



FRIDAY MAILING

11/21/97

INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING ARE:

- USEPA/OEPA Response to Comments on the Operable Unit 4, July 22, 1997, Dispute Agreement
- Letter from Robert Folker to John Applegate (re: Priorities List)
- Public Participation Update "Draft Focus on 2006 Plan"
- Monthly Progress Report Summary October 1997
- News Media Advisory (re: November 25, 1997, Fernald Cleanup Project Briefing)
- Waste Management Meeting Summary - September 16, 1997
- Waste Management Meeting Summary - October 20, 1997
- Efficiency Committee Meeting Summary - September 17, 1997
- Members and Staff Listing
Please inform the Citizens Advisory Board office if you have any changes to this information.
- Committee Rosters
Please inform the Citizens Advisory Board office if you have any changes to this information.
- Web Sites of SSABs
- Newsclippings

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- FERNALD MONTHLY PROGRESS BRIEFING:** The Monthly Progress Briefing will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. in the Alpha Building.
- WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Waste Management Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board will meet on Monday, December 1, 1997, at 5:30 p.m. in the Jamtek Building. The meeting will begin with a tour of the Onsite Disposal Facility. The committee will also discuss the recent injunction against DOE.

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]

NEW TIME

**U.S. EPA RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
ON THE OPERABLE UNIT 4 JULY 22, 1997, DISPUTE AGREEMENT**

COMMENTOR:

John S. Applegate, Chairman
Fernald Citizen's Advisory Board
P.O. Box 544
Ross, OH 45061

COMMENT:

I am writing with regard to the Supplemental Environmental Projects that were identified at EPA's August 26 Public Meeting. The Fernald Citizen's Advisory Board is disappointed that we were not notified of these projects earlier and that we did not have the opportunity to be involved in their development. The approach to development of these projects was not in keeping with the very open and early approach to public involvement that the Department of Energy has established at Fernald. This is especially unfortunate given the wonderful opportunity these projects present to enhance the site and surrounding communities.

Because of insufficient time between the public meeting and the end of the public comment period, we have not had the opportunity to call a meeting of the Natural Resources Committee of the Advisory Board and cannot comment on the specific proposals made by the U.S. EPA. In addition, we do not feel that enough information was presented on these projects to allow for meaningful input. We would, therefore, request that a 30-day extension be made in the public comment period for the purpose of evaluating the Supplemental Environmental Projects only. Because so few details were provided on these projects, we would also like to see all of the details available, particularly with regard to implementation and cost. We also understand that a number of other projects were considered and rejected. We would very much appreciate seeing a list of these projects with all available details.

I do realize that these matters were the subject of dispute resolution, which is your practice to keep confidential. However, the dispute is now resolved, and in any event the legal context of an important issue for Fernald should not determine whether or not citizens can participate in it.

The Citizen's Advisory Board is looking forward to seeing the details of these proposals and being a constructive participant in their selection.

RESPONSE:

During negotiations, the concept of extended schedules and environmental projects, as well as a monetary penalty, was discussed with the Citizen's Advisory Board. As with the previous two dispute settlements, the specifics of all portions of the settlement were not revealed until the dispute was settled. Therefore, U.S. EPA did not handle this situation any differently than past disputes which also included environmental projects. Regarding the specific cost and implementation schedules for the environmental projects, the information you have is the

**U.S. EPA RESPONSE TO COMMENTS
ON THE OPERABLE UNIT 4 JULY 22, 1997, DISPUTE AGREEMENT**

COMMENTOR:

Jim Bierer
Chair, Natural and Cultural Resources Committee
Fernald Citizen's Advisory Board
P.O. Box 544
Ross, OH 45061

COMMENT:

The Natural and Cultural Resources Committee of the Fernald Citizen's Advisory Board has reviewed the Supplemental Environmental Projects recommended by EPA as part of the OU4 dispute resolution. In general, the committee finds that the descriptions of the projects are vague and do not contain essential information, such as detailed cost estimates and details on how the projects would be performed. Based on the limited information we were presented, the committee makes the following recommendations:

1. Project 1 does not offer any substantial contribution to the Fernald site or to the community. The area surrounding the site already contains significant greenspace. The acquisition of additional off-site land for this purpose is not in the community's interest. We strongly oppose this option.
2. The committee does not feel that Projects 2 and 3 are bona fide supplemental environmental projects. These activities should be conducted anyway as a matter of course in the resource restoration process at the Fernald site.
3. Projects 4 and 5 are in close alignment with the philosophy of the original Citizen's Advisory Board recommendations by removing materials from the site and limiting material that is placed in the on-site disposal facility. We strongly concur with these projects.
4. Recycling and reuse are of paramount importance to the Fernald Citizen's Advisory Board. Considering this, we would like to take this opportunity to encourage the EPA to look for recycling and reuse opportunities at the site and to consider new and alternative technologies whenever possible. We would prefer to see the vast majority of SEP monies go to such projects.
5. One of the biggest successes at Fernald has been the reinterment of Native American remains. The committee feels that additional sites at Fernald could be offered for such reinterments and that this possibility should be considered as another option for SEP monies.

The Natural and Cultural Resources Committee hopes that you will consider these recommendations for these Supplemental Environmental Projects and in future activities at the site.

RESPONSE:

The information provided to the committee in U.S. EPA's September 11, 1997 letter to the Fernald Citizen's Advisory Board provided all the information transferred between U.S. EPA and U.S. DOE regarding the environmental projects. Further information such as detailed scope, cost and schedule will be provided in the various work plans as specified in the dispute agreement.

