



PORTSMOUTH EM SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

•OSU Endeavor Center• 1862 Shyville Road • Piketon, Ohio 45661 • (740) 289-5249 •

Proposed Agenda for June 23, 2026 Board Meeting

Chair

Donna Carson

Co-Vice Chair

Herman Potter

Board Members

David Adams
Sam Brady
Tonia Brown
Angel Glass
Chandler Grooms
John Hemmings
Mike Milam
Lisa Pfeifer
Beth Workman

6:00 pm

Call to order, introductions
Review of agenda

DOE Comments

Federal Coordinator Comments-Greg Simonton

Liaison Comments

Presentation

- DUF6 Update
- Impact of DOE Educational Outreach-Justin Howard, Life Sciences at Valley High School

Administrative Issues

- EM SSAB Draft Recommendation Reuse and Recycling

Deputy Designated

Federal Official
Greg Simonton

15 Minute Public Comment Period

Final Comments from the Board

Adjourn

DOE Federal Coordinator

Support Services

EHI Consultants, Inc.
1862 Shyville Road
Piketon, OH 45661
Phone 740.289.5249
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PORTSMOUTH SITE ADVISORY BOARD

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
June 23, 2026**

**1862 Shyville Road
Room 160
Piketon, OH 45661**

***The following minutes of the Portsmouth SSAB
board meeting are certified by***

**Donna Carson, Board Chair
Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board**

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ASER – Annual Site Environmental Report
DDFO – Deputy Designated Federal Officer
DOE – U.S. Department of Energy
EM – (DOE) Office of Environmental Management
EM SSAB – Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory
EPA- Environmental Protection Agency
FACA – Federal Advisory Committee Act
Portsmouth – (DOE) Portsmouth Site
PORTS SSAB – Portsmouth Site-Specific Advisory Board
PPPO –Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
SSAB – Site-Specific Advisory Board

APPENDIX

Appendix 1 Presentation: DUF6 Update

Appendix 2 Presentation: Impact of DOE Educational Outreach

Appendix 3 Recommendation: EM SSAB Chairs Recommendation Reuse and Recycling

Appendix 4 Written Comment: Submitted by Gina Doyle

PARTICIPANTS

Site-Specific Advisory Board: **David Adams**, Board Member; **Donna Carson**, Chair; **Sam Brady**, Board Member; **Tonia Brown**, Board Member; **Angel Glass**, Board Member; **Chandler Grooms**, Board Member; **Mike Milam**, Board Member; **Lisa Pfeifer**, Board Member; Absent **John Hemming**, Board Member; **Herman Potter**, Vice-Chair; **Beth Workman**, Board Member.

U.S. Department of Energy: **Jud Lilly**, Interim PORTS Site Lead; **Greg Simonton**, DDFO, **Chris Richards**.

Department of Energy Contractors: **Melissa Green**, Enterprise Technical Assistance Services (ETAS); **Julie Galloway**, Staff; **Cindy Lewis**, Staff; **Eric Roberts**, Meeting Facilitator

Board Liaisons: **Sean Kubera**, Ohio Department of Health (ODH); **Amber Pratt**, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA); **Harry Kallipolitis**, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)

Public: **Lee Blackburn**; **Vina Colley**, PRESS/NNWS; **Diana Cahall**, **Pat Marida**, **Matt Weber**, **Margo Lee**, and **John Saluke**; **Justin Howard**, Life Science at Valley High School and **Tyler Carver**, Valley High School graduate

MEETING MINUTES

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management (EM) Portsmouth Site-Specific Advisory Board (PORTS SSAB) meeting was held in Piketon, Ohio, and was also streamed virtually via YouTube. Participants included EM SSAB leadership, support staff, DOE contractors, and the public. The meeting was open to the public and conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA).

Recordings of this meeting can be viewed on YouTube at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=portsmouth+site+specific+advisory+board

Opening Remarks:

Ms. Donna Carson, opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Eric Roberts, contractor for the Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office (PPPO), welcomed attendees and reviewed the meeting's ground rules.

All board members introduced themselves.

Agenda:

Mr. Eric Roberts asked board members if any changes or alterations were needed to the agenda. Seeing none.

DOE Comments:

Mr. Greg Simonton welcomed Justin Howard and Tyler Carver from Valley High School as guests for the evening.

Liaison Comments:

Mr. Sean Kubera, Ohio Department of Health (ODH), said he had no comments.

Ms. Amber Pratt, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), said she had no comments.

Mr. Harry Kallipolitis, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) said he had no comments.

