

Department of Energy

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NOV 8 2011

Mr. Richard Snyder, Chair
Mr. Val Francis, Vice Chair
Portsmouth EM Site Specific Advisory Board
1862 Shyville Road
Piketon, OH 45661

PPPO-03-1307322-12

Dear Sirs:

RECOMMENDATION 11-02: THE CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-PURPOSE FACILITY FOR U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND COMMUNITY NEEDS

Reference: Letter to J. Bradburne from R. Snyder and L. Parker, "Recommendation 11-02: The Construction of a multi-purpose facility for U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and community needs", dated July 8, 2011

This correspondence is written in response to the U. S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Environmental Management (EM) Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Recommendation 11-02. The department acknowledges the SSAB's recommendation.

The DOE Portsmouth Project Office (the department) agrees that the SSAB's recommended multi-purpose facility could potentially benefit the department and the community. However, the department cannot fully agree to such a development until more information is available to determine what is practical and cost efficient.

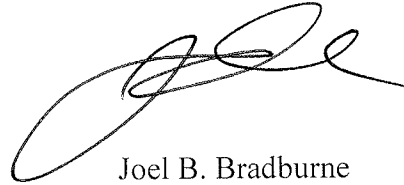
The department and its contractors are working in concert with the community to establish a future site configuration vision. The department is also evaluating its space needs for the current decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) mission and its projected long-term site requirements.

That determination is being made in a changing climate where contractors are transitioning, facilities have just been returned to the department from the United States Enrichment Corporation, regulatory guidance is being developed, and future site missions are being evaluated.

The department will consider all aspects of the SSAB recommendation – work space, a central location for public meetings related to plant developments, a permanent home for the Environmental Information Center (EIC), and a location for the preservation and display of plant artifacts and other historical elements. DOE will also explore partnerships in this effort.

The department will provide status updates and continue dialogue with the SSAB on this matter. As always, the department genuinely appreciates the work of the SSAB and we look forward to working on this and other issues as we move forward.

Sincerely,



Joel B. Bradburne
Portsmouth Site Lead
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

cc:
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