



FRIDAY MAILING

8/15/97

INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING ARE:

- Summary of DOE Community Meeting
- Summary of Soil and Water Projects Public Workshop
- Newsclippings

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- FERNALD HEALTH EFFECTS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:** The Fernald Health Effects Subcommittee Meeting will meet on Wednesday and Thursday, August 20-21, 1997, at the Plantation. The meeting on Wednesday will take place from 1:00 - 9:00 p.m., and the meeting on Thursday will take place from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION:** The regularly scheduled full CRO Board will meet on Tuesday, September 2, 1997. The meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m. at the Ross High School Media Center, 3425 Hamilton-Cleves Rd. In addition, please note that the new CRO message line (648-4168) 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.
- EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Efficiency Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 17, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. at the Jamtek Building at 10845 Hamilton Cleves Highway. *Please note that the time has changed from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.*
- FERNALD CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING:** The Citizens Advisory Board's next meeting will be Saturday, September 20, 1997, at 8:30 a.m. in the Alpha Building.

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
Doug FAX: 648-3629

E-MAIL: john.applegate@law.uc.edu
E-MAIL: [REDACTED]

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SUMMARY OF DOE COMMUNITY MEETING

August 12, 1997

Plantation, Harrison, Ohio

Approximately 50 people attended the DOE Community Meeting at the Plantation on Tuesday evening, August 12. In addition to the general public, this number included representatives from: FRESH, Fernald Citizens Advisory Board, Community Reuse Organization, trustee from Crosby Township, OEPA, DOE-FN and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

Gary Stegner, DOE Public Affairs, opened the meeting at 7 p.m. with comments on the new public involvement format that DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald will be initiating on a trial basis in September. After pointing out all the FEMP-related evening meetings, (28 during the last three months), the new strategy calls for one monthly meeting that would include:

- Big picture schedule and status
- Status and projection of upcoming activities by OU/Project
- Public involvement planning and interaction
- A "Topic of the Month" focusing on a current issue or project

The first Cleanup Progress Briefing will be Tuesday, September 9, Alpha Bldg., Classroom D beginning at 6:00 p.m. and will focus on the On-Site Disposal Facility. Meetings conducted by the CAB, CRO, FRESH and some DOE-sponsored meetings will continue as usual.

Next Jack Craig, DOE-FEMP Director, talked about the visit from DOE's Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management, Al Alm. Mr. Alm was here Monday evening the 11th/Tuesday the 12th, and met with stakeholders, regulators, and other DOE/FDF groups. Mr. Alm said the FY98 funding for the FEMP was on target. He was impressed with all the remediation activities going on at Fernald and the visible emphasis on safety. Jack reported that the budget for FY98 would soon be approved by Congress and the FEMP can expect to maintain the same level of funding.

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. Each operable unit and/or project has made progress since the April Community Meeting. Some highlights:

OU1/WPRAP	Planning to award the ARASA contract by late September. Completed all site preparation activities in future waste pit process area in July.
OU2/OSDF	Began construction of Cell 1 in June. Will initiate Cell 2 footprint in September.
OU3/FC&D	Completed safe shutdown of the incinerator at the Sewage Treatment Plant in July, six weeks ahead of schedule. Mobilized contractor for D&D of Boiler Plant/Water Plant in May.
OU4/Silos	Signed Dispute Resolution with U.S. EPA in July. Will issue Draft RFP for Silo 3 by September 30.
OU5/ARP/SCEP	Completed installation of 10 wells in the South Field Extraction System Project. Excavation and certification efforts in Area 1, Phase 1 completed in July. Received conditional approval from EPA on the IEMP in July.
WPM	Awarded contract for Thorium Stabilization Project in August. Shipped 413,503 ft ³ of low-level waste to date in FY97. Thorium Overpack Project completed in May, 10 months ahead of schedule—all TOCs have been shipped to NTS as of July 28.

Technology Submitted four proposals to the Office of Science & Technology's Technology Deployment Initiative (TDI). All four were selected and pending Congressional approval of the funding, could mean \$13 million dollars for the FEMP. (Johnny praised the technology group for the effort that went into this project.)

Agency Updates and Stakeholder Groups:

USEPA did not have a representative present.