Presentations:

Impact of DOE Education Outreach-Justin Howard, Life Science at Valley High School and Tyler Carver, former Valley High School Student, See Appendix 1

Mr. Eric Roberts asked: During the ASER project, you have gone through large volumes of data and crunched numbers, like a college research project. Do you feel like this will give you an advantage over other college freshmen?

Mr. Tyler Carver stated: without a doubt. During this project, you learn communication skills and develop presentation and research skills. You take a report and break it down enough for a person that has never seen the ASER report.

Mr. Eric Roberts asked: Can you talk about the kind of cultural education experience your students get when they travel to Washington, D.C., to compete in the National Science Bowl?

Mr. Justin Howard stated: We have a lot of students seeing a lot of firsts. Some students have never been on a plane or been able to visit Washington, D.C. This would not have happened if we didn't have programs like the Science Bowl. Competing against those teams from around the country is mind-blowing. It is hard to compete with them; however, interacting with these other schools is a great opportunity for students in our area.

Mr. Greg Simonton stated: you both did an excellent job. In the education world where the state is driving things towards standardization, towards data, towards district grade cards, we are fortunate that every one of the schools that participates has teachers like Mr. Howard that love what they do and love their kids; you can see it, and you can hear it. They are going outside the state-approved curriculum. They are taking time out of all their lives to do this, and it is for the kids. The kids get exposed to unique opportunities. It is exactly what we hoped for when we started down this path. I just want to say thank you for your dedication to your students and to these programs.

DUF6 Update-Chris Richards, See Appendix 2

Mr. Mike Milam asked: are there any impurities?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: there are very minimal impurities at all. At a 50% concentration, we sell about 4748, but at that concentration, with very few chemical reactions, the material we are processing is very pure UF₆. All the oxides that stay are really the chemical reactions, and only the HF is stripped out.

Ms. Lisa Pfeifer asked: how long does it take to pull a cylinder out of the yard and have it go through the whole conversion process?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: the process takes about 24 hours; one line can convert one cylinder per day. As far as pulling it out of the yard, it depends where it is at. We have a process in which we characterize the cylinders. We try to process the lower assay materials first.

Ms. Donna Carson asked: if part of the material from a cylinder goes into a tanker and the rest of the material goes back into the emptied cylinder, does that leave room in the reused cylinder for product from another cylinder?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: it is a one-to-one ratio. Because through the reaction of the uranium oxide, it's a lot fluffier, a lot less dense material. We run it through a roll compactor to recompress the material, so we get much less fluffy material, and in the process, you get rid of the oxide. Without the process, it is about a one-to-two ratio.

Mr. Judd Lilly asked: where does the oxide cylinders go for disposal?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: we only ship to WCS in West Texas.

Mr. David Adams asked: in step eight of the process, when you ship it out, what do they use it for?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: it is a fluoride, so it is used in many different cleaning products.

Ms. Donna Carson asked: you initially started out with 67,000 cylinders, so what are you down to now? How long have you been doing this?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: we have processed a little over 10,000, so we are down to 57,000. We started operations in 2012 -2013.

Ms. Angel Glass asked: are we still using the same process we did in 2013?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: the fundamental process, the conversion units, are basically the same. We are trying to look at what systems we can change to improve to make our operating plant more effective.

Mr. Harry Kallipolitis asked: about uranium oxide: is there a current or future use for it, or is that something you are pursuing?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: We are always pursuing more.

Mr. David Adams asked: you to vaporize the UF₆ out of the cylinder and the autoclave. You basically got an empty cylinder, and you're sticking it under the oxide copper. You cut out the top, and you fill it with oxide. Do you re-weld that cap on it when you close it?

Mr. Chris Richards stated: we basically put a little piece of short stubby pipe and a flange welded onto it. So, then we weld that onto it before we fill it. So, then all we've got to do is put the flange cap on it and bolt it down. Just looks like a regular old six-inch pipe flange. Basically, it is all welded back together. The short pipe stub is welded, and the flange is bolted; then the last flange is bolted on with the gas hit. I will point those out on the tour. It will make perfect sense after you see it.

Mr. Greg Simonton clarified: none of the oxide will be disposed of on-site. The on-site disposal facility is for demolition debris from the gaseous diffusion plant only.

Mr. Eric Roberts stated: next month we will tour the DUF₆ facility.

Administrative Issues:

EM SSAB Draft Recommendation Reuse and Recycling- See Appendix 3

Mr. Eric Roberts stated: the recommendation came out of the April 29, 2026, Spring Chairs Meeting, where all eight EMSSAB boards received a presentation on DOE EM's Reuse and Recycle Community of Practice (RRCOP), which was informally chartered in 2023. RRCOP facilitates reuse and recycling of excess materials and equipment across DOE EM sites before procurement or disposal, with the goal of reducing costs. Donna and Herman attended the Chairs Meeting on behalf of the Portsmouth board; Julie Galloway provided support. The recommendation commends DOE EM's efforts and asks DOE to continue expanding RRCOP participation across the complex to improve communication and awareness. The board cannot edit the language; it can only vote yes or no.

