

# DOE COMMUNITY MEETING The Plantation

## April 15, 1997

**6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Availability Session**

**7:00 p.m. Opening**

**Welcome/Introductory Remarks.....Gary Stegner**

**7:20 p.m. Updates and Presentations**

**General Accounting Office Report/  
Silos Project Status Update.....Jack Craig**

**Cleanup Status .....Johnny Reising**

**Comments from Fluor Daniel Fernald OP.....John Bradburne**

### Agency Updates and Stakeholder Groups

**U.S. EPA  
Ohio EPA  
Citizens Task Force  
Community Reuse Organization  
FRESH**

**Jim Saric  
Tom Schneider  
John Applegate  
David McWilliams  
Lisa Crawford**

**8:40 p.m. Question and Answer Session**

**After the meeting, DOE/FDF staff will be available to talk with the public.**

## SUMMARY OF DOE COMMUNITY MEETING

April 15, 1997

Plantation, Harrison, Ohio

Approximately 70-80 people attended the DOE Community Meeting at the Plantation on Tuesday evening, April 15. In addition to the general public, this number included representatives from: FRESH, Fernald Citizens Task Force, Community Reuse Organization, Ohio Dept. of Health, trustee from Crosby Township, Ohio EMA, Hamilton Co. DES, reporter from Journal News, U.S. EPA, OEPA, DOE Ohio Field Office, DOE-FN and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

Gary Stegner, DOE Public Affairs, opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with comments on:

- information and clarification on the Draft Ohio Field Office Workforce Restructuring Plan
- the Independent Review Team's reports availability at the PEIC (end of next week)
- gave the WORLD WIDE WEB address of the FEMP's WEB site on the Internet
- introduced DOE-OH Acting Field Office's Director, Bob Folker
- introduced Fluor Daniel Fernald's Public Affairs Director, Tricia Thompson

Next Jack Craig, DOE-FEMP Director, talked about the General Accounting Office's report, Management and Oversight of Cleanup Activities at Fernald, that was released last month. The two recommendations made by the GAO were: (1) to review Fluor Daniel's contract, and (2) DOE-FN needs to improve their oversight. Currently a team from DOE-FN and DOE-Headquarters is reviewing FD's contract options; hope to have a decision by the end of the month. Addressing DOE-FN's oversight, 35 actions have been identified and a plan has been developed and it should be available by the end of the week.

Concerning the Silos Project path forward, an Independent Review Team began meeting last fall and their final report will be available next week. The document consists of a majority report and a minority report. The three committees' combined report on the December melter incident is available at the PEIC. A team from the Army Corps of Engineers is looking at Corps cost estimates for OU4 and their report will be complete by mid-May. The Fernald Citizens Task Force is also evaluating OU4 activities. Their recommendations on Silo 3 and Silos 1 & 2 will be finalized at their May meeting.

The EM 10-year plan was expected to be out this week but will be delayed 2-3 weeks until the new DOE secretary and staff are comfortable with the contents of the plan. It won't be finalized until the end of September. There is a workshop next Tuesday (April 22) to discuss the FEMP's accelerated remediation plan (baseline) which has public involvement incorporated.

Following Craig was Johnny Reising, DOE Associate Director, giving a detailed presentation on the cleanup status of the five operable units, technology and waste management. Copies of his presentation are available by calling 5883.

Next John Bradburne, President of Fluor Daniel Fernald, commented on the three safety assessments that have been conducted at the FEMP. They show that communication with the work groups is getting better. The construction subcontractor has gone four years without a lost time accident. John also said the stability of the workforce in the near future looks good.

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Reorganizing about six months ago into projects has made FDF more productive and efficient and on some projects, ending up ahead of schedule and under budget. Good examples of uniting the workforce with subcontractors are Perma-Fix and Terra-Kleen. The new ARASA contract will also integrate our workforce with that of subcontractors.

#### **Agency Updates and Stakeholder Groups:**

**U.S. EPA:** Jim Saric -- Regardless of newspaper, Silos/VITPP, GAO Rpt., there is progress being made at the FEMP, as indicated by Reising's presentation. Obstacles are to be expected; implementing the ROD(s) is as hard as getting to that point. EPA is meeting with DOE/FDF tomorrow to discuss the OU4 dispute resolution. There'll be several public meetings regarding the OU4 path forward. Important that everyone stay involved.

**OEPA:** Graham Mitchell (filling in for Tom Schneider) -- Fernald is showing good progress as J. Reising's presentation indicated. Even though there are problems associated with OU4, there are scores of projects throughout the operable units that are on schedule. Ohio is committed to this site and is committed to keeping up the same level of public involvement.

**Fernald Citizens Task Force:** John Applegate -- Updates on the following issues:

- OU4/VITPP: Concerned that we not move away from vitrification without careful consideration. Recommended Silos 1 & 2 be treated separately from Silo 3; vitrification is the required technology to be used, especially for 1 & 2, but realize there are difficulties there. CTF would like to see side by side comparisons showing vitrification to other technologies to understand the results and the consequences. Very interested in the IRT report(s). Are co-sponsoring the May 14 Silos Project workshop.
- Cost & Schedule: CTF is looking for ways to help make sure money is spent on remediation.
- Transportation: Shipping waste to NTS by truck is expensive and risky. Looking at intermodal as a way to improve shipping.
- Recycling: The more we can recycle will reduce costs and also reduce the material going in the OSDF.

At the March task force meeting, Al Alm said the 10-year plan means nothing if the FEMP doesn't meet its objectives -- meaning "if we can't do it, no one can".

**Community Reuse Organization:** David McWilliams, Superintendent of Ross Schools and Chair of the CRO -- commented on:

- Completed path forward.
- Establishing a committee structure on: reuse of equipment and materials; reuse of land; workforce transition; economic development; and, tracking CRO's progress. Membership on these committees will be open to the public.
- As of April 11, CRO is incorporated; in process of getting tax-exempt status.
- Will receive check for start-up grant to put out an RFP for technical consultant.
- CRO meets first Tuesday of every month at Ross High School; public is invited.

**FRESH:** Lisa Crawford -- Commented on:

- OU4: Wants OU4 IRT Report as soon as it is released. Wants UC report on OU4. Make sure we have all the information before proceeding with the path forward.
- 10-year plan: It isn't done? We need better communication from HQ to the local people. Need to look at local vs. National issue -- The FEMP's 10-year plan, HQ's plan & DOE

OFO's plan. There's confusion over the 10-year plan. Since cleanup in 10 years will never happen, we need to call it the accelerated cleanup plan. We intend to make sure DOE follows through on its commitments to fund the accelerated cleanup (ref: hold feet to the fire).

-3161: She's seen the draft report that is coming out tomorrow (16th) and it's causing concern from some employees at the FEMP. (She's had several calls) Need to spell out clearly that it doesn't affect the FEMP. The report, while intended for the Mound facility, sounds like it includes Fernald when it refers to a RIF. Please get copies to the workforce and provide a means where they can get answers from management. Make sure Task Force and CRO also get copies. Comments on the plan will be due May 15.

-Recycling: We've met a couple of times on the recycling issue but have heard nothing for a long time. We need to be updated.

### Question & Answer Session:

The following questions/comments were discussed:

Army Corps of Engineers is looking at OU4 cost and design, do they have accounting and finance expertise?

Since you changed from OUs to projectization, how can you track costs and budget?

GAO report mentioned contract reform issue, what is the status of that?

A hot spot was discovered near the old north entrance at Rt. 126 about 20 feet from the road, how did it get there? What's the environmental monitoring status? How long was it open to the elements? Any migration?

One environmental monitoring plan to cover all the projects, what is the status of the IEMP?

Seems like OU4 was totally left out tonight. Lots has happened since the last meeting. Need to hear about it, even though it's not all good news.

Leachate Conveyance System for OSDF, need to be brought up to date on this process.

Mentioned parking lot construction to reroute run-off to Paddys Run instead of AWWT, are you monitoring at point of entrance to Paddys Run? What about leaks of anti-freeze, gas, oil, etc? What about fugitive dust from OSDF construction to parking lot?

What's the status of declaring nuclear materials a waste?

Resident/employee commented on the positive benefits of aggressively going after EM funding for the Technology Deployment Initiative.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 but DOE/FDF personnel continued meeting with some residents.

A transcript of the meeting will be available in two weeks. If anyone would like handouts from the meeting, please contact Jeanie Foster at 5883.

DOE COMMUNITY MEETING EVALUATION  
April 15, 1997

1. Have you attended Fernald Community Meetings before?

- Yes
- No

2. Where did you learn about tonight's meeting? (check however many apply)

- Newspaper ad \_\_\_\_\_ (which newspaper?)
- Envoy Program
- Flyer
- Postcard
- Word of mouth
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

3. Are you a (check however many apply):

- Fernald area resident
- Fernald employee
- Subcontractor employee
- Government official
- Representative of a regulatory agency
- Representative of another group/organization
- Other \_\_\_\_\_ (please specify)

4. On a scale of 1-7, how valuable was the information given on GAO Report and the Silos Project path forward?

|                   |                        |               |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Not very valuable | Somewhat valuable      | Very valuable |
| 1                 | 2      3      4      5 | 6      7      |

5. On a scale of 1-7, how valuable was the information on the cleanup presentation?

|                   |                        |               |
|-------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Not very valuable | Somewhat valuable      | Very valuable |
| 1                 | 2      3      4      5 | 6      7      |

6. Comparing tonight's meeting to others you have attended, do you feel adequate time was allowed for the question and answer session?

- Yes
- No

7. On a scale of 1-7, how would you rate the meeting overall?

Not very valuable                  Somewhat valuable                  Very valuable

1            2            3            4            5            6            7

8. Are there other topics or issues you would have liked to discuss tonight? If so, what?

9. Would you like to be included in our telephone survey tomorrow concerning tonight's meeting? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, list your daytime phone number. \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for completing this evaluation. Please write down any other comments you would like to make about tonight's meeting or how we can improve our communication with the public.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)



# PUBLIC MEETINGS/AVAILABILITY SESSIONS FOR 1997 (some TBD)

FERNALD

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p align="center"><b>JANUARY</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 7<br/>           2. Task Force 11<br/>           3. STCG 22<br/>           4. FRESH 23</p>  | <p align="center"><b>FEBRUARY</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 4<br/>           2. IRT Availability Session 12<br/>           3. Health Effects Sub 12,13<br/>           4. IRT Public Briefing 26</p>   | <p align="center"><b>MARCH</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 4<br/>           2. CTF/FRESH &amp; DOE/FDF 13<br/>           3. Task Force 15<br/>           4. STCG 18</p> |
| <p align="center"><b>APRIL</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 1<br/>           2. FRESH 3<br/>           3. DOE Community Mtg. 15<br/>           4. DOE 10-Year Plan Mtg. 22</p>                      | <p align="center"><b>MAY</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 6<br/>           2. Health Effects Sub 7,8<br/>           3. Task Force 10<br/>           4. Silos Project Workshop 14<br/>           5. Joint Response 20<br/>           6. C,P &amp; T Mtg. 21<br/>           7. FRESH 22<br/>           8. OU2/OU5 Workshop (tent.) 27<br/>           9. STCG TBD</p> | <p align="center"><b>JUNE</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 3<br/>           2. Silos Project Workshop TBD</p>  |
| <p align="center"><b>JULY</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 1<br/>           2. Task Force 12<br/>           3. FRESH 24<br/>           4. STCG TBD<br/>           5. Silos Project Workshop TBD</p> | <p align="center"><b>AUGUST</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 5<br/>           2. DOE Community Meeting 12</p>  | <p align="center"><b>SEPTEMBER</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 2<br/>           2. Task Force 20<br/>           3. FRESH 25<br/>           4. STCG TBD</p>              |
| <p align="center"><b>OCTOBER</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 7</p>   | <p align="center"><b>NOVEMBER</b></p> <p>1. CRO Meeting 4<br/>           2. Task Force 15<br/>           3. FRESH 20<br/>           4. STCG TBD<br/>           5. DOE Community Mtg. TBD</p>  | <p align="center"><b>DECEMBER</b></p>   |
| <p>For more information, please call Gary Stegner at [REDACTED]</p>  |   |   |

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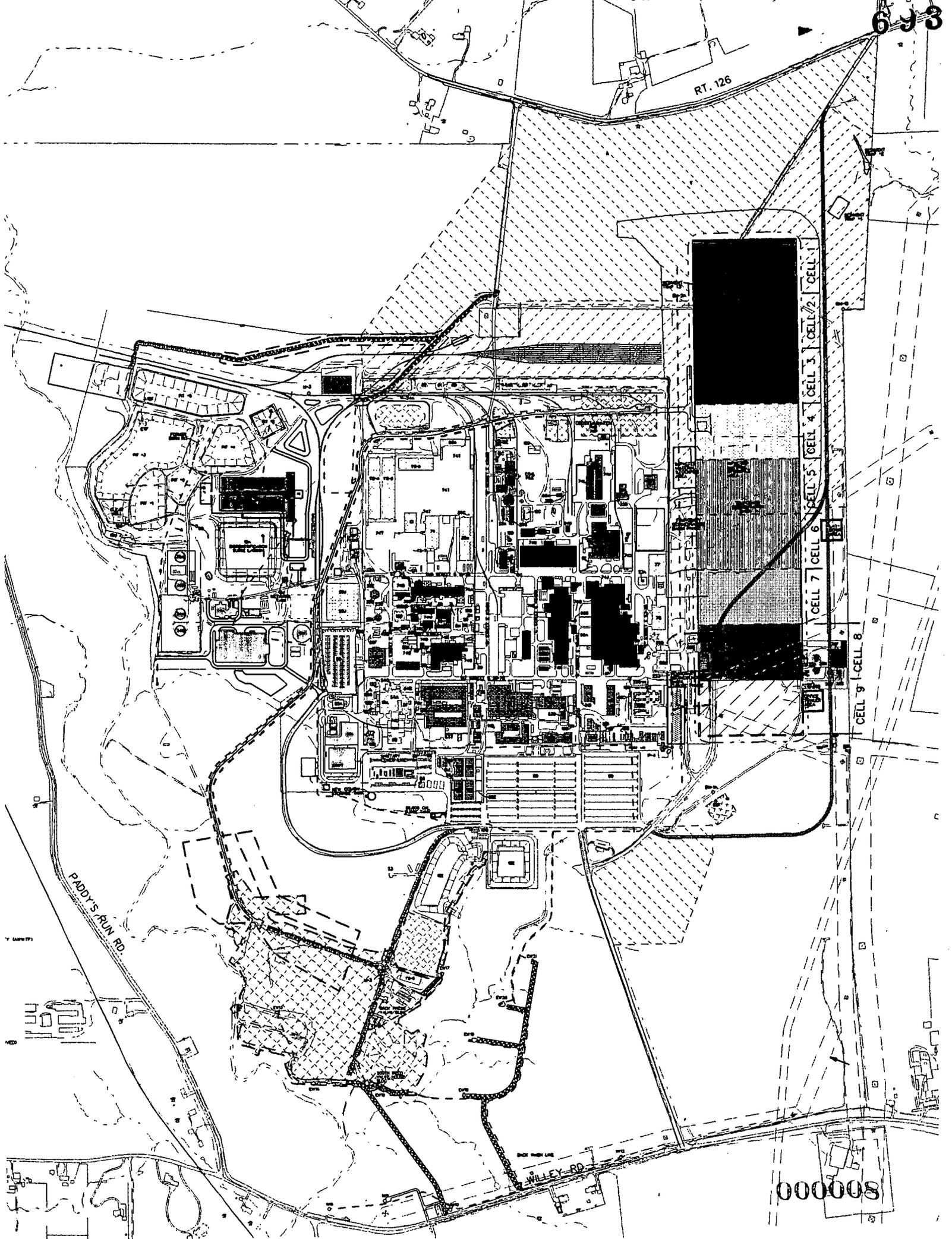
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PADDY'S RUN RD

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# Operable Unit 1

## *Waste Pits Remedial Action Project*

March 1997

### **Operable Unit 1**

Operable Unit 1 is one of five areas being remediated at DOE's Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). Each operable unit was defined based on its location or the potential for similar technologies to be used in the ultimate cleanup.

Based on investigations and studies performed to determine the nature and extent of contamination in Operable Unit 1, alternatives for Operable Unit 1 remediation were developed and analyzed to determine the most appropriate remedy. On March 1, 1995, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) signed the *Record of Decision for Remedial Actions at Operable Unit 1*.

### **Key Components of the Selected Remedy**

- Excavation of the waste from the pits and residual contaminated soils from beneath the pits;
- Preparation and processing of materials from the waste pits ( sorting, crushing, shredding, etc.);
- Thermal drying (as necessary to meet the waste acceptance criteria of the On-Site Disposal Facility);
- Off-gas treatment by a system designed to remove, to acceptable levels, contaminants which might be present in emissions from the drying process prior to discharge to the atmosphere;
- Off-site rail shipment, the planned transportation mode, to a permitted commercial disposal facility;
- Disposal at a permitted commercial facility. (Because this facility has not yet been selected, the remedial design/remedial action process will reflect Envirocare, in Clive, Utah, as the representative permitted commercial disposal facility.);

-- As a contingency, shipment of any waste that fails to meet the waste acceptance criteria of the permitted commercial disposal facility for disposal at the Nevada Test Site; and

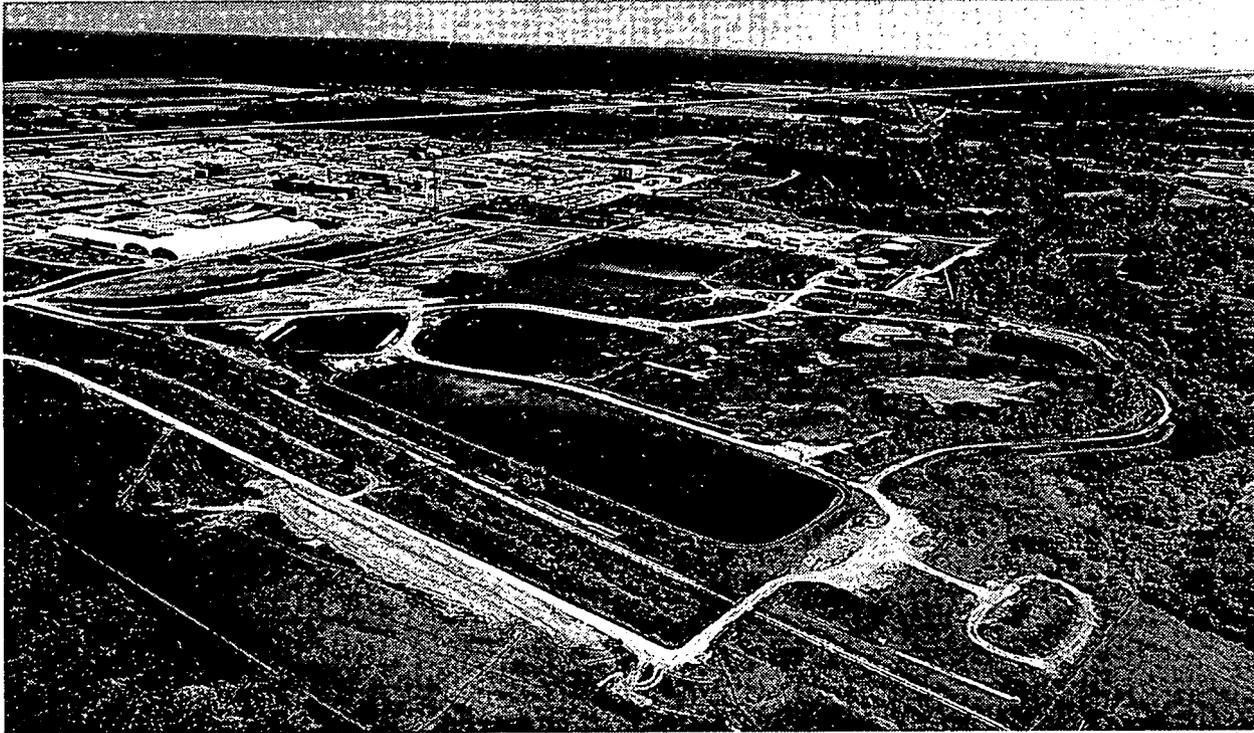
-- Decontamination and dismantlement of the treatment facility, upon completion of the waste pit remediation activities, with dispositioning of the resultant materials in accordance with the Operable Unit 3 record of decision.

### **Operable Unit 1**

Located in the northwest quadrant of the FEMP (west of the former Production Area), Operable Unit 1 covers 37 acres and is composed of the following:

- Waste Pits 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6;
- the Burn Pit (used for the disposal and burning of waste);
- the Clearwell (a settling basin for surface water runoff);
- miscellaneous structures and facilities such as berms, liners, concrete pads, underground piping, utilities, railroad tracks, fencing; and
- soil within the Operable Unit 1 boundary.