OEPA: Laura Hafer (filling in for Tom Schneider) -- OEPA has been making many visits to the FEMP. The general trend indicates progress and remediation is moving forward. They will continue their presence overseeing monitoring. They have collected data on air monitoring and it is available upon request.

Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) John Applegate -- The task force has changed its name to Citizens Advisory Board to reflect a new phase in their activities, such as implementation issues. Also, it signals their relationship to the other CABs around the complex, particularly the Nevada CAB. It's very important to keep the FEMP before the NV-CAB and work closely with them on waste disposition. Some issues the CAB is looking at are OU4, priorities, and groundwater. They have selected a vice-chairman, Jim Bierer, a science teacher at the Ross Jr. High School. Their September meeting will focus on membership issues.

Community Reuse Organization: Dan Lawler, filling in for David McWilliams -- The CRO is now chartered and is considered a non-profit organization. It received a start-up grant from DOE and put out an RFP for a technical consultant on July 24. Proposals are expected by August 21 and they have received inquiries from potential bidders. The committee hopes to make a recommendation by the September meeting. The CRO is setting up an office in the JAMTEK Building and their phone number is 648-4168..

FRESH: Lisa Crawford -- Two comments: (1) FRESH is looking forward to the new Public Involvement strategy of only one meeting per month. (2) FRESH is concerned that Headquarters is not paying attention to the FEMP and its issues. It's like the "black hole syndrome" where you call or submit something and nothing comes back. Lisa mentioned this concern to Mr. Alm during their visit.

Question & Answer Session:

The following questions/comments were discussed:

1. Since we have received a cheaper disposal rate from NTS, can we increase our waste shipments? (Yes, we are currently looking to ship 612,000 ft³ by Oct.)
2. Is there a document on the OU4 Dispute Resolution that we can comment on? (Yes, it's at the PEIC and we will make sure FRESH, CAB, trustees, CRO, etc. get copies. There is an USEPA-sponsored public meeting on August 26, Alpha Bldg. at 6:00 p.m. You can ask questions on the settlement and make comments then.)
3. Did you say you know the path forward for Silo 3? (The only "path forward" at present is the issuance of the Draft RFP; by issuing a Draft RFP, we can solicit input from various vendors.)

4. You sent the MAWS equipment to another site; can't the melter be of use to the FEMP? (After studying the issue, it was decided the melter was too small)
5. Will we be able to see the Draft RFP for Silo 3? Can we see the Draft ESD? (When we send the drafts to the Agencies, we will also place them at the PEIC.)
6. Concerning the IEMP, how will you continue air monitoring? Will you leave monitors along east fence line for historical data? (We will leave air monitors on site. We are having some opposition in placing monitors off site. This issue continues to be worked with the Agencies.)
7. Since OU5 is progressing so well, can't you take some funds from other OUs and give to OU5? Has the ARP moved up in priority standing? We need to keep funds from EM-50 coming to OU5. (Funding for OU5 remains on target.)
8. Concerning the Dispute Resolution settlement, when does the funding get here? When will the recycling start? (Remedial Action Work Plans will be prepared for each supplemental project; funding will be in the FY98 budget.)
9. When will the Ohio Field Office director be named? (Probably within two weeks.)

The value engineering study (Phase II) for OU4 prepared by the Army Corps of Engineers on behalf of DOE's Office of Environmental Management was just issued and if you would like a copy, please call 648-5883.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45. 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.

SUMMARY OF SOIL & WATER PROJECTS PUBLIC WORKSHOP

August 7, 1997

Alpha Building, Classroom B

Twenty-five people attended the Soil & Water Projects Public Workshop on Thursday evening, August 7, 1997. In addition to the general public, this number included representatives from: FRESH, Citizens Advisory Board, OEPA, DOE-FN and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

Gary Stegner opened the meeting at 7 p.m. John Kappa, DOE-FN, gave a presentation on the aquifer restoration and how it addresses the sitewide groundwater remedy for the Great Miami Aquifer. There are several projects ongoing to clean up the aquifer. The South Plume Removal Action well system began pumping in August 1993. Total gallons pumped from 1993 to June 1997 is 2.3 billion gallons. Uranium concentration in off property area generally reduced from >300 ppb to <200 ppb. Monitoring indicates that plume capture objectives continue to be met.

