



Department of Energy

Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
1017 Majestic Drive, Suite 200
Lexington, Kentucky 40513
(859) 219-4000

JUL 21 2010

Ms. Maria Galanti
Site Coordinator
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
2195 Front Street
Logan, Ohio 43138

PPPO-03-960257-10

Dear Ms. Galanti:

RESPONSE TO OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY COMMENTS ON THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The purpose of this letter is to respond to Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) comments from June 22, 2010, on the *Community Relations Plan for the U.S. Department of Energy's Decontamination and Decommissioning Project at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant Piketon, Ohio* (Community Relations Plan). The Community Relations Plan was submitted in accordance with Section VI, paragraph 11 a., of the Director's Final Findings and Orders for Removal Action and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and Remedial Design and Remedial Action for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Decontamination and Decommissioning Project). The purpose of the plan is to discuss the means by which the Department of Energy will communicate its decontamination and decommissioning strategy and cleanup programs at Portsmouth with the Site Specific Advisory Board and other local stakeholders and the public. Enclosed for your review and concurrence is the Department of Energy's response to comments on the Community Relations Plan and the revised Community Relations Plan.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (740) 897-5020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi L. Wiehle".

Kristi L. Wiehle
Site Coordinator
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

Enclosure:

1. Response to Comments
2. Community Relations Plan

cc w/enclosure:

V. Adams, PPPO/PORTS

J. Bradburne, DOE/PORTS

L. Bauer, LPP/PORTS

J. Sferra, OEPA

PPPO Records/LEX

Administrative Records – DFF&O

**U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Response to Ohio Environmental Protection
Agency (Ohio EPA) Comments (06/22/10)
on the
Community Relations Plan for the U.S. Department of Energy's Decontamination and
Decommissioning Project at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant
(DOE/PPPO/03-0128&D1)**

GENERAL COMMENTS

1. Ohio EPA Comment:

Page 1 - Perhaps we should include an electronic link to the DFF&Os for D&D for the public or at least note that they are available in the public information center.

DOE Response:

Agree. DOE has provided the electronic link to the Director's Final Findings and Orders for Removal Action and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and Remedial Design and Remedial Action for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Decontamination and Decommissioning Project) (DFF&O) for the D&D project in presentation materials to the Site Specific Advisory Board, on informational public meeting poster/fact sheet, and in the public notice published in the local newspaper of general circulation. The following statement has been added to Page 1 of the CRP, at the end of the first full paragraph: The agreement is available both online at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/30/remedial/docs/dffo/DOEPort.pdf> and in hard copy at the Department of Energy's Environmental Information Center, 1862 Shyville Road, Room 207, Piketon, Ohio.

2. Ohio EPA Comment:

The plan was not clear how the SSAB will be notified and provided information regarding meaningful input. Currently, the procedure that is used is to provide the SSAB information during a meeting and then request input. Perhaps I am not aware of other contact US DOE is making with the SSAB and other public entities regarding key input to the process. I did not see where you expect the SSAB to provide meaningful input into the process other than during the public comment period. For instance, do we believe that the SSAB should be aware of sampling plans being developed, PRG documents being developed, work plans being developed, etc.? How are we to get meaningful input if the SSAB is not aware of the documentation needed to reach meaningful conclusions? Further discussion with DOE is warranted to ensure that the SSAB is able to provide the necessary input to the ongoing D&D and remedial activities.

DOE Response:

The interaction with the SSAB is discussed on page 14 of the CRP, second bullet. DOE does not expect the SSAB to be required to provide specific input into development of sampling plans, work plans and other technical documentation prepared by the technical staff and in coordination with OEPA, but will keep the SSAB informed as to the process and progress of the D&D actions so they can make more informed comments and recommendations to DOE. To respond to OEPA's comment, DOE has provided further details in this section at the end of the second bullet on page 14 as follows: As key documents, such as sampling plans, work plans, and other technical documentation are prepared on the D&D project and submitted to Ohio EPA, DOE will provide an overview of the documents to the appropriate SSAB committee, answer questions from members and consider their input during these outreach efforts. The intent is to assist the SSAB and members of the public to become better informed of the projects when they provide public comments during comment periods and for the SSAB to be able to provide more informed recommendations to DOE.

3. **Ohio EPA Comment:**

How often is DOE planning on revising or amending the plan? It may be necessary as we move through the D&D process to regularly update the plan to reflect current activities at the site.

DOE Response:

The following statement will be added at the end of Page 16 of the CRP.

Community Relations Plan Updates

DOE will update the CRP as appropriate when sufficient additional information or changes would dictate revising or amending the plan. The CRP, including any updates, will be made available for public review in the EIC.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
for the U.S. Department of Energy's
Decontamination and Decommissioning Project
at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Piketon, Ohio**



This Document is approved for public release per review by:

Henry H. Thomas

June 8, 2010

PORTS Classification and Information Officer

Date

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**COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN
for the U.S. Department of Energy's
Decontamination and Decommissioning Project
at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Piketon, Ohio**

June 2010

Prepared by
LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC
Managing the
Environmental Remediation Services at the
Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Under Contract DE-AC24-05OH20192
for the
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Prepared for the
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Environmental Management

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List of Acronyms

CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
CRP	Community Relations Plan
D&D	Decontamination and Decommissioning
DFFO	Director's Final Findings and Orders for Removal Action and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and Remedial Design and Remedial Action (DFFO) for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Decontamination and Decommissioning)
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
DOE EM	U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Management Program
DUF ₆	Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride
EE/CA	Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis
EIC	Environmental Information Center
GDP	Gaseous Diffusion Plant
NRC	Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Ohio EPA	Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
PCBs	Polychlorinated Biphenyls
PORTS	Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD/RA	Remedial Design /Remedial Action
RI/FS	Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study
ROD	Record of Decision
SODI	Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative
SSAB	Site Specific Advisory Board
USEC	United States Enrichment Corporation
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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Chapter 1. Overview of the Community Relations Plan

THIS COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN (CRP) for the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D) Project describes the processes that will be used to provide information to the public and methods for obtaining input from stakeholders on the D&D of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) facilities located in Piketon, Ohio. The scope of the D&D Project consists of a variety of potential activities including dismantling building contents and removing equipment, demolishing structures and foundations, and disposition of waste. The CRP is a required document under the *Director's Final Findings and Orders for Removal Action and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study and Remedial Design and Remedial Action (DFFO) for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (Decontamination and Decommissioning)*, an agreement signed in April 2010 by DOE and the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA). The agreement is available online at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/portals/30/remedial/docs/dffo/DOEPort.pdf> and in hard copy at the DOE's Environmental Information Center, 1862 Shyville Road, Room 207, Piketon, Ohio.

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN

The CRP for the D&D Project at PORTS:

- describes how DOE will inform and involve the public in the decision-making process under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA), and
- describes the variety of outreach and public involvement activities and how public participation will be coordinated.

DOE is committed to fostering meaningful public involvement in decision-making at the site. Interactive communication will enable the public and other stakeholders to learn about the D&D Project and to provide input to DOE and Ohio EPA. DOE is committed to reaching out to a broad spectrum of stakeholders. Stakeholders include members of the PORTS Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) and individuals, groups, communities, and other entities in the public and private sectors that are interested in or affected by environmental activities and decisions at the site. Public understanding, interaction, and support are important elements to the success of the D&D Project.

1.2 HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CRP

The CRP has been organized into three major sections to provide the following information:

- A capsule summary of the PORTS site;
- An overview of community demographics; and
- A summary of the public involvement activities under the regulatory requirements that will be used to educate and disseminate information to stakeholders and to generate meaningful public input on the D&D Project.

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Chapter 2. Capsule Site Summary

- A Brief History of PORTS
- Environmental Challenges
- Regulatory Framework for D&D Project
- Long-Term Outlook

THE PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT is located on a 3,777-acre Federal reservation in Pike County in south central Ohio. It is approximately 22 miles north of Portsmouth, Ohio, 70 miles south of Columbus, Ohio, and 4 miles south of the village of Piketon.

