



FRIDAY MAILING

6/19/98

INCLUDED IN THIS FRIDAY MAILING:

- Letter from Jack Craig to John Applegate (Re: Alternative Transportation Routes to the NTS)
- Newsclippings

CAB MEETINGS:

- OFF-SITE COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Off-Site Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board will meet on Monday, July 13, 1998, at 6:00 p.m. in the Alpha Building Classroom A.
- EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING:** The next meeting of the Efficiency Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board will be on Monday, July 13, 1998, at 7:15 p.m. in the Alpha Building Classroom A.
- FERNALD CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD:** The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board will meet on Wednesday, July 15, 1998. Time and location are to be announced.

OTHER MEETINGS:

- MONTHLY PROGRESS BRIEFING:** The July Monthly Progress Briefing will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 1998, at 6:00 p.m. on the Fernald site in the Services Building Conference Room.

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]

**Department of Energy**

**Ohio Field Office
Fernald Area Office
P. O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, Ohio 45253-8705
(513) 648-3155**



JUN 12 1998
DOE-0882-98

**Mr. John Applegate, Chair
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board
University of Cincinnati
Room 415, College of Law
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0040**

Dear Mr. Applegate:

ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION ROUTE TO THE NEVADA TEST SITE

This is in response to your recent letter endorsing an alternative transportation route to the Nevada Test Site for Fernald waste shipments.

The Department of Energy (DOE) is appreciative of your support on Fernald waste transportation issues. We are currently working with the Nevada Operations Office, the State of Nevada and the citizens of Nevada to make intermodal transportation available in the near future.

Calliente leads as a potential alternative for the western transfer point. The Department's Nevada Operations Office is preparing an environmental assessment to fully evaluate potential transfer points. DOE has approached the Air Force regarding the crossing of Nellis Range, and has not received a positive response. Nellis Range is presently, and for the foreseeable future, an active area supporting Air Force live fire training exercises.

We will continue to evaluate Fernald transportation activities to assure that safety and financial aspects are continually considered and evaluated. Thank you for your comments.

Sincerely,


Jack R. Craig
Director

FEMP:Rast/Jacobs

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June 11, 1998
The Cincinnati Post
Page 16A

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"Fernald neighbors must wait on request"

Fernald neighbors must wait on request

Associated Press

It will be at least several months before neighbors of the former Fernald uranium processing plant will find out if a judge will grant their request to split up \$10.5 million left from a 1989 settlement with the government.

The residents had hoped U.S. District Judge S. Arthur Spiegel would hear — and perhaps act upon — their request in court Wednesday.

But he declined to even consider the issue, saying he still needs to receive a report from trustees he appointed to oversee the settlement fund. Spiegel told Fernald residents he will let them know by late July when he will conduct the hearing.

The money would come from what is left of the \$78 million settlement that Fernald residents reached in 1989 with the Fernald operation's owner, the U.S. Department of Energy.

The bulk of the settlement provided for continuing medical monitoring of nearly 17,000 residents who lived within five miles of Fernald when the agreement was reached. They requested that monitoring to ease their fears about whether radioactive pollution from the 1,050-acre Fernald operation had given them cancer or other diseases. The monitoring continues.

The Fernald plant processed uranium for the government's production of nuclear weapons from 1951 until 1989.

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June 12, 1998
The Cincinnati Enquirer
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"Landfill's Radiation Levels to be Regulated"

By: Rachel Melcer

1 of 1

Landfill's radiation levels to be regulated

BY RACHEL MELCER

The Cincinnati Enquirer

CROSBY TOWNSHIP — As layer upon layer of slightly contaminated soil and building debris piles up in a huge landfill at the former Fernald uranium processing plant, more eyes will be watching.

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), which participates in each stage of the overall site cleanup, learned Wednesday night that a new level of oversight for the project is being formed. The Waste Acceptance Organization (WAO) will make sure everything goes according to plan.

"If we don't like what we see, we're going to say, stop. That's the bottom line," said Pete Yerace, who is managing the program for the Department of Energy (DOE).

Marc Jewett, who works for site manager Fluor Daniel Fernald, shares responsibility for the WAO.

The CAB helped establish the maximum radiation levels that will be allowed in the on-site disposal facility. Anything that contains more than 1,030 uranium parts per million will be shipped away, most likely to a government-run Nevada dumping ground.

Now there will be at least four levels of oversight as Cincinnati-based Petro Environmental Technologies Inc. excavates contaminated dirt and debris and piles it into the landfill. A mountain of paperwork, eventually compiled into a computer database and electronic model of the site, will accompany each step, Mr. Jewett said.

The landfill will be built in eight cells, each one filled and mapped out in 18-inch or 4-foot layers. It will contain about 85 percent soil and "soil-like" material; and 15 percent concrete and steel building debris. When it is complete in 2006, the dump will be up to 64 feet tall and cover 70 acres at Fernald, 17 miles northwest of Cincinnati on the Hamilton-Butler county border.

The first three cells, designed by Atlanta-based GeoSyntec Consultant, are being built and filled by Petro Environmental Technologies Inc., based in Cincinnati.

Although Petro is required to ensure that the debris and soil falls in line with standards set by the CAB and DOE officials, the new WAO will do on-site visual checks of the material. If anything appears to be out of line, WAO has the power to deal with it.

"At the point of the sign-off, they're checking to make sure everything is right. Otherwise, it stops right there," CAB member Bob Tabor said.

CAB members also discussed plans Wednesday for recycling 130,000 pounds of copper ingots now stored in an old production area of the Fernald site. The solid bars were forged out of old motor windings that were shipped to Fernald in the 1970s from DOE sites nationwide.

Although the copper contains between 1.6 and 1.8 uranium parts per million, officials say it is safe for industrial use. Mr. Yerace said it could fetch between 60 and 80 cents per pound on the open market — and the proceeds would be deposited in the U.S. Treasury.

"We're pretty comfortable that what we're dealing with is copper with just a very small amount of uranium," Mr. Yerace said. "You have to balance this (Fernald cleanup) out — do you bury everything, or can some of it be released? ... We're trying to not just throw everything in a disposal site."

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June 13, 1998
Journal-News
Page A3

"Waste acceptance group will oversee Fernald cleanup"

Waste acceptance group will oversee Fernald cleanup

New organization will monitor uranium site landfill, establish radiation limits

The Associated Press
CINCINNATI

A new organization will help oversee cleanup efforts at the site of the former Fernald uranium processing plant.

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board, which participates in each stage of the

overall site cleanup, learned this week that the Waste Acceptance Organization will make sure everything goes according to plan.

"If we don't like what we see, we're going to say, 'stop.' That's the bottom line," said Pete Yerace, who is managing the program for the U.S. Department of Energy.

The Fernald plant processed uranium for the government's production of nuclear weapons from 1951 until operations ended in 1989 to concentrate on cleaning the site of radioactive contamination. The cleanup is to continue through at least 2005.

The citizens board helped establish the maximum radiation levels that will be allowed in an on-site landfill. Anything that contains more than 1,030 uranium parts per

million will be shipped away, most likely to a government-run Nevada dumping ground.

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U.S. Department of Energy

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