



**U.S DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SITE-
SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD PUBLIC
MEETING MINUTES**

September 16, 2025



Table of Contents

Agenda.....	3
September Board Summary.....	4
Appendix 1 Portsmouth Site Update.....	15
Appendix 2 PORTS EM SSAB FY26 Work Plan.....	23
Appendix 3 Written Statement submitted by Lee Blackburn.....	27
Appendix 4 Written Statement submitted by Pat Marida.....	29
Appendix 5 Written Statement submitted by Vina Colley.....	30



PORTSMOUTH EM SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD

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

Agenda for September 16, 2025, Board Meeting

Chair

Donna Carson

6:00 pm

Call to order, introductions

Review of agenda

Co-Vice Chair

Herman Potter

DDFO Comments-Jeremy Davis

--15 minutes

Board Members

David Adams

Jim Arnzen

Sam Brady

Tonia Brown

Angel Glass

Chandler Grooms

John Hemmings

Wayne McLaughlin

Mike Milam

Lisa Pfeifer

Beth Workman

Federal Coordinator Comments-Greg Simonton

--10 minutes

Liaison Comments

-- 5 minutes

Administrative Issues

- **Election of Leadership**

--10 minutes

- Election of Chair

- Election of Vice Chair

- Election of Executive Committee

- **Review of FY 2026 Work Plan**

--10 minutes

Public Comments

--15 minutes

Deputy Designated

Federal Official

Jeremy Davis

Final Comments from the Board

--15 minutes

Adjourn

DOE Federal Coordinator

Greg Simonton

Support Services

EHI Consultants, Inc.

1862 Shyville Road

Piketon, OH 45661

Phone 740.289.5249

Fax 740.289.1578

PORTSMOUTH SITE ADVISORY BOARD

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SITE-SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
September 16, 2025**

**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
D&D – Deactivation & Decommissioning
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
FY – Fiscal Year
HQ – Headquarters
PAD - Paducah
Portsmouth – (DOE) Portsmouth Site
PORTS SSAB – Portsmouth Site-Specific Advisory Board
PPPO –Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
SSAB – Site-Specific Advisory Board

APPENDIX

Appendix 1 Portsmouth Site Budget Presentation

Appendix 2 FY 2026 Work Plan

Appendix 3 Written Comment Submitted by Lee Blackburn

Appendix 4 Written Comment Submitted by Pat Madria

Appendix 5 Written Comment Submitted by Vina Colley

PARTICIPANTS

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

Absent: **Jim Arnzen**, Board Member; **Wayne McLaughlin**, Board Member

U.S. Department of Energy: **Jeremy Davis**, Deputy Designated Federal Official; **Greg Simonton**, Federal Coordinator.

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); **Grace Stutler**, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA); **Tom Snyder**, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA)

Public: **Lee Blackburn**; **Vina Colley**, PRESS/NNWS; **Gina Doyle**, Don't Dump on Us; **Pat Marida**, Ohio Nuclear Free Network; **Lorry Swain**; **David Manuta**; **Diana Cahall**

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 virtually via YouTube. Participants included EM SSAB leadership, support staff, DOE contractors, and the public. The meeting was open to the public and conducted under 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.

Deputy Designated Federal Officer (DDFO) Comments:

Portsmouth Site Budget: *Please refer to Appendix 1*

Mr. Jeremy Davis The goal is to keep the deactivation and demolition contractor focused on those tasks, while DUF 6, whose mission with utilities extends beyond deactivation and demolition, takes over utility operations. This separates the scopes, allowing the DUF 6 operator to handle utilities throughout their life cycle. It requires significant coordination, but overall, the transition has been positive.

Ms. Lisa Pfeifer Will FLUOR be completely off-site after October 1, or will they play some role there?

Mr. Jeremy Davis FLUOR is one of the teaming partners for SOCCO. Greg Wilket will continue to be the manager. The company recently changed some of the partners on the contract; FLUOR remains on the team, along with some of the previous contractors, but others have been replaced.

Mr. Chandler Grooms asked if they expected any significant workforce changes.

Mr. Jeremy Davis No, the way the contract transition is structured basically just reshuffles the work and who is doing it. If we get continued support from congressional funding, we'll continue. We have more work to do now than we've ever had.

