



# FRIDAY MAILING

8/22/97

## INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING ARE:

- Minutes from the March 15, 1997 Fernald Citizens Advisory Board Meeting
- Summary of the July Monthly Progress Summary
- July Monthly Progress Summary
- Newsclippings

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 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      E-MAIL: [john.applegate@law.uc.edu](mailto:john.applegate@law.uc.edu)  
 Doug      FAX: 648-3629      E-MAIL: [REDACTED]



*Chair*  
John S. Applegate

*Members*  
James C. Bierer  
Marvin W. Clawson  
Lisa Crawford  
Pamela Dunn  
Constance Fox, M.D.  
Darryl D. Huff  
Thomas B. Rentschler  
Warren E. Strunk  
Robert G. Tabor  
Dr. Thomas E. Wagner  
Dr. Gene E. Willeke

*Ex Officio*  
L. French Bell  
Jack Craig  
Gene Jablonowski  
Graham Mitchell

### Minutes from the March 15, 1997 Meeting

The Fernald Citizens Task Force met from 8:40 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. on March 15, 1997, at the Alpha Building, 10967 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, Ohio. The meeting was advertised in local papers and open to the public. Time was reserved for public input.

**Members Present:**

John Applegate  
French Bell  
Jim Bierer  
Marvin Clawson  
Lisa Crawford  
Pam Dunn  
Constance Fox  
J. Phillip Hamric  
Darryl Huff  
Gene Jablonowski  
Dan McElroy  
Gloria McKinley  
Graham Mitchell  
Jerry Monahan  
Robert Tabor  
Thomas Wagner  
Gene Willeke

**Members Absent:**

Thomas Rentschler  
Warren Strunk

**Designated Federal Official Present:**

Ken Morgan

**DOE Headquarters**

Alvin Alm

**Task Force Staff Present:**

Sheri Landfair  
Crystal Sarno  
Douglas Sarno

About 20 spectators also attended the meeting, including members of the public and representatives from DOE, Fluor-Daniel Fernald, and FRESH.

961  
6-710

**1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Chair John Applegate called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

**2. Announcements and New Business**

The Minutes from the January 11, 1997, meeting of the Task Force were accepted and approved as presented.

Al Alm, who was at the meeting to discuss the Department of Energy's Ten-Year Plan, as well as give an update on the status of the budget and answer questions, was introduced. Dan McElroy was introduced as a potential member to replace Jerry Monahan.

Applegate raised several membership issues. Guy Guckenberger has become a Hamilton County judge, and is thereby not allowed to remain a member of the Task Force. We will be looking for a Hamilton County replacement for him. Phil Hamric is retiring from the government, and a replacement will also be sought for his position.

Jerry Monahan has retired from the Task Force. The membership committee interviewed candidates from the Building Trades Council, whom Monahan had helped to identify, and recommended Dan McElroy to the Task Force for membership. The Task Force unanimously approved the committee's recommendation, and Applegate welcomed McElroy to the group.

Applegate reported on recent discussions with DOE to improve communications among DOE, regulators, and stakeholders. Many things are being accomplished at the site, and the Task Force would very much like to have access to that information. Tom Wagner suggested that we schedule an official tour of the site, as the last tour was in 1993. It was agreed upon to arrange a tour for an upcoming meeting.

**3. Committee Updates**

*Transportation Committee*

Committee Chair Tom Wagner reported that activities since the last Task Force Meeting have included a meeting on February 6, 1997, to discuss options for intermodal transportation through Envirocare. The likelihood of a transfer point there does not appear promising. DOE is exploring another possibility in North Las Vegas. Jack Craig has talked to the Nevada Operations Office of DOE, and there may be a facility available to ship the waste via intermodal transportation, and apparently at half the cost. They will be doing a pilot study. The committee is awaiting details on this possibility. At this point they are also waiting for feedback on issues from February 6th meeting.

The committee also took a trip on the rail line to Cottage Grove in a small passenger vehicle on March 12, 1997.

*Community Reuse Organization*

Lisa Crawford reported that the strategic planning is done, and a draft report is available in the reading room. It will be sent to all members.

*Health Effects Committee*

Crawford reported that this committee held a meeting last month. They are still in the process of going through background materials. Another meeting is scheduled for May.

*GAO Report*

Jack Craig indicated that the final GAO Report will be released sometime Tuesday, March 18th. A copy will be sent to each member.

*DOE Ten-Year Plan and Budget*

Al Alm began his discussion of DOE's Ten-Year Plan and the budget by affirming the commitment to a balanced budget by the appropriations committee and the president's budget. The authorizing committees are stuck with their total allocations. They requested 5.8 billion dollars, which was just slightly higher than in previous years, and they also proposed a one-billion dollar privatization program. DOE has three priorities: 1) to reduce the most urgent risks as quickly as possible, 2) to reduce landlord costs, and 3) to meet compliance agreements.

Alm said it is imperative that Fernald meet the Ten-Year Plan: "If we can't achieve it here, then we won't make it anywhere." He stated that if there were not funds available to achieve this, he would reallocate funds.

It was noted that many terms used by DOE were not well understood by the public. Alm promised to put together a glossary to be sent around to stakeholders to help clarify these terms.

*Monitoring Committee*

Committee Chair Pam Dunn reported they have compiled the recycling results from the January 11th Task Force meeting. At this point, they are waiting on the recycling meeting, which is expected to take place in April or May.