Development of a conservation area adjacent to the Fernald facility is consistent with the ultimate future land use of the site. Once remediation is complete, the majority of the facility will be available for recreational use. This conservation area project involves obtaining easement rights for property currently not being used for other activities, which is most suitable for such a conservation area and may provide a "buffer zone" to the facility. This approach will not be converting other utilized land to conservation areas, but most likely establishing a conservation area in a current area not being, or likely to ever be, utilized for other purposes. Further details on the conservation area will be submitted by U.S. DOE to U.S. EPA and will be available to stakeholders on November 21, 1997.

Projects 2 and 3 are environmental projects consistent with the long-term remediation of the site. The wild bird and wild flower habitat area is directly consistent with the future recreational use of the property. Also, large-scale excavations will occur over the majority of the site. The ability to restore the land to such recreational uses and the successful development of plants and other species after excavation is essential. These research projects are critical to determine which species of flora and fauna may be most appropriate, along with an ability to measure success of such projects. Absent this agreement, U.S. DOE would not be obligated to conduct these studies.

U.S. EPA concurs with the Advisory Board's position that recycling and reuse is essential to the facility and encourage such activities whenever feasible. The reinterrment of Native American remains is another interesting project to consider. If it is determined that establishment of a conservation area or one of the other environmental projects is not feasible, the dispute agreement allows U.S. DOE to propose another project. If another project is recommended all stakeholders will be involved in the decision process and notified at that time of a change in the proposed environmental project.



Department of Energy

Ohio Field Office
P.O. Box 3020
Miamisburg, Ohio 45343-3020

OCT 22 1997

OH-0041-98

Mr. John Applegate, Chair
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box 544
Ross, OH 45061

Dear Mr. Applegate:

Thank you for your comments on the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) Fiscal Year (FY) 1999 Budget Priorities List and the Ohio Field Office FY 1999 Integrated Priority List. We agree with your concerns on the need to continue to reduce overhead and support activities. For Ohio sites to get more on-the-ground remediation work done, we will have to continue to ensure that these costs are lowered each year.

Essential activities are placed high on the priority list because they are necessary to maintain facilities in a safe manner. It is important that adequate ES&H activities and an efficient maintenance program is funded to ensure safety to the workers and the public and to prevent further facility degradation and environmental releases. To achieve the Ohio Field Office 2005 Vision with limited funding will require that we achieve significant savings in both the support and direct project cost while maintaining safety at our facilities.

I welcome and solicit your support in helping the entire Ohio Field Office in streamlining non-productive and support activities. Your letter requested a meeting on this topic and I would be pleased to attend the next scheduled Efficiency Sub-Committee of the Citizens Advisory Board, if that would be convenient. Please let me know if this is agreeable to you. I can be reached at 937-865-3977.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert D. Folker". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Robert D. Folker
Acting Manager

cc:

K. Morgan, DOE-OH
G. Stegner, DOE-OH
J. Craig, DOE-FEMP
G. Griffiths, DOE-FEMP





PUBLIC PARTICIPATION UPDATE

Draft Focus on 2006 Plan

U.S. Department of Energy, Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management
Office of Intergovernmental and Public Accountability (EM-22) November 1997

What is happening with the Environmental Management 2006 Plan?

The 90-day public comment period for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Environmental Management (EM) *Focus on 2006: Accelerating Cleanup Discussion Draft* ended in early September 1997. EM has recently issued guidance to DOE Operations and Field Offices for the development of the Draft 2006 Plan. This Draft 2006 Plan will be prepared and submitted to Congress in February 1998. As with the Discussion Draft, the Draft 2006 Plan will consist of both a National version and individual versions from each EM Site. Collectively, these Draft Plans will build upon the 2006 Plan Discussion Draft with supporting budgetary and programmatic data.

What is being done with the public comments on the EM 2006 Plan Discussion Draft?

All public comments are being considered in developing the Draft National and Site 2006 Plans. EM is compiling and categorizing, by subject, responses received from a broad range of officials and groups, including Tribal Nations, states, regulators, local government officials, and other interested organizations and citizens. Major issues of concern with the Discussion Draft included budget and cost estimates, key 2006 Plan assumptions, public participation, enhanced project performance, and assigning priorities to site activities. A Preliminary Comment Response Document, summarizing how these public responses will be addressed in the Draft National 2006 Plan, will be issued later this fall.

What does EM hope to accomplish with the issuance of the Draft 2006 Plan?

The goal of the Draft 2006 Plan is to lay out for further public consideration a clearly-defined, measurable plan for accelerating the cleanup of Environmental Management sites—and to accomplish this in a manner that is both technically sound and economically feasible. In support of this goal, EM is actively pursuing a range of business strategies which will help DOE achieve further reductions in life-cycle cleanup costs. While the Draft 2006 Plan is neither a decision-making nor a budget document, it will reflect the latest programmatic and funding decisions made through other means. These include Departmental budget and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) decisions, e.g., the Records of Decision (RODs) for the Waste Management Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (WM PEIS).

What are the next steps in the development of the Draft 2006 Plan—and how can I be involved?

The Office of Environmental Management encourages members of the public to participate actively in the development of site Draft 2006 Plans. EM is committed to ensuring that the viewpoints of concerned groups and citizens are fully and accurately represented. In support of this, DOE Operations, Field and Area Offices will communicate opportunities for public involvement in the 2006 planning process. For additional information, the public is encouraged to contact either their local Departmental Office or the EM Headquarters' Office of Intergovernmental and Public Accountability.



