



## FRIDAY MAILING

6/6/97

### INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING ARE:

- CRO Meeting Minutes from May 6, 1997
- Newsclippings

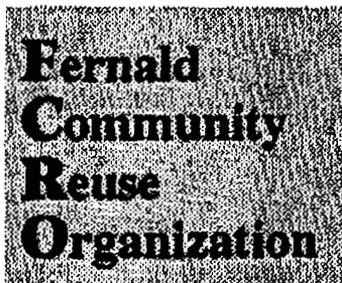
### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- SILO 3 - SECOND WORKSHOP:** There will be a second workshop on Silo 3 on Monday, June 16, 1997. The meeting will take place at the Plantation at 7:00 p.m.
- DOE PUBLIC MEETING:** There will be a DOE Public Meeting on Tuesday, June 24, 1997, to discuss Waste Placement Issues for the on-site disposal facility at 7:00 p.m. in the Alpha Building, Classroom B.
- TASK FORCE MEETING:** The next full Task Force Meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 9, 1997, at 6:00 p.m. in the Alpha Building.
- DOE-FEMP/FDF PERSONNEL IN NEVADA:** FEMP personnel from both DOE and FDF will be attending or conducting various meetings for Nevada stakeholders from June 3-5, 1997. A Silo 3 Path Forward Public Workshop, which mirrors the May 14, 1997, workshop conducted for the local FEMP stakeholders, will be presented in Nevada by FEMP personnel on June 3rd. The FEMP representatives will also attend the regular monthly NTS CAB meeting, and the CAB's Transportation Protocol meeting, both of which occur on June 4th.
- COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION:** The CRO now has a message line at 648-4168, which has recordings of the latest news and changes in CRO meetings. If you have any questions, you can also leave a voice message and someone associated with CRO will return your call.

### QUESTIONS:

Please call John at [REDACTED] or Doug at [REDACTED] with questions or concerns. You may also fax or e-mail us at:

John      FAX: 281-3331      E-MAIL: john.applegate@law.uc.edu  
 Doug      FAX: 648-3629      E-MAIL: [REDACTED]



## May 6, 1997 Meeting Minutes

### OVERVIEW

The Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO) met on Tuesday, May 6, 1997, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at Ross High School, 3425 Hamilton-Cleves Road. The meeting was open to the public. Attendees included CRO members and representatives from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Fluor Daniel Fernald, and the Hamilton County Economic Development Company.

#### CRO Members Present:

Sharon Cornwell  
Lisa Crawford  
Karl Dillhoff  
Lou Doll  
Ralph Hennard  
Bill Hinkle  
Darryl Huff  
Dan Lawler  
David McWilliams  
Ken Moore  
Tom Renck  
Alisa Rhodes  
Gary Storer  
Bob Tabor  
Don Thiem  
Joe Neyer, ex officio member

#### CRO Members Excused:

Maury Hornbach  
Linda Krekeler  
Larry Thinner

### CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS/APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair David McWilliams opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. and invited spectators' comments or questions during the meeting. He asked if there were any changes to the April 1 CRO meeting minutes. Lou Doll moved to approve the minutes; Dan Lawler seconded the motion. The CRO unanimously approved the motion.

## OLD BUSINESS

### *Incorporation/Start-up Grant*

McWilliams announced that the CRO is formally an incorporated non-profit organization, as of April 11, and is presently applying for 501(C)(3) tax exempt status through the Internal Revenue Service. On April 30, McWilliams met with DOE Ohio Field Office and DOE FEMP representatives and signed the \$150,100 start-up grant. Sharon Cornwell and Ken Moore were present. The start-up grant is effective May 1, 1997, through April 30, 1998.

DOE will disperse funds to the CRO on a quarterly basis. The Board of Trustees met prior to the CRO meeting to discuss the first quarter budget. Once the Board submits the quarterly budget to DOE, there will be a two or three-week turnaround before the CRO will receive any money.

### *CRO Charter*

McWilliams said the Board of Trustees is currently reviewing the draft Code of Regulations (by-laws) prepared by Greg Luke. Because the Code of Regulations closely parallels the charter, McWilliams asked the Board of Trustees to compare the original draft charter to the Code of Regulations to see if the two documents could be merged. Within the next few weeks, the Board will attempt to merge the documents so the Code of Regulations reflects the charter. The Board will send members a copy of this document to review prior to the June meeting, if possible. The CRO will decide whether to replace the charter with the Code of Regulations at the June meeting.

