2000 Annual Report

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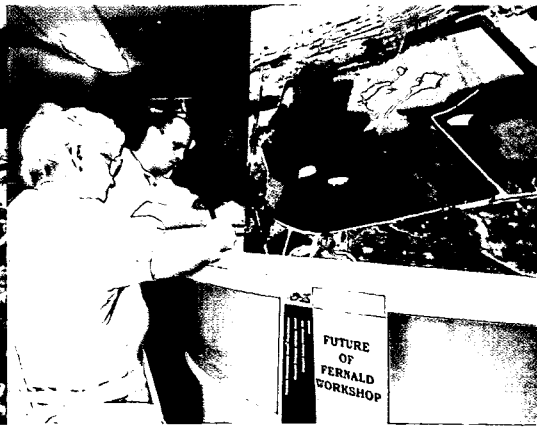
FERNALD

Environmental Management Project

Path to Closure



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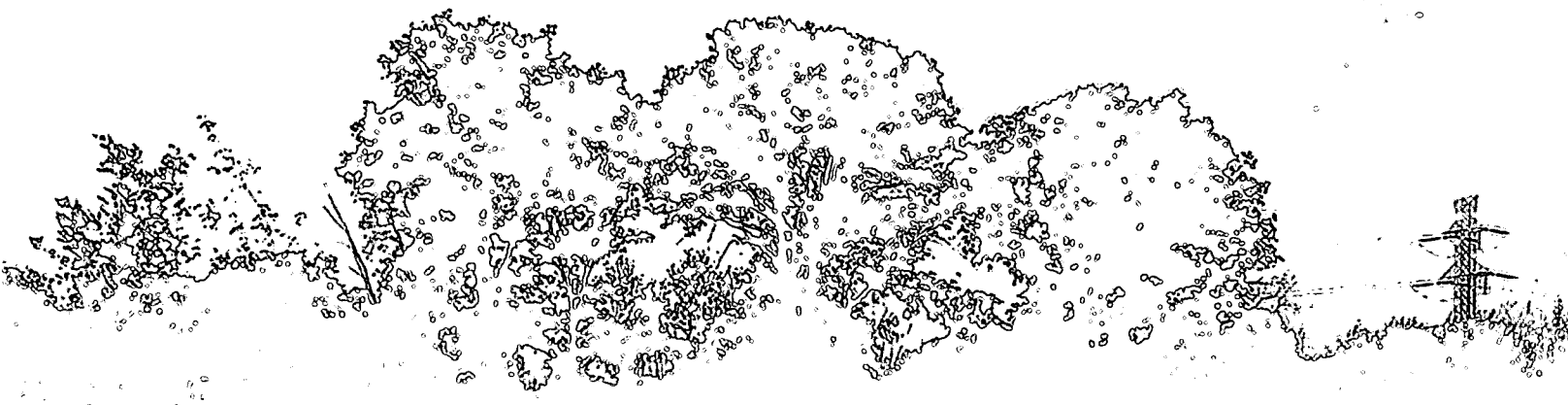
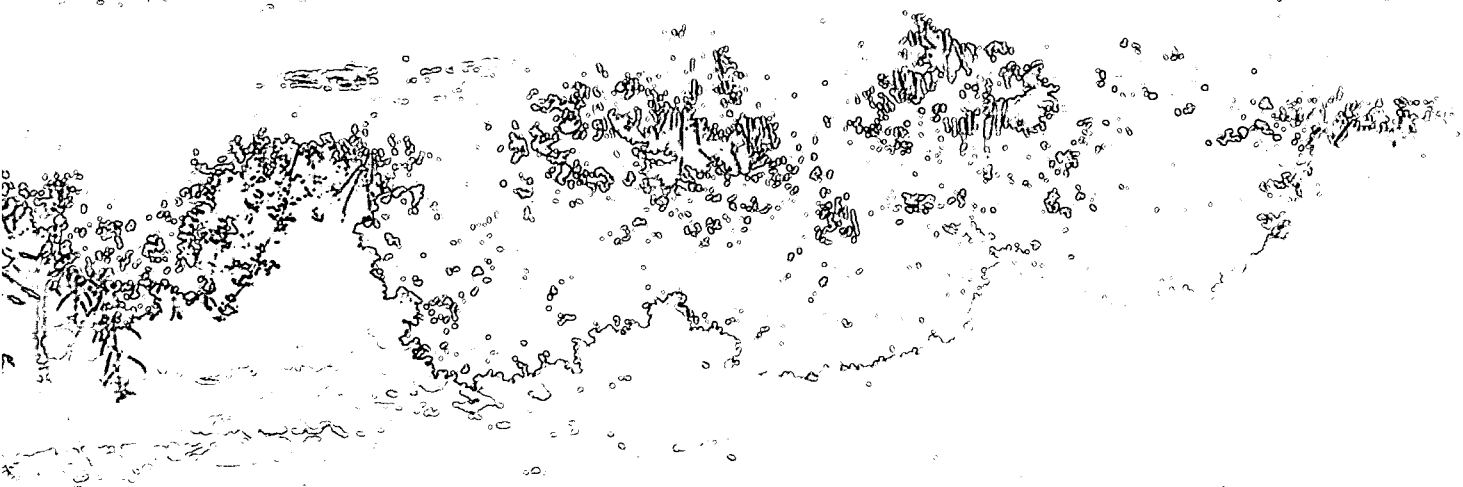
Path to Closure





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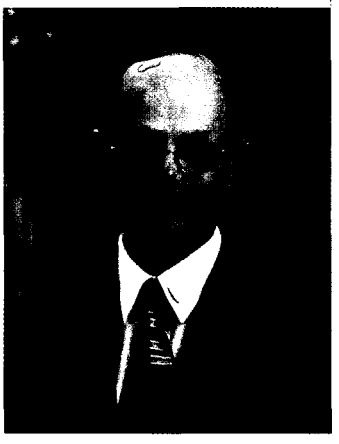
Fluor Fernald

Message from Steve McCracken and John Bradburne



Steve McCracken

John Bradburne

For Fernald, 2000 was a year marked by change. It was the last year of Fluor Fernald's original contract to manage cleanup with the Department of Energy. During the re-bid process, both parties did an admirable job balancing the cleanup work and new contract efforts. As a result of the visible progress being made at the site, DOE awarded Fluor Fernald a closure contract to achieve site cleanup by 2010, or sooner.

Safety continued to be the primary focus of our work as we worked toward 7 million hours and almost 700 days without a lost time accident. Our construction subcontractors maintained their safety record of eight years without an accident.

Our fieldwork is progressing at a steady pace with 20 unit trains leaving for Envirocare last fiscal year. We have taken down a dozen more buildings including the former Security Building, bringing the total number of demolished structures to 90. We completed placement of waste in Cell 1 of the On-Site Disposal Facility and continued to treat billions of gallons of contaminated water from the Great Miami Aquifer. Fernald and our stakeholders reset the path forward for treating waste in Silos 1 and 2 by selecting chemical stabilization as the preferred treatment method. Stakeholders are also helping determine the future use and access requirements to the site once cleanup is complete.

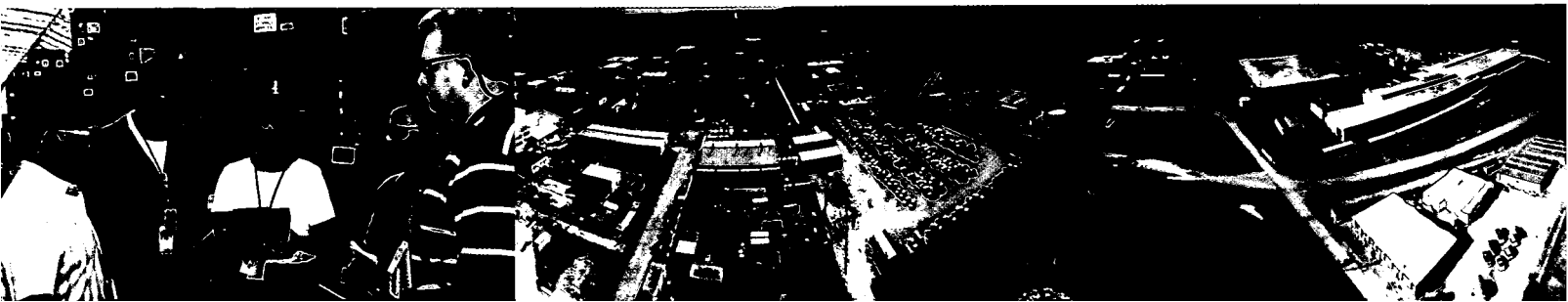
This past year was a good one for Fernald employees, the regulators and our stakeholders. A new closure contract means more progress as we look for innovative ways to accelerate the cleanup and deliver the most value possible to the project. We look forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

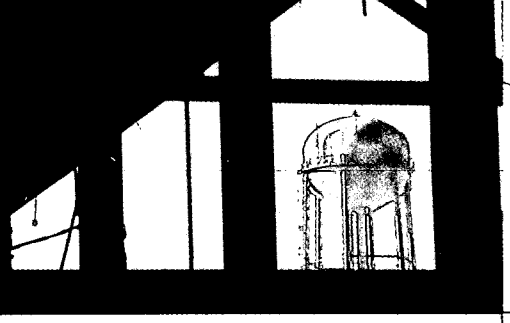
Stephen H. McCracken
DOE-Fernald Director

John C. Bradburne
Fluor Fernald President and CEO

The cleanup work already complete is truly impressive, as is the amount of work left to be done. We invite you to take a look.

Overview





Overview

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Of course, the big news at Fernald in 2000 was DOE's award of a closure contract to Fluor Fernald. That award would not have been possible if Fluor had not earned the support of the site's employees, stakeholders and regulators by making visible cleanup progress.

During 2000, employees achieved significant progress on the following projects:

- Waste Pits Remedial Action Project
- Soil and Disposal Facility
- Decontamination and Demolition
- Silos Project
- Aquifer Restoration
- Waste Generator Services

The Waste Pits Project safely excavated and transported 125,000 tons of pit material, via unit trains, to the Envirocare disposal facility in Utah. The On-Site Disposal Facility reached designated capacity of Cell 1, while continuing to fill Cells 2 and 3. The Decontamination and Demolition group demolished 12 site structures, bringing the total number of demolished buildings to 90. Fluor Fernald also awarded a subcontract for the demolition of Plant 6. The U.S. and Ohio EPAs approved the Silos 1 and 2 *Proposed Plan and Revised Record of Decision*, paving the way for the removal of nearly 9,000 cubic yards of radioactive waste.

Last year, the Aquifer Restoration Project extracted 1.42 billion gallons of water from the aquifer, treated 1.17 billion gallons and re-injected 361 million gallons of treated water back into the aquifer. Waste Generator Services shipped 130,341 cubic feet of low-level waste to the Nevada Test Site and more than 1,550 metric tons of uranium to the DOE site in Portsmouth, Ohio, supporting the Uranium Management Division at DOE-Oak Ridge in Tennessee.

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Fernald management continues to work closely with regulators and stakeholders, while keeping the health and safety of workers, the community and environmental protection as top priorities.

Other accomplishments at Fernald during 2000 include winning the "Closing the Circle" award by recycling more than 1,000 tons of contaminated copper wire and windings from cleanup operations.

Fernald management continues to work closely with regulators and stakeholders, while keeping the health and safety of workers, the community and environmental protection as top priorities. As we head down the path to closure, we pause to take stock of our progress and outline our plans for the future. This report provides an assessment of our progress during the past year, summarizes the site's major projects and highlights some of our other accomplishments. The cleanup work already complete is truly impressive, as is the amount of work left to be done. We invite you to take a look.

"This contract allows Fernald to continue an accelerated pace of remediation and provides our neighboring communities with a safe, efficient and thorough cleanup."

–Steve McCracken, DOE-Fernald Director.

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DOE Awards Closure Contract To Fluor Fernald

DOE awarded a closure contract for the Fernald Environmental Management Project to Fluor Fernald on Nov. 20, 2000. The ten-year, cost reimbursable contract is valued at $2.4 billion. The contract was the result of visible cleanup progress and sound management, as well as solid stakeholder, employee and regulator support.

Based on anticipated annual funding of $290 million dollars, the cleanup is officially slated for completion in 2010, but DOE has challenged Fluor to bring forward its best ideas for schedule acceleration. According to Fluor Fernald President and CEO John Bradburne, the company's goal is to achieve site closure, without compromising safety or quality, well ahead of the 2010 deadline. Fluor is committed to involving stakeholders and employees in determining the best way to accomplish this goal.

