

**Fernald Community Reuse Organization Meeting  
November 17, 1998**

**OPENING REMARKS**

CRO Chair Dave McWilliams introduced new CRO member Christie Williams. Williams works for Butler County Economic Development. Mike Keyes, president of the Fernald International Guards Union of America Local 14, was also appointed to the CRO but did not attend the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES**

The CRO passed a motion to approve the October meeting minutes with no changes.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

CRO Treasurer Sharon Cornwell reported that as of November 17, the CRO's current assets are \$38,555.80, with \$6,435.73 in checking and \$32,120.07 in savings.

**DOE REPORT**

Mike Jacobs, DOE Public Affairs, reported that the Final Land Use Environmental Assessment Responsiveness Summary and NEPA Finding of No Significant Impact should be issued for public review after the first of calendar year 1999.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Steve Depoe, UC Center for Environmental Communications Studies, showed the Living History Project video and presented a letter to the CRO requesting that it fund a feasibility study for the development of a cultural/educational center at Fernald on the 23-acre area.

Joe Schomaker commented that the Living History Project is only one of several elements that DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald are currently considering for some type of interpretation or museum center. Schomaker recommended that before the CRO agree to the feasibility study, the group should make sure any studies are timed and coordinated with Fernald cleanup plans and site discussions on a potential museum center. McWilliams said the CRO will need some time to consider the Living History Project's request before making a decision.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT'S REPORT**

Curt Paddock said that the funding scenario for community transition continues to be questionable. He recently learned that Paducah and Portsmouth will not have to go through the competitive process for funding since they have a greater impact on their local economies than other sites, such as Fernald.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Curt Paddock reported that there is a possibility that the site may need to use soil and clay from the 23-acre area if the quantity and quality of materials from the borrow area (on the other side of Fernald's Willey Road entrance) do not meet specifications. The CRO discussed this issue and agreed to send a letter to Jack Craig stating that if DOE must take soil and clay from the 23-acre area, then DOE should restore the area to a reusable condition for the community.

Marie Haney, UC Economics Research Group, discussed the results of the "Economic Impact of Fernald on the Greater Cincinnati Economy." The CRO funded the study to use in developing its Community Transition Plan. The study results are based on data provided by DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

Haney reported that from 1997 to 2008, Fernald's total annual economic impact on the Greater Cincinnati economy will decline by 81 percent -- from \$735 million in 1997 to \$136 million in 2008. The Greater Cincinnati industries that will benefit most from Fernald's operations are construction, business services, real estate, retail trade and health services.

Haney provided copies of the report to the CRO. Copies will also be placed in the Public Environmental Information Center.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The CRO started to discuss setting priorities for the economic development program options, but decided they needed more focused time on this subject and additional information. Prior to the next meeting on December 1, Curt Paddock will develop performance measures to help the group rank the programs. The December 1 meeting will focus exclusively on setting priorities and ranking the economic development program options, which will be the foundation of the Community Transition Plan.

**MEETING DATES ESTABLISHED**

The December 1 meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. at the Ross High School Media Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned around 8:30 p.m.