Don Thiem asked whether the Code of Regulations was optional or required. McWilliams said that the Code of Regulations is part of the overall incorporation process, although it was not required for the state of Ohio initial approval process. The document authorizes operation of the Board of Trustees and provides general operating guidelines.

### *Membership*

McWilliams welcomed and introduced Karl Dillhoff as a new member of the Fernald CRO. Dillhoff will complete Bob Copeland's three-year appointment.

Ken Moore announced his intention to resign from the CRO because he is retiring. McWilliams asked the Nomination Committee to look into replacing Moore. Renck asked if the CRO should look for a replacement from the Hamilton County economic development area. Moore said he thought the CRO is well represented by Randy Welker, Hamilton County Economic Development Company, and that his (Moore's) link to the Western Hamilton County Collaboration is already covered by Maury Hornbach. Crawford asked Moore whether he thought the CRO should consider naming a new member from the Hamilton County Planning Commission. Moore said he thinks maintaining a liaison with his office is a better option than appointing a new staff member since the department is short handed.

Crawford asked whether the CRO has contacted the Butler County Economic Development Association (EDA). McWilliams said that he has a call into Curt Arulf, Butler County EDA director, to invite him to meetings. McWilliams said he'd follow up with Arulf and Steve Schneider, Miami University, about the EDA.

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### ***Committee Assignments***

McWilliams reviewed the committee breakdown from the April 1 CRO meeting. The Financial Committee will comprise Executive Committee members. The Administration/Evaluation Committee will comprise the chairs from the other CRO committees. The Public Involvement Committee will determine the approach for involving surrounding communities in CRO deliberations. The Communications Committee will determine the process to disseminate information to the communities and let them know what the CRO is doing and why. The Land Reuse Committee will deal with the land inside the Fernald site boundary. The Equipment and Materials Committee will deal with disposition of Fernald materials. The Economic Development Committee will determine how to provide economic development opportunities to minimize the site's closure on the communities. And, the Worker Transition Committee will focus on helping the Fernald work force transition from site employment to other productive alternatives.

He asked members who were not present at the April 1 meeting to let him know their interest in committee(s). He also asked members to indicate whether they are interested in chairing a particular committee. The committees will be open to non-CRO members also. Before the June meeting, McWilliams wants to develop a short narrative summarizing each committee with the name of the chair and members so the committees can begin to gather information, set direction, and get started.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ***Request for Proposal (RFP)***

McWilliams said the RFP committee, appointed in October, should be reactivated to focus immediately on developing an RFP for the consultant. The RFP committee members are Lisa Crawford, Dave McWilliams, Bob Tabor, Bill Hinkle and Joe Neyer. Crawford suggested that Cornwell also serve on the committee because of her work with CRO finances; Cornwell accepted. As a starting point, he suggested the committee review the draft RFP developed last fall. The RFP committee agreed to meet on May 19, 5 p.m. in McWilliams' office (Ross Middle School). He asked all members to review the RFP and consider qualifications of the consultant. Crawford requested copies of RFPs from the Task Force and other CROs to use as a model.

McWilliams asked Stegner to explain the steps for the RFP. Stegner said the process includes preparing the RFP, advertising, evaluating proposals, interviewing, recommending/selecting the consultant, and may take approximately three months to complete.

#### ***Office Space and Equipment***

McWilliams reported that the CRO is currently pursuing office space in the JAMTEK Building on State Route 128. The building will be vacant after DOE relocates the Public Environmental Information Center. Due to recent events impacting Fluor Daniel Fernald employees in the Springdale satellite office, the company may need to use the JAMTEK building for workers. The CRO has agreed to wait until June to see if the building is available before considering other options. McWilliams also mentioned that the CRO has submitted a list to Fluor Daniel Fernald identifying equipment needs (computers, software, desks, tables, filing cabinets, etc.) for the CRO office.

