

Last Of Most Dangerous Waste To Leave Fernald

About time ... there have been some bad contractors at Fernald.

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The cleanup of a former uranium processing site from the Cold War era is reaching another milestone.

The last load of the most dangerous radioactive waste remaining at the Fernald site will be shipped to a storage site near Andrews, Texas, Friday.

Lisa Crawford, president of Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health, said the citizens' group can see the light at the end of the tunnel.

The Fernald plant processed and purified uranium for use in reactors to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons from the 1950s until 1989.

The raw ore stored in Silos 1 and 2 for more than 50 years posed one of the greatest sources of direct radiation to Fernald workers and was a concern to area residents. It was moved to steel tanks, treated and sealed beginning last year.

The final shipment of the treated waste marks the last major hurdle in the \$4.4 billion cleanup expected to be completed in August.