next fiscal year, down 14% from its FY-2000 level.

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management Carolyn Huntoon said Monday the OST request "is not that awful." Huntoon added that OST would have to "do better [with available funding]. ... I completely support it." The program's technology development program has come under fire in recent years from congressional lawmakers for its slow pace in deploying technologies at former nuclear weapons environmental cleanup sites.

The FY-01 request for uranium enrichment decontamination and decommissioning would provide \$303 million, up 21% from FY-2000. The request would fund the cleanup of three gaseous diffusion plants in Piketon, Ohio, Paducah, Ky., and Oak Ridge.

At Paducah, the FY-01 budget request would provide: \$78 million, up \$23.8 million from FY-2000, for cleanup activities; \$23.9 million for uranium hexafluoride conversion and cylinder management programs; \$4.3 million for environmental health and safety studies and health monitoring; and \$3 million for worker transition.

At the Portsmouth plant in Piketon, the request would provide: \$76.2 million for cleanup work, up \$30.1 million from FY-2000; \$27 million for uranium hexafluoride conversion and cylinder management programs; \$4.3 million for environmental health and safety studies and health monitoring; and \$6 million for worker transition.

At Oak Ridge, the request would provide \$273 million, up \$53.8 million from the \$219.2 million Congress provided in FY-2000.

DOE also has identified areas within the EM program that could be accelerated to address additional health and safety-related concerns involving radioactive waste, storage, stabilization of shutdown facilities as well as soils and sediments contaminated with transuranic waste at Paducah and Piketon.

Separately, DOE will seek a \$36.3-million increase for environment, safety and health activities, for a total of \$166 million. The request includes \$17 million to initiate a compensation plan for workers exposed to radioactive and hazardous contaminants at DOE sites.

February 14, 2000

3 of 3

2821

Inside Energy

Pages 8-10

"INEEL, Hanford Privatization Plans Prompt hike in cleanup request"

REQUEST FOR HANFORD TANK CLEANUP MAY LEAD TO SEVEN-MONTH DELAY

DOE's Office of River Protection at the Hanford Site would receive the first funding of its own — \$832 million — under the FY-01 budget request unveiled by the department last week.

Congress established ORP in FY-99 to manage a privatized project at Hanford in which high-level radioactive waste stored in the deteriorating tanks is to be vitrified. Cleaning up the tanks is considered essential to protecting the Columbia River.

The ORP request includes a \$450-million set-aside for the planned vitrification facility, including \$382 million for maintenance of the tank waste program. The set-aside would pay contractor BNFL Inc. in the event of a default of the contract.

ORP Manager Richard French had said previously that the vitrification project needed about \$606 million in FY-01 in order for BNFL to proceed with its plans to design and construct treatment facilities for the tank waste project. The lower request may result in a seven-month delay in the start of construction, French said in a statement last week.

While DOE's request is "considerably less" than what the office had sought, French said he is optimistic that the project remains viable. "While this proposed funding level presents a challenge, the project can and must go forward," he said. "To meet the challenges ahead, we will have to accomplish more work for less costs."

Similarly, a BNFL spokesman said Tuesday the request would allow DOE to meet court-enforceable

milestones in FY-01 under a cleanup agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington Dept. of Ecology.

While a schedule provided by BNFL to DOE in 1998 called for \$606 million for the project in FY-01, the company at the department's urging agreed more recently that \$450 million would be a "prudent and acceptable" figure and one that would help make sure the project stays on track, the BNFL spokesman said.

The request is "very tight and anything less can cause slippage" in the schedule for meeting the project's milestones, the spokesman said. "Overall, the goal is getting the vitrification facilities built and operating by 2007," he added.

Because the request is lower than expected, DOE will have to recoup funding in subsequent years, which will increase pressure for the department then, the BNFL spokesman said. That outlook concerns Rep. Doc Hastings, whose district includes Hanford.

"I'm concerned that the Administration requested the minimum amount to keep the Office of River Protection's privatization project on schedule," Hastings, R-Wash., said in a statement Monday. "I look forward to working with my colleagues in the House to ensure that this funding is maintained to keep cleanup on track at Hanford."

In August, DOE will decide whether to give BNFL the green light to proceed with building the vitrification facilities. But before that decision is made, the contractor must deliver to DOE in April price projections for the activity.

"The privatization contract still appears to be a boondoggle that DOE is unable to justify to Congress," Gerald Pollet, executive director of Heart of America Northwest, an Hanford watchdog group, said in a statement Monday.

"Taxpayers and the nuclear waste cleanup budget would save \$3 billion if the contract did not pay for a British company to borrow money to build a nuclear waste treatment plant at Hanford and promise American taxpayers it would repay debtors if BNFL defaults," said Pollet, who has conducted research on the economics of the contract and testified to Congress on it. "We urge Congress to insist that this contract be changed to save \$3 billion, which is money we need to clean up Hanford before the Columbia River is contaminated."

The BNFL spokesman downplayed Pollet's assertions and questioned just how serious he was about Hanford cleanup. "If we renegotiated the contract, it would add several years of delay to the project. So he really doesn't want to clean up Hanford," the spokesman said. — *Shawn Terry*

000041

February 7, 2000
Weapons Complex Monitor
Pages 7,8

Page 1 Of 3

"Weapons Complex Workers Face Health Risks, Panel Finds"

WEAPONS COMPLEX WORKERS FACE HEALTH RISKS, PANEL FINDS

Workers in the United States nuclear weapons complex have suffered measurable health effects because of work-related exposures to radiation and toxic materials, a strongly worded draft report by the Clinton Administration has found. The draft is the product of a National Economic Council (NEC) study which evaluated a wide range of published and unpublished worker health data, and concludes evidence exists "that current and former contractor workers at DOE nuclear weapons production facilities are at increased risk of illness from occupational exposures associated with the production of nuclear weapons." The study arose out of a July 15, 1999 memorandum from President Clinton indicating the administration's intent to create a program to provide compensation to workers who developed chronic beryllium disease as a result of weapons work (*WC Monitor*, Vol. 10 No. 27). That memo also called for an interagency review to be led by the NEC.