Extraction wells are being installed to restore the off-property portion of the South Plume as quickly as possible. The design of the South Plume Optimization Project (SPOP) was completed in May 1997. The SPOP is comprised of two extraction wells located on private property immediately south of the FEMP. Construction is scheduled to be complete by April 1998 with start-up to begin by September 1998.

The Re-Injection Demonstration Project consists of five re-injection wells that are located just north of Willey Road. This project should enhance aquifer restoration and help reduce clean-up time. The installation of five re-injection wells was completed in May 1997. Construction activities for the project are scheduled for completion by April 1998.

The South Field Extraction System, Phase 1, consists of ten wells which were installed on-property in the vicinity of the Southfield/storm sewer outfall ditch. The ten extraction wells are designed to remove contaminated groundwater from the Southfield area. The contract for piping and ancillary facilities is expected to be awarded in August 1997. Phase 1 start-up is scheduled to begin by September 1998.

Next, Dave Brettschneider gave a presentation on the Wastewater Treatment Project. The OUS ROD requirements for wastewater treatment are: a limit of 600 lb/year uranium discharge to the Great Miami River, a discharge concentration of 20 ppb monthly average, and a limit to discharges of untreated stormwater from the storm water retention basin to the river to 10 days/year. The Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWWT) facility expansion project will provide an additional design rated capacity of 1,800 gallons per minute (gpm) treatment for groundwater. The majority of the ground water that will be processed through this expansion will be from the South Field Area. The expansion project start-up date is April 30, 1998. Upon completion of the AWWT expansion, the total treatment design capacity will be 2,900 gpm, incorporating 750 gpm design surface water treatment capacity with 600 gpm nominal throughput, and 2,150 gpm design groundwater treatment capacity with 1,720 gpm nominal throughput. Current operational uranium wastewater treatment facilities include:

- Advanced Wastewater Treatment - Phase I
- Advanced Wastewater Treatment - Phase II
- Interim Advanced Wastewater Treatment
- South Plume Interim Treatment

Recent construction activities completed include:

- Installation of Multi-media Filters on AWWT Phases I & II
- Parking Lot Stormwater Diversion

Current construction and start-up activities include:

- AWWT expansion to provide 1800 gpm groundwater treatment system
- AWWT resin regeneration system
- "New" Sewage Treatment Plant & Force Main

Current design and future construction and start-up activities include:

- Biodenitrification Surge Lagoon sludge removal system
- Storm Water Retention Basin sludge removal system
- "New" Volatile Organic Compound Treatment system

Next, Dennis Carr gave a brief update on the Soils Project. The scope of the OU2 and OU5 RODs was excavation of soils with placement in the On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF), with any soil or waste exceeding the OSDF Waste Acceptance Criteria being shipped off site. The total soil to the OSDF is 2.5 million cubic yards. Total soil that will be shipped off site is 34,400 cubic yards. The field work is progressing on schedule. In Area 1 Phase I, the excavation and certification sampling are complete. Cell 1 of the OSDF is under construction. Plans are to have three feet of cover material over the liner by December 1997. For Area 2 Phase I (Southfield Area), site preparation will be completed this year and the initial excavation will begin in the spring of 1998. Dennis mentioned all the activity and remediation going on at the site and encouraged people to visit and take a tour.

All questions were answered at the meeting. Six evaluation forms were completed and all said the presentations were very beneficial and complimented the presenters. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

A court reporter was present and a transcript of the meeting will be available in two weeks at the PEIC. If anyone would like the presentation handouts, please contact Jeanie Foster at 648-5883.

August 8, 1997

Cincinnati Enquirer

Page A1

"Campaign finance panel subpoenas Lindner firm"

Campaign finance panel subpoenas Lindner, firm

BY PAUL BARTON

Enquirer Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — A Senate committee probing campaign finance abuses is about to examine whether contributions by Cincinnati financier Carl Lindner influenced U.S. trade policy.

The committee also plans to look into the political influence of Fluor Corp., the California firm managing the cleanup of the former nuclear weapons plant at Fernald.

The Senate Governmental Affairs issued subpoenas Wednesday for documents from Mr. Lindner and Chiquita Brands International. Mr. Lindner is chairman of Chiquita.

The high-profile investi-



Carl Lindner

also sent subpoenas to Fluor officials and Peter Knight, a Washington lobbyist for Fluor who also was campaign manager for the Clinton-Gore re-election campaign.