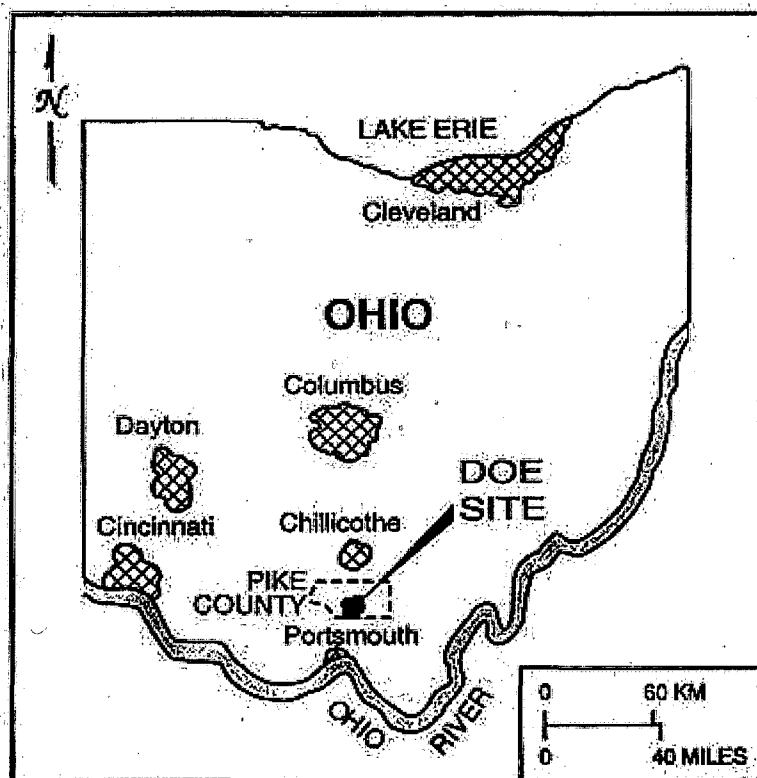


Figure 1. Location of Portsmouth Site in Southern Ohio.

2.1 BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PORTSMOUTH SITE

In August 1952, the Atomic Energy Commission selected about 4,000 acres of undeveloped land in the Ohio Valley, near the Scioto River, to construct the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant. The site near Piketon, Ohio was selected based on the availability of a vast expanse of relatively flat terrain as well as availability of large amounts of electrical power, a dependable source of water, plentiful local labor, and suitable transportation routes.

The plant was built to expand the Federal Government's gaseous diffusion program already in place at Oak Ridge, Tennessee and Paducah, Kentucky to increase the production of enriched uranium for use in nuclear weapons production and nuclear submarine reactors, and later to produce low-enriched uranium

for commercial nuclear power plants. The principal site process was the separation of uranium isotopes through gaseous diffusion, specifically to produce enriched uranium with a higher concentration of ^{235}U .

The three process buildings built to house the gaseous diffusion equipment include: Building X-326, which is a half-mile long with a 30-acre roof and 2.6 million square feet of floor space; Building X-330, which is a half-mile long with a 33-acre roof and 2.8 million square feet of floor space; and Building X-333, which is a quarter-mile long with a 33-acre roof and about 2.8 million square feet of floor space. Over 100 additional support buildings were also constructed between 1952 and 1956.



**Figure 2. Aerial View of Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant
Showing the Three Large Process Buildings**

In 1964, production of weapons grade uranium material ceased and the PORTS missions changed from enriching uranium for nuclear weapons to a more commercial focus. A gas centrifuge uranium enrichment program was initiated in 1979 at PORTS. However, a reduced demand for uranium enrichment services to fuel commercial power plants caused cancellation of the Gas Centrifuge Enrichment Plant in 1985 before full operations began. Production of highly enriched uranium for use by U.S. Naval nuclear submarine reactors ceased in 1991. After that date, PORTS produced only low-enriched uranium at approximately 3-5% ^{235}U for commercial nuclear power plants until production ceased in 2001.

The Energy Policy Act of 1992 established the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) to assume the uranium enrichment operations from DOE. On July 1, 1993, management of the uranium enrichment operations at PORTS was transferred from DOE to USEC under a lease agreement. The enrichment operation was privatized in July 1998.

USEC's decision to discontinue enrichment operations at PORTS in May 2001 prompted DOE to place the site into a cold standby mode with the capability for restart within 18-24 months. The purpose of cold

standby was to minimize any potential disruption in the nation's supply of enriched uranium. DOE later re-evaluated the uranium market and terminated the cold standby program at the end of FY2005. Since that time, DOE has contracted with USEC to transition the gaseous diffusion facilities into a cold shutdown mode. The D&D Project will address the gaseous diffusion facilities encompassing over 10 million total square feet under roof.

There continue to be other uses on portions of the PORTS site. USEC has leased the former DOE centrifuge buildings on the southwestern portion of the plant to deploy their commercial American Centrifuge Plant. USEC received a 30-year Construction and Operating License for the American Centrifuge Plant from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) in April 2007. Construction of a depleted uranium hexafluoride (DUF₆) conversion plant was completed by DOE in 2008 on the west side of the plant to process the nearly 24,000 cylinders of DUF₆ in storage at the site and convert the material to a more stable uranium oxide for reuse or disposition. Other smaller portions of the site are leased to the Ohio Army National Guard and the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative.

2.2 ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES

One of the primary environmental challenges for the D&D Project will be to address the estimated total 2.2 million yd³ wastes that are expected to be generated at PORTS. Under the D&D Project, DOE will develop, evaluate and compare waste disposition alternatives.

The types of waste managed at PORTS include:

- *Low-level radioactive waste* –radioactive waste not classified as high level or transuranic waste.
- *Hazardous waste* – waste that contains one or more of the wastes listed under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) or that exhibits one or more of the four RCRA hazardous characteristics: ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, and toxicity.
- *Mixed low-level waste* – waste that contains both low-level radioactive and RCRA hazardous constituents.
- *PCB waste* – waste containing PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), a class of synthetic organic chemicals. Disposal of PCB-contaminated materials is regulated under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).
- *TSCA low-level waste* – waste containing PCB and radioactive components.
- *RCRA Subtitle D solid waste* – waste that includes construction and demolition debris, industrial waste, and sanitary waste, as defined by Ohio regulations.

2.3 REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR D&D PROJECT

The DFFO was completed in April 2010, through negotiations with Ohio EPA and DOE, to establish a regulatory framework for addressing D&D activities at the site.

Under the DFFO, DOE will develop a Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) and Remedial Design/Remedial Action (RD/RA) for the three process buildings and certain complex structures at the gaseous diffusion plant (listed in Attachment H of the DFFO). DOE will develop an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) and removal actions for other structures and buildings (listed in Attachment G of the DFFO). In addition, DOE will evaluate site-wide waste disposition alternatives, including secure on- and off-site options for managing waste using the RI/FS and RD/RA process. See Section 4.7 for further information on the regulatory public involvement requirements.

The DFFO also describes that investigation and remediation of environmental media following D&D will continue to be carried out under an existing Consent Decree signed by the agencies in 1989.

2.4 LONG-TERM OUTLOOK

Environmental cleanup actions since the early 1990s have made progress in reducing overall risks at the site and will continue. The D&D Project will be a long-term cleanup effort over a number of years involving the potential full-scale dismantling of process equipment and structures associated with the original gaseous diffusion operations that are no longer needed, and characterization and disposition of the waste materials. Decisions on D&D actions and on disposition of wastes generated during D&D activities will need to be made. Public participation efforts will continue to be held between DOE and SSAB members, local citizens, elected officials, and community leaders on these and other decisions affecting the program

Chapter 3. Community Profile

3.1 LOCAL DEMOGRAPHICS

THE AREA SURROUNDING PORTS is primarily rural. The plant is located in Pike County, in southern Ohio approximately 4 miles south of the village of Piketon (population 1,907), and 9 miles south of the city of Waverly (population 4,403). Additional population centers within 50 miles of the plant include Portsmouth (population 25,500), 22 miles south; Chillicothe (population 23,420), 27 miles north; and Jackson (population 6,675), 18 miles east. Figure 3 below shows the relationship of the PORTS site to surrounding population areas. The total population of the area within a 50-mile radius of the plant is approximately 600,000.