Paddys Run, an intermittent tributary of the Great Miami River, runs along the west side of FEMP property between Operable Unit 1 and the site boundary.



The Operable Unit 1 waste pits range in size from that of a baseball diamond to a football field and vary in depth from 13 feet to 30 feet. More than 700,000 cubic yards of contaminated materials are estimated to be associated with the cleanup of the waste pits (6385-125).

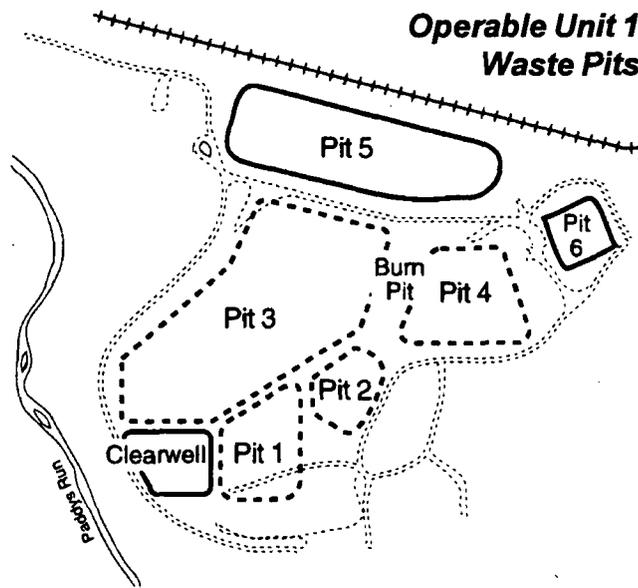
## Operable Unit 1 Remedial Design

Upon selection of the remedy, the remedial design phase of the project was initiated. During the remedial design, technical requirements and direction were developed and assessed to ensure that the remedial action is implemented in a manner that meets the requirements of the record of decision. The results of this process were documented in various planning and design documents which were developed and submitted to the U.S. EPA and the Ohio EPA for review and approval.

These deliverables included the remedial design work plan, which identified the design deliverables and the schedule for their submittal to U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA. The remedial design work plan was approved by the U.S. EPA on June 21, 1995. The next design deliverable was the preliminary design, which was approved by U.S. EPA on March 13, 1996. The final scheduled design deliverable was the pre-final design, which was approved by U.S. EPA on June 30, 1996.

Submitted with the pre-final design package was an addendum to the Operable Unit 1 remedial design work plan. The purpose of the remedial design work plan addendum is to present the design plan changes resulting from DOE's decision to pursue the Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) for the remediation of the Operable Unit 1 waste pits.

In general terms, the *Addendum to the Remedial Design Work Plan* indicates the pre-final design would be furthered in one of three ways. First, portions of the approved design would be folded into the statement of work for the ARASA subcontractor. Second, activities proposed in the *Site Improvement Plan* are currently being performed. Third, transportation and disposal continue to be formulated and implemented.

**Operable Unit 1****Waste Pits Remedial Action Project**

**Alternative Remedial Action  
Subcontracting Approach (ARASA)**

In an effort to reduce cleanup costs associated with the remediation of Operable Unit 1, as well as for other reasons, DOE has approved the implementation of ARASA. Under this approach, the subcontractor ultimately will be responsible for excavating the waste pits and surrounding contaminated soils; processing the waste materials, as necessary, to meet the waste acceptance criteria of the disposal facility; and loading the processed waste into railcars (including the installation of a liner and lid) for shipment to a permitted commercial disposal facility.

Fluor Daniel Fernald and DOE-FEMP will be responsible for oversight of the ARASA subcontractor's activities, including acceptance of the subcontractor's "certified-for-shipment" railcars. In addition, Fluor Daniel Fernald will be responsible for transportation (both on- and off-site) and disposal activities.

Various remedial design and remedial action planning documents will be prepared by the ARASA subcontractor for review by Fluor Daniel Fernald, DOE, and the regulators. The public will be notified as these documents become available for inspection. In addition, stakeholders will be informed about the Operable Unit 1 cleanup process and activities.

The Request for Proposals for ARASA was issued Jan. 31, 1997, to potential offerors. A pre-proposal conference was held Feb. 19 and Feb. 20, 1997, for the potential offerors, during which representatives from Fluor Daniel Fernald reviewed the solicitation with the offerors and answered questions the offerors had with respect to the project.

Topics covered in the pre-proposal conference included stakeholder involvement, safety, labor relations discussions, training, environmental compliance, and various other requirements of the project. Proposals were received from the prospective offerors in early April. The ARASA subcontract is anticipated to be awarded in September 1997.

**Operable Unit 1 On- and Off-Site  
Improvement Activities**

Site improvement/preparation activities needed to support remediation facilities (including ARASA) and activities, were initiated April 1, 1996. Initiation of these activities demonstrated the beginning of substantial continuous, on-site remedial action (in accordance with CERCLA) within 15 months of signing the Operable Unit 1 record of decision (by June 1, 1996).

The on-site improvements include various activities which directly support the installation and operation of the remediation facility such as: construction of a rail loadout area (with a rail scale); drainage pipe modifications; construction of a retaining wall; installation of erosion control; site clearing and grading for construction of the waste processing facility; and activities required to construct the stormwater management system that will support Operable Unit 1 remediation. These activities are planned for completion in September 1997.

On-site improvements also include construction of an on-site rail system to support the off-site shipment of wastes to the permitted commercial disposal facility. These improvements generally include modifications to existing rail lines in and around the ARASA subcontractor's work area; construction of a railyard to the north of the former production area for the storage of incoming empty and outgoing full railcars; and other improvements in support of this rail system such as lighting and fencing; and the upgrade of the on-site trestle over Paddys Run. A contract for rail work was awarded Oct. 8, 1996, to Annex Railroad Builders, and work is planned for completion in September 1997.

Infrastructure development activities have also progressed off site in support of the eventual shipment of waste materials to the permitted commercial disposal facility. Specifically, design activities were completed in June 1996 for bridge 270, the Okeana trestle, identified by CSXT as needing upgrades to safely support the proposed additional train traffic, which would be new to this branch line, because of the shipment of the Operable Unit 1 wastes. A contract for construction of the upgrades was awarded Feb. 14, 1997. Construction is expected to be completed by late 1997.

**Operable Unit 1 Remedial Action Work Plan** Approved by the U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA on Feb. 6, 1997, the *Remedial Action Work Plan for Remedial Actions at Operable Unit 1*, provides the framework for implementing remedial activities authorized under the Operable Unit 1 record of decision, the remedial design work plan and its addendum. Presented in the remedial action work plan is the overall Operable Unit 1 remedial action strategy, including a discussion of the integration of the ARASA subcontractor and DOE activities, as well as the schedule required to implement these activities.

The remedial action work plan summarizes the purpose and scope of the project, describes primary requirements and considerations for implementation of remedial action, sets forth an overall implementation strategy for the Operable Unit 1 remedial action, and provides a framework document from which the remedial action deliverables will be prepared.

The remedial action work plan proposed establishment of the following enforceable milestones for the Operable Unit 1 remedial action, which were subsequently approved by U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA with their approval of the document:

- initiation of substantial continuous on-site remedial action by June 3, 1996, i.e., within 15 months of signing of the Operable Unit 1 record of decision (This milestone has already been met, with work initiating on April 1, 1996.);
- submittal of the Operable Unit 1 transportation and disposal plan by April 30, 1998;
- initiation of operations (loading of waste which meets the waste acceptance criteria of the permitted commercial disposal facility into railcars) by March 1, 1999; and
- completion of operations (including above-grade decontamination and dismantlement of the waste pit remediation facilities) by May 31, 2005.

In addition, the remedial action work plan stipulates the ARASA subcontractor's "submittal register" will be provided to U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA within 60 days of the award of the ARASA subcontract and identifies dates for the ARASA subcontractor's remedial design and remedial action deliverables, which will form the basis for the establishment of additional enforceable milestones.

**For More Information**

**For specific questions regarding Operable Unit 1, contact Dave Lojek, DOE FEMP Operable Unit 1 branch chief, 513-648-3127; or send an e-mail message to [Dave\\_Lojek@fernald.gov](mailto:Dave_Lojek@fernald.gov).**

**For more information about the PEIC and its resources, call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164, or send an e-mail message to [Rene\\_Eichhold@fernald.gov](mailto:Rene_Eichhold@fernald.gov).**

# Operable Unit 2

## *On-Site Disposal Facility Project and Soil Characterization Excavation Project*

**March 1997**

### **Operable Unit 2**

Operable Unit 2 -- the On-Site Disposal Facility Project and Soil Characterization and Excavation Project -- is one of five areas being remediated at DOE's Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). Each operable unit was defined based on its location or the potential for similar technologies to be used in the ultimate cleanup.

Operable Unit 2 includes the Solid Waste Landfill, Lime Sludge Ponds, Inactive Fly Ash Pile, Active Fly Ash Pile, and the South Field Area. These areas were used to dispose fly ash from the boiler plant, spent lime from water treatment activities, sanitary waste, and construction rubble from past operations at the FEMP.

### **Remedial Design**

Design of the On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) is being performed under the Operable Unit 2 project. The OSDF will be located on the eastern side of the FEMP and will be designed to contain 2.5 million cubic yards of waste material from Operable Units 2, 3, and 5.

On Oct. 14, 1996, the final OSDF design package was submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio EPA. The design of the haul road and rerouted north entrance road was approved by U.S. EPA on Sept. 27, 1997, and by Ohio EPA on Jan. 22, 1997.

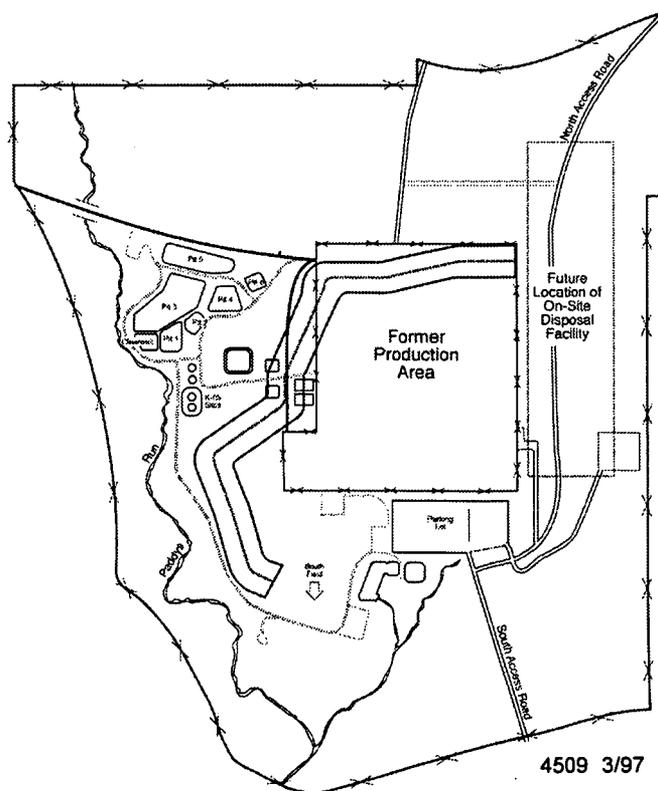
Due to the physical location of the Operable Unit 2 waste units to one another and to other remediation areas, the remedial action will be implemented in three separate pieces: Southern Waste Units (Inactive Fly Ash Pile, Active Fly Ash Pile, and South Field); Lime Sludge Pond; and Solid Waste Landfill.

The tentative excavation schedule for each of the separate remediation areas is:

- Southern Waste Units, 1998;
- Lime Sludge Ponds, after 2000;
- Solid Waste Landfill, after 2000.

The actual excavation schedules will be established when the prefinal design packages for each area are submitted to EPA.

LOCATION OF NEW HAUL ROAD TO ON-SITE DISPOSAL FACILITY



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# Operable Unit 2

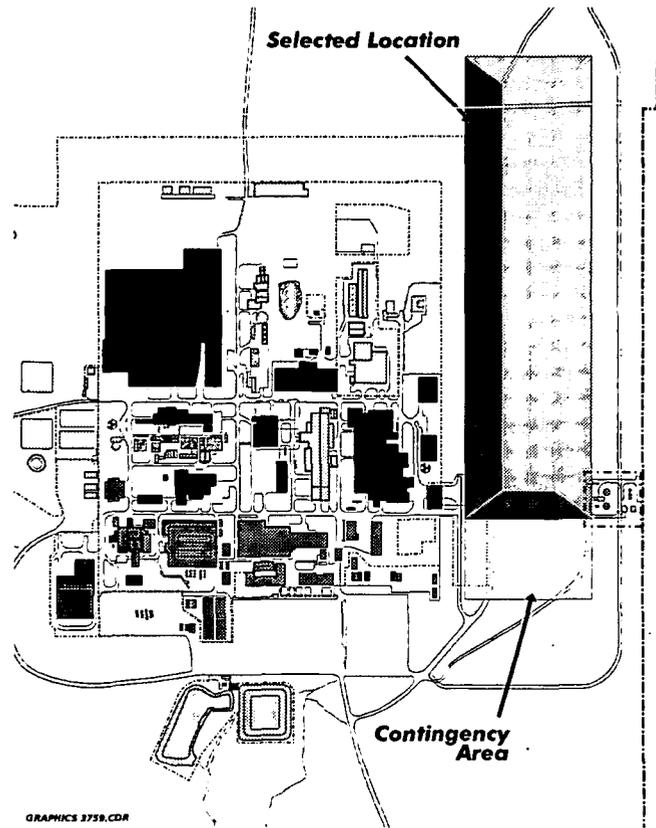
## Soil Remediation Project

### Remedial Action

On Oct. 14, 1996, the final remedial action work plan for the OSDF was submitted to U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA. On April 3, Fluor Daniel Fernald awarded Petro Environmental Technologies Inc. the contract for Phase I construction of the OSDF. Phase I includes constructing the liner in the OSDF's first cell. OSDF construction began in April 1997.

On April 7, Fluor Daniel Fernald authorized Village Building Services to begin mobilizing for construction of the OSDF's Leachate Conveyance System. Installation of telephone poles began April 8. Construction of the Leachate Conveyance System, which will carry leachate from the OSDF to the Bionitrification Surge Lagoon for eventual treatment at the Advanced Wastewater Treatment facility (AWWT), will be performed by Village Building Services Inc. and will begin in April 1997.

The contract to construct the haul road and the rerouted north entrance road was awarded to Barrett Paving Materials Inc. on Oct. 7, 1996, and construction of the haul road began in February 1997. Phase I construction of the rerouted north entrance road, which will run on the east side of the OSDF, is currently scheduled to begin in July 1997.



### For More Information

*For specific questions regarding Operable Unit 1, contact Rod Warner, DOE-FEMP Operable Unit 2 branch chief, 513-648-3156; or send an e-mail message to [Rod\\_Warner@fernald.gov](mailto:Rod_Warner@fernald.gov).*

*For more information about the PEIC and its resources, call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164, or send an e-mail message to [Rene\\_Eichhold@fernald.gov](mailto:Rene_Eichhold@fernald.gov).*

# Operable Unit 3

## *Facilities Closure and Demolition Project*

March 1997

Operable Unit 3 – the Facilities Closure and Demolition Project -- involves the remediation of more than 200 former uranium processing facilities and equipment at the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). When the FEMP discontinued production operations in 1989, many production facilities, including process lines, drumming stations and equipment still contained quantities of raw, intermediate and finished uranium products.

The mission of Operable Unit 3 mission is to remove legacy nuclear materials currently stored in FEMP buildings, clean out the buildings and equipment, and decontaminate and dismantle these facilities. Operable Unit 3 also addresses above- and below-grade improvements not covered by the FEMP's other operable units.

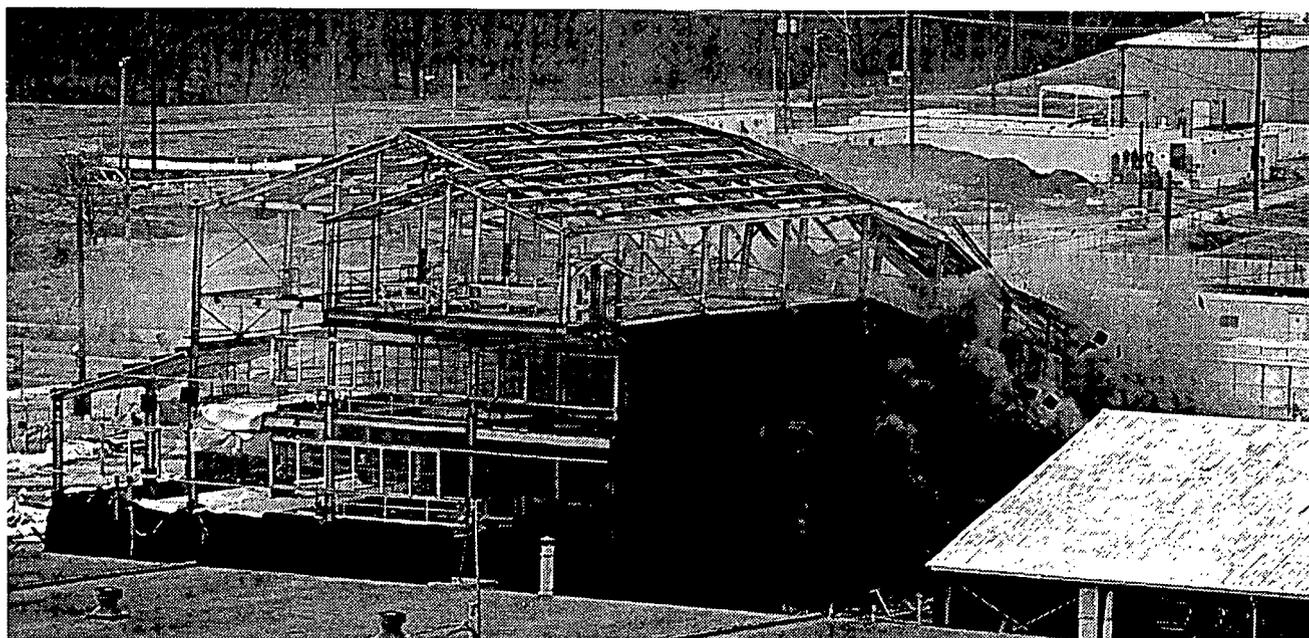
### **Interim Remedial Action**

To accelerate decontamination and dismantlement of contaminated, deteriorating buildings and structures, DOE and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed the *Operable Unit 3 Record of Decision for Interim Remedial Action* on July 22, 1994. The interim action eliminated several years of work and saved taxpayers millions of dollars.

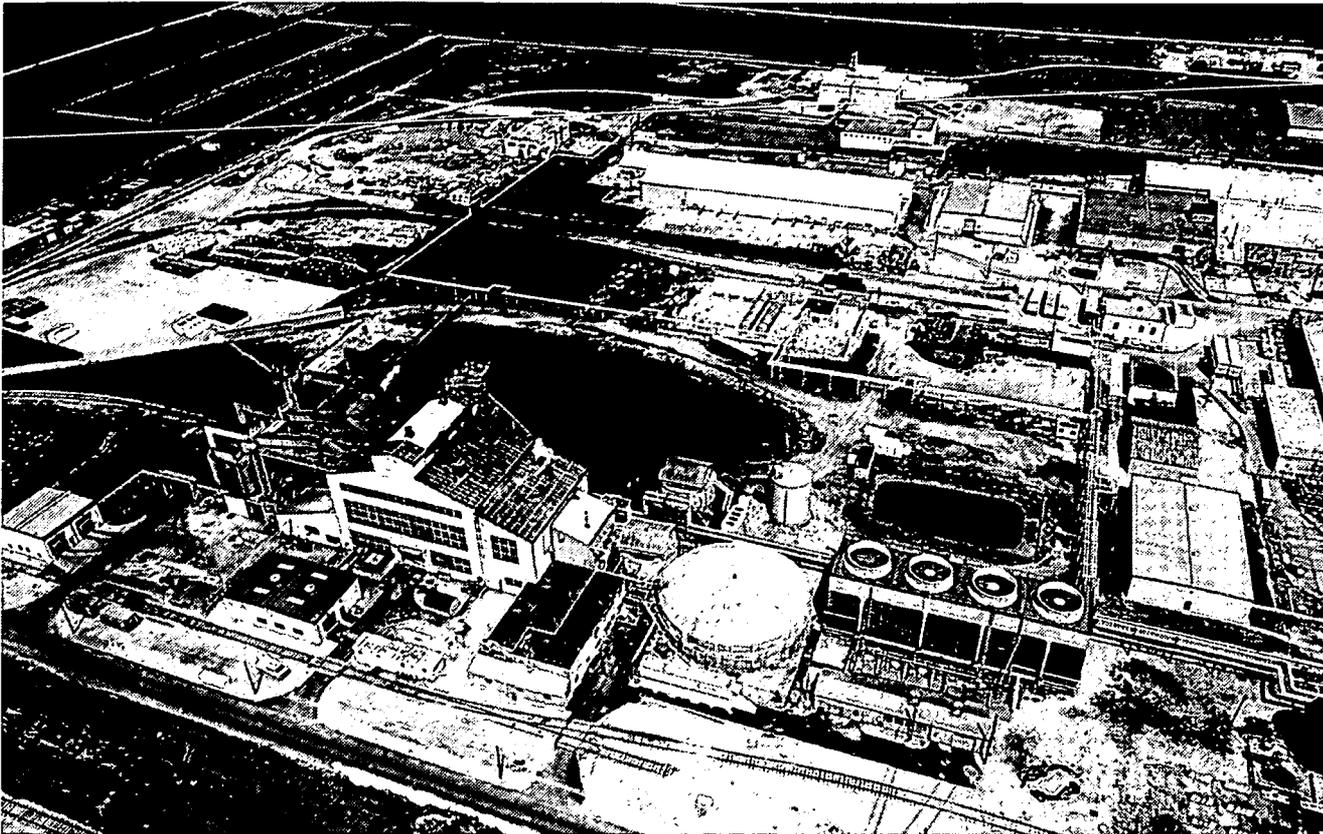
### **Final Remedial Action**

On Sept. 24, 1996, U.S. EPA, Ohio EPA and DOE signed the *Operable Unit 3 Record of Decision for Final Remedial Action*. This record of decision addresses treatment and final disposition of contaminated materials generated by demolition activities in the FEMP's 136-acre former production area.