To mirror its focus on closure, Fluor reorganized its management structure to highlight the importance of completing certain critical path projects, particularly Nuclear Material Disposition and the Silos Project. Two of the site's top priorities will be eliminating the inventory of nuclear material and treating the waste in the Silos. The accomplishment of each of these tasks will be a huge step closer to the ultimate goal of site closure.

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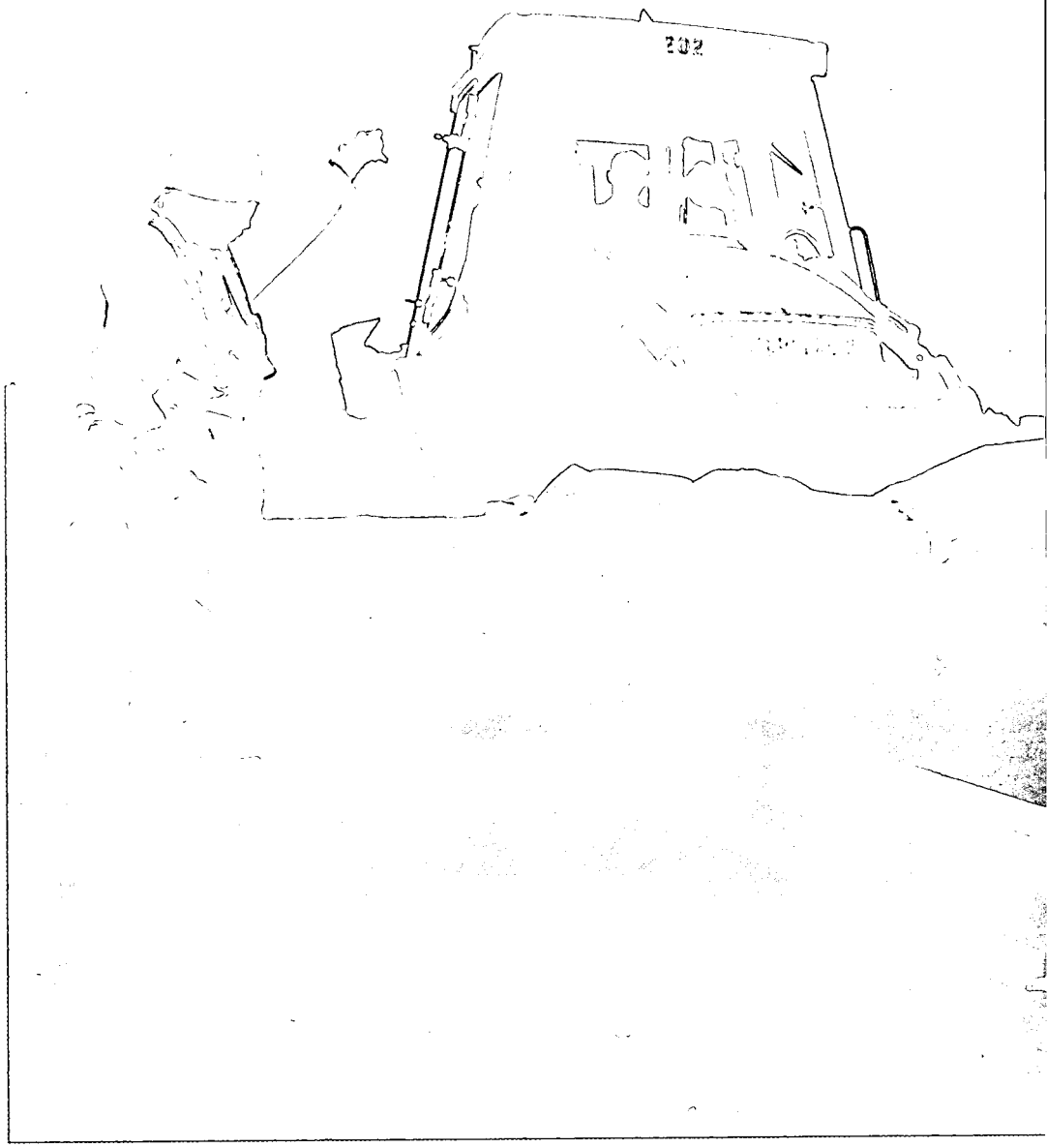
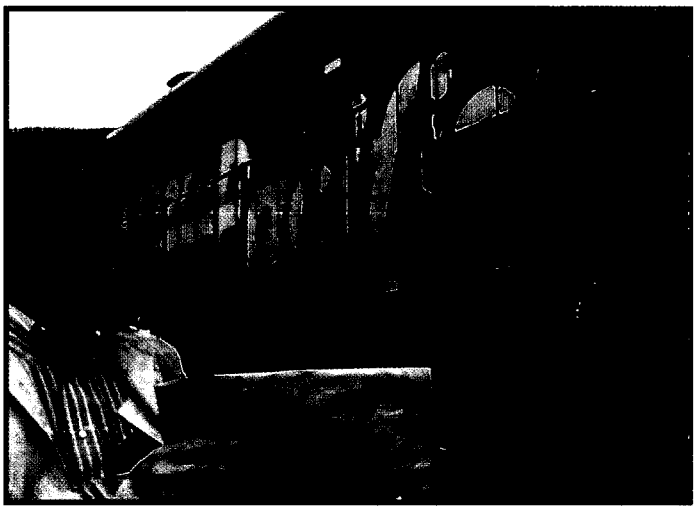
Cleaning up approximately 1 million tons of waste stored in six pits varying in size from a baseball diamond to a football field is an enormous task.



2000 Cleanup Progress

Waste Pits Remedial Action Project

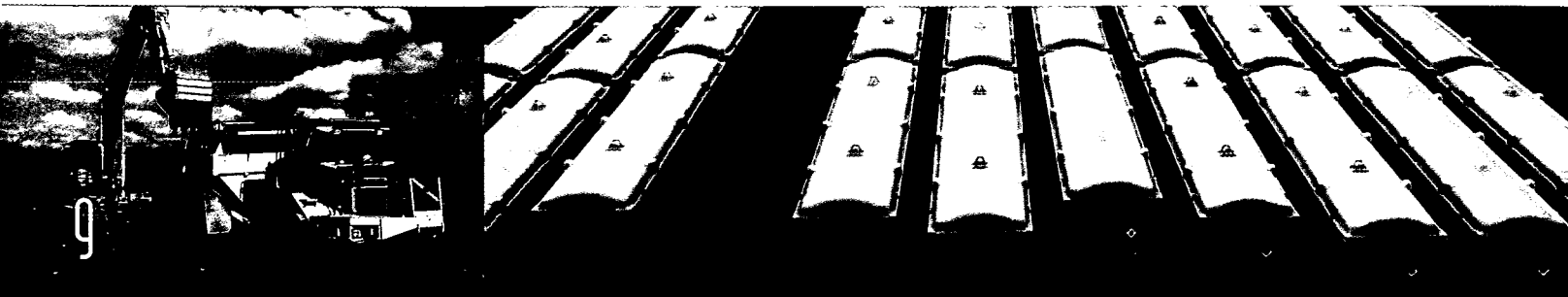
Cleaning up approximately 1 million tons of waste stored in six pits varying in size from a baseball diamond to a football field is an enormous task. The Waste Pits Project is very complex and relies heavily on the skills and collaboration of its team. The team — DOE, Fluor Fernald and IT Corp, — combines best commercial practices with trained workers who are familiar with site safety requirements and operating procedures. During its first full year of rail shipments, the team excavated approximately 30 percent of the waste from pits 1 and 3, and safely transported more than 125,000 tons of pit material via 20 unit trains to Envirocare, a commercial disposal facility located in Utah. A unit train consists of 55-60 gondola cars each carrying 100 tons of material.

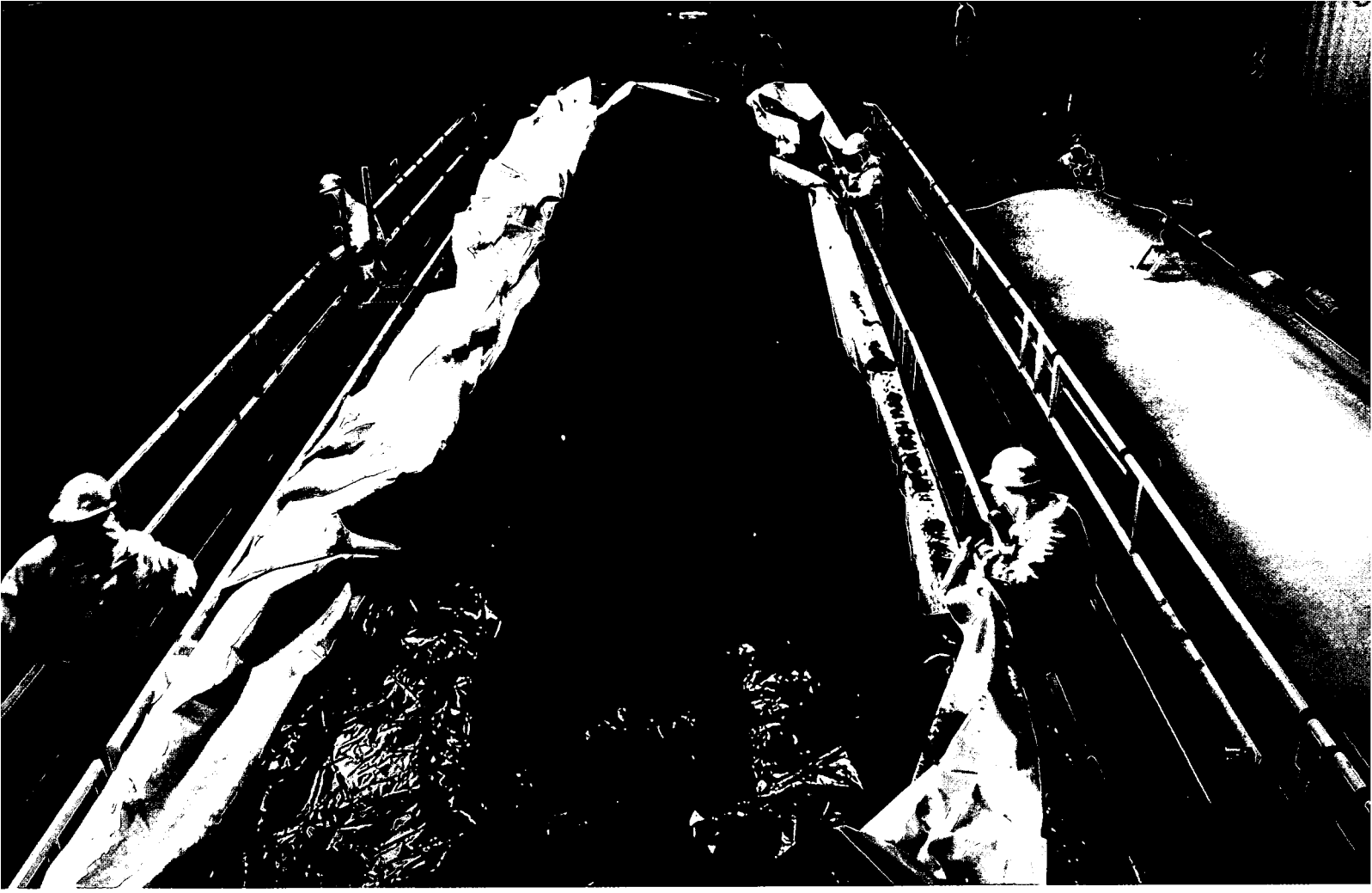


Every rail shipment the Waste Pits team completed last year was compliant with the disposal facility's acceptance criteria. This level of excellence was unmatched by any other customer.

The project is the largest rail operation within the DOE complex. It uses 170 gondola cars, maintains a rail yard with 11 holding tracks consisting of more than three miles of rail, and operates three locomotives to move the railcars within the project boundaries.

To meet the disposal facility's waste acceptance criteria, the pit material is screened for moisture content and radiological levels. Based on this evaluation, the material is blended and/or treated by thermal drying. Prior to loading into railcars, the material is sampled to ensure it meets the waste acceptance criteria.





Last year, the project brought two indirect rotary dryers on line and processed more than 35,000 tons of material through these thermal dryers. Off-gas from the drying process is treated by the Gas Cleaning System prior to release into the atmosphere to ensure that air emissions criteria are met. A significant portion of the material associated with the Waste Pits Project does not require thermal drying.