Federal Project Coordinator Comments:

Mr. Greg Simonton I would like to clarify the board's role and the process following our recommendations, as this was raised earlier. In response to past feedback, we expanded our

outreach to better engage the community and students. One early recommendation led to our current Science Alliance event, which focuses on the technologies and work at our site and targets high school juniors who are making key decisions about their futures. This year's Science Alliance will be held on October 7-9, with participation from 29 schools from Southern Ohio and one from Greenup, Kentucky. We expect approximately 1,400 students each day. The event has become one of the department's largest education outreach programs, connecting students with opportunities in technical, trade, and college-bound fields. Contractors and regional partners, including major employers, will showcase technology and career paths. For those interested in volunteering, whether to assist with logistics or observe, contact the SSAB office. The event runs from 9 a.m. to about 1:30 p.m. Our outreach continues to expand, fostering valuable connections between students and employers in our region.

Mr. John Hemmings Do the students have to sign up, or does the school bring the entire junior class?

Mr. Greg Simonton Everyone is invited. Some schools will bring some of the advanced kids who are in chemistry and physics. Some of them bring the entire class. It's up to the school, but a couple of large schools will bring 100-plus kids. Colleges also participate in the event. Eight or nine universities are set up in our opportunity tent, where they interact with students throughout the day, including during lunch. These institutions represent Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio. Participating universities include both local and regional institutions, such as Marshall, Moorhead, Cincinnati, Ohio State, Ohio University, and Shawnee State, which also hosts a robotics station. The Science Alliance offers valuable experiences for all students, even those who do not participate in every activity.

Liaison Comments:

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

Mr. Tom Snyder, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), I will refer to Grace.

Ms. Grace Stutler, Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA), Since the last time we've all been together, we've continued our bi-weekly site oversight inspections, and we also have this summarized on our RCRA (Resource Conservation Recovery Act) option program and hazardous waste inspection, and there were no violations

Administrative Issues:

Election of Leadership

Election for Chair, **Ms. Lisa Pfeifer** nominated Donna Carson as chair

Mr. Herman Potter seconded. *Motion passed, Ms. Donna Carson will serve as Board Chair.*

Election for Vice Chair, **Mr. John Hemmings** nominated Herman Potter as vice chair

Ms. Lisa Pfeifer seconded. *Motion passed, Mr. Herman Potter will serve as Vice Board Chair.*

Election for Executive Committee, Board members nominated to be on the executive committee: *Ms. Donna Carson, Mr. Sam Brady, Mr. Chandler Grooms, Ms. Lisa Pfeifer, and Mr. Herman Potter will serve as members of the Executive Committee*

Review of FY 2026 Work Plan. *Please refer to Appendix 2*

Mr. Mike Milam What is the ASER?

Mr. Jeremy Davis Annual Site Environmental Report, has been collecting environmental monitoring data for about 30 years. We began producing the ASER report as a summary that is published and shared with the community. Additionally, we participate in a student annual site environmental report summary program with Ohio University. Ohio University partners with two local schools in the county region; students review the ASER data, write a summary report, and provide it to the department. This program has become a valuable community outreach effort. Many local schools have participated, providing students with the opportunity to interact with university professors and gain hands-on experience in environmental data collection and analysis. At the end of the program, students present their findings in a poster session at the Endeavor Center, open to the public, who can ask questions and learn about the students' work.

Public Comments:

Mr. Eric Roberts This is a comment period, not a question-and-answer session. We ask that comments stay related to the advisory board's scope, but it's an open public comment period. You can talk about whatever you would like. We have several folks who have signed up to speak tonight. We received a written comment from Lee Blackburn and Pat Madria, which will be in your minutes.

Ms. Vina Colley I have some questions that I want to submit to the board for accountability. These questions are about the gaskets used in the process building, made of Telon forever chemicals —do they pose a radiation risk? The creek signs are still missing, raising concerns about the advisory board's effectiveness in addressing the community's concerns. We know the fish in the Scioto River are radioactive, and we know the Little Beaver Creek has been contaminated since '92. Now we've been discussing this. So, it's time to put those signs up in the creeks. Moreover, recent news about the board member's arrest and the funding of the project to county commissioners demands transparency and accountability. What's the real story behind these issues? Were the surrounding area commissioners given money to put these twelve waste cells here? That shouldn't be here at all because of the moisture and the groundhogs, but most of all because the largest aquifer in the Midwest under the site has fractures in the bedrock. I have been told that most of Sinclair Broadcasting has been sold to BlackRock Inc. They are shareholders with Vanguard Inc., which bought the school. My question is: why would BlackRock be interested in buying a contaminated school, and then buying a contaminated

quarry down in Paducah, Kentucky? I'm really concerned about the groundhogs digging into these waste cells.

