



FRIDAY MAILING

12/12/97

INCLUDED IN THIS MAILING ARE:

- Letter from John Applegate to Asst. Secretary Alm/Secretary Pena (re: Injunction)
- Monthly Progress Report Summary
- Draft Minutes from the November 15, 1997, Meeting of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board
If you have any comments or changes to these minutes, please contact the office by January 2, 1998.
- Approved Minutes from the September 20, 1997, Meeting of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board
- Newsclippings

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- WASTE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE:** There will be a meeting of the Waste Transportation Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board on Monday, January 5, 1998, at 6:30 p.m. in the Jamtek Building, 10845 Hamilton-Cleves Highway.
Please note that this meeting is tentative and based on the availability of the Draft Report on Intermodal Transport to NTS.
- ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING COMMITTEE:** The Environmental Monitoring Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, January 5, 1998, in the Jamtek Building.
- COMMUNITY REUSE ORGANIZATION:** The monthly CRO meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 6, 1998, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Ross High School Media Center, 3425 Hamilton-Cleves Highway.
- EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE MEETING:** The Efficiency Committee of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board will meet on Wednesday, January 7, 1998, at 6:30 p.m. in the Jamtek 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
Doug	Fax: 648-3629	E-Mail: [redacted]



Chair
John S. Applegate

Vice Chair
James C. Bierer

Members
Marvin W. Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pamela Dunn
Constance Fox, M.D.
Darryl D. Huff
Dan McElroy
Robert G. Tabor
Dr. Thomas E. Wagner
Dr. Gene E. Willeke

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

December 4, 1997

Mr. Federico Pena
Secretary
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585

Mr. Al Alm
Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management
US Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Messrs. Pena and Alm:

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board has been at work since 1993 assisting DOE in developing a safe and cost-effective approach to the remediation of the Fernald site. Throughout our deliberations we have stressed a sense of fairness in Fernald waste disposition, which resulted in our acceptance of the vast majority of Fernald waste volume remaining in an on-site disposal facility, while calling for the shipment to less populated areas of the most hazardous materials at the site. The first cell of the disposal facility will be completed and ready to accept contaminated material in a matter of days. To achieve our vision of cleanup within approximately ten years, planning for the disposal of that portion of Fernald material scheduled to go off-site must begin in early 1998.

On September 23, 1997, we wrote to you to request prompt resolution of five issues that stood in the way of progress at Fernald, including the shipment of waste material by rail to an off-site location. Assistant Secretary Alm took prompt action on four of the issues and they have been resolved to the satisfaction of all concerned. The fifth item was the off-site shipment, resolution of which was prevented by the recent injunction against DOE resulting from the lawsuit brought by WCS of Texas. The injunction stands firmly in the way of Fernald remediation success. The failure to reconcile this issue quickly will result in significant delays of remediation in Fernald and the waste of a great deal of taxpayers money.

While we fully support fair and open competition and hope that additional commercial alternatives will become available for receipt of DOE wastes, we are mystified by the ability of a single waste contractor who clearly does not meet the fair and necessary requirements of the RFP to put a halt to all cleanup progress in the Ohio Field Office. At Fernald, the record of decision for operable unit one requires that waste be disposed at a licensed facility and be transported in bulk via rail. WCS does not and will not meet either of those requirements, and neither condition can be overturned without significant impact on the cost and safety of the

disposal operation. It is frustrating tot the CAB to have come so far in remediation progress to have it overturned by a single party whose only concern is financial gain. We have worked hard with DOE and its regulators to develop safe and cost-effective remediation strategies, and do not wish to stand by as taxpayer dollars are wasted in this manner.

At this time, we are requesting that you become personally involved in resolving this situation. DOE needs to proceed with all due haste and with all of the legal tools at its disposal to have this groundless injunction removed so that essential remediation progress can be made. While we fully recognize that DOE cannot control the rulings of a federal judge, we do believe that the resolution of this manner is of the utmost importance to both Fernald and DOE as a whole. While DOE has filed a notice of appeal, it is not our impression that rapid progress is being made. If this injunction is not lifted by February 1998, it will have a devastating impact on the cost and schedule of remediation of Fernald. I would be happy to talk with you or any member of your staff about this issue. I can be reached directly at (513) 556-0114.