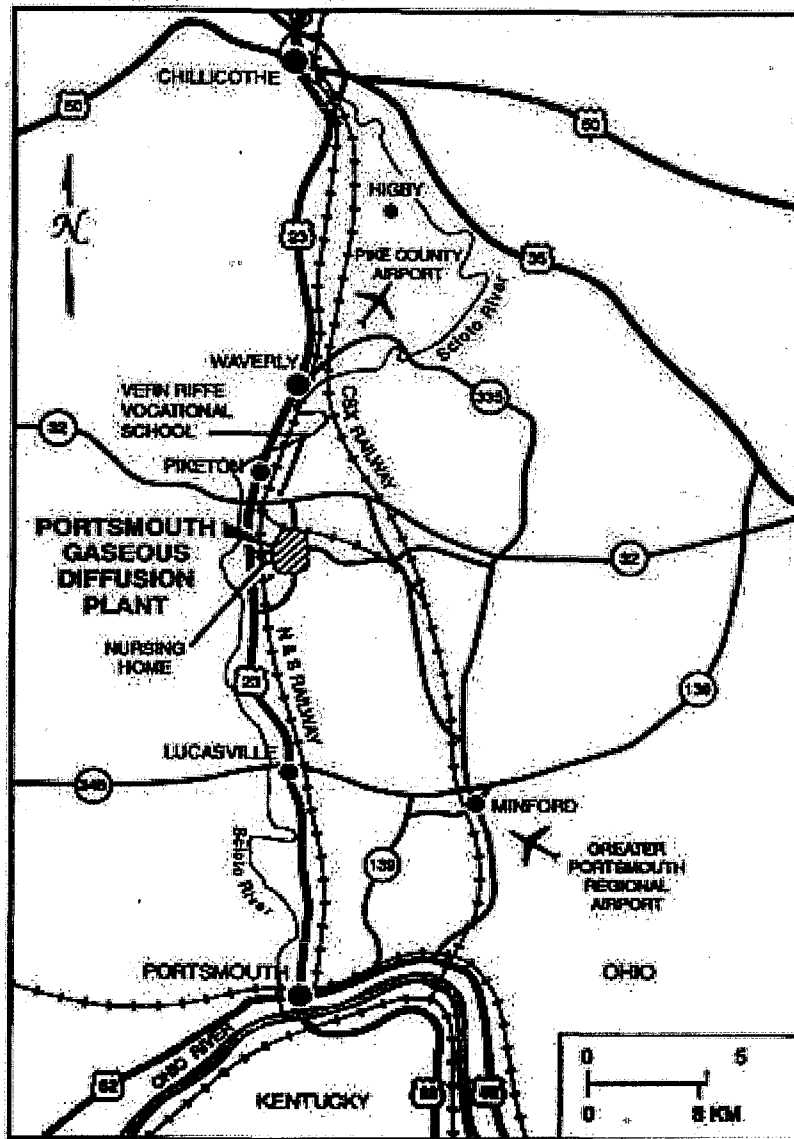


Figure 3. Relationship of Portsmouth Site to Closest Cities.

The population is sparse within a two-mile radius of the plant. Plant neighbors are primarily native Ohioans and long-term residents of Pike County. Plant neighbors who live in the two-mile immediate notification zone are within the plant's public warning siren coverage area and receive annual updated information from the plant's Emergency Management organization on actions to take in the unlikely event of a plant emergency that could affect the general public within two miles of the plant.

The plant is a significant employer in the region. The more than 2,400 employees at PORTS commute from as far away as Columbus and Cincinnati, but generally live within 45 minutes by automobile. The four surrounding counties provide about 75% of the work force. These four counties are predominantly rural and have faced significant economic hardships as noted in Table 1.

Table 1. Population and Economic Indicators in Surrounding Counties

	2007 Population	Unemployment Rate as of September 2009 (rank among 88 Ohio counties)	Percent of Population Below Poverty Level (2007)
All Ohio	11,466,917	9.7% (national 9.8%)	13.1%
Pike County	27,918	14.7% (3 rd)	22.9%
Jackson County	33,314	10.5% (48 th)	17.2%
Ross County	75,398	11.5% (30 th)	13.8%
Scioto County	75,958	12.1% (19 th)	20.6%

Pike County consists primarily of farmland (including cropland, woodlot, and pasture) and forest (including Pike State Forest and portions of Wayne National Forest), with urban and suburban areas occupying about 1% of the total land area. About 24,430 acres of farmland and 24,416 acres of forest lie within an 8-mile radius of the plant.

There are several educational resources in the region including the Ohio State University Research and Extension Center (South Centers) in Piketon, Ohio, Ohio University branch campus in Chillicothe, and Shawnee State University in Portsmouth, Ohio. The average percent of the population in Pike and surrounding counties that has attained a 12-year education level is 70.1%, lower than the state of Ohio average of 83%. The college degree or higher education attainment level in the same region is 9.7% while the state average is 21.1%.

Chapter 4. Public Participation Activities

THIS CRP FOR THE D&D PROJECT has been developed to outline the tools and activities used to provide public information and receive public input regarding the D&D activities at PORTS. Activities will be implemented to ensure that interested stakeholders have access to the information they need to understand the D&D Project and to provide meaningful input on the key decisions where public input is being sought.

4.1 HISTORICAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

Since 1990, DOE has engaged in public information and participation activities at PORTS to ensure that local stakeholders are aware of activities at the plant. These public participation activities have included:

- Operating a public information center since 1993 that now holds thousands of documents on the cleanup actions and decision documents on the remedies, as well as other reference materials;
- Conducting public update meetings on average twice per year;
- Conducting public workshops on specific topics of interest;
- Developing newsletters and fact sheets to inform the public of cleanup activities on-site;
- Making key documents available on the DOE and contractor web sites;
- Conducting periodic stakeholder interviews;
- Conducting hundreds of tours of the plant for organizations, local community leaders, and local, state and federal elected officials, averaging more than 20 tours per year;
- Providing speaking engagements to various business, educational, civic and cultural organizations within the region;
- Providing educational outreach activities to area schools;
- Issuing press releases and public notices to the media to keep the public informed on the cleanup program actions; and
- Establishing a Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) in 2008. The SSAB staff maintains a web site to provide SSAB meeting information, resources and activities (www.ports-ssab.org).

4.2 COMMUNITY INTERVIEWS

As part of the process to update the CRP and to review public involvement methods to be responsive to local concerns and needs, approximately 20 local residents, business leaders, environmentalists, representatives of the SSAB, elected officials, and Congressional field staff were interviewed in late 2008. They were asked about their knowledge of the site, how they obtained information about the plant, and what specific suggestions they could offer for effective communication techniques.

The following questions were used to guide the community interviews:

1. How familiar are you with the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant? Have you had any specific experiences that are important for us to know as we revise the CRP?
2. What issues or activities at the plant are of interest or concern to you?
3. Are you familiar with the cleanup activities at the plant? If so, what is your impression of cleanup activities to date?
4. How do you hear about activities at the plant?
 - 4a. Do you receive postcard notifications on DOE activities and meetings? Are these helpful to you?

- 4b. Have you attended the DOE public meetings on the environmental cleanup at the plant? Are these useful? What could be done to make them more useful?
5. Do you feel that you receive sufficient information about the plant? In particular, would you like to receive more information on the cleanup program?
 6. What additional information sources and formats would be most useful for you?
 7. Where do you generally go for news about the community? Do you generally find news about the plant there as well? Would you like to have more news about the plant in those mediums?
 8. As the plant makes more decisions regarding cleanup and the future uses of the property, what are the most important topics on which you would like information? What are the questions that you believe the public should have input?
 9. Do you have any specific questions about the cleanup program that you would like someone to provide information to you?
 10. Do you have any other suggestions for ways that the Portsmouth plant could improve communication?
 11. Is there anyone else who you feel should be contacted directly to obtain their input for updating the CRP?
 12. Are there any other questions or issues of concern that you would like to share that might be important to creating an effective CRP?

The results of these interviews are summarized below and have been incorporated into the public communication and involvement activities identified in this plan.

