

In 1996, DOE, Fluor Fernald, regulators and stakeholders agreed on a cleanup plan for Operable Unit 5. The plan entails soil characterization to determine contamination levels and cleanup goals, excavating contaminated soil, remediating at-or-below grade structures and debris, disposing of waste in the OSDF, and certifying that all remaining soil meets U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cleanup levels. Fernald divided the site into ten remediation areas to effectively manage the soil remediation sequence. Once workers finish excavating each area, they certify the soil meets stringent cleanup standards.

"WHEN COMPLETED, THE OSDF WILL BE 800 FEET WIDE, 3,700 FEET LONG AND 65 FEET HIGH."

Fernald's first major soil remediation project was a 26-acre isolated area south of the site called the Southern Waste Units. To make room for new structures, Fernald dumped contaminated construction debris, boiler plant flyash and soil there for nearly four decades. Fernald's security officers also used the area for fitness training and target practice. In 2001, crews completed cleanup of the Southern Waste Units, eliminating a source of contamination to the underlying aquifer.

In 1997, Fernald began construction of the OSDF, which is designed to hold 2.5 million cubic yards of impacted material that can stay on site. Workers will place 85 percent soil and 15 percent demolition debris into seven waste disposal cells. The OSDF has an engineered leachate collection and conveyance system that gathers and transports water to Fernald's wastewater treatment facility and a multi-layer cap and liner system that safely contains the material. The OSDF waste acceptance criteria lists acceptable radionuclide and chemical concentration limits, size restrictions and prohibited items. When completed, the OSDF will be 800 feet wide, 3,700 feet long and 65 feet high. Fernald is scheduled to complete soil excavation, certification and OSDF construction in 2006.



LEFT : Operators heat seal seams in the OSDF liner (6319-D2150)

MIDDLE: A sampling technician begins the final certification process in the Southern Waste Units (6734-D1387)

RIGHT : Workers place debris into the OSDF (6319-D2299)



For more information

*Visit the Public Environmental Information Center on site, open Tuesdays and Thursdays
Contact Gary Stegner, DOE-Fernald Public Affairs, (513)648-3153, gary.stegner@fernald.gov.
View the Fernald website at <http://www.fernald.gov>*