Very truly yours,



John S. Applegate
Chair

cc:
Ohio Congressional Delegation
Jack Craig
Leah Dever, Ohio Field Office Manager

006003



MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT SUMMARY

NOVEMBER 1997

OPERABLE UNIT 1 --- WASTE PITS REMEDIAL ACTION PROJECT

Major Work Activities - November 1997

- Off-site Actions
 - Completed Paddy's Run trestle upgrade
- On-site Actions
 - Mobilized locomotive maintenance building erection subcontractor and began construction
- Planning & Contracts
 - Began implementing pre-mobilization deliverables for Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) subcontract

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

Major Work Activities - November 1997

- OSDF
 - Completed installation of OSDF Cell 1 secondary composite liner and leak detection system Initiated installation of primary composite liner
- Leachate Conveyance System
 - Worked on Leachate Conveyance System construction punchlist items
 - Began preparation for Integrated Construction Acceptance Testing and Systems Operability Testing
- Roads
 - Finished asphalt paving, shoulder work, and painting on Haul Road

OPERABLE UNIT 3 --- FACILITIES CLOSURE & DEMOLITION PROJECT

Major Work Activities - November 1997

- Safe Shutdown
 - Completed holdup material removal in selected areas of Plant 8
 - Completed energy isolation procedures in Building 78
 - Excavated domestic waterline for Building 78
- Boiler Plant/Water Plant
 - Completed demolition of Fly Ash Silo, Electrostatic Precipitators, and Clearwell Building
 - Initiated demolition of railroad tracks
- Thorium/Plant 9 Complex
 - Proceeded with preparation/submittal of Safe Work Plans
 - Initiated demolition of railroad tracks

000004

OPERABLE UNIT 4 --- SILOS PROJECT

Major Work Activities - November 1997

- Began preparation of Initial Screening of Alternatives for treatment of Silos 1 and 2 material
- Prepared initial draft of Request for Proposal (RFP) for Silos 1 and 2 Multi-Tech Proof-of-Principle Testing
- Received U.S. EPA approval of Draft Silo 3 Explanation of Significant Differences (ESD)
- Issued Draft Final ESD for public comment 11/17/97 and held public hearing 11/25/97
- Issued Draft RFP for Silo 3 Project for review/comment by regulators, stakeholders, and potential subcontractors
- Briefed stakeholders on radon emissions as well as the concept for the Accelerated Waste Retrieval/Transfer Tank Area/Radon Control System Project at the November meeting of Fernald Residents for Environment, Safety, and Health (FRESH)

OPERABLE UNIT 5

Major Work Activities - November 1997

- **Soils Characterization and Excavation Project**
 - Submitted Prefinal Area 1 Phase II (*Southern Half of East Field*) Integrated Remedial Design Package (IRDP) to regulators; package contains implementation plans, design drawings, technical specifications, and other supporting documents needed to conduct soil remediation in Area 1 Phase II
 - Completed various field implementation activities for Area 2 Phase I (*Southern Waste Units*) Site Prep package, including grading and graveling of support area, installation of geotextile material under stockpile areas, and clearing/grubbing for retention basins
- **Aquifer Restoration and Waste Water Project**
 - Relocated Bionitrification/Effluent Treatment System to new Sewage Treatment Plant (STP)
 - Completed design of new STP piping and issued contractor bidding package
 - Completed drilling of monitoring wells for Injection Demonstration System

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Major Work Activities - November 1997

- **Organic Extraction Project (RCI/Terra-Kleen)**
 - Completed demonstration phase and received analytical results
 - Began evaluation of subcontractor's report and recommendations
- **Thorium Legacy Waste Stabilization Project**
 - Submitted Final Technology Work Plan to DOE-FEMP
- **Nuclear Materials Disposition Projects**
 - Completed repackaging of depleted materials from Plant 6 Annex; additionally, as of 11/30/97, 1,050 cans containing enriched unrestricted materials had been repackaged into 35 white metal boxes



Draft Minutes from the November 15, 1997 Meeting

Chair

John S. Applegate

Vice Chair

James C. Bierer

Members

Marvin W. Clawson

Lisa Crawford

Pamela Dunn

Constance Fox, M.D.

Darryl D. Huff

Dan McElroy

Robert G. Tabor

Dr. Thomas E. Wagner

Dr. Gene E. Willeke

Ex Officio

L. French Bell

Jack Craig

Gene Jablonowski

Graham Mitchell

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board met from 8:37 a.m. until 11:50 p.m. on Saturday, November 15, 1997, at the Alpha Building, 10967 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, Ohio. The meeting was advertised in local papers and was open to the public.

