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Transcript

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Tape FLHP0097

03:00:57

Q:

Could you just give us your name and spell it?

A:

Okay, I use a first initial "D", and a second name L-O-U-C-E-T-T-A and last name R-A-T-H-G-E-N-S and I go by Lucy.

Q:

Great, and you can just talk to me like we're having a conversation. If you can just give us a little background, where you were born, just a little bit about your family. Those types of things.

03:01:27

A:

Okay, I was born in Bracken County, Kentucky, uh, Augusta, Kentucky in 1934, February 27. And uh, went to school there until the 9th grade. My father was with U.S. Shoe and we moved to Mayesville where I went my sophomore year. My junior and senior year I lived in Vevay, Indiana and that's where I graduated from high school and came to Fernald about two years after that.

03:02:04

A:

Got my formal education after being at Fernald for a number of years.

03:02:09

Q:

Terrific, and, um, how did you get your job at Fernald?

03:02:11

A:

Just came there and applied for a job and was offered three different positions and I chose the one that had the most math in it, because I enjoy that type of work.

03:02:16

Q:

And what was your first job when you were there?

03:02:24

A:

A clerk in the Quality Control.

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03:02:32

Q:

Tell us what a typical day at Fernald was like, um during your early years.

03:02:36

A:

A lot of record keeping I was involved in. Records of all the chemistry of the products of the plant quality and um everything was classified so any documents that we had, everything, it was either secret or confidential restricted data. And so a lot of time was spent stamping classification and we didn't discuss it with our families. That was not something you talked about.

03:02:36

A:

Um, it was a nice place to work back then the pay was better than most places in the area, the benefits were good, um it was like family environment because you got to know most of the people. I didn't plan on staying that long but I liked it enough, I stayed for 42 years.

03:03:32

Q:

Great, and um, you mentioned a family atmosphere, what exactly made it like a family atmosphere?

03:03:38

A:

Oh gosh how do I answer that? There was a lot of activities like bowling then, I think we had 14 bowling leagues, the NEAA had a lot of activities, company dances, and picnics and so you got to know everybody. Even if you didn't know everybody's name, you recognized everyone and um there was not the bickering, we didn't have a lot of the problems that they have today.

03:04:11

A:

So it was just a different environment that you work in today there.

03:04:19

Q:

And um what, if you could just go through your subsequent jobs what did you do after that. I know you had a lot of different titles.

03:04:27

A:

In 42 years you have a lot of jobs, I think something like 16 titles. Um, I went from being a clerk to being a chief clerk over the other clerks in Quality Control. From that I became an accountant, replaced a couple of accountants that left and then when the statistician left I took over as the statistician in Quality Control. Did that for a number of years.

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03:04:52

A:

Um, I worked for technical people that were degreed and I did a lot of the work, a lot of reporting and they made the money so I decided to go back to school. And, um I guess I started back, started Miami University in January of 1976 and got an associate degree in 1978 and my bachelor's degree in from the University of Cincinnati in 1982.

03:05:22

A:

Um, from that as soon as I had the associate degree I was offered a job in production. And I was working for a Bernie Gesiness and um, accountability I think they called it at that time and they were asking me to go out in the plant. And Mr. Gesiness says to me no respectable woman would go out in the plant to work but I realized that if I didn't do that, that all the education was for nothing. So I took 'em up on the job, I went to production and worked as the first female production supervisor, shift supervisor.

03:06:04

A:

I was in supervision in production for about six years and I think that brings us up to the time when we started having the problems with the auditors that came in from Oakridge that were not real happy with top management at that time. Personally, I think that they were looking for an excuse to get rid of National Lead.

03:06:28

A:

And I think the stack loss that occurred in Plant 9, was minimal compared to some occurrences that we had had earlier. And um, do you want to me go on from National Lead or do you want me to go back more about some of the things that happened the years under National Lead.

03:06:57

Q:

Well let's talk a little bit about National Lead first, what was National Lead like as a company to work for?

03:07:01

A:

I can only remember pleasant things, I don't have any sour grapes from working for National Lead. I think that back then that women didn't have much of a chance of achieving the success as men. We didn't have any women in exempt positions until probably, um, early 1980s and um, I guess, what else can I say about National Lead?

03:07:45

A:

We pretty much ran our own shop. There was very little supervision from DOE at that time, um; there was only one person there at the site with DOE at the time that National Lead left. Um, early on in the early '50s there were DOE offices there. A lot of people overseeing the job. But my involvement with audits that we always got outstanding ratings.

