



Department of Energy

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

JAN - 5 2017

Mr. Robert Berry
Chairman
Portsmouth EM Site Specific Advisory Board
1862 Shyville Road
Piketon, Ohio 45661

PPPO-03-3351959-17

Dear Mr. Berry:

RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATION 16-01: PORTSMOUTH ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD PRIORITIES ARE FOR CONTINUED EFFORTS BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY TO ACCELERATE THE DECONTAMINATION & DECOMMISSION PROJECT AT THE PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT

Reference: Letter from W. Henderson, II to J. Bradburne, "RECOMMENDATION 16-01: Portsmouth (PORTS) Environmental Management Site Specific Advisory Board EM SSAB (EM SSAB) Recommendation 16-01," dated January 8, 2016

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office (PPPO) has reviewed the Office of Environmental Management (EM) Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board (PORTS SSAB) Recommendation 16-01. DOE would like to thank the PORTS SSAB for articulating its priorities for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 budget and its support of site recycling initiatives.

DOE's objective is to complete the decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) project efficiently and consistent with EM's priorities and resources. Your input helps DOE understand community values as decisions are made. DOE continues to collaborate with area stakeholders to understand reindustrialization priorities and assist in those areas where appropriate as the D&D project is executed.

The site's funding profile is made up of a combination of congressional appropriations and transfers of excess uranium. The fluctuation of the uranium market is presenting challenges that can impact FY 2017 funding, however DOE is working diligently to offset those impacts and maximize utilization of its uranium resources. DOE is asking Congress for additional dollars as a result of the downturn in the uranium market and the Department is also requesting a budget anomaly in case of a Continuing Resolution if the federal budget is not passed.

DOE cannot guarantee funding dollars in future years because it is Congress' responsibility to allocate federal dollars. The president's budget request to Congress related to the DOE-EM

program will be based on annual priorities that consider budget constraints and an ever-changing climate across the diverse DOE-EM complex.

DOE is continuing its asset transition program with the Community Reuse Organization, the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative. The D&D contractor, Fluor-BWXT Portsmouth LLC, is continuing its Community Commitment Plan as requested in the Recommendation.

The Department appreciates your continued involvement and support for the cleanup of the Portsmouth site. Thank you for your work. It is recognized and appreciated.

Sincerely,



Joel B. Bradburne
SSAB Deputy Designated Federal Official
Portsmouth Site Lead
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

cc:

R. Edwards, PPPO/LEX
G. Simonton, PPPO/PORTS
L. Sawyer, PPPO/LEX
J. Sherman, PPPO/LEX
G. Wilkett, RSI/PORTS
R. Greene, RSI/PORTS
ETS.Support@lex.doe.gov