Members Present:

John Applegate

French Bell

Marvin Clawson

Lisa Crawford

Jack Craig

Pam Dunn

Darryl Huff

Gene Jablonowski

Graham Mitchell

Gene Willeke

Members Absent:

Jim Bierer

Constance Fox

Dan McElroy

Warren Strunk

Robert Tabor

Thomas Wagner

Federal Official Present:

Mike Jacobs

Staff Present:

Tereza Marks

Crystal Sarno

Douglas Sarno

About 10 spectators also attended the meeting, including members of the public and representatives from DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

000006

1. Call to Order

Chair John Applegate called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

2. Announcements and New Business

The Board approved the minutes from the September meeting without changes.

John Applegate announced that Warren Strunk has resigned from the Citizen's Advisory Board due to work commitments. Applegate reminded the Board that over the years, Strunk has had to use work time to attend these meetings. Applegate made a motion that the Board formally thank Strunk for his service. Lisa Crawford seconded the motion. The Board will send a letter of thanks to Strunk.

Applegate suggested that the Board discuss membership issues after the meeting. With Strunk's resignation, the Board has four available positions. Applegate proposed that the Board develop a list of possible replacement members.

Applegate announced that Al Alm has resigned as Assistant Secretary of the Department of Energy. Because of this change in administration, the Board will have to educate the new Assistant Secretary about Fernald and the work occurring at the site. The Board feels that it is important that the new administration be aware of Fernald's ability and desire to move forward aggressively.

Applegate announced that the chairs of the SSABs held a meeting in Dallas in October. Fernald is much further along, chronologically, than any of the other sites, and the Fernald CAB is now dealing with implementation issues. At the meeting of the SSABs, there was also an update on the status of the national dialogue.

Applegate presented copies of the Complex Wide Contractor Integration Report to the Board. This document introduces a new style of "map," to describe the creation and disposition of different waste forms, that is to be included in the Accelerated Cleanup Plan.

The Nevada Community Advisory Board is hoping to sponsor a workshop on low level waste and Applegate has suggested that the Fernald CAB work with them. The relationship between Fernald and Nevada has become a model for cooperation between other SSABs.

Applegate learned at the meeting of the SSABs in Dallas that the Savannah River site asks the ex-officio members of their board to provide them with an annual list of areas on which the Board should provide comments. The Board and the Agencies work on the list together, and then formalize those comments. Applegate suggested that this might be something of interest for Fernald.

Since the last meeting of the CAB, the funding for Fernald has been moved from the general Environmental Management fund to a Defense Facilities Closure Project.

Finally, Applegate announced that the Fernald CAB web site is now linked to Rocky Flats and Oak Ridge. To provide better inter-SSAB communication, the Fernald site will be kept updated.

3. Review of Site Tour

Lisa Crawford presented a brief overview of the site tour that occurred as part of the October Fernald Monthly Progress Briefing. Crawford reported that the tour was well attended by the public – there were some new faces, which is a good thing. She stated that the tour allowed people to see that there is a lot of activity on the site, (i.e. a lot of soil is being moved). Crawford's impression is that the site is changing weekly.

4. Prioritization

Doug Sarno presented the background of the Fernald CAB and its recommendations on prioritization issues. In July 1995, the Fernald Citizens Task Force recommended an accelerated remediation schedule, removal of special nuclear materials from Fernald and the shipment of legacy wastes as soon as possible, the elimination of the costs of maintaining and providing security to buildings which are scheduled for demolition, the discontinuation of ongoing repair and maintenance to on-site buildings and infrastructure, the streamlining of DOE regulatory requirements, and an overall culture shift within DOE from operations to remediation. In March 1997, the 2006 Plan (Ten-Year Draft Plan) was released. This plan called for DOE to projectize, increase efficiency requirements, develop new technologies, and reduce mortgages. The Efficiency Committee of the Fernald CAB was formed in May 1997 to provide recommendations on budget and efficiency issues, review site priorities and review scheduling issues. The CAB sent a letter on site priorities to Bob Folker, Acting Field Office Manager in September 1997 stating that the priorities and funding given to non-remediation activities is too high and restating the 1995 recommendations, calling once again for a fundamental change in the approach of DOE to remedial operations. Finally in October 1997, FEMP was designated as a Defense Facilities Closure Project by Congress.

Jack Craig announced that the Ohio Field Office now has a new manager, Leah Dever. Dever will attend the next CAB meeting. Dever has many connections in Nevada and has worked at DOE-Headquarters.

Sarno explained that as a Defense Facilities Closure Project, Fernald is still part of the EM budget, but the money in the closure fund cannot be moved to other DOE sites. The purpose of the Defense Facilities Closure Project is to focus resources on the goal of closing the site. Under this classification, however, Fernald received less money than requested. Fernald had requested \$268 million, but only received \$258 million. Rocky Flats is also classified as a Defense Facilities Closure Project. Jack Craig stated that the Mound Project may eventually also be included in this account.