Please visit us at our Web Site:
<http://www.em.doe.gov/stake>



An overview of the Draft 2006 Plan development process is as follows:

- Sites are now developing their updated Project Baseline Summaries (which define the cost, scope and schedule for a given Environmental Management project), along with the accompanying data summaries, waste disposition maps, and narratives. These will be revised as necessary based on discussions between Headquarters, Operations and Field Offices, and all interested or affected parties. Opportunities to make further changes in site submittals will continue until December 18, 1997, when the Office of Environmental Management will begin finalizing the Draft National and Site 2006 Plans.
- After December 18, emphasis for stakeholder and Tribal Nation involvement will be on the formulation of each site's FY 2000 Integrated Priority Listing (IPL)—i.e., a list, by priority, of all work activities at each site. IPLs are due to Headquarters in March 1998.
- EM will provide the Draft 2006 Plan (with public comments incorporated from the Discussion Draft) to Congress in February 1998, around the time that the President releases the FY 1999 Budget request to Congress.

In February 1998, the Draft 2006 Plan will also be made available to the public for a 45-day comment period. These draft plans will then be revised to reflect any additional comments received. The Initial 2006 Plan is presently scheduled to be released to Congress and the public in late June 1998.

Will there be other opportunities for public involvement?

In addition to the public involvement opportunities specifically identified in the process of developing the 2006 Plan, interested individuals and groups are encouraged to participate in the various NEPA activities, budget planning sessions, and advisory board meetings to be held at each site over the next several months. All of these offer opportunities for concerned citizens to exchange information and provide input into the various decisions that will help determine a site's cleanup priorities, funding requests, and project schedules.

Who may I contact if I have any questions or suggestions?

Please direct any questions or comments to Martha Crosland, Acting Director, Office of Intergovernmental and Public Accountability, at 202/586-5944; to Fred Butterfield, at 202/586-8809; or to your local DOE Office.



MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT SUMMARY

OCTOBER 1997

OPERABLE UNIT 1 --- WASTE PITS REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT

Major Work Activities - October 1997

- **Offsite Actions**
 - Completed Okeana trestle upgrade
 - Completed Camp Run & Wynn Road trestle upgrades
- **Planning & Contracts**
 - Awarded Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) contract
 - Awarded contract for procurement of radiological equipment

OPERABLE UNIT 2 --- ON SITE DISPOSAL FACILITY (OSDF)

Major Work Activities - October 1997

- **OSDF**
 - Completed Cell 1 clay liner installation
 - Initiated installation of Cell 1 secondary composite liner
- **Leachate Conveyance System**
 - Completed installation of southern & eastern portions of system, & Permanent Lift Station
 - Began final testing of leachate lines
- **Roads**
 - Finished Relocated North Entrance Road paving, shoulder work & painting; reopened road 10/20/97
 - Completed gravel base/geotextile installation on Haul Road; began paving southern & northern portions

OPERABLE UNIT 3 --- FACILITIES CLOSURE & DEMOLITION PROJECT

Major Work Activities - October 1997

- **Safe Shutdown**
 - Completed holdup material removal from selected areas in Plants 2/3, 6 & 8
 - Completed energy isolation procedures in Buildings 78 & 81, and process trailers
 - Excavated underground utility lines for Plants 6 & 8
- **Boiler Plant/Water Plant**
 - Completed demolition of Water Plant & Railroad Scale House
- **Thorium/Plant 9 Complex**
 - Installed subcontractor office trailers & supporting utilities
 - Started mobilization activities (installation of fencing, set-up of staging areas for empty/filled containers, etc.)

OPERABLE UNIT 4 --- SILOS PROJECT

Major Work Activities - October 1997

- Received responses to Commerce Business Daily announcement for Silos 1 & 2 Multi-Tech Proof-of-Principle Testing
- Developed Evaluating Criteria & Statement of Work for Silos 1 & 2 Multi-Tech Proof-of-Principle Request for Proposal (RFP)

- Initiated scoping of Silos 1 & 2 Feasibility Study revision
- Completed re-scoping of Silo 3 Waste Project Draft RFP
- Received USEPA comments on Draft Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD); submitted comment response & Revised ESD to Agencies
- Completed analysis on Silo 4 core samples

OPERABLE UNIT 5

Major Work Activities - October 1997

- **Soils Characterization and Excavation Project**
Removed downed trees, metal debris & approximately 35 cubic yards of contaminated soil from Paddy's Run channel in response to embankment erosion problem
Conducted sampling activities in Area 1 Phase II (*Southern Half of East Field*) and in Paddy's Run Embankment area
- **Aquifer Restoration and Waste Water Project**
Began drilling monitoring wells for Injection Demonstration System
Began drilling extraction wells for South Plume Optimization Project

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Major Work Activities - October 1997

- **Low Level Waste Projects**
No shipments of low level waste to Nevada Test Site (NTS) made due to:
Ongoing suspension of Waste Stream #6 - Residues
Reprioritization of shipping to meet new budget constraints
Processing of residue materials continued in 10/97 in order to develop a surplus for release when suspension is lifted
DOE-Nevada Operations Office auditors performed triennial waste shipping certification audit; found Fernald's program to be "generally effective" & recommended lifting of Waste Stream #6 suspension
- **Organic Extraction Project (RCI/Terra-Kleen)**
Completed solvent washing of soils, debris & sludges; preliminary results indicated treatment of soils was successful
- **Thorium Legacy Waste Stabilization Project**
Completed waste characterization process; received Technology Specific Work Plan from subcontractor for review & submission to OEPA
- **Liquid Mixed Waste Project**
Began bulking of Batch #9 (newly generated waste streams)
- **Neutralization/Precipitation/Deactivation/Stabilization (NPDS) Project**
Total of 635 drums treated in this project as of 10/31/97
- **Mixed Waste Shipping**
Shipped 307 drums of sump cake to Envirocare for disposal; completed one shipment campaign (three trucks)
- **Nuclear Materials Disposition Projects**
Began major packaging effort involving both depleted & enriched unrestricted materials; as of 10/31/97, had packaged 870 cans containing enriched unrestricted materials into 29 white metal boxes
Completed packaging of normal ingots & depleted spill metal
Contract with BNFL for sale of 2.6 million pounds of enriched materials approved by EURATOM Supply Agency — notification received 10/09/97
Requested extension of bid period for RFP for Remaining Low Enriched Materials (originally designed to end 10/31/97) to accommodate other interested bidders

1101



NOVEMBER 19, 1997

NEWS MEDIA ADVISORY

WHAT: FERNALD CLEANUP PROJECT BRIEFING/SILOS PROJECT PUBLIC HEARING.