Environmental issues where stakeholders would most like to be heard:

- Determination of the future land uses for different areas of the site
- The identification of cleanup levels appropriate to selected land uses
- Overall safety and health effects of existing contamination and cleanup operations
- Long-term waste disposition, and any decisions regarding potential on-site disposal
- The effectiveness of methods for preventing off-site contamination
- The overall process and timing of cleanup decision-making
- Developing approaches for maximizing recycling and minimizing on-site disposal
- Ensuring that local voices really get heard in the decision process

Other key community concerns:

- The need to create jobs and promote local economic development
- Realizing the productive future potential of the site for the region
- The need to increase the investment and engagement in the local community by DOE and its contractors
- Concern that some key future land use decisions have already been made without public input (e.g., proposed transfer of some prime land)
- The need to establish a stronger local DOE presence
- Payments to local government in lieu of taxes
- Preserving and celebrating local heritage
- The need for greater transparency of information by DOE
- Create clarity among the different programs at PORTS such as DOE Office of Environmental Management, DOE Office of Nuclear Energy and USEC

Suggestions for communication tools

- Create more and better public meetings that are less top-down and involve more input and listening with more dialogue and interaction
- Hold public update meetings on a more regular schedule

- Use local bulletin boards to announce meetings and post information, such as at Post Offices, libraries, grocery stores, and YMCA
- Arrange for more site tours so that stakeholders better understand the site
- Arrange for public participation training for staff and other key stakeholders that can assist with public participation
- Greatly increase the DOE presence at the site and create stronger involvement in the community
- Create an email listing for those with email access
- Improve the web site and provide more basic information in easy to understand formats
- Create simple brochures in plain language
- Attend and distribute information at local fairs and events
- Keep and expand the use of postcards
- Establish communication partnerships with key stakeholder groups such as local and state governments, educational institutions, and faith communities
- More coverage in local papers and on local radio and television

4.3 ORGANIZATION OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ACTIVITIES

The information on the following pages identifies the diverse tools and activities that may be used to keep the public informed and obtain public input on the D&D Project. Many of these are a continuation of ongoing tools and activities, and others are an expansion of existing activities or new communication methods that may be implemented to enhance the public involvement efforts, based on input received during the community interviews.

4.4 FOUNDATIONAL PUBLIC INFORMATION TOOLS

A series of basic, plain language informational materials are instrumental in helping the public understand the scope and nature of the D&D Project at PORTS. In particular, these materials help stakeholders understand the history of the site and the process and decisions involved in the D&D Project. Key points for public involvement should also be clearly identified.

Portsmouth Public Involvement Process

Efforts will be made to make accessible and understandable public information available in the Environmental Information Center (EIC) and on the PPPO website. In order to help the public better understand the process and timing of decision-making and where they can expect to be asked for input, information is provided in Section 4.7 to describe the key steps in the decision and public involvement process during the D&D Project activities.

Environmental Information Center (EIC)

The DOE's Environmental Information Center is an information resource center used to provide public access to documentation, including those documents that will be generated under CERCLA as part of the D&D Project. DOE opened an Environmental Information Center in 1993 to serve as the Environmental Management Program's public information resource center. The EIC opened its doors at a new location in February 2007 at The Ohio State University Endeavor Center, 1862 Shyville Road (Room 207), Piketon, Ohio. Hours of operation are available by calling the EIC at (740) 289-8898 or e-mailing EIC@wems-llc.com.

4.5 ONGOING PUBLIC COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES

As the cleanup program progresses to include the D&D Project activities, regular communication with the public will become increasingly important. A number of key communication tools and activities support this effort.

Key Stakeholder List

Appendix A of this CRP provides contact information (e.g., addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses websites) for key government officials/agencies and stakeholder organizations that have an interest in or are affected by PORTS activities. The information in Appendix A is maintained as a separate fact sheet that is updated periodically.

Mailing Lists

DOE maintains a list of people who are interested in receiving information by mail and periodically advertises the availability of this list. Sign-up sheets are routinely provided at public meetings for those who wish to be added to the mailing list. The list is maintained in an electronic database and is updated regularly. The mailing list is used to announce meetings and events and distribute information and documents as appropriate. Those interested in being added to the distribution list can call the PORTS Public Affairs Office at (740) 897-2336.

Public Meetings

Public meetings are held as appropriate to update the public on current activities and receive public input. These meetings will assist the public in obtaining timely information on the D&D Project and provide the community with an opportunity, through various formats, to ask questions. All public meetings are preceded by ample and adequate notification and held at a location convenient to the community. Notifications are provided through postcard mailings, announcements in the media, on the PPPO website, and in key community locations approximately two weeks prior to a meeting when feasible.

Public Fact Sheets

Brief informative fact sheet updates are prepared as appropriate to coincide with specific projects and public meetings and keep the community up-to-date on the status of the program. Most fact sheets include contact information and the web site address. Fact sheets may be provided at public meetings, on the web site, and through other public information sources.

Bulletin Board Postings

As an additional tool to share announcements of public meetings, upcoming decisions, or available information, notices may be placed on public bulletin boards at a variety of sites throughout the region. These may include such locations as libraries, grocery stores, and the YMCA.

Key Web Sites

The DOE Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office web site provides information for the public on the PORTS Environmental Management Program. Fact sheets, brochures, announcements, public meeting materials and videos may be posted as they are available. Technical documents and other key reports may be linked from the site.

A listing of the DOE web sites and other informational web sites include:

- U.S. Department of Energy: www.energy.gov
- Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office: www.pppo.energy.gov
- Ohio Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.state.oh.us
- Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board: www.ports-ssab.org

News Media Activities

To keep the public informed, DOE conducts a variety of activities to provide the print and broadcast media with timely and accurate information. Information is distributed through news conferences, press releases, public service announcements, editorial board presentations, contact with individual reporters and editors, and providing the various media outlets with photos and videos for their use, as appropriate. Public notices are placed in local newspapers to announce meetings, availability of key documents, and public comment periods.

Public Information Contact

The DOE Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office Public Affairs Office (859) 219-4010 is the primary point of contact for public inquiries and comments about the program to avoid any confusion that may arise from multiple sources. Alternate contact will be the DOE's environmental remediation contractor's public affairs point of contact.

Site Tours

Because of security restrictions, tours of the site are available on a limited basis consistent with DOE security, programmatic needs and staff resources. There are no scheduled public site visits. Upon request, DOE has provided tours of areas of interest to certain groups, such as Congressional representatives, the SSAB, educational institutions, stakeholder organizations, and news media.

Community Speaking Engagements

General information on the D&D Project may be presented to various community organizations. These presentations allow for open discussion and participation while reaching large community groups. Such clubs and organizations as the Rotary, Jaycees, Kiwanis, PORTS retirees, and Chambers of Commerce often look for speakers for regular or special meetings. Other speaking opportunities may arise out of high school and college programs.

Administrative Record and Information Repository

The Administrative Record is the official body of documents that form the basis for the selection of a particular action. It is maintained in compliance with applicable requirements and guidance. The public Administrative Record is available in the DOE's Environmental Information Center (EIC). DOE publishes notices in a major local newspaper of general circulation (i.e., *Pike County News-Watchman*) to announce the availability of a new Administrative Record File.

An Information Repository is also maintained at the EIC and consists of additional documents that provide background information or reference materials on the plant's Environmental Management Program.

Maintaining Emergency Response Communications

Emergency response is managed through the PORTS Emergency Management organization. Annual updates of information concerning emergencies and evacuations are provided to residents within a two-mile notification zone. Contingency plans are in place to supplement the plant's emergency response through mutual aid agreements if necessary. Routine press releases, public meetings, and joint emergency drills are also an integral part of the emergency management program.

Developing and Maintaining Community Relationships and Partnerships

There are numerous organizations throughout the region that have served as conduits for public communication. As appropriate, DOE and its contractors provide information and coordinate communications with these organizations through presentations, mailings and informal briefings to the various groups and officials. Groups include:

- **Existing Community Organizations.** There are a variety of organizations throughout the community including labor groups, social groups, environmental groups, and local economic and business groups.
- **Portsmouth EM Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB).** The SSAB provides independent advice and recommendations to DOE on cleanup activities at PORTS. The SSAB meets to discuss key issues on the cleanup program and provide input at key points in the decision making. The detailed purpose and work plan for the SSAB are produced separate from this CRP. Meetings of the SSAB are open to members of the public to acquire information and make comments. Notice is given to area media in advance of each SSAB public meeting. A public comment period is routinely included on the board's meeting agenda.