Ms. Pat Madria Okay. I was hoping those would be in the board materials so you could follow along, or if I don't get to them all, you can check them out. But so, my statement should be in your materials. I came from Columbus, drove down here and back, and I just want to say that the board chair should be running these meetings, not the Department of Energy, and that the board should decide how long we can speak. We understand that the national advisory board has requested that the DOE nationwide give members of the public at SSAB meetings five minutes to speak at the various EM sites here. We've also requested that the meeting minutes and materials be posted on the website in a timely manner and remain there. So, we would really like to see that these are good, interesting things the DOE presented. They should be up on the website so the public can see them all. And then I want to comment on the ASER. The ASER is what Dr. Ketter read, and that is where he saw that these air monitors contain neptunium and other transuranics, and the Department of Energy was in that long report, but the Department of Energy kept very quiet and said nothing about it. And so, it would be well advised for the advisory board to ask someone like Dr. Manuta, who's very capable of reading this ASER report and commenting on it, and then he could advise you as to whether there were really any problems in it. Anyway, then, since Eric first told us we had five minutes after that first recommendation lasted, as I recall, for one meeting, and after that time, Eric has revised it down. Two minutes is certainly not enough for one issue, let alone two or three that might come up, in the several-month period between SSAB meetings. And when only a few are here to see, it's an insult to the public to have so little time to give our information to the group, and it's important. So, looking at the minutes, they bear no resemblance to what we've said; the criticisms have been omitted, and foolish and meaningless statements are attributed to us. I want to say there's no reason for a sane society to create nuclear weapons, and this peaceful front of nuclear power, and we're all paying for it. All those jobs we're all paying for, and they want people, whether they're doing hard labor or whether they're doing all this calculus and stuff. You can all go to work for the DOE and get paid by the public. That's taking money. I just want to say that, please look at Duane Pohlman's latest video.

Mr. Lee Blackburn I assume that statement is not included in the package. What I'm about to say is going to take about four minutes. So, I hope I will pay your indulgence since Greg and Jeremy went over. I think I have the right to go as well. I initially joined this board in hopes of making a difference for Piketon and the surrounding communities. After all, the purpose of the board was to provide advice and recommendations to the Department of Energy on site-specific issues, including cleanup activities, waste management, and future land use. It soon became apparent, however, that DOE didn't care to listen to the advice of the board. So, I, along with two other members, resigned in protest. Not that it mattered to DOE. They will continue to ignore the advice of the board and the community in their ongoing efforts to hide the truth. In 2017, DOE

detected Neptunium 237 in an air monitor directly across from Zahn's Corner Middle School yet didn't bother to tell the public until 2019. Then in 2018, Americium 241 was found in that very same monitor. But once again, the public wasn't told until later in 2019. In April of 2019, Dr. Michael Ketter, professor emeritus in chemistry and biochemistry from Northern Arizona University, tested dust samples from inside Zahn's Corner Middle School, revealing enriched uranium from the Portsmouth facility, ultimately leading to the school's closure. In a feeble attempt to counter the findings, a team from DOE snuck in over Memorial Day weekend collecting samples that supposedly showed no radioactivity above the natural occurring background dust I say supposedly because in 2024, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry or ATSDR released a report that said according to DOE's own Pegasus data set, the air monitors direct the air monitor directly across from Zahn's Middle School shown both neptunium 237 and uranium 235 above naturally occurring background levels. in the entire period from 2016 to 2020. Joe Mangano, the executive director of the Radiation and Public Health Project, who has completed dozens of epidemiological studies in locations throughout the US, has performed three separate studies of the Piketon area. In his latest study last year. Mr. Mangano found the overall premature death rate from cancer of those between the ages of 0 and 74 in Pike County from 2021 to 2023 to be 81.8% higher than the national average, with the overall death rate of that very cohort to be 107.1% higher than the national average or more than twice as high. On the other hand, ATSDR, which has never performed a single epidemiological study, concluded that an epidemiological study in the Piketon area wasn't warranted. That's because ATSDR doesn't want to perform epidemiological studies since doing so would reveal what Mr. Mangano found: higher cancer rates. Mr. Lee Blackburne also played a recording of a conversation between Duane Pohlman and Dr. Manuta about midnight rockets.

Ms. Diana Cahall I don't have anything that explosive. I'm afraid I just want to remind the board and the agency personnel there that, in my view, anyway, most of the disastrous health effects in this community come from recycling and reprocessing. That's used reactor fuel, taken out of the nuclear reactor, brought here, chopped up, and run through one more time to get the enriched uranium out. that has been unused, and they're still doing that at Centrus. And my question to the board is: how is Centrus' activity any safer than it was when they recycled through the three plants that are now being dismantled? Aren't they sending the same toxins into the community and causing the same illness? What can be done about it?