Statistically Significant Excess Cancers

The NEC study is not complete, but the draft now being circulated offers the strongest evidence to date linking weapons work to health damage:

The primary focus of the studies concerning the health status of these workers has been mortality studies. The evidence presented in the studies reviewed by the panel clearly provides strong evidence in the form of statistically significant excesses of specific cancers at a number of DOE facilities. In addition, a number of studies showed statistically significant positive trends by radiation

dose. This evidence, considering that many studies identified excess cancers that did not reach the levels of statistical significance and that several studies did show statistically significant cancer excesses with extended follow-up periods, demonstrates a relationship of work at nuclear weapons facilities and illness. Cancers for which strong evidence exists include lung, brain, bladder, myeloma, leukemia and other lymphatic cancers, stomach, respiratory, laryngeal, and trachea. The identification of excess of some types of cancers at some facilities and other types of cancers at other facilities is not unexpected, based on the vast differences in production processes and thus exposures at the various DOE facilities. Information presented to the panel concerning morbidity studies and medical surveillance programs for current and former DOE contract workers also present significant evidence that these workers have suffered material impairment of health as a result of performing their duties in the production of nuclear weapons.

000042

2821

February 7, 2000

Page 2 Of 3

Weapons Complex Monitor

Pages 7,8

"Weapons Complex Workers Face Health Risks, Panel Finds"

Findings Not Fault-Proof

The panel's draft findings do include some caveats. The worker health studies on which much of the findings are based is in its infancy, and the results are, to some extent, based on self-selection among those who chose to participate. "However, the results presented do provide strong evidence that participating former workers at some facilities have experienced significant health impairment in the form of non-malignant lung diseases consistent with exposures to asbestos and silica," the study found. The panel made the following site-specific findings:

- **Fernald:** Excess stomach cancer among salaried white males; hourly males had higher rates for all cancers combined; link for males to chronic respiratory disease mortality;
- **Hanford:** No difference seen between radiation-exposed and non-exposed workers. Atomic workers had higher rates of multiple myeloma, cancer of the pancreas and colon cancer than the general population;
- **Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory:** Possible link to melanoma.
- **Los Alamos National Laboratory:** A long-range study of plutonium workers found no excess deaths among a group of workers exposed to plutonium during the Manhattan Project. Suicide rates among women radiation workers was high. "This was not related to duration of employment, plutonium exposure, or marital status," the report found;
- **Mound:** Higher rates of a number of cancers, including prostate and rectal;
- **Oak Ridge:** Unusually high death rates found among World War II workers, but "because these workers were not engaged in military service during wartime, it is not possible to know whether or not these conditions reflect occupational exposures or underlying health conditions that would have excluded them from military service." Higher leukemia rates noted at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, but no correlation between the rate and radiation dosage levels;
- **Pantex:** No excess death rates;
- **Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant:** "No cause-specific death rate was greater than expected based on the U.S. general population rates;"
- **Rocky Flats:** Excess rate of "benign and unspecified neoplasm of the brain;"
- **Savannah River Site:** Higher rate of leukemia than the general U.S. population.

000043

February 7, 2000
Weapons Complex Monitor
Pages 7,8

Page 3 Of 3

"Weapons Complex Workers Face Health Risks, Panel Finds"

Politicians Vow to Help

Response to the draft report varied from state to state. In New Mexico, Sen. Jeff Bingaman (D) and Rep. Tom Udall (D) declared they would pursue legislation to compensate ailing workers and, in Washington state, Rep. Doc Hastings (R) declared he, too, would "seek a commitment from the Administration to support our Hanford workers by providing compensation to them and their families if appropriate."

Oak Ridge Workers Skeptical

In Oak Ridge, Tenn., however, former workers balanced their initial satisfaction that the draft report confirmed their long-held belief of a link between their illnesses and their work at Oak Ridge's three weapons facilities with a fear that the government's conclusions may be too limited and may not result in sufficient or timely financial help. "There needs to be some immediate action to provide medical coverage, and some type of financial restitution is just mandatory," said Ann Orick, a former K-25 site employee who suffers from numerous medical problems she blames on her exposures at Oak Ridge. Orick said she and her husband, Mack, also a K-25 worker who's been diagnosed with chronic beryllium disease, have been ruined financially by their health problems. "We've lost everything," Orick said. "We can't even buy our medicine. We need the help of our government."

Window of Opportunity is Small

Sick workers in Oak Ridge are concerned that the support shown by the Clinton Administration is fragile and could erode during the upcoming change of administrations in Washington. "I'm scared to death about that," said Janet Michel of the Coalition for a Healthy Environment, which

represents many former Oak Ridge workers. "Our window of opportunity is very small."

Harry Williams, another veteran of K-25, and his wife Michel, said they hope reviewers won't shortchange workers who've been affected by chemical exposures. A number of Oak Ridge workers have cited health problems related to exposure to heavy metals, such as nickel and mercury. "All we want is an equitable proposal (on compensation) that's not piecemeal," Williams said. "We want every part of the nuclear workforce protected the same."

Community Support Lacking

Orick said she's upset that sick workers at the Oak Ridge facilities have not received more support from the local community. "We have been ignored, shamed and ridiculed," she said. Michel Williams added that elected officials have not offered much help either, refusing to hold face-to-face meetings with sick workers. "What is it going to take for our representatives to be outraged like they are in Kentucky and Ohio?" she wondered. ◀

000044

February 7, 2000
 Weapons Complex Monitor
 Page 10
 "Performance Tracker"

Performance Tracker

This is the first installment of a new, occasional feature of the W/C Monitor. It will offer periodic updates of contractor performance at DOE's major field and operations offices. Information is provided by the contractors and/or the Energy Department, and compiled by Exchange Monitor Publications.

Site	Contractor	Performance Period	Available Fee	Fee Earned	Percentage Earned
Hanford Integrated Management	Fluor Hanford	Fiscal Year 1999	\$42.3 million	\$36.2 million	85.6
Hanford Environmental Restoration	Bechtel Hanford	Fiscal Year 1999	\$10.61 million	\$10.35 million	97.6
Idaho National Engineering & Environmental Laboratory	Lockheed Martin Idaho Technologies	April 1, 1999 to Sept. 30, 1999	\$15.8 million	\$8.36 million	52.9
Rocky Flats	Kaiser-Hill	Fiscal Year 1999	\$14.5 million (regular fee)	\$11.9 million	82
Rocky Flats	Kaiser-Hill	Fiscal Year 1999	\$58 million (superstretch)	\$3.8 million	6.5
Fernald	Fluor Fernald	Fiscal Year 1999	\$17.8 million	\$15.8 million	89
Oak Ridge Environmental Restoration	Bechtel Jacobs	Fiscal Year 1999	\$18.98 million	\$18.5 million	97.5
Savannah River Site	Westinghouse Savannah River	April 1, 1999 to Sept. 30, 1999	\$24.8 million	\$19.9 million	80