*Natural Resources Committee*

Committee Chair Jim Bierer reported that activities since the last Task Force Meeting have included a January 29th meeting with Flour Daniel Fernald and EPA, at which the Natural Resources Impact Assessment was discussed. They also reviewed the Natural Resource Restoration Plan, as well as the Habitat Equivalency Analysis. They have heard that the native American agreement has been set forth; the burial will take place on site, in an area that has been certified as clean.

With all of the site activities occurring, such as buildings coming down, there have been several citizen inquiries as to what is happening. The citizens would like to be informed on a regular basis of activities on-site. They would also to see some early actions undertaken to improve the aesthetic quality of the site during construction. All of these ideas were passed on to Jack Craig for consideration and comment. The Natural Resources Committee has lost a member, and is looking for a new member. Upcoming action items include continuing to track progress of the restoration plan. The excavation plan has been delayed until July.

#### **4. Update on Silos**

Doug Sarno provided background and history of the silos on site. Then, Committee Chair Gene Willeke described the Waste Management Committee's recommendations.

In August 1996, the Task Force was presented with a proposal to change the process for Silo 3 from vitrification to cementation. This caused a fair amount of concern among the Task Force members and within the community. The Waste Management Committee first responded by presenting DOE with a list of questions that were critical to making an informed and sound decision. DOE also convened an outside technical team to help determine what had gone wrong, as well as what the next steps should be. This team came to be called the Independent Review Team. The report from the IRT should be available within a week or two.

The Waste Management Committee identified three primary questions and presented its preliminary recommendations to the Task Force.

- 1) Should the materials in Silos 1 & 2 be separated from Silo 3? The committee recommended that they should be separated. The primary reason for separation of Silo 3 wastes is the major concern that treating all silo waste together will cause significant problems, and will most likely prevent the successful treatment of the materials in Silos 1 and 2.
- 2) What is the appropriate treatment technology for the materials in Silo 3? The committee does not have a specific proposal for the treatment of Silo 3 wastes at this time because more information needs to be developed concerning treatment alternatives.
- 3) What is the appropriate treatment technology for the materials in Silos 1 and 2? Vitrification continues to be the remedy of choice for materials from Silos 1 and 2, and should be vigorously pursued. Recognizing that there is some possibility that vitrification may prove to be unfeasible, it is important also to continue the evaluation of stabilization to determine whether stabilization is a bona fide back-up option for the treatment of Silo 1 and 2 materials. Any future decision to abandon vitrification must be clearly and fully developed and determined with full stakeholder participation.

Jim Saric (US EPA) addressed the issue of the May 15 deadline for informal dispute. Saric expressed concern that he needs a path forward regarding vitrification or cementation. It is important to have a decision by May 15th. The question of what information is needed to make that decision was raised. Disappointment was expressed that the Independent Review Team went through its process, and was not able to come up with answers to these questions.

Pam Dunn asked if there was a question as to whether we could actually vitrify. Don Paine answered her that vitrification is possible, but we are faced with vitrifying 30 times the largest amount that has been vitrified in the world, in a timely and a cost-effective manner. We have a tremendous volume, and this is a unique situation. Saric asked what information needs to be known in order to discern if you can vitrify at that level. Alm asked what operation comes the closest to the situation we have here. Don answered that the one at Savannah River is closest, operating at 2 or 3 tons a day.

John Applegate brought the group back to the first question of whether to separate Silo 3 from Silos 1 and 2. The silos are very different in terms of hazard. Graham Mitchell and Jim Saric both endorsed separating Silos 1 and 2 from Silo 3. Gene Willeke proposed that the Task Force adopt the first proposal, to separate the silos. If Silo 3 is separated from Silos 1 and 2, the waste can be disposed of at places other than the Nevada Test site. If Silo 3 remains with the other silos, it will have to go to the Nevada Test Site.

The Task Force voted unanimously to separate Silo 3 from Silos 1 and 2.

The second question was then addressed. What is the appropriate treatment technology for the materials in Silo 3? Pam Dunn asked if we could send it off-site for treatment and then send it back to the site for disposal. Don Paine confirmed that the RFP does not disallow off-site treatment. When the feasibility study was done, some of the technologies that are available now were not available at that time. Gene Willeke explained that the Task Force is trying to put all of the factors together that will ultimately have to be considered to clean up the site as a whole. Lisa Crawford urged that the RFP avoid language that would bias their choice of treatment. Pam Dunn added that whomever is chosen as the contractor be open and able to communicate with the public, as public participation is important, even if through a contractor. Applegate clarified that the Waste Management committee would be involved in the development of the RFP.

A motion was put forward and seconded that the committee does not have a specific proposal for the treatment of Silo 3 at this time, because more information needs to be developed concerning treatment alternatives. It was unanimously accepted.

Next, question three was addressed. What is the appropriate treatment technology for the materials in Silos 1 and 2? The discussion began with Pam Dunn's and Lisa Crawford's concerns with the concept of continuing to evaluate dual technologies. The cost of the running the double track seems unclear, as well as the question of when that double track will cease. Based on the preliminary study, we can conclude that it is possible to design a plant to make quality glass. The caveat to that is that we are not using a low temperature melter. The melter tests would need to be finished (not able to be completed since the melter failed,) and then perhaps some other smaller tests would need to be run. Al Alm suggested since we have only a small amount of information left to be determined, couldn't this be accomplished at another site, using someone else's melter? When can we get that information? Don Paine stated that he believes this will take at least 6 to 12 months, even if more than one melter was used. The goal would be to gather information, while at the same time developing a back-up plan.