Ms. Donna Carson stated: I confirmed with Steve Shepherd at SODI that the current process wouldn't be affected. SODI confirmed this practice is already happening.

Mr. Greg Simonton noted: Portsmouth is one of roughly three sites with an active transfer program; we are one of them. This recommendation primarily standardizes the practice for sites that don't have one

Mr. Sam Brady motioned to approve the Recommendation; **Ms. Angel Glass** seconded the motion. The board voted **8–0** in favor, authorizing Donna to sign the recommendation on behalf of Portsmouth SSAB.

Public Comments:

Mr. Eric Roberts: This is a comment period, not a question-and-answer session. We ask that comments remain within the advisory board's scope, but the public comment period is open. You can talk about whatever you would like. We have several folks who have signed up to speak tonight.

Ms. Vina Colley, on the record and for the record, United States Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, 106 conclusions. Congress dated 2000 on page 13. Public statements highlight these thousands of documents proving that undiluted plutonium and other pure materials were brought into the facility under the United States Defense Justification. Due to the legal classification of these documents, the public, including the SSAB board members, have never had access to these important documents. National Nuclear Workers for Justice, and others, as well as those who gave testimony about the undiluted plutonium. Whistleblowers had the courage and dignity to tell the truth but were not given the opportunity to review the legal documents. We are asking that all SSAB board members contact all Ohio State Representatives, organizations, and meetings to have the documents on undiluted plutonium declassified. It is time to hold the Department of Energy and the Department of Defense accountable. And thank you. for allowing me to speak on this important matter. If we don't get these documents released, we may not make it on RECA. RECA is for the community downwinders for cancer. Plus, there are workers here at the Piketon site; they cut off their compensation in '92. These important records can get these workers compensated and cut that bill from '92 to now, because the workers out here doing this decommissioning are exposed to just as much hazardous material as we were when I got sick at the plant in '83. I've also been told that they can't put signs in Little Beaver Creek, which's contaminated, because there are property owners on both sides. So now I don't know if the property owners have been notified, but the creek doesn't belong to them. So why can't we put signs in the creeks and along the river so people stop trying to fish and collect radioactive fish in those creeks? You have a trailer park right down below Little Beaver Creek, and those kids go swimming in that creek. And this is on your conscience. I've been telling you this since '92 that that creek was contaminated. You have verified the creek is contaminated. It has the highest cancer rate in the nation, and we're at 107% for childhood cancer. Please help this community be compensated before we put any more of

these jobs here at this plant. These contractors aren't being told how much plutonium was in Piketon.

Mr. Lee Blackburn, good evening. My name is Lee Blackburn. I'm a former board member. The reason they don't want to put signs in the creek is that they're admitting that it's radioactive. They know it's radioactive, but they won't admit it, so they won't put the signs in the creek. Basically, I have serious concerns about the cleanup going forward, given the proposed site work. The 10-gigawatt AI data center and the 9.2-gigawatt um gas plant. I mean, this cleanup has been going on since the consent decree in 1989, so over 35 years. And in that time, they managed to accomplish, let's see, the dismantling of one of the process buildings, but the foundation is still there. And the site for the AI has already been selected, and the ground has already been broken. So basically, they're going to be taking out the foundation of the 326 while they're also working on the AI data center. I hope those workers will be given those dosimeters, you know, radiation badges, to detect any radiation that may be kicked up from the removal of that foundation. And we've got two other buildings, the 333 and the 330, that will need to be coming down. They'll be coming down while the AI center is being built. I have real concerns about radiation protection for workers and the community. Thank you.

Ms. Pat Madria, I am a scientist. I'm sorry the scientists from the school have left. I love science, and I'm very interested. I studied biological sciences, practiced pharmacy for many years, and we did take a lot of physics, so I'm well able to understand what's going on here at Portsmouth. I just want to say that all this process going on here is really deconversion, because they're taking the fluorine off the uranium, and the conversion process is different. That's when the fluoride was added to the uranium in Metropolis, Illinois, which was a very, very dirty process in and of itself, right across the Ohio River from Paducah. So, they do want to re-enrich those tailings. And that's one of the reasons why they held off. They were not very interested in that deconversion process at all because they wanted to re-enrich it. You can't do that when it's been deconverted. They want to run the low assay first to save the high assay for re-enrichment. Now, the first, the high assay is the older tailings because they didn't have as good a process. That's my understanding. Maybe I'm wrong about that. Some of the older cylinders that are leaking may or may not be processed first. And we certainly hope those older cylinders are being monitored for leakage, because you can't see it; it just sublimates and escapes as a gas. Second thing: this is when the students- the high school people aren't here anymore. One thing that they did not talk about specifically was the cleanup, and that's what this board is about. The cleanup. I don't know if any of those three topics did much talking about what's going on at the cleanup here. But I hope that some of that does. I want to remind people that what's done here has always been for weapons. And it's about using a lot of resources for something we hope will never be used, and if it is, it's going to destroy the environment and human lives far more than it took to build these things. We want our young people to have a chance to do something for housing and education, something that helps people in it. Finally, I want to talk about what Vina mentioned would be the Radiation Exposure Control Act. And that's something that we all can get behind