***DOE Office of Worker and Community Transition (OWCT) Workshop***

CRO members Hennard and Doll discussed the DOE-sponsored OWCT workshop held in Oakland, Calif., April 7 through April 11, and distributed handouts to members. Hennard recommended that McWilliams or his representative attend future meetings to interact with other chairs and executive directors. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled in October. He noted that a common problem raised by other CROs is a delay in receiving grant money from DOE. He said Anne Gunkle, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, requested an opportunity to address the group on the benefits the institution could provide to the CRO. Hennard asked the group to consider inviting Gunkle to a future meeting.

Doll said there are 12 CROs now; three were created in 1996. He said it is very important for CROs to have effective performance measures to show how they impacted job retention and job creation. OWCT emphasized that CROs must show how they help communities and transition displaced workers. Debby Swichkow, OWCT, has targeted five CROs -- including the Fernald CRO -- to visit in the next several months.

Gary Stegner introduced Ken Sprankle, DOE Ohio Field Office, who also attended the workshop. Of the 250 people who attended the workshop, approximately one third was labor, one half DOE, and the remainder community participants. Sprankle noted that there is no DOE model for CROs on how to do it right. He said OWCT is attempting to: 1.) better integrate the worker transition side of OWCT with the economic development/community transition side and improve cross communication, and 2.) lay out, over a series of years as projects are completed, the work force skills mix to help CROs target potential markets for the labor skills. The community college network -- C2NET -- is identifying and providing retraining opportunities for workers so they are prepared for jobs after they leave.

Sprankle encouraged McWilliams to attend the workshops and continue to participate in OWCT conference calls. Crawford commented that DOE headquarters needs to do a better job of informing stakeholders of the OWCT workshop. McWilliams asked about the format of the workshop; Sprankle commented that it was focused on lessons learned. Sprankle said that CROs are challenged by the limited pot of money available.

Cornwell asked how the 10-year plan may impact the CRO's funding. Sprankle explained that the CRO is funded through the OWCT (community transition), and the 10-year cleanup plan is funded through DOE EM cleanup funds. Cornwell asked since Fernald is on a 10-year cleanup track, will this influence DOE's decision making on whether or not the CRO gets funding (depending on where Fernald is in the cleanup process). Sprankle said it might, if the CRO can show a linkage.

***Work Force Restructuring Plan (WFRP)***

Stegner introduced Glenn Griffiths, Acting DOE-FEMP Director. Griffiths discussed the draft Ohio Field Office WFRP for the Mound (Miamisburg, OH) and Fernald sites. The WFRP responds to Section 3161 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1993, which requires that DOE prepare plans to assist workers and local communities during transition and downsizing of defense nuclear facilities. Of the five Ohio Field Office sites, only Mound and Fernald are defined as defense nuclear facilities.

Griffiths announced that the Ohio Field Office draft WFRP is available for public comment through May 15. At that time, DOE will consolidate stakeholder comments and submit them to Ken Sprankle. Copies of the plan were distributed to each CRO member.

Sprankle said in the past, most WFRPs were incentivized -- DOE offered early retirement incentives,

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extra severance payments and a variety of enhancement to encourage the work force to leave voluntarily. Now that Section 3161 work force transition activities must be funded through cleanup money, a major change in the WFRP was necessary. When workers finish their projects, they will not receive the extra incentives, except for their normal severance package. Instead, DOE is trying to help workers prepare for this transition through education and retraining opportunities, outplacing, and relocation assistance.

***Board of Trustees***

McWilliams announced the Board of Trustees officers:

McWilliams: President  
Hinkle: Vice President  
Cornwell: Treasurer  
Crawford: Secretary

Moore will remain a member of the Board of Trustees until he resigns. These appointments will become part of the Code of Regulations.

**FEEDBACK:**

Loerch distributed copies of a stakeholder comment left on the Fernald CRO message line on reuse of the Fernald property.

Hennard said he'd have Ann Gunkle give McWilliams a call.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Tabor moved to adjourn the meeting; Neyer seconded the motion. The CRO unanimously approved the motion.

The Fernald CRO approved the May 6, 1997, meeting minutes at the June 3, 1997, CRO meeting.