The Defense Facilities Closure Project classification is a result of Congress being unhappy with the way DOE-HQ is organized. Congress wants to see a fundamental change in the way Environmental Management Division operates. However, the Congressional report is not directly recommending many of these changes. Since DOE-HQ is looking at a reorganization, Congress has requested a detailed schedule for the two sites. The Fernald section of the plan is expected to provide a large amount of detail about the site. Rocky Flats, however, is not as advanced as Fernald and the Rocky Flats plan is a contractor generated-plan which has not yet been reviewed and approved by DOE.

Jack Craig felt that due to this reclassification, many of the issues mentioned in the September 1997 letter to Bob Folker have been addressed and resolved.

The CAB was informed that Al Alm has asked each site to submit any big issues to him that he can work towards resolving before he resigns. DOE-FEMP has submitted two issues, one of which is the OU1 ROD limits on the ability to use commercial rail. Due to this

problem, DOE-FEMP has postponed procurement of rail cars until Spring. This delay will not affect the current schedule. By January or February, however, DOE will need to resolve these issues, so that IT can complete its rail plan. If this is not resolved by January or February, the cleanup goal for OU1 will be missed.

5. DOE Prioritization Slide Presentation

Terry Hagen and Johnny Reising presented slides showing the schedule and progress of activities occurring at the DOE site.

OU1:

Terry Hagen announced that there will be no change to the schedule for the Waste Pits as a result of the reduced funding. As stated earlier, IT and Flour Daniel will be developing rail plans between now and March. The first enforceable milestone for this project is March 1999. Johnny Reising showed an aerial photo of the Waste Pits taken in 1985 and compared it to a photo taken April 1, 1997. Reising stated that DOE is hoping to take a new photo as soon as the weather clears. Reising and Hagen also discussed the Land Use Master Plan. Reising stated that the rail trestle for OU1 has recently been completed.

OU2:

Hagen stated that the schedule for this project is on track and in some cases is actually a little ahead of schedule. Members of the Waste Management Committee noted that they would like to have a tour of the OSDF as part of their December 1st meeting. Reising stated this would be possible. The tour was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Reising continued the presentation by outlining the lining layers used in the OSDF. He stated that wastes would begin to be placed in the OSDF in early December.

OU3:

Hagen stated that under the revised schedule the completion date for safe shutdown will still remain at the end of 1999. However, the actual D&D of buildings will be delayed.

OU4:

Hagen announced that the estimated date of completion of the Silos Project is 2008. Reising discussed the recent concerns regarding the erosion of part of the bank of Paddys Run in this area. Some old wells casing were exposed. The well casings were fine, but FDF had to reroute the flow of the stream to avoid possible future problems.

OU5 :

Hagen announced that some soil work has been delayed as a result of the reduced budget.

Overall, there are three areas in which delays are expected: non-south field soil excavation, the D&D Project, and the pace of the cell project. In all other areas, tasks are running on or slightly ahead of schedule.

Waste Management:

Over the past several years, the amount of non waste nuclear materials has stabilized at about 63 million tons. About one third of the enriched uranium left is being sold to British Nuclear Fuels. An RFP is out to try to sell the remaining enriched uranium. FDF has tried to find a buyer for the depleted uranium, but has been unsuccessful. This material will be declared waste in 1998. Gene Willeke suggested that this might be an issue for the Waste Management Committee to discuss. The CAB should have this material declared waste and disposed of off-site. Sarno asked for details on this waste so that the Committee could prepare a letter about this issue.

Crawford asked that the CAB view a 1962 film showing the work that had occurred at the site. Sue Walpole said she had a copy. The Board decided to show the movie at the next CAB meeting.

6. Costs

Terry Hagen began the discussion by pointing out there are basically two kinds of cost associated with non-remediation activities: administrative support and technical oversight and integration. He pointed out three things that FDF is doing to reduce costs: 1) implementing the Rad Control Optimization Study (i.e. reduction of restrictions in controlled areas, cross training of technicians); 2) producing a long range plan for phasing out support and oversight services (i.e. consolidation, prioritizing, and further projectization); and 3) streamlining project control functions (i.e., reducing the number of activities in the base line schedule).