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03:07:45

A:

And when you walked in the cafeteria there were all kinds of plaques and awards how safe the place was and um I never thought of it as being anything dangerous, or unsafe, or evil or anything bad that it's been made out to be. I mean you always seen the cows out in the pasture and um, it just was, we had a lot of softball teams that played there at the site.

03:08:41

A:

Um, it was good years. When I was under National Lead, I did some things that I thought were a little outstanding that I might like to mention. I did the, in 1970, I did the first history of the site that was from the first receipt of ores concentrate that came on site to it being shipped off site and all the discards to the pit, river, to the environment stack losses.

03:09:24

A:

We did a material, I did a material balance around that to account for all the material and it was surprising how accountable we were for all the material and as I said we always did get good reports from the audits that were done. Um, I did several updates of that information and I think it was kept up until National Lead left and I don't know what happened with the information after that.

03:09:55

A:

But a number of times, I've been called in and asked to give statements about the information that was in those reports, and did we falsify anything. Did we throw away things that we weren't supposed to and no I don't believe we did, nobody ever questioned how much we throw away. When I say throw away, I mean discard to the pits primarily.

03:10:17

A:

Um, I think the numbers was as accurate as we could make it. One of my jobs as a statistician was to predict what went into the pits and then to follow-up afterwards. How close were our numbers to what we said they would, or what we thought they would be, and surprisingly, I guess they were very close. So it was, we were accountable for whatever went into the pits and to the stack losses to the atmosphere and the discards to the river.

03:10:50

A:

But, what else can I tell you, um as a supervisor, like I said I was the first to go out in the plant. We worked shift work and since I was going to school at the time, I had to work two third shifts to every one and I didn't work second shifts at all. So to start up the plant on the Sunday night, meant coming in and going to all of the plants starting them up.

03:11:31

A:

Usually we had four to five plants operating. Usually, um Plant 5 having the most operators, we had a few operators in Plant 9, a couple in Plant 4 and a couple in Plant 8. Um, most of my years that's

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where the work was going on. Later on it went to the refinery. But starting up my mean staying out and trying to thaw out in the night air and trying to thaw out frozen lines, whatever it took to get the plant operating.

03:12:07

A:

And you only had one supervisor to all the Plants, where later on, um; you had a supervisor in every plant but no so when you started up on midnights. My husband was not real thrilled with me having to come in there at midnight, being the only woman at the time, especially supervision. Later on I got a few operators. The, I've been asked about how did the operators treat the woman coming out on the plant.

03:12:39

A:

Um, almost never did I have any problem with that, they knew their jobs, most of them had worked there for many, many years. They didn't need me to tell them how to do it. It was just to tell them what they needed to do to meet the job assignments. They played little pranks on me from time to time, but it was all in good taste.

03:13:01

A:

Um, I got a lot of respect from the men in fact. Willie Davison was a fork truck driver, a black fork truck driver that worked for me and he called me Boss Lady, and I really appreciated that I thought it wasn't disrespectful. But then I mentioned pranks and so I will mention one of the stories that got around the site that was true.

03:13:28

A:

Was one of the nights they decided to put black graphite grease on the toilet seat where I used in Plant 5 and everybody found out that Lucy had a ring around her rear end that wouldn't wash off. So that was kind of interesting. Um, they would do little things like drop the handstacker and make it sound like the plant had blown up when it hadn't. And I recall being in trouble with my supervisors for evacuating the plant one night because we had the mats in front of the Rockwells caught fire because of a bottom blowout.

03:14:08

A:

And um, I thought that really the operators in the area should be evacuated, removed from the plant and bring in Fire and Safety people. And so the next morning when they looked at the log and saw that I had evacuated the plant, well my supervisors that was really amusing because they had never done anything like that before. Well it was interesting during the trials that Mr. Adams, who was the top manager at the plant.

03:14:42

A:

He was the assistant plant manger, but he was more responsible for production was asked the question about do you evacuate the plant when you have blowouts. And he said, oh yes, he said I remember the

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night that our female supervisor evacuated the plant. So then I became a hero that I wasn't the bad person that did something that I shouldn't have done.

03:15:09

Q:

Oh, that's great. Let's see if you could explain a little bit about the, that whole process about the Rockwell processes, and what those are and how they were used.