WHO: ALL INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE LOCAL MEDIA ARE INVITED.

WHEN: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25 BEGINNING AT 6 P.M.

WHY: DOE AND FLUOR DANIEL FERNALD PROJECT MANAGERS WILL REVIEW THE MAJOR CLEANUP PROJECTS, HIGHLIGHT RECENT CLEANUP PROGRESS, AND DISCUSS UPCOMING CLEANUP ACTIVITIES.

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING, DOE WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SILO 3 DRAFT FINAL EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES (ESD) DOCUMENT, WHICH IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM NOVEMBER 17 - DECEMBER 16. THE DRAFT FINAL ESD OUTLINES THE CHANGE IN THE TREATMENT PROCESS AND DISPOSAL OF FERNALD'S SILO 3 MATERIALS. STAKEHOLDERS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROVIDE WRITTEN AND/OR VERBAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT AT THE PUBLIC HEARING. THE DRAFT FINAL ESD IS AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT AT THE PUBLIC ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION CENTER, 513-648-7480.

WHERE: THE ALPHA BUILDING LOCATED AT 10967 HAMILTON-CLEVES HIGHWAY (CLASSROOM D) -- APPROXIMATELY ½ MILE FROM THE FERNALD SITE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL GARY STEGNER AT 513-648-3153.

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WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

September 16, 1997
7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m.
Jamtek Building

Topics:

- Review and discuss Silo 3 ESD
- Review and discuss Silos 1 and 2 CBD Announcement
- Discuss upcoming Silo 3 RFP
- Discuss upcoming Silos 1 and 2 Proof of Principle RFP

Attendees:

CAB members:	Lisa Crawford Gene Willeke
CAB staff:	Doug Sarno
DOE:	Nina Akgunduz Sue Peterson
Fluor Daniel Fernald:	Terry Hagan Richard Maured Dennis Nixon Don Paine John Smets Karen Wintz
OEPA:	Kelly Kaletsy
USEPA:	Gene Jablonowski

Results:

- Letter to Jack Craig commenting on Silos 1 and 2 CBD Announcement
- Letter to Jack Craig commenting on Silo 3 ESD
- Request made to obtain a copy of Section J of the Silo 3 RFP Table of Contents
- Request for a meeting to be held during the public comment period of the Silo 3 ESD in December or January
- Request that the Silos 1 and 2 RFP be the topic of discussion at the next DOE community meeting

Summary:

Tisha Patton provided the draft Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD) which was sent to EPA on September 12, 1997. The official public comment period for this document should occur in mid January. The EPA should officially sign the document in April. The committee agreed a meeting should be held during the public comment period in December or January. The ESD outlines the process used to establish that stabilization is a more appropriate method for treatment of Silo 3 wastes than vitrification and identifies which technologies are under consideration. The committee agreed a meeting would be needed in the next few days to discuss the draft copy of the ESD.

The RFP for Silo 3 will be released after approval is obtained from DOE Headquarters some time in October and be made available for stakeholder comment for 30 days. A timeline of the proposed schedule was provided. Under this timeline, the contract award will occur in April of 1999. EPA does not need to approve this document but will be providing input. There should be a meeting in October to obtain stakeholder comments. At the Silo 3 workshop, a meeting was requested to review the document after comments are incorporated. Under the proposed timeline, this meeting will be held in November. Citizens will be out of the picture in three and a half months from the release of the RFP, then confidential procurement procedures will begin. At the end of the process, when the award has been made, the RFP stipulates a meeting of stakeholders and the subcontractor.

Privatization has added two steps to the RFP process: a DOE-HQ privatization review and a Congressional Report. These steps have added six and a half months to the process. A Congressional Report must be prepared for all privatization activities.

A table of contents for the RFP was provided. The general table of contents outlines the sections included in an RFP and the information contained within each section.

- Section C is the Statement of Work and contains the information on how the work is to be performed.
- Section E (Inspection and Acceptance) states that the subcontractor will not be paid until the waste is accepted at the disposal facility.
- Section F (Deliveries and Performance) contains the schedule of work, which is expected to be 44 months from beginning to end.
- Section H (Special Requirements) outlines things such as substance abuse policies and security measures to which the subcontractor must adhere.
- Section J (Attachments) is the largest part of the document and will contain all background information on the site and wastes.

- Section M states that the evaluation of the subcontractor will be based on a pass/fail criteria and the evaluation will be 2/3 technical and 1/3 cost.

The committee was very concerned that the attachment section would not provide all the information to understand the full situation with Silo 3 wastes. Willeke stated that transportation background and IRT reports must be included in Section J. He also stated that Section C should provide a concise historical background on the site. It was suggested that section C1.3 could provide a background on transportation issues. The committee requested a list of what documents would be provided in Section J.

The committee agreed that Sections C and J were the most important parts of the document and would examine them in detail when the RFP is released. The document and all attachments will be available at the PEIC if the committee wants to review the attachments. Everyone agreed that the RFP should be the topic of discussion at the next DOE community meeting.