Doug Sarno proposed that the Waste Management Committee send a letter to DOE asking for quick removal of low level waste to be ultimately disposed off off-site. Jack Craig suggested that the injunction issue which has resulted in the lack of commercial disposal be added to the letter. The Board decided that two separate letters would be more effective. The Board noted that the issue of commercial disposal was previously addressed in the September letter to Bob Folker. Now the Board would be responding to their response. In the case of the injunction, the CAB wants to make it clear that DOE should continue with external regulation. Craig also proposed that the DOE-Ohio Office general counsel meet with the Waste Management Committee at the December 1st meeting to discuss the injunction.

In regards to the future role of the Efficiency Committee, Graham Mitchell suggested that the committee talk to FDF about the inefficiencies of which they are aware and where FDF can make improvements. Willeke suggested that there be more consequences to FDF as a result of an action or a decision that increases inefficiencies. Applegate then asked the full Board for comments on the priorities DOE had outlined in their presentation.

A letter on the reaction to Fernald's becoming a Defense Facilities Closure Project has been drafted. Applegate distributed the draft to the Board members. The Board agreed to change the last line of the document to read "accelerated cleanup at Fernald". The Board also suggested the addition of another paragraph to outline what steps DOE needs to make to improve conditions at the site.

Sarno announced that information will be provided to the Board on a more regular basis. This information will consist of committee summaries, committee notebooks, and report summaries.

Applegate opened the floor for public comment. Tricia Thompson, Head of FDF Public Affairs, said she felt that the site tour was good. She noted that there are four pages of interest in the Fernald Report, and that a cleanup book is available for stakeholders every three months. Photos of the site can also be found on the web.

Pam Dunn wanted feedback on the recent lawsuit which resulted in the judge telling DOE to do what it was told to do in 1990. Jack Craig was unsure of the status of the lawsuit, but promised to find out more information.

7. Adjournment

Applegate adjourned the meeting at 11:50 a.m.



Chair
John S. Applegate

Vice Chair
James C. Bierer

Members
Marvin W. Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Pamela Dunn
Constance Fox, M.D.
Darryl D. Huff
Dan McElroy
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 September 20, 1997 Meeting

The Fernald Citizens Advisory Board met from 10:05 a.m. until 1:12 p.m. on Saturday, September 20, 1997, at the Alpha Building, 10967 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, Ohio. The meeting was advertised in local papers and open to the public.

Members Present:
John Applegate
French Bell
Jim Bierer
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Constance Fox
Gene Jablonowski
Darryl Huff
Graham Mitchell
Robert Tabor
Thomas Rentschler

Members Absent:
Dan McElroy
Warren Strunk
Jack Craig
Pam Dunn
Thomas Wagner
Gene Willeke

Designated Federal Official Present: Ken Morgan

Staff Present:
Tereza Marks
Crystal Sarno
Douglas Sarno

About 5 spectators also attended the meeting, including members of the public and representatives from DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald.

000012

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair James Bierer called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

2. Announcements and New Business

Bierer introduced Jennifer Jones from the Center for Environmental Communication Studies at the University of Cincinnati. Jones asked the Citizens Advisory Board members that attended the pilot workshop for the National Dialogue held three weeks ago in Knoxville, Tennessee, to provide input for a report to DOE. The final workshop report will be completed on September 30, 1997. She expressed the opinion that Fernald's input to the report was important since communication between groups at Fernald was far ahead of other sites.

Doug Sarno asked if the Citizens Advisory Board should take action on the National Dialogue. Lisa Crawford stated that she thought the Citizens Advisory Board should encourage DOE to listen to feedback and reports from the National Dialogue. Some members of the Board were concerned that Secretary Pena's administration might not be receptive to information provided by the National Dialogue or that DOE might not wish to continue funding the program because the National Dialogue was initiated under the Grumbly/O'Leary leadership at DOE.

Bierer suggested that comments from the Citizens Advisory Board would add value to the National Dialogue. He would like the full Board to review the final report on the pilot workshop.

Bierer announced that the minutes from the July meeting would be in the next week's Friday mailing.

Graham Mitchell noted that the reinterment of Native American remains was a major issue at the pilot workshop for the National Dialogue. Many Native American remains are currently stored in universities and museums. Mitchell feels that DOE could provide land for these remains to be reburied, as was successfully done at Fernald. Sue Walpole commented that Fernald keeps track of reburial issues at DOE sites.

3. Committee Reports

Monitoring and Recycling Committee

Doug Sarno provided the update on behalf of Pam Dunn, Committee Chair. While the committee has not met since the last CAB meeting, it continues to track site monitoring activities.

