



NRC NEWS

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NRC RESCHEDULES MEETINGS IN PIKETON TO DISCUSS PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT AND LEAD CASCADE FACILITY

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff has rescheduled two public meetings originally scheduled to be held in Piketon, Ohio, on Sept. 23 to discuss results of the agency's most recent reviews of the United States Enrichment Corporation's Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant and USEC Inc.'s American Centrifuge Lead Cascade Facility located at the same site. USEC Inc. is the parent company of the United States Enrichment Corporation.

The meetings are rescheduled for Thursday, Oct. 14, and the first meeting will begin at 7 p.m. (EDT) at the Ohio State University Endeavor Center, 1864 Shyville Road in Piketon. The NRC staff will discuss with company officials the results of the agency review of the Portsmouth plant from July 6, 2008, to July 10, 2010. The discussion will include performance in the areas of safety operations, safeguards, radiological controls, facility support and special topics.

In its review, the NRC found no areas needing improvement, but did note that the agency's inspection program for the facility will likely be revised because the company plans to turn several facilities at the site over to the Department of Energy this fall.

The NRC will also conduct a second public meeting at about 7:30 p.m., or immediately following the first meeting, to discuss the NRC review of the American Centrifuge Lead Cascade facility at the Portsmouth plant site. That review will cover the same areas as those discussed in the first meeting. The NRC found no areas needing improvement at the lead cascade facility. The agency will continue the current level of inspections based on the performance and the limited amount of material currently at the site.

Both meetings will be open to the public and NRC officials will be available to answer questions after the business portion of each meeting.

A copy of the Licensee Performance Review for the gaseous diffusion plant is publicly available online at www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams/web-based.html. The number to access the document is ML102370403. The document number for the lead cascade review is ML102370410.

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