The Enquirer has learned the subpoenas involving Mr. Lindner and Chiquita were motivated by published re-

(Please see LINDNER, Page A10)

gation is led by Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., and Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio.

The committee

Lindner: Senate panel subpoenas him, his firm

CONTINUED FROM PAGE A1

ports earlier this year stating that Mr. Lindner made substantial contributions to Democratic Party organizations in different states in return for favorable treatment from the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative on an issue critical to Chiquita.

Time magazine said that on April 12, 1996, Mr. Lindner and his executives began funneling more than \$500,000 to state Democratic Party organizations.

The move came one day after then-U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor asked the World Trade Organization to consider a grievance by Mr. Lindner's firm against European countries.

Chiquita complained that a system of tariffs and other trade rules unfairly limited market share in the European Union for bananas grown in Central America, its supply source.

"We are not implying anything," Paul Clark, spokesman for the Governmental Affairs Committee, said of the Lindner-related subpoenas. "This is simply a subpoena for documents."

Mr. Clark said the committee will look at the documents and conduct interviews before deciding whether it will call Mr. Lindner to testify. The hearings will resume after Labor Day.

Chiquita officials said there is nothing to the allegation.

"It's absolute nonsense," said Joe Hagin, vice president for corporate affairs.

In a formal statement issued Thursday, Chiquita officials added:

"Chiquita Brands International will fully comply with the subpoena we have received from Sen. Thompson's committee. Many of the documents requested by the committee are already matters of public record. We are confident the documents we provide will demonstrate to the committee that the company has acted both properly and in full compliance with the law in all its operations."

Mr. Clark said the committee wants to see documents such as phone messages, letters and internal company memoranda.

Mr. Glenn was vacationing with his family Thursday and unavailable for comment. However, committee staff said he voted for Wednesday's subpoena request that included Mr. Lindner and 38 others. Mr. Glenn supported Chiquita's efforts with the trade office.

The U.S. Trade Representative's Office denied Thursday that political contributions influenced decisions. The office went to bat for Chiquita because of "blatantly discriminatory practices on the part of the European Union," said spokesman Jay Ziegler.

Mr. Lindner has been a major contributor to candidates and committees of both political parties throughout the 1990s.

Since 1991, he has given more than \$2.36 million in "soft money" — money given directly to political party organizations rather than specific candidates.

But Mr. Lindner, his family and executives of his companies also give generously to specific House and Senate candidates.

For the 1994 elections, those contributions totaled \$201,390. For the 1996 elections, they were \$445,185, according to the Center for Responsive Politics.

The 1996 contributions of Mr. Lindner, his family and executives also included money to several senators on the Governmental Affairs Committee — \$8,000 each to Sam Brownback, R-Kan., and Susan Collins, R-Maine; \$2,000 to Pete Domenici, R-N.M.; and \$1,000 to Thad Cochran, R-Miss.

Mr. Glenn, who is not running for re-election in 1998, received \$1,000 from Keith Lindner, one of Mr. Lindner's sons, in the 1992 Senate campaign.

The subpoena to Fluor and Mr. Knight follows charges last year that the company gained major Department of Energy contracts, including the cleanup of the Hanford nuclear weapons site in Washington state, because of Mr. Knight's influence.

The company won the \$5 billion Hanford contract in August 1996 while the company was under investigation by the General Accounting Office for alleged mismanagement and safety problems at the Fernald site.

Fluor officials denied that either its political contributions or its relationship with Mr. Knight have led to Energy Department contracts.

August 11, 1997
 Cincinnati Enquirer
 Opinion, A7
 "Fernald is overregulated"
 Guest Columnist: Ben Klaene

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MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 1997 A7

Fernald is overregulated

BY BEN KLAENE
 Guest columnist

The article, "Nuke-site blast response scored" (July 26), points out a common fallacy in emergency preparedness: more regulations and procedures improve emergency response. Of course, regulation and procedure are necessary, but layer upon layer and revision upon revision of emergency procedures cause confusion and result in improper or delayed actions.

Fluor Daniel and the Department of Energy appear to be the world-renowned experts at perpetuating the "more procedures are better" fallacy. I have observed simulated emergencies at the Fernald plant, with both Fluor Daniel and Westinghouse as the Energy Department contractors. The procedures are designed to meet rigid Department of Energy requirements. On paper, the procedures look good, but result in poor emergency response. Emergency managers and the fire service have a well-developed response pattern and system of notification. The Department of Energy always seems to have a different way to handle the situation. This different way results in confusion as responders are asked to set aside what they have learned and practiced to coincide with Department of Energy methods.