*I agree that the minutes are an accurate account of the May 6, 1997, Community Reuse Organization meeting.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
David McWilliams, Chair  
Fernald Community Reuse Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Stegner, DOE Designated Federal Official

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

June 4, 1997

The Harrison Press

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"Showing the proper respect"

Reporter: David Powers

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# Showing the proper respect

## Native American remains find resting place near Fernald

A portion of land surrounding the former Fernald uranium processing facility in Crosby Township has become a sacred burial ground for several Native American tribes that inhabited this area at some point in history.

The remains of more than 20 persons were buried near the Fernald site at an undisclosed location on Sunday, May 25 during a tribal ceremony involving aspects of ancient tribal burial customs from the Shawnee, Wyandotte, Delaware and Miami Indian tribes.

The bones were discovered on private property in the township in 1994 by U.S. Department of Energy representatives and Fernald officials while doing geological and cultural resource surveys for a public water supply line. According to Fluor-Daniel Fernald Cultural Resources Manager Joe Schomaker, the remains are believed to be more than 950 years old.

"This was a significant find because these were the Fort Ancient People, the last pre-historic people that lived in this area," said Schomaker. "These are the last pre-historic people before settlers came to this area in the 1600s."

Schomaker said last month's event was also significant because it is one of the first times that Native American remains found on private property were buried on federal land. He said the move provides stricter guidelines for protection of historical remains on federal property.

"The real mystery here is that we aren't quite sure which tribe the remains belonged to, that's why it was important to involve representatives from all four tribes as well as officials from the Native American Alliance of Ohio in the process," said Schomaker.

The buried remains included a complete set of female bones, ages two, 13 and 30 along with the remains of an adolescent boy and a dog. Spiritual leaders from the tribes also interred the partial remains of 16 to 20 additional individuals.

Schomaker said that DOE cooperated fully with the alliance's request to have the remains handled in a respectful manner and to have them studied by the Cincinnati Museum of Natural History before they were buried.

Flour-Daniel Fernald Public Affairs Officer Julie Doering said approximately 100 people attended the private burial ceremony, which involved songs, dancing and the playing of drums. Spiritual leaders from all four tribes also covered themselves in burnt sage smoke from a smudge pot during the ceremony.

According to U.S. National Park Service spokesman Tim KcKeown, the burial ceremony involving several indigenous Indian tribes and their customs is believed to be the first of its kind in Ohio.

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**The Harrison Press**  
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**"Showing the proper respect"**  
**Reporter: David Powers**



**Gray and Pape subcontractor Thomas Fugate works to prepare the individual burial chambers for the skeletal remains near the Fernald site in Crosby Township.**