03:15:30

Q:

Well, Plant 5, um, received green salt from Plant 4 and we made charges to produce derbies, they weighed around 325 pounds as I recall. Solid metal almost 100 percent uranium and so you mix the green salt with magnesium and to um, magnesium fluoride? I don't know I can't remember exactly you're asking me something that went back a ways. But anyway we were making derbies and you put the charges with the green salt furnace pots in the Rockwell furnaces and occasionally we would have not a real good cap on the charge and it might blowout from the top or you might have a bottom blowout.

03:16:30

A:

In the Rockwell furnaces and from this you'd get a lot of smoke out in to the room. But occasionally you might have an electrical fire from it. And this is what happened that night, we had this electrical fire that got the mats that were on the platform adjacent to the Rockwell furnaces that caught on fire and I thought it really should be, um, a good idea for them to leave the plant. It didn't take that long to put it out and it was really no big deal.

03:17:05

A:

But I thought it was worthy of being safe.

03:17:12

Q:

And how many people did you have to evacuate that evening?

03:17:13

A:

I would say, I imagine about a dozen, there were probably a dozen workers on night shift in Plant 5 alone.

03:17:23

Q:

So tell us a little more about working night shift. Did you have to do inspections and those type of things?

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03:17:29

A:

Oh yes, I was given a check off list with all things I needed to do during my shift and it required making the rounds twice, um, this included going from one plant to another. I always started in Plant 5 because that's where you had most of the operators. Usually from there you went to Plant 9, then you went to Plant 4 and then Plant 8 and wherever else.

03:17:55

A:

But part of the requirement was that you had to go out and, go through the buildings that weren't being operated to make sure that you didn't detect any leaks, or spills or anything out of the ordinary that had occurred during the shift. You had to go out on the pads, we had the tank farm where we made inspection, um the um, the tanks in the refinery area, particularly you had to walk under the tanks to make sure that none of them were leaking.

03:18:25

A:

And um, as I recall when we first, when I first went out there we had bicycles, the supervisors had bicycles. So you rode through the area from one Plant to another and um, as time went on they gave us Cushmans, which, little electric carts that we were allowed to drive around from plant to plant.

03:18:54

And finally I was given a truck on the third shift. I'm sure the other supervisors had access to that truck too which made it a little more comfortable because you could have heat or you really didn't have much of a way of even keeping the water off the windshield of the Cushman, that little crank, no heat.

03:19:18

A:

One night I came out of Plant 8 on the bicycle and I forgot that the railroad tracks are right in front of the east side of the plant. And I'm riding a bicycle and it's pitch dark and I forgot about the- and I stopped in time not to have had an accident. But I don't know who would have found me because there wasn't anybody working out in the area at that time so you had to be kind of careful.

03:19:44

A:

It wasn't as well lit as it became later on.

03:19:51

Q:

And how about safety, uh what was the safety culture like while you were there.

03:19:56

A:

Well, I think I mentioned to you that we had all kinds of safety awards, um like I said the plaques in the cafeteria, um, I never felt it was unsafe. One thing we had the policy of the hourly people or any of the production people are expected to take shower twice a day. They changed clothes when they

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came to work and they took those clothes off at lunchtime and showered and put on clean clothes if they did what they were supposed to do.

03:20:26

A:

Now I'm sure there were people that broke the rules just as I'm sure they still do today. Um, they were given any kind of safety equipment they needed to work with, the respirators or goggles, or we always wore safety glasses, um you were not allowed to smoke, eat, drink anything more than just water out in the plant and you couldn't even take a pill. As I recall one guy took a mint into his mouth and got three days off.

03:21:06

A:

So certainly they were trying to enforce safety. And if people didn't do it it was their own fault that they didn't. Some of the people wouldn't shower like they were expected to do, they would rush through the water, um because the showers were on all the time, but they rushed through to get to their carpool sooner and didn't bathe. Some of the people thought that um, the dirtier they appeared the more work they must have done.

03:21:31

A:

So I remember them smearing green salt all over their uniforms some of them just to appear like they were working harder. Yes, so some of the people were unsafe but that was not what they were taught to do.

03:21:48

Q:

And how many women were working on the process side when you were a supervisor?

03:21:52

A:

Um, during my time as supervisor on midnights, I probably had two to three operators, sometimes one at a time, um; they were usually chemical operators. On day shift we had more. But when I first went out there I think there was one woman in Plant 6 that was the first female hired in the hourly ranks. But I didn't have any women at first.

03:22:27

Q:

Was there a ladies locker room at the time?