Natural Resources Committee

Committee Chair Jim Bierer said that the Committee had requested and was granted an extension of the comment period on the Supplemental Environmental Projects. The period has been extended until October 3, 1997. The next meeting of the committee will be on September 23, 1997, to discuss the Supplemental Environmental Projects. A second meeting is planned to study the Natural Resource Monitoring Plan.

Transportation Committee

Sarno provided the update on behalf of Tom Wagner, Committee Chair. The committee is still committed to intermodal transport of wastes, but wastes will not be able to go through the North Las Vegas transfer station due to public objection.

Waste Management

Doug Sarno provided the update on behalf of Gene Willeke, Committee Chair. The committee has been very busy. Willeke has been instrumental in the consideration of microencapsulation as an alternative to cementation for Silo 3 wastes. The committee traveled to Brookhaven National Laboratory on July 16, 1997, to observe the microencapsulation technology. Microencapsulation appears to be a simple and clean process. Sarno feels that Fernald will be able to get bids on this process.

Crawford commented that the FRESH meeting on September 25, 1997, would include an hour and a half presentation on microencapsulation by experts from Envirocare and Brookhaven. She invited interested members of the Citizens Advisory Board to attend this meeting. Sarno explained that microencapsulation is not a new process but has not really been applied to hazardous wastes. Commercial equipment is readily available.

The Waste Management Committee met on September 16, 1997, to discuss the Silos decision and upcoming events. An RFP for Silo 3 is at DOE headquarters now and will then be released for public review. The committee will provide input into the RFP. There will be a Commerce Business Daily announcement for Silos 1 and 2 which the committee will also review. The committee will have a teleconference on Monday, September 22, 1997, to review the CBD. Sarno also pointed out that the committee will need to consider new plans to build interim storage for the Silos' wastes. There is no detailed information on plans for this now. While there are many advantages of such an approach, the committee is concerned that this may take away the incentive to clean up the silo wastes quickly.

Bierer notified the Citizens Advisory Board members that the DOE Community Meeting on October 14, 1997, will contain a tour of the on-site disposal cell.

Efficiency Committee

Bob Tabor, Committee Chair, announced that the Efficiency Committee had its initial meeting in July to outline the scope and direction of the committee. The next meeting is planned for September 27, 1997. DOE, EPA, OEPA and Fluor Daniel Fernald all attended the initial meeting. The committee will be looking at the distinction between remediation funds and overhead funds. They need to look at what is driving the funds and the justification for the expense. Bob Tabor distributed a letter to Jack Craig, commenting on the budget priorities for Fernald and the Ohio Field Office, for review by Board members.

In reviewing these priorities lists, the committee came to the conclusion that the remediation projects were in the correct order but that there were large numbers of overhead projects which would need to be completed before remediation could begin. The committee does not believe the 1995 recommendations of the Citizens Advisory Board.

Sarno asked for recommendations on changes to the letter presented to the group by Tabor. It was suggested that the phrase "This is too high" be punctuated by an exclamation point. It was also suggested that the letter go the Ohio Field Office and be that a copy be sent to Jack Craig. Rentschler proposed that a cover letter be provided to each person to whom the letter is sent to explain why they were receiving the letter. Crawford made a

motion that the letter be accepted with these changes. It was passed unanimously. The last sentence was amended to include the phrase "...this is an urgent matter."

Connie Fox wondered if the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board should be working with other CABs to set a priorities list. Sarno stated that it would probably come about as a result of the National Dialogue.

In order to appear to DOE as one voice, Bierer felt that better communication was necessary between the CABs and suggested a letter to the Chairs of other groups or a summary of activities be exchanged. Gene Jablonowski suggested a yearly meeting of the CABs.

Mitchell said that we should watch DOE headquarters very carefully since they were causing numerous delays. He reported that the Ohio Field Office still does not have a manager and the ARASA contract has still not been awarded. If the decision is not made by October 1, 1997, DOE will miss its deadline by three months. He said that DOE would also lose one million dollars if the Ohio Field Office contract with Envirocare is not signed by the deadline. Bob Tabor suggested that his committee send a letter to DOE. Crawford suggested that members visit headquarters.

Sarno commented that Fernald is unique in that many of the cleanup decisions have already been made, so now work can actually begin. He stated that we need to get DOE to focus in earnest on the cleanup work.

Fox suggested that we notify our Congressmen, and perhaps even the President, of the situation. Tom Rentschler expressed concern that the Citizens Advisory Board was no longer having an impact on DOE actions. He stated that he did not believe that he would be able to stay on the Board.

Sarno asked Mitchell to provide him with a list of the problems with DOE Headquarters and how each problem is impacting the site. Bob Tabor suggested that workers at the site be able to add additional problems to the list.