The committee was asked to comment on the draft CBD. It is scheduled for release on December 17, 1997 but Fluor Daniel hopes to beat that date. Vendors who respond to the CBD will be asked to complete a vendor evaluation, which will examine their safety record and whether they have a proven demonstrated process on a similar waste form. The evaluation will be based on pass/fail criteria. Vendors who pass the evaluation will receive the RFP. The evaluation will occur internally, but the committee members will need to make sure that the right criteria are evaluated.

The Proof of Principle RFP is in its very early stages. They expect to issue it in April and make the award in August. There is no planned draft RFP. Stakeholders are asked to review the scope of work and the technical evaluation included in the RFP. Vendors may submit separate proposals for different technologies. This RFP is only directed to treatment of the wastes. Waste removal will be included in a separate RFP. All vendors are told that the wastes will be about 30% solids and must explain any pretreatment they would need to perform on wastes in this state. Wastes are currently 70% solid but must be made into a slurry in order to pump them from the Silos.

Nina Akgunduz introduced a proposal to remove wastes from the Silos and place them in interim storage tanks. The radon control methods and structural integrity of the Silos are in question. The tanks would hold all the wastes currently in the Silos. There was a concern about moving wastes from two Silos to several tanks, and how this would impact the speed of remediation of these wastes. Concern was also expressed regarding public reaction to the building of new interim tanks.

 <p>FERNALD CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD</p>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">October 20, 1997 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Jamtek Building</p>
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Topics:

- Discuss the draft Silo 3 RFP
- Discuss the Silo 3 ESD
- Discuss the Silos 1 and 2 CBD Announcement
- Discuss the Proof of Principle RFP for Silos 1 and 2
- Explain the early waste retrieval concept

Attendees:

CAB members:	Lisa Crawford Bob Tabor Gene Willeke
CAB staff:	Doug Sarno
DOE:	Nina Akunduz Sue Peterson
Fluor Daniel Fernald:	Richard Maured Dennis Nixon John Smets Karen Wintz
OEPA:	Kelly Kaletsky

Results:

- Requested summary of the injunction against DOE by WCS
- Scheduled December 1, 1997, meeting of the Waste Management Committee

Summary:

Nina Akgunduz and Karen Wintz began the meeting with a discussion of the Draft Silo 3 RFP. Because Fernald has been classified as a Defense Closure Project, there will be no privatization funds available and the Silo 3 RFP must be revised. An injunction has also been placed against DOE that does not allow disposal of DOE wastes at commercial facilities. It is expected that this injunction will last about one year. Because of this injunction, the scope of retrieval for Silo 3 wastes has been reevaluated. A provision for off-site treatment is not in the RFP. DOE will ask for input into off-site treatment

options, but in order to consider off-site treatment there would have to be a way to transport wastes from the off-site treatment facility to NTS. The injunction will not impact the disposal of materials in the waste pits. DOE is currently trying to appeal the injunction. Nina believes that an appeal has been filed with the justice department. Nina agreed to provide the committee with a one page summary of the legal issues involved in the injunction. Even with the injunction, DOE has evaluated 13 possible alternative plans for treatment and disposal within the Silo 3 RFP. The revised RFP should be out in early November at which time there will be a thirty day comment period. The comment period will be followed by a public meeting.

The draft ESD for Silo 3 has obtained conditional approval from OEPA. USEPA had several comments on the ESD. DOE will answer these comments and send the ESD back to EPA by November 15. On November 17th, the public comment period will begin. At the November 25th monthly progress meeting, a quarter of the time will focus on the Silos project and the another quarter will deal with the status of the Silos 3 project radon update and the Silo 3 ESD.

The Silos 1 and 2 CBD was issued on September 29th. The committee's comments were incorporated. Vendor response is due by October 31st. The Evaluation Criteria and Statement of Work must be completed by January 19th, but DOE hopes to have these released in November.

The early waste retrieval concept for Silos 1 and 2 has been proposed in order to provide a more logical and time-saving method for treating these wastes. There are three segments of activities which will occur under this plan: waste retrieval, turnkey contracting for treatment, and shipping/disposal. During the waste retrieval phase, DOE proposes moving the wastes into several storage tanks equipped with radon treatment systems. The transfer of wastes to storage tanks will ensure that wastes are homogeneous, that the conditions of the wastes are known, and that there are no bottlenecks in the movement of these wastes to the treatment facilities. Several committee members expressed concern that this plan might mean that there will be long-term storage of Silo 3 wastes. Nina assured them that the placement of Fernald as a closure project would prevent long-term storage. Fluor Daniel Fernald has traveled to Hanford to observe a similar system in use. Gene Willeke asked what alternatives to this proposal had been considered. Alternatives evaluated should explore the interaction of removal/treatment, the increased volume of wastes, and how increased waste volume would impact shipping/disposal.

DOE proposed that this project would occur in two phases. During the first phase the FS, ROD, and CBD Announcement would be completed. Phase I would occur in the year 2000. Phase II would consist of awarding of a turnkey contract.

DOE listed several advantages to the early waste retrieval concept. Among these advantages were:

- reduced congestion during construction and stabilization,
- remediation of soils and Silos as indicated by the current schedule,
- reduced construction, thus eliminating many safety concerns,
- storage of wastes with water to minimize radon emissions,
- training of personnel before the treatment process begins,
- wastes sent to the treatment facilities will be more predictable and homogeneous, and easier to sample, and
- project will gain 6 1/2 years because the wastes will be out of the Silos in 2002, whereas treatment was to begin in 2008.

The storage facility for these wastes will consist of 8-10 tanks (40 feet in diameter by 30 feet high) to be located southeast of Silo 1. Doug Sarno reviewed the points which stakeholders consider important: the condition of the Silos and the timely cleanup of the wastes. He pointed out that the plan seemed to take care of both of these issues. Bob Tabor stated that the wastes would be easier to characterize under this plan. Nina stressed that the plan removes any bottleneck which may occur between the removal and treatment of wastes.

