

Portsmouth EM Site Specific Advisory Board

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**RECOMMENDATION 14-01:** Portsmouth (PORTS) Environmental Management (EM) Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Continued Support of Asset Recovery

**BACKGROUND:** The PORTS EM SSAB has within numerous past recommendations (10-03, 12-01 and 13-01) universally supported recycling and asset recovery efforts. Recycling and reuse is the basic element integral to all aspects of the former Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) and the PORTS SSAB is committed to these efforts.

Asset recovery avoids associated disposal costs allows footprint reduction within respective landfills, and facilitates much needed funding for regional economic development efforts through the Asset Recovery Program at Portsmouth.

The PORTS EM SSAB members have worked diligently on various subcommittees with complex and challenging issues and subject matters. Although these committees have worked independently, it is clear universal support exists with regard to asset recovery, and recycling efforts and should not just continue, but be expanded.

The PORTS EM SSAB is committed to assisting the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) in the efficient D&D of the former gaseous diffusion plant and to being a strong representative of the community. The board is focused on development that has long-term viability to allow the PORTS reservation to not only be an economic staple in Southern Ohio, but to emerge as a hub for future development and growth. The PORTS EM SSAB sees the Asset Recovery Program as a critical element of this regional effort and we highly encourage DOE to continue to fund this program.

Since the establishment of the Asset Recovery Program at PORTS, the program has saved more than 5 million pounds of recyclable material from the county landfill, reduced tipping fees, transportation costs and has returned \$4.2 million to the D&D process and the community reuse organization (Southern Ohio Diversification [SODI]). Through the grants awarded by SODI, these monies have had a multiplier effect that otherwise would not have been possible. The PORTS EM SSAB can't underestimate the value of seed dollars as shown in the provided examples in Ross, Pike, Scioto and Jackson counties and funding freed up to facilitate the Ohio Valley Regional Development Commission (OVRDC) building project here in Pike County. No other program office on-site supports not only itself, but adds value to the community like the Asset Recovery Program. The Asset Recovery Program is the initial realization of the spirit of several of the PORTS EM SSAB recommendations and we believe that through continued support and expansion, more cost savings and community benefits can be realized.

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The PORTS EM SSAB recommends DOE provide continued support and funding for the Portsmouth Asset Recovery Program. Additionally, the PORTS EM SSAB recommends DOE aggressively pursue the expansion of the Asset Recovery Program as a way to mitigate waste and prioritize clean, cost-efficient site-wide cleanup.

Thank you.