*Saving years of work and millions of dollars, Operable Unit 3's interim remedial action enabled DOE to accelerate decontamination and dismantlement of contaminated production buildings, such as Plant 1, the former incoming materials sampling plant. Plant 1 was the third of 10 major plants dismantled as part of the FEMP cleanup mission (6080-609).*



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On Feb. 27, 1997, Fluor Daniel Fernald awarded the decontamination and dismantling Boiler Plant/Water Plant (BP/WP) Complex project to Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp., of Livingston, N.J. Under its 18-month, firm-fixed price subcontract (approximately \$4 million), Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp. will decontaminate and demolish the BP/WP structures and segregate, cut, and containerize the construction debris. (6385-187).

The final remedial action integrates programmatic (ongoing) Operable Unit 3 removal actions and the *Operable Unit 3 Record of Decision for Interim Remedial Action*.

#### **Site-wide Remedial Strategy**

Operable Unit 3 remediation plans are consistent with the site-wide remedial strategy which involves balancing off-site disposal of highly contaminated wastes with on-property disposal of less-contaminated wastes. Building removal is planned to coincide with soil excavation in adjacent areas of the site to minimize the staging duration of materials prior to disposal and avoid potential for contaminating clean areas.

The strategy is to continually collapse and consolidate radiologically contaminated zones so they become smaller and fewer until only the On-Site Disposal Facility remains. DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald will evaluate recycling options and new technologies to help minimize the contaminated material going into the On-Site Disposal Facility.

#### **Decontamination and Dismantling Activities**

Decontamination and dismantling projects already completed at the FEMP include: Plant 7; Plant 4; Plant 1; the Plant 1 Ore Silos, the Fire Training Facility, the Hydrofluoric Acid Tank Car, the Nitric Acid Tank Car, several drum storage warehouses, tanks, and other small structures.

## Operable Unit 3

## Facilities Closure and Demolition Project

### Removal Actions

One of the objectives of the *Operable Unit 3 Record of Decision for Final Remedial Action* is to integrate ongoing removal actions with cleanup activities. Four of the original 30 site removal actions are ongoing: Removal of Waste Inventories (Removal Action 9); Safe Shutdown (Removal Action 12); Improved Storage of Soil and Debris (Removal Action 17); Asbestos Abatement (Removal Action 26).

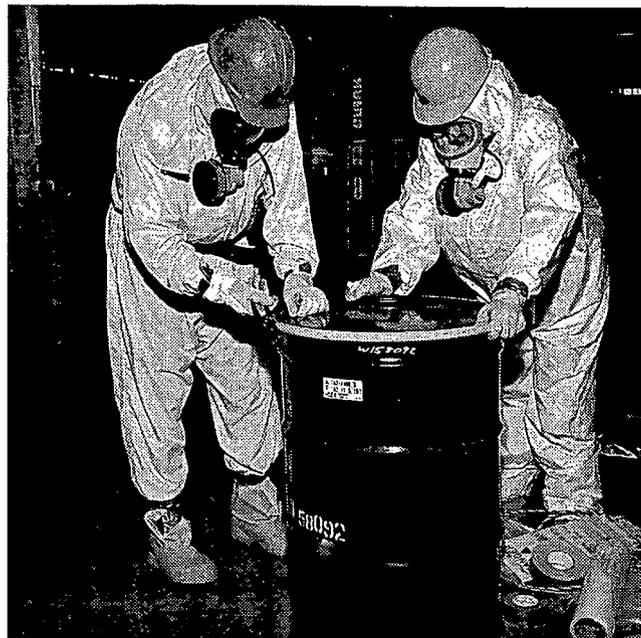
### Removal of Waste Inventories (Removal Action 9)

This removal action involves the safe, off-site disposal of existing waste inventories to the Nevada Test Site (NTS) in compliance with DOE Orders, Department of Transportation shipping requirements and NTS acceptance criteria.

The FEMP currently has an inventory of low-level radioactive waste, mixed waste (waste that is both hazardous and radioactive) and polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) wastes resulting from production operations. These waste streams include: process area scrap wastes (scrap metal and wood); construction and removal action wastes (demolition debris); uranium production residues; baled trash; processed metal waste; and thorium wastes.

### Safe Shutdown (Removal Action 12)

This removal action involves the removal and proper disposition of all nuclear product and in-process residue materials, excess supplies, chemicals, and associated process equipment that were abandoned when the FEMP ended production in 1989. This removal action also provides for the isolation and de-energizing of production-related equipment and utilities and the identification of potential customers of FEMP equipment and nuclear products.



In March 1997, Fluor Daniel Fernald workers completed safe shutdown activities in Plant 5, the former Metals Production Plant, where UF<sub>6</sub> (green salt) was converted to uranium metal derbies (6401-159).

### Improved Storage of Soil and Debris (Removal Action 17)

This removal action provides controlled storage of excess contaminated soil and debris generated during FEMP maintenance, construction, removal and remedial actions. It establishes the framework and procedures for managing and storing soil and debris generated during FEMP cleanup.

### Asbestos Abatement (Removal Action 26)

This removal action mitigates potential asbestos release and migration. Conducted before decontamination and dismantling activities begin, asbestos abatement activities include in situ repair, encasement, encapsulation, and removal of asbestos-containing materials.

## Operable Unit 3

## Facilities Closure and Demolition Project

### Scrap Metal Piles (Removal Action 15)

In November 1996, U.S. EPA approved the final phase of the Scrap Metal Piles. Phase 1, which involved containerizing 1,400 tons of scrap copper and about 2,270 tons of recoverable stockpiled ferrous and nonferrous scrap metal to eliminate potential environmental threats, was completed in 1994. Several activities regarding potential beneficial reuse of the scrap copper remain.

### Nuclear Materials

Since production ended in 1989, approximately half of the FEMP's 32-million-net-pound inventory of uranium metal products have been removed from the site and transferred to other DOE sites for their use or sold to commercial vendors for non-military use.

The remaining inventory is scheduled to be removed from the site by April 1999. DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald are negotiating contracts for the sale of the remaining inventory or seeking other disposition options. As of mid-April 1997, depleted uranium metal products represent about 8.5 million net pounds of the remaining goods; enriched products total 6.7 million pounds; and normal uranium -- containing 0.7 percent of the compound uranium-235 as uranium is mined from the earth -- represents about 440,000 net pounds.

DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald continue to seek alternative off-site storage facilities for remaining uranium metal products as a contingency, since the buildings currently housing these products are targeted for dismantling.



Among the FEMP's product inventory are uranium derbies; each can weigh between 300 and 375 pounds.

### Hazardous Waste Management Units

On Nov. 20, 1996, the Ohio EPA approved the last of 13 clean closure certifications for Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Hazardous Waste Management Units (HWMU), resulting in a significant regulatory and cleanup accomplishment. Closure of the HWMUs, which included a tank car, storage tanks, a dust collector and other equipment, was completed safely and in accordance with regulatory guidelines. Remaining requirements for HWMUs have been integrated into cleanup activities; no additional closure plans will be required.

### For More Information

For specific questions regarding Operable Unit 3, contact John Trygier, DOE FEMP Operable Unit 3 branch chief, 513-648-3154; or send an e-mail message to [John\\_Trygier@fernald.gov](mailto:John_Trygier@fernald.gov).

For more information about the PEIC and its resources, call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164, or send an e-mail message to [Rene\\_Eichhold@fernald.gov](mailto:Rene_Eichhold@fernald.gov).

# Operable Unit 4

## *Silos Project*

March 1997

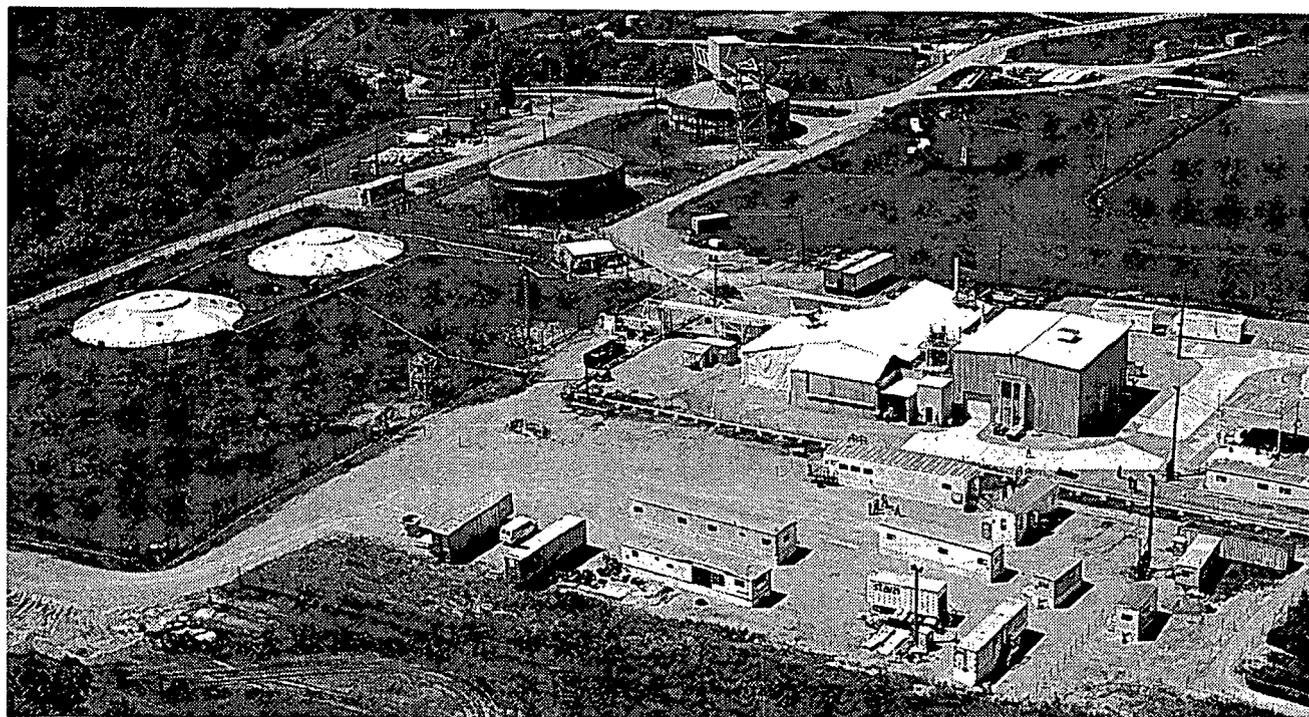
### **Operable Unit 4**

Operable Unit 4 – the Silos Project – is one of five areas being remediated at DOE's Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). Each operable unit was defined based on its location or the potential for similar technologies to be used in the ultimate cleanup.

Located on the western periphery of the FEMP, Operable Unit 4 includes Silos 1 and 2 (K-65 Silos), Silo 3 (metal oxide silo), unused Silo 4, and ancillary structures. Operable Unit 4 remediation will address each of these structures, as well as any contaminated soils within the geographic boundary, and any contaminated perched water encountered during Operable Unit 4 remedial activities.

Silos 1 and 2, commonly called the "K-65 Silos," contain radium-bearing, low-level radioactive wastes dating back to the 1950s. In 1964, the two silos were reinforced with an earthen berm, which was upgraded in 1983.

Other improvements include a 30-foot cap on top of the silo domes, installed for added protection, and a polyurethane foam coating applied over the domes for weather protection. A silo headspace radon treatment system was also constructed, and radon monitors were installed around the FEMP boundary and in the immediate vicinity of Silos 1 and 2. Silo 3 contains dried uranium-bearing wastes. Silo 4 is empty.



Located on the western periphery of the FEMP, Operable Unit 4 – the Silos Project – includes Silos 1 and 2 (K-65 Silos) shown with the white domes; Silo 3 (metal oxide silo), unused Silo 4, shown with a steel superstructure over it; and ancillary structures. The building in the photo is the Vitrification Pilot Plant (6385-142).

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**Public Workshop on Silos  
Project to be Held May 14**

DOE will hold a public workshop on May 14, beginning at 7 p.m., at the Plantation in Harrison. The focus of the workshop will be the path forward for Silo 3 remediation. DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald representatives will present various technological alternatives and will request feedback in determining the best path forward.

The decision-making and associated public involvement process for the remediation of Silo 3 will also be discussed. This workshop will be the first in a series of opportunities for the public to become involved with the new direction for the remediation of the FEMP's Silos Project. For more information about the meeting, please call DOE Public Information Director Gary Stegner, 513-648-3153.

***For More Information***

***For specific questions regarding Operable Unit 4, contact Nina Akgunduz, DOE-FEMP Operable Unit 4 branch chief, 513-648-3110; or send an e-mail message to [Nina\\_Akgunduz@fernald.gov](mailto:Nina_Akgunduz@fernald.gov).***

***For more information about the PEIC and its resources, call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164, or send an e-mail message to [Rene\\_Eichhold@fernald.gov](mailto:Rene_Eichhold@fernald.gov).***

# Operable Unit 5

## Aquifer Restoration Project

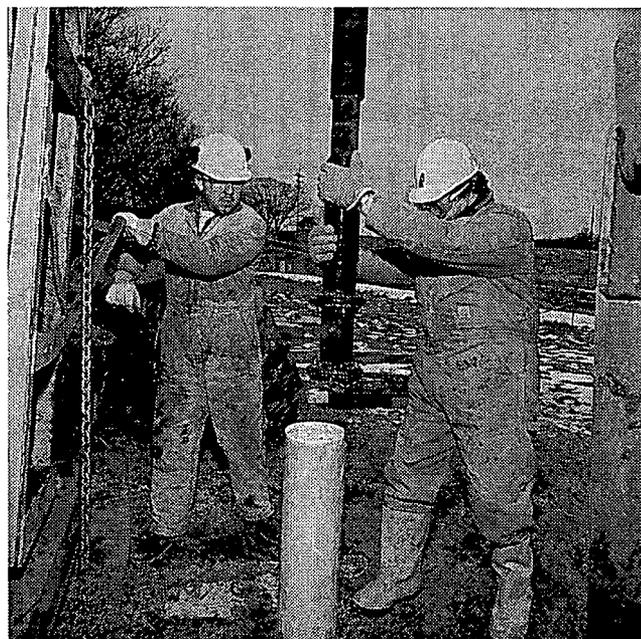
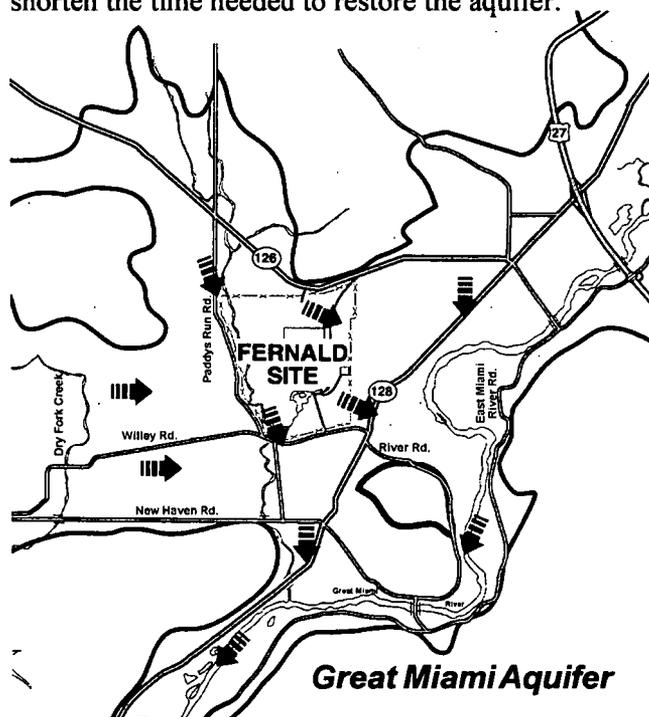
March 1997

### Operable Unit 5

Operable Unit 5 is one of five areas being remediated at DOE's Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP). Each operable unit was defined based on its location or the potential for similar technologies to be used in the ultimate cleanup.

### Selected Remedy for the Great Miami Aquifer

The remedy for the Great Miami Aquifer is announced in the *Record of Decision for Remedial Actions at Operable Unit 5* and was signed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Jan. 31, 1996. Areas of the Great Miami Aquifer exceeding final remediation levels will be restored through extraction methods. DOE will investigate and apply, if appropriate, innovative technologies such as reinjection. It is anticipated that reinjection will help flush contamination to extraction wells and shorten the time needed to restore the aquifer.

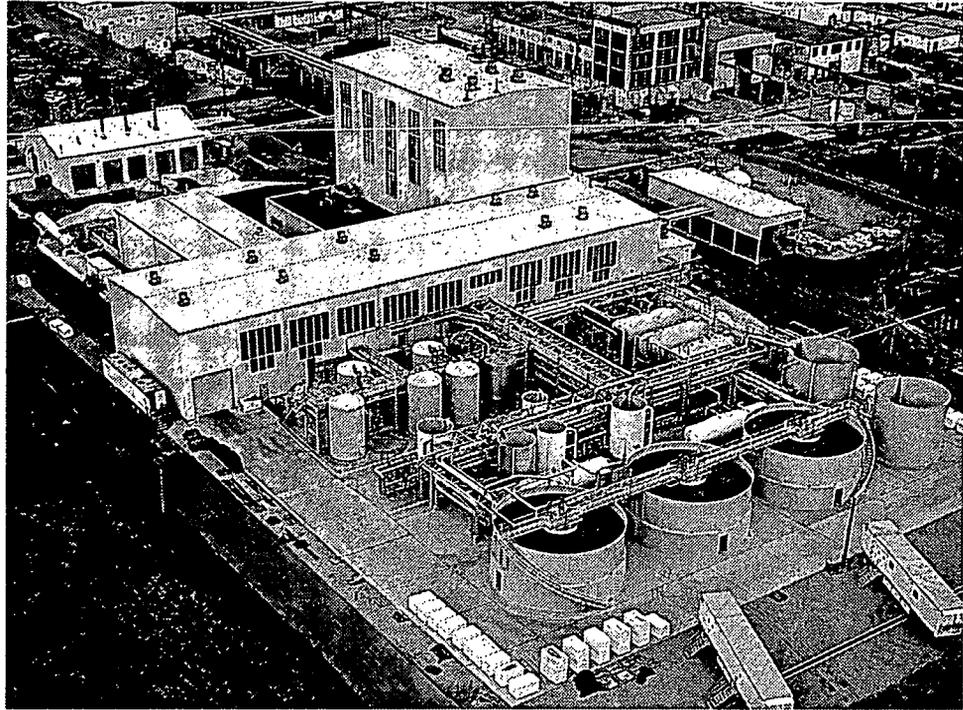


Drillers insert a surge block in preparation of a strategically placed extraction well, which will extract contaminated groundwater for processing at the FEMP's Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility. The block is raised and lowered several times to help form a sand pack around the well screen (6501-31).

### Remedial Design

In July, the draft *Final Remedial Design Work Plan for Remedial Actions at Operable Unit 5* was approved by the U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA. As required by the amended consent agreement, the remedial design work plan identifies overall design and strategy for remedy implementation and schedules for delivery of design documents to U.S. EPA. The Operable Unit 5 remedial design work plan fulfills this requirement.