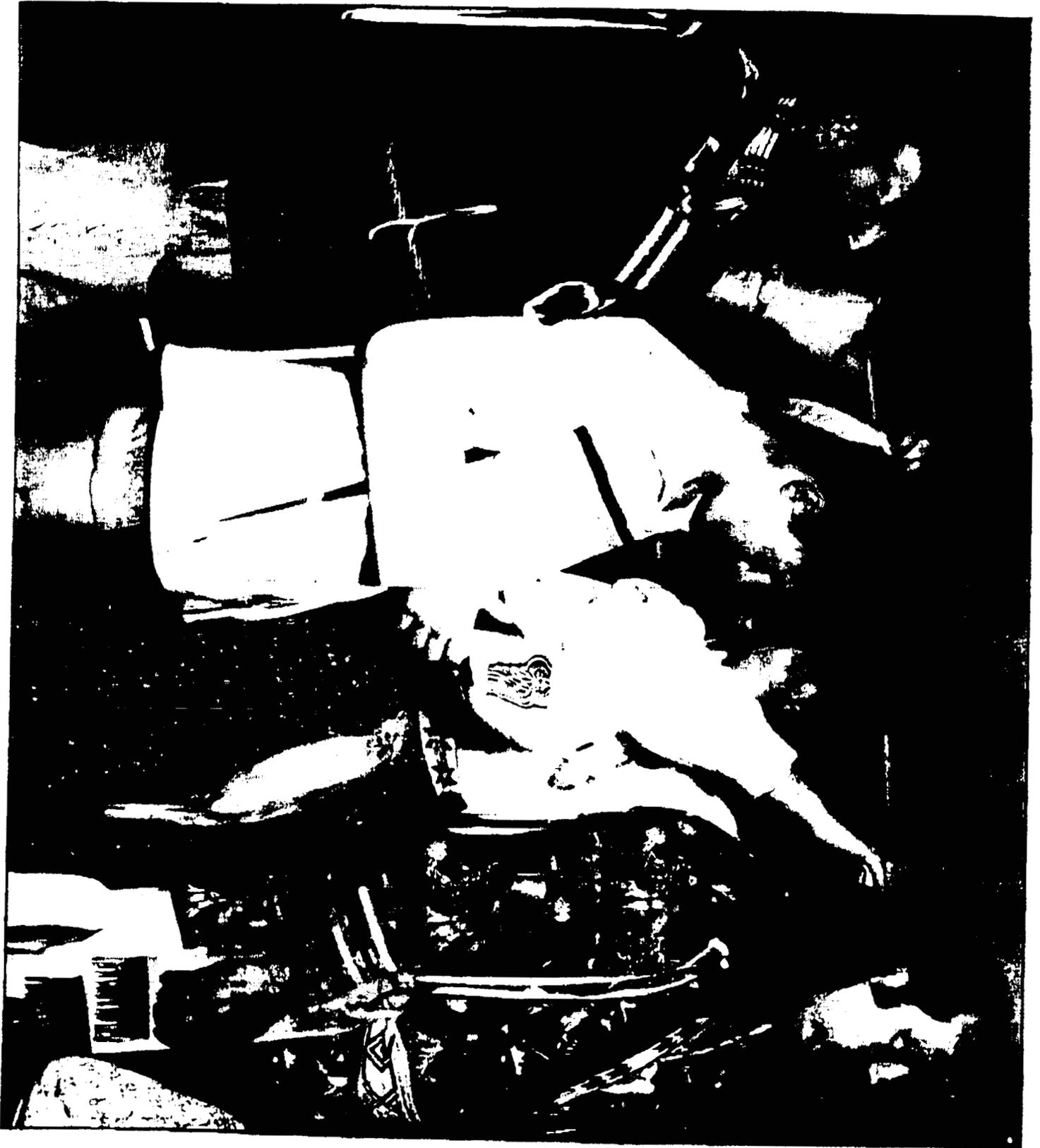
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(From left): David McDulley of the Creek and David McCulley, Jean McCoard and Arlen Rister of the Cherokee Indian tribes relax and share some happy moments following the burial ceremony.

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Shawnee Indian tribal members, from left, Trent Everhart, Keira Everhart, Vicki Everhart and Kevin Everhart, prepare for the burial ceremony by putting feathers in their hair and dressing in traditional tribal garb.



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"Risk Pares Fernald Bidder List"

Reporter: Mary Buckner Powers

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## Hazardous Waste

**RISK PARES FERNALD BIDDER LIST**

BIDDERS FOR THE TURNKEY CLEANUP OF six waste pits at the Dept. of Energy's former uranium processing plant at Fernald, Ohio, should know this week which ones made the final cut for the \$100-million to \$200-million job.

Only three of the seven companies that prequalified to bid actually submitted proposals to FERMCO, DOE's Fluor Daniel-led site-based environmental restoration contractor team.

Foster Wheeler Corp., Perryville, N.J.; OHM Corp., Findlay, Ohio; and IT Corp., Torrance, Calif., submitted proposals. Officials with prequalified companies say DOE's last-minute requirement that the contractor risk tens of millions of dollars of its own money limited the number of

to excavate some 750,000 cu yd of waste and process it to meet the waste acceptance criteria of a commercial landfill. "The only concern here is the moisture content. We know the radionuclides will meet the criteria," says Dave Lojek, DOE's team leader for the project.

The winning contractor needs only to dry the material, which contains from 30 to 40% water. "Some can be dried using presses and centrifuges. Some will need thermal processing," says Lojek. "The real risk is that the contractor must put his money on the line and...make a profit," he says.

DOE will allow the contractor to recoup its capital costs over the first 2.5 years during four years of operations.



**MONEY PIT** Contractor must risk own money with 750,000 cu yds of radwaste.

bidders. "It's a high-risk job and its technically challenging," says one company official.