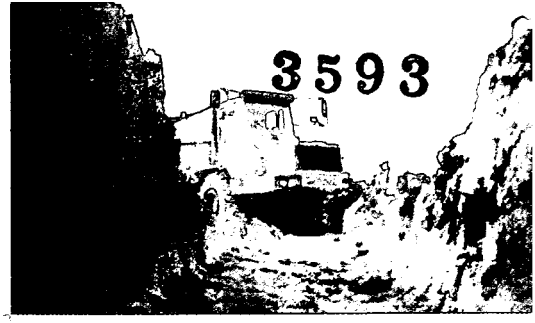
The Waste Pits Project team earned a Tri-Star Award from Fluor Corp. for achieving 350,000 consecutive safe work hours without a lost time accident. The team also received two safety awards from IT Corp: the President's Award for 1,000 days without injury or lost time and a quarterly Corporate Safety Award for zero vehicle accidents, recorded injuries, or lost time.

The Waste Pits Project is scheduled to complete excavation, processing, and loadout of pit materials in 2004, and decontamination and demolition of equipment and treatment facilities in 2005.

Soil and Disposal Facility Project - 3593

The Soil and Disposal Facility Project achieved a major milestone in 2000. Workers filled Cell 1 of the On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) to capacity by placing the last of 314,000 cubic yards of material into the cell. When the OSDF closed for the winter season, Cell 2 was 51 percent filled and Cell 3 was 23 percent filled. The construction of as many as four more cells is expected before the OSDF is complete. Each cell will be approximately 400 feet by 800 feet and have its own leak detection and leachate collection systems. In the future, workers will build a nine-foot thick cap over Cell 1. Since 1997, nearly 600,000 cubic yards of impacted material has been placed in the OSDF.

The Soil and Disposal Facility Project also began construction of the Permanent Leachate Transmission System. The system will collect leachate from the OSDF and transfer it to a treatment facility. Each cell will have its own valve house easily accessible for year round sampling and monitoring.



Throughout the year, Soil and Disposal Facility Project employees completed other important activities, including: stockpiling enough clay to cap Cell 1; certifying 15 percent of the site as attaining approved cleanup levels; and completing excavation of the Southern Waste Units to design grade. Site soil excavation totaled over 302,000 cubic yards, which is more than 23,000 truckloads.

With public input, DOE and the Natural Resource Trustees agreed to restore 884 acres of the 1050-acre site back to its natural state. The trustees are responsible for planning that will enhance existing natural resources and restore disturbed areas. Last year, the team planted more than 1,500 trees, 1,400 shrubs and 2,000 seedlings at the site. Fernald engineers are implementing a series of projects to accomplish natural resource restoration efficiently during the cleanup, including the restoration of a 20-acre section located at the northwestern corner of the site.

With public input, DOE and the Natural Resource Trustees agreed to restore 884 acres of the 1050-acre site back to its natural state.

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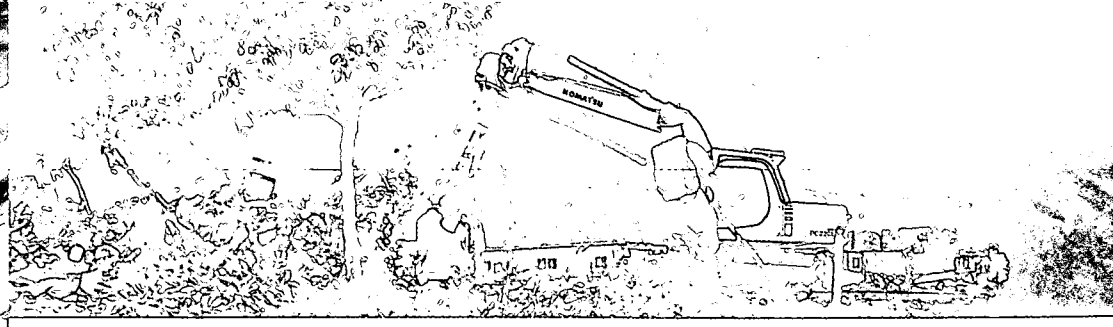

Decontamination and Demolition

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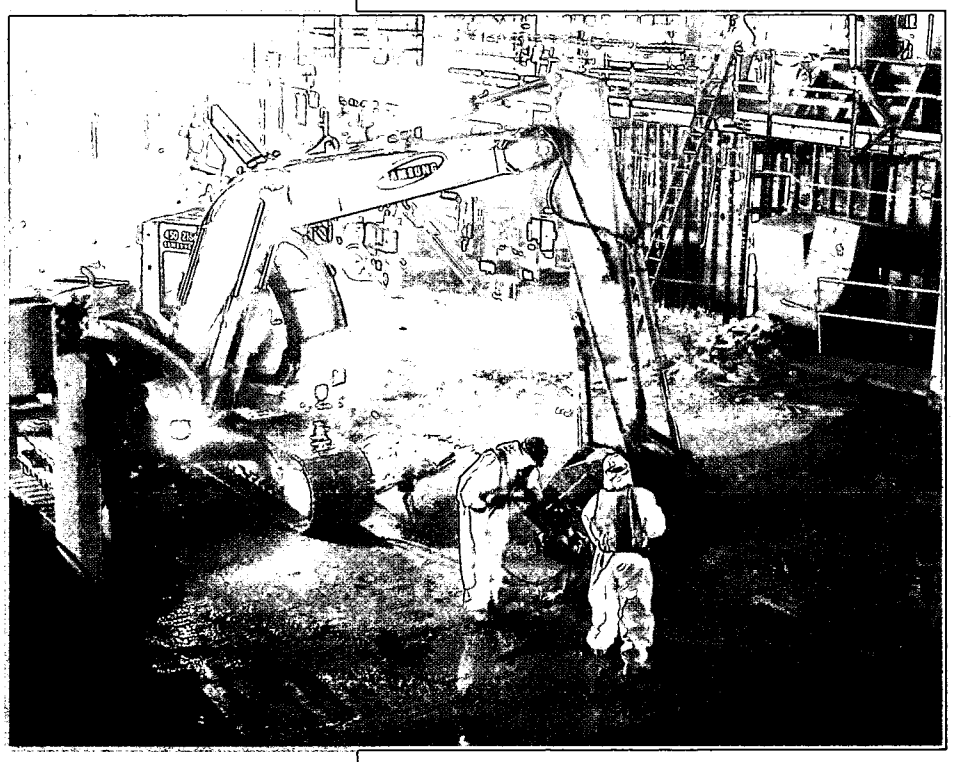
When Fernald completed its uranium production mission in 1989, the process lines and equipment in many production facilities still contained quantities of raw, intermediate and finished uranium products. In 1996, the EPA and the DOE signed a Record of Decision to decontaminate and demolish the former production facilities.



When the site began meaningful decontamination and demolition (D&D) work in 1994, DOE and Fluor Fernald identified 250 structures for eventual demolition. In the last six years, 90 of those structures have been demolished, with 12 coming down in 2000. Every structure Fernald demolishes changes the skyline and is a visible demonstration of the site's commitment to closure.

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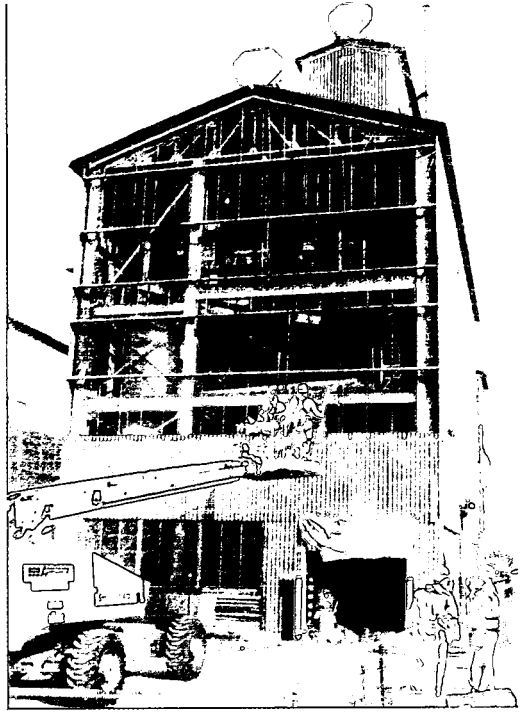


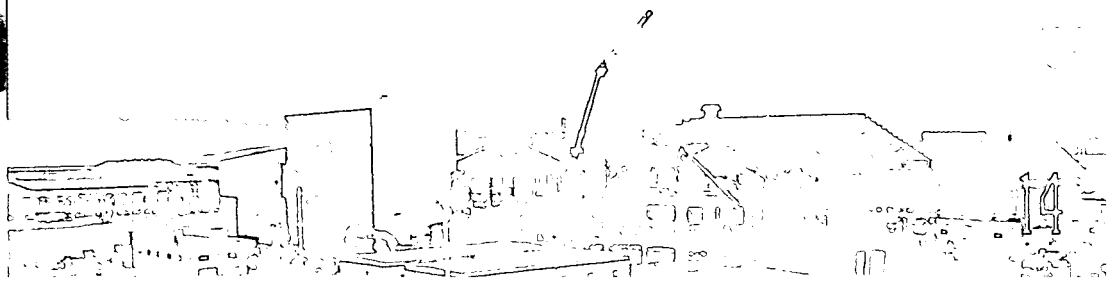
In an ongoing effort to dismantle the site's major structures, one of the most visible changes in 2000 was the demolition of the former Inspector General/Industrial Relations Building and the Security Building. These were the site's first administrative buildings to be demolished.

Another important achievement was the safe shutdown and dismantlement of four uranyl nitrate hexahydrate solution tanks located just south of the Plant 1 pad. Each tank measured 10 feet in diameter and was nearly 30 feet long.

MACTEC, Inc., the subcontractor responsible for completing the demolition of Plant 5, the former Metals Production Plant, and Plant 6, the former Metals Fabrication Plant, continued to perform work safely and on schedule. Plant 5 is scheduled for completion in April 2001, and Plant 6 should be complete by the end of 2001.

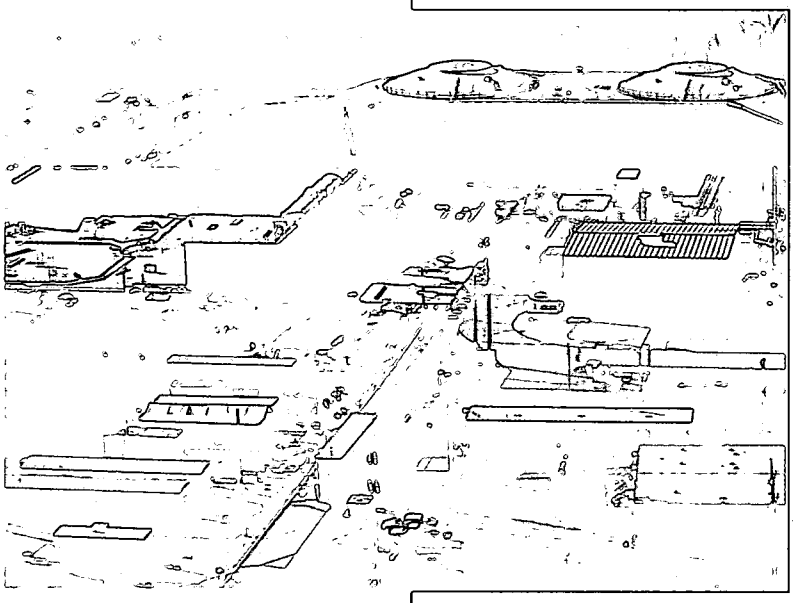
"The demolition of the Industrial Relations and Security Buildings is significant because it clearly shows we're making progress in the overall scope of the site's remediation. The majority of past D&D work has taken place in the former production area, but now the progress is clearly evident as soon as you get on site."