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*The Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility currently treats contaminated groundwater at a rate of approximately 30 million gallons per month (6385-458).*

## **Great Miami Aquifer Remedy Objectives**

The five objectives of the Great Miami Aquifer remedial design process are to:

- 1) Accommodate the need for sequential restoration modules, each independently designed, installed and operated using “learn-as-you-go” principles over the life of the remedy;
- 2) Build enhancements into the remedy, as described by the Operable Unit 5 feasibility study report and record of decision;
- 3) Develop a solid remedial approach that has the potential to accomplish remedial action objectives within the aggressive time frames contained in Fernald’s current funding baseline (10 years);
- 4) Accommodate transition of the existing groundwater extraction and treatment infrastructure and early-start actions with a coordinated site-wide final remedy; and
- 5) Satisfy discharge limits for the release of groundwater, stormwater, and remedial wastewater to the Great Miami River.

The remedy for the Great Miami Aquifer is unique in that major elements of the remedy have already been designed and implemented as a result of U.S.-EPA-approved early-start initiatives and groundwater-related removal actions. These elements include the Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility (AWWT), the South Field Extraction System, and the South Plume Removal Action recovery well system. The remedial design process will build upon this existing infrastructure.

### ***For More Information***

***For specific questions regarding Operable Unit 1, contact Rob Janke, DOE FEMP Operable Unit 5 branch chief, 513-648-3124; or send an e-mail message to [Rob\\_Janke@fernald.gov](mailto:Rob_Janke@fernald.gov).***

***For more information about the PEIC and its resources, call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164, or send an e-mail message to [Rene\\_Eichhold@fernald.gov](mailto:Rene_Eichhold@fernald.gov).***



# OPERABLE UNIT 1

FERNALD

## Remedial Action Work Plan

- Draft RAWP submitted to EPAs 10/21/96  
 Final RAWP approved by EPAs 2/06/97

## Procurement Action for ARASA Subcontractor

- Issued Request for Proposals to 1/31/97  
 7 prequalified vendors 2/19-20/97  
 Pre-Proposal Conference held with vendors 4/04/97  
 Proposals received 9/97  
 Award planned for

## Okeana Trestle Upgrades

- Contract for the upgrade work for the 2/14/97  
 Okeana Trestle awarded 4/14/97  
 Mobilization to begin week of 11/97  
 Completion due



# OPERABLE UNIT 1(con't.)

FERNALD

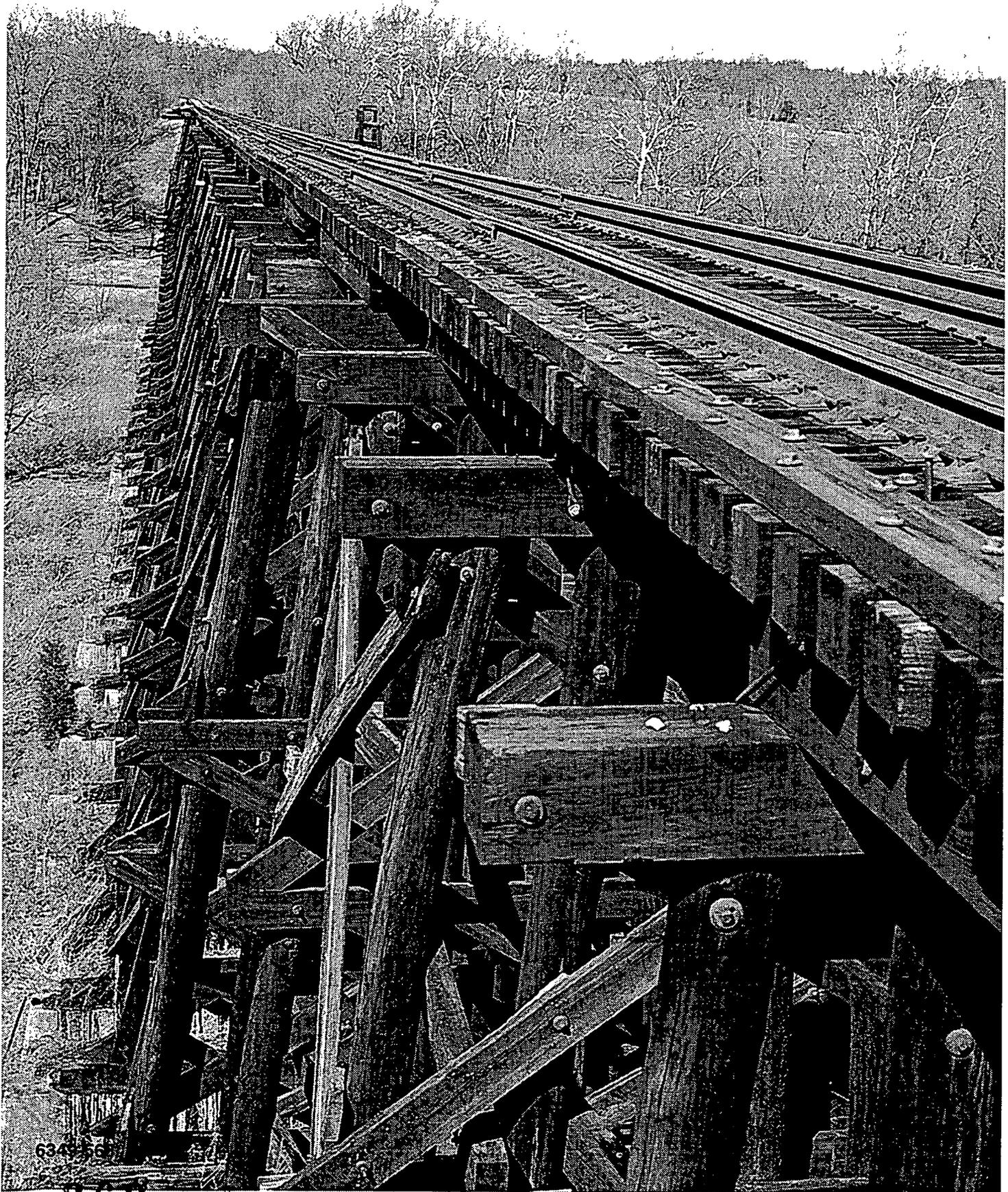
## On-Site Rail Improvements

- **Contract awarded** **10/08/96**
  - **Completion due** **9/97**
  - **Includes installation of 17,500 feet of rail, and switches and turnouts**
  - **Storage capacity for 135 cars**
  - **Contract includes upgrades of Paddy's Run Trestle (on-site trestle)**

## Site Improvement Activities

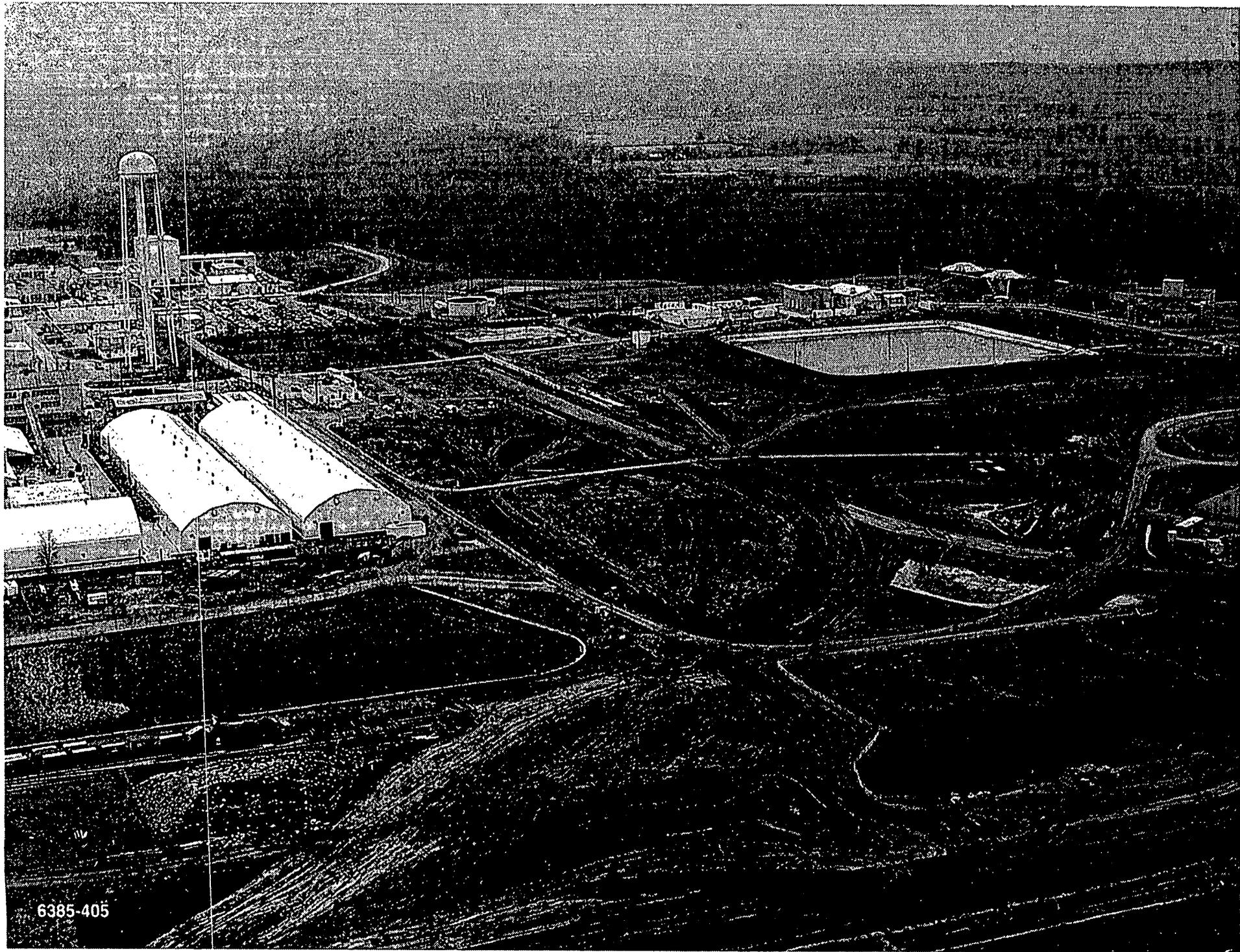
- **Completed all excavation in future waste pit process area** **10/11/96**
- **Turned over 80% of completed track area to railroad subcontractor** **12/23/96**
- **Completed rail scale pits and rail scale framework** **12/31/96**
- **Initiate "original" north access road upgrades** **4/97**

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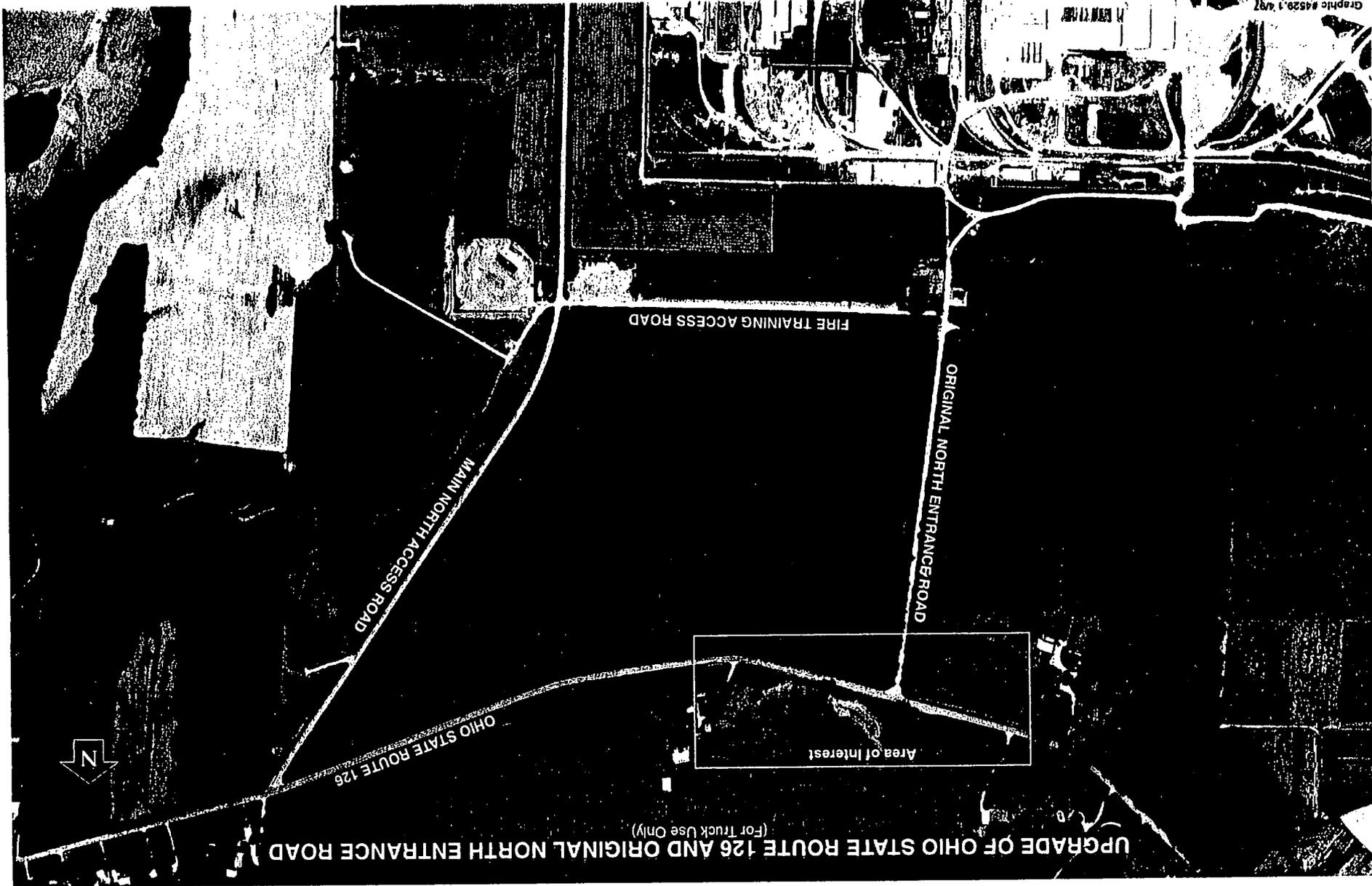
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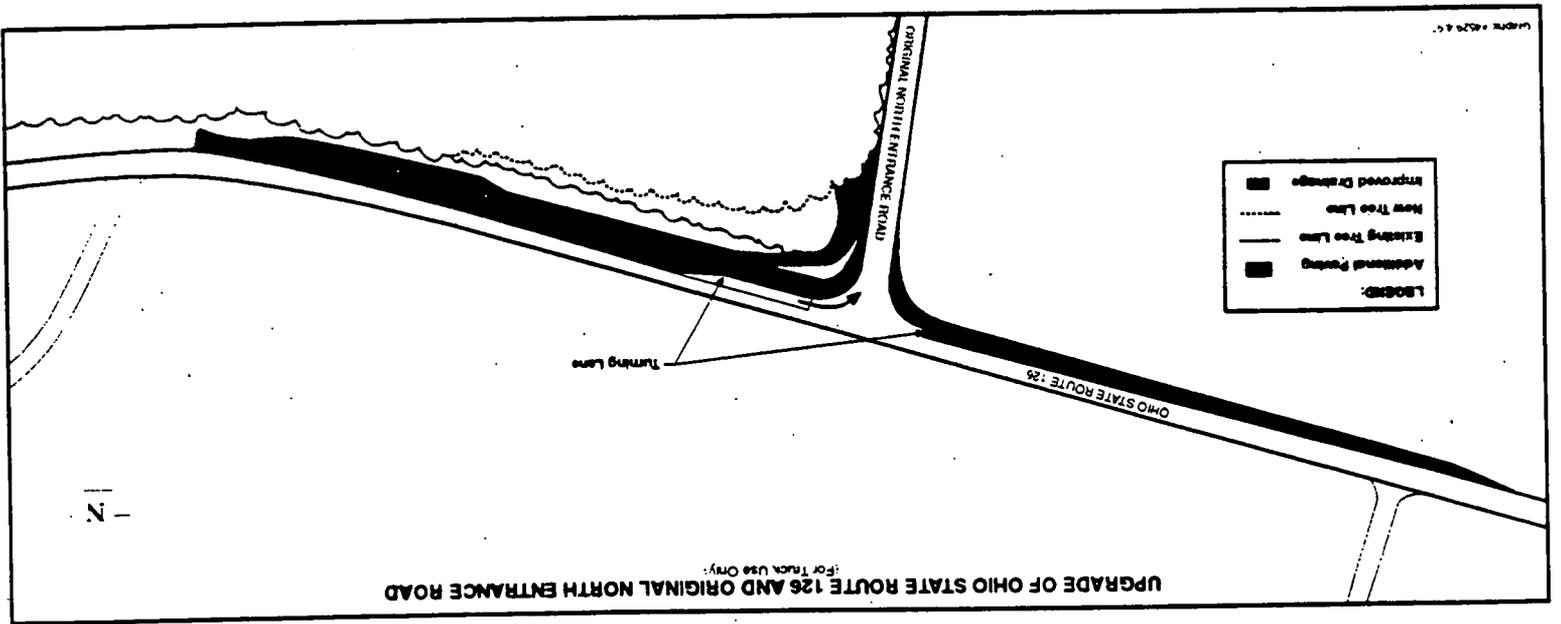
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6385-405



UPGRADE OF OHIO STATE ROUTE 126 AND ORIGINAL NORTH ENTRANCE ROAD

(For Truck Use Only)



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# OPERABLE UNIT 2

FERNALD

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## On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF)

- Final Designs of OSDF and Leachate Conveyance System submitted to EPA and OEPA on 10/14/96  
Received approval from EPA 11/25/96
- Awarded contract for construction of Leachate Conveyance System 1/13/97
- Awarded contract for construction of Phase I of the OSDF 4/02/97

## Haul Road

- Received final approval of Roads Design from EPA 9/27/96  
Received final approval of Roads Design from OEPA 1/22/97
- Awarded contract for construction of the Haul Road and Rerouted North Entrance Road 10/07/96
  - Construction of Haul Road initiated 2/97

## Rerouted North Entrance Road

- Construction of the North Entrance Road expected to begin 7/97  
This will result in a temporary closure of the existing North Entrance Road.  
The road closure will be discussed in an upcoming public workshop.