As an example, the article mentions how the "lock down" procedures failed, with employees entering the property after the release. Police isolate the area in a much more difficult-to-manage urban incident. The Department of Energy and Fluor Daniel failed to isolate a federal reserve with limited access and an on-site security force. The article mentions how people were exposed to the chemical and potential radiological release by going outside. A simple tactic in a toxic release is called sheltering. An urban fire chief would instruct residents to stay inside with the doors and windows closed until the chemical and concentration could be identified.

Notifications to the public were delayed

QUEST COLUMN

Ben Klaene lives in
 Delhi Township.

by several hours. Local planning agencies work with Emergency Broadcast Systems to get word to the public through dispatchers or the emergency management agency. A message from the incident scene to notify the public is transmitted to the media and subsequently to the public. These are easy to remember and flexible procedures. They can be written on a single page.

I was not surprised that the solution offered by the Department of Energy to the fiasco in Washington State was "an exhaustive set of new guidelines and safeguards designed to prevent future breakdowns." Their exhaustive guidelines are the cause of the breakdowns, not the solution. I predict that a similar situation at Fernald would result in a similar outcome.

In my present position with the University of Cincinnati, I teach fire officers how to safely manage fire and hazardous materials incidents. As a 30-year veteran of the Cincinnati Fire Division, and co-author of their procedures manual, as well as writing emergency procedures for private industry as a consultant, I have found the solution to be a simple, straight-forward approach. Keeping it simple is the key to a successful response.

If a privately owned chemical company were to use the same guidelines the Department of Energy uses, it would be fined by OSHA and the EPA. When an emergency occurs at these privately owned facilities, plant management, fire departments, police departments and emergency management agencies go to work to resolve the problem. Dispatchers start the notification system using a pre-planned call up list. This system is not perfect, but functions on a regular basis to reduce the loss of life and property. It is the system that emergency responders know how to use.

The solution is fewer, not more procedures.

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 Journal News
 Front Page
 "Fluor Daniel eyeing options"
 Reporter: Nicholas G. Jonson

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Fluor Daniel eyeing options

Firm reconsidering plans for Silo 3

By Nicholas G. Jonson
 Journal-News

ROSS TOWNSHIP

Engineers at Fluor Daniel Fernald are reconsidering their plan to treat and dispose of low-level radioactive waste in one of three storage silos at the site.

Fluor Daniel Fernald is the principal cleanup contractor at the former Fernald uranium-processing plant.

The move follows a recommendation in late April by an independent review team to mix the Silo 3 waste with cement — a process called cementation — for disposal.

Engineers originally believed cementation was the safest and most cost-effective means of treatment. The waste would be transported to Nevada for disposal.

Repeated attempts to melt the waste into glass, a process called vitrification, proved difficult and not economical for Silo 3.

But preliminary reports now indicate that Silo 3 waste, consisting of cold metal oxides, can be disposed feasibly by two other methods for about the same cost.

Though the waste stored in two other Fernald silos is amenable to vitrification, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently told the U.S. Department of Energy and Fluor Daniel to consider other methods of treatment and disposal.

Terry Hagen, director of strategic planning for Fluor Daniel, said that other technologies could be considered if they perform in roughly the same manner as vitrification.

In addition to cementation, Fluor Daniel engineers identified two technologies to chemically surround — or "encapsulate" — the waste, Hagen said.

One technology involves using a chemical polymer such as polyethylene to coat the radioactive metals. The other technology involves combining sulfur with polyethylene.

Hagen said preliminary estimates show that all three technologies would have about the same cost, about \$25 million.

Don Payne, former head of the vitrification pilot program for Fluor Daniel and now acting vice president of the silos project, said no single technology has an advantage over the others.

"Given the nature of the material in Silo 3, I think all three would work equally well," he said.

Fluor Daniel will document the differences among the three technologies in a report to be sent to the U.S. EPA this week.

After the review, the draft will be released for public comment in October, Hagen said.

Preliminary reports now indicate that Silo 3 waste, consisting of cold metal oxides, can be disposed feasibly by two other methods for about the same cost as cementation.