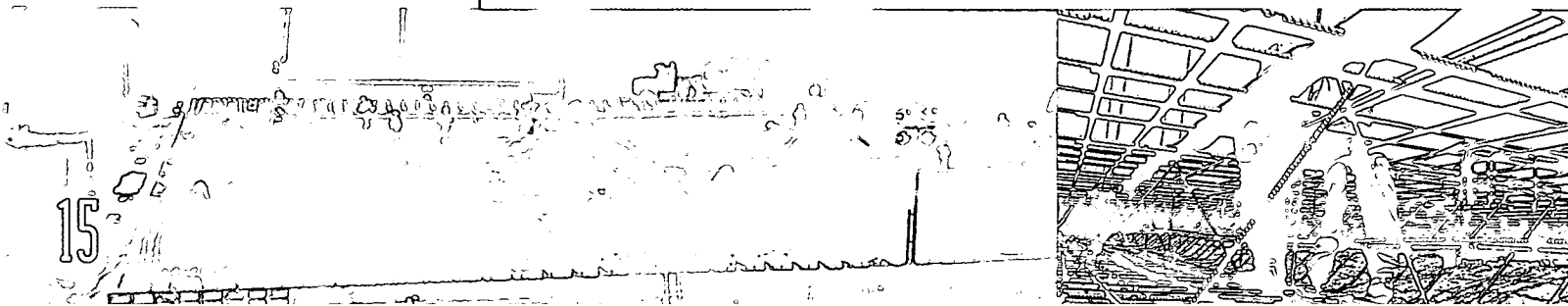
–Johnny Reising
DOE-Fernald Associate Director.

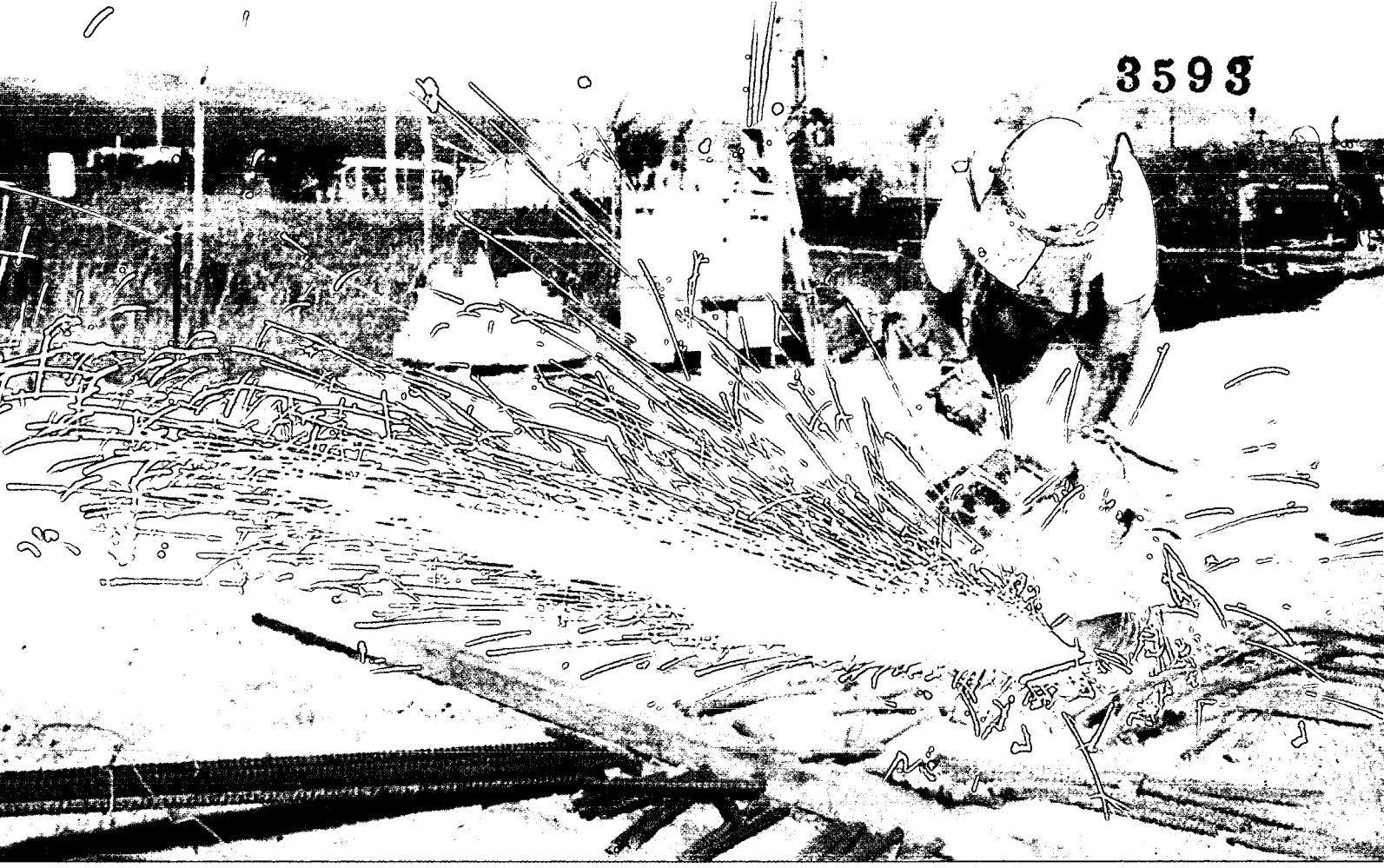


Silos Project

Throughout most of 2000, stakeholder involvement and preliminary construction activities were at the forefront of Silos Project activities. After a series of public meetings and hearings at Fernald and in Nevada regarding the treatment of the materials in Silos 1 and 2, the U.S. and Ohio EPAs approved the *Proposed Plan and Revised Record of Decision* in July, nine months ahead of schedule. The approval paves the way for the removal and treatment of nearly 9,000 cubic yards of radioactive waste stored in Silos 1 and 2. The waste, which consists of radium- and thorium-bearing residues from the refining of pitchblende uranium ore, will undergo chemical stabilization before it is safely shipped to the Nevada Test Site for disposal.





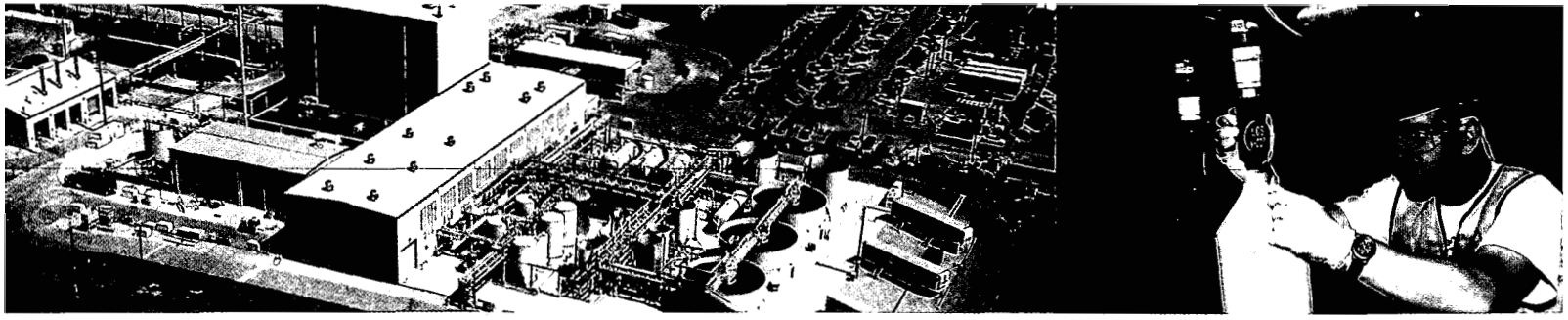


Most of the Silos Project fieldwork was focused on Accelerated Waste Retrieval where workers completed construction of three concrete pads east of Silos 1 and 2 known as the Transfer Tank Area. Employees also began work on the Radon Control System and Air Handling and Electrical Buildings. All construction activities support plans for the removal and placement of Silos 1 and 2 waste in four carbon steel tanks for safe storage. The 750,000-gallon tanks will be placed on one concrete pad, while the other two pads will support the air handling and radon control systems. Regulators are still reviewing the Remedial Design Package for the project with approval expected in early 2001.

In 2000, personnel also began construction of the gantry structure over Silo 3, which will be used to retrieve the waste inside the silo, and completed construction of the Interim Storage Area Pad where waste will be stored temporarily prior to shipment.

"Safely removing, treating and shipping waste from the Silos is clearly our biggest challenge at Fernald. Ultimately, this project will determine the closure date for the site."

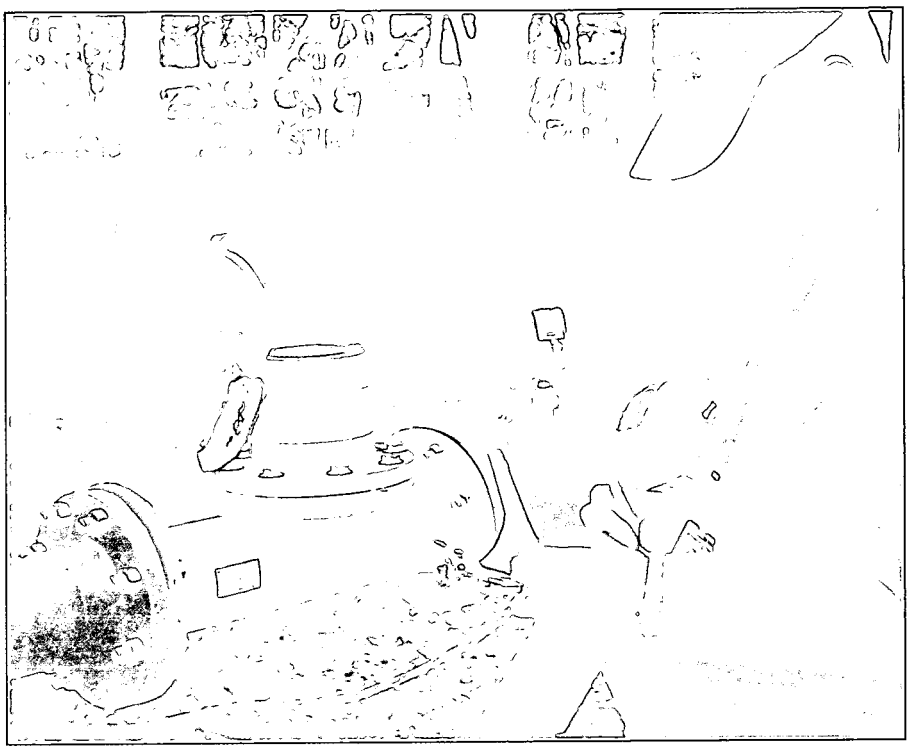
-Dennis Carr
Fluor Fernald, Executive Vice President



Aquifer Restoration 3593

The mission of the Aquifer/Wastewater Project team is to restore approximately 220 acres of the Great Miami Aquifer contaminated by past Fernald processing operations and to collect and treat site remediation wastewater and storm water. During FY2000, employees extracted 1.42 billion gallons of water from the aquifer, treated 1.17 billion gallons and re-injected 361 million gallons of treated water back into the aquifer. Since pumping of the aquifer began in 1993, Fluor Fernald has extracted more than 7.5 billion gallons of groundwater.

The premise behind groundwater re-injection is fairly simple. Workers remove contaminated water, treat it and then inject the treated water back into the aquifer. This influx of treated water enhances the flow through the aquifer and pushes contaminated water toward the extraction wells where it is removed. After a year-long demonstration, the U.S. and Ohio EPAs agreed re-injection should accelerate aquifer restoration by seven years and approved the technology as a viable part of the cleanup remedy. Coupled with other site remediation acceleration efforts, full remediation of the aquifer should be accomplished nearly 17 years earlier than originally predicted. Fernald's re-injection program is the largest in the DOE complex and continues to attract interest from across the country.



Most of the water extracted or pumped passes through the Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWWT) facility, which has a treatment capacity of 2,900 gallons per minute. This treatment is accomplished through an ion-exchange resin system. Last year, Fluor Fernald made significant progress in improving the efficiency of the process for regenerating the resins used to remove uranium. This regeneration process allows the resin to be reused rather than discarded.

As site remediation moves forward and areas such as the former production area and the waste storage area become accessible for groundwater characterization, the scope of the Aquifer Restoration/Wastewater Project will change. Initial results from sampling in the waste pits and former process area indicate the contaminated plumes beneath these areas may be smaller than originally anticipated. Using re-injection technology, aquifer restoration is expected to be complete in 2008.

Coupled with other site remediation acceleration efforts, full remediation of the aquifer should be accomplished nearly 17 years earlier than originally predicted. Fernald's re-injection program is the largest in the DOE complex and continues to attract interest from across the country.

