

A Look Ahead . . .

A publication for Fernald stakeholders

Demolition Projects update

Decontamination and Dismantlement (D&D) activities continue in Plant 6, the former Metals Fabrication Plant. As a result of a bankruptcy filing, NSC is no longer the contractor for the Plant 6 D&D Project. The contract has been assumed by MACTEC, the current contractor for the Plant 5 D&D Project. MACTEC began interior dismantlement in Plant 6 and will continue interior equipment removal and transite removal over the next few months.

D&D work continues on the former Industrial Relations Building (28B) and Security Building (28A). Wise Services completed structural D&D of 28B earlier this month and plans to complete D&D of 28A and the turnstile area in late September. Ongoing work includes shearing of the structure and loading of the material and debris into roll-off boxes. The contents of the boxes will be placed in the On-Site Disposal Facility. The project is expected to be completed in mid-October. For more information on D&D Projects, visit the Web site at www.fernald.gov/cleanupproj/d&d.htm, or contact John Trygier, DOE-FEMP D&D project manager, 513-648-3154, email: john.trygier@fernald.gov.

Area Restoration Update

The Area 8, Phase II Restoration Project that began in the spring of 2000 located in the northwest corner of the FEMP will begin fall planting the first week of October. The placement of approximately 2,300 seedlings and over 500 shrubs will complete the restoration of Area 8 and will satisfy the requirements of the Natural Resources Area 8, Phase II design plan. For more information, visit the Web site at www.fernald.gov/cleanupsupport/natural_resources/natres.htm, or contact Eric Woods, Fluor Fernald, 513-648-5268, email: eric.woods@fernald.gov.

Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) Meetings

In October, the FCAB will institute changes to its existing meeting schedule. The full FCAB will meet once every month except in August and December. The Stewardship Committee will continue its assigned tasks related to long-term stewardship and public access, but the Remediation Committee will not formally meet in the future. Topics related to this committee will be discussed as needed at the full FCAB meetings. October meetings include: Saturday, October 14 — Full FCAB meeting, and Thursday, October 19 — Preparation for Site-Specific Advisory Board Workshop on Stewardship, scheduled for late October in Denver. For more information, contact Tisha Patton, 513-648-5277, email: tisha.patton@fernald.gov.

Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO) meeting

The Fernald CRO will meet on Tuesday, October 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Ross High School media center. For more information on the Fernald CRO, contact Curt Paddock, CRO economic development consultant, 513-527-3150, email: paddockmgt@aol.com.



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September 25, 2000

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Fernald Cleanup Progress Briefing

The Fernald Cleanup Progress Briefing is Tuesday, October 10, at 6:30 p.m. in the Services Building conference room at the Fernald site. DOE and Fluor Fernald project managers will discuss the status of the Silos Project. For more information, contact Gary Stegner, DOE-FEMP Public Affairs Officer, 513-648-3153, email: gary.stegner@fernald.gov.

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Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

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August 1, 2000

Dear Friend:

I appreciate your effort to contact us regarding our efforts to establish a Federal compensation program for Department of Energy (DOE) workers who have health problems resulting from employment at a DOE facility. I am sorry we could not write to each of you personally, however, I want to provide you with a brief status report on this important initiative.

As of today, we are still working with the Congress to craft a final program, and key decisions are yet to be made. For this reason, there is little we can tell you about whether you or your family member would qualify for benefits in the proposed Federal program. As you may know, this effort began last year when President Clinton proposed to provide compensation to current and former DOE contract employees with chronic beryllium disease. In April, we announced the Administration would expand its proposal to cover DOE workers with other work-related illnesses. As a result, the Congress is currently working on legislation. The Senate has adopted an amendment to S. 2549 proposed by Senator Thompson of Tennessee and Senator Bingaman of New Mexico, entitled the "Energy Employees Compensation Act of 2000." This legislation, if enacted, would expand the proposed compensation program to include not only former workers who are victims of beryllium disease, but also workers with chronic silicosis and certain radiation-related cancers at all DOE sites.

So until legislation is passed, it is hard to tell who may ultimately qualify for benefits under the proposed Federal program. In the meantime, we have established the DOE Office of Worker Advocacy to help qualified current and former contractor employees get information on obtaining benefits through state workers' compensation programs. This Office will also help Federal workers with qualifying occupational illnesses make claims to the U.S. Department of Labor for benefits under the Federal Employees' Compensation Act.

If you have additional information you would like to share with us, including changes in address or phone number, please contact the Office of Worker Advocacy at our toll-free number 1-877-447-9756. Information regarding the proposed legislation is also available via the Internet at <http://www.eh.doe.gov/benefits/>. We will continue to do our best to keep you informed of developments in this area.

Sincerely,

David Michaels, PhD, MPH
Acting Director
Office of Worker Advocacy
Environment, Safety and Health



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