John Applegate expressed his sense of the meeting was that vitrification is the remedy of choice, and that looking at other alternatives should not be a subterfuge to really choosing them. The whole purpose of the backup investigation is to simply determine if it is a bona fide backup option. Doug Sarno suggested that we add to the outstanding concerns that the Task Force will work with DOE in determining the process for evaluating backup technologies.

## **5. Opportunity for Public Input**

A question was asked from the floor. The following points were made: Why are you moving so strongly towards vitrification? Your pilot plant failed - the plant at Savannah

River failed, and no other plant has been successful. No other country is proposing vitrification of materials that are so low in radioactivity. Heating materials to 1000 degrees is complicated and an unknown. What about the KISS principle?

John answered that the uncertainties are driving the issue of setting up a backup process. We have always been operating under the context that we have a signed ROD that says we will vitrify.

John Applegate opened the floor to further public comments. One gentlemen stated that the existence of a ROD legally requires vitrification to be the remedy of choice. He also stated that he does not personally favor this choice, but until the ROD is changed, there is really no question about the choice of vitrification.

Someone questioned the ability to change a ROD. Gloria McKinley said there should be no problem with changing the ROD. Others disagreed, saying that it would be quite difficult. Phil Hamric expressed concern that the Independent Review Team had not developed a side-by-side analysis of vitrification and cementation. Without that tool, he feels a decision really cannot be made, and that it would be wrong to make two mistakes.

Gene Willeke moved that his committee recommendation for question 3 be accepted as amended, and the movement was seconded. Jack Craig suggested that a statement be added for DOE to create a balanced side-by-side in conjunction with the Waste Management Committee and other stakeholders. It was unanimously accepted.

#### **6. Budget**

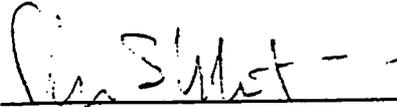
The budget will be the centerpiece of the May meeting, as it has been twice rescheduled to date. John Applegate asked Al Alm to discuss the Ten-Year Plan. Alm said that the clear goal for this site is to achieve a nine-year cleanup. He commented that he will be working to achieve a sense of stability in the program, and that DOE would be discussing this process in a very public way. The only way is by improving in efficiencies and lowering support costs for the site. Fernald is the first major site to make a cleanup commitment and it is very important that we keep that commitment.

John Applegate asked for a motion to wish Guy Guckenberger farewell, and added that Phil Hamric has been a true friend to the Task Force and to public involvement. It is due to Phil's leadership that the Task Force has had many of its successes. The motion was adopted by acclamation. John offered the Task Force's congratulations to him on his successful and fruitful career with DOE. Al added that Phil is characterized by honesty, integrity, and responsibility, and will be greatly missed. John presented Phil with a plaque thanking him for his service to the Fernald Citizens Task Force.

#### **9. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

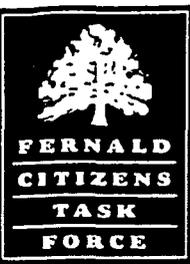
I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the  
March 15, 1997, meeting of the Fernald Citizens Task Force.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 John S. Applegate, Chair  
 Fernald Citizens Task Force

8/11/97  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ken Morgan  
 Deputy Designated Federal Official

8/13/97  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date



## FERNALD MONTHLY REPORT SUMMARY

July 1997

### OPERABLE UNIT 1

#### *MAJOR WORK INITIATED/COMPLETED - JULY 1997*

- Sent Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) Consent Package to DOE-FEMP for approval.
- Completed construction of office annex trailers.
- Initiated project-specific interactions with Envirocare.
- Initiated construction of rail maintenance building.
- DOE issued Invitation for Bid for the procurement of 135 railcars on July 25, 1997.

#### *MAJOR WORK TO BE INITIATED/COMPLETED - AUGUST 1997*

- Complete draft waste profile documentation for disposal of pit wastes at Envirocare.
- Initiate development of waste management plan.

### OPERABLE UNIT 2

#### *MAJOR WORK INITIATED/COMPLETED - JULY 1997*

- Closed current North Access Road on July 1, 1997, to support phase I construction of On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF).
- Began construction of Relocated North Access Road; scheduled to open in October 1997.
- Began Cell 1 excavation in preparation for liner installation.
- Completed construction of the sediment basin for OSDF Phase I.
- Installed Leachate Conveyance System lines in the areas of the Vitrification Pilot Plant Access Road, the Haul Road, and the trailers west of the main FEMP parking lot.
- Held pre-bid meeting for procurement process for awarding site preparation contract for Area 2 Phase I (Southern Waste Units) on July 8, 1997, issued Amendments 1-4 to solicitation package between July 14 and July 24, 1997, and received five bids on July 28, 1997.
- Received comments from Agencies on both the Draft Site Preparation Plan and the Certified for Construction (CFC) drawings for Area 2 Phase I; met with OEPA on July 29, 1997, to discuss comment resolution.
- Issued technical report containing updated flood routing modeling for Paddy's Run and revised cross-sections showing flood and groundwater elevations to Agencies on July 31, 1997.
- Initiated field sampling activities on July 28, 1997, under the Project-Specific Plan (PSP) for Area 2 Phase I Site Preparation Areas Sampling, which was given to the Agencies on July 29, 1997.