everyone here because I mean excuse me, the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act as it stands now that could be put into the national legislation where people with certain diseases that live off site around here could be compensated for those particular illnesses I think they would get \$50,000 for their illnesses and it could go also to members of the family of people who have already succumbed to their illness so we really want people here to get involved and support the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act.

Ms. Diana Cahall, when are the chairs' meetings? Can you send me a link and the dates for those meetings? Mr. Richards, they are hard. Approximately, and there's an exact number: 2,100, and I think it's 23, but I wouldn't swear through the 23 parts of cylinders that have been designated of primary importance to DOE in that they have an important use in the weapons program. Can those cylinders be run through the system either here or at Paducah and converted, or is an additional or different process required for that material to be accessible to the weapons program?

Final Comments from the Board:

Ms. Donna Carson stated: at every meeting, Vina talks about the signs being posted on the creeks. I know we don't have the authority to do that. Who is responsible for posting those signs?

Mr. Harry stated: in the past, it has been a combination of the Ohio EPA, Department of Health, and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. I will be bringing that up as an issue and continue to pursue it.

Ms. Donna Carson closed the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1

Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF6) Update

Chris Richards, Operations and Site Mission Support Acting Lead

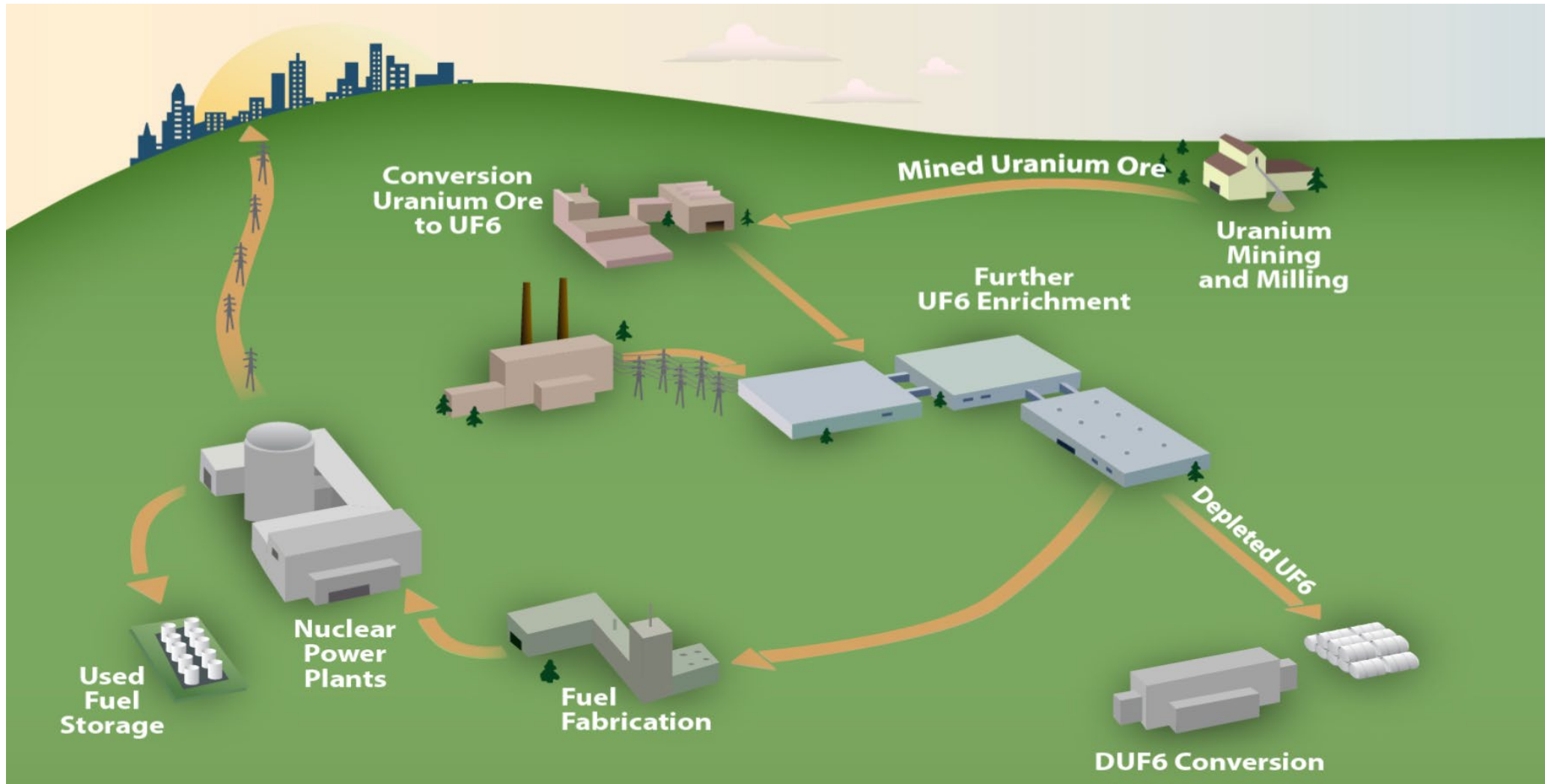
June 23, 2026

DUF6 Conversion Project

- The U.S. Department of Energy is operating facilities at Portsmouth and Paducah to convert DUF6 and advance American energy dominance and innovation
- DUF6 is a coproduct of the uranium enrichment process
- DUF6 was placed in ~67,000 steel cylinders that accumulated in Oak Ridge, Portsmouth and Paducah storage yards



Uranium Enrichment Cycle



DUF6 Mission

- Operate conversion facilities to safely convert DUF6 into a more stable chemical form for beneficial reuse or disposal thus reducing immediate and future risk to workers and the surrounding community
- The DUF6 program includes three primary activities:
 - DUF6 cylinder surveillance and maintenance
 - Conversion of DUF6 to a more stable chemical form for use or disposal
 - Identification of beneficial uses of depleted uranium



DUF6 Conversion Facilities

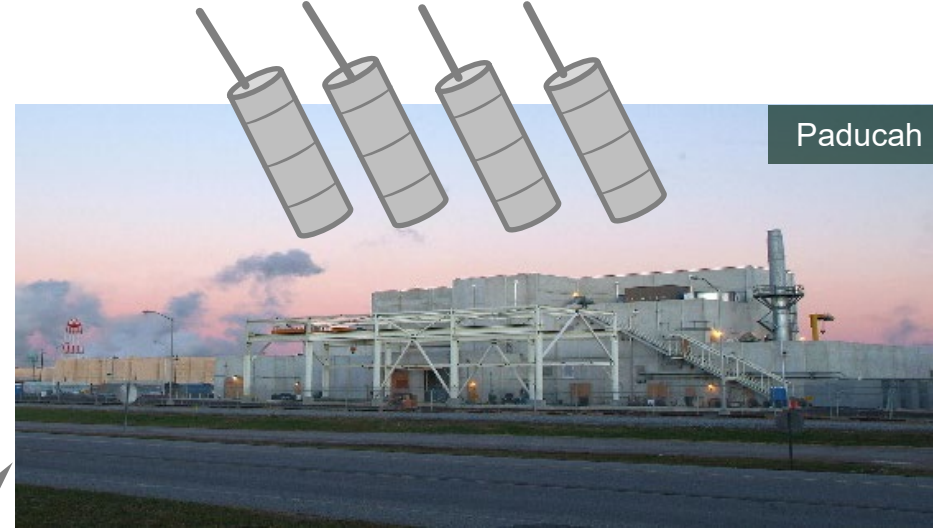
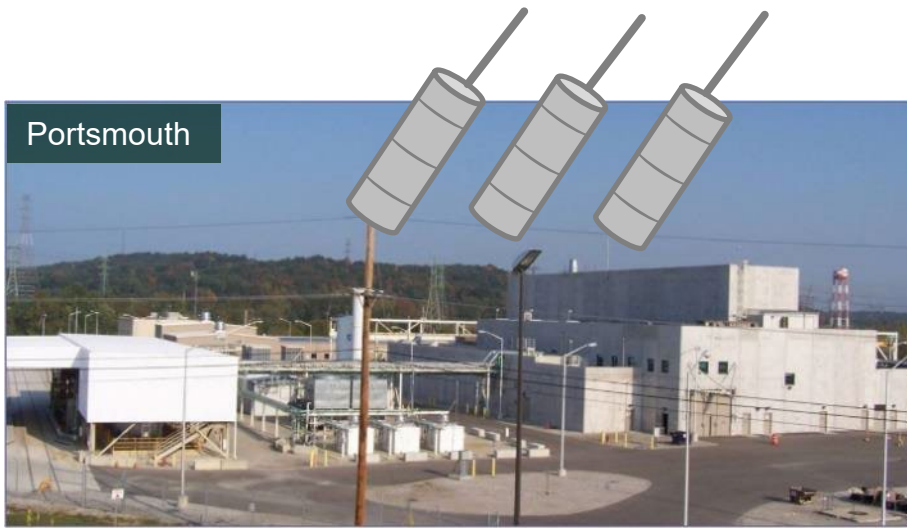