03:22:30

A:

Um, we had arrangements to use the restroom, um on the north side of the cafeteria. It was nothing more than just a restroom where we changed our clothes.

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03:22:49

Q:

So there really were so few women on site at the time they needed to do that (A: exactly) but it was such a small little area (A: right). Wow, that's interesting.

03:22:58

Q:

Um, let's talk a little bit about the transition period between NLO and Westinghouse if you could tell us how that all came about.

03:23:09

A:

I was on vacation in Florida in December the year that they had the stack loss in Plant 9 and I heard there were reports that they had problems at the plant. In fact, we had a couple of people call us on vacation and um, it wasn't very long after that they started talking about getting rid of National Lead and getting them out of there. And when it happened they took top management, it appeared at first like when they selected Westinghouse as the second contractor, it appeared that they would learn from what the past management had did.

03:23:53

A:

So they kept the National Lead management on site for a few months during the transition. But they put them in trailers on the outside of the fence and chose to ignore them. So they thought they really didn't need to learn from them and that they'd be able to handle it on their own. So they were treated as outcasts. And I was in middle management at the time and it had first appeared that it would continue just as we had before, we were told that that's what would happen.

03:24:23

A:

So Westinghouse came in, in like January. Probably December but really took over in January and uh, I had an outstanding rating in January when I was evaluated and by April they had taken my job away as supervisor. And I still had the title as Supervisor Special Project that was the title given to my peers that were some of that were in middle management like myself.

03:24:55

A:

And uh, I went to a training session up at Miami University where they brought in somebody from Westinghouse Pittsburgh and he made the statement that Westinghouse never fires anybody, that they just give them a special title and when they have a layoff they get rid of them. That was very comforting feeling to know that you were just waiting for them to get rid of you.

03:25:22

A:

But I think what helped was, we had good dedicated workers and I think they realized that some of us they needed to learn from. And I think as time went on we were more determined than ever to prove

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ourselves to them. So we worked long and harder than ever to show that yeah we were good workers and that we deserve some respect from them and I think eventually they came around to seeing it our way.

03:25:49

A:

Then do you want to go on to (comment – sure) the next time around? Well, most of us survived that were in middle management, I still was in middle management at that time, but uh, they again got rid of the top vice-presidents they called them and they kept us. And they showed a real interest in learning. They did lots of interviews of the people that were at the plant.

03:26:20

A:

Uh, they wanted to know what we did and how we did it and wanted our suggestions and what should they do. And they truly showed an interest in learning instead of coming in with this know-it-all attitude that Westinghouse had. And I think it worked better, I think the transition was better. But I think Westinghouse top management might have got a taste of their own medicine. I think they probably got the cold shoulder too sometimes from, from Fluor Daniel supervision, management.

03:26:51

A:

Uh, personally it didn't, I didn't have as much of a bad taste in my mouth for Fluor Daniel because I got more respect from them. Uh, I had some change in position. I was the first DOE directives administrator which was a job that had never been done before. We got lots of DOE directives, orders and nobody had ever followed to see whether they were really being followed or not.

03:27:23

A:

So I wrote procedures and I wrote the first DOE directives procedure for the DOE. And uh, my job, my responsibility was to see that the right people got the orders and that what was required was done. And that was, that was interesting.

03:27:44

Q:

So you were like a liaison sort of?

A:

Uh, yes with the um, the DOE and with the managers that were responsible for fulfilling the requirements of the orders. Yes.

03:28:01

Q:

Wow, that's a big job.

A:

But I decided how it was going to be done, how we were going to account for all of them, which there were hundreds of orders. And deciding who really need to see this. And I'd send them out a copy of

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the order and I'd say this has been identified as something you are responsible for. If you agree okay, how will you comply with this and if you disagree, if this isn't yours let us know and do you know who it should go to and if not where do we go from here.

03:28:31

A:

And then I, if I couldn't decide and they couldn't decide, then we held a meeting of the affected people to decide what do we do next. But I think we were in compliance for the most part.

03:28:47

Q:

Great, we're going to take a little break here and change tapes real quick.

TAPE FLHP0097

04:01:08

Q:

Um, let's back up just a little bit to, I understand when you were in Florida and you found out about the Plant 9 dust collector leaks and those types of things. Uh, there was an awful lot of press for a very long time about that particular happening and those types of things that were going on at Fernald, what was your reaction to that when it happened?