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6385-362



**CONSTRUCTION AREA**  
AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

**ROADS PROJECT**

NO ENTRY PERMITTED AT DEFINED ENTRANCE POINTS  
ALL WORK WILL BE LIMITED TO THE PROJECT SECOND YEAR & MUST  
BE APPROVED BY THE PROJECT MANAGER & APPROVED BY CONTRACTOR  
FOR THE PROJECT. NO WORK WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE CONSTRUCTION AREA  
WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT MANAGER.  
CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

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# OPERABLE UNIT 3

FERNALD

## OU3 Integrated RD/RA Work Plan

- Submitted draft to EPAs for review and comment 11/20/96
- Anticipate RD/RA Work Plan Approval by 5/97

## Boiler Plant/Water Plant (BP/WP)

- Submitted Draft Implementation Plan to EPAs 9/20/96
- Received Ohio EPA Approval and U.S. EPA Conditional Approval on: 12/30/96 and 1/15/97
- Awarded Contract 2/27/97
- Issued Notice To Proceed 3/07/97

## Thorium/Plant 9

- Submitted Draft Implementation Plan to EPAs 1/02/97
- Submit Comment Responses/Resubmittal 4/97

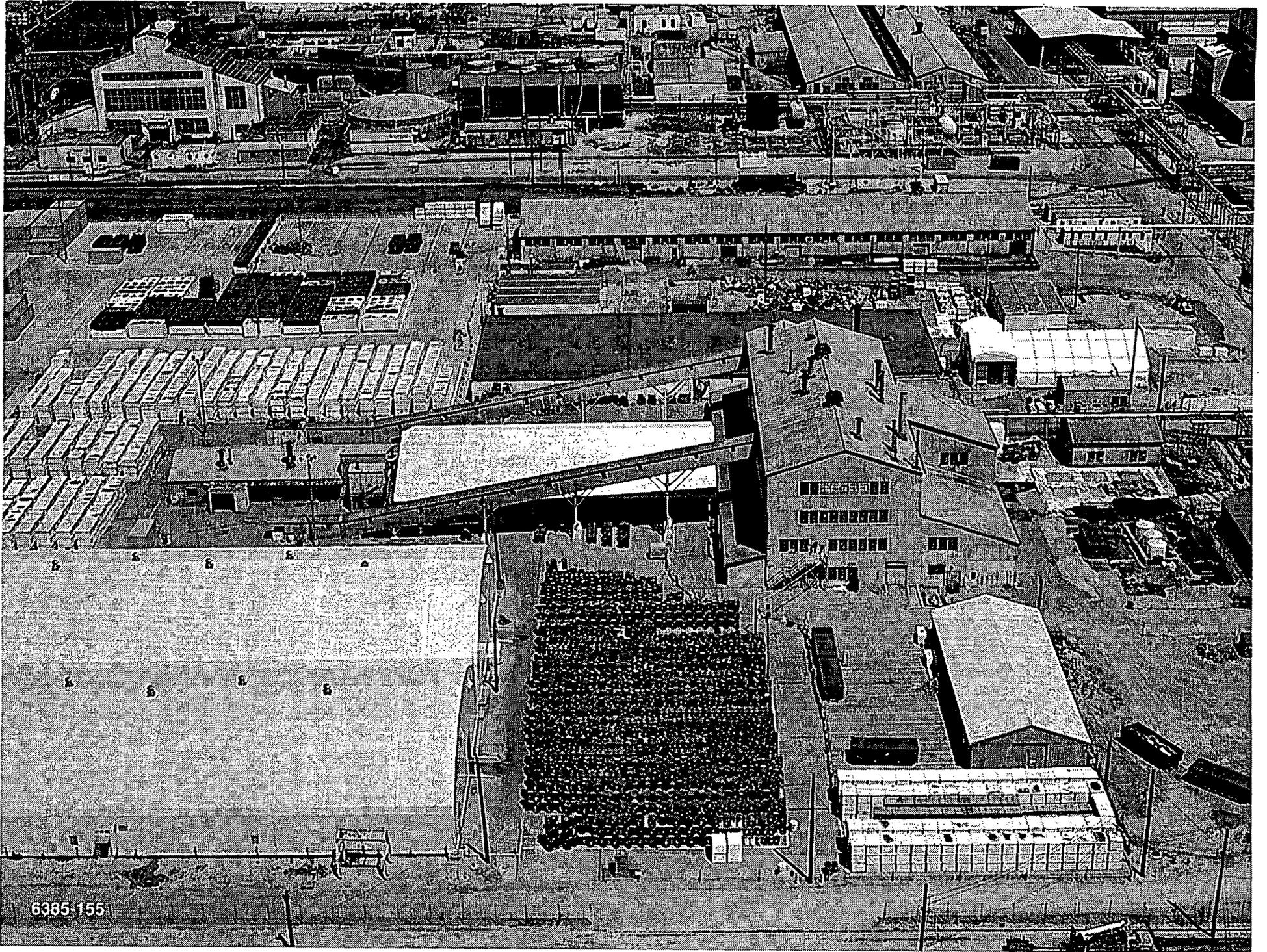
## Safe Shutdown Activities

- Completed safe shutdown of Plant 5 3/14/97
- Plant 2/3 Ongoing

## Decontamination and Dismantlement (D&D) Activities:

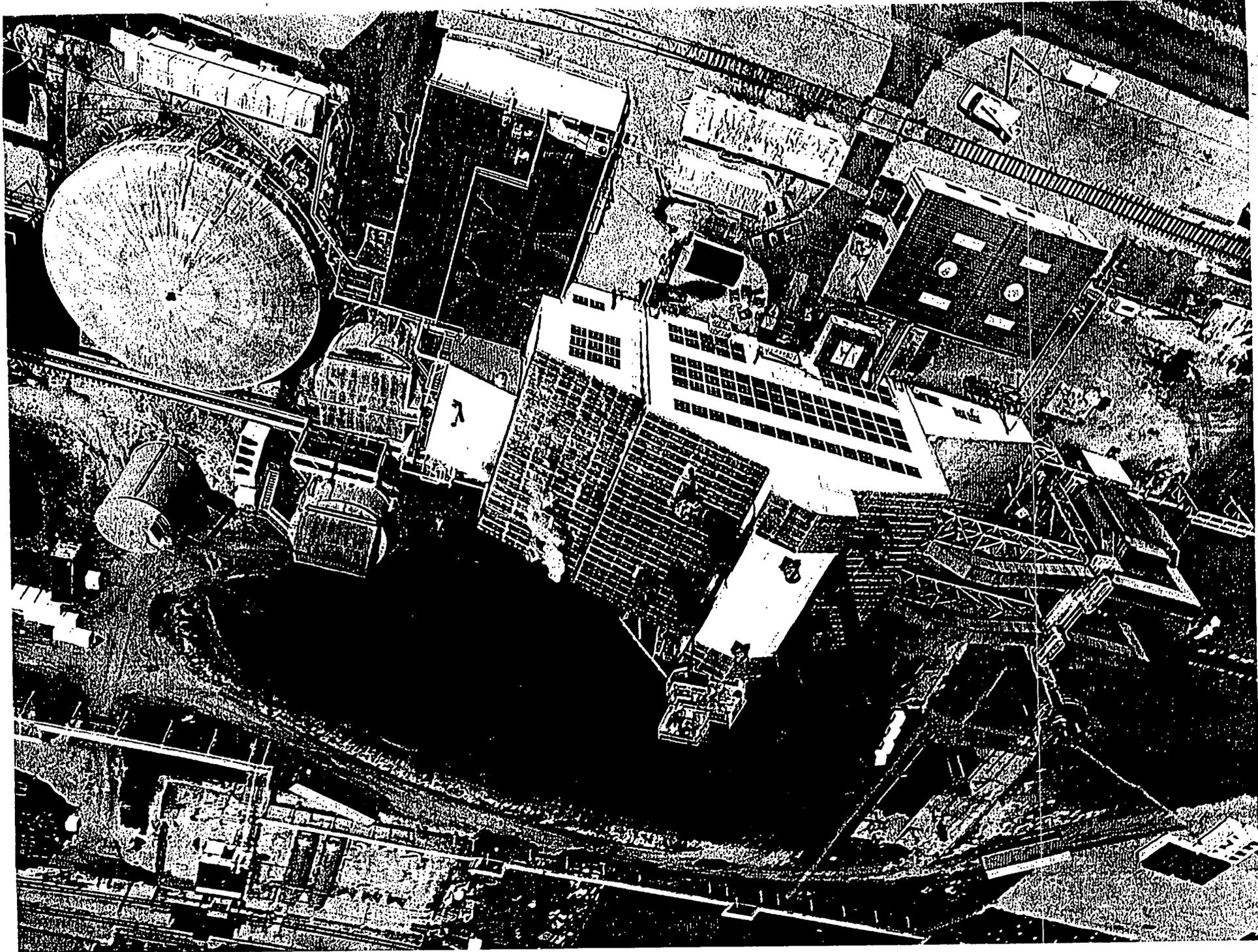
- Plant 1
  - Imploded Building 1A 2/97
  - Complete shearing and stacking of Debris 4/97
- Plant 4
  - Submitted Project Completion Report to EPAs 1/15/97

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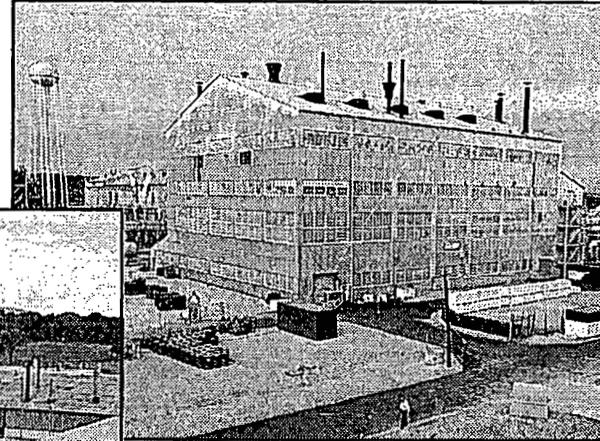


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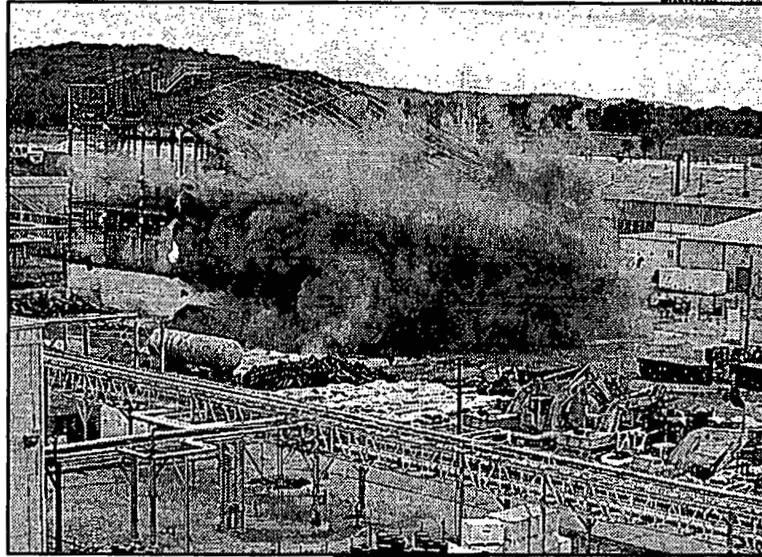


# PLANT 4 DEMOLITION

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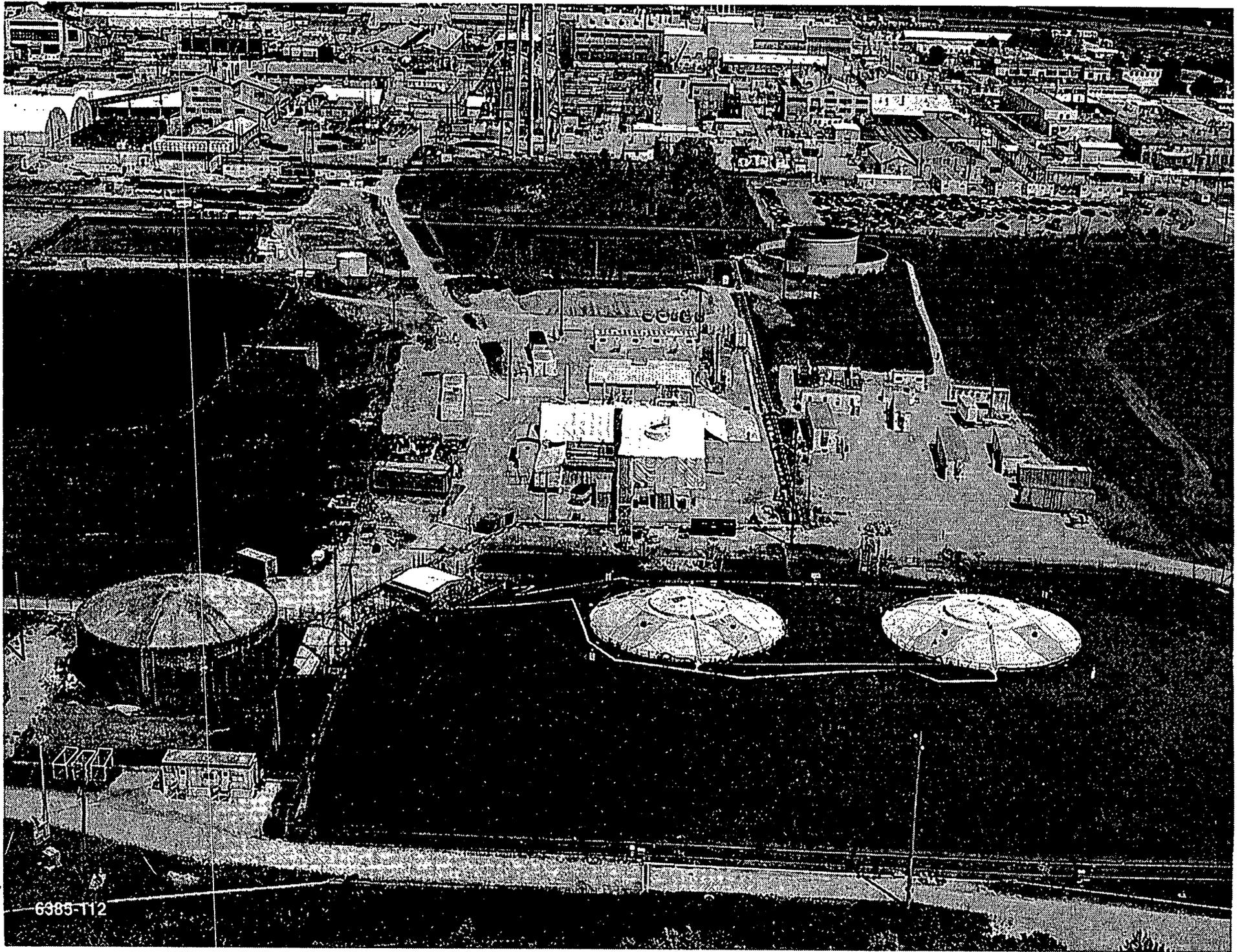
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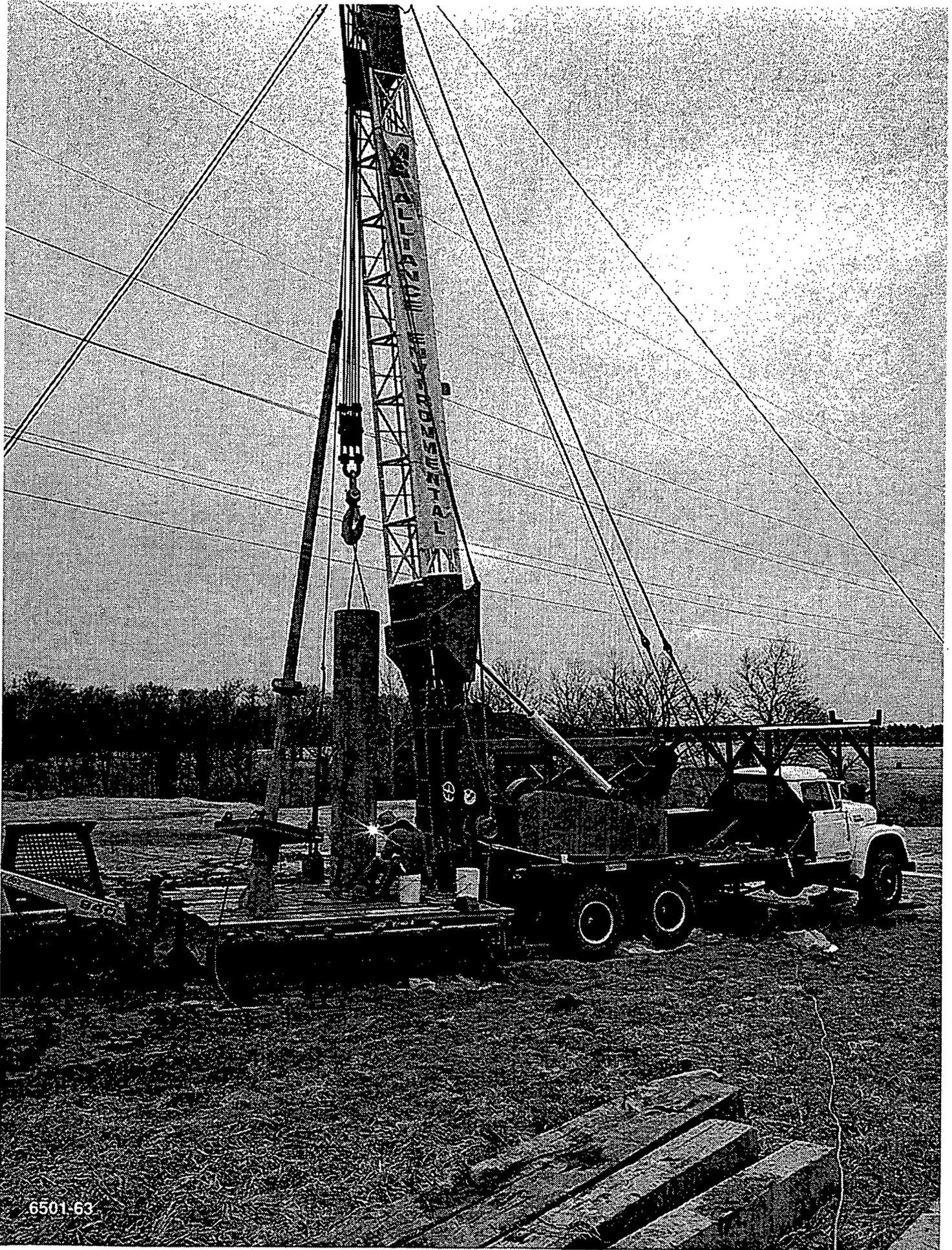


# OPERABLE UNIT 5

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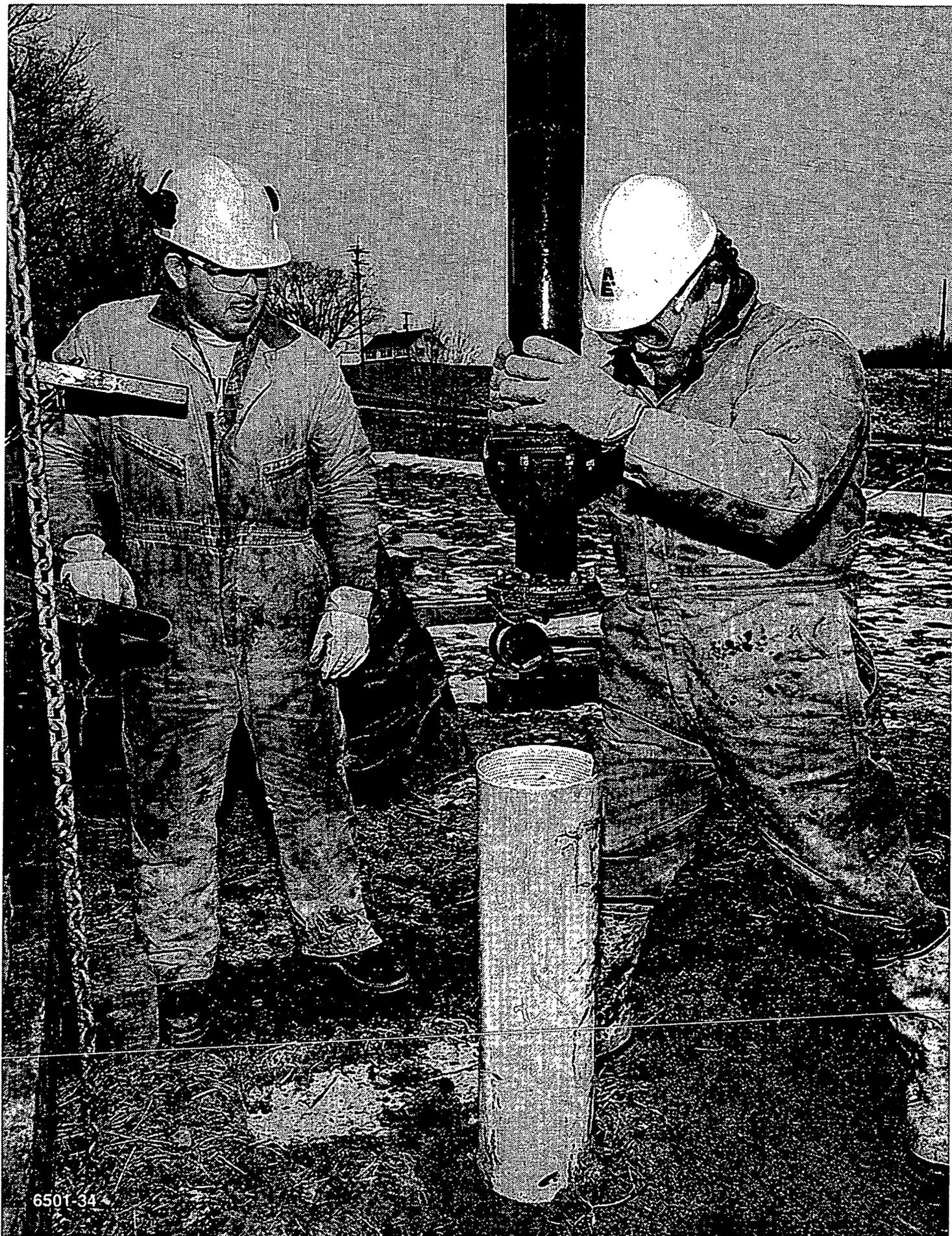
- **Initiated drilling of South Plume Injection Demonstration Wells** 11/21/96
- **AWWT multimedia filters**
  - **Completed construction** 12/14/96
  - **Initiated startup and continuous operation** 1/97
- **Project Specific Plan for Restoration Area Verification Sampling Program submitted to EPAs** 1/14/97
- **Awarded contract for construction of 1800 gpm groundwater treatment expansion at AWWT** 1/97
- **Awarded contract for Parking Lot Stormwater Runoff Diversion Project** 2/97
- **Submitted pre-final design packages to EPAs:**
  - South Plume Optimization** 2/03/97
  - Injection Demonstration Wells** 2/03/97
- **Draft Final Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan submitted to EPAs** 3/07/97
- **Public Water Supply completion** Spring '97
- **Area 1, Phase 1 Soil Certification milestone extension** 7/01/97