To provide the SSAB with relevant information and SSAB input regarding environmental response actions, DOE

- Regularly attends SSAB bi-monthly board meetings and disseminates information through DOE project updates and presentations targeted to specific issues or actions planned at PORTS;
- Attends, as appropriate, SSAB monthly committee meetings to provide technical information, either upon request by SSAB members or as determined by the response action cycle; and
- Responds to SSAB recommendations in writing to inform the SSAB whether the recommendation is accepted and to explain the DOE's decision regarding the recommendation.

As key documents, such as sampling plans, work plans, and other technical documentation are prepared on the D&D Project and submitted to Ohio EPA, DOE will provide an overview of the documents to the appropriate SSAB committee, answer questions from members and consider their input during these outreach efforts. The intent is to assist the SSAB and members of the public to become better informed of the projects when they provide public comments during comment periods and for the SSAB to be able to provide more informed recommendations to DOE.

- **Local and State government officials.** Local elected officials provide key information to their constituents through their existing communication vehicles. Regular communication with elected officials is provided by DOE management.
- **Educational Institutions.** Local high schools and universities offer additional resources that can be used to create effective information, communications with students and faculty, and development of student projects to support public participation initiatives.
- **Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI).** SODI is the DOE recognized Community Reuse Organization for the PORTS site. The Community Reuse Organization was established to provide re-training and economic development opportunities in the region to mitigate any impacts from downsizings at the plant. DOE has signed an *Asset Transition Agreement for Economic Development* with SODI allowing the community reuse organization to serve as the single point of contact for the receipt and reuse, sale or other disposition of excess personal property and equipment authorized for release from the plant for community benefit and for expanding and diversifying the regional economic base.

4.6 PUBLIC INPUT TO KEY DECISIONS

Section 4.7 outlines the regulatory requirements associated with decisions that will be made under the D&D Project at PORTS. These requirements will be incorporated into the overall public involvement activities. To augment these requirements, additional and earlier opportunities for public input and information will be provided whenever appropriate.

4.7 REGULATORY PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT REQUIREMENTS

This section describes the public involvement under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) regulatory processes that will be followed for the D&D Project at PORTS. The DFFO completed in April 2010 between DOE and the Ohio EPA addresses specifically DOE's D&D of the gaseous diffusion plant. The DFFO describes the processes that DOE and Ohio EPA will use in making decisions to conduct D&D of the gaseous diffusion plant facilities. The scope of the D&D consists of a variety of potential activities including dismantling building contents and removing equipment, demolishing structures and foundations, and disposition of waste. The DFFO also describes that investigation and remediation of environmental media following D&D will continue to be carried out under the existing Consent Decree signed by the agencies in 1989.

D&D of certain GDP facilities at PORTS (listed in Attachment G of the DFFO) is being conducted following the CERCLA Non-Time Critical Removal Action process (see Figure 4). Non-Time-Critical Removal Actions are taken when a removal action is determined to be appropriate, but a planning period of at least six months is available before on-site activities begin. Under this process, the Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) is an analysis of alternatives for consideration.

D&D of the GDP process buildings and complex facilities (listed in Attachment H of the DFFO) will follow the CERCLA Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) process (see Figure 5). The site-wide waste disposition evaluation will also follow the RI/FS process. Public involvement is a key component of these regulatory frameworks.

Non-Time Critical Removal Actions

Non-Time Critical Removal Actions are taken when a removal action is determined to be appropriate, but a planning period of at least six months is available before on-site activities begin. Key points in the public involvement process are summarized in Figure 4. An EE/CA will be prepared and made available to the public for a 30-day review and comment period. Following public comment, public comment is considered and an Action Memorandum prepared which documents the removal action to be taken and includes a summary of responses to significant public comments. If an action alternative is selected, DOE implements the removal action in accordance with a Removal Action Work Plan.

Non-Time Critical Removal Actions have four principal public involvement points.

- **Information Repository/Administrative Record Establishment and Notification** – DOE makes the Administrative Record available for public review at the EIC at specific times in relation to the EE/CA and issues a notice of the Administrative Record's availability in a major newspaper of general circulation.
- **Notice of Availability/Description of the EE/CA** – DOE publishes a notice of availability and a brief description of the EE/CA in a major local newspaper of general circulation.
- **Public Comment Period** – DOE provides public notice of the EE/CA, initiating a public comment period of 30 days.

- **Responsiveness Summary** – DOE prepares a written response to significant comments which is available to the public as part of the Administrative Record.

Remedial Actions

Figure 5 depicts the key steps in the decision and public involvement process for remedial actions. The CERCLA remedial process includes the following pertinent steps:

- **Remedial Investigation (RI) and Feasibility Study (FS)** – The RI and FS are collectively referred to as the “RI/FS”. A RI defines the type and extent of contamination; defines risks to human health and the environment; and establishes criteria for cleanup. A FS is developed to evaluate options for remedial action based on data collected during the RI.
- **Proposed Plan** – Identifies the preferred alternative from those options developed in the RI/FS. The Proposed Plan is subject to a 30-day public review and comment period. A public meeting will be held on the Proposed Plan.
- **Record of Decision (ROD)** – The appropriate cleanup option is selected in a public document known as the ROD, which is issued and made available to the public through a notice of availability in a major local newspaper of general circulation.
- **Remedial Design/Remedial Action** – Following selection of a remedy for a site, DOE implements the selected remedial action according to a Remedial Design/Remedial Action Work Plan.

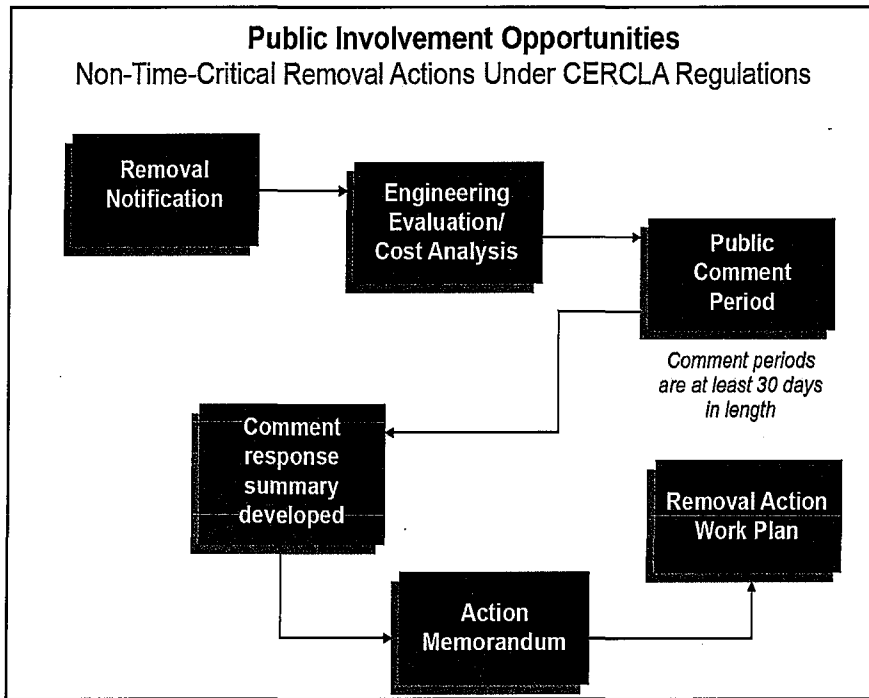
In remedial actions, there are opportunities for the public to gain information and make comments. Many of these are triggered by the completion of certain steps in the process.

- **Following Completion of the RI/FS and Proposed Plan:** DOE publishes a notice of availability of the Proposed Plan, including a brief summary, in a major local newspaper of general circulation (e.g., *Pike County News Watchman*). The notice announces a 30-day comment period for the Plan.
- **Public Meeting** – DOE provides an opportunity for a public meeting during the comment period. Typically, meeting opportunities are announced with the notice of the comment period. If a transcript of the public meeting is made, a copy of the transcript will be placed in the EIC for public review.
- **Availability of ROD** – DOE announces the availability of the ROD for public review and places the ROD in the EIC. Final remedy selection is incorporated in the ROD. The ROD includes a written summary of significant comments submitted during the comment period, and DOE’s response to such comments.