04:01:30

A:

A lot to do about nothing. Yeah, I felt somewhat, I guess I was maybe even bitter because I thought they're making like we're bad people like we've done something bad instead of seeing it for all the good that was done. And I recognize from following stack losses and knowing that the uranium didn't, anything from the dust collectors didn't get off-site 'cause uranium is so heavy it would not have been carried off-site.

04:02:02

A:

And I just truly felt like that we'd had larger losses than that and they were just trying to pin it on somebody and I felt like they were trying to get rid of National Lead. And I resented, I particularly resent, and I don't know if she came into the picture at that time, but I resent the people like Lisa Crawford, who was a runner adjacent to the plant who saw a chance to make some money out of all of this.

04:02:32

A:

And uh, and she ended up building a house just down the road from there. If she thought it was that unsafe than why didn't she leave the area?

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04:02:41

Q:

And there's been a lot of press I guess ever since that day.

A:

I feel like every time they don't have something else to put in the headlines, in the local newspapers, they put the Fernald plant.

04:02:59

Q:

Now you were also there for the day pretty much that they shut down the plant or the process of shutting down the plant. Can you tell us what that was like for you?

A:

Just a day? It wasn't like a day. It wasn't like one day you say we're operating then well I guess it did. There was a time when they called a halt and they said, we didn't know at that time it was going down permanently. When they went down because of, they went down in Plant 9, then there was other activities that continued. But when they actually stopped production, they stopped it with charges and the furnaces and some things that they ended up having to clean out afterwards.

04:03:42

A:

I thought it was a sad state of affairs when they stopped operations. But you know I don't think there was still a need for the product that there had been earlier. The nuclear powered plants were not being that successful. People were afraid of them. And they just weren't getting off base so.

04:04:05

Q:

And um, the times that you worked there I guess you would consider those the Cold War years?

A:

Well I worked there 42 years. I think I made a point of that earlier. So I took in, I started in '54 and I didn't leave until '96 and so yes, I worked during those years. But even working there in the earlier years, we didn't know everything there was to know either. It was on a as need to know basis and you weren't to go wondering around in other areas to know how to process actually worked.

04:04:43

A:

But I was in Quality Control so I knew what the product was from each of the plants. So I did know some of the process but I didn't know right away that our end product was being used for weapons. I knew that we were you know working for the government and I knew it was classified so I figured it wasn't for me to know everything. Certainly I knew later on.

04:05:08

Q:

And what exactly were the products that Fernald made?

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A:
You mean the finished product or the by-products?

Q:
The finished product. What did it look like?

04:05:20

A:
Well we made ingots, which were shipped off-site. And we made, we rolled the ingots earlier into rods and they were cut into fuel cores that were shipped off-site. So we either shipped the ingots or the cores, we didn't ship the rods. And then we made penetrators later on that was a special project. We made flats, they call them. They look like a large pillow, shaped somewhat like a pillow.

04:05:53

A:
Uh, I think we may have shipped some derbies off-site. They called them derbies because they sort of resembled a man's derby hat. Uh, that's what our product was. And that's accounted for when I did the history and reported on exactly what did we ship. How many and how many pounds and kilograms. How much U-235 was in the material.

04:06:24

Q:
And how pure was the uranium that Fernald was making?

A:
Very close to 100 percent. The product, yeah.

04:06:33

Q:
And how did they determine that?

A:
Uh, by drillings. They, the derbies was almost 100 percent pure. And so was the cores, the ingots. They weren't, now they're not, they're 100 percent uranium not 100 percent U-235. Uh, you want to know at the U-235? Yeah, um, probably the highest was I think about 2.1 percent U-235. Most of product was 0.95, 1.25. Yeah. Oh, we had normal too which was you know 0.76. 0.7112 is ore as it comes from the ground and so it was very close to normal not 0.76; it's more like 0.71.

04:07:41

Q:
And what do you see is the differences between the process years and the cleanup years?

A:
All the difference in the world. I can understand what you're having to do 'cause I was a part of that. 'Cause I said I was a manager and safe shutdown and my position was to write work orders, task

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orders to get the equipment disconnected and clean out the equipment. And uh, having kept track of what went into all of the holding tanks, the pits, the silos, the drums of material, lot marking all that, I wrote the, helped write the lot marking, color coding book.

04:08:32

A:

I can appreciate that there's a lot that goes into getting this stuff removed and sent off-site for the most part. I don't know that I can appreciate having to take up all of this soil and go that deep 'cause I don't think that it's that contaminated. I don't think it would cause anybody any harm if it stayed there. But I guess to satisfy the environmentalist that is a requirement today.