Nina then introduced a diagrammatic plan showing the impact the physical appearance of the site by the construction of these tanks. The main points of the plan are:

- In 1999, the pad and container storage would be constructed.
- In 2000, construction would begin on the Silo 3 plant and the superstructure around Silos 1 and 2.
- In 2001, the radon control system would be constructed as would a storage area for Silo 3.
- In 2002, the berm and storage materials would be removed.
- In 2003, the Silo 3 facility would be gone.
- In 2004, the silos would be removed and construction would begin on the Silos 1 and 2 production facility.
- In 2006 and 2007, full-scale remediation of wastes would be conducted.
- In 2008, the project would be completed.

Gene then inquired as to the increased cost of this plan. Nina said it would cost an additional \$6 million. Doug asked if a technology vendor had been selected. DOE will be evaluating the list of vendors developed at Hanford for their project. Nina had gone to a vendor demonstration and stated that the waste should be easy to work with since it is the correct consistency for the process. Lisa Crawford expressed concern about the plan since stakeholders

would be wary after the vitrification incident. Doug expressed his concern that this could be another part of the plan that could go wrong. Gene requested that information be provided at upcoming stakeholder meetings, such as the November 15th FCAB meeting or the November 25th monthly progress briefing. Nina agreed to present some information at the November 25th meeting, but indicated that there will be no monthly meeting in December and the next meeting will take place in January. Lisa suggested that the tanks be referred to as interim storage tanks and not as transfer tanks in order to calm some stakeholder fears that the tanks will be permanent.

The committee agreed to schedule a meeting on December 1st to examine the RFPs.

 <p>FERNALD CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD</p>	<h2>EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY</h2>
	<p>September 17, 1997 7:00 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Jamtek Building</p>

Topics:

- Discuss the focus and role of the committee

Attendees:

CAB members:	Jim Bierer Pam Dunn Bob Tabor Gene Willeke
CAB staff:	Doug Sarno
DOE:	Sue Peterson Johnny Reising
Fluor Daniel Fernald:	Terry Hagan Tisha Patton
OEPA:	Jim Coon Tom Schneider
USEPA:	Jim Saric

Results:

- Letter to Jack Craig on Priorities List recommendations
- Meeting in approximately one month to continue discussion of these issues

Summary:

The meeting began with a discussion on the priorities outlined in the budget for both the site and the Ohio field office. The site priorities list broke the site into the eight big projects and then further divided them by key activities and the amount of funding provided for each. The total budget for the 98 fiscal year is \$266 million. The items at the bottom of the priorities list are in danger if money becomes tight. Gene Willeke suggested that the term "vitrification" be changed to the more general term "Silos project". He also felt that although the top 20 or so projects were important some D&D activities were placed too high on the list.

There was some concern among committee members that earlier recommendations made by the Citizens Advisory Board were not adequately reflected by the priorities list. In particular, the number of non-remediation projects at the top of the list presented a serious obstacle to making cleanup progress.

The committee agreed that they should reiterate their commitment to cleanup the site. The committee agreed to draft a letter to the Ohio Field Office Manager reiterating the CAB's previous recommendations regarding site priorities. The group agreed to meet Saturday morning to review it before the regularly scheduled Citizens Advisory Board meeting. Bob Tabor would introduce the letter to the Board during his committee update.

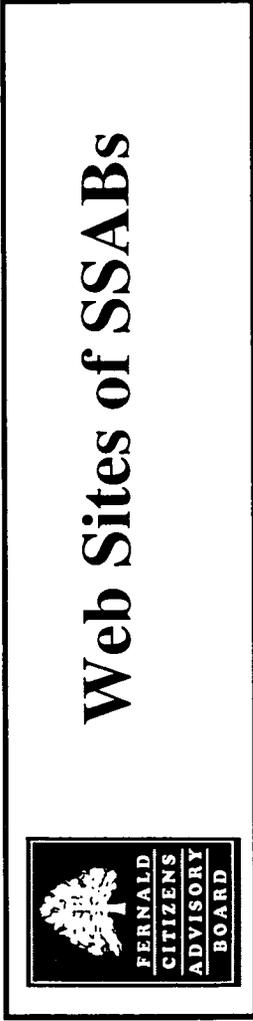
Doug Sarno then addressed the main focus of the meeting: to define the mission and goal of the committee in order to decide what issues and strategies the committee should address. He pointed out that Fernald had an advantage over other sites in that all the interested parties work together: USEPA, OEPA, DOE and stakeholders.

It was questioned whether some administrative milestones seemed to impede the cleanup process at the site. Too much focus on milestones sometimes gets in the way of making real progress. Many of these milestones are unreasonable and not well thought out. Jim Saric pointed out that all the parties work together well and try to plan things together. It was pointed out that the milestone for the first shipment of wastes from OU1 will be missed because the privatization contract was not passed. It was recognized as a problem for the CAB to allow things to go unnoticed until a milestone is missed. This is an area in which the Citizens Advisory Board should become involved. Jim Saric suggested that the Citizens Advisory Board notify parties when things are not moving on schedule. Pam Dunn requested a list that would outline small milestones and how their delay would impact larger projects. Bob Tabor agreed. Gene Willeke felt the problems associated with milestones are a consequence of too few people having knowledge of the whole site. It was noted that the site does try to highlight interfaces between projects so that these people can see how they interconnect with each other. The committee agreed that increased communication between projects would be important to achieving milestones.