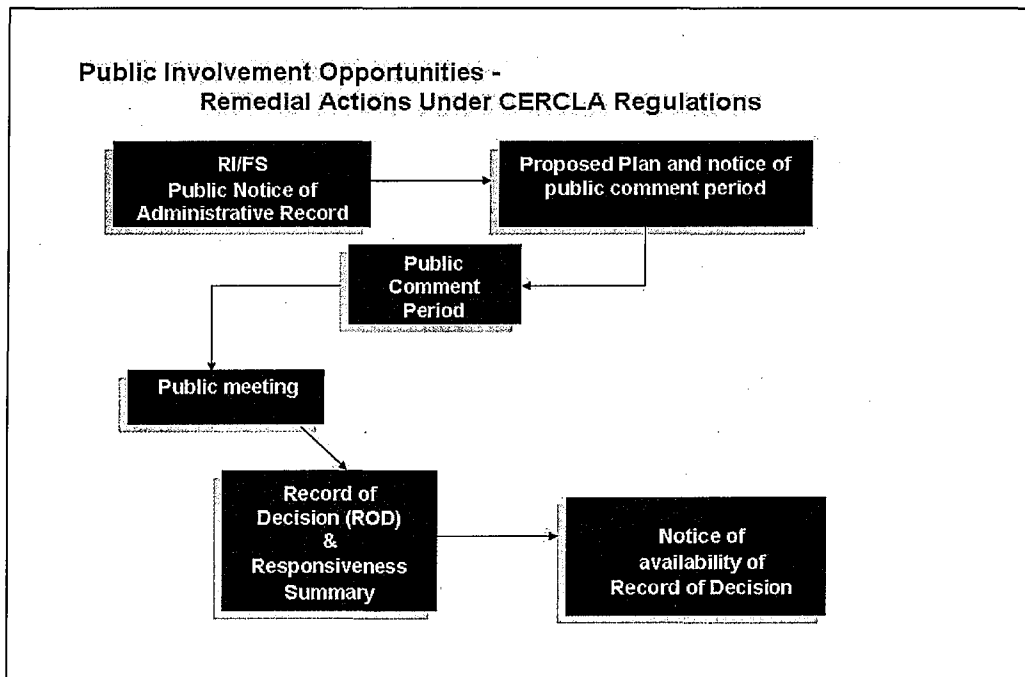
Community involvement requirements for remedial actions can be found at 40 CFR 300.430. Additional information about the community relations activities that take place during the remedial design/remedial action stage may be found in 40 CFR 300.435(c).

4.8 COMMUNITY RELATIONS PLAN UPDATES

DOE will update the CRP as appropriate when sufficient additional information or changes would dictate revising or amending the plan. The CRP, including any updates, will be made available for public review in the EIC.



**Figure 4. Public Participation Activities Under CERCLA
Non-Time-Critical Removal Actions**



**Figure 5. Public Participation Activities For Remedial
Actions Under CERCLA Guidance**

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Appendix A. Key Contacts

Key Contacts for the Portsmouth Project



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY • ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM • MAY 2010

United States Senate

www.senate.gov

U.S. Senator George V. Voinovich
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-3353
Fax: (202) 228-1382
E-mail: senator_voinovich@voinovich.senate.gov
Web: <http://www.senate.gov/~voinovich/>

Nan Cahall, District Director
U.S. Senator George Voinovich's Office
36 East 7th Street, Room 2615
Cincinnati, OH 45202
Phone: (513) 684-3265
Fax: (513) 684-3269
E-mail: nan_cahall@voinovich.senate.gov

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown
140 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3502
Phone: (202) 224-2315
Fax: (202) 224-6519
E-mail: brown.senate.gov/contact:cfm
Web: <http://brown.senate.gov/>
Jay Heimbach, Chief of Staff
Doug Babcock, Sr. Legislative Assistant

U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, Cleveland Office
600 East Superior Avenue
Room 2450
Cleveland, OH 44114
Phone: (216) 522-7272
Fax: (216) 522-2239
David Hodapp, Community Liason
Phone: (740) 341-7188
Toll Free: (888) 896-OHIO [6446]
E-mail: david_hodapp@brown.senate.gov

United States House of Representatives

www.house.gov

U.S. Representative Jean Schmidt (Ohio's 2nd Dist.)
238 Cannon Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-3164; Fax: (202) 225-1992
E-mail: JeanSchmidt@mail.house.gov

Stephen Caraway, Field Representative
U.S. Representative Jean Schmidt's Office
601 Chillicothe St.
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 354-1440; Fax: (740) 354-1144

**U.S. Representative Charles Wilson
(Ohio's 6th Dist.)**
226 Cannon Office Building
First Street and Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-5705; Fax: (202) 225-5907
E-mail: www.charliewilson.house.gov

Christopher Gagin, Dist. Director
800 Main Street
Bridgeport, OH 43912
Phone: (740) 633-5705
Toll Free: (888) 706-1833
E-mail: chris.gagin@mail.house.gov

Phil Roberts
U.S. Rep. Charles Wilson's Office
202 Park Avenue, Suite C
Ironton, OH 45638
Phone: (740) 533-9423
Fax: 740-533-9359
E-mail: phil.roberts@mail.house.gov

U.S. Representative Zack Space (Ohio's 18th Dist.)
315 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
Phone: (202) 225-6265
Media contact: Stuart Chapman

Cindy Cunningham, Field Representative
137 East Iron Avenue
Dover, OH 44622
Phone: 1-866-910-7577; Fax: (330) 364-4330
Office: (740) 779-1636
E-mail: cindy.cunningham@mail.house.gov

**Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development**

U.S. Senator Byron Dorgan, Chairman
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-3101
Phone: (202) 224-6621

**Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on
Energy and Water Development**

U.S. Rep. Peter J. Visclosky, Chairman
Room 2362-B Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-3507
Phone: (202) 225-3421
E-mail: peter.visclosky@mail.house.gov

Ohio Governor's Office

www.state.oh.us/gov/

Ted Strickland

Governor of Ohio
77 S. High Street, 30th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6108
Phone: (614) 466-3555; Fax: (614) 466-9354
Web: <http://governor.ohio.gov>

Jess Goode, Director of Communications

Phone: (614) 728-7327
E-mail: jess.goode@governor.ohio.gov

Keith Dailey, Press Secretary

E-mail: keith.dailey@governor.ohio.gov

Fred Deel, Director

Governor's Office of Appalachia
77 S. High Street - 28th Floor
P.O. Box 1001
Columbus, OH 43216-1001
Phone: (614) 644-9228
Fax: (614) 752-5006
Web: <http://www.appalachianohio.com>

Drew McCracken, Director

State of Ohio, Washington Office
444 North Capital Street, N.W., Suite 546
Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: (202) 624-5844; Fax: (202) 624-5847

Richard Cordray

Attorney General of Ohio
State Office Tower
30 East Broad Street, 17th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 466-4320
Fax: (614) 644-6135
E-mail: constituent_services@ag.state.oh.us

Elizabeth Scott

Ohio Department of Development
Governor's Regional Director and Director of
Economic Development
15 N. Paint Street, Suite 102
Chillicothe, OH 45601-3116
Phone: (740) 775-0612
Fax: (740) 775-0604
E-mail: elizabeth.scott@governor.ohio.gov

Ohio State Senate

www.senate.state.oh.us/

Sen. John Carey

17th Ohio Senate District
Senate Building
Room #127, 1st Floor
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 466-8156
Fax: (614) 752-7188
E-mail: sd17@mail.sen.state.oh.us

Sen. Tom Niehaus

14th Ohio Senate District
Statehouse
Second Floor, Room 038
Columbus, OH 43215
Phone: (614) 466-8082
Fax: (614) 466-7662
E-mail: sd14@mail.sen.state.oh.us

