



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

3778

Southwest District Office

401 East Fifth Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

TELE: (937) 285-6357 FAX: (937) 285-6249

Bob Taft, Governor
Maureen O'Connor, Lt. Governor
Christopher Jones, Director

July 16, 2001

Ms. Kimberly Tate
Contract Specialist
U.S. DOE - Ohio Field Office
P.O. Box 3020
Miamisburg, OH 45334-3020

FERNALD
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RE: FERNALD COST RECOVERY GRANT AWARD NUMBER DE-FG24-99OH20096

Dear Ms. Tate:

Attached please find Ohio EPA's Quarterly Report for the period April 1, 2001 through June 30, 2001 detailing activities related to the Cost Recovery Grant.

If you should have any questions regarding this report, please contact me at (937) 285-6466.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Schneider
Fernald Project Manager
Office of Federal Facilities Oversight

cc w/o enc: Graham Mitchell, Chief, OFFO
Pat Campbell, Fiscal Officer, DERR
John Brown, Fernald Site Auditor
Steve McCracken, DOE Fernald
Jim Beaton, Grants Administrator, Fiscal
cc w/ enc: ~~Kathi Nickel, DOE Fernald.~~

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**Ohio EPA Office of Federal Facilities Oversight
Cost Recovery Grant Quarterly Report
for the
Third Quarter of FFY01**

APRIL 2001

HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- Collected routine private well samples from three locations near Fernald.
- Collected routine surface water samples from five locations on April 4th. Collected wet weather samples from three locations on April 20th.
- Collected amphibian/microinvertebrate samples from 12 locations mid-April.
- Conducted a wetland plant muck transfer on April 6th.
- Conducted an SP3 stem count vegetation survey on April 13th.
- Conducted a butterfly transect on April 20th.
- Collected 10 (out of 12) hi-vol samples for airborne particulates from hi-vol monitors at Fernald. FNAPS04 lost power due to GFCI outlet dying. The plug has been replaced by FEMP and should be working the first week in May.
- Continued monitoring for radon and publishing real-time data to the Internet from three locations near the silos and at a background location.
- On Tuesday April 17th, OFFO staff met with representatives of DOE from Fernald and the Ohio Field Office to discuss the proposed rebaseline scenario for the site under DOE's new contract with Fluor Fernald. DOE's preferred scenario calls for cessation of disposal cell operations for at least two years. This proposal is in conflict with previous agreements between DOE, USEPA and Ohio EPA regarding proper closure of the cell and our basis for supporting USEPA's waiver of the siting criteria. DOE's preferred scenario if followed through will result in a major dispute between the agencies and DOE over missed milestones as well as a likely violation of the CERCLA statute under the "substantial and continuous operation" clause. It appears likely the Fernald site will be in official dispute by late summer/early fall.
- On Saturday April 7, Graham Mitchell was part of a panel discussion at the Central States Communication Association meeting at the Omni Netherland (Cincinnati) on the importance of public involvement at the Fernald project. Each panel member made a brief presentation and then answered questions.
- Ohio EPA DHWM issued a Notice of Violation to Fernald for hazardous waste violations found during their February inspection.
- Graham Mitchell attended the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) meeting on Thursday, April 19th.

DOCUMENT APPROVALS

Provided Ohio EPA approval on the following document: 1) Revised SEP Addendum & CDL/PSP RtC; 2) 20mph BAT Letter.

DOCUMENT REVIEWS

Provided review and/or comments to DOE on the following documents: 1) RCS

RAWP; 2) Silo 3 Project Evaluation.

MEETINGS

One or more OFFO staff participated in the following meetings:

Weekly Project Managers conference calls (4); Radon conf. calls (4); OFFO staff meeting; Fernald Team meetings; FCAB Stewardship meeting; FCAB meeting; Progress Briefing; NRT meeting; Toxicology and Risk Assessment meeting; budget meeting; concrete crusher demonstration; ITRC conf. call; ODNR capability mtg; NRDA mtg; ITRC conference in Utah.

TRAINING

- Tom Schneider attended Performance Review training held by Office of Employee Services.

PRESENTATIONS

- Kelly Kaletsky made South Pole presentations to the Dorothy Lane Optimists Club (25) and the Dayton Rotary Club (25).

ADMINISTRATIVE

- Selected internal applicant for Contracts Administrator Position to start May 7th.

MAY 2001

HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- Collected amphibian/microinvertebrate samples from 11 locations at the end of May and first of June.
- Collected 11 (out of 12) hi-vol samples for airborne particulates from hi-vol monitors at Fernald.
- Continued monitoring for radon and publishing real-time data to the Internet from three locations near the silos and at a background location. The phone line at Paddys Run is not working. Data is being collected, but not published to the Internet.
- The site celebrated its 50th anniversary with a ceremony and historical displays. Ohio EPA was one of several recipients of a brick to be placed within the Cold War Garden. Graham Mitchell accepted the brick for Ohio EPA. OEPA staff attended public tours of the site that were given during the day and evening.
- Ohio EPA sponsored a native wildflower planting (May 9) with Ross Elementary school at one of the restoration areas at Fernald. Approximately 100 wildflower seedlings were planted. An educational demonstration of aquatic macroinvertebrates was given. A similar event scheduled with Crosby Elementary students was canceled due to inclement weather.
- Ohio EPA staff completed planting the native plant garden at Eastmont Elementary

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school with students from several classes. Approximately 200 plants of 27 different species of grasses and forbs were planted. Plants were grown by students or donated by OFFO staff. Media representatives were there from Dayton Public Schools and Channel 2. Prior to the planting event Ohio EPA staff made several visits to the school for weed control, mulching and tire removal.