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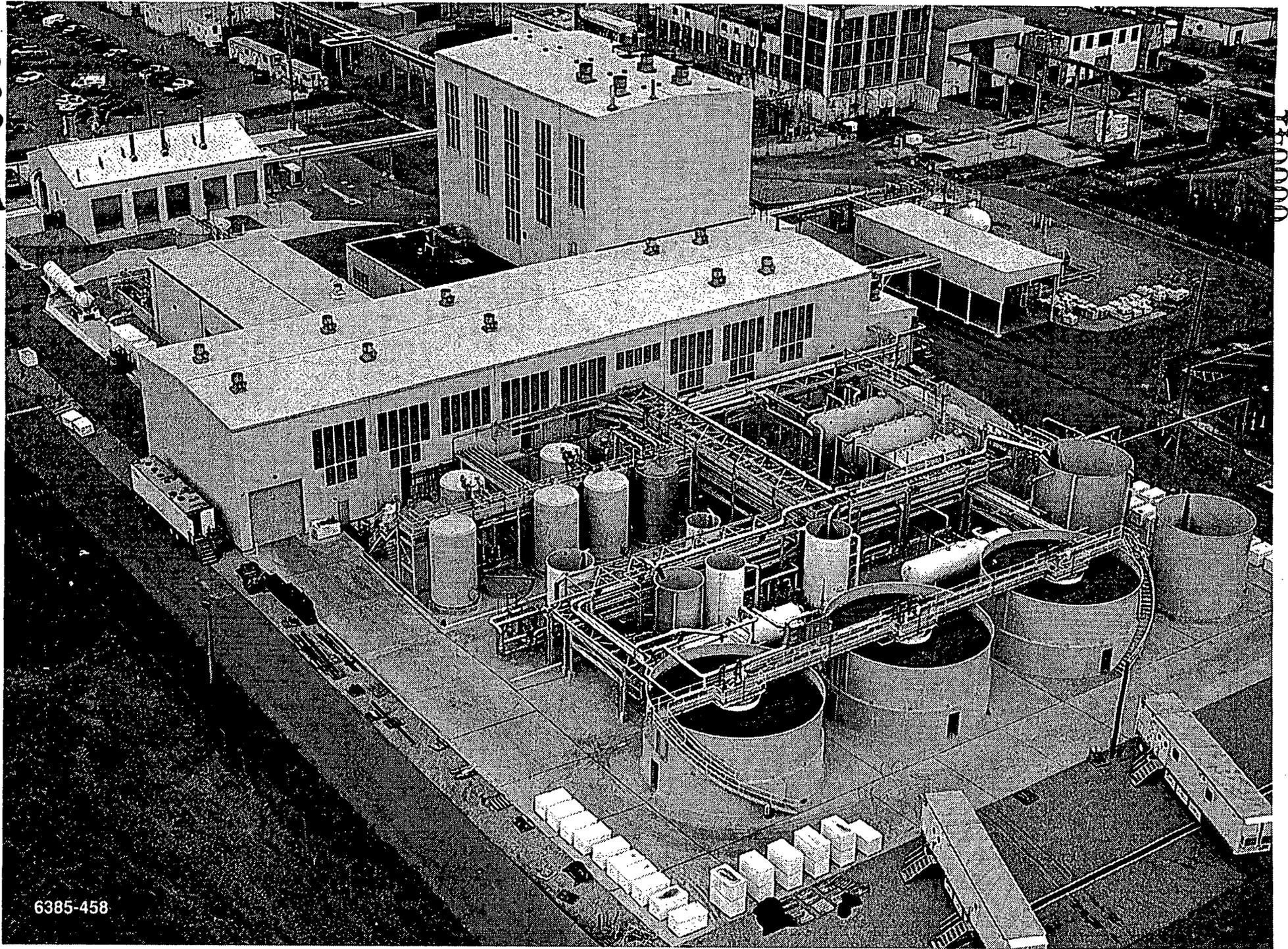


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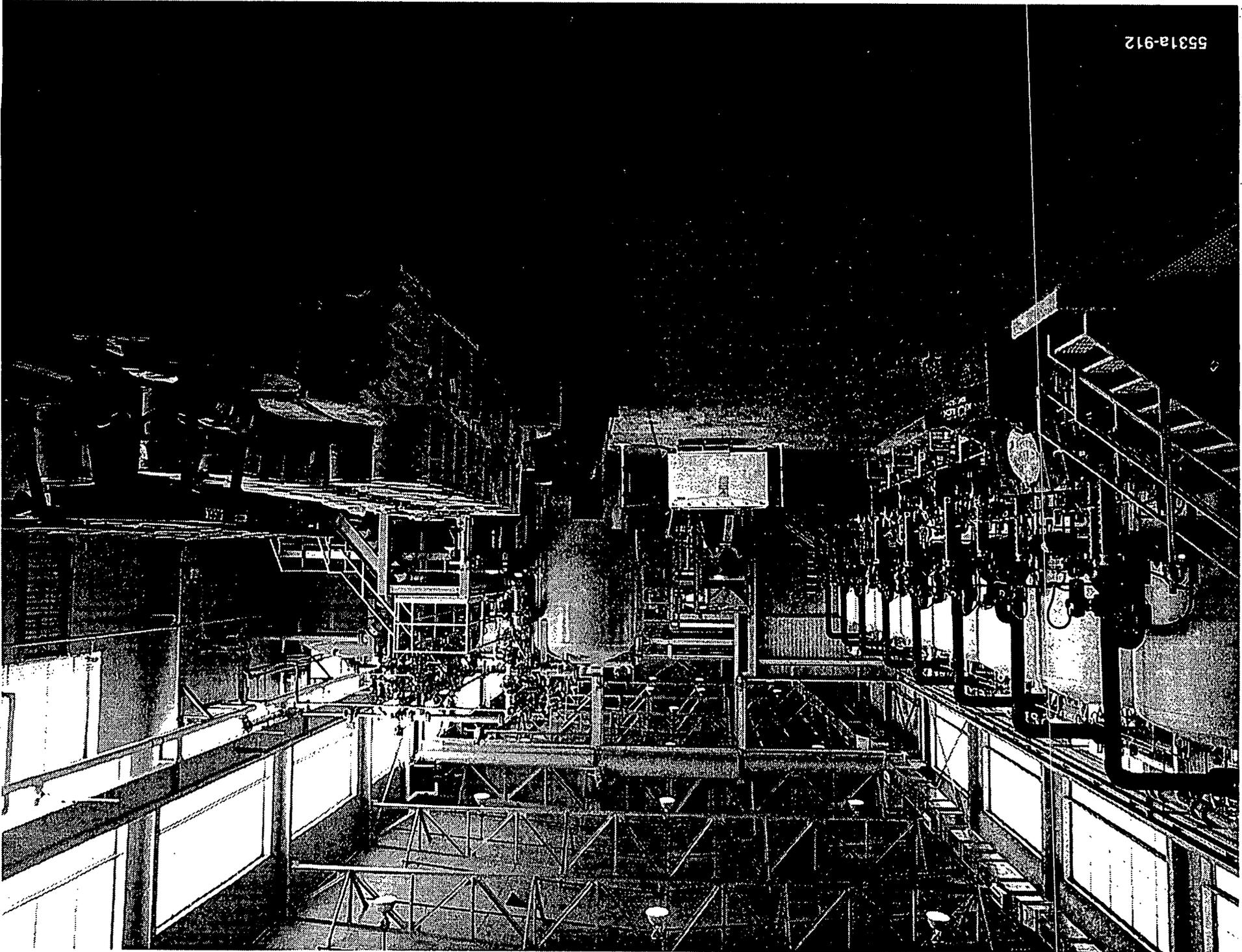
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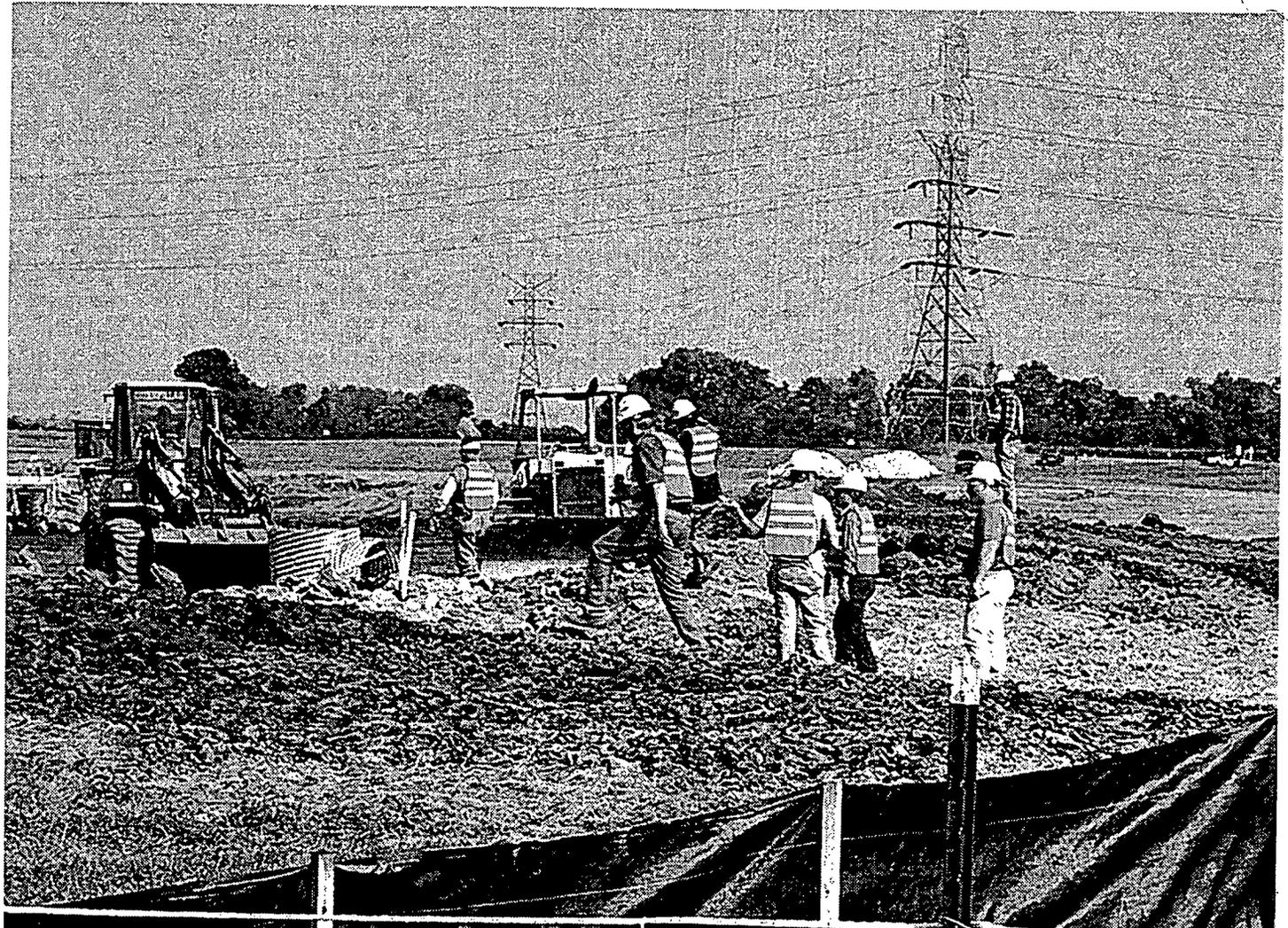
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**CONSTRUCTION AREA**

**AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY**

**AREA 1 PHASE 1 (EAST)  
SOIL REMEDIATION**

**ENTRY IS ONLY PERMITTED AT DEFINED ENTRANCE POINTS**

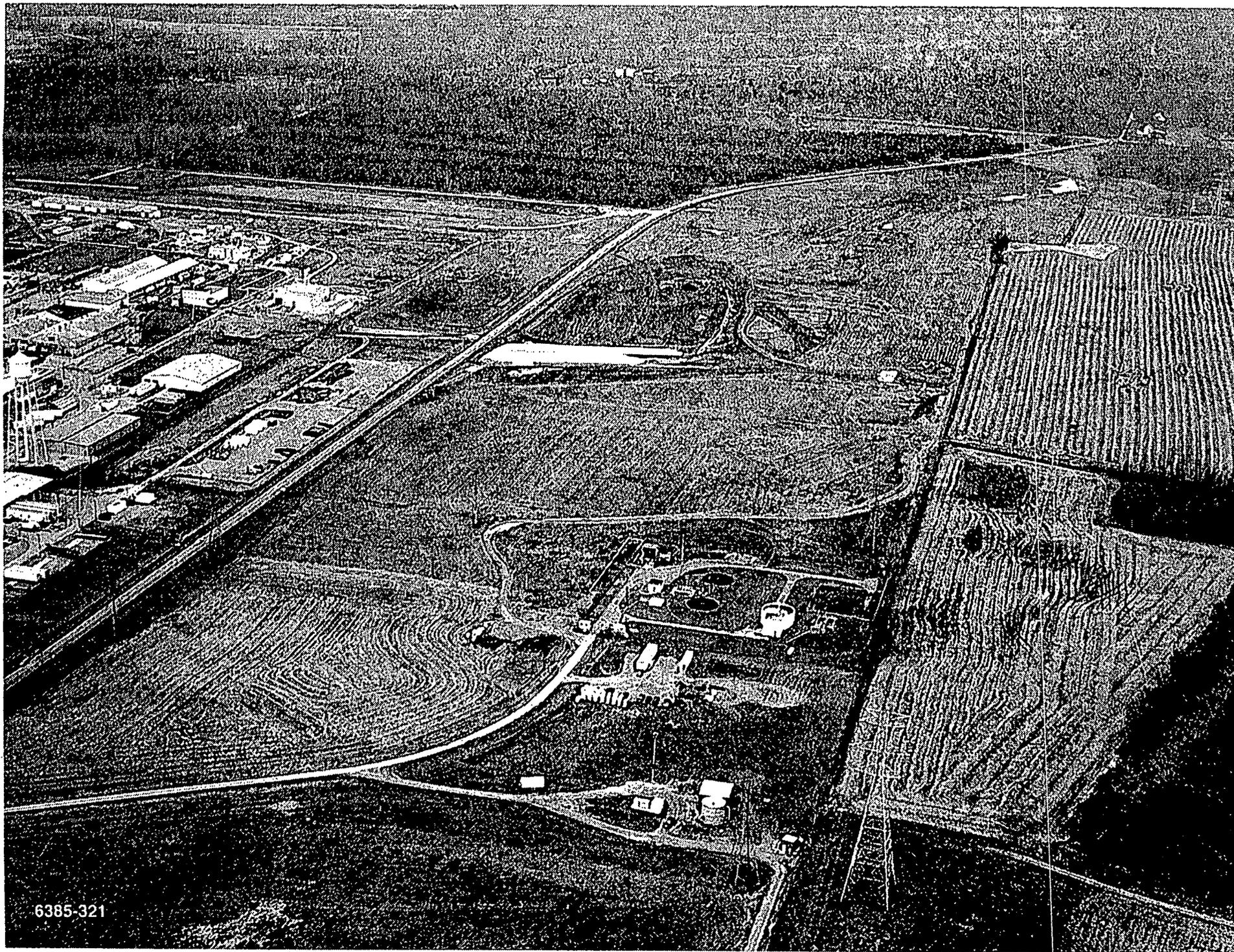
**YOU MUST HAVE BEEN BRIEFED ON THE PROJECT  
SPECIFIC HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
PROJECT AND BE APPROVED BY CONSTRUCTION  
MANAGEMENT PRIOR TO ENTRY TO THIS CONSTRUCTION AREA**

**CONTACT LEE McDAMAL BY CONSTRUCTION RADIO #741602  
OR LOU WEHLITE #741567 TO OBTAIN PERMISSION FOR ENTRY  
AFTER HOUR SECURITY PHONE # 648-5614**

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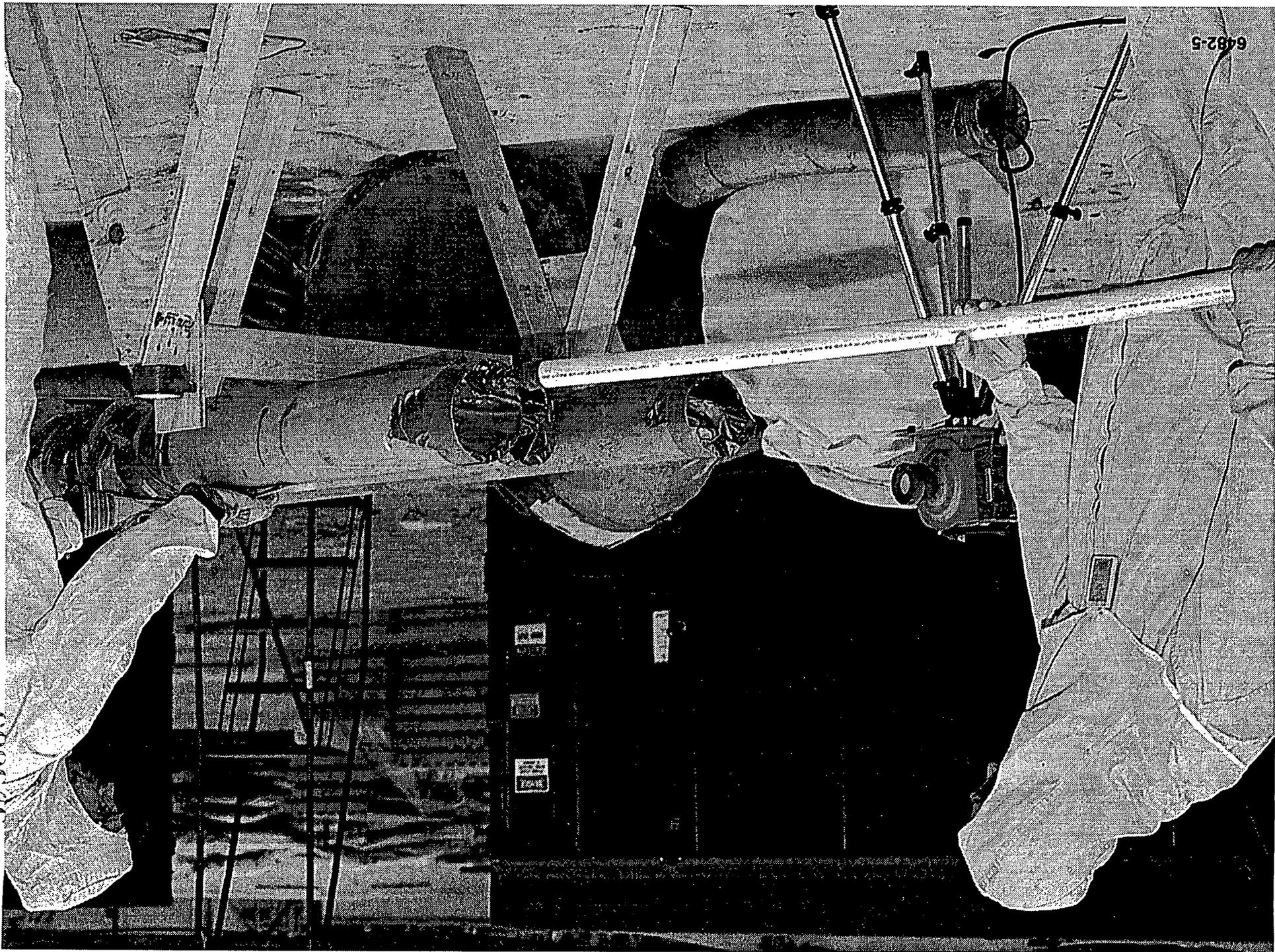


# TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

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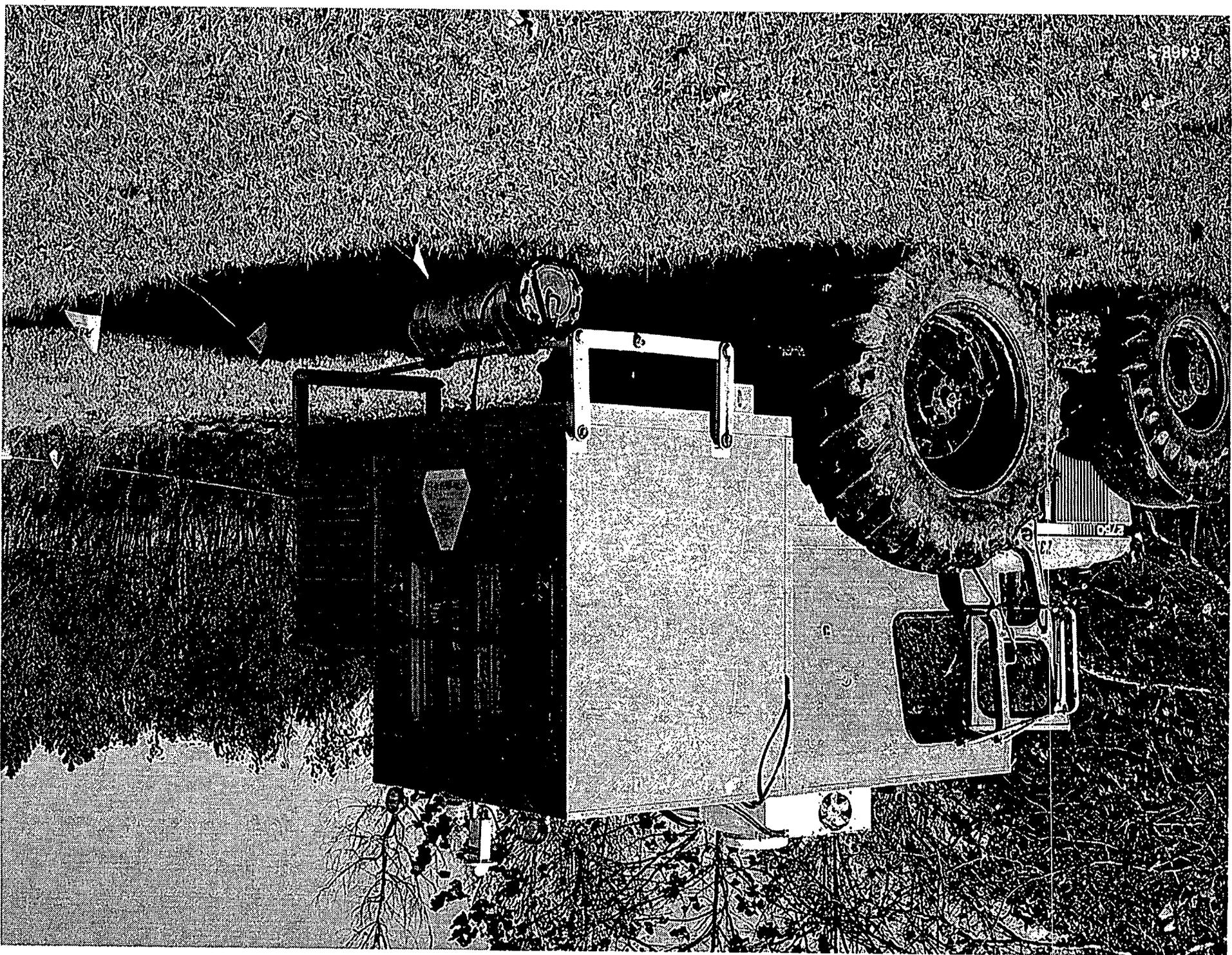
- **Conducted six additional Large Scale D&D technology demos for Plant 1**
- **Hosted periodic meetings of stakeholder Site Technology Coordination Group (STCG) in October, January, and March**
- **Applied Radiation Tracking System—RTRAK—vehicle to map relative contamination in accessible area for Onsite Disposal Facility footprint**
- **Provided tour and presentations of the FEMP Large Scale D&D Technologies Demonstrations for the National Academy of Sciences Review on March 13, 14**
- **Developing Proposals for Technology Deployment Initiative**

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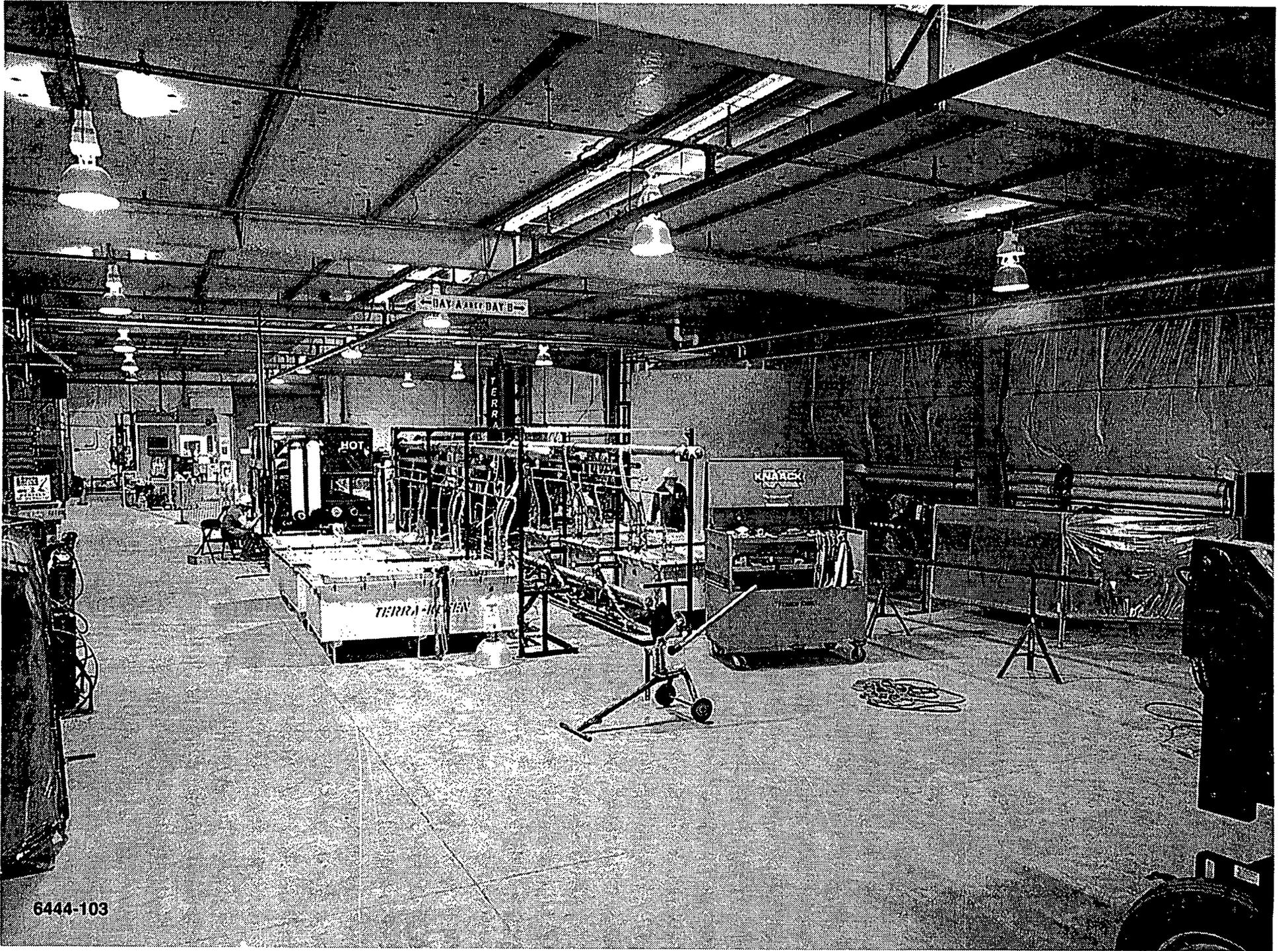


# WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

FERNALD

- **Mixed Waste Projects:**
  - Shipped 10,759 cu. ft. of mixed waste to the Envirocare of Utah 1/30/97
  - Began thorium sampling to complete characterization of remaining thorium waste on site 1/28/97
  - Treated 450 of 550 drums of waste in the Neutralization/Precipitation/Deactivation/Stabilization Project 8/29/96
- **Rapid Commercialization Initiative Solvent Extraction Project:**
  - Received final approval on work plan 3/26/97
  - Mobilization of Terra-Kleen equipment in Bldg. 80 3/03/97
- Shipped 123,720 cu. ft. of low-level waste NTS 3/28/97
- **Nuclear Materials Inventory (as of 3/01/97):**
  - Depleted - 8,504,485 lbs.
  - Normal - 486,862 lbs.
  - Enriched - 6,762,602 lbs.
- **Thorium Overpack Project - (as of March 27, 1997)**
  - Project began May 6, 1996 with inventory of approximately 5600 drums
  - Overpacked 4,436 drums of thorium into 758 thorium overpack containers (TOCs)
  - Shipped 721 TOCs, or approximately 4,230 drums, to Nevada Test Site

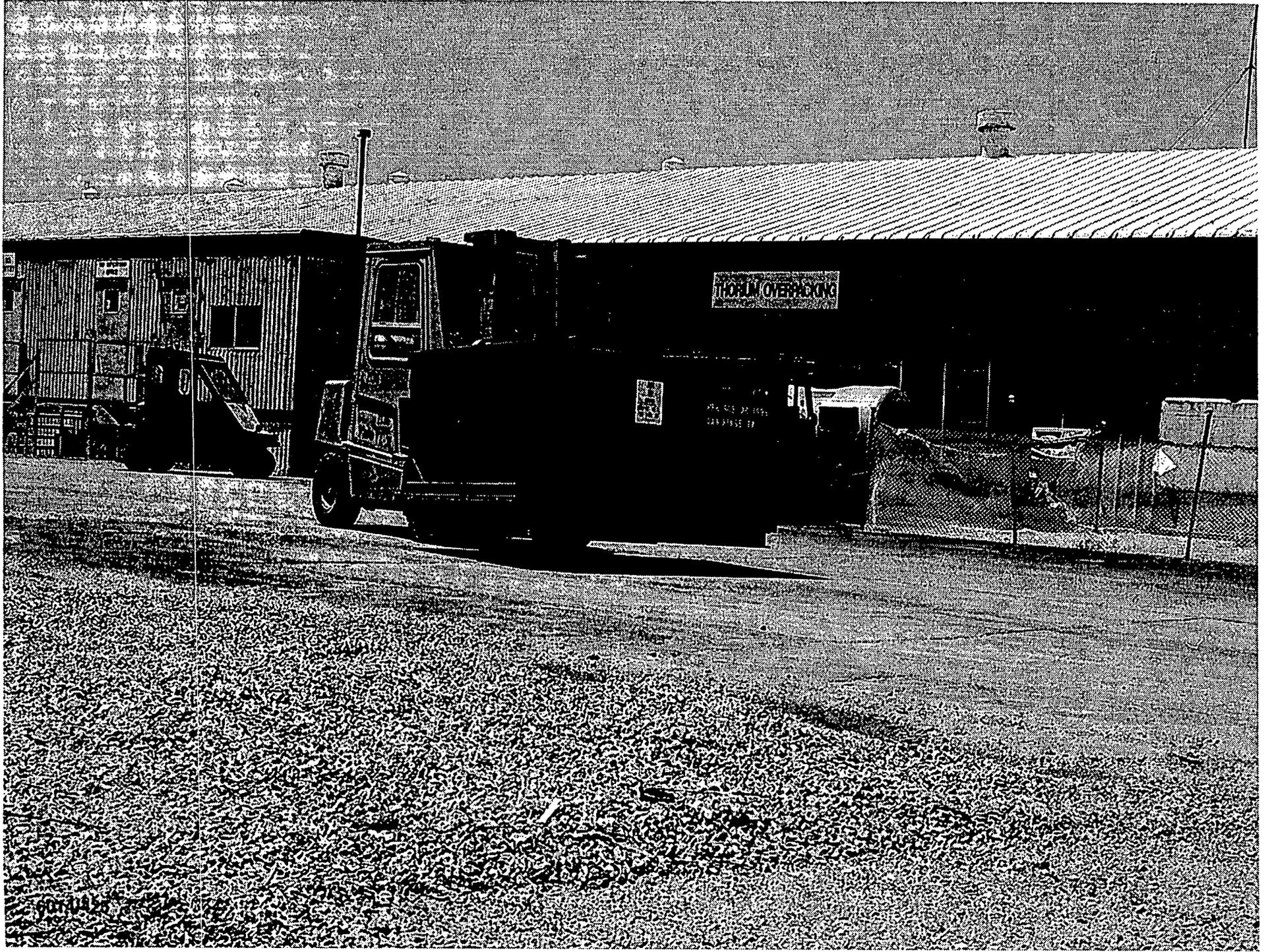
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COMMUNITY MEETING

April 15, 1997

Name: Crawford, Lisa

Address, City, and Telephone information is redacted with a black box.

If you want to be added to the Mailing List, please ask for registration form.

Affiliation:

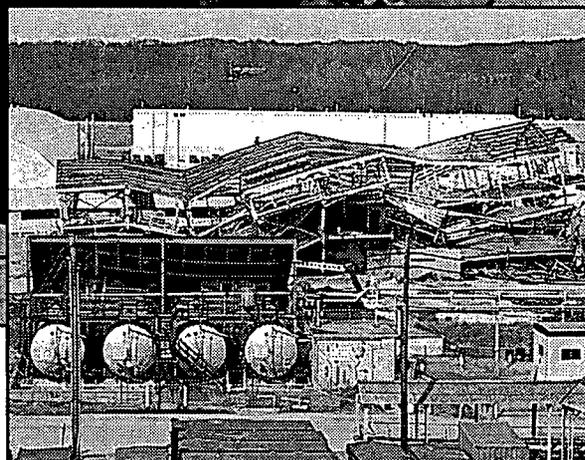
- DOE employee
- FERMCO employee
- Subcontractor \_\_\_\_\_  
(please specify)
- Local resident
- Representative of another group/organization FRESA  
(please specify)
- Representative of a regulatory agency \_\_\_\_\_  
(please specify)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(please specify)

# *Fernald Report*

March 1997



Controlled Demolition Inc. (CDI) imploded Plant 1 using linear-shaped charges and explosives. CDI also imploded Plant 4 in August 1996 and Plant 7 in September 1994. Plant 1 was the third of 10 major plants dismantled as part of the FEMP cleanup mission (above, 6080-609, right, 6080-749).



## ***Another FEMP Plant Goes Down in History!***

Despite extremely windy conditions the day before the Plant 1 implosion, the four-story steel structure was imploded around 1 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 22, before a crowd of employees, families and local stakeholders.

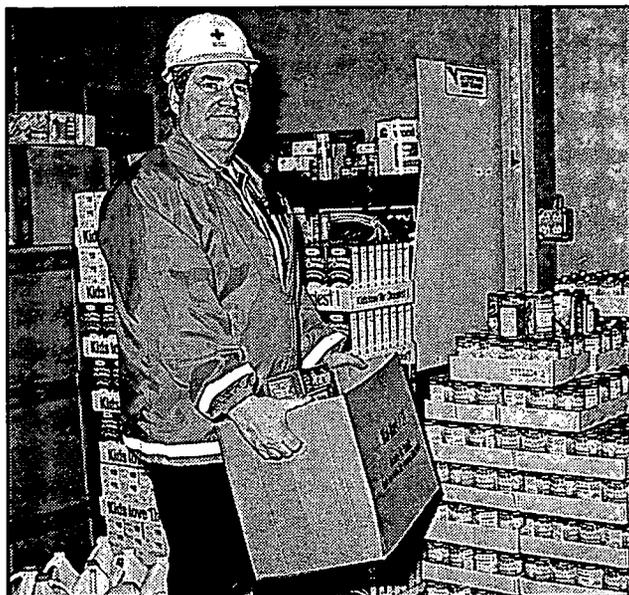
Plant 1 demolition subcontractor Babcock & Wilcox (B&W-NESI) has begun the next phase of the project, which involves cutting, segregating and stacking the structural steel and concrete on the Plant 1 foundation for future disposition. Material disposition will be consistent with the site-wide

remedial approach which involves balancing off-site disposal of highly contaminated wastes with on-property disposal of less-contaminated wastes. DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald will continue to evaluate alternatives to disposal, including metal recycling and reuse of equipment.

The next major decontamination and dismantling (D&D) project is the Boiler Plant/Water Plant Complex. (See the related article on page 5 of the *Fernald Report*.)

## *FEMP Employees Assist Local Flood Victims*

In conjunction with the American Red Cross, FEMP employees recently assisted flood victims in the Tri-State area. More than \$12,000 was collected for the American Red Cross -- including a \$500 contribution from Fluor Daniel Fernald, a \$10,000 donation from Fluor Foundation and a \$500 donation from Dexter Lunsford, a Fluor Daniel Fernald employee who challenged his coworkers to meet his donation.



*Fluor Daniel Fernald employee Mike Davis is the chair for the Dearborn, Ohio and Switzerland chapters of the American Red Cross. He was one of the many volunteers who recently helped bring relief and supplies to local flood victims (6547-32).*



*This photo of a home in Aurora, Ind., shows the devastation flood waters can bring (6547-9).*

More than five truckloads of supplies donated by FEMP employees were delivered to flood victims in Dearborn and Ohio Counties in Indiana and Sparta, KY. In addition to the items donated by FEMP employees, DOE donated excess equipment, including 250 pairs of work boots, coffee pots, glasses and cups and various kitchen equipment. Fernald Community Involvement Team members coordinated delivery of the donations.

## *Building Trades Celebrate Safe Work Record*

Employees of the Greater Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council (GCBCTC) have not had a lost-time work accident since Fluor Daniel began operations at the FEMP in December 1992. This achievement computes to almost 2 million safe work-hours for subcontractor employees. "Our record is a tribute to the people who do the work," said Jerry Monahan, executive secretary, GCBCTC.

Lou Doll, GCBCTC site representative, credits strong training and apprenticeship programs for the safe work record. "Many of our people have worked at Fernald for a long time," he said. "We all benefit from their knowledge of the plant and the safety culture they have attained." Doll said he also believes daily line-out/safety meetings, where workers receive their assignments for the day, are beneficial. "It's a good check to make sure we're all on the same page and thinking about safety."

## ***A Message from Jack Craig:*** **General Accounting Office Finds No Evidence of "Danger & Deceit"**

On March 18, Senators John Glenn and Mike DeWine and Representatives Rob Portman and John Boehner released a statement concerning the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) report, Department of Energy: Management and Oversight of Cleanup Activities at Fernald (3/14/97, GAO/RECD-97-63). The report is available at the Public Environmental Information Center, 513-648-0164. We welcome the report and believe it puts to rest the allegations of "danger & deceit" as characterized by one Cincinnati newspaper.



*Jack Craig, DOE-FEMP director (6171-177)*

The GAO recommended that improvements be made to the Fernald contract and that DOE strengthen its oversight. We agree and have already begun to implement these recommendations. The GAO criticized our handling of the ongoing Vitrification Pilot Plant Project and the Uranyl Nitrate Hexahydrate neutralization project (already completed). Throughout the past two years, we acknowledged problems with these projects and discussed them publicly. In October 1996, we commissioned the Silos Project Independent Review Team to help find the best solution for remediating Silos 1, 2 and 3. The team represents world-wide expertise in waste stabilization technology; its recommendations will be published in a final report by April 15. DOE, Fluor Daniel Fernald, FEMP regulators and the Fernald Citizens Task Force will thoroughly review the recommendations.

Regarding the newspaper's allegations that Fluor Daniel Fernald "systematically cheated the government out of millions of dollars," the GAO report says: "we also provided numerous opportunities for workers and citizens from the Fernald area to provide us with information about possible financial or performance reporting improprieties. We did not receive specific evidences from workers and other concerned individuals that provided enough detail to warrant expanding our investigation."

Unfortunately, these allegations and the controversy that prompted the GAO report have obscured many significant accomplishments made during the past four and one-half years. For example, our initiative to accelerate site remediation will trim approximately 10 years from the original FEMP cleanup schedule, saving taxpayers billions of dollars. At current funding levels, the FEMP cleanup may be substantially completed by 2005. I'm proud of our progress. I invite you to visit the FEMP and see for yourself.

Jack Craig

Director, DOE-FEMP

*To arrange a tour of the Fernald facility,  
 call Fluor Daniel Fernald Public Affairs,  
 513-648-5883.*

## ***DOE Ohio Field Office Brochure Now Available***

A newly created brochure, which describes the DOE Ohio Field Office and its five sites, is now available. A set of five baseball-type cards showing aerial views and containing



information about each of the five sites accompanies the brochure. To obtain the brochure, please call Mike Jacobs, DOE Public Affairs Office, 513-648-3043.

## ***“Blacks in Government” Honors Hamric and Townsend***

On Friday, Feb. 28, the Blacks in Government organization, Greater Cincinnati/ Miami Valley Chapter, held its second annual Scholarship Awards Gala at Receptions, in Fairfield. During the event, Phil Hamric, DOE Ohio Field Office manager, and Mike Townsend, Fluor Daniel Fernald Public Affairs, were honored for their dedication to diversity in the workplace. DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald are committed to diversity in the workplace and will continue to instill this value at the FEMP as the cleanup continues.