FERMCO prequalified bidders before DOE decided last November to privatize the job by paying the contractor for each unit of waste processed and prepped for shipment offsite, rather than advancing funds during design and construction, says Don Walker, FERMCO environmental manager in charge of the procurement. That change requires the contractor to invest its own capital up front, mostly in equipment.

But DOE officials say that companies may have misunderstood the amount of risk involved. The contractor is required

Design and construction will take 18 months, as will final cleanup. An award is expected in September.

The 30-ft-deep pits cover 38 acres and contain waste that is primarily the low-level radioactive residue from 33 years of converting uranium ore to 500 million pounds of uranium metal.

Like most pits used in those years, dumping was unrestricted, so there could be some surprises waiting for the contractor. FERMCO went so far as to interview retirees on their recollection of what went into the pits, says Dennis Carr, a member of the Fluor Daniel leadership team at FERMCO. □

*By Mary Buckner Powers*

May 28, 1997  
Harrison Press  
Front Page  
"Crosby brings home coveted blue ribbon"  
Reporter: David Powers

# Crosby brings home coveted Blue Ribbon

## School is fifth Southwest winner

By David Powers  
Staff Writer

Crosby Elementary School Principal Dan Lawler was able to achieve one of his career goals earlier this month.

When he became principal in 1990, Lawler set a goal of having his school recognized by the federal government for achieving academic excellence.

Last week, the school was one of 17 institutions nationwide to win the prestigious Blue Ribbon Award for excellence in education awarded by the U.S. Department of Education.

"It's quite an honor for myself, the school district and the community to be named as a Blue Ribbon school. We're very proud of our accomplishments here at Crosby," said Lawler. "When I came here seven years ago, it was a goal of mine to win this award."

Lawler said he believes community involvement was a direct factor in helping the school win the honor. The institution takes part in a partnership program with the University of Cincinnati

to provide tutors at the school. Crosby is also involved in a district-wide business partnership program with Renck's Landscaping, Fluor-Daniel Fernald, Harrison Building and Loan and Al-

bright-Wilson, all of which support several academic programs at the school and provide several resources for the students.

"Our programs involve people. We

have parent involvement at the school and the students respond positively to these types of things," said Lawler. "We have good kids and good teachers

Continued on Page 14A



Crosby Elementary School Principal Dan Lawler (back row, right) gathers with 16 students who were all kindergartners when the school began pursuing its goal of winning a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award seven years ago. Front row, from left: Corey Alvis, Jim Miller, Joey Duckworth, Brian Loskamp, Keith Skaggs, Ashley Roberts, Lacey Carris and Keith Trammell. Second row: Seth Parker, Michele Hon, Carrie Weldeman, Alex Wine, Brad McDonough, Joey Perkins, Brian Corcoran and Brenna May. Staff(Powers)photo

*May 28, 1997**Harrison Press**Front Page**"Box explodes at Fernald, no one hurt"**Reporter: David Powers*

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## Box explodes at Fernald, no one hurt

By David Powers  
Staff Writer

Officials with Fluor-Daniel Fernald and the Fernald Environmental Restoration Management Co. are continuing their investigation into an explosion that occurred at the former Fernald uranium processing facility in Crosby Township on Thursday, May 22.

Officials say a crate containing five, 55-gallon drums full of low-level radioactive waste somehow became over-pressurized causing several retaining bolts to snap and the crate's lid to "pop

off."

"One of our employees heard a popping sound and saw a flash of light around 12:50 a.m.," said Mike Jacobs, public affairs officer at the site. "A gas built up inside the box and a relief valve couldn't handle the pressure. Some of the materials inside the drums did leak out but it was contained inside the building."

Jacobs said there were no personnel inside the building at the time of the incident and that no injuries were reported.

Fernald environmental scientist Joe Neyer said that the drums contained a solid residue mixture of uranium.

As a precautionary measure, all personnel working at Fernald at the time of the explosion were tested for radiation exposure.

Neyer said it was unclear how the gas built up inside the container and that Fernald officials will analyze all of the information and hope to determine a cause within the next few weeks.

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## Explosion

Continued from Page 1A

"At this time, we are still determining what caused the gas to build up inside the box and why the relief valve was unable to handle it," said Neyer.

Neyer would not say what type of gas had built up inside the crate. All operations involving the packaging of potential hydrogen-generating materials have been suspended at the site.