#### *MAJOR WORK TO BE INITIATED/COMPLETED - AUGUST 1997*

- Complete excavation of the Cell 1 liner.
- Initiate installation of horizontal perched groundwater monitoring well for Cell 1; also begin installation of Cell 1 compacted clay liner.
- Perform pressure testing on installed leachate lines; begin work on the east portion of the leachate collection system.
- Install gravel base for Relocated North Entrance Road.
- Award Area 2 Phase I Site Preparation contract in early August.
- Complete initial Area 2 Phase I PSP field sampling activities in early August.
- Meet with USEPA on August 5 and 6, 1997, to resolve their comments on the Area 2 Phase 1 Draft Site Preparation Plan and the CFC drawings; prepare formal comment responses to both USEPA and OEPA on these packages for submittal in early August.

### OPERABLE UNIT 3

#### *MAJOR WORK INITIATED/COMPLETED - JULY 1997*

- Completed holdup material removal from the Sewage Treatment Plant incinerator.
- Began evaluation of responses to Request for Proposal for Thorium/Plant 9 Complex D & D Project.



## MONTHLY REPORT SUMMARY - CONTINUED

July 1997

### OPERABLE UNIT 4

#### *MAJOR WORK INITIATED/COMPLETED - JULY 1997*

- Conducted a Silo 3 Stabilization Workshop in Nevada on July 1, 1997.
- Attended monthly meeting of the Nevada Test Site Citizens Advisory Board on July 2, 1997.
- Assisted in hosting a trip to Brookhaven National Laboratory for members of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) Waste Management Committee on July 16, 1997.
- Conducted a combined Public Workshop/FCAB Waste Management Committee Meeting on July 29, 1997.

#### *MAJOR WORK TO BE INITIATED/COMPLETED - AUGUST 1997*

- Finalize and review the Draft Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD), in preparation for its final submittal to the Agencies by the September 15, 1997, date specified in the July 22, 1997, Dispute Resolution Agreement.

### OPERABLE UNIT 5

#### *MAJOR WORK INITIATED/COMPLETED - JULY 1997*

- Transmitted the following *information only* Certified for Construction Packages to the Agencies on July 8, 1997: South Field Extraction System Project, Injection Demonstration Project, and South Plume Optimization Project.
- Received bids for the three projects listed above on July 24, 1997.
- Issued Request for Proposal for relocation of the existing Biodentrification Effluent Treatment Facility for reuse as the new Sewage Treatment Plant.
- Initiated pre-design work for development of the Integrated Remedial Design Package (IRDP) for Area 3.
- Initiated development of a PSP for the northeast corner of Area 3 to delineate uranium and lead.
- Completed Phase II archaeological investigations of two sites in the South Field.

#### *MAJOR WORK TO BE INITIATED/COMPLETED - AUGUST 1997*

- Award contract for the South Field Extraction System, Injection Demonstration, and South Plume Optimization Projects.
- Initiate Area 1 Phase II pre-design field sampling activities.
- Initiate pre-design field sampling activities under the Area 3 PSP mentioned above.

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

#### *MAJOR WORK INITIATED/COMPLETED - JULY 1997*

- Shipped 1,825.00 m<sup>3</sup> low level waste to Nevada Test Site (NTS).
- Treated 1.00 m<sup>3</sup> in the Neutralization/Precipitation/Deactivation/Stabilization Project (NPDS).
- Sampling performed by Lockheed Martin for acceptance of Batch #7 at the TSCA Incinerator.
- Completed Construction Acceptance Testing and Systems Operability Testing of RCI Solvent Extraction Project.
- Received proposals from four potential contractors in June for cement stabilization of thorium waste and evaluated these proposals in July.

#### *MAJOR WORK TO BE INITIATED/COMPLETED - AUGUST 1997*

- Preparing over 300 drums of mixed wastes for shipment to Envirocare for disposal.
- Standard Startup Review (SSR) for RCI Solvent Extraction is scheduled to begin on August 8, 1997.
- Thorium Stabilization Project contract scheduled to be awarded on August 18, 1997.

### THORIUM OVERPACK PROJECT (TOP)

#### *ALL FIGURES CUMULATIVE FOR THE PROJECT AS OF AUGUST 1, 1997*

- Overpacked 5,577 drums.
- Filled 971 Thorium Overpack Containers (TOCs).
- Shipped 961 TOCs.

## FERNALD MONTHLY PROGRESS SUMMARY

### July 1997

The following represents a summary of major accomplishments at Fernald by Operable Unit. Please contact Terry Hagen (513-648-5261) or Tisha Patton (513-648-5277) for any additional information.