Sarno suggested that the group become involved in finding where the major inefficiencies are occurring in the site. It is important to determine what issues are driving the resources used at the site. Some of these "drivers" could be illegitimate. The committee needs to examine these inefficiency issues on a large scale by examining these drivers rather than concentrating on milestones. Bob Tabor suggested many of these inefficiencies are a consequence of the site moving from a commercial enterprise to an environmental cleanup operation. He suggested that the group examine how

money was being spent on non-remediation versus remediation activities. Tabor and Sarno both agreed that a commercial enterprise would do more work with less expenditures. Sarno suggested that the committee examine the non-remediation activities outlined in the fiscal year 98 budget for inefficiencies. DOE and Fluor Daniel agreed to assist in putting together the necessary information. The next step would be to examine remediation activities.

The committee decided to meet again in approximately one month.



SSAB

Web Site Address

Fernald Citizens Advisory Board	www.fernald.gov/stakeholders/CitizensAdvisoryBoard/taskforc.htm
Hanford Advisory Board	www.hanford.gov/misc_info/cab.htm
Idaho National Engineering Lab Site Specific Advisory Board	www.uidaho.edu/~joelh/ssab.htm
Nevada Test Site Community Advisory Board	hrcweb.iv-hrc.nevada.edu/cab/cabmain.htm
Oak Ridge Site Specific Advisory Board	www.ornl.gov/doe_oro/em/ssab/
Rocky Flats Citizens Advisory Board	www.indra.com/rfcb
Savannah River Citizens Advisory Board	www.srs.gov/general/people/srs-cab/srs-cab.html



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October 24, 1997

Defense Cleanup

Page 1

"IT Corp. Wins \$122 Fernald subcontract"

1101

IT Corp. wins \$122M Fernald subcontract

IT Corp., of Pittsburgh, won a \$122 million, eight-year subcontract to plan and do on-site cleanup on six waste pits, a clearwell and a burn pit at the Energy Dept.'s Fernald, Ohio site.

IT, with its teaming partner, Babcock & Wilcox Nuclear Environmental Services Inc., won the subcontract from Fernald's prime environmental restoration contractor, Fluor Daniel Fernald.

The cleanup will take place at Fernald's operable unit (OU) 1.

The full cleanup, which includes excavation of 600,000 cubic yards of soil from the pits, treatment with a thermal technology to dry the soil, shipping the waste by train and disposing of it at a commercial landfill, is estimated to cost \$500 million (*Defense Cleanup, 3/10/95*).

Under IT's subcontract, the company will remove the waste pit contents, caps and liners. IT Corp. and Babcock & Wilcox also will excavate surrounding contaminated soils. The drying process includes debris segregation, size reduction, dewatering and drying.

The Fernald pit wastes were generated by chemical and metallurgical processing operations at the former uranium processing plant at Fernald. These wastes were stored or disposed of in the six waste pits and the clearwell or burned in the burn pit. Fernald officials said.

(Continued on page 8)

Fernald ships waste...(From page 1)

Waste pits 1 through 3 and the burn pit are capped with soil and a vegetative cover. Waste pit 4 is covered with a synthetic cap, and waste pits 5 and 6 as well as the clearwell have a water cover.

DOE plans to ship the waste to Envirocare of Utah by train and will need to upgrade its rail facilities, a DOE source said. However, a Texas District Court issued a temporary injunction that prohibits the issuance of any low-level or mixed-radioactive waste disposal contracts until further notice (*Defense Cleanup, 10/10*).

IT Corp. will begin planning and design activities this month and is scheduled to begin construction next summer. Waste excavation, processing and railcar loading will start in March 1999. The project is expected to be completed by May 2005, including decontamination and dismantling of the waste pit remediation facilities.

Contact: Dave Lojek, DOE program manager for OU-1, at 513-648-3127 or Bob Fellman, FERMCO program manager for OU-1, at 513-648-4755. Call IT Corp. at 412-372-7701.

October 29, 1997

Weapons Complex Monitor

Page 20

"FLUOR AWARDS \$122 SUBCONTRACT TO IT CORP."

AT FERNALD FLUOR AWARDS \$122M SUBCONTRACT TO IT CORP.

Fluor Daniel Fernald has awarded a \$122 million, eight-year subcontract to IT Corp., Pittsburgh, to plan and implement onsite remediation for six waste pits, a clearwell, and a burn pit at the Fernald Environmental Management Project. "After excavating the waste pits and surrounding contaminated soils, IT will then process the waste materials to meet strict waste-acceptance standards and load the materials into railcars for offsite shipment," explained DOE-FEMP Project Manager Dave Lojek.

According to a company press release, Fluor selected IT on the basis of the offeror's total project cost; overall

understanding of the project and operation scheme; health and safety program and performance records; experience of proposed key personnel; and experience in employing thermal treatment technology. IT and teaming partner Babcock and Wilcox Nuclear Environmental Services begin planning and design work this month and anticipate beginning construction in July 1998. Waste excavation, processing, and railcar loading are scheduled to start in March 1999. The project is scheduled to be complete, including decontamination and dismantling of the waste pit remediation facilities, by May 2005.

November 11, 1997
Cincinnati Enquirer
Editorial, A14
"Fernald flaws"

Fernald flaws

Nuclear sites plagued by waste

If you still wonder what happened to the Peace Dividend, look to the 137 former Cold War nuclear waste sites. Billions of dollars are going down these radioactive sinkholes. A national watchdog group's latest report brands the federal \$227-billion, 75-year cleanup as failing, and aims some of its most withering critiques at Cincinnati's Fernald cleanup.

The Maryland-based Institute for Energy and Environmental Research (IEER) made Fernald one of three featured case studies in its 300-page report. Read it and weep.