04:08:59

A:

And so many approvals are necessary in satisfying the EPA and the Ohio EPA. There's a lot of requirements, a lot of restrictions, a lot of paperwork and all this takes time. I don't know that I can understand that you have as many people there today as you did when we were in, I mean 2000 people. We got down to we only like 600 and were still in operation.

04:09:28

A:

And so I question some time whether all these people are needed. But that's not for me to question 'cause when I was in management I didn't want to be questioned either about that. They know more about what their needs are than I do.

04:09:41

Q:

And in your estimation how is the cleanup progressing right now?

A:

I really don't have a way of knowing exactly except from what I read about. And I certainly believe what I read in the newspapers because I know how that's distorted. Uh, with the train shipments and the rail car, or the trucks starting up again, I assume you're going about it as quickly as can be. Uh, I think the area is going to be in for a crude awakening when it's gone and they realize how much business it brought into the area and how many people they employed and all the money that was brought in because of that.

04:10:32

A:

It will certainly be missed. And I'd like to see something worthwhile done. I think the idea's of museums and whatever else they can come up with using it for, I think that's a good idea.

04:10:49

Q:

And uh, we mentioned the Cold War a little bit ago and uh, America had a very important mission during that time and how do you think Fernald helped America reach it's goal during the Cold War.

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A:

By our production. By our, I mean we were the beginning. We took the ore's concentrate and made it into a product that was sent to the other sites where it was actually made into the, where it was used in the weapons program. Except for the penetrators which were done in the later years but that was not the Cold War years.

04:11:27

Q:

So um, with increased production, how did that help, how did that help the goal of America?

A:

Increased production?

Q:

I mean with a steady good production.

A:

I don't know that I understand the point that you're making.

04:11:47

Q:

Hum, gosh. I guess my question is what, what exactly was America doing at that point to um?

A:

That they needed us?

Q:

Yeah. I guess that's kind of what I'm getting at.

04:12:01

A:

Well we were at war and we certainly needed some way to get out of the war and the atomic bomb was the answer so we helped produce the product that went into the bombs and ended the war. So what more can you say? I feel good about it. I feel good that I had a part of that.

04:12:25

Q:

Good. And uh, I'll just put, this is sort of a general question but, generally how do you feel about having worked at Fernald?

A:

Very positive. I resent having to leave the way I left. I would have preferred to have selected my retirement date. I resented the letters that were sent to those of us who had been there a long time that inferred that had no further need for us. That we had nothing to offer, that they needed different mix of people. But my years under National Lead were nothing but pleasant and I came out of it with a pretty good retirement plan and I took the buyout when it was offered the last time because it appeared like that was the best, in my best interest.

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04:13:19

A:

So I don't have anything bad to say now. 42 years and it still feels like it's mine. Sometimes I felt like it couldn't operate without me but I realize there's none of us that can't be replaced. And we're not doing what I did when I was there; you're not doing what we did then. I liked the production years better but I don't feel you have the need for it any longer. I hate to see all the money; taxpayers money being spent this way. But it has to be, so what more can I say?

04:13:55

Q:

Is there anything that you'd like to add? Anything that we didn't cover that you wanted to cover? Any stories you didn't get to tell?

A:

Well, only that I don't think there will ever be another woman work at the plant as long as I worked there. I worked there 42 years and there were some women that started before I did but they didn't make it 42 years and I don't think the plant is going to be there long enough for anybody that's there now to be there 42 years. So I can, I have some pride in having done that.

04:14:31

A:

I feel like I did accomplish a number of things on my own. The history reports that I did, my own accomplishment in getting my degrees. I think it's good that they're doing that now for people that are at the site to prepare them for future positions. Uh, my husband still works there. We're hoping for another buyout so he can get away. But you're going to be talking to him later; I'll let him tell his own story.

04:15:06

A:

But it was a good 42 years. I wouldn't take anything for it. Not many people can say they worked the same place 42 years. I have a lot of friends still today that work there and it's real sad when we find out we're losing some of them. So.

04:15:27

Q:

Great, well thank you so much for spending some time with us.

A:

You're welcome.

Q:

Do we want to get nat sound at this point? Okay. This is called natural sound. It just takes a second, and basically we just have to get the tone so we just sort of stay quiet and um get the tone of the area.