Ms. Gina Doyle I have two things I want to talk about. First, from July 8 to 10th, something was going on at the plant. I got a phone call saying, "Get out there right now, something's going on." The concern was where my sister lives. There was something going on. There was steam or smoke or something rising into the air, along with all the trucks and lights and everything. So, I went over there expecting to have to help my sister and her husband evacuate, but there were no sirens or anything. We learned later, oh, it was a drill. We also learned during that time that there

was something happening with the wastewater. A valve is leaking, and 50,000 gallons of water are being released and running off into the creek and everything again. So that was the same date. It kind of made me think, why would you have a drill when there's something real going on and still no alerts? Does that make sense to anyone? Because it didn't make sense to me because my concern was, do I have to get my sister out of here? Their health is bad, and they don't have anybody who can run over there and help them get out of their house but me. The other thing is what happens to the equipment that's used in the 333 where they can't get it clean? What happens to the equipment, and does the large equipment get pieced and become buried in the landfill or shipped out? I know you are not going to answer me. And if it's safe, why are workers saying otherwise during the demo? They still are. I would just like one time for somebody to turn and look at me when I talk, because I look at you guys and listen, and I would just like for you to turn around and look at me and give an answer if you can. That's it. Thank you,

Ms. Lorry Swain Hi, everyone. I notice that Bryan Davis's name is no longer on the board, and that's a good thing because, as we all know, he's been indicted on 13 serious felonies, including stealing in office and corruption. He's been suspended as a commissioner, although he's still taking his salary and doing nothing. So it's good that he's no longer on this board. If he's left a vacancy, it would really be good to replace it with someone from the community who has a relationship with the neighbors and the people impacted by the operations and cleanup. I don't know how he ended up no longer on the board. Hopefully, he was asked to resign. Thank you.

Dr. David Manuta I'm addressing my first point specifically to Mike and Herman because they go back to the time when I was working. So, it tells us how old Mike and Herman are. In the 333 building, we did have plutonium. And so, a specific question is whether the plutonium accounting board was in place during the demolition, so that the current activity does not put the demolition workers at risk. Second point, there are multiple isotopes of plutonium. And possibly the most significant one is plutonium-241, because it decays to americium-241 and neptunium-237. I have never heard, in a public forum in this community, DOE tell us which radioactive decay cycle neptunium comes from, because it doesn't come from any known uranium decay cycle. Third point: In some of the discussions, we heard the word 'messaging, 'and I wrote in my notes' messaging versus facts,' because ultimately that's what a lot of the public comments were about. What are the facts? I'm in court often enough as an expert witness that three of the most important amendments to the US Constitution are the First, the Fifth, and the 14th. When you're silencing people, congratulations, all three of those amendments were violated. And I want that on the record so that when the heavyweights in DC listen to the tape, they're aware that you need to let us speak. All of us are guaranteed to process rights and the five freedoms in the First Amendment. In the estimations, there's actually a profession called estimation. Does DOE hire contract professional estimators to determine the costs associated with doing the demolition? The fifth one is generally a big bill that captures everything. We also have a possible government shutdown, and that may impact our future budgets. Last point, based on the discussion we heard,

quite often I'll go into Kroger or Walmart and someone of my vintage will collate, and for the next 20 or 30 minutes I'm hearing about all the horrors that are going on at the plant. If I were made aware of some of this, I could be proactive rather than reactive. I don't like being reactive.

Final Comments from the Board: None

Donna Carson closed the meeting at 7:25 p.m.