Waste Generator Services

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"Employees throughout Waste Generator Services have commented that the safety culture at Fernald has caused them to have a better safety attitude at home, both for themselves and for their families."

–Grady Calhoun
Fluor Fernald Safety & Health

When it comes to cleanup and closure of the Fernald site, safe transportation and disposal of nuclear material and low-level radioactive, hazardous and mixed waste are critical components. Under the balanced disposal strategy endorsed by DOE, Fluor Fernald, regulators and stakeholders, smaller volumes of more highly contaminated waste, as well as nuclear product materials left from the production era, are transported off site for disposal or interim storage. Larger quantities of less contaminated waste remain at Fernald for placement in the On-Site Disposal Facility.

Safe shipment of waste and nuclear product materials requires a tremendous team effort. During 2000, Fernald transported approximately:

- 130,341 cubic feet of low-level waste to the Nevada Test Site;
- 14,947 gallons of liquid mixed waste to the Toxic Substance Control Act Incinerator in Oak Ridge, Tenn.;
- 384,642 net pounds of non-radioactive recyclable materials and 6,486 fluorescent lamps to various vendors for recycling;
- 4.6 million net pounds of nuclear product/material to DOE's Portsmouth, Ohio facility; and
- 2,034 cubic feet of hazardous waste to Envirocare of Utah, Inc.

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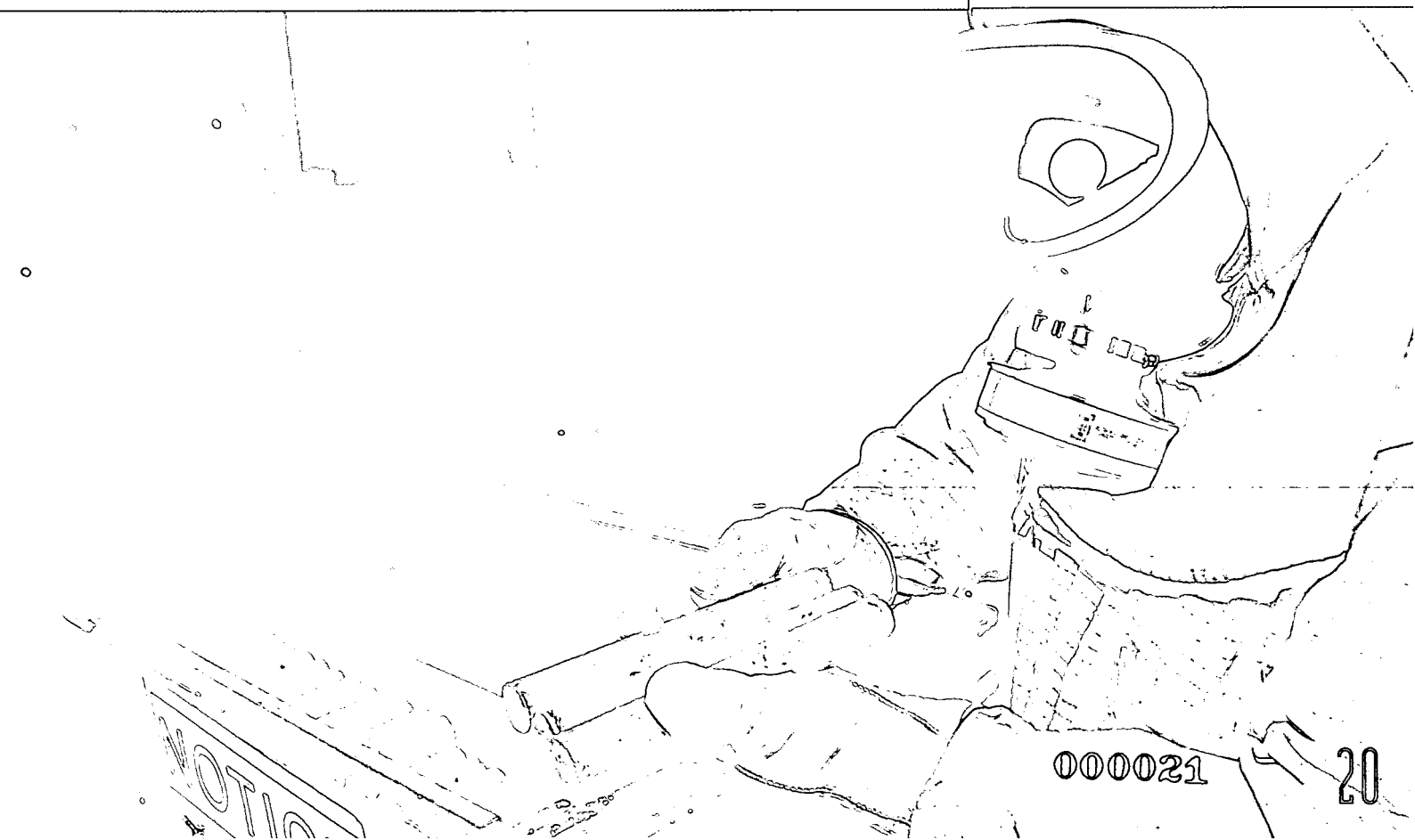
In addition to waste and material shipping activities, the team:

- Prepared an additional 256,085 net pounds of nuclear product material for shipment;
- Transmitted seven analytical data packages to DOE for remaining material streams under consideration for shipment to Portsmouth;
- Prepared and transmitted a Consent Package for private sector sale of selected nuclear materials;

Perhaps most importantly, all Waste Generator Services activities were performed safely. The division earned four Fluor Tri-Star awards for safety excellence in 2000. Each award represents 100,000 hours without an Occupational Safety and Health Administration recordable injury and a personal commitment to safety on the part of both workers and management.



Technology Programs

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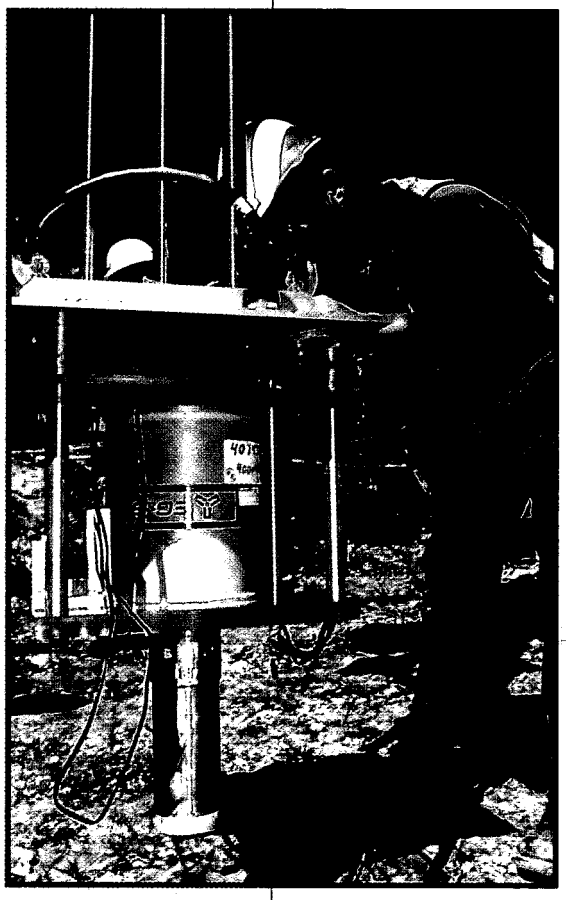
Fernald's Technology Programs Department completed 16 deployments of the Personal Ice Cooling System and the Oxy-Gasoline Torch to other DOE sites and universities across the nation in 2000. The deployments resulted in safer work conditions and increased efficiency as users realized the value of this technology.



The Cloverleaf Alpha Track Detector was deployed to monitor radon and thoron concentrations around the silos, waste pits and former process area. The new one-of-a-kind detector, made possible by DOE's Office of Science and Technology Basic and Applied Research Program, was a direct deployment from the lab to the field. Some of the proven benefits of the 150 deployed detectors are their durability, reasonable cost and ability to provide reliable, accurate research-quality data.

Technology Programs promoted Fernald's commitment to working safer, faster and cheaper by presenting a display at the "Strength through Science" exhibit in Washington D.C. The Ohio Field Office display featured Fernald's Real-Time Soil Characterization

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Integrated Technology Suite and Groundwater Re-injection Demonstration along with technologies from other Ohio sites. Lawmakers also had the opportunity to watch short video clips of the Vec-Loader vacuum, the RTRAK and implosive dismantlement techniques for large facilities.

Fernald's post closure stewardship technology needs were addressed in a two-day meeting hosted by the Ohio Field Office in conjunction with the Office of Science and Technology. Almost 200 stakeholders, technical experts, regulators and other interested participants reviewed lessons learned from other DOE cleanup sites, explored regulators' and stakeholders' perspectives and expectations, discussed challenges and learned about the current status and path forward of long-term stewardship.

"Once cleanup is complete, the peace of mind our neighbors will have each time they drive past the site, knowing that we have the best possible technologies in place to continuously monitor the air, water and soil, will be the true measure of our performance."

–Susan Brechbill
DOE-Ohio Field Office Manager

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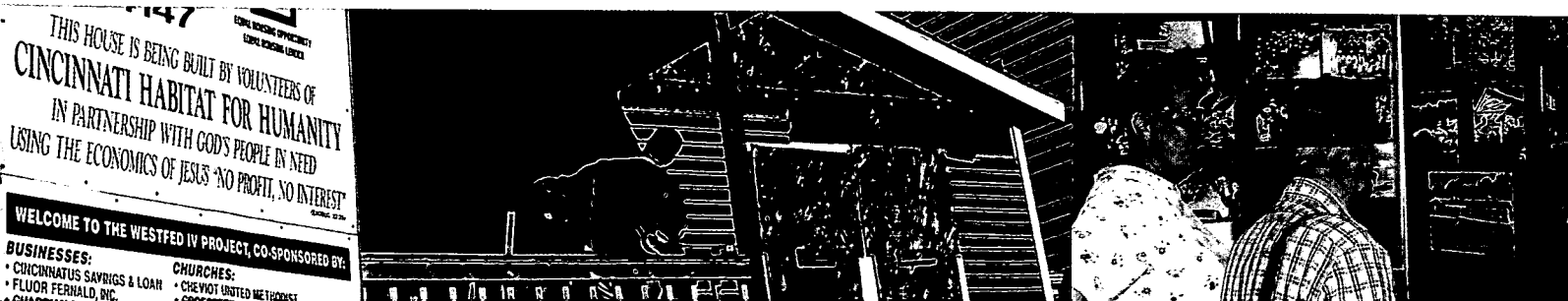
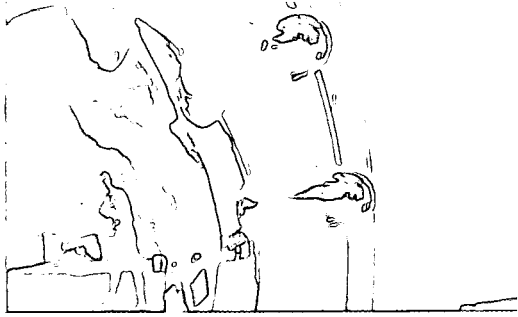
Through education partnerships, community involvement, financial support and citizen participation, Fernald demonstrates its commitment to being a good neighbor.

Other Notable Notables





"Closing the Circle" Award

Fernald, the Oak Ridge Operations Office and the Ohio Field Office won a place on the White House's annual Closing the Circle award's list for a collaborative recycling project involving more than 1,300 tons of contaminated copper wire and windings from cleanup operations. The award recognizes federal efforts resulting in a significant impact on the environment. The recycling project was one of six awards DOE won. The committee received more than 200 nominations from 16 federal agencies.

