



MEETING SUMMARY

Date: October 20, 2003

Topics:

- DOE-Ohio Management of Pre-1992 Site Records
- Building a Coalition for Meeting Post-Closure Fernald Community Needs

Attendees: **Fernald Citizens Advisory Board**

Sandy Butterfield
Marvin Clawson
Lisa Crawford
Steve DePoe
Pam Dunn
Bob Tabor

FRESH

Carol Schroer
Edwa Yocum

The Perspectives Group

David Bidwell
Doug Sarno (by telephone)

U.S. Department of Energy

Gary Stegner
Anne Wickham

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Donna Bohannon
Tom Schneider

Fluor Fernald

Joe Schomaker
Sue Walpole
Ric Strobl

Other

Jim Innis

General Updates

David Bidwell called the meeting to order and reviewed the meeting agenda. He stated that the main purpose of this Stewardship Committee meeting was to build on the conversation from the September Stewardship meeting.

Gary announced that the site is continuing to work with Hamilton County Parks regarding stewardship of natural resources at the site. The Parks Department is still interested and is developing a budget proposal. Gary also reported that the DOE Grand Junction Office has made preliminary contact with the Parks Department.

Joe Schomaker announced that he has furnished the Miami Tribe with information regarding the certification of site areas as clean. He hopes to hear back from the Tribe before the end of October. Joe also stated that November is Native American Month, and Joe has been asked to provide a keynote talk at a DOE Headquarters event. He will also display information on Fernald's archaeology education programs.

Tom Schneider reported that although discussions have continued, no clear progress has been made on resolving the Natural Resources Damage lawsuit between the State of Ohio and DOE. Tom stated that lately Bob Warther has been positive about settlement of the suit and the possibility of funding some type of public facility at the site.

David provided the committee members with a draft outline of the site's Institutional Controls Plan. The site recently provided this outline to the U.S. EPA, Ohio EPA, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. David will pull together a summary of key points for the Committee and ask Eric Woods to discuss the planning process at the December meeting. Anne Wickham explained that this outline conforms to the requirements outlined in U.S. EPA policy. Gary stated that the site would continue to solicit public input as the plan is developed. Steve DePoe directed the group to review Section 4, "Information Management for FCP Institutional Controls," because it addresses some of the issues discussed by the Stewardship Committee over the past year.

The group asked Anne when staff from the new DOE Office of Legacy Management would visit the site. She stated that they had not set a firm schedule, because a budget had not been approved for the new organization. The committee requested that it be included on the agenda for Legacy Management's next visit to the site.

Records Management Update

Anne Wickham provided the group with an update on DOE records management. She noted that the Office of Legacy Management would soon circulate draft guidance on its expectations for the conditions of records that will be transferred to Legacy Management by the Office of Environmental Management. Anne said that she would share a copy of any DOE guidance with the Committee.

Anne reported that Bob Warther has assumed responsibility for 22,672 boxes of Fernald records that predate Fluor's presence at the site, which began in 1992. Responsibility for the disposition of these records was removed from the recently revised closure contract with Fluor. Mr. Warther and staff from DOE-Ohio are working with NARA to review the content of boxes and assess how well they have been scheduled. Review of a sample of 500 boxes has revealed that approximately 30% of these records need to be rescheduled. Anne provided the committee with a table showing the number of boxes containing many types of records. She asked Committee Members who are

interested in being involved in the management of these records to contact her. She also invited members to visit the records center in Crescentville, if they want to check the content of any boxes.

Anne stated that she hopes that DOE can begin the destruction of some temporary records in January 2004. She stated that Fluor needs shelf space to be cleared to make room for active records. Ann also stated that she is committed to involving the public in the decision-making process for disposition of these records.

Ric Strobl stated that the photographs and negatives are still being stored in a climate-controlled room, in fireproof cabinets. The group discussed that a great amount of time would be required to scan the negatives and organize them. David asked if the site had researched what was required to turn photos over to a community group. Anne stated that they had not determined exactly what would be required, but she stated that the first step would be to declare the materials excess.

Coalition Building

David reviewed the discussions from the September Stewardship Committee meeting. The Committee suggested that the FCAB would act as a convener for building a coalition to address post-closure public needs at Fernald. Committee members wanted first to focus their attention on recruiting a small group of "rain makers," who could attract greater interest among other community members and funding organizations. The Committee determined that it must establish key messages and present them in visually attractive materials. Then, it can determine who should be contacted and assign committee members to cultivate relationships with those contacts.