Portsmouth Paducah
Project Office

Portsmouth Site Update

Jeremy Davis
Portsmouth Site Lead and DDFO
September 16, 2025

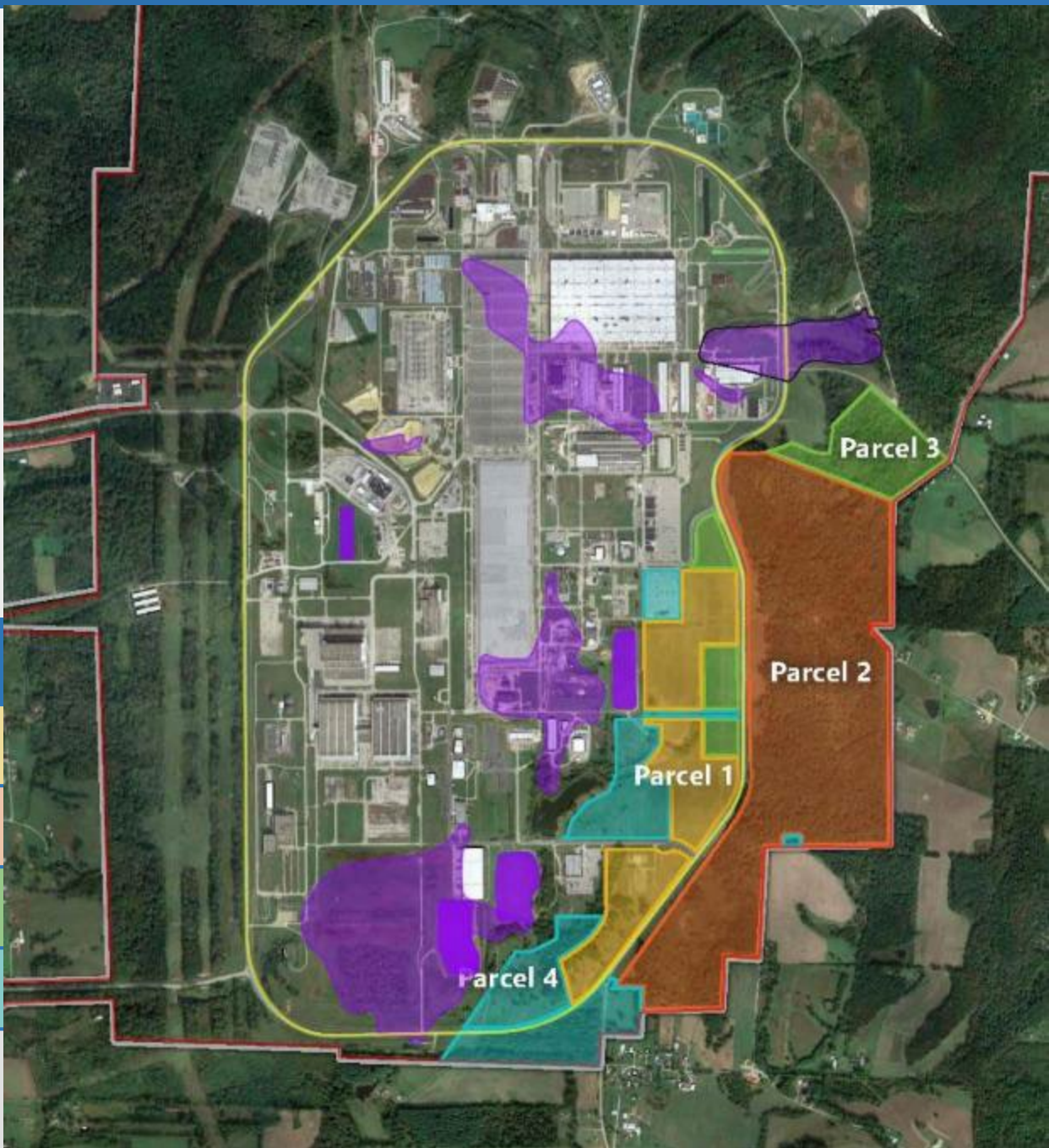




Promising Future for Site Reuse

- ▶ Over 350 acres transferred
- ▶ Reduced almost 10% of original footprint
- ▶ Property transfers conducted through Community Reuse Organization, Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI)

Parcel	Acres	Status
Parcel 1	80 acres	Transfer to SODI complete
Parcel 2	226 acres	Transfer to SODI complete
Parcel 3	48 acres	Transfer to SODI complete
Parcel 4	TBD	Transfer being evaluated





Contract Transition

- ▶ To focus the D&D contractor on End State completion, DOE conducted a parallel procurement to transfer operations scope to the forthcoming Operations and Site Mission Support (OSMS).
- ▶ 120-day contract transition for OSMS and D&D to be complete October 1



