



Portsmouth EM Site Specific
Advisory Board

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Recommendation: Request for an End Use Study for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

Background: The Energy Community Alliance's report "The Politics of Cleanup" emphasizes the importance of having a common shared vision by the various stakeholders to enhance reaching a viable end state for DOE facilities. With the encouragement of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the support of its Future Land Use Subcommittee, the Portsmouth Environmental Management (EM) Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) has discussed the feasibility of an End Use Study to identify and evaluate potential end states for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS).

Currently, DOE's long-term vision for the site is evolving and will depend on future decisions by DOE that consider input from its stakeholders. DOE's currently envisioned end state is reflected in the EM's lifecycle baseline. In December 1995, a future land use plan for PORTS was developed that incorporated the regulators' and community's input, entitled, *A Report to the U.S. Department of Energy on Recommended Future Uses of the Oak Ridge Reservation, Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant, and the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant*. DOE's project baseline follows the public's recommendation for an industrial land use scenario within Perimeter Road and industrial/commercial and recreational land uses for the remaining reservation outside the Perimeter Road.

The End State (ES) Vision is driven by the current and expected future land use for areas at and around PORTS and the exposures that may occur to potential receptors in these areas. The exposures considered in developing this ES Vision were derived consistent with the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) risk assessment guidance documents. These exposures, which are depicted in a series of conceptual site models and treatment trains, are based on realistic scenarios that consider reasonable pathways of exposure and expected potential receptor populations.

With the ongoing DOE missions at PORTS, and expected continued nuclear industrial missions through the Decontamination and Decommissioning of the former uranium enrichment facilities and the future operations of the DUF6 conversion plant, the industrial land use scenario is a likely end state land use for PORTS. In addition, Ohio EPA has asked DOE to evaluate land for future Natural Resource Damage Assessment (NRDA) consideration. It is believed that a mutually agreed upon End State Vision can be achieved that will both support critical missions at PORTS and ensure protection of human health and the environment.

DOE has made the PORTS SSAB aware of the potential for an Ohio-based institution of higher learning to conduct an extensive, community wide End Use Study for the PORTS site. This report would integrate public, regulatory, and technical community visions for the future use of PORTS. The End Use Study objectives of the Public



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Outreach Support includes, but should not be limited to:

- Identifying existing community groups (inclusive of minorities and special interests), organizations, representatives, etc, with which to engage and consult throughout performance; within a balance of the community at large.
- Developing community relationships and public outreach that will continue during and well beyond completion of this project;
- Creating a situation that reflects the interests, concerns, and questions of the target audience for PORTS; and
- Increasing awareness, interest, and understanding of the community, including, but not limited to the ethical, legal, and social implications of work activities ongoing at PORTS utilizing a reflective balanced community profile.

Recommendation: The Portsmouth EM Site Specific Advisory Board recommends that the DOE go forward with the use of an Ohio-based institution of higher learning for the process of conducting a Community wide End Use Study. The SSAB feels that it is imperative that DOE consider the following items crucial to the success of this endeavor:

- Engaging community groups to facilitate a dialogue to identify questions, concerns, and education needs related to PORTS;
- Establishing methods and opportunities by which community members can participate and contribute to the planning of and activities ongoing at PORTS (examples of methods are structured public involvement, empowerment education models, and community-based participatory communication methods; and
- Allowing collaboration with the community on program development and implementation.