- Ohio EPA staff attended the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board Stewardship Subcommittee meeting held Thursday, May 10th. Discussion focused on Long Term Stewardship issues.
- OFFO staff attended the FCAB full committee meeting held May 12th to discuss on-going remediation projects and the re-baselining.
- The Natural Resource Trustees have developed a final Memorandum Of Understanding. The MOU has been in development for about two years. It outlines the process the trustee representatives have been working under to date and will use in the future.
- DOE has initiated dialogue about treating some mixed waste streams at three Ohio federal facilities. Fernald has 2000 drums that require a thermal desorption treatment technology. There are 20 drums at the Ashtabula site and 4-5 drums at the Battelle Columbus site that require the same treatment technology. DOE is proposing to treat all these waste streams at Fernald and at least partially fund this effort as a technology demonstration project. Although there are many issues to work through, we generally believe that this approach may be worth pursuing. Significant issues include stakeholder involvement, waste and residue management/disposal, and potential introduction of new contaminants.
- Tom Schneider and Bill Lohner provided technical assistance to Ohio EPA NEDO on Envirosafe Landfill radionuclide issues.

DOCUMENT APPROVALS

Provided Ohio EPA approval on the following document: 1) RtC on Northern Pine Forest Conceptual Design; 2) Silo 3 Ext Rqst Letter; 3) Final AWR RD Package; 4) V/FCN 20400-PSP-003-3 for the PSP for A2P1; 5) Q1 2001 IEMP Data Summary/Web Review; 6) V/FCN 20400-PSP-003-4 for the PSP for A2P1; 7) 12/00 Reinjection Report; 8) Jan 2001 Reinj Report; 9) Feb. 2001 Reinjection Report; 10) Pump Test Report for PPDD.

DOCUMENT REVIEWS

Provided review and/or comments to DOE on the following documents: 1) PSP for Installation of 3 wells.

MEETINGS

One or more OFFO staff participated in the following meetings:

Weekly Project Managers conference calls (4); Radon conf. calls (4); OFFO staff

meeting; Fernald Team meetings; Fernald Living History Project meeting; FCAB Stewardship meeting; FCAB meeting; Fernald 50th Ceremony; Public Tour; FRESH bi-monthly meeting; Rad team call; Silo 3 meeting; southern waste units meeting; NRT meeting.

TRAINING

- Donna Bohannon, Kelly Kaletsky and Michelle Waller attended the Ohio Lepidopterist's Butterfly/Skipper Symposium at the Dayton MetroPark's Cox Arboretum and Gardens.
- Tom Ontko attended the Fernald 8 Hour Refresher training.

JUNE 2001

HIGHLIGHTS AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- Collected samples from three soil piles in the SWU for waste acceptance criteria (WAC) attainment.
- Retrieved amphibian traps set on a previous day.
- Conducted NPDES bioassay with Greg Buttker (DSW).
- Amphibian sampling at the Beavercreek reference site.
- Conducted NPDES inspection with John Spitler (DSW).
- Collected 6 surface water and 6 sediment samples from locations in the Great Miami River and Paddys Run.
- SP3 stem counts.
- Collected 12 (of 12) hi-vol samples for airborne particulates from Fernald monitors.
- Continued monitoring for radon and publishing real-time data to the Internet from three locations near the silos and at a background location.
- The Department of Labor announced that it will begin holding a series of public meetings on the compensation program set up under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act. This program will provide \$150,000 lump-sum compensation plus related medical expenses to workers who became seriously ill because of exposure to beryllium, silica, or radiation at DOE facilities. The meetings will be June 21 at the Pike County Joint Vocational School in Piketon, July 24 at Sinclair College in Dayton, and July 26 at the Holiday Inn City Center Lakeshore in Cleveland. The meetings at all three locations will take place at both 1:00 and 7:00 pm. For more information on this program, call toll free 866-888-3322.
- The 'Linking Community With Environment' teacher workshop to be sponsored by UC in conjunction with the Fernald Living History Project through an OEEF grant was postponed to June 2002 due to lack of interest.
- Tom Schneider (OFFO) wrote an article for the FRESH newsletter discussing the vegetative cover for the On-Site Disposal Cell which will use native prairie grasses/flowers. The article was requested by the stakeholder group.