NTS LLRW Disposal Volumes

DOE APPROVED GENERATORS	Disposal Location	W/31 38 Dec 89		FY 89 TOTAL		WMP TOTAL			
		No. of Shipments	Volume (Cu. Ft.)	Volume (Cu. M.)	No. of Shipments	Volume (Cu. Ft.)	Volume (Cu. M.)	Volume (Cu. Ft.)	Volume (Cu. M.)
Aberdeen	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	120	3.40
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	71,855	2,091.34
Allied Signal	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	413	11.69
Bachus Nevada	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	235,216	7,228.90
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	26,736	757.08
	Mixed	0	0	0.00	1	1,033	29.25	10,983	311.00
Fernald	Area 3	0	0	0.00	1	1,351	38.26	3,268,833	92,506.82
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	2,673,156	70,031.66
General Atomics	Area 3	0	0	0.00	29	24,325	688.81	735,976	6,682.09
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	1	1,383	39.16	436,573	12,342.35
IT Corporation	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	419	11.86
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	7,883	223.22
LRRJ	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	6,974	197.48
LLNL CA	Area 3	1	1345	38.09	3	4,035	114.26	113,931	3,226.16
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	6	2,483	70.31	40,190	1,138.03
Moand	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	17,459	494.38
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	10	16,667	471.96	1,815,536	51,410.17
Procut	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	10,891	301.40
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	121,138	3,430.24
RMC	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	32,733	1,012.41
	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	4,876	138.07
Rockwell	Area 3	0	0	0.00	6	1,631	46.18	42,874	1,214.03
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	1	827	23.42	51,140	1,448.12
Rocky Flats	Area 5	0	0	0.00	8	15,433	437.01	2,366,387	67,008.51
	Area 3	0	0	0.00	24	56,683	1,604.51	111,684	3,158.87
	Mixed	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	283,372	8,024.19
Sandia Natl Lab. CA	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	2,257	64.76
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	16,513	467.60
Sandia Natl Lab. ND	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	24,679	698.83
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	34,928	703.91
various off-site waste generators	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	69,980	2,547.85
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	31,654	1,094.56
various on-site waste generators	Area 3	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	6,211,495	232,523.26
	Area 5	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	76,338	2,167.31
GRAND TOTAL		1	1345	38.09	96	129,751	3,674.13	20,292,263	574,696.96

Off-site waste received in FY 89 = 128,178 cu. ft., 3,644.88 cu. m.
 On-site waste received in FY 89 = 133 cu. ft., 3.75 cu. m.

Off-site waste comprises approximately 57.6% of the total waste inventory.
 On-site waste comprises approximately 42.3% of the total waste inventory.

000046

2821

January 31, 2000

Inside Energy

Page 3

"DOE CALLS FLUOR DANIEL'S MANAGEMENT OF FERNALD SITE EXCELLENT"

DOE CALLS FLUOR DANIEL'S MANAGEMENT OF FERNALD SITE 'EXCELLENT'

A DOE assessment of Fluor Daniel Fernald Co.'s management of the Fernald Environmental Management Plant in FY-99 found that the contractor "excelled in a number of areas." As a result, DOE awarded FDF \$15.8 million in performance-based fees for the year, a department spokesman said last week.

A Jan. 25 letter from DOE to FDF President John Bradburns said the fee reflects 72.4 points out of 84 points available. In FY-98, FDF earned a \$13-million performance-based fee.

The assessment comes as DOE prepares to seek bids on a new contract to manage FEMP and complete the site's cleanup by 2006. The DOE spokesman said the department expects to issue a draft request for proposals in "early February." FDF, whose existing contract with DOE expires Nov. 30, has said it intends to compete to remain at the Ohio site.

"FDF's performance in the area of safety was excellent in FY-99," DOE official Susan Brechbill said in the letter. She said the contractor's safety record was among the best at the department.

"I appreciate your efforts in support of the Department of Energy and the excellent progress made in accelerating the FEMP cleanup while at the same time maintaining 'best in class' performance in the area of safety," Brechbill said. "I look forward to the achievements and improvements you will make during the next evaluation period."

The department also applauded FDF's efforts in other areas, such as waste-pit remediation and nuclear material disposition.

Among the accomplishments DOE cited were FDF's shipment of 457 railroad cars of low-level radioactive soils and other material from pits at the facility to a disposal facility run by Envirocare of Utah Inc. The department also noted the contractor sent more than 1,200 metric tons of nuclear material to the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, Ohio.

In addition, DOE's evaluation notes that FDF finished shipping Lost of Fluid Test (LOFT) fuel rods and 978 metric tons of enriched nuclear material to BNFL Inc. for disposal in England.

Among other FDF achievements cited by Brechbill were:

- New contracts for the cleanup of a silo containing low-level nuclear waste and for the Accelerated Waste Retrieval Project. Both steps are important in order to complete Fernald's cleanup, she wrote.
- "Excellent" attempts by the contractor to involve the public in decisionmaking at the facility.
- A revised operations plan that led to DOE's decision to downgrade five of eight "category 2 hazard" facilities to "radiological" facilities. "It means that there is less involved as far as inspections and oversight, less maintenance," an FDF spokesman said. "It's really a cost savings."

Brechbill did express concern about the contractor's failure to pass its first Integrated Safety Management (ISM) Review before the fiscal year ended. FDF did not complete by Oct. 1 all of the corrective actions it had identified following a January self-assessment, she said. She added, however, that FDF did pass the safety review by December, though after the assessment period had ended.

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson has required all DOE sites to fully implement ISM by September.

Another DOE concern involves FDF's handling of leaks of low-level waste from FEMP's On-Site Disposal Facility. "DOE, the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency], Ohio EPA and the stakeholders lost confidence in the acceptability of the OSDF leachate conveyance system," Brechbill said. "As a result, the schedule for excavation and placement of waste materials into the OSDF was delayed two months."

"Our fee sends a strong message that we've continued to improve each year and the scale continues to be raised," the FDF spokesman said. "Just as we become better in performing the work, they are more critical as managers. The rating is a good sign. I think we've got to do more work. We got about 89% of the overall fee. But last year we got 78%. We are very pleased." — *Shawn Terry*

000047

January 31, 2000
The Cincinnati Post
Page 6A

"U.S. admits cancer link from Fernald"

U.S. admits cancer link from Fernald

From staff and wire reports

Cincinnati attorney Stan Chesley says he is "very optimistic" that former Fernald workers and their survivors will receive additional compensation for health problems in the wake of a new federal government report.