At the September meeting, Pam Dunn asked if the agencies would provide a list of organizations with which they have made contact in the past regarding involvement in post-closure Fernald. David stated that Gene Jablonowski responded that EPA had not discussed these issues with anyone. Tom Schneider stated that, in the past, Ohio EPA has discussed these issues with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, and the Audubon Society. Tom reported that these organizations had not shown a great deal of interest in the past.

The group discussed key points that should be included in informational materials that could be used to reach out to potential partners. These key points are outlined below:

Purpose

- Protect human health and environment through ongoing community education and access to information.
- Preserve and communicate unique experience at Fernald: community-driven cleanup.
- Preserve and communicate role of Southwest Ohio in Cold War and impacts on community.

Background

- Summary of Site History
- Overview of Cleanup, Restoration, and Closure
- Community Vision

Givens

- LTSM Manager Designated by DOE
- Natural Resource Manager Designated by DOE

Community Needs

- Access to Site Records
- Up-to-Date Environmental and LTSM Information
- Environmental Education
 - Groundwater
 - Restoration Projects
 - Standard Natural History
- History Education
 - Cold War History
 - Community Activism
 - Health Studies/Health Impacts
- Native American Education
 - Historical Use
 - Current Significance (Reinterment)

Available Resources

- 1050 acres (minus the area covered by the OSDF)
- DOE funds?
- Building?
- Trails and parking areas
- Native American artifacts and sites
- Photographs and videos
- Cold War artifacts (at site and in the community)
- Community members and retired workers
- Living History videos
- Health studies/Fernald Medical Monitoring Program
- Established education programs and an established relationship with area teachers

Pam noted that there are many unanswered questions regarding what would remain at the site and whether DOE would provide funding for an education facility. She stated that these unresolved issues would be problematic.

Steve DePoe stressed that promotional materials should stress why a community-based organization is important. Gary Stegner stated that Fernald represents a unique national experience—a public-driven cleanup—which took place in Ohio.

The group discussed the fear that the negative publicity surrounding the site lately and longstanding stigma would dissuade people from becoming involved with Fernald. David stated that this could provide an opportunity for the committee to approach people with positive messages. Sue stated that there must be a committed community group that believes in this effort, in order to generate additional support.

The committee debated the appropriate starting point for their coalition-building efforts. David stressed the need to have well-connected individuals who are enthusiastic about the potential of the site and have access to funding sources. The group determined that it would be best to start with Congressional representatives and get their buy-in and support. A good angle for approaching political representatives is to discuss what resources and facilities are being provided at other sites. Gary also suggested that Representative Chabot might show an interest in developing an initiative for the University of Cincinnati to be involved in the site.

David stated that he would draft promotional materials and distribute them to the committee members for their review. At the next Stewardship Committee meeting, a strategy will be determined for making contact with the Congressional delegation. Gary suggested that Lisa Crawford should be involved in any meetings with the Congressional representatives, because she already has well-developed relationships with them.

Steve DePoe suggested that the Stewardship Committee and Fernald Living History, Inc. should combine their December meetings to discuss these issues. The Committee members agreed that they would invite Fernald Living History to attend its meeting on December 1st.

Next Meeting

The next Stewardship Committee meeting will be held in T-214 on Monday, December 1, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Topics for the next meeting will include:

- Discussion of the draft Fernald Institutional Controls Plan
- Review of promotional materials for post-closure involvement in Fernald
- Determination of next steps for building support for post-closure activities among Congressional Representatives

Action Items Identified

The following are action items identified during this meeting and the individual(s) responsible for completing these actions.

Action Item	Responsible Person(s)
Draft promotional materials and key talking points regarding post-closure involvement in Fernald	David Bidwell
Summarize the key points from draft outline of the Institutional Controls Plan and distribute them to the Committee	David Bidwell
Ask Eric Woods to attend the December Committee meeting, in order to discuss the Institutional Controls Plan	Sue Walpole
Contact Anne Wickham regarding interest in management of the Pre-1992 records	Interested Committee Members
Request that representatives of Legacy Management meet with the Stewardship Committee, when they next visit the Fernald site	Anne Wickham
Provide committee members with draft Legacy Management organizational chart	Anne Wickham