#### OPERABLE UNIT 1

##### July 1997

- **Enforceable Milestones Completed**
  - None
  
- **Major Work Initiated/Completed**
  - Sent Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) Consent Package to DOE-FEMP for approval
  - Completed construction of office annex trailers (this activity, though not previously reported, actually began in April 1997)
  - Continued north railyard construction
  - Continued development of the Transportation Plan, a Remedial Action Work Plan (RAWP) deliverable
  - Continued off-site trestle construction activities
  - Initiated project-specific interactions with Envirocare
  - Initiated construction of rail maintenance building
  - DOE issued Invitation for Bid for the procurement of 135 railcars on July 25, 1997

##### August 1997 (Anticipated)

- **Enforceable Milestones Expected to Be Completed**
  - None
  
- **Major Work to be Initiated/Completed**
  - Complete draft waste profile documentation for disposal of pit wastes at Envirocare
  - Continue north railyard construction
  - Continue development of the Transportation Plan
  - Continue off-site trestle construction activities
  - Initiate development of waste management plan

#### OPERABLE UNIT 2

##### July 1997

- **Enforceable Milestones Completed**
  - On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF)
    - None
  - Soil Characterization & Excavation Project (SCEP)
    - None

(Note that DOE-FEMP has requested an extension of the July 14, 1997, milestone date for submittal of the Pre-Final Area 2 Phase I Integrated Remedial Design Package (IRDP), as documented in a letter from Johnny Reising, DOE-FEMP, to James Saric, USEPA, dated June 27, 1997; the proposed date for submittal of the IRDP is October 20, 1997.)

- **Major Work Initiated/Completed**

- **OSDF**

- Closed current North Access Road on July 1, 1997, to support Phase I construction
- Began construction of Relocated North Access Road; scheduled to open in October 1997
- Began Cell 1 excavation in preparation for liner installation; continued work on the run-on and run-off diversion ditches
- Continued work on the subgrade for the Haul Road
- Completed construction of the sediment basin for OSDF Phase I
- Installed Leachate Conveyance System lines in the areas of the Vitrification Pilot Plant Access Road, the Haul Road, and the trailers west of the main FEMP parking lot

- **SCEP**

- Continued procurement process for awarding the site preparation contract for Area 2 Phase I (Southern Waste Units); held pre-bid meeting on July 8, 1997, issued Amendments 1-4 to solicitation package between July 14 and July 24, 1997, and received five bids on July 28, 1997
- Received comments from Agencies on both the Draft Site Preparation Plan and the Certified for Construction (CFC) drawings for Area 2 Phase I; met with OEPA on July 29, 1997, to discuss comment resolution
- Issued technical report containing updated flood routing modeling for Paddy's Run and revised cross-sections showing flood elevations and groundwater elevations to Agencies on July 31, 1997
- Initiated field sampling activities on July 28, 1997, under the Project-Specific Plan (PSP) for Area 2 Phase I Site Preparation Areas Sampling, which was given to the Agencies on July 29, 1997; these activities are designed to characterize soil for potential reuse in construction of Area 2 Phase I sedimentation basins, as well as for OSDF waste acceptance criteria attainment

**August 1997 (Anticipated)**

- **Enforceable Milestones Expected to Be Completed**

- **OSDF**

- Submit OSDF Groundwater/Leak Detection and Leachate Monitoring Plan to Agencies by August 8, 1997

- **SCEP**

- None

(Note that DOE-FEMP has requested an extension of the August 11, 1997, milestone date for submittal of the Final Design/Certified for Construction Package for Area 2 Phase I, as documented in a letter from Johnny Reising, DOE-FEMP, to James Saric, USEPA, dated June 27, 1997; the proposed date for submittal of this package is February 16, 1998.)

- **Major Work to be Initiated/Completed**

- **OSDF**

- Complete excavation for the Cell 1 liner
- Initiate installation of horizontal perched groundwater monitoring well for Cell 1; also begin installation of Cell 1 compacted clay liner
- Perform pressure testing on installed leachate lines; begin work on the east portion (gravity section) of the leachate collection system
- Install gravel base for Relocated North Entrance Road

- **SCEP**

- Award Area 2 Phase I Site Preparation contract in early August; construction anticipated to begin mid-September

- Complete initial Area 2 Phase I PSP field sampling activities in early August, with receipt of data anticipated for early September
- Meet with USEPA on August 5 and 6, 1997, to resolve their comments on the Area 2 Phase I Draft Site Preparation Plan and the CFC drawings; prepare formal comment responses to both USEPA and OEPA on these packages for submittal in early August
- Continue development of the Area 2 Phase I IRDP

### **OPERABLE UNIT 3**

#### **July 1997**

- **Enforceable Milestones Completed**
  - None
- **Major Work Initiated/Completed**
  - **Safe Shutdown**
    - Continued line draining and holdup material removal in Plant 2/3
    - Continued conducting utility disconnects in Plant 6
    - Completed holdup material removal from the Sewage Treatment Plant Incinerator
    - Continued activities in Plant 8
  - **D&D**
    - Continued activities in Boiler Plant/Water Plant
    - Began evaluation of responses to Request for Proposal for Thorium/Plant 9 Complex D&D Project

#### **August 1997 (Anticipated)**

- **Enforceable Milestones Expected to Be Completed**
  - None
- **Major Work to be Initiated/Completed**
  - **Safe Shutdown**
    - Continue line draining and holdup material removal in Plant 2/3
    - Continue activities in Plant 6
    - Continue activities in Plant 8
  - **D&D**
    - Continue Boiler Plant/Water Plant activities

### **OPERABLE UNIT 4**

#### **July 1997**

- **Enforceable Milestones Completed**
  - The "Agreement Resolving Dispute Concerning Denial of Request for Extension of Time for Certain Operable Unit 4 Milestones" was signed by DOE-OFO on July 14, 1997 and by USEPA Region V on July 22, 1997, establishing enforceable milestones for submittal of the Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD), award of the multi-tech proof-of-principle contract for Silos 1 and 2, and submittal of the draft Silo 1 and 2 FS/PP and ROD Amendment documents; the agreement also specifies implementation of five Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP) at the FEMP and replaces existing OU4 RD/RA Work Plan milestones with the milestones established in the agreement and subsequent submittals