IEER's Arjun Makhijani and Marc Fioravanti use documents from the Government Accounting Office (GAO), Department of Energy (DOE) and other agencies, along with their own on-site investigations, to make their case: That prospects are poor that DOE will succeed, if chronic failures at Fernald, Hanford in Washington state and other sites are as representative as they appear. "DOE continues to rush into large projects without adequate preparatory work, grants huge budget increases without engineering review and repeats the same mistakes," says IEER President Makhijani.

That confirms *The Enquirer's* investigative series that uncovered chronic mismanagement by cleanup contractor Fluor Daniel Fernald, and flagrant lack of oversight by DOE. Since design flaws led to destruction of an experimental melter at Fernald on Dec. 26, 1996, the strategy of encapsulating radium-laced silo wastes in glass pellets is in doubt and stalled. DOE stripped Fluor Daniel of the vitrification assignment last March, yet soon granted a two-year extension on its overall contract. The roughly \$50 million spent on the failed test plant was approximately the original estimate to dispose of the silo wastes.

Yet not one ounce of waste was ever encapsulated, radon gas is building up in the silos and IEER warns it is urgent that DOE order tornado-resistant enclosures for the silos to prevent roof collapse.



Surprisingly, IEER also warns it is premature to abandon glass-encapsulation in favor of cement encasement. Any new plan needs independent peer review.

IEER was unable to find engineering justification for the huge cost increases at Fernald. DOE has shown repeatedly it is not up to the oversight task. A good example is the bungled test plant: DOE told the GAO the early cost estimate of \$15.8 million "did not include operational costs, maintenance costs, escalation costs or construction and project management costs." IEER rightly concluded: "It is astounding that a professional cost estimate could exclude all these items."

Fluor Daniel-DOE started constructing the vitrification pilot plant before engineering design was finished. They had no back-up plan if it failed, and were warned in advance by one manager of the disastrous melter breach that later occurred.

Millions of taxpayer dollars wasted at Fernald, Hanford and other former nuclear weapons plants prompted IEER to call for the entire federal cleanup program to be reevaluated.

The billions of taxpayer dollars at stake are staggering, and recurring cleanup mistakes are nothing short of scary. Findings by the GAO and independent investigative groups such as IEER call for reopening the national debate and making tough institutional reforms in contracting and oversight. The dismal failure of fast-track cleanup at Fernald should not deter Greater Cincinnati's congressional delegation from pushing for urgent reforms.

November 17, 1997
 Journal News
 Front Page
 "DOE Oks Fernald options"
 Reporter: Nicholas G. Jonson

1101

DOE OKs Fernald options

By Nicholas G. Jonson
 Journal-News
 CROSSBY TOWNSHIP

The U.S. Department of Energy has approved the use of three alternative methods for disposing radioactive waste stored in one of three silos at the former Fernald uranium processing plant.

DOE officials will discuss the methods during a public meeting Nov. 25.

The decision to seek alternative technologies was made after authorities decided not to use the original method — vitrification — for Silo 3 waste.

Original plans called for converting — or vitrifying — waste from all three Fernald silos into pebble-size glass pellets for shipment to Nevada.

But engineers from Fluor Daniel Fernald, the DOE's principal cleanup contractor, halted a pilot vitrification project in December after determining the chemical composition of Silo 3 waste was not amenable to the process.

In July, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ordered Fluor Daniel and the DOE to submit alternative plans for Silo 3 waste disposal, as well as new plans for vitrifying waste in silos 1 and 2.

In a study released earlier this month, the DOE outlined three additional technologies that may be used to dispose Silo 3 waste:

- Cement stabilization, which involves mixing the

DOE

(Continued from Page A1)

waste with cement to physically bind radioactive contaminants for shipping.

- Polymer micro-encapsulation, which involves melting polyethylene with the waste.

- Sulfur/polymer encapsulation, which involves melt-

ing the waste into a cement, sulfur and polymer mixture.

Although total costs for all three processes are about the same — about \$25 million to \$28 million — DOE officials noted advantages associated with cement stabilization.

The advantages include posing a lower health risk to workers and the avail-

ability of more companies to perform the process, as opposed to the encapsulation technologies.

Officials also noted a need for more complex technical facilities for the sulfur/polymer encapsulation process and a greater risk of gas emissions during material handling.

(Please see DOE, Page A2)

November 17, 1997
 Cincinnati Enquirer
 Hometown, B3
 "Couple aid injured teen"
 Reporter: Lew Moores

HOMETOWN HERO



Joe and Theresa Schomaker

Couple aid injured teen

BY LEW MOORES

The Cincinnati Enquirer

CROSBY TOWNSHIP — They were on their way home when they noticed a teen-ager who had fallen and wasn't moving.

The 14-year-old had been in-line skating and wasn't wearing protective equipment. It was starting to get dark when Theresa and Joe Schomaker approached in their car on New Haven Road.

The youth had picked up more speed than he anticipated on a hill and a passing car spooked him, said Ms. Schomaker.

"He took quite a tumble," she said. "He had hurt his head and his back. When I saw him he wasn't moving, so I thought he was unconscious."

After the couple jumped out of the car, Ms. Schomaker told the youth she was an emergency medical technician for Crosby Township. Mr. Schomaker ran to their house, which was nearby, and called 911 while getting his wife's medic bag.

"I think it had a calming effect" when she told him she was an EMT, Mrs. Schomaker said. "I assured him that everything would be OK. I kept him still. He was quite upset."

When an ambulance arrived, the youth was placed in a cervical collar and on a spine board. Ms. Schomaker rode with him to the hospital, where he was determined not to be seriously injured.

Kathy Graham, who works in public affairs at Fluor Daniel Fernald, where the couple works, said she was not surprised they would be of such assistance.

"They're great citizens, great people," Ms. Graham said. "I can't say enough about them. They both are pretty modest people."