

Demolition Project Fact Sheet



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Legacy
Management



Piqua, Ohio, Decommissioned Reactor Site

A D&D site

Beginning in May 2022, the **U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)** will initiate site-demolition activities at the Piqua, Ohio, Decommissioned Reactor Site. Specifically, DOE will demolish both the auxiliary building and the decommissioned reactor facility and remove and dispose all debris at a licensed landfill. DOE does not expect these activities to generate radiological waste. DOE is leaving in place the buried entombed reactor, which will remain undisturbed in a safe configuration protective of human health and the environment.

Background

The site is in western Ohio in the city of Piqua, on the east bank of the Great Miami River, about 30 miles north of Dayton. The site is approximately 900 feet southeast of the Piqua municipal power station and 150 feet north of the city wastewater-treatment plant. A limestone quarry frames the north and east sides of the reactor site. The decommissioned reactor is about 120 feet from the Great Miami River.

In December 2021, DOE finalized the decision to demolish the buildings at the site via an [Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact](#). DOE will leave an entombment of low-level radioactive waste on-site and belowground in a protected state. In May 2022, DOE will begin demolition, which is expected to conclude by fall 2023. Upon project completion, the city of Piqua will be able to use the property as an industrial and commercial laydown yard, in accordance with the existing lease and contract with DOE. Institutional controls will remain in place to ensure long-term protectiveness of the entombment, and the DOE Office of Legacy Management will continue long-term stewardship of the site. DOE continues to work closely with the city of Piqua, a key site stakeholder that supports the demolition project.

Demolition Approach

The 15- to 18-month project will involve the full demolition of aboveground structures and reconstruction of the area. The areas affected during demolition amount to approximately 1 acre of potential land disturbance.

The project is broken into six phases:

- **Phase 1:** includes general site-preparation activities, such as procuring equipment and materials and establishing a haul road, temporary office trailers, project fencing, and signage. This phase also includes the conventional demolition of the auxiliary building from the top down.
- **Phase 2:** involves abating lead-based paint and selectively demolishing walls and infrastructure in the belowgrade portion of the reactor building.
- **Phase 3:** includes encapsulating the existing entombment in specialized waterproof concrete and backfilling the space between the entombment and building walls.
- **Phase 4:** involves demolishing the reactor dome.
- **Phase 5:** involves reconstruction activities, such as site grading, paving, and installing the mounded riprap cover and signage.
- **Phase 6:** includes project closeout, which consists of finalizing site acceptance with the city of Piqua and completing the as-built record drawings.

Historical Significance

On January 30, 2018, the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) concurred with DOE's recommendation that the Piqua site is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. DOE performed formal consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. As a result of this consultation, a [memorandum of agreement](#) between DOE, the Ohio SHPO, and the city of Piqua was developed to document DOE's approach to mitigating the loss of the buildings. The stipulations are described below.

- **Recordation:** DOE will complete a Historic American Building Survey recordation in accordance with National Park Service guidelines and specifications. DOE expects to submit the package by December 2022.
- **Diorama Exhibit:** DOE is working with the consulting parties to design and construct a diorama exhibit that will be given to the city of Piqua to display at the Piqua Public Library. DOE expects to complete the diorama by October 2023.
- **Architectural Salvage:** DOE secured historical objects from the site and will provide these items to the city of Piqua to accompany the library's diorama display.
- **Interpretive Signage:** DOE is working with the consulting parties to design and construct an interpretive sign that will be placed in a publicly accessible area near the site. DOE expects to complete the sign by October 2023.
- **Ohio Historical Marker:** DOE is working with the city of Piqua to obtain an Ohio historical marker, which will be displayed in a publicly accessible location near the site. DOE expects to obtain the marker by September 2023.

For more information, including frequently asked questions and answers, go to the Piqua page of the LM website here: www.energy.gov/lm/piqua-ohio-decommissioned-reactor-site



Aboveground Portion of the Piqua Decommissioned Reactor Complex and Auxiliary Building.



CONTACT INFORMATION

**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AT THE SITE,
CONTACT 911**

**LM TOLL-FREE EMERGENCY HOTLINE:
(877) 695-5322**

Site-specific documents related to the **Piqua, Ohio, Decommissioned Reactor Site** are available on the LM website at www.energy.gov/lm/piqua-ohio-decommissioned-reactor-site

For more information about LM activities at the **Piqua, Ohio, Decommissioned Reactor Site**, contact:
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