The government has conceded for the first time that workers at the old Fernald uranium processing plant, as well as employees at other plants around the country who helped make nuclear weapons, were exposed to cancer-causing radiation and chemicals.

The findings that radiation exposure led to higher-than-normal and wide-ranging cancers in workers is detailed in a draft report prepared by the Energy Department and the White House.

"This is the first time that the government is acknowledging that people got cancer from radiation exposure in the plants," said Energy Secretary Bill Richardson. "In the past, the role of the government was to take a hike, and I think that was wrong."

The admission raises the possibility that the government may eventually be forced to compensate families and survivors.

A few years ago, Chesley represented 7,000 Fernald workers who settled a lawsuit against the Energy Department and a private contractor at Fernald, NLO Inc., for \$20 million for



Stan Chesley
emotional distress and medical monitoring.

Toxic work

■ The new government report says 22 different kinds of cancer, including leukemia, Hodgkin's lymphoma, prostate, kidney and lung cancer, were found among 600,000 people who worked at 14 nuclear weapons plants since World War II.

■ The Energy Department and various other government agencies have been compiling data since July after Energy Secretary Bill Richardson's agency concluded that some workers at weapons plants supplying beryllium developed beryllium disease, an incurable lung ailment.

■ President Clinton ordered a broad study that would also look at the effects of radiation and chemical hazards from uranium, plutonium and other substances.

■ The findings come from epidemiological studies performed from as far back as the mid 1960s, including many dismissed by the government when they were published.

■ Other information was gathered from the Energy Department, which now owns the nuclear plants, the Atomic Energy Commission, or their contractors.

■ The report is expected to be completed by March.

Chesley also helped win \$78 million for medical monitoring, emotional distress and loss of real estate values for nearby residents of the plant.

"I'm very pleased the government has finally recognized their responsibility," Chesley said of the new government report. "This is going to be a very, very significant factor in getting more help and compensation for Fernald workers."

"We're going to be looking into it and I'm very optimistic. We purposely excluded pursuing cancer claims (in the previous lawsuits) because we didn't have the scientific support we needed at that time."

"We kept that open for a future time and I think the new government report will give us the scientific data about cancer that we need."

Chesley said he would urge the waiving of any statute of limitations claims that might block compensation.

"If the government is going to have a compensation plan, then

it's obvious that they're going to have to waive any statute of limitations," he said.

Chesley said he felt the previous Fernald lawsuits were instrumental in prodding the federal government to concede that workers at several sites across the country were exposed to cancer-causing radiation.

"Frankly, the focus of Fernald was the premier issue that brought this to the country's attention," he said. "The pressure of Fernald was the great awakening, the catalyst that produced the things that have come since."

Workers at Fernald and similar plants produced a nuclear weapons arsenal that helped the United States win the Cold War over the Soviet Union, but Chesley said it's ironic that they suffered health problems.

"Workers at Fernald were the true victims of the Cold War," he said. "There's no question that America did what had to be done to win the Cold War, but it could have done it safely."

000048

January 30, 2000
The Cincinnati Enquirer
Front page and A-12
"Nuclear workers harmed, U.S. says"

Page 1 of 2

2821

Nuclear workers harmed, U.S. says

'Vindication' for Fernald, Chesley says

The Associated Press
and The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Reversing a position held for decades, the federal government is for the first time conceding that workers at 14 nuclear weapons plants — including Fernald — likely suffered a wide range of cancers because of exposure to radiation and toxic chemicals, officials said Saturday.

Although officials cautioned that any decision was a long way off, they said a compensation package could total tens of millions of dollars for a group that might well include hundreds of families.

The new conclusion comes from the government's most comprehensive review of studies of worker health and raw health data. The review accepts the conclusion of many of those studies, some of them done under contract for the government, that workers were made sick by their exposure.

The finding goes far beyond an acknowledgment by the government last July that one substance handled by weapons

workers, beryllium, had caused some of them to become ill from breathing beryllium dust.

Of the new conclusion, Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said in an interview, "This is the first time that the government is acknowledging that people got cancer from radiation exposure in the plants."

The finding is detailed in a draft report prepared by officials of the Energy Department and the White House with the cooperation of a dozen government agencies.

President Clinton ordered the study in July, when the Energy Department concluded that some of the workers at plants that had supplied beryllium to the government for bomb-making had developed beryllium disease, an incurable lung ailment. The president asked for a broad study that would include the effects of radiation and chemical hazards from uranium, plutonium and other substances.

He also asked the group to develop a policy on compensation, but that work has not been completed.

"I'm very pleased there has been a final vindication of the workers," said Cincinnati lawyer Stanley Chesley, who repre-

(Please see WORKERS, Page A12)

000049

January 30, 2000

The Cincinnati Enquirer

Front page and A-12

"Nuclear workers harmed, U.S. says"

Page 2 of 2

Workers: U.S. admits plants caused cancer

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

sented employees in a 1994 case in which 7,000 Fernald workers settled a lawsuit against the DOE and their former employer, private contractor NLO Inc. for \$20 million for emotional distress, plus medical monitoring.

"When we took them on — Fernald and the Department of Energy — they looked at me and my clients as if we were crazy," Mr. Chesley said.

Also, the 28,000 residents within a 5-mile radius of the Fernald plant in Crosby Township won \$73 million for a life-long program to monitor their health and to compensate them for emotional distress and loss of real estate values. However, no settlement was sought for physical health or cancer claims, Mr. Chesley said.

As part of the settlement in the residents' claim, \$6 million was earmarked for study at the Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta to continue examining effects suffered by residents and Fernald workers, hoping that scientific and medical advances would eventually be able to help pinpoint additional health problems caused by Fernald, Mr. Chesley said.

"My concern is that when we settled the case we exempted out and did not (include) personal injury or cancer

claims" hoping for future medical and scientific advances to be helpful. "Legally, the statute of limitations could pose problems," Mr. Chesley said.

"This is good news for all nuclear workers, and I'm sure the workers will be tickled," said Gene Branham, vice president of the Fernald Atomic Trades and Labor Council, an umbrella group that includes members of various unions at the Fernald facility.

"This indicates that (people) were exposed and, as a result, became sick or ill and some died of cancer and related sicknesses. I hope that the president's study will be fast in coming and conclusive so that the surviving family members (of) ... those who passed away, and those who became sick and those who may become sick, are compensated."