John Applegate suggested that a letter be drafted on these issues and sent to Secretary Pena and Assistant Secretary Alm. Many members thought other government officials should be made aware of the situation. Tabor suggested that the letter be followed up with phone calls and/or visits. Applegate said he would contact Alm.

It was suggested that the letter recall what the Board has achieved and what goals still need attention and that the letter be sent to Pena and Congress. The letter will indicate the fact that it was voted on unanimously and Applegate is signing on behalf of all members of the Citizens Advisory Board.

Rentschler suggested that the letter be issued to the media. Crawford said FRESH would do a follow up letter.

CRO Meeting

Daryl Huff discussed the events of the last Community Reuse Organization meeting: Several members have resigned, but CRO has appointed a few new members. CRO's grant has been approved and they have hired Kurt Paddock as a consultant to the group. He will officially begin on Wednesday, September 24, 1997, and will have his offices co-located with the Citizens Advisory Board in the Jamtek Building.

ATSDR

French Bell said that ATSDR was anticipating the release of the Public Health Assessment shortly. He suggested that the ATSDR do a follow-up letter to those of the Citizens Advisory Board addressing the effect of the delayed clean up on public health. He will also try to involve the Fernald Health Advisory Committee.

4. Membership Roundtable

Applegate explained that the issues in front of the Citizens Advisory Board have changed since the organization began. The issues have moved beyond the basics and have become more technical. For example, the decision by DOE to hold a monthly meeting is a move in the correct direction. Applegate noted that the decrease in citizen involvement in these meetings is not a result of disinterest, but rather an increase in the confidence which people have about the direction of activities at Fernald. He pointed out that the many members of the Citizens Advisory Board have been involved with the site since the beginning and are more familiar with the issues than people at DOE headquarters.

One of the first things the Citizens Advisory Board members should consider is their expectations of the Board. We must also make a clear path forward on replacing vacant spots on the Board. We need to decide how we are going to recruit new members.

Since the Citizens Advisory Board has more continuity than DOE headquarters, it needs to remind DOE of the Board's original goals. A copy of the original report should be sent to DOE headquarters and to the Ohio Field Office.

Citizens Advisory Board members need to decide how much time we want to spend per month attending meetings and working on the Board. Sarno provided handouts examining the range of time that could be spent per month. One evening a month was considered to be a minimum whereas three to four evenings/month was considered to be on the high end of the range.

Members of the Board agreed that the Citizens Advisory Board is likely to be around for a long time. Because of this, the following things must be done:

- 1) Monitor the progress of the group, both its accomplishments and obstacles
- 2) Remind DOE headquarters (and others) of the Citizens Advisory Board's goals
- 3) Keep the public informed of the Board's activities
- 4) Make a "report card" to determine how well the Citizens Advisory Board's recommendations are being met

With several openings on the Board, the Citizens Advisory Board must consider how to recruit new members. Ken Morgan noted that the spirit of the board is to represent the community as a whole, so all groups must be represented. He would like to see a member from the environmental community who is not already involved in the site. Many members felt that new members should be recruited from already involved groups, because it would be difficult to learn all the issues from scratch.

Sarno discussed the membership recruitment used in the past. He pointed out that this method provides more applicants than are needed and thus, the Citizens Advisory Board will have to turn qualified individuals down. This process could lead to the perception of the Board as exclusionary. He suggested that prospective members be approached by the Citizens Advisory Board ensuring that no one would be turned down.

Fox pointed out that the Board does not contain enough women or low income representatives.

Sarno asked members to fill out forms outlining what the Board *must do* and what they *should do* in order to better access the questions of expectations and membership.

Applegate indicated that he sensed that the Board feels they should keep the same type of membership recruitment basis, but should target individuals.

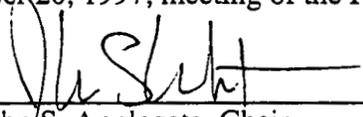
Applegate stressed the importance of attending the monthly DOE Community Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month; he encouraged all Board members to attend. The Steering Committee will have a short meeting after the DOE Meeting to determine what actions should be taken by the Citizens Advisory Board. Handouts will be provided to members who can not attend. The public attending the DOE meeting will also be invited to attend the Steering Committee meeting.

The next Citizens Advisory Board meeting will be November 15, 1997.

7. Adjournment

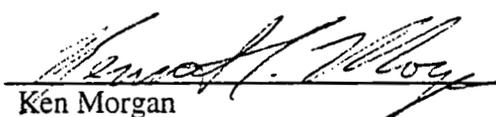
The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

I certify that these minutes are an accurate account of the September 20, 1997, meeting of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board.