Ohio State House of Representatives

www.house.state.oh.us/

Rep. John Husted

37th Ohio House District
Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 644-6008
Fax: (614) 719-3591
E-mail: district37@ohr.state.oh.us

Rep. David T. Daniels

86th District
77 S. High Street, 11th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 466-3506
Fax: (614) 719-6986
E-mail: district86@ohr.state.oh.us

Key Contacts for the Portsmouth Project

FACT SHEET



Rep. T. Todd Book
89th Ohio House District
77 S. High Street
10th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 466-2124
Fax: (614) 719-6989
E-mail: district89@ohr.state.oh.us

Rep. Raymond Pryor
85th Ohio House District
77 South High Street
12th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 644-7928
Fax: (614) 719-6985
E-mail: district85@ohr.state.oh.us

Rep. Clyde Evans
87th Ohio House District
77 South High Street
13th Floor
Columbus, OH 43215-6111
Phone: (614) 466-1366
Fax: (614) 719-6987
E-mail: district87@ohr.state.oh.us

City Mayors and Elected Officials

Jane Murray, Mayor
City of Portsmouth
Municipal Building, 728 Second Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 353-5354
Fax: (740) 354-8809
E-mail: mjanemurray1@verizon.net

Scioto County Board of Commissioners
Scioto County Court House, Room 104
602 Seventh Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 355-8313
Fax: (740) 353-7358

Randy Heath, Mayor
City of Jackson
Memorial Building, Broadway Street
Jackson, OH 45640
Phone: (740) 286-3224
Fax: (740) 286-3492
E-mail: jackson@zoomnet.net

Jackson County Board of Commissioners
Jackson County Court House, Main Street
Jackson, OH 45640
Phone: (740) 286-3301
Fax: (740) 286-4061

Billy Spencer, Mayor
Village of Piketon
109 Third Street
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 289-8154
Fax: (740) 289-3565

Dale Reed, Mayor
City of Waverly
201 West North Street
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-5162
Fax: (740) 947-5454

Pike County Board of Commissioners
Chairman Harry Rider, Teddy West, Blaine Beekman
Government Service Center
230 Waverly Plaza, Suite 1000
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-4817
Fax: (740) 947-5065
E-mail: pkcoc@bright.net

Ted Wheeler, Pike County Auditor
Government Service Center
230 Waverly Plaza, Suite 200
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-4125

Joe Sulzer, Mayor
City of Chillicothe
City Administration Building
35 S. Paint Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Phone: (740) 774-1185
Fax: (740) 773-2072
E-mail: mayor@ci.chillicothe.oh.us

Ross County Board of Commissioners
Ross County Court House
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Phone: (740) 702-3085
Fax: (740) 774-1602

Labor Organizations

Bobby Graff, President

United Steel Workers
Local 5-689
P.O. Box 467, MS 1121
Pikeeton, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 289-2405
Fax: (740) 289-2126
E-mail: pacepres@intelliwave.com

Jamie Thorpe, President

Local 66
Security, Police and Fire Professionals of America
(SPFFPA)
P.O. Box 1020
Pikeeton, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-5918
Fax: (740) 897-2146
E-mail: thorpejc@ports.usec.com

Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development

Shirley Bandy, Acting Executive Director

Pike County Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 107
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-7715
Fax: (740) 947-7716
E-mail: mail@pikechamber.org

Marvin Jones, President/CEO

Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce
45 E. Main Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Phone: (740) 702-2722
Fax: (740) 702-2727
E-mail: ccinfo@chillicotheohio.com

Cindy Howard

Pike County Community Development Corporation
116 S. Market Street, Suite 103
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-4104

Christopher Mangold

Chillicothe Economic Development
35 S. Paint Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Phone: (740) 773-8032
Fax: (740) 773-8004
E-mail: julie.clifton@ci.chillicothe.oh.us

Lisa Carver, Administrator

Portsmouth Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 509
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 353-1116
Fax: (740) 353-5824
E-mail: lcarver@portsmouth.org

Randy Heath, Executive Director

Jackson Chamber of Commerce
200 Broadway Street
Jackson, OH 45640
Phone: (740) 286-2722
Fax: (740) 286-8443
E-mail: rheath@zoomnet.net

Robert Huff, President

Charles Herman, Chairman of SOGP Board

Southern Ohio Growth Partnership
P.O. Box 509
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 353-7647
Fax: (740) 353-5824
E-mail: sogp@zoomnet.net

Stephanie Filson, Director

Jackson County Economic Development
200 Broadway Street
Jackson, OH 45640
Phone: (740) 286-2838
Fax: (740) 286-9641
E-mail: info@JCEDB.net

Steven T. Carter, Executive Director

Scioto County Economic Development
Scioto County Court House
617 Court Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 355-1265
Fax: (740) 355-1262
E-mail: scarter@zoomnet.net

Key Contacts for the Portsmouth Project

FACT SHEET
EMI

Civic, Environmental, Labor, Business, and Stakeholder Organizations

Mark Keef, General Manager

U.S. Enrichment Corporation
P.O. Box 628
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-2101
Fax: (740) 897-2909
E-mail: keefmb@ports.usec.com

Dr. Rita Rice Morris, President

Shawnee State University
940 Second Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 354-3205; Fax: (740) 355-2470

Vina Colley, President

Piketon/Portsmouth Residents for Environmental
Security & Safety (P.R.E.S.S.)
P.O. Box 136
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 259-4688; Fax: (740) 259-3912
E-mail: vcolley@earthlink.net

Lee Crocker

Ohio Division of Forestry
345 Allen Avenue
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Phone: (740) 774-1596, ext. 8

Tom Worley, Director

OSU South Centers
P.O. Box 549
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 289-2071; Fax: (740) 289-4591

Richard Bebee, Dean

Ohio University—Chillicothe
P.O. Box 629
571 W. Fifth Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601
Phone: (740) 774-7222; Fax: (740) 774-7295
E-mail: bebee@ohio.edu

Geoffrey Sea, Co-Founder

Southern Ohio Neighbors Group (SONG)
P.O. Box 161
Piketon, OH 45661

Ray Roberts, Executive Director

Pike County Community Action Committee, Inc.
941 Market Street
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 289-2371
Fax: (740) 289-4291

Wally Burden

Pike County Health Department
14050 U.S. Route 23
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-7721
Fax: (740) 947-1109
E-mail: pghd@zoomnet.net

Craig Solle, Administrator

Pike Community Hospital
100 Dawn Lane
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-2186
Fax: (740) 947-6538

Donald Simonton, Director

Pike County Emergency Management Agency
2577 Alma-Omega Road
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-7346
Fax: (740) 947-7337

Steve Shepherd, Executive Director

Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI)
1862 Shyville Road
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 289-3654
Fax: (740) 289-4591
E-mail: sodi@zoomnet.net

John Hemmings III, Executive Director

Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission
P.O. Box 728
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 947-2853
Fax: (740) 947-3468
E-mail: email@ovrdc.org

Robert Walton, Director
Scioto County Community Action
433 Third Street
P.O. Box 1525
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 354-7541
Fax: (740) 354-3933
E-mail: bwalton@zoomnet.net

Dr. Chalonda Hill, M.D.
Southern Ohio Medical Center
1248 Kinneys Lane
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Phone: (740) 356-7685
Fax: (740) 356-6015
E-mail: hillo@somc.org

Dr. Linda Bauer, Project Manager
LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC
P.O. Box 855
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-2203
Fax: (740) 897-2280
E-mail: lbauer@lpports.com

Dan Rogers, Director
American Centrifuge Plant
USEC, Inc.
P.O. Box 628, MS 7560
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-4581
Fax: (740) 897-3509
E-mail: rogersd@usec.com

**Steven Moore, Esq.,
Project Manager**
Wastren/EnergX Mission Support, LLC
(WEMS)
P.O. Box 307
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-2401
Fax: (740) 897-2639
E-mail: moores@wems-llc.com

Mike Logan, Program Director
Restoration Services, Inc.
P.O. Box 448
Waverly, OH 45690
Phone: (740) 897-4310
Fax: (740) 897-2982
E-mail: mlogan@rsienv.com
mike.logan@lex.doe.gov