Legislation proposed by Rep. Paul Kanjoraki, D-Pa., whose constituents include some of the beryllium disease patients, calls for payments to an estimated 500 to 1,000 former workers who either have the illness or are at high risk of developing it. Total payments in the beryllium cases could range from \$15 million to \$30 million a year, officials said.

Walt Schaefer of the *Enquirer* contributed to this report.

000050

2821

January 30, 2000
Journal News
Front page and A2
"Fed: Fernald caused illness"

Page 1 of 2

Fed: Fernald caused illness

Disclosure may spur legal deluge

By H. Josef Hebert
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON

Reversing a position held for decades, the government has concluded for the first time that many workers involved in building America's nuclear weapons — including workers at the Fernald uranium processing plant — likely became ill because of exposure to radiation or toxic chemicals, officials said on Saturday.

The findings, based on a review of dozens of studies and raw medical data

covering an estimated 600,000 workers at Fernald and 13 other nuclear weapons sites, could lead to compensation to the families of some of the workers. Many were unaware that they were being exposed to such health risks.

While the draft report of the studies did not show a direct causal link between workplace exposures and specific illnesses, it found that workers at the plants suffered higher than normal rates of a wide range of cancers and clearly were exposed to cancer-causing radiation and chemicals in the workplace.

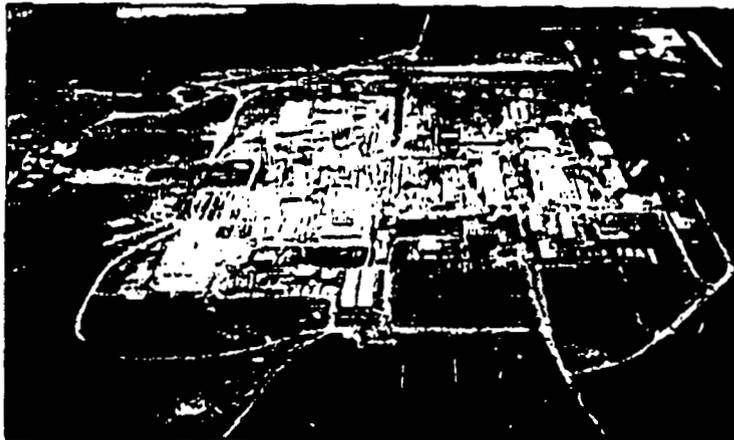
The studies, reviewed by a special task

Inside: Fernald group applauds government's findings. **Page A2**

force, examined health records and other data covering three decades of the Cold War from the late 1940s into the 1980s. An official familiar with the report emphasized it does not relate to workers' conditions today.

But the draft report, which President Clinton ordered last July, marks a reversal in the government's long-standing position that no links exist between work conducted at the Cold War-era weapons plants and later illnesses. That argument has stymied numerous lawsuits seeking compensation.

(Please see RADIATION, Page A2)



Submitted photo

Shown above is an aerial photograph of the Fernald uranium processing plant. Government officials said Saturday there likely exists a link between illnesses of workers involved building America's nuclear weapons and exposure to radiation and toxic chemicals in their work environment.

000051

January 30, 2000
Journal News
Front page and A2
"Fed: Fernald caused illness"

Page 2 of 2

Radiation

(Continued from Page A1)

While the compensation issue has yet to be resolved, the government now is acknowledging that hundreds — perhaps thousands — of workers may well have been made sick by their working environment.

"It does appear that in the DOE complex, there is a direct link between exposure and the possibility of contamination," Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said in Davos, Switzerland, where he is accompanying Clinton at an economic forum.

In an interview with the Associated Press, Richardson cautioned that the findings are preliminary and won't be completed for several months. Still, Richardson said, if the findings are borne out, "The honorable thing for the government to do is to protect its workers, past and present," including compensation.

The report said elevated rates of 22 categories of cancer were found among workers at 14 facilities in the department's atomic weapons complex. They included leukemia, Hodgkin's lymphoma and cancers of the prostate, kidney, salivary gland and lung.

"The exposures we are seeing are in excess" of those in similar population groups, a source familiar with the report said. "We don't know what the cause is, but it's clearly related to exposure there (in the workplace)."

Clinton ordered the review after the Energy Department concluded the government should compensate workers who had developed an incurable lung disease because of exposure to beryllium, a material used in nuclear weapons production.

Richardson and the White House wanted to determine if other nuclear weapons plant

workers likewise should be compensated because of exposure to plutonium, uranium and a variety of radioactive or highly toxic substances. The interagency group reviewed dozens of epidemiological studies, raw health data and other documents, many of which in the past have been dismissed by the government.

The draft report makes no conclusion on compensation, which will be examined in the coming months. Recommendations are likely in the final report. One official said compensation most likely would be to families "in the hundreds, not thousands," although the number at this time remains little more than a guess.

Clinton will use the final report to develop a recommendation to Congress, which is responsible for providing the money.

The draft report's conclusions

were first reported Saturday by the New York Times.

Daniel J. Guttman, an attorney for the Paper, Allied-Industrial Chemical and Energy Workers Union, told the Times the government turnabout was stunning, because for years the government has marginalized the risks to the thousands of weapons plant workers.

In addition to Fernald, the report's findings included workers at plutonium production facilities at Savannah River in South Carolina and Hanford in Washington state; the Rocky Flats plant near Denver, where plutonium was

molded into weapons components; uranium enrichment and processing plants at the Oak Ridge, Tenn., complex; and the Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos national laboratories in California and New Mexico, respectively.

None of the plants still produces nuclear weapons.

000052

January 30, 2000

Journal News

Page A2

"Fernald group hails government findings"

2821

Fernald group hails government findings

By Ryan Weber
Journal News

ROSS TOWNSHIP

The federal government's acknowledgment that workers who helped make nuclear weapons are succumbing to cancer and early death has brought satisfaction to one local group.

FRESH, Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health, has for 15 years represented employees who worked at — and residents who lived near — the former Fernald uranium processing plant. Group member Edwa Yocum of Crosby Township said she is now ready to move forward.

"Now that they have admitted it, we want them to be accountable for their actions," Yocum said on Saturday. "It's

just good to see because they're recognizing there was a problem and that the workers were not protected as they should have been."

A national review of health data from workers at 14 nuclear weapons plants, including Fernald, has led the government to concede for the first time that on-the-job radiation and chemical exposure has led to cancer.

