



Fernald · FACT SHEET

Environmental Management Project

March 2001

Fernald Citizens Advisory Board



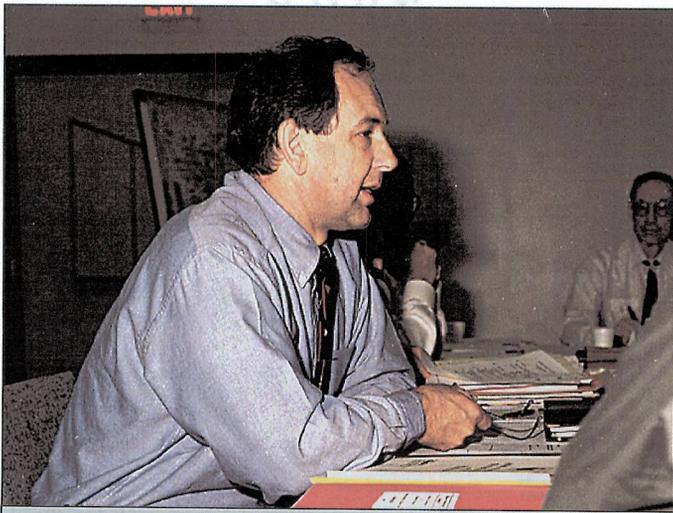
Stakeholders register at the May 24, 2000, Future of Fernald Workshop. This workshop, designed to allow stakeholders to provide input on issues regarding future public access to Fernald, was sponsored by the FCAB and three other community organizations (7391-D5).

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) is a Site-Specific Advisory Board chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act. It consists of 15 members of the public including local residents, labor representatives, and academia, along with non-voting ex-officio members from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.

The FCAB was originally established in August 1993 as the Fernald Citizens Task Force. The Task Force was formed to provide the DOE, the U.S. EPA and the OEPA with recommendations regarding four specific questions:

- What should be the future of the Fernald site?
- What residual risk and remediation levels should remain following remediation?
- Where should the waste be disposed?
- What should be the priorities among remedial actions?

In July 1995, the FCAB completed its first series of formal recommendations by issuing a report titled, *Fernald Citizens Task Force Recommendations on Remediation Levels, Waste Disposition, Priorities, and Future Use*. This report outlined detailed recommendations for remediation levels for groundwater and soil, and also defined the key issues discussed by Fernald CAB members as they made those decisions.



Jim Bierer, FCAB Chair, adds to the discussion during a meeting (6145-49)

In its report, the FCAB formally presented a recommendation for an On-Site Disposal Facility to be constructed to dispose of low-level radioactive material meeting site-specific waste acceptance criteria. The CAB recommended all other waste materials be shipped off site for disposal. Various conditions and considerations associated with design, monitoring, and long-term maintenance of the On-Site Disposal Facility were also addressed. The CAB detailed certain remediation priorities (such as disposition of special nuclear materials and legacy wastes) and recommended that residential or agricultural future uses of the site be avoided. These recommendations were accepted by the DOE, the U.S. EPA, and the OEPA, and were instrumental in forming the overall approach to remediation at Fernald.

Though the original mission of the Fernald Citizens Task Force was complete, its usefulness had not ended. In the fall of 1995, the Task Force reconvened to consider its future and determined there was a continuing need for informed public advice and recommendations to the DOE regarding remediation

and future use of the Fernald site. In 1997, the Task Force changed its name to the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board to align with advisory boards at other DOE sites and to reflect the group's continuing mission to provide input on remediation at Fernald.

The FCAB continues to meet monthly to address cleanup issues, including overall progress, project-specific issues and funding. Committees are used to conduct long-term and in-depth projects. Committee structure and potential topics are evaluated annually to ensure that the needs of the FCAB and the general public are met. The FCAB currently has two standing committees. The Stewardship Committee evaluates all issues pertaining to long-term stewardship at the Fernald site; that is, the activities and requirements that will be ongoing following the completion of site remediation. The Steering Committee meets as needed to address administrative issues.

FCAB recommendations and advice are aimed at providing the Department of Energy with an understanding of the issues and concerns that are important to local stakeholders and ensuring that these perspectives are incorporated into site planning and decision making.



Stakeholders from across the country attended a Transportation Workshop hosted by the FCAB in May 1999 (7136-D28).

For more information . . .

Visit the Public Environmental Information Center at 10995 Hamilton-Cleves Highway (Delta Building);
Attend a Cleanup Progress Briefing (second Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. on site);
Contact Gary Stegner, DOE-Fernald public affairs, at 513-648-3153 or at gary.stegner@fernald.gov; or
View the Fernald Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>).