Paducah



Portsmouth

DUF6 Project Operating Lines

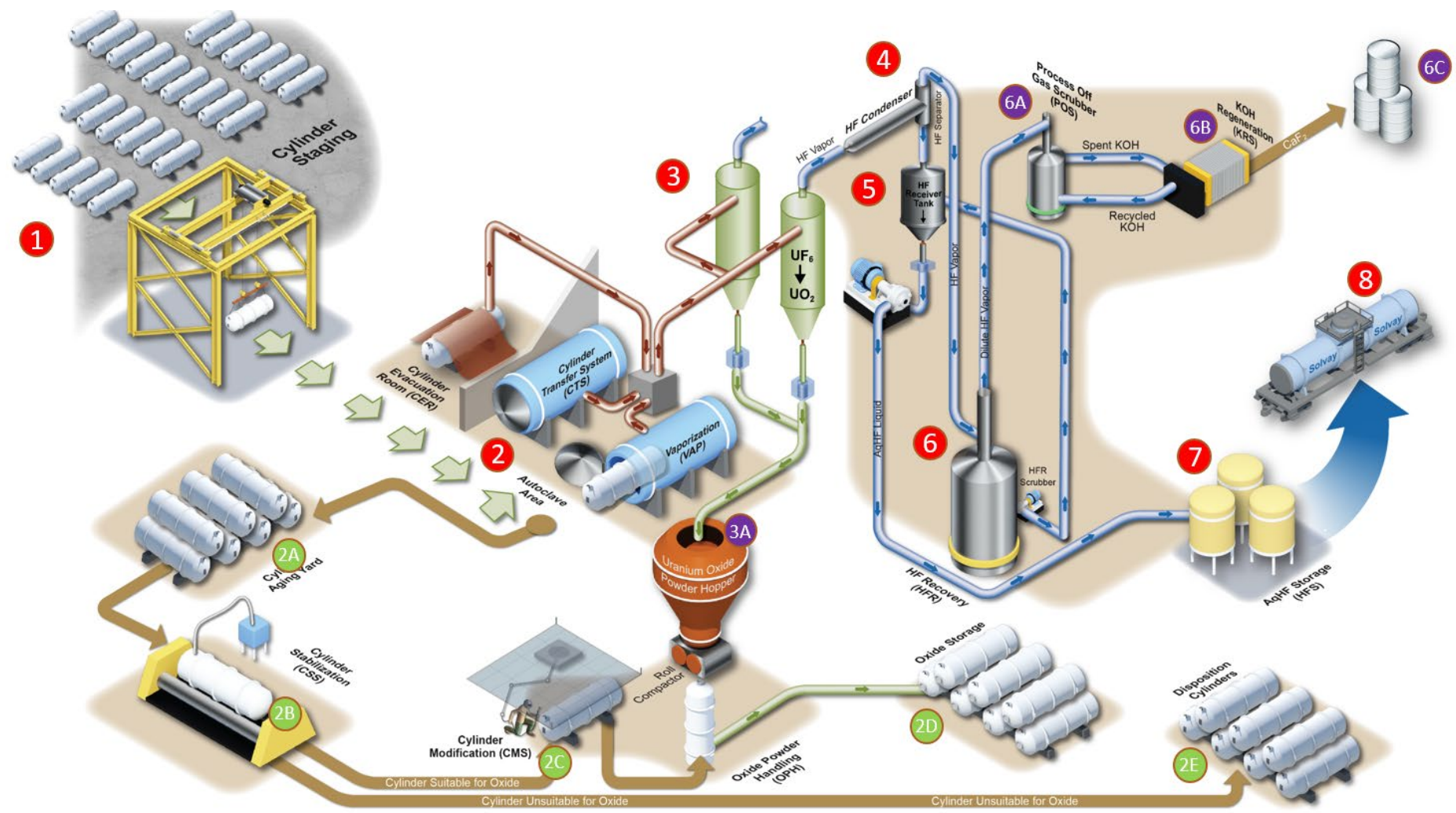


One DUF6 Project – 7 Operating Lines

- Four operating lines at Paducah; three operating lines at Portsmouth (fewer lines due to less inventory)
- Gain efficiencies through common design modifications
- Gradually increase production capacity
- Apply Lessons Learned across both sites