Although such a conclusion seems obvious to some people, Yocum said it's a big step. For one, it should help her 250-member group step up the fight for their neighbors.

"We're looking for more health studies, and now maybe more people will get involved with the medical monitoring program," she said.

The medical monitoring program

serves residents and former employees. It offers free physical examinations, but not treatment.

FRESH has worked closely with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the federal Centers for Disease Control, which found a high incidence of lung cancer in the area surrounding Fernald. Since 1990, three public health studies have been performed.

Armed with this new information, Yocum said she hopes the U.S. Department of Energy might take a new stance on how its sites have affected people's lives.

"They've always denied it in some form and said it can't be," Yocum said. "I think just them recognizing this will give closure to some people. Sometimes just an 'I'm sorry this happened' makes some people feel better."

January 29, 2000
 The New York Times
 Front Page and Page A11
 "U.S. Acknowledges Radiation Killed Weapons Workers"

Page 1 of 3

U.S. ACKNOWLEDGES RADIATION KILLED WEAPONS WORKERS

ENDS DECADES OF DENIALS

Compensation Is Possible for Survivors of Cancer Victims Who Worked on Bombs

By MATTHEW L. WALD

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28 — After decades of denials, the government is conceding that workers who helped make nuclear weapons beginning at the dawn of the nuclear age were exposed to radiation and chemicals that produced cancer and early death.

The new finding — that radiation exposure led to higher-than-normal rates of a wide range of cancers among workers at 14 nuclear weapons plants — raises the prospect of compensation to them. Although officials cautioned that any decision on that was a long way off, they said a package could total tens of millions of dollars for a group that might well include hundreds of families.

The new conclusion comes from the government's most comprehensive review of studies of worker health and raw health data. The review accepts the conclusion of many of those studies, some of them done under contract for the government, that workers were made sick by their exposure.

The finding goes far beyond an acknowledgment by the government last July that one substance handled by weapons workers, beryllium, had caused some of them to become ill from breathing beryllium dust.

Of the new conclusion, Energy Secretary Bill Richardson said in an interview, "This is the first time that the government is acknowledging that people got cancer from radiation exposure in the plants."

The finding is detailed in a draft report prepared by officials of the Energy Department and the White House with the cooperation of a dozen government agencies.

President Clinton ordered the study in July, when the Energy Department concluded that some of the workers at plants that had supplied beryllium to the government for bomb-making had developed beryllium disease, an incurable lung ailment. The president asked for a broad study that would include the

Continued on Page A11

000054

2821

Page 2 of 3

January 29, 2000

The New York Times

Front Page and Page A11

"U.S. Acknowledges Radiation Killed Weapons Workers"

U.S. Acknowledges Radiation Caused Cancers in Workers

Continued From Page A1

effects of radiation and chemical hazards from uranium, plutonium and other substances.

He also asked the group to develop a policy on compensation, but that work has not been completed.

Legislation proposed by Representative Paul E. Kanjoraki, a Pennsylvania Democrat whose constituents include some of the beryllium disease patients, calls for payments to an estimated 500 to 1,000 former workers who either have the illness or are at high risk of developing it. Total payments in the beryllium cases could range from \$15 million to \$30 million a year, officials said.

One question that Congress would have to resolve in the beryllium compensation, and that would have to be addressed in any compensation plan developed as a result of the cancer finding, is whether to make payments to survivors.

In the 57 years since the Manhattan Project began processing radioactive materials to produce bombs, the government has until now minimized the hazards of radiation and chemicals, criticized epidemiological studies that raised related questions and spent tens of millions of dollars in defending itself against lawsuits charging that the bomb plants had made workers sick.

"In the past, the role of government was to take a hike," Mr. Richardson said, "and I think that was wrong."

One expert on nuclear weapons manufacture, Robert Alvarez, a former Energy Department official, welcomed the government's conclusion that many of its critics had been correct.

"A review of the studies by a body impaneled by the president is official recognition," Mr. Alvarez said. "That's what makes this a big deal."

Daniel J. Guttman, a lawyer for the Paper, Allied-Industrial Chemical and Energy Workers Union, which represents workers at 11 weapons factories, said of the draft conclusions, "That's stunning."

"The prior story line is, 'What's the big deal, the risks were marginal,'" said Mr. Guttman, former ex-

ecutive director of a commission formed by the Clinton administration to look into improper radiation experiments using human subjects.

Richard D. Miller, a policy analyst with the union, said the change was remarkable because the Energy Department and its predecessor, the Atomic Energy Commission, had "spared no resources in seeking to defeat claims" by employees who said they had been made sick by radiation or chemicals.

Secretary Richardson addressed a related issue last July, describing the problem of workers employed by private companies that had processed beryllium for weapons use. They could rarely collect worker's compensation, a program geared to injury rather than illness, and in any event their symptoms or diseases frequently did not emerge until years after their employment ended. Also, he said, the contractors who ran the factories for the government argued that the link to the workplace could not be demonstrated.

Mr. Richardson said then that the government should pay for workers made sick by beryllium, a toxic metal, and that radiation and chemical exposures should be studied. That statement led to President Clinton's request for the task force report.

At one site that figured in the report's draft, K-25, a now-shuttered Tennessee factory for enriching uranium, Mike Church, the president of the Energy Workers' local, said, "It would be a start in the right direction, trying to get help for these people, that the government is finally stepping forward."

The industrial process used at the plant exposed workers to radiation and chemical hazards from uranium, plutonium and fluorine. The union says workers at the plant have higher than expected rates of leukemia, cancer of the lung and bladder, vision problems and chronic fatigue syndrome, among other health problems. The draft report, though, says only that workers there show more lung cancer than the population at large. The study does not list another plant that used the same industrial process, at Paducah, Ky., where workers recently learned that their exposure included plutonium as well

000055

January 29, 2000
 The New York Times
 Front Page and Page A11
 "U.S. Acknowledges Radiation Killed Weapons Workers"

Page 3 of 3



Department of Energy

The K-25 uranium plant in Oak Ridge, Tenn., was one of several where workers were exposed to radiation.

as uranium.

The government has the names of workers and former employees who died from cancer or other causes. Researchers using government records have calculated the expected rates of various fatal cancers from such groups. In some cases these rates are drawn from epidemiological studies of general populations, in other cases they are drawn from studies of workers in the weapons complex who have been exposed to lower amounts of radiation.