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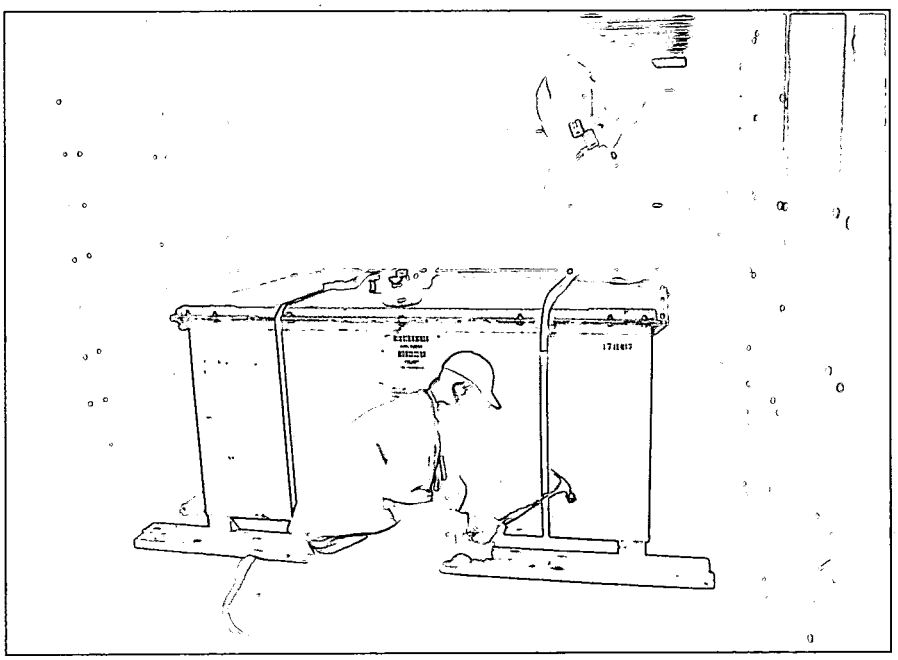
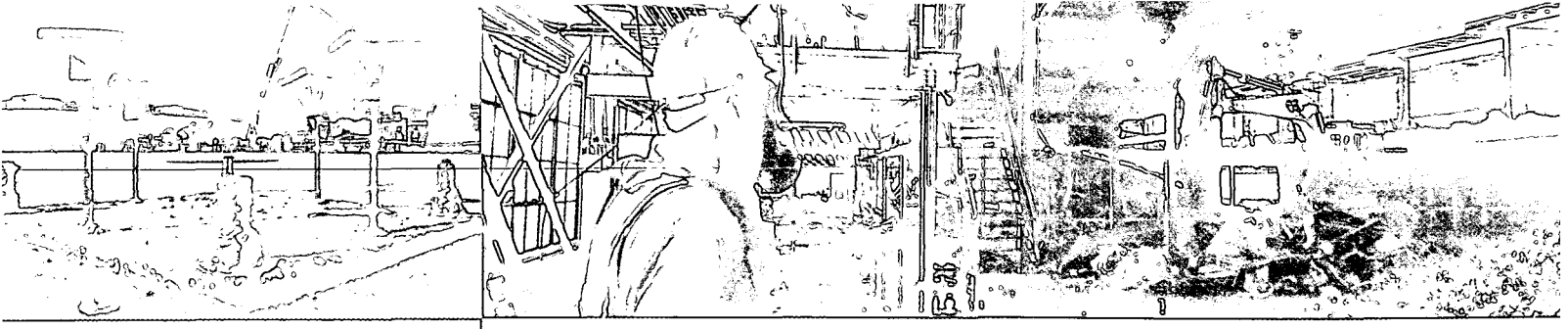
Other benefits included the preservation of valuable space at the Nevada Test Site and the completion of the copper remediation task six months ahead of schedule.

The copper recycling project saved taxpayers $1.5 million in disposal and cleanup costs, accelerated cleanup at Fernald and Oak Ridge, and laid the groundwork for the development of a permanent metals treatment facility at Oak Ridge. The project transferred copper to the East Tennessee Technology Park for decontamination and recycling by Decon and Recovery Services of Oak Ridge, Tenn., resulting in a significant waste reduction and cost-savings for Fernald. This recycling alternative reduced the quantity of waste from 120,000 cubic feet to 8,000 cubic feet. Other benefits included the preservation of valuable space at the Nevada Test Site and the completion of the copper remediation task six months ahead of schedule.





Safety

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DOE awarded Fluor Fernald VPP STAR status in January 2001 based on the site's strong safety culture, management commitment and clear belief that all employees are both responsible and accountable for safety in the workplace.

In 2000, Fernald further demonstrated its outstanding commitment to safety by obtaining Integrated Safety Management (ISM) verification eight months ahead of schedule. ISM is a program within the DOE Complex that assures safety is integrated into management and work practices at all levels of the organization. At Fernald, ISM is an extension of the successful Safety First Program that has been in place since 1994.

Equally impressive is Fernald employees' progress toward accumulating 7 million hours without a lost-time accident. This milestone represents the longest consecutive safe work hour record since the site began its environmental restoration mission.

The Greater Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council also celebrated another year of working safely. The Building Trades represents more than 200 workers at Fernald. In December, the Building Trades and its representative companies completed eight years without a lost-time accident at Fernald, which equates to more than 3.9 million safe work hours.

Fernald also pursued DOE's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) STAR status. The program mitigates risk in the workplace by encouraging a level of excellence in safety and health programs that can only be achieved through full involvement and commitment by management and employees.

In addition, the site received five Tri-Star Awards. The Tri-Star Award is Fluor's highest safety award. The Nuclear Materials Disposition team earned two awards for working 200,000 hours without an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recordable injury. Both the Waste Storage & Sampling team and the Low-Level Waste Shipping team were recognized for working 100,000 hours without a recordable injury. The Waste Pits project

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received its Tri-Star Award for reaching 350,000 hours without a recordable injury. Waste Pits personnel also received a President's Award from IT Corporation for 1,000 days with no injuries or lost time accidents, and an IT Corporate Safety Award for zero vehicle accidents, recorded injuries or lost time cases.

These accomplishments are especially significant considering the nature of the work performed at Fernald and the precautions necessary when working with potentially hazardous materials.

In December, the Building Trades and its representative companies completed eight years without a lost-time accident at Fernald, which equates to more than 3.9 million safe work hours.

Secretary of Energy Advisory Board Visit

Fernald has come a long way since the mid-1980s when contentious public meetings, as well as local and national media coverage, reflected the turmoil existing here at the time.

In August, the Secretary of Energy's Advisory Board Openness Panel visited several DOE facilities, including Fernald. The panel reviewed and assessed DOE's relationships with surrounding communities and provided an independent assessment of how DOE is perceived as a neighbor, what it is doing well and what it could do better.

During the two-day visit, the members spoke to individuals and small groups representing a variety of interests and views. The stakeholders with whom they met essentially had the same message – public involvement at Fernald is a mature program that works well and contains many elements that could be used throughout the complex.

The panel emphasized good community relations can help DOE facilities achieve their missions. They were particularly impressed with the Fernald Envoy Program, established to promote one-on-one communication between Fernald personnel and representatives of local community groups interested in site activities. Envoys establish relationships with community groups by providing detailed information, listening to questions, concerns and suggestions and providing feedback to decision makers. The key to the program's success is empowering envoys to take ownership of stakeholder relations so two-way communication can take place at all levels – not just the top of the organization.

The panel's conclusions and recommendations are contained in a report to the Secretary of Energy. Fernald was recognized in the report as an example of good community relations.

The Future of Fernald

In 1999, the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) held the first in a series of ***Future of Fernald Workshops*** to gather input on public access to the site after cleanup is complete. This initial meeting set the stage for a more concerted effort to gain input during 2000.

In early 2000, DOE-Fernald requested the FCAB Stewardship Committee spearhead an effort to involve as many stakeholder groups as possible in determining "what public access to the site would look like" in the future. The Stewardship Committee joined with the Fernald Residents for Environmental, Safety and Health (FRESH), the Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO) and the Fernald Living History Project to sponsor interactive workshops in May and September to support this effort. The stakeholder vision statement is a result of these meetings. Additionally, the sponsoring organizations received detailed input from the public regarding future use options such as hiking trails, an educational facility and land for reinterment of Native American remains.

The workshop sponsors must take the input from these workshops and create possible scenarios for public access to the site. The Stakeholder Vision was submitted to DOE-Fernald for incorporation into the final version of the *Master Plan for Public Use of the Fernald Environmental Management Project.*

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Stakeholder Vision For The Future Of Fernald

Vision Statement

Fernald Stakeholders envision a future for the Fernald property that creates a federally owned regional destination for educating this and future generations about the rich and varied history of Fernald. We envision a community resource that serves the ongoing information needs of area residents, education needs of local academic institutions, and reinterment of Native American remains. We envision a safe, secure, and partially accessible site, integrated with the surrounding community that effectively protects human health and the environment from all residual contamination and fully maintains all aspects of the ecological restoration.

Transition Success Stories

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With site closure becoming a near-term reality and more cleanup work being completed, Fernald's staffing levels are decreasing accordingly.

Part of Fernald's approach to managed attrition is to periodically offer a Voluntary Separation Program (VSP) to employees whose skills are no longer critical to achieving site closure. The program allows the company to reduce its headcount while providing employees with the opportunity to control the timing of their departure. In 2000, 49 people ended their employment with Fluor Fernald through the VSP. One such employee was Molly Zahn, who had worked at the site for seven years before leaving to accept a position as the creative director of new media at Miami University. Zahn came to Fernald without a degree and limited Internet experience. She left with a bachelor's degree and marketable Web design skills.

Fred Maess also took advantage of the VSP and opened a restaurant in Springdale called Charlie's Steakery. According to Maess, he never would have had the opportunity to pursue this dream without the transition assistance he received through the Voluntary Separation Program. After 15 years of work at Fernald, Mariann Curry also took advantage of the VSP to open Sleigh Bells, a Christmas store, in Rising Sun, Ind. The college classes she took and the experience she gained as a Material Controls and Accountability specialist provided Curry with the skills she needed to open the store.

Fernald's tuition reimbursement program helps employees get a college education while still working. Heather Rice worked at the site for five years while earning her associate's degree from Cincinnati State. Rice is now a registered nurse at Children's Hospital.

Working with the Career Development Center and networking has paid off for other past Fernald employees. After consulting with CDC staff members, Sharon Shirley found a job at another Fluor site. Shirley, who now works as the lead cost analyst at another Fluor office, took advantage of the company's global presence to further her career.

Jenny Heckler worked at General Electric (GE) before coming to Fernald. During her eight years at the site, Heckler stayed in touch with her former co-workers at GE, and it paid off when GE contacted Heckler regarding an open position. The added experience she gained at Fernald helped Heckler land the job.

When John Harmon heard about a job opening at another DOE facility, he visited the CDC for some help in reworking his resume. With his newly revised resume ready, Harmon applied for the job. He is now the deputy project manager for the prime contractor at the DOE site in Portsmouth, Ohio.

These are just a few of the individuals who have used their Fernald experience and CDC resources to begin exciting new careers. With site closure within reach, many more employees will be faced with similar decisions about their post-Fernald careers. DOE and Fluor Fernald are working together to help employees prepare for the future.