*James Jefferson, a presenter for the Blacks in Government organization, honors DOE Ohio Field Office Manager Phil Hamric with a plaque. Hamric and Mike Townsend were honored for their dedication to diversity in the workplace (6545-7).*



*Fluor Daniel Fernald President John Bradburne presented employee Mike Townsend with a plaque during the Blacks in Government organization's annual scholarship awards gala. The presentation was a proud moment for Townsend and his mother Mary (6545-52).*

## ***Enhanced Work Planning and Environmental Restoration Management Contracts Efforts Commended***

In a memorandum to Ohio Field Office Manager Phil Hamric, DOE Acting Associate Deputy Secretary for Field Management Franklin G. Peters commended FEMP workers for their accomplishments regarding the Enhanced Work Planning and Environmental Restoration Management contracts.

In the memo, dated Feb. 24, Peters wrote, “The DNFSB highlighted [the] FEMP as a model for the Department. The recognition received really puts your organization in a category all alone, as one far exceeding expectations . . . Please thank all those involved in this achievement.”

## Fluor Daniel Fernald Awards Boiler Plant Demolition Project Contract

On Feb. 27, Fluor Daniel Fernald awarded the D&D Boiler Plant/Water Plant (BP/WP) Complex project contract to Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp., of Livingston, N.J. The award satisfies an EPA-enforceable milestone in the BP/WP Complex Implementation Plan.

Under its 18-month, firm-fixed price subcontract (approximately \$4 million), Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp. will decontaminate and demolish the BP/WP structures and segregate, cut, and containerize the construction debris. Fluor Daniel Fernald issued the formal "Notice to Proceed" to Foster Wheeler Environmental Corp. on March 7.



The BP/WP Complex includes the Boiler Plant, the Boiler Plant Maintenance Building, the Water Plant, cooling towers and six other components. The five-story Boiler Plant, which once used four coal-fired steam boilers to provide steam service to the entire site for heating, has been replaced with a smaller, gas-fired plant (6385-187).

## Peña Sworn in as Eighth Secretary of Energy

Federico F. Peña is the eighth person, and the first Hispanic, to serve as U.S. Secretary of Energy. Following confirmation by the U.S. Senate, he was sworn in to office March 12. A former mayor of Denver, Colo., Peña served as Secretary of Transportation in President Bill Clinton's first term. He begins his tenure at DOE committed to carrying on the agency's vital missions in national security, science and technology, energy resources, environmental quality and further invigorating U.S. economic competitiveness in the world economy.

At the Department of Transportation (DOT), Peña's leadership was instrumental in increasing the global competitiveness of America's transportation industry and improving travel safety. His "one-level" safety initiative at DOT standardized and improved safety across different categories of airlines. Peña also downsized the work force by 10 percent and cut miles of red tape, eliminating 1,450 pages of regulation.

In a statement issued by the White House, Clinton said, "I want to applaud the Senate today for its strong vote of support for Federico Peña to serve as our nation's new Energy Secretary. As Transportation Secretary, Federico Peña built

consensus among communities, business and government and streamlined operations to reap benefits for all taxpayers.

"With this record, I am confident that Secretary Peña has the skill, experience and dedication to lead the Energy Department to meet its central challenges — to broaden America's energy resources, to promote a safer, more secure world and to help to create a brighter economic future for all Americans," Clinton concluded.

"As we near the beginning of a new millennium, I am enthusiastic about America's future and the role that the men and women of the Department of Energy will play in creating it," said Secretary Peña. "The brilliant scientists and engineers, the unparalleled facilities of the national laboratories, and the top-notch work DOE produces will continue to support our country's long-term economic, energy, environmental and national security interests."

Peña earned his baccalaureate from the University of Texas, where he also received a law degree. He and his wife, Ellen, live with their two children in Alexandria, Va.

# Rail Upgrades Taking Shape at the FEMP

Railroad upgrades are progressing on schedule in support of the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project. Existing track on FEMP property is being upgraded; a railyard with a storage capacity to handle 135 gondola rail cars is being installed north of the former production area and just west of the north access road. Additional trestle repairs will be made, as necessary, along the rail spur connecting the FEMP with the CSXT mainline at Cottage Grove, Ind.

The trestle repairs are expected to begin in April 1997 and be completed by late 1997. All of these activities support the Operable Unit 1 record of decision to excavate, treat and ship by rail approximately 626,000 tons of pit waste and contaminated soils to a permitted commercial disposal facility.

On-site rail upgrades and site railyard construction are scheduled for completion in September 1997. This work is being performed by Annex Railroad Builders Inc., of Indianapolis. The existing site railroad, which will serve the remediation (thermal drying) and loadout facilities, is being reworked by Annex Railroad to accommodate additional planned rail traffic and the installation of a rail scale.

## Project Bids Due by April 4

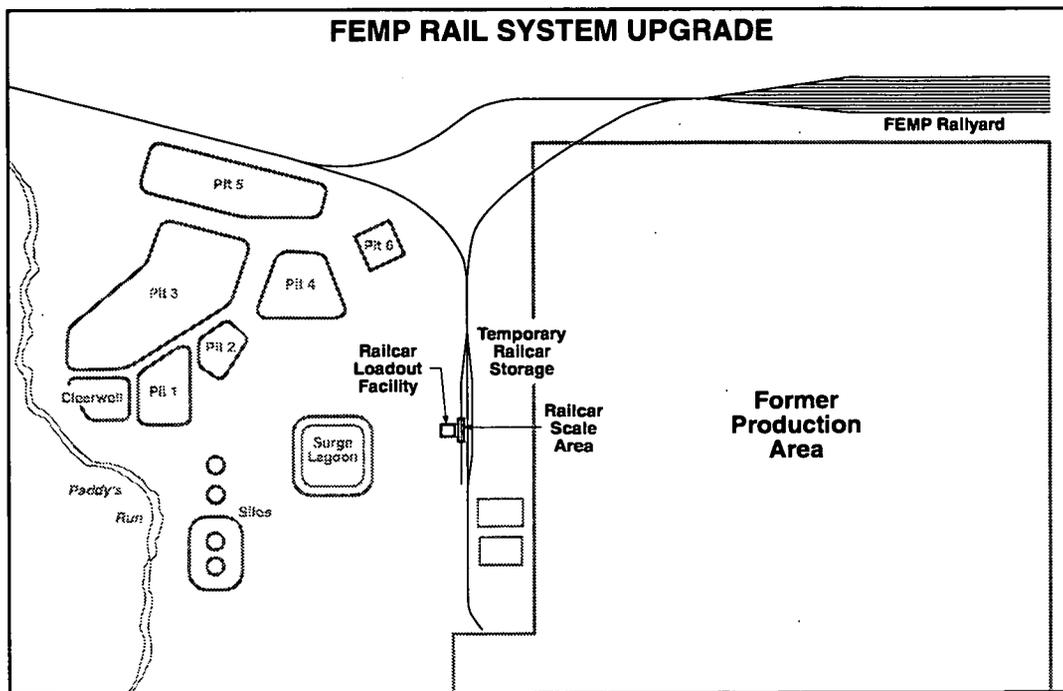
A specialized subcontractor is being sought to perform certain aspects of the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project. DOE issued a request for proposals in January 1997.

Bids are due by April 4, and the contract is expected to be awarded by Fall 1997. The selected subcontractor will be responsible for excavating the waste pit materials and surrounding soils; preparing the wastes for treatment sorting, crushing and shredding activities; treating the waste by a thermal-drying process; and loading the treated waste onto gondola rail cars for transportation and off-site disposal.

The subcontractor will be working with the Fernald Atomic Trades & Labor Council and the Greater Cincinnati Building and Construction Trades Council; both unions will provide labor during the project. Waste processing/loading is anticipated to begin in March 1999, and the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project is scheduled for completion in 2005.

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Existing track on FEMP property is being upgraded; a railyard with a storage capacity to handle 135 gondola rail cars is being installed north of the former production area (4469 3/97).

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## *Independent Review Team Finalizing Silos Project Path Forward*

For several months the Independent Review Team (IRT) has been gathering information and data in an effort to give technical advice and recommendations on the Silos Project path forward. At issue is the treatment of waste in Silos 1, 2 and 3. The IRT is currently finalizing its report.

On Feb. 12 and Feb. 26, availability sessions with the IRT were provided to allow stakeholders the opportunity to discuss the treatment alternatives, express concerns and offer input. DOE-FEMP and Fluor Daniel Fernald will consider the IRT's recommendations as it develops a path forward for the Silos Project. The path forward is due to U.S. EPA by May 15. The



*The IRT is finalizing its report, which will contain recommendations regarding treatment of waste in Silos 1 and 2, shown with white domes, and Silo 3, far left (6385-112).*

IRT's final report is expected to be available at the Public Environmental Information Center by the end of March.

## *Fernald Health Effects Subcommittee to Meet in May*

The fourth meeting of the Fernald Health Effects Subcommittee (FHES) was held Feb. 12 through Feb 13 at the Plantation, in Harrison.

Chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the FHES was formed by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Diseases Registry (ATSDR). The FHES is a site-specific, formal advisory body composed of diverse community members who will offer advice on health research and public health activities connected with past or continuing operations at the FEMP.

Topics discussed during the two-day meeting included the National Academy of Science review of the Fernald Dosimetry Reconstruction project, an overview of birth defects research, epidemiology feasibility and an update on community-based risk assessment.



The next FHES meeting is scheduled for May 7 and May 8 at the Plantation. CDC and/or the ATSDR will announce the meeting times at a later date.

# Fernald Community Reuse Organization Presents Path Forward

The Community Reuse Organization (CRO) charged with providing recommendations to DOE on reuse, worker transition and economic development issues resulting from downsizing at the FEMP presented its draft Path Forward for public review on March 4 at Ross High School.

"The Path Forward is the result of several facilitated working sessions held during January and February involving all CRO members," said CRO Chair David McWilliams. "The process helped us identify who we are and what we hope to accomplish for the community."

Designed to set direction for the CRO over the next year, the Path Forward document identifies the following set of specific, interconnected strategies:

- **organizational structure** (address incorporation, membership, and consultant issues);
- **financial** (establish accounting/budgeting procedures; secure start-up grant; research other funding sources);
- **administration/evaluation** (establish specific timelines, success indicators, benchmarks and milestones);
- **focus areas** (develop action plans for FEMP land and property reuse and local economic transition issues including FEMP work force);
- **public involvement** (develop plan for involving stakeholders in the decision-making process);
- **internal and external communication** (develop plans to communicate and network with FEMP personnel, other CROs, government agencies etc.).



CRO members Maury Hombach, Lou Doll, Bob Tabor, Sharon Cornwell and Chair David McWilliams brainstorm during a working session to develop the CRO's path forward (6529-2).

Copies of the draft Path Forward are available to the public in the Public Environmental Information Center. Over the next month, the group plans to incorporate all input received on the draft document and prepare the final draft for approval at its April meeting. The next CRO meeting will be on April 1, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Ross High School Media Center.

To tackle some of the organizational and financial issues, the CRO also appointed a five-member board of directors. "One of the board's first actions will be to establish our infrastructure to secure the CRO's start-up grant from DOE," said McWilliams. "We hope to complete this process and have the start-up funding in hand within the next couple of months."

For more information on the Fernald CRO, please call or write to:

**Fernald Community Reuse Organization**  
P. O. Box 38  
Ross, OH 45061  
(513) 648-4168

## Career Development Center Opens Site Annex

The new Career Development Center annex, located at the FEMP, received a warm welcome from employees and management at its March 3 grand opening. Located in room S-16 of the FEMP Laboratory Building, the annex was filled to capacity on its opening day. "It's great to see so many people here," said Mitzi Bailey, a Career Development Center staff member who was present at the grand opening.

Donna Land, a forklift driver, was excited about the opportunity to take computer classes. "Some people don't want to go to college, but they're very interested in gaining some marketable skills," she said.

"It's really rewarding to see our ideas implemented," said John Preston from the First Committee, a grass-roots effort initiated by Fluor

Daniel Fernald employees to increase awareness of educational opportunities. "This is exactly what we had envisioned."

Fluor Daniel Fernald President John Bradburne said, "I appreciate the efforts of the Fernald Atomic Trades and Labor Council leadership, the Department of Energy and our Human Resources Department in making this center a reality."

Computers, phones, a fax machine, career resource materials and counseling services will be available at the annex for all Fluor Daniel Fernald employees. Former employees who are seeking assistance should continue using the resources at the Career Development Center's Springdale location. For more information, call the Career Development Center, 513-648-6301.

## Fluor Daniel Fernald Increases "HeartPower" Circulation at Ross Schools

"You can have a healthy heart, it's easy as 1, 2, 3! Eat healthy stuff; move around enough; live tobacco-free!" This was the message going to every Ross school district student enrolled in kindergarten through sixth grade, as a result of a grant from Fluor Daniel Fernald. The American Heart Association has developed its "HeartPower" kit, a series offered to educators to help them teach how the heart works, proper nutrition and exercises, as well as the dangers of tobacco. Normally, only one grade level per school would get the Heart Association kit. However, because of the Fluor Daniel Fernald gift, every student in the district will receive this information. By hearing this information early, students can learn to make heart-healthy choices that will last a lifetime.



Students at Elda Elementary are heart-smart! Amber Varin, left, checks the heart rate of Nick Baxter as part of the "HeartPower" curriculum, sponsored by the American Heart Association (6538-16).

# *Laser-Induced Fluorescence Technology Saves Time and Enhances Worker Safety*

As part of the ongoing Large-Scale Technology Demonstration (LSTD) Project, a successful demonstration of the Laser-Induced Fluorescence (LIF) technology was recently conducted at the FEMP. The LIF technology reduces the amount of time it takes to perform radiological clearance surveys on buildings targeted for demolition.

The LIF instrument was developed by Bechtel's Special Technologies Laboratory in California, with assistance from DOE and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Laser light is used to "excite" uranium oxide molecules that may be present as a surface contaminant. The excited uranium molecules release energy in the form of fluorescence, which is then detected and displayed on a monitor attached to the laser. The laser can be operated in a panning motion to survey large areas quickly, or it can survey discreet 2-foot-by-three-foot areas, one at a time. Unlike physical swipes, which must be collected from the actual surface being surveyed, the LIF instrument can be operated up to 10 meters away from the surface being studied. Detection of surface contamination occurs virtually instantaneously.

The primary benefits of LIF technology are reduced time and labor required to complete radiological clearance surveys and reduced risk to workers performing the surveys.

## *Thorium Overpacking Project Continues Ahead of Schedule*

The overpacking of thorium drums continues ahead of schedule. As of Feb. 28, a total of 3,973 drums had been packaged into 683 thorium overpacking containers since the project began



*The laser-induced fluorescence technology reduces time and labor required to complete radiological clearance surveys and it reduces risk to workers performing the surveys, eliminating the need for them to climb up and down scaffolding (6429-240).*

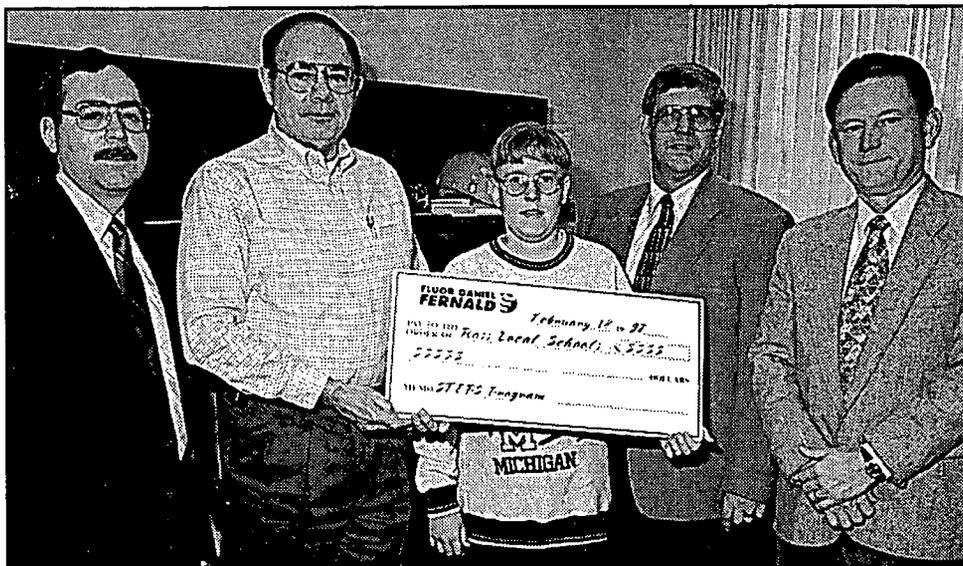
The LIF technology eliminates the need for workers to climb up and down scaffolding to collect physical samples from the various surfaces.

DOE-FEMP and Fluor Daniel Fernald intend to propose deployment of the LIF to perform radiological clearance surveys on buildings undergoing decontamination and dismantling, so the buildings can be opened to the atmosphere, allowing final D&D activities to resume in a more expedient manner. Results of the LIF demonstration and deployment through the FEMP's aggressive, advanced project will be shared with other DOE facilities that plan to undergo site remediation.

May 6, 1996. During February, 111 thorium overpacking containers were shipped to the Nevada Test Site (NTS).

## Hands-on Experience May Nurture "Green Thumbs" in Ross Schools

This year, Ross Middle School has initiated a School-To-Work program to give students practical, hands-on experiences that will prepare them for the everyday work world. Fluor Daniel Fernald demonstrated its support of this effort by donating funds to build a greenhouse on the school's grounds. Teachers will use the greenhouse in creating natural and physical science projects. Students are also participating in the planning, permitting and building of the greenhouse before it can even be used for classes.



Fluor Daniel Fernald donates funds for a greenhouse at Ross Middle School. Pictured left to right are: Larry Stebbins, Fernald Envoy to the Ross Board of Education; John Bradburne, Fluor Daniel Fernald president; Scott Lutterbie, sixth grade student; David McWilliams, Ross superintendent; Steve Kidd, Ross Middle School principal (6539-3).

## January and February Fluor Daniel Fernald Corporate Contributions

The Corporate Contributions Program was developed to offer financial assistance to townships, groups, organizations, schools, and clubs located within the FEMP community as part of the Fluor Daniel Fernald good-neighbor policy and in the spirit of community service and support.

### Education—\$1,796

- Support of the sixth annual Greater Cincinnati Regional Science Bowl
- Harrison High School to support the Engineering Club and Science Olympiad

### Health and Human Services—\$1,141

- Harrison Co-op Nursery
- National Hemophilia Foundation
- Lighthouse Youth Services

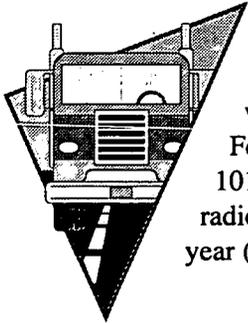
### Cultural Arts—\$1,500

- Cincinnati Art Museum
- Fitton Center for Creative Arts

### Civic—\$5,400

- Morgan Township Board of Trustees
- Rotary Club of Hamilton
- Mothers Against Drunk Drivers
- Four local youth baseball teams
- Arthritis Foundation
- Union Builders
- Aleta Mays-Martin Luther King Day
- Leading Women
- Blacks in Government
- African-American Heritage Month activities

# FEMP Waste Shipping Report



The volume, in cubic feet (cf), of low-level radioactive waste shipped to NTS for February 1997 was 26,548 (external). As of Feb. 28, the FEMP had shipped 101,310 cf (external) of low-level radioactive waste to NTS for fiscal year (FY) 1997.

Low-level radioactive waste volume reduction includes approximately 1,767 containers of legacy low-level uranium residue and 2,792 containers of thorium oxalates/hydroxides identified in *FY 1996 Inventory Reduction Plan for Legacy Wastes at the FEMP*.

During fiscal year 1997, the FEMP will direct efforts toward reducing legacy uranium residue and asbestos inventories, as well as the thorium oxalate/hydroxide inventory in Building 65.

The volume of low-level radioactive waste materials per waste stream shipped to NTS in February 1997 follows:

| <u>Waste Stream</u>    | <u>External Vol. (cf)</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Process Area Scrap     | 0                         |
| Thorium Residues       | 14,356                    |
| Contaminated Trash     | 11,072                    |
| Construction           | 0                         |
| Stabilized Mixed Waste | 1,120                     |

The volume of low-level radioactive waste materials shipped to NTS per waste stream in January 1997 follows:

| <u>Waste Stream</u>    | <u>External Vol. (cf)</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Process Area Scrap     | 1,109                     |
| Thorium Residues       | 59,701                    |
| Contaminated Trash     | 27,687                    |
| Construction           | 7,567                     |
| Stabilized Mixed Waste | 4,126                     |
|                        | 1,120                     |

## ***Fernald Report***

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