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- The Waste Pits Project team continued excavating Pits 1, 2 and 3. Limited excavation is also being performed in Pit 5. Trains 39 and 40 were shipped to Envirocare in late June. Train length has been increased from 60 to 65 cars.
- Senator Voinovich visited Fernald on Friday, June 15. Graham Mitchell attended a meeting with the Senator, following a tour of the site.
- OFFO staff participated in Fernald's "Take Your Kid to Work Day" by making a presentation on native plants and aquatic insects to the kids. This was followed by planting 100 wildflower seedlings provided by OFFO staff.
- OFFO staff attended the Fernald Citizens Advisory Stewardship Subcommittee meeting. Discussions focused on the proposed on-site multi-use education facility. OFFO staff participated in the monthly FCAB meeting. The meeting primarily focused on the potential early construction of a building to house a Multi-Use Education Facility. The building would support remediation activities then be converted into the education facility after completion of cleanup.

DOCUMENT APPROVALS

Provided Ohio EPA approval on the following document: 1) OSDF Phase III RCI 20102-074R; 2)V/FCN 20400-PSP-0003-5 PSP A2PI; 3) VFCN 20400-PSP-003-6 PSP A2I; 4) Proposed Rev. to GW FRLs for OU5 ROD; 5) ESD - Groundwater MCL; 6) Request to Modify MW22198; 7) Revised Mgt. Plan for the OMTA; 8) Imp Plan for Pilot Plant D&D; 9) March 2001 Reinj Report.

DOCUMENT REVIEWS

Provided review and/or comments to DOE on the following documents: 1) Remed. Design for GMA Waste Storage Area/Plant6; 2) Transferred Soil Stockpile - OU1; 3) Eco Rest. Liter. Compendium; 4) Permit Information Summary for Repack EU; 5) 5yr Review; 6) Final 3A/4A IRDP; 7) OMTA Management Plan; 8) Revised OMTA Plan & USEPA RtC; 9) RtC A8P2 Eco Rest. Research Plan; 10) PSP for Misc Areas WAC Attainment; 11) Systems & Contingency Plan for Leachate; 12) Revised ESD and RtC on Uranium in GW FRL; 13) IRDP for A2P1 Non-Waste Unit Perimeter Area.

MEETINGS

One or more OFFO staff participated in the following meetings:
 Weekly Project Managers conference calls (4); Radon conf. calls (4); OFFO staff meeting; Fernald Team meetings; FCAB Stewardship meeting (DB); FCAB meeting; ITRC; OU4 conference call (2); ITRC conf. call; LTS workshop; USEPA conf. call; budget meeting; grant conf. call.

PRESENTATIONS

- Kelly Kaletsky gave a South Pole presentation to about 60 members of the Miamisburg Rotary Club.

- Tom Schneider gave a presentation in Orlando, FL at the Long Term Monitoring Sensors/Analytical Methods Workshop to about 100 participants.
- Graham Mitchell gave a presentation to 10 students in Miami University's IES graduate program on CERCLA and the Fernald cleanup including public involvement.

OHIO EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ACTIVITIES

- OEMA continues to review and update the State of Ohio Hazardous Materials Emergency Management Plan and attached USDOE Annex for the FEMP facility. Ohio EMA has met individually with several state agencies to discuss revisions to the plan and is finalizing those revisions.
- OEMA continues to work with EPA offices and the counties on the implementation of the DOE funding grant. OEMA continues to administer the CMOG funding program for reimbursement of money to the counties.
- Butler County reported that for the fourth quarter of SFY 2001 the Butler County Emergency Management Agency (BCEMA) hosted an Emergency Operations Center Course followed by a tabletop exercise on May 24th. The BCEMA has taught the Emergency Response Guide Book Course to over 500 firefighters and police officers to date in addition to four Hazmat Awareness courses taught to over 82 responders. Six Hazmat Team members were sent to the University of Findlay for Rail Car Response Training. The County Terrorism Threat Assessment Team has continued to work on the Threat/Risk Assessment for the U.S. Department of Justice, in which Fluor Fernald is discussed as a potential terrorism target.
- Ohio EMA personnel continues to attend the Cooperative Planning and Training meetings at the Ross Fire House.
- OEMA continues to upgrade the State EOC as a central notification point and information clearinghouse for incident assessment. Computer software continues to be updated (i.e. CAMEO) with chemical inventories, hazards analyses information, emergency contacts, transportation routes, resources, etc., for responding to incidents or exercises with FEMP.
- Hamilton and Butler County report that they continue to purchase equipment to upgrade their EOCs.
- Ohio EMA continues to receive and disseminate all notifications of shipments to Butler and Hamilton Counties as well as internal agency staff.
- In a letter dated October 30, 2000, Ohio EMA requested that Fernald provide a copy of their "Empirical Radon Model" to Ohio EMA and ODH for use in the State of Ohio's Emergency Operations Center Assessment Room. This would increase the capability of the state to assess potential releases of radon from the silo area. As of July 9, 2001, DOE's legal staff is still reviewing the request.

DOE-FEMP & DOE-OH ON-SITE EMPLOYEES

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