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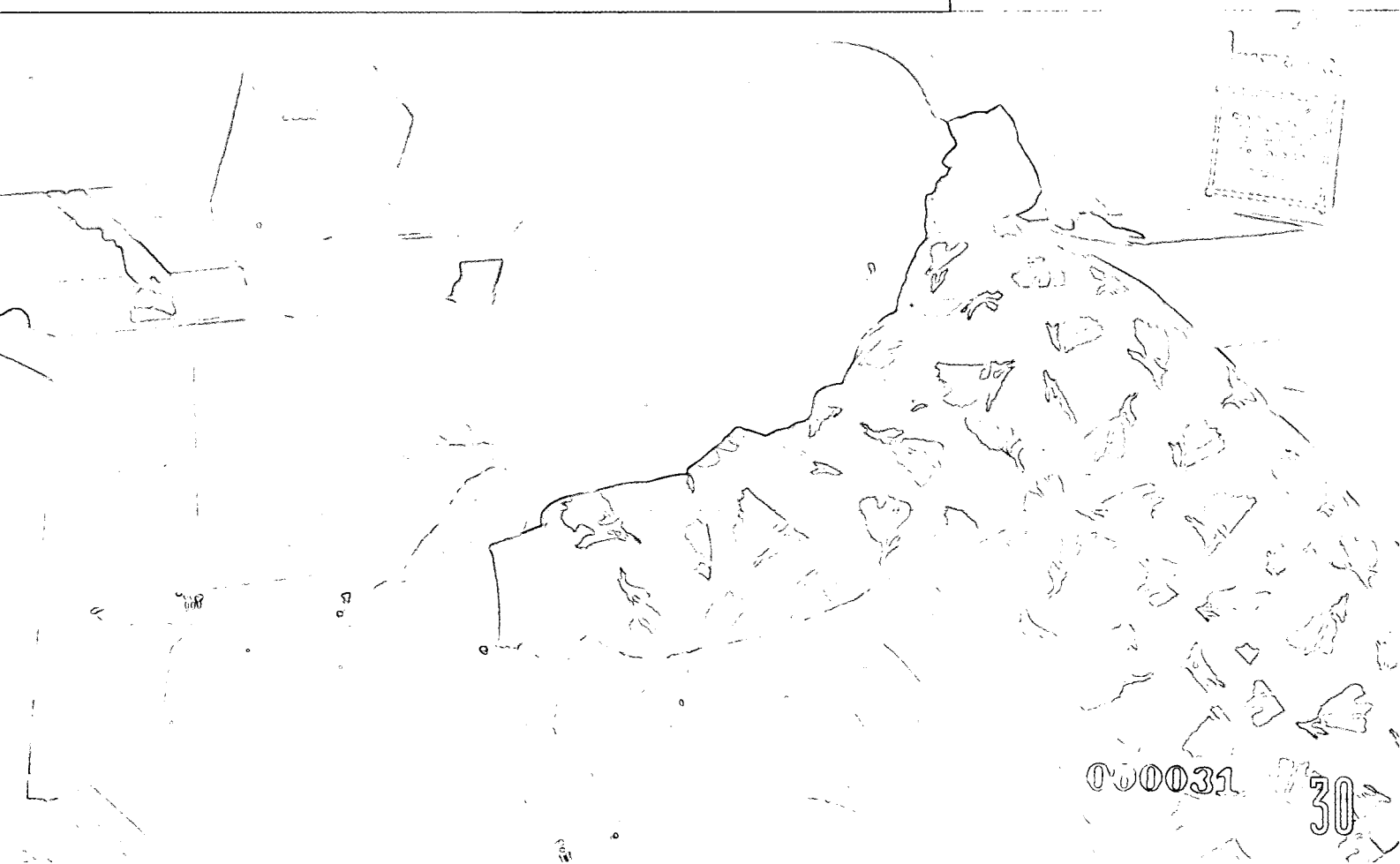

3593 Fernald Community Involvement Team

"If you want happiness for a lifetime, help someone else."
Chinese Proverb

On most weekends, Fernald volunteers are out helping the community. They might be building a new home, creating a better atmosphere for the girls at New Beginnings or raising money for a worthy cause.

The Fernald Community Involvement Team is a volunteer task force of Fernald employees and their families and friends. This organization was created to support the Fernald site mission by providing opportunities for contributions of time, skills and resources to the local community.

During 2000, Fluor Fernald recognized more than 200 employees who donated approximately 3,000 hours of their time to a wide variety of local projects including:

- Providing holiday gifts to more than 400 children and their parents through The Wish Tree program;
- Collecting and distributing 48 complete Thanksgiving meals, 350 canned goods and more than $600 to the Emergency Food Center;
- Picking up trash along a two-mile stretch of the Little Miami River in the Adopt-A-Waterway effort; and
- Building two new homes in partnership with Habitat for Humanity.

Countless charitable organizations and schools benefit from the generosity and hard work of Fernald volunteers who consider it a privilege serve the community.

2000 United Way Campaign

The Life You Change May Be Your Own

Fernald employees responded to the needs of the community again this year by raising nearly $160,000 for United Way. Despite having fewer employees than in 1999, this year's campaign exceeded last year's total by several thousand dollars.

As in previous years, the Fluor Foundation matched each pledge with 50 cents for every dollar. Since 1993, the foundation has given more than $200,000 to Greater Cincinnati United Way agencies.

Fundraisers were the most visible part of Fernald's 2000 campaign with coordinators trying a number of new fundraising events to promote participation. Several departments within the company also organized their own events during the year. The Project Execution group sponsored a box lunch sale in August, raising $1,800. Dozens of volunteers worked late into the evening the night before the event to bake, cook and package 275 lunches. All proceeds from this sale went directly to New Beginnings, a shelter for abused girls. Fluor Fernald volunteers then used that money to build a gazebo for the girls. In all, fundraisers generated an additional $25,000 for the campaign.

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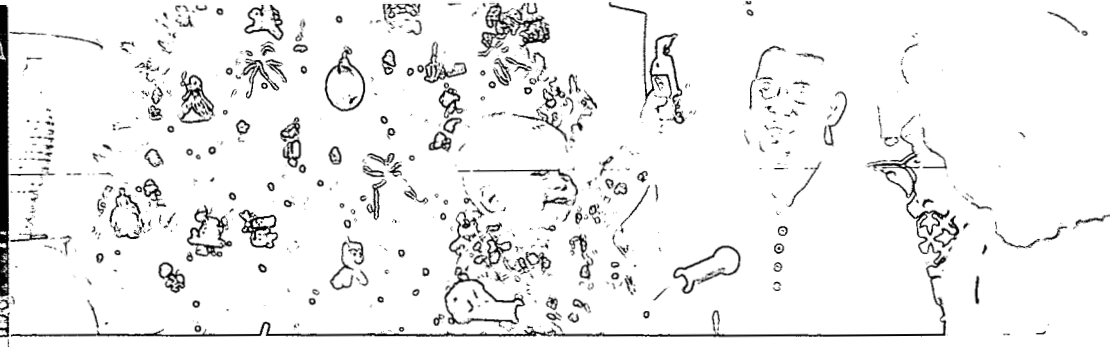

Community Involvement

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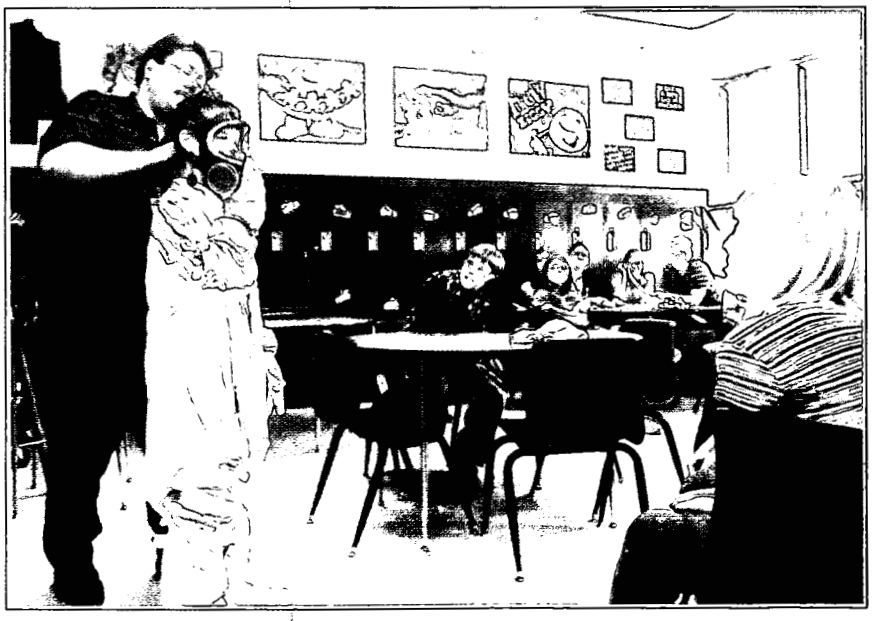
"Our school is more effective when members of the community work together toward the common goal of providing students with the best possible education. We appreciate all Fernald has done for us in our effort to meet these goals."

–Hilda Pate, third grade teacher Elda Elementary School

A key component of Fernald's community relations program is education outreach. During 2000, 15,000 students and teachers participated in programs such as Partnership In Education, Junior Achievement and the ninth annual Greater Cincinnati Regional Science Bowl. Volunteers served as judges for Science Fairs and represented Fernald at events like Earth Day, Waterfest and Career Days. These events help students develop science, math and technology skills and prepare them for higher education and future employment.

Teachers also had a chance to upgrade their skills by attending workshops sponsored by Fernald such as the Environmental Educators Symposium, Archaeology: Can You Dig It? and the Science Education for Public Understanding Program.

Community service is another high priority for Fluor employees. Fernald is a tremendous resource for volunteer programs and events each year. In addition, Fluor Fernald supports organizations that make a positive difference in our extended neighborhood by offering financial assistance to civic organizations, education institutions, health and human services and the arts. Last year Fernald contributed more than $280,000 to these programs.



Through education partnerships, community involvement, financial support and citizen participation, Fernald demonstrates its commitment to being a good neighbor.

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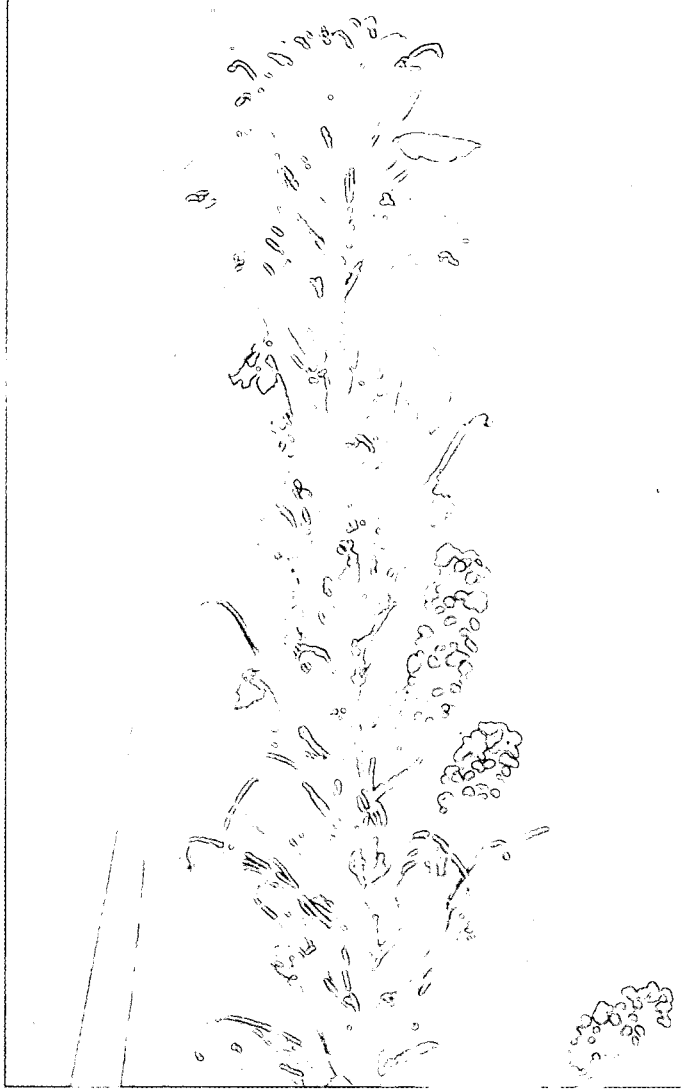
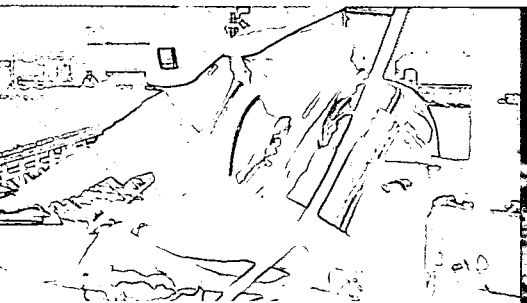
As Fernald enters 2001, the site will continue its tradition of openness and collaboration with stakeholders, employees and regulators while maintaining its focus on safe and efficient site closure.