John S. Applegate, Chair
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board

10/30/97
Date



Ken Morgan
Designated Federal Official

11/10/97
Date

11/10/97
11/10/97
11/10/97
11/10/97

Her voice restored, Nikki's growing up

When Santa comes to Nikki Johnston's house, he won't even recognize her. She's grown that much since last year. At 12, she's getting to be quite the young lady.

Nikki's a head taller than she was last Christmas. That's when thousands of *Enquirer* readers got to know her in this column, and many took time to come to her aid.

This year her huge chocolate-brown eyes are even bigger.

She wears glasses now — all the better to see her two boyfriends, Derwin and DeAngelo. "Knock, knock" jokes are her favorites. And she's booked on watching wrestling on TV with her dad.



CLIFF RADEL

She'll tell you about her busy life. Where she goes to school. "Margaret Rost." What she had for lunch. "A cheese sandwich." How she feels about being a cheerleader. "Happy."

And she'll tell it to you in her distinctive voice, a voice that comes from a talking computer.

You may remember Nikki. I

can't forget her.

Her story first appeared in my column a year ago this week.

Nikki has cerebral palsy. It keeps her from walking and talking.

She gets around in a wheelchair. She speaks through a computer. Walk into the living room of her parents' Cheviot apartment and she gives you a big grin and a wave. Then she lightly touches the color-coded screen with her left thumb and the computer comes to life. In a little girl's soft voice, it says: "My name is Nikki."

When she looks at her mom, Nikki has to press a button so her mother can hear the words:

"I love you."

Just before the holidays last year, thieves stole her voice. Nikki got sick at school and her dad came to take her home. When they reached their apartment, he put her talking computer down by the car and carried her up three flights of stairs.

He turned right around and raced down the steps to grab the computer. But, it was gone.

The computer was not insured. Nikki's mom, Toni, is a clerk at Christ Hospital. Her dad, Jeff, is a maintenance man. They could not afford to replace her computerized voice.

But the people of Greater

Cincinnati could.

One hundred forty caring strangers sent money to the Nikki Fund, c/o United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Cincinnati, 3601 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, 45229-2298.

Individual donations came from both rich and poor, in amounts both large and small. They totaled \$9,809.06. That's in addition to the \$7,500 Fluor Daniel, the company cleaning up Fernald, gave so Nikki could have her voice back in time for Christmas.

Since last December, the money in the Nikki Fund has helped 30 kids with problems similar to hers. It has allowed

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"Her voice restored, Nikki's growing up"
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12/12/97 08:30 PUBLIC AFFAIRS → DOUG SARRNO

Radel: Nikki grows with new voice

CONTINUED FROM PAGE C1

some to speak for the first time through a computer. For others, it's paid for special grips so the kids' hands won't have to struggle so much to play with a favorite toy.

Nikki the Super-Wrestler

When I saw Nikki a few days ago, she was on the mend. She had stomach surgery a week ago Monday.

"I feel achy," Nikki reported through her computer.

She pulled up her top and pointed to her bandaged stomach.

Because of the operation and a case of bronchitis, she's just getting back to school.

"My teacher's name is Lois," her

computer said at the touch of Nikki's fast left thumb.

Nikki's speech pathologist's name is Phil. He programs her computer.

Phil Nuxhall calls her "a speech pathologist's dream." He has worked with Nikki for the past three years.

"She works hard to figure things out. And she never whines. With her, if there's a will, there's a way. She's got a lot of spunk."

She needs it. She wants to be a professional wrestler when she grows up.

Nikki grinned as she pressed a button on her computer. Her thumb wiggled with anticipation as it touched a symbol of two people bruising each other.

"I love WWF wrestling."

Between giggles, Nikki groaned, grunted and roared. Those are her wrestler noises.

She made a muscle with her left arm. Then she sliced the air with a wicked karate chop.

Before things got too wild, I made a move for the door. Didn't want to have to explain to my editor how a 12-year-old got me in a headlock.

Nikki saw me putting on my coat. One more time, she touched her computer.

"Goodbye, Cliff.

"Have a nice day."

Columnist Cliff Radel can be reached at 768-8379; fax 768-8340.

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December 12, 1997

Cincinnati Enquirer

Metro, 1

"Her voice restored, Nikki's growing up"

Reporter: Cliff Radel



The Cincinnati Enquirer/Yoni Pazner

Nikki Johnston, 12, her voice lost to cerebral palsy, communicates with the world through a special computer.