**Jim Wittman, Portsmouth Plant
Manager**
Uranium Disposition Services, LLC
3930 U.S. Route 23 South
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 289-3650
Fax: (740) 289-3651
E-mail: portsoperations@duf6.com

Portsmouth EM Site Specific Advisory Board

Val E. Francis, Co-Chair
108 Lock Street
Waverly, Ohio 45690
Phone: (740) 947-2206
Fax: (740) 947-4011
E-mail: vfrancis@roadrunner.com

Richard H. Snyder, Co-Chair
1 Overlook Drive
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
Phone: (740) 775-3477
Fax: (740) 775-3477
E-mail: snyders1@roadrunner.com

Key Contacts for the Portsmouth Project

FACT SHEET
EM

Federal, State, and Local Agencies

Stephen Helmer

State of Ohio Health Department
Environmental Health Services
P.O. Box 118
Columbus, OH 43212
Phone: (614) 728-3611
Fax: (614) 466-0381
E-mail: Stephen.Helmer@odh.ohio.gov

Stephen Johnson, Administrator, Region 5

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
Phone: (312) 886-3000
Web: www.epa.gov/region5

Gary Schafer - Chief, Federal Facilities Section

Superfund Division
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604
Phone: (312) 353-8827
E-mail: schaffer.gary@epa.gov

Timothy Fischer

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 N. Jackson Blvd., SR-6J
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Phone: (312) 886-5787
Fax: (312) 353-8426
E-mail: fischer.timothy@epa.gov

Chris Korleski, Director

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Lazarus Government Center
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216-1049
Phone: (614) 644-2782
Fax: (614) 644-3184

Craig Butler, District Director

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, OH 43138
Phone: (740) 385-8501
E-mail: craig.butler@epa.state.oh.us

Jim Sferra, Assistant District Chief

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, OH 43138
Phone: (740) 385-8501
E-mail: jim.sferra@epa.state.oh.us

Maria Galanti, Project Coordinator

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, OH 43138
Phone: (740) 385-8501
Fax: (740) 385-6490
E-mail: maria.galanti@epa.state.oh.us

Mike Savage, Chief

Division of Solid & Hazardous Waste Mgt.
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, OH 43216
Phone: (614) 644-2958
Fax: (614) 728-1248
E-mail: michael.savage@epa.state.oh.us

**Brian Blair, Division of Emergency and
Remedial Response**

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Southeast District Office
2195 Front Street
Logan, OH 43138
Phone: (740) 380-5259
Fax: (740) 385-6490
E-mail: brian.blair@epa.state.oh.us

Department of Energy Headquarters

www.energy.gov

Steven Chu, Ph.D.

Secretary of Energy

DOE Headquarters, Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20585
Phone: (202) 586-6210 Fax: (202) 586-7644
E-mail: TheSecretary@hq.doe.gov

Ines R. Triay, Ph.D.

Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management

DOE Headquarters, Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Ave., S.W.
Washington, DC 20585
Phone: (202) 586-5195
Fax: (202) 586-3695

Carol Borgstrom, Director

Office of NEPA Policy and Compliance
DOE Headquarters, Forrestal Building
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585
Phone: (202) 586-4600
Toll-Free: 1-800-472-2756
Fax: (202) 586-7031
E-mail: Carol.Borgstrom@hq.doe.gov

Department of Energy • Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

William E. Murphie, Manager

Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
1017 Majestic Place
Suite 200
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 219-4000
Fax: (859) 219-4099
E-mail: william.murphie@lex.doe.gov

U.S. Department of Energy, Portsmouth

Site Office

Dr. Vince Adams, Site Director
P.O. Box 700
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-2759
Fax: (740) 897-2982
E-mail: vince.adams@lex.doe.gov

U.S. Department of Energy, Portsmouth Site Office

Joel Bradburne, Site Lead
P.O. Box 700
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 897-3822
Fax: (740) 897-2982
E-mail: joel.bradburne@lex.doe.gov

Loretta Aversa, Public Affairs Officer

Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
1017 Majestic Place
Suite 200
Lexington, KY 40513
Phone: (859) 219-4010
Toll Free: (888) 411-2768
Fax: (859) 219-4098
E-mail: loretta.aversa@lex.doe.gov

1-800-382-6938, option 1

www.oakridge.doe.gov

Department of Energy • Oak Ridge Operations

Freedom of Information - Privacy Act Officer

U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001, CC-10
Oak Ridge, TN 37831
Phone: (865) 576-1216, 1-800-382-6938, option 7
Fax: (865) 576-1556
E-mail: FOIA@oro.doe.gov

Gary Hartman, NEPA Compliance Officer

U.S. Department of Energy, Oak Ridge Operations
P.O. Box 2001, SE-30-1
Oak Ridge, TN 37831
Phone: (865) 576-0273
Fax: (865) 576-0746
E-mail: hartmangs@oro.doe.gov

FACT SHEET

EMI

Information Resources

DOE Environmental Information Center

1862 Shyville Road
Room 207
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone: (740) 289-8898
Fax: (740) 289-1578
E-mail: EIC@wemis-llc.com

Hours of Operation:

Monday and Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon;
Wednesday and Thursday, noon to 4 p.m.;
Friday, by appointment only.

Center for Environmental Management Information

P.O. Box 23769
Washington, DC 20026-3769
1-800-7-EMIDATA (1-800-736-3282)
In the D.C. Area: (202) 586-5528
E-mail: CEMI@hq.doe.gov

Energy Employees Compensation Resource Center

1200 Gay Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662
Manager: Pam Mallory
Phone: (740) 353-6993 or toll free, 1-866-363-6993
Fax: (740) 353-4707
E-mail: portsmouth.center@rohio.com

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Appendix B. Information Repository and Meeting Locations

Environmental Information Center

The public Administrative Record and Information Repository are located in DOE's Environmental Information Center.

Environmental Information Center
OSU Endeavor Center, Room 207
1862 Shyville Road
Piketon, OH 45661

Hours of Operation:

Hours of operation change from time to time and may be determined by calling the Center at (740) 289-8898 or e-mailing EIC@wems-llc.com

Meeting Locations

Meeting locations will be determined on a case-by-case basis in order to provide adequate and appropriate accessibility to a particular audience. The following are local meeting locations that have been used for public meetings.

OSU South Centers Auditorium
1864 Shyville Road
Piketon, OH 45661

OSU Endeavor Center
1862 Shyville Road
Piketon, OH 45661

Vern Riffe Career Technology Center
175 Beaver Creek Road
Piketon, OH 45661

Bristol Village Activity Center
625 E. Fifth Street
Waverly, OH 45690

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Appendix C. Local Media Contacts

Newspapers

The Pike County News Watchman
219 E. Emmitt Ave., Suite C
Waverly, OH 45690
(740) 947-2149
www.newswatchman.com

The Jackson County Times-Journal
P.O. Box 270
Jackson, OH 45640
(740) 286-2187
www.timesjournal.com/

The Jackson Telegram
P.O. Box 677
Jackson, OH 45640
(740) 286-3604
pwilson@jcbipaper.com

Chillicothe Gazette
50 W. Main Street
Chillicothe, OH 45601
(740) 773-2111
www.chillicothegazette.com/

The Portsmouth Daily Times
637 Sixth St.
Portsmouth, OH 45662
(740) 353-3101
www.portsmouth-dailytimes.com/

The Community Common
616 Chillicothe Street
Portsmouth, OH 45662
(740) 353-1151
www.communitycommon.com

Radio Stations

WXIC, 660 AM, Waverly
WXIZ, 100.9 FM, Waverly
6655 State Route 220
Waverly, OH 45690
(740) 947-2166

Radio Stations (con't)

WXZQ-FM, 100.1, Piketon
P. O. BOX 894
Piketon, OH 45661
(740) 947-0059

WKKJ-FM 94.3, Chillicothe
P.O. Box 98, 45 W. Main St.
Chillicothe, OH 45601
(740) 773-3000

WPAY-AM, 1400, Portsmouth
1009 Gallia St.
Portsmouth, OH 45662
(740) 353-5176

WCJO-FM, 97.7, Jackson
235 Water St.
Jackson, OH 45640
(740) 286-3023

WOUB-FM, 91.9, Athens
9 South College St.
Athens, OH 45701
(740) 593-1771