In Closing

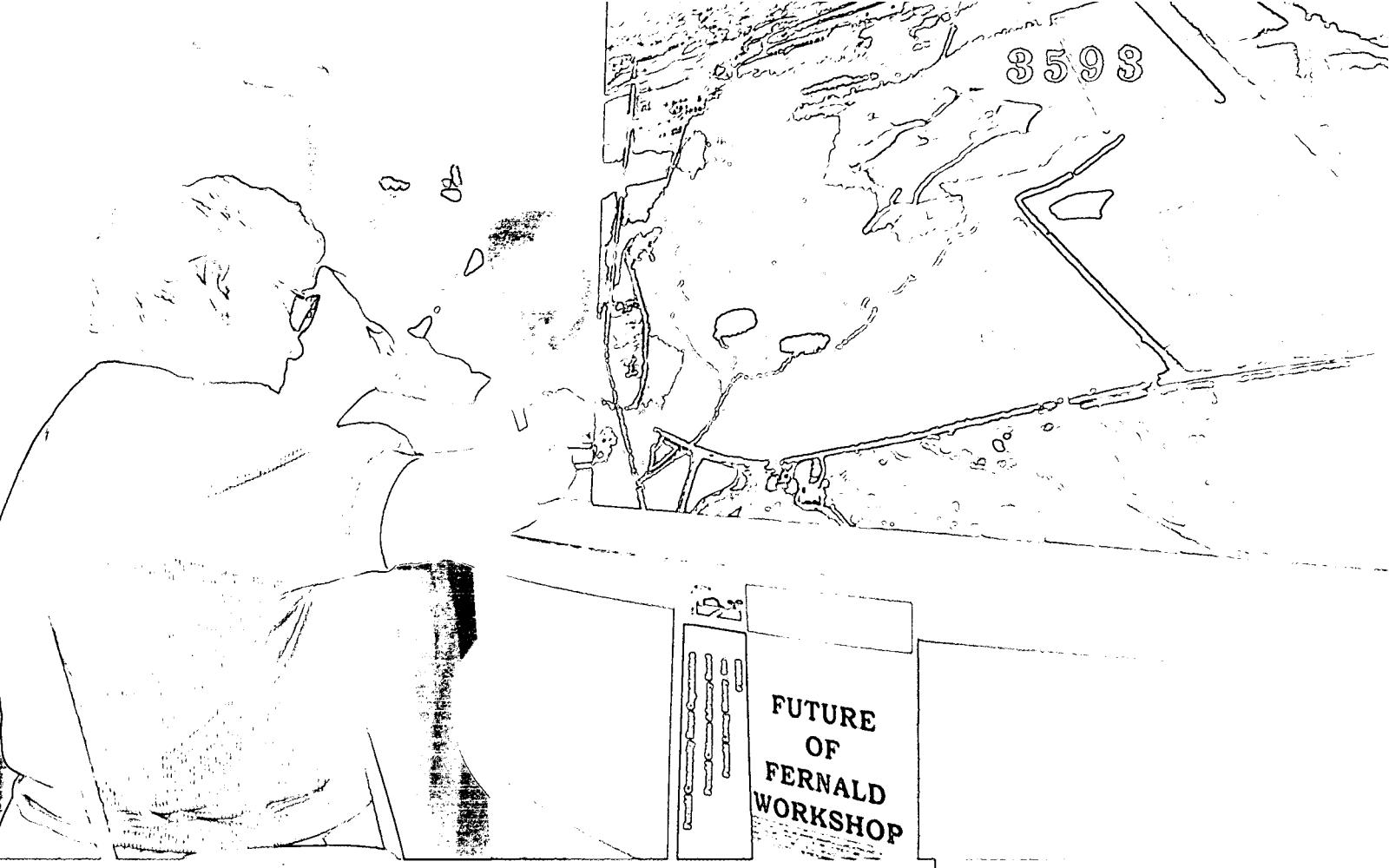


In closing...

As Fernald enters 2001, the site will continue its tradition of openness and collaboration with stakeholders, employees and regulators while maintaining its focus on safe and efficient site closure. Together, the Department of Energy and Fluor Fernald accomplished a great deal in 2000. What's on the horizon for the coming year?

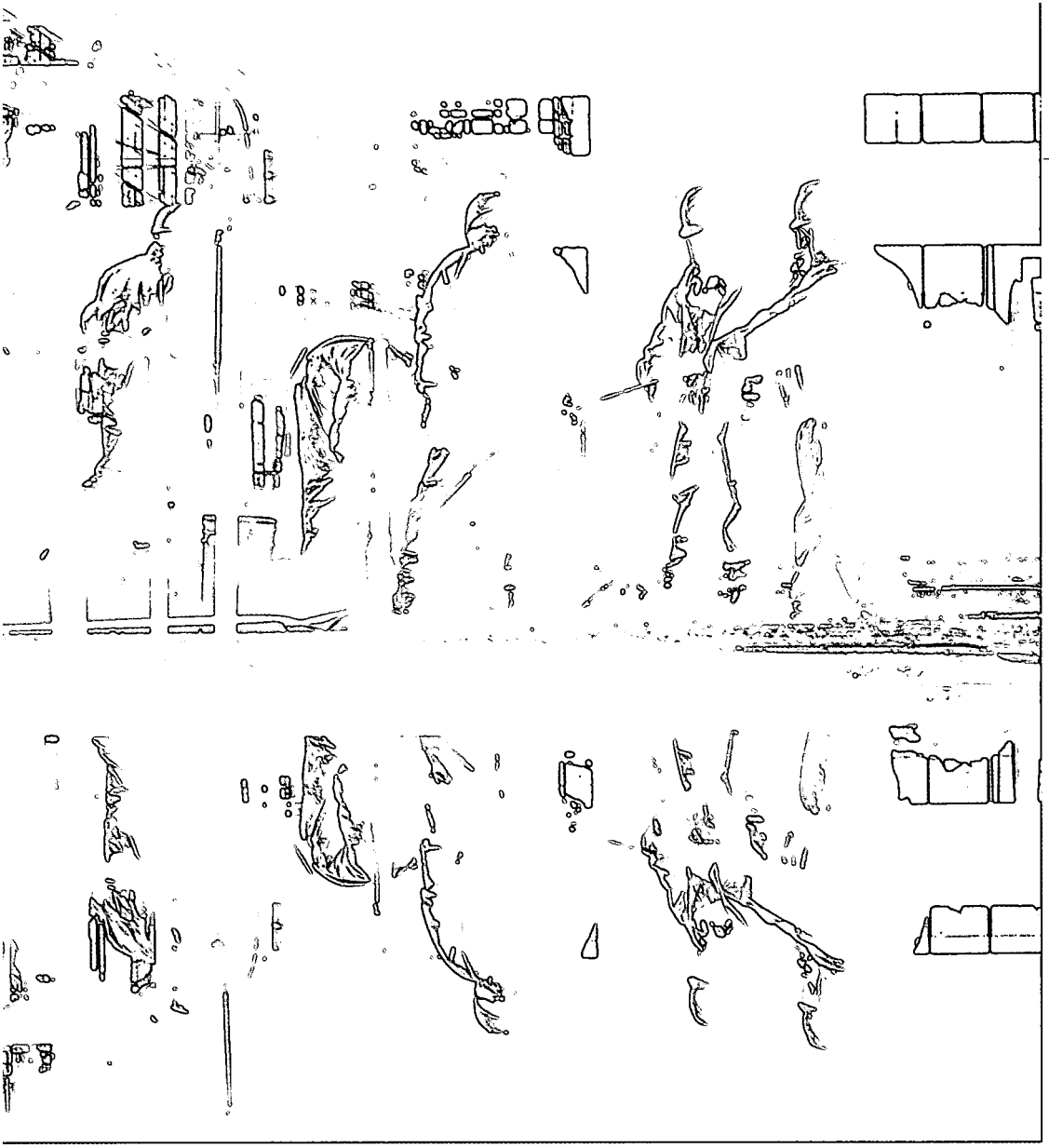
Planned activities for 2001 include:

- Continue excavation of Pits 1 and 3, and begin excavating Pits 2, 4, and 5;
- Ship approximately 91,000 tons of material via 15 unit trains to Envirocare;
- Complete demolition of Plants 5 and 6;
- Complete demolition of five ancillary structures;
- Construct a nine-foot thick cap over Cell 1 of the On-Site Disposal Facility;
- Excavate 70,000 bulk cubic yards of soil;
- Certify an additional 12 percent of the site as meeting established cleanup levels;
- Continue construction of the Silos 1 and 2 Accelerated Waste Retrieval (AWR) tank facility;
- Achieve successful startup of the AWR Radon Control System;
- Receive and evaluate proposals for final Silos 1 and 2 remediation and award contract;
- Extract 1.8 billion gallons from the Great Miami Aquifer;
- Ship 212,000 cubic feet of low-level waste to the Nevada Test Site;



- Initiate the Uranium Waste Disposition Project by beginning characterization of over 6,600 containers of uranium materials that have been declared waste;
- Transport 30,000 gallons of liquid mixed waste to the Toxic Substance Control Act Incinerator in Oak Ridge, Tenn.;
- Ship approximately 1.1 million net pounds of nuclear product material to DOE's Portsmouth facility;
- Continue to work with private sector customer to develop shipping/receiving plan for approximately 176,593 net pounds of enriched recyclable metal;
- Recognize the site's fiftieth anniversary; and
- Continue dialogue with stakeholders on the future of Fernald.

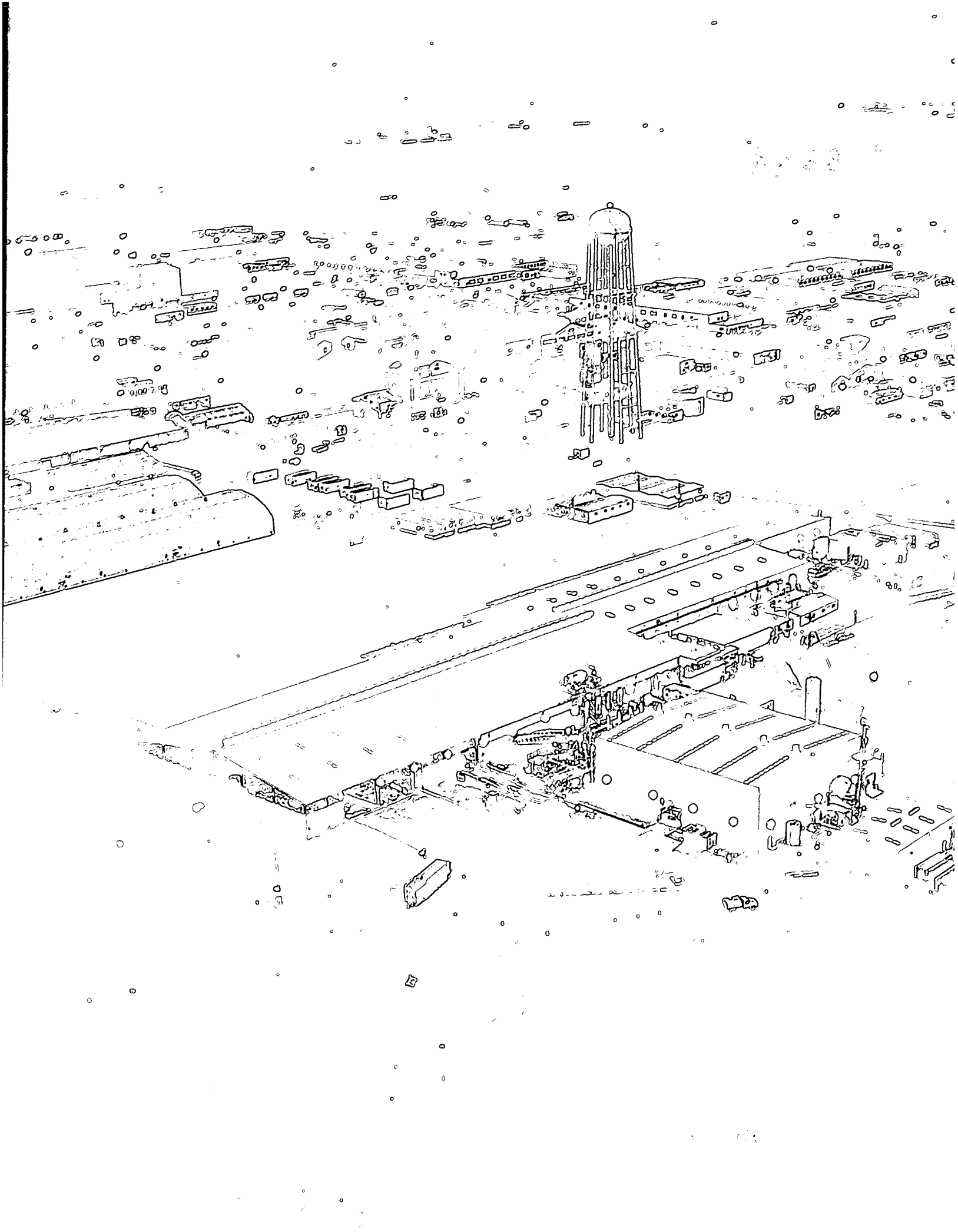
All of these activities will be accomplished while maintaining an unwavering commitment to safety. Please join us as we continue on the Path to Closure.



"Fernald will always be in our backyard so, of course, we want to make sure this job is done right. We're pleased with the progress they're making and with our inclusion in the decision-making process. There is a light at the end of the tunnel."

–Lisa Crawford, Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health

Path to Closure



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