



Department of Energy

Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
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January 6, 2023

Mr. Don Barger, Chair
Paducah Citizens Advisory Board
Emerging Technology Center, Room 221
4810 Alben Barkley Drive
Paducah, Kentucky 42001

PPPO-02-10023082-23

Dear Mr. Barger:

RESPONSE TO CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION 23-04: SUGGESTIONS TO INCREASE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY WORKER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Reference: Letter from D. Barger to J. Woodard, "Paducah Citizens Advisory Board DRAFT Recommendation 23-04: Suggestions to Increase Department of Energy (DOE) Environmental Management (EM) Worker Recruitment and Retention," dated November 15, 2022

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) received the Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Recommendation 23-04, which recommends the following:

- *Utilize the information with the project baseline to identify workforce requirements for future site work. This information should be shared with local economic developers, colleges, and secondary schools to help begin discussions on preparing future workers.*
- *Identify other union worker training programs similar to the very successful Health Physics program and duplicate those trainings locally.*
- *Increase outreach with local colleges to help identify potential career paths/DOE needs that have historically been difficult to recruit (i.e., estimators or baselining specialists).*
- *Partner with pre-professional organizations at local colleges and secondary schools.*
- *Participate in trade school fairs and competitions to encourage local students to pursue careers in the areas that will be needed at the site in the future.*
- *Encourage a joint community task force on worker training and retention and offer input to its partner agencies on what is also needed by DOE.*

DOE accepts the CAB's recommendation 23-04 relating to the DOE Worker Recruitment and Retention. DOE will keep the CAB apprised on efforts to address the activities in the

recommendation at our regular meetings. DOE appreciates the CAB's encouragement and is committed to outreach activities that further educate the public on the site's history and mission.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Buz Smith at (270) 441-6821.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jennifer Woodard". The script is cursive and fluid.

Jennifer Woodard
Paducah Deputy Designated Federal Official
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

cc:

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