Portions of  + 



Process Building Demolition Major Milestones

1



Deactivation

2



Pre-Demolition

3



Transite (Asbestos)
Removal

4



Structural Demolition

5



Debris Downsizing/Loadout



X-333 Demolition Status





OSWDF Construction and Operation Status

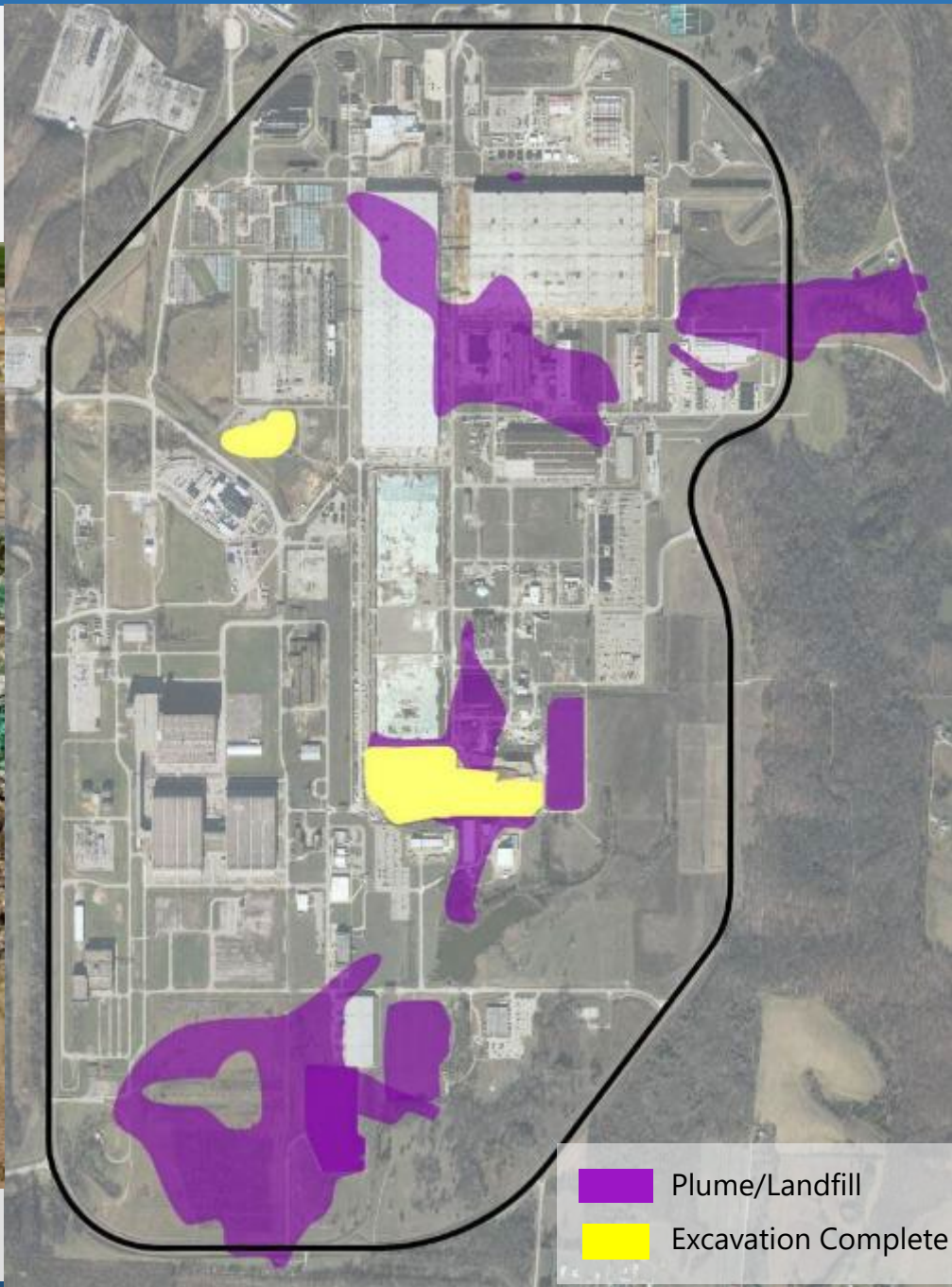




Landfills and Plumes Status



5-Unit Excavation Area

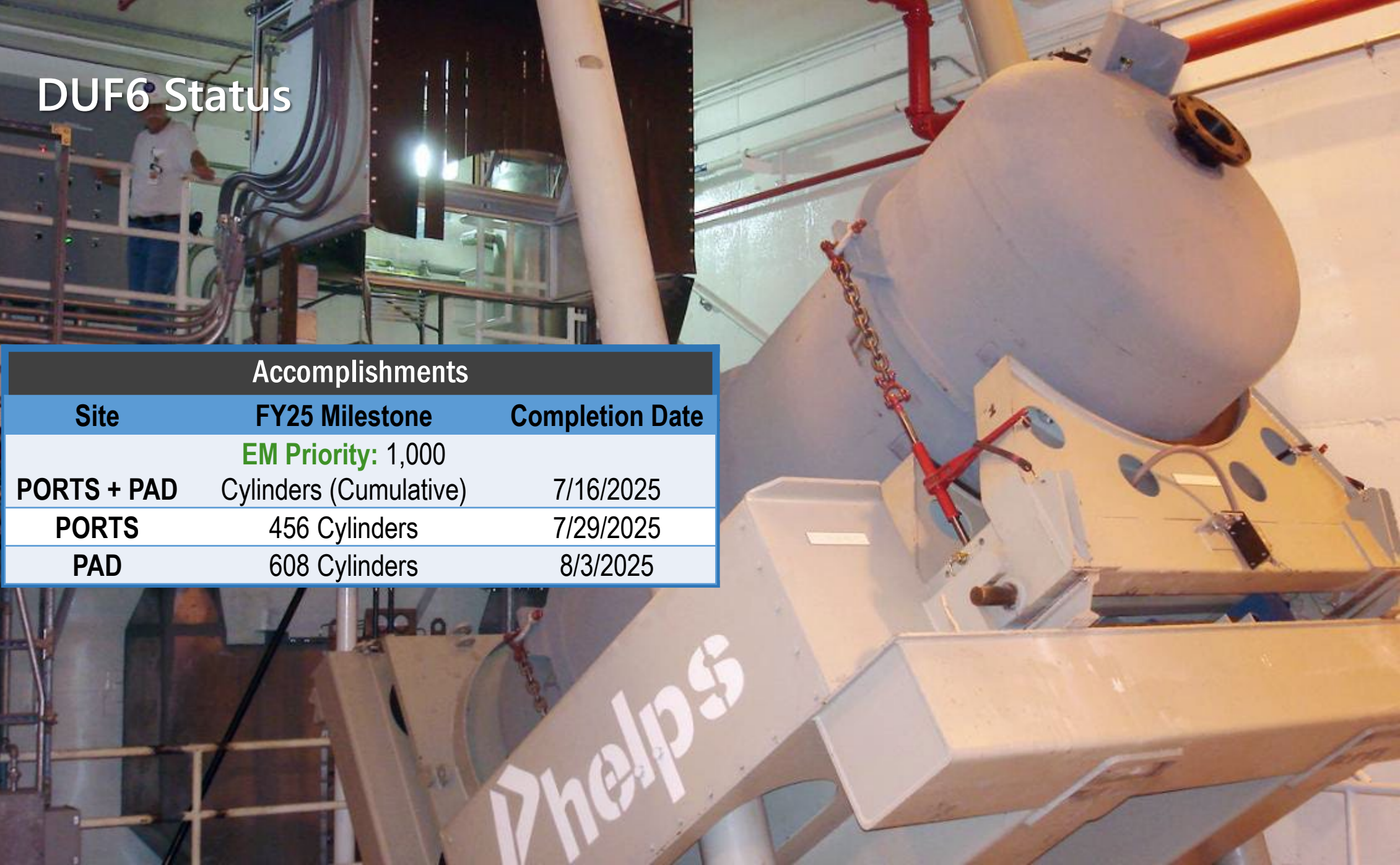


Plume/Landfill
Excavation Complete



DUF6 Status

Accomplishments		
Site	FY25 Milestone	Completion Date
EM Priority: 1,000		
PORTS + PAD	Cylinders (Cumulative)	7/16/2025
PORTS	456 Cylinders	7/29/2025
PAD	608 Cylinders	8/3/2025



PORTSMOUTH SITE SPECIFIC ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN Fiscal Year 2026



This SSAB Work Plan has been agreed upon by
U.S. Department of Energy and the Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board on September 16, 2025.



INTRODUCTION

The Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) is a stakeholders' board, chartered to provide advice and recommendations to the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on decontamination and decommissioning, environmental remediation, waste management, and related issues at the Portsmouth Site. The Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office (PPPO) manages the Environmental Management (EM) activities in Portsmouth.

The SSAB is comprised of volunteers, chosen to reflect the viewpoints and interests of persons living near the Portsmouth Site. The board is committed to reflecting the communities impacted by the environmental management of the plant site. Besides DOE, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) are represented in an liaison/advisory capacity.