DUF6 Conversion Process



DUF6 Conversion Products

- Conversion generates two coproducts:
 - Uranium Oxide
 - Stored for eventual disposal or reuse
 - Aqueous Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)
 - Beneficial reuse from resource recovery
 - Offsets a portion of operating costs



Recent Accomplishments and Upcoming Modifications

- Converted 10,000th DUF6 cylinder in March 2026
- Hydrogen PRISM Reformer
- Tow Motors
- Evacuation Header System
- Uranium Oxide Loadout facilities

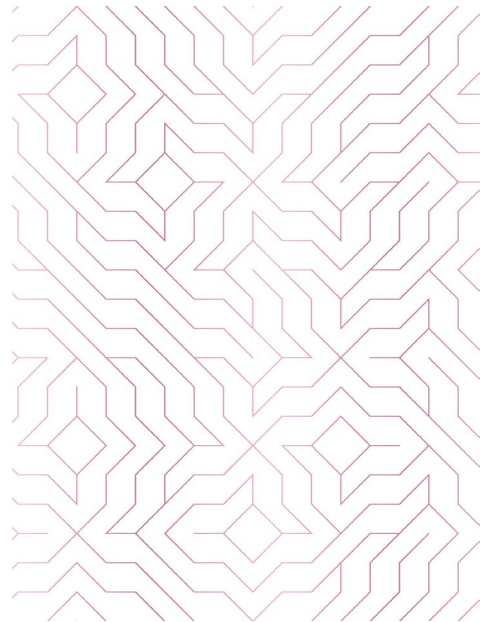




U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 2

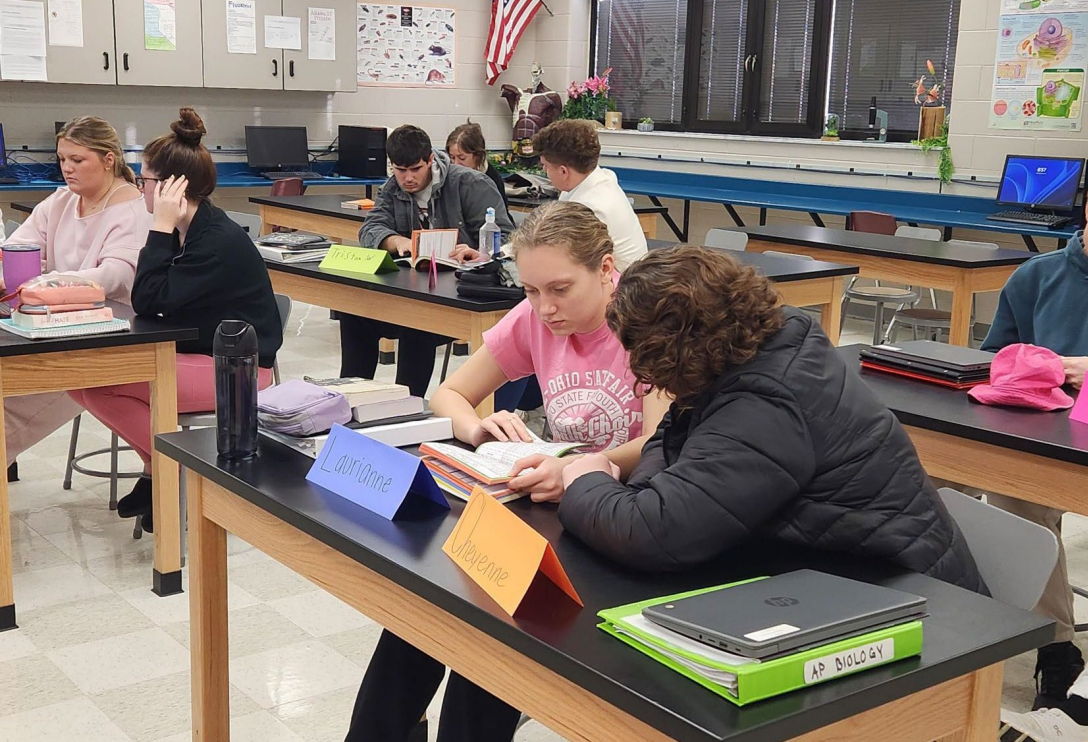


Justin Howard
Life Science Teacher
Valley High School



Science Alliance





Student ASER



Regional Science Bowl





National Science Bowl



APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 3



A Community Based Advisory Board Chartered by the Department of Energy

Local Chapters:

Hanford · Idaho · Nevada · Northern New Mexico · Oak Ridge · Paducah · Portsmouth · Savannah River

INSERT DATE

Mr. Timothy Walsh
Assistant Secretary for the Office of Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Walsh:

During the April 29, 2026, Spring Chairs meeting, the Environmental Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) received a presentation about the U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Management's (DOE-EM) Reuse and Recycle Community of Practice (RR CoP). The RR CoP endeavors to collaborate between interested program offices and sites to reduce costs by facilitating the reuse and recycling of excess materials and equipment across the DOE complex.