Among 14 plants, according to the draft report, a total of 22 categories of cancer, ranging from bone to bladder to leukemia, occurred more often than expected.

The cancers listed in the report, most of them fatal, are presumed to be caused by radiation and chemicals, although the report does not address the precise scientific mechanisms and does not clearly divide between chemicals and radiation in some cases.

It also leaves open the question of how to compensate people who worked in the complex and suffered illnesses now found at elevated levels among their co-workers but which may not all be occupationally relat-

ed. It also raises the prospect that workers will get sick in years to come from past exposures. Among the other problems, acknowledged by officials at the Energy Department, is that records of radiation doses and other exposures are poor at many sites.

The cancers were found among nearly 600,000 people who have worked in nuclear weapons production since the start of World War II. They range from leukemia and Hodgkin's lymphoma to cancer of the prostate, kidney, salivary gland and lung. In addition to several other operations at Oak Ridge, Tenn., where K-25 operated, the draft also says that elevated cancer levels were found at Savannah River in South Carolina and Hanford, in eastern Washington State, where plutonium was manufactured; Rocky Flats, near Denver, where the plutonium was shaped into weapons components, the Fernald Feed Materials Center, near Cincinnati, where uranium was processed, and at the Lawrence Livermore and Los Alamos national laboratories.

Some of the findings are drawn from epidemiological studies performed from the mid-1980's onward,

some of them disavowed by the government at the time they were published. Others are from data gathered by the Energy Department, which now owns the plants, its predecessor the Atomic Energy Commission, or their contractors. None of the research was done specifically for this study, which is due to be finished in March.

The report does not sum up the cancers, but a senior government official familiar with its contents and preparation, said in an interview that "my guess, we could be talking about hundreds of cases, in a population of hundreds of thousands."

But Mr. Alvarez said that the number of victims would depend on how many diseases are linked to radiation; if, as some epidemiologists believe, radiation damages the human immune system and thus leaves people vulnerable to a wide variety of diseases beyond those cancers usually associated with radiation, then the number could rise to the thousands.

The draft, however, explicitly states that the scientific questions of causation were outside the task force's mandate.

000056

January/February 2000

Radwaste Solutions

Pages 30-34

"BORED BOARD? Membership and Motivation in Site-Specific Advisory Boards"

Page 1 of 4

2821

Bored Board?

Membership and Motivation in Site-Specific Advisory Boards

In hopes of having meaningful and peaceful public dialog, the DOE established a network of citizen advisory boards at its nuclear activity and cleanup sites. To achieve success, members of these boards must maintain open minds, work together, and keep the lines of communication open and flowing.

By Richard G. Telfer

Each year, the U.S. Department of Energy pours hundreds of thousands of dollars into a program that seeks community input in those areas where nuclear activities were carried on because of the Cold War threat. Twelve such sites exist today—some in closure mode, others in weapons production slowdown, while still others are in a receiving situation, accepting radioactive materials classified as waste.

The site-specific advisory boards (SSABs), also known as community advisory boards (CABs), were established by a charter of the DOE Office for Environmental Management (EM). Following is the mission of these bodies of volunteer citizens:

1. Advise the DOE on the process, content, public participation, and other policy aspects of the EM environmental restoration, waste management, and technology development activities.
2. Issue reports and recommendations.
3. Recommend opinions to resolve difficult issues faced in the EM program, including site-specific cleanup criteria, risk assessment, land use, priority setting, management effectiveness, cost/benefit analysis, and technological strategies for waste management and disposal facilities.

The Challenges

The challenge offered by the charter is seen somewhat differently by each of the existing boards because of the differences in geography of the areas, type of facility,



Four Fernald CAB members listen to a discussion of transportation issues. (Photo courtesy Fluor Daniel Fernald.)

mission, and residuals remaining onsite as the result of the years of production. No two groups will have the same concerns, although there are overlapping commonalities throughout the complex. These sites, scattered from east to west and north to south, dictate many of the issues for which solutions must be found.

While the DOE facilities were in full swing and hundreds or thousands of people were employed, little thought was ever given to what problems might exist once things came to a halt. Once the word was out that shutdown had been ordered, citizens in these and neighboring communities became concerned over the thought of radioactive materials being left onsite or moved to other locations, as well as the potential for groundwater contamination, transportation issues, and matters of health and human safety. Protest groups sprang up in many areas. It was in hopes of having meaningful and peaceful dialogue that the DOE

000057

established this network of citizen groups. To facilitate the working of the SSABs, funds have been made available for providing secretarial assistance, printing materials and mailings, necessary equipment, office space, and travel as well as meeting space rental. In some cases, specialists have been hired to handle some of the management, facilitation, and technical duties deemed necessary to support the work of the volunteer board members.



Included in the May 1999 Site-Specific Advisory Board Workshop on Transportation were opportunities to view trucks used to haul LLW, various types of waste shipping containers, and a demonstration of global positioning system (GPS) tracking. (Photo courtesy Fluor Daniel Fernald.)

At the onset board members were faced with factors that would influence much of their action. Even today, after several years of functioning, some of the same factors still exist:

- Size and mission of the site.
- Proximity to populated areas.
- Nature of the work done while operational.
- Amount of radioactive materials to be handled.
- Potential for reuse as an industrial site or park.
- Available water supply.
- Availability of safe transportation routes.
- Quality and amount of labor supply.
- Community attitude toward the DOE.

A Diverse, Representative Membership

The type of board membership that should be sought continues to be a challenge, as members constantly face both old and new problems. Over the years, sites have found that their board makeup may have lacked balance or was not representative of the whole area and that some members had hidden agendas that hampered smooth operation. It is vital to the operation of all boards that there be a balance or cross section of the community or area represented.

Where should the membership committee be turning for sources of potential members? Consider the following as potential sources:

- Labor unions.
- Environmental groups.
- Health and safety organizations.
- Long-time area residents.
- Civic clubs and organizations.
- The educational environment (both students and teachers at all levels).
- The religious community.
- Individuals with an interest.
- Minority groups.

- Business and political leaders.
- Professional groups or organizations.

Regardless of how well the selection process is followed, every effort should be made to objectively select candidates for consideration based on how well they match the guidelines set forth for a diverse membership. A balanced outlook is essential for an effective board, one that is able to meet the challenge before it.