The scope of the SSAB is to provide advice and recommendations concerning the following EM site-specific issues: clean-up activities and environmental restoration; waste and nuclear materials management and disposition; excess facilities; future land use and long-term stewardship. The Board may also be asked to provide advice and recommendations on any EM program components, such as risk assessments, communications, and funding priorities.

The Board meets to about environmental management activities, listen to input from citizens, consider recommendations developed by the PORTS SSAB subcommittees, and perform other business. The Board strives for consensus in reaching decisions and conducts business under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, DOE Order 515.1, board bylaws, standing rules, and special rules of order, which incorporate the principles of *Robert's Rules of Order*.

Most months SSAB members participate in subcommittees to focus on various topics related to site cleanup and draft recommendations for consideration by the full board. PORTS SSAB will establish an Executive Subcommittee to help with updating Board Operating Procedures, membership recruitment efforts, and the annual funding request recommendations.

This Work Plan addresses the SSAB priorities for the 2026 Fiscal Year. Although the Board intends to structure its activities to focus on the priority projects, it is understood that other topics may present themselves that could result in deviation from the Work Plan. A prescribed process is followed to alter the SSAB work plan with alterations accepted and approved by both the SSAB and DOE.

SSAB FULL BOARD MEETINGS

PORTS SSAB full board meetings are intended to communicate the business of the SSAB and to discuss and vote on recommendations to be submitted to DOE. In addition, Deputy Designated Federal Official (DDFO) comments will be made in the form of a presentation intended to brief SSAB members of recent developments and provide site highlights and accomplishments.