- **Major Work Initiated/Completed**
  - **Conducted a Silo 3 Stabilization Workshop in Nevada on July 1, 1997; this workshop was part of an effort to mirror for Nevada stakeholders the same information that is being presented to our local stakeholders concerning evaluation of options for treatment and disposal of Silo 3 wastes**
  - **Attended monthly meeting of Nevada Test Site Citizens Advisory Board on July 2, 1997**
  - **Assisted in hosting a trip to Brookhaven National Laboratory for members of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) Waste Management Committee on July 16, 1997; this one-day trip gave the committee an opportunity to receive presentations and ask specific questions concerning the two polymer-based encapsulation technologies being considered for stabilization/solidification of Silo 3 residues**
  - **Conducted a combined Public Workshop/FCAB Waste Management Committee Meeting on July 29, 1997, to review the detailed analysis of the three potential alternatives to vitrification of Silo 3 waste, in which cement (chemical) stabilization/solidification, polymer (micro) encapsulation, and sulfur/polymer encapsulation were compared using the criteria specified by CERCLA for the Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study alternatives analysis process; based upon comparison of the three technologies, either cement (chemical) stabilization/solidification or a polymer-based encapsulation process will provide an acceptable alternative to vitrification for treatment of Silo 3 waste prior to offsite disposal**

#### **August 1997 (Anticipated)**

- **Enforceable Milestones Expected to Be Completed**
  - **None**
- **Major Work to be Initiated/Completed**
  - **Finalize and review the Draft Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD), in preparation for its submittal to the Agencies by the September 15, 1997, date specified in the July 22, 1997, Dispute Resolution Agreement**

#### **OPERABLE UNIT 5**

#### **July 1997**

- **Enforceable Milestones Completed**
  - **Aquifer Restoration and Wastewater Project (ARWWP)**
    - **Transmitted the Operations and Maintenance Master Plan (OMMP) for the Aquifer Restoration and Wastewater Treatment Project to the Agencies on June 30, 1997, meeting the actual milestone date of July 1, 1997; note that the South Plume Performance Monitoring and Maintenance Plan was revised and incorporated into the OMMP as Appendix A**
    - **The Integrated Environmental Monitoring Plan (IEMP) was fully approved by USEPA on July 10, 1997, with the exception of approval to use environmental measurements to demonstrate compliance with National Emissions Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP) Subpart H; NESHAP approval must be granted by the Air and Radiation Section of USEPA Region V, and is expected to be received in August 1997**
  - **Soils Characterization and Excavation Project (SCEP)**
    - **Submitted the Certification Report for Area 1 Phase I to the Agencies on June 30, 1997, meeting the actual milestone date of July 1, 1997**
    - **Submitted the following documents to the Agencies on July 11, 1997, meeting the actual milestone date of July 14, 1997**
      - **Draft Sitewide Excavation Plan (SEP)**
      - **Draft RTRAK (Radiological Tracking System) Applicability Study**

- Revised Draft Comparability of In-Situ Gamma Spectroscopy and Laboratory Data Report (also known as the HPGe Comparability Study or the In-Situ Characterization Comparability Study)
- Also refer to OU2 July enforceable milestone entries presented earlier in this report
- Major Work Initiated/Completed
  - ARWWP
    - Transmitted the following *information only* Certified for Construction packages to the Agencies on July 8, 1997:
      - South Field Extraction System Project
      - Injection Demonstration Project
      - South Plume Optimization Project
    - Received bids for the three projects listed above on July 24, 1997
    - Continued construction on Advanced Waste Water Treatment (AWWT) regeneration project, which is approximately 75% complete; target operational date has been revised to November 1997
    - Continued construction on the Sewage Treatment Plant Relocation, which is approximately 50% complete
    - Issued Request for Proposal for relocation of the existing Bionitrification Effluent Treatment Facility for reuse as the new Sewage Treatment Plant
  - SCEP
    - Initiated pre-design work for development of the IRDP for Area 3 (the portion of the Former Production Area north of 2nd Street)
    - Initiated development of a Project-Specific Plan (PSP) for the northeast corner of Area 3 to delineate uranium (WAC attainment) and lead (Suspected Toxicity Characteristic Area)
    - Continued development of several Area 1 Phase II (remaining portion of the west field) PSPs, primarily concerned with WAC Attainment Delineations and Area-Specific Constituents of Concern Characterizations associated with the Sewage Treatment Plant Area
    - Completed Phase II archaeological investigations of two sites in the South Field, in support of planning efforts for Area 2 Phase II and ARWWP; at the present time, no further archeological study is recommended at either site

#### August 1997 (Anticipated)

- Enforceable Milestones Expected to Be Completed
  - ARWWP
    - Transmit the Final IEMP to the Agencies by August 11, 1997
  - SCEP
    - Also refer to OU2 August enforceable milestone entries presented earlier in this report
- Major Work to be Initiated/Completed
  - ARWWP
    - Award contract for the South Field Extraction System, Injection Demonstration, and South Plume Optimization Projects
  - SCEP
    - Initiate Area 1 Phase II pre-design field sampling activities, contingent upon approval of the Area 1 Phase II PSPs mentioned above
    - Continue development of the Area 1 Phase II IRDP
    - Initiate pre-design field sampling activities under the Area 3 PSP mentioned above
    - Continue development of the Area 3 IRDP