A common concern among boards is the membership dropout rate,

a condition that greatly reduces the ability of the board to accomplish its goals. Potential members must be advised regarding the work of the board and the demand placed on their time (not only the monthly meetings, but committee assignments, travel, and local demands for presentations). Many have found the demand on their time to be too onerous and dropped off the board. Some have said, "If I had only known what was involved, I would have withdrawn my name from consideration." The obligation to honestly present the true picture of service as a CAB member falls on the shoulders of the selection committee. They may, in fact, be the most important committee on the board.

Committees and subcommittees seem to present a problem for many boards in that too many exist without a mission, and the demand on member time for committee participation becomes a major burden. There is nothing wrong with a committee/subcommittee structure. At different times, some will be active while others may be inactive, depending on the issues being pursued by the board. However, members do have lives beyond the CAB, and this must be recognized by the leadership. Attempting to have members serve on too many committees dilutes the effectiveness of both the member and the committees. From time to time, a DOE representative may come to the SSAB requesting input on a draft Record of Decision or environmental impact statement awaiting submission to headquarters. At such times, temporary committees can be formed to review the documents, make comments, and move back to the scheduled work in progress. Flexibility is important to the smooth running of the organization.

Setting the Agenda

What issues to tackle often becomes a real stumbling block for a given SSAB. DOE site managers set forth

of the countless concerns within the community. Residents living close to a potential shipping route for radioactive materials have different worries than those living miles away. An alert board will respond to community requests for a particular presentation and will work hand-in-hand with community leadership to facilitate such events.

Several approaches to getting the message out to the community about upcoming events and imparting factual information include these:

- Establish a speakers bureau.
- Hold open houses at the nuclear facility.
- Have a constant flow of stories in the newspapers.
- Invite the media to meetings and special events.
- Sponsor workshops for the public.
- Focus on education at all levels.

The more the public learns about the ongoing site activities, the greater the understanding and support for present, as well as future, activities will become evident. It is important to be aware that people want to be included in the decision-making processes that affect their lives. Being allowed to voice an idea or question a statement from a local, state, or national official lets

Each SSAB is faced with a wide range of concerns as expressed by those who believe that they have suffered because of the years of nuclear activity.

people know that they are respected and that their ideas are important. Even negative views should be welcomed in good faith. No segment of local society should be bypassed.

A clue that the monthly meetings are not interesting those in attendance is when people get up and leave during a presentation or disappear at the break time. In an attempt to prevent such behavior, consider the following:

- Develop a realistic agenda.
- Set a time limit—two hours seems to be well received.
- Welcome guests.
- Keep the meeting on schedule and keep it snappy.
- Limit the length of presentations and allow for questions.
- Provide for a short break.
- Allow for citizen comments and record expressed concerns.

The business portion of many meetings often is of little interest to the public because of long meaningless discussions and bickering over minor points of order or wording of a statement. The basic work of preparing issues for presentation to the entire board for action should be done in the administrative committee meeting and gone over carefully to avoid potential

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An NTS CAB meeting, with a presentation to community members on groundwater contamination. (Photo courtesy IT Corp.)

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conflict during the public meeting. The quickest way to destroy public confidence in the ability of a board to carry out its mission is to show open dissension among board members at a public meeting. A productive business meeting is well planned and well managed.

The problems at individual sites—because of their size, the nature of the work that took place for many years, the topography of the land, and the relationship of the site to neighboring facilities—have an impact on the decisions that are being made at a national level. Having an understanding of what other SSAB members are facing helps the visiting board member appreciate the magnitude of the complexwide activity. Attending a meeting of another board has untold benefits for the visitor. It may reinforce what is already under way back home, or it may provide new approaches that could stimulate new excitement. The productivity of such visits is greatly enhanced when a report is presented to the home board. Such reports need not be extensive, but they can do much to stimulate visits by other members to other facilities.

Being Creative

Issues often come to the attention of boards that are beyond their charge. An example is the issue of the Yucca Mountain project in Nevada. Countless citizens in attendance at NTS board meetings want to discuss the Yucca Mountain project. Though of interest to most of the board members, it is not an issue related to the NTS, and thus it is not open to discussion. In an attempt to honor such public interest, however, the NTS board has, at times, invited a project staffer from the Yucca Mountain site to provide an update of activities taking place there. Such action by the CAB is an example of being responsive to the wishes of the public, while at the same time remaining focused on its responsibility.

The quickest way to destroy public confidence in the ability of a board to carry out its mission is to show open dissension among board members at a public meeting.

As a means of stimulating interest and understanding among boards at different sites, three of the sites have sponsored workshops attended by representatives from all boards. The first, dealing with low-level waste, was hosted by the NTS board and held in Las Vegas. Fernald sponsored a transportation seminar in Cincinnati. The most recent meeting, dealing with stewardship, attracted board members to Oak Ridge. In preparation for these workshops, each board devoted time to develop position statements related to the topic of the workshop, based on the problems of their individual site. Such activities help individuals to broaden their understanding of the many issues being faced by waste management personnel. Dialogue among the several sites has increased as the result of these workshops. Constant communication is another step in increasing the total effectiveness of the SSAB concept. Recognizing the value of such workshops, other sites are considering presentations on other critical topics.

Members can also learn much from attending national industry meetings, such as the Waste Management meetings held yearly in Tucson or the Beneficial Reuse meetings sponsored by the University of Tennessee. Visiting with experts in the field, viewing exhibits, and listening to a wide selection of presentations goes a long way in making a nontechnical board member more aware of the vastness of nuclear technologies. Such participation should be the goal of each board. Members should be encouraged to submit abstracts for papers they would like to present. Every such activity helps the membership grow and be better prepared to meet their local responsibilities.

Site visitations by individuals are an important phase of board work and should be encouraged. Until board members have a chance to tour another site, attend one of that site's board meetings, and report back to their local groups, it is virtually impossible to get a feel for the problems faced at other sites. The complexity of each of the sites can be appreciated only by actually walking the ground, viewing the production facilities that must be removed, talking with workers, and meeting with management teams.

Active and Effective

The challenges before the SSABs are staggering, but each board has the ability to achieve its mission in ways that it determines to be best at a given time. Board emphasis may change when new members join, when a new chair is selected, or when DOE leadership sees the need for a new direction.

Building board effectiveness takes time and can be accomplished by considering some of the ideas presented herein. As the saying goes, "Rome wasn't built in a day," and the environmental problems related to nuclear issues will not be solved overnight. The key to achieving effective SSAB membership is to maintain open minds, work together, and keep the lines of communication open and flowing.

Richard G. Telfer is a former chair of the NTS Community Advisory Board; a retired career educator, he consults on nuclear issues.

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