Each DOE-EM site has its own unique mission, timeline, and budget. These sites may overlook collaboration when immediate material needs arise. The RR CoP aims to bridge this gap by providing a way for the sites to prioritize reuse and recycling among themselves.

The EM SSAB Chairs understand that the RR CoP was informally chartered in 2023 and is relatively new. It is encouraging to see how DOE-EM Office of Infrastructure and D&D is integrating current site activities to ensure the reuse of federal assets across the DOE complex. This effort may ultimately reduce expenses to procure equipment and materials. The EM SSAB Chairs commend DOE-EM's efforts to save taxpayer dollars through the integration of RR CoP.

The EM SSAB Chairs support the RR CoP initiative and recommend that DOE-EM continue to foster the integration of this practice across the complex by increasing the number of sites involved with the goal of improving communication and awareness.

Who We Are

The EM SSAB is the DOE-EM's most effective vehicle for fostering two-way communication between DOE-EM and the communities it serves. The EM program is the world's largest environmental cleanup program, and the EM SSAB is its only citizen advisory board. For more than 30 years, the volunteer citizens of the EM SSAB have partnered with EM officials at both the local and national levels to ensure that the public has a meaningful voice in cleanup decisions.

Public participation is required/recommended as part of a number of environmental regulations. It is also good business practice, resulting in better decisions that often result in improved cleanup. Over the past three decades, EM SSAB members have volunteered over 50,000 hours of their time and submitted to EM officials over 1,800 recommendations, of which 84% have been fully or partially implemented, resulting in improved cleanup decisions.

The EM SSAB comprises approximately 160 people from communities in Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee and Washington. The Board is cumulatively representative of a stakeholder population totaling millions of people who are affected by generator sites, transportation routes and disposal sites. As we move forward, the EM SSAB welcomes the opportunity to highlight the value of this unique volunteer board and discuss its priorities during the months and years ahead.

Susan Coleman, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

Robert Skinner, Chair
Idaho Cleanup Project CAB

Mark Hilton, Chair
Nevada SSAB

Beverly Martin, Chair
Northern New Mexico CAB

Kris Bartholomew, Chair
Oak Ridge SSAB

Benjamin Stinnett, Chair
Paducah CAB

Donna Carson, Chair
Portsmouth SSAB

Deborah Creech, Acting Chair
Savannah River Site CAB

cc: Kelly Snyder, Designated Federal Officer, EM-2.33
Shannon Chester, DOE EM, EM-4.11

APPENDIX 4

APPENDIX 4

To Whom It May Concern,

As a longtime resident of Pike County and an advocate for local cancer victims and their families, I am writing to express concerns shared by many community members regarding the rapid expansion of projects proposed at and around the PORTS site.

While we understand the importance of economic development and job creation, many residents continue to have unanswered questions about the cumulative impacts of these projects on public health, environmental safety, and quality of life.

Among our concerns are:

- The continued demolition of contaminated facilities and the potential for airborne releases during cleanup activities.
- Long-term monitoring of soil, groundwater, surface water, and air quality both on and off site.
- The proposed growth of energy-intensive industries, including AI data centers, and their impact on local water resources and infrastructure.
- Plans to utilize waste heat from data centers for greenhouse agriculture and the need for independent testing of soil, water, air, and food products before any crops are marketed to the public.
- The expansion of nuclear-related activities, including HALEU production and proposed advanced reactor projects, and the need for clear emergency preparedness and public safety information.
- The lack of comprehensive health studies examining cancer rates and other health outcomes in communities surrounding the PORTS facility.
- Public access to environmental monitoring data in a format that is understandable, transparent, and readily available to residents.

Our community has lived with the legacy of nuclear operations for decades. Many families continue to cope with serious illnesses and unanswered questions regarding environmental exposures. Because of this history, public trust cannot be assumed—it must be earned through transparency, independent oversight, and meaningful public engagement.

We respectfully request clear answers to these concerns and encourage decision-makers to prioritize public health and environmental stewardship alongside economic development.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Gina Doyle

Adm Don't Dump on Us

doylegina157@gmail.com

740-935-9776