**WASTE MANAGEMENT****July 1997**

- **Enforceable Milestones Completed**
  - None
  
- **Major Work Initiated/Completed**
  - **Low Level Waste**
    - Shipped 1,825.00 m<sup>3</sup> low level waste to Nevada Test Site (NTS)
  - **Mixed Waste Treatment Projects**
    - **Liquid Mixed Waste** — Sampling performed by Lockheed Martin for acceptance of Batch #7 at the TSCA Incinerator; shipment of this waste is scheduled to be performed prior to the end of September 1997
    - **Chemical Treatment Projects**
      - Treated 1.00 m<sup>3</sup> mixed waste in the Neutralization/Precipitation/Deactivation/Stabilization (NPDS) Project
      - RCI Solvent Extraction Project — Completed Construction Acceptance Testing and Systems Operability Testing
    - **Thorium Stabilization Project** — Received proposals from four potential contractors in June for cement stabilization of thorium waste which is identified as mixed; these proposals were evaluated during the month of July

**August 1997 (Anticipated)**

- **Enforceable Milestones to Be Completed**
  - None
  
- **Major Work to be Initiated/Completed**
  - **Mixed Waste Treatment Projects**
    - **Mixed Waste Shipping** - Preparing over 300 drums of mixed waste for shipment to Envirocare for disposal; analytical results are expected back during the month, after which the waste profile will be prepared and submitted
    - **Chemical Treatment Projects**
      - RCI Solvent Extraction — Standard Startup Review (SSR) is scheduled to begin on August 18, 1997
    - **Thorium Stabilization Project** — Contract scheduled to be awarded on August 8, 1997

**THORIUM OVERPACKING PROJECT UPDATE (TOP)**

All figures cumulative as of August 1, 1997

- Overpacked 5,577 drums
- Filled 971 Thorium Overpack Containers (TOCs)
- Shipped 961 TOCs

The 10 remaining TOCs are scheduled for shipment to the Nevada Test Site in the near future.

completed, 100 are now working full-time and 55 are searching for jobs. Several others are in school. "So often people in the corporate world would complain, 'Welfare, welfare, all these people on welfare,' and now it's time for them to put their money where their mouth is," said Dowling. "I think that's really starting to happen."

Hamilton, Clermont, Butler and Warren counties had unemployment rates among Ohio's lowest in May, ranging from 3.1 percent and 3.5 percent. And business in Greater Cincinnati created more than 20,000 new jobs last year, according to the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce.

This market is pushing up wages for entry-level jobs by as much as 25 percent and forcing employers to offer all kinds of incentives, from flex-time to tuition reimbursement.

A 1995 study for Cincinnati Works found little interest among employers in hiring people without high school diplomas. But in a repeat survey last October, researchers found that 30 percent of employers had changed their minds and would now hire people even without high school degrees.

But, as hungry as they are, companies aren't willing to hire people who aren't ready to work. A variety of government subsidies and tax incentives are available to employers who will hire welfare recipients, but the results have been mixed.

"At Cincinnati Works, we are offering to the workplace people who are qualified," said Beth Smith, assistant director of the privately funded, poverty-to-work program. "It's not, 'Do me a favor and hire these people.' These companies are running a business. They're not social service agencies."

The largest job-readiness and placement program is part of the Hamilton County Department of Human Services. It's called CASH/Job Club and every welfare recipient who faces a work requirement has to participate. Fridays are "Meet Your Next Employer" day when employers come down to the welfare offices on Central Parkway, pass out applications and sometimes hire people on the spot.

"I've hired quite a few people," said Eric Schmidt, of Schmidt Poultry, a chicken processing plant in Northern Kentucky. "But only four or five have lasted more than a couple months. It's so hard to find and keep people."

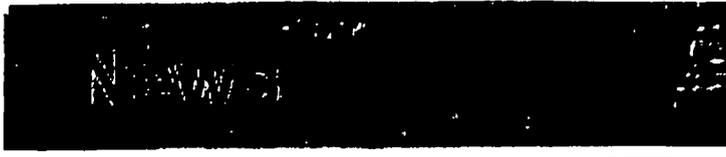
Some employers are working directly with human services departments in other ways. Fluor Daniel Fernald, which has a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy to clean up the Fernald nuclear site, has worked with Hamilton County to hire four welfare recipients for clerical positions and is recruiting at Butler County human services.

In an effort that is just beginning after 18 months of planning, eight manufacturing firms have joined with Queen City Vocational School, the Institute of Applied Manufacturing

August 15, 1997

Cincinnati Post

"Attitude is key to jobs program"



## Attitude is key to jobs program

By Laurie Petrie, Post staff reporter

A wall at the Hamilton County Department of Human Services holds photographs of dozens of former welfare recipients who have found work.

Department employees even used to ring a little bell in celebration whenever someone was hired, until it became silly because the jobs were coming so fast.

In Greater Cincinnati's booming economy, the jobs are there to meet President Clinton's plea to hire welfare recipients.

Often, the only thing standing in a person's way, experts say, is the willingness to show up everyday ready to take direction.

"It's not just a question of employers opening the door. With most employers the door is already open," said Gilbert Richards, president of Richards Industries, Inc. in Oakley. "I think people need to work hard to get welfare recipients up to speed and with the attitude that they really want to work."

