



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

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Fernald Consent Decree Finalized

On November 11, 2008, Judge S. Arthur Spiegel of the United States District Court, Southern District of Ohio, Western Division, signed and finalized the consent decree between the State of Ohio (Ohio) and the United States of Department of Energy (DOE) regarding natural resource damages at the Fernald site. This consent decree, together with the 1988 consent decree, constitutes a final judgment between Ohio and DOE in this case.

In the consent decree, Ohio and DOE have agreed to a \$13.75 million settlement for damages to the ground water below the Fernald site. In addition to this settlement, DOE spent \$14 million on previous work to restore the damage to the soil and surface waters. This settlement follows the \$4.4 billion site cleanup conducted by DOE.

Natural resource damages at Fernald included soil, surface water and ground water. Uranium and other contaminants were released to the surface water, air and ground water, or leached from contaminated soil, over a period of years.

The consent decree included a response to comments, addressing comments received during the public comment period on the draft partial consent decree. The final consent decree and response to comments can be found at <http://offo2.epa.state.oh.us/FernaldSettlement.htm>. To receive a paper copy of these documents, please contact Sally Brown at Ohio EPA's Southwest District Office at (937) 285-6025.