With that in mind, many companies are linking with intermediaries such as the job development programs of CBS Personnel Services and Cincinnati Works. These programs help welfare recipients and other poor people develop the skills that most in the workplace take for granted.

"What we hear from employers is not that they need people who know a certain software program or know how to run a certain piece of machinery, but they are looking for people who will come to work every day on time, are willing to take direction and won't fight with their co-workers. It's those soft skills that they need," said Deanna Henry, a recruiter for Cincinnati Works.

Tim Dowling, corporate recruiting director for CBS, recently expanded his job development staff so they can meet strong demand for more counseling, job-readiness classes and mentoring to people looking for entry-level jobs. Classes are held in conjunction with social service agencies. After finishing Dowling's job-readiness classes at the Brighton Center in Northern Kentucky recently, 60 percent of participants found work, he said.

Since its founding in April, 1996 by Downtown Cincinnati Inc., Cincinnati Works has had 182 people complete its two-week classes out of the 206 who started. Of those who

Sports  
 Business  
 Living  
 Opinion  
 News  
 Health  
 Entertainment  
 Classifieds  
 Feedback  
 News Service

Science, the city of Cincinnati, Hamilton County and Cincinnati Works to recruit, train and hire manufacturing workers. Beginning Sept. 22 and continuing every 6 weeks, 25 candidates will be selected to attend a free course in blueprint reading, quality assurance and other technical skills. The companies will hire from that group.

In the middle of many of these new collaborations is Cynthia Smith of the Hamilton County Department of Human Services who can rattle off dozens of new public/private partnerships she's helped put together.

"It's true that these are small programs hiring just a few people," she said. "But there are many, many employers hiring a few people at a time."

Publication date: 08-16-97

**[Return to the Front Page](#)**

© Copyright 1997, The Cincinnati Post. All Rights Reserved.

August 19, 1997  
 Cincinnati Enquirer  
 Hometown, B3  
 "Top volunteer efforts cited"

961

## CONGRATS

### AWARDS

# Top volunteer efforts cited

Local volunteer programs and coordinators were honored on Fountain Square on Monday for Volunteer Service Day 1997.

#### Award-winners:

► **Meghan Kaskoun**, named outstanding volunteer coordinator. Ms. Kaskoun, coordinator for St. Joseph Home, developed the first volunteer handbook with policies, job descriptions and procedures on health and safety. She also helped launch a volunteer newsletter for St. Joseph, a home that provides residential and educational opportunities for the medically frail and developmentally disabled.

► **Radio Reading Services**, named for outstanding volunteer program. Volunteer coordinator **Dee Vockel** accepted the award for the non-profit organization, dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with visual, physical or learning disabilities. Volunteers provide about 130 hours of weekly broadcast readings of local and national newspapers and magazines and provide personal reader services.

Radio Reading Services has 600 volunteers who also do engineering, office support and fund-raising.

► **Fluor Daniel Fernald Community Involvement Team**, named as outstanding corporate volunteer program. The 11-employee team promotes individual and family volunteer opportunities through a monthly newsletter and commits to three big projects a year, including two adopt-a-park programs with Miami Whitewater and participating in the annual United Way Community Care Week.

#### Other nominees for awards include:

**Jean Reisinger-Coggan**, Federated Department Stores; **Foster Grandparent Program**; **Stephanie Gjerde**, Mental Health Association; **Greater Cincinnati Oral Health Council**; **Masters Commission**, Greater Cincinnati Chapter; **Dave Mikkelsen**, Foster Grandparents; **St. Joseph Home**; and **Senior Services of Northern Kentucky**.

Volunteer Service Day was sponsored by the United Way Volunteer Resource Center, city of Cincinnati and Cincinnati Association of Volunteer Administrators.

August 21, 1997

Journal News

Local, A3

"Fernald panel shifts focus"

Reporter: Nicholas G. Jonson

# Fernald panel shifts focus

By Nicholas G. Jonson

Journal-News

HARRISON TOWNSHIP

A citizens committee to evaluate effects of Fernald radiation broke ranks Thursday with leading researchers on how to assess health risks in the community.

The Fernald Health Effects Subcommittee voted to have federal researchers examine a wider range of diseases than originally anticipated that may have resulted from radiation.

Centers for Disease Control researchers originally focused efforts on determining whether an epidemiological study on lung cancer was financially feasible.

The study would have tried to show any relationship between inhalation of radon gas and the incidence of lung cancer for people living within 10 kilometers of Fernald during its operation. The plant processed uranium during the Cold War.

Epidemiological researchers would need community disease and population records. CDC risk analysis expert Owen Devine said such a study could take years and cost millions of dollars.

Some CDC researchers and committee members said obstacles in a study include availability of sufficient data on past lung cancer cases, calculating the exposure to workers at the plant and including the factor of smoking in determining risk.

"I don't really think an epidemiological study has translatable value to the community," committee Chairman Joseph Farrell said. "It has value to the CDC and the scientific community, but that seems to be all."

Instead, the committee directed CDC scientists to concentrate on determining which diseases and disorders, including lung cancer, might be linked to radiation exposure.

Researchers will now focus on obtaining data about past cases of radiation exposure in other parts of the world to determine what future health risks may exist for the community surrounding Fernald, Devine said.

Devine said gathering data on other health risks does not preclude the possibility of an epidemiological study later.