The full board may also convene for educational presentations that complement the working session or site management matters. Examples of suggested topics for presentations may include the annual budget process and risk education.

The planned full board meeting dates for FY 2026 are below. These dates are subject to change and will be posted on the PORTS SSAB website.

- November 18, 2025
- February 17, 2026
- April 21, 2026
- June 16, 2026
- September 2026

Month	SSAB Topic	Presentation Narrative
Oct 2025		
Nov 2025	ASER /OU	-What is the ASER -Environmental Monitoring Overview -Findings from 2023 -Student ASER program
	Environmental Monitoring Overview	-Review of previous presentation on Monitoring -different media/ locations -testing ranges, reporting data -calculating risk
Dec 2025	Contractor Community Involvement Plan	-brief overview (5 – 6 slides) on community engagement efforts and outreach initiatives from each contractor
Jan 2026		
Feb 2026	Federal Site Lifecycle Estimate (FSLE)	-intro to FSLE -how it's developed and maintained -approval process and update process -Site Life Cycle Estimate INPUT: SSAB advice and input on future iterations and community outreach on FSLE
	Funding and Budget Update	-overview of key site projects -funding and budget update -site spending priorities -baseline projections -funding impacts INPUT: SSAB input on future funding requests stating priorities and values
March 2026		
April 2026	Land Transfer Update	-Land Transfer Process -Future Use Vision/ End State -Parcel 1 -Timeline
	OU/SODI	-overview of community future use initiatives -update on land studies -shared vision for future
May 2026		
June 2026	DUF6 Update	-overview of DUF6 mission -update on progress and status for future -changes to contractor responsibilities with OSMS

Portsmouth SSAB Workplan

Recommendation Request Plan

PORTS SSAB FY 2026

Work Plan Item #26-01	Work Plan Item:	<i>Board input on future iterations of Federal Site Lifecycle Estimate and community education on FSLE</i>
	Briefing/Discussion Dates:	<i>February 2026</i>
	Recommendation Deadline:	<i>April 2026</i>
	Description:	<u>Background:</u> <i>The FSLE lays out planning priorities including sequencing of projects that direct the cleanup work onsite.</i> <u>EM SSAB Scope:</u> <i>DOE is seeking concurrence on the broadstroke planning objectives as well as identifying potential elements within the decisions that the board can provide value and input. Additionally, we will ask the Board how to communicate the information within the FSLE to the community at large.</i>

Work Plan Item #26-02	Work Plan Item:	<i>Board Input on Future Funding requests stating board priorities and values</i>
	Briefing/Discussion Dates:	<i>February 2026</i>
	Recommendation Deadline:	<i>April 2026</i>
	Description:	<u>Background:</u> <i>Site Funding Requests, especially specific year over year numbers, are often embargoed at the time of this presentation. DOE will discuss active projects and future strategies and plans for remediation of the site.</i> <u>EM SSAB Scope:</u> <i>The board will provide DOE with a list of priorities/ values that the membership feels are most important to the community for a successful cleanup. DOE can use this list of priorities/ values as a measuring stick for future budget requests and internal budget discussions.</i>

SSAB Board Meeting – September 16, 2025

I initially joined this Board in hopes of making a difference for Piketon and the surrounding communities. After all, the purpose of the Board was to provide advice and recommendations to the Department of Energy on site-specific issues, including cleanup activities, waste management, and future land use.

It soon became apparent however, that DOE didn't care to listen to the advice of the Board, so I, along with 2 other Board members, resigned in protest, not that it mattered to DOE. They would continue to ignore the advice of the Board and the community in their on-going efforts to hide the truth.

In 2017, DOE detected Neptunium-237 in an air monitor across from Zahn's Corner Middle School, yet didn't bother to tell the public until 2019. Then, in 2018, Americium-241 was found in that very same monitor but once again, the public wasn't told until later in 2019.

In April 2019, Dr. Michael Ketterer, professor emeritus in chemistry and biochemistry from Northern Arizona University, tested dust samples from inside Zahn's Corner Middle School, revealing enriched uranium from the Portsmouth facility, ultimately leading to the school's closure.

In a feeble attempt to counter the findings, a team from DOE snuck in over the Memorial Day weekend, collecting samples that supposedly showed no radioactivity above naturally occurring background levels.

I say supposedly because in 2024, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry or ATSDR released a report that said, according to DOE's PEGASIS dataset, the air monitor directly across from Zahn's Corner Middle School showed both Neptunium-237 and Uranium-235 above naturally occurring background levels for the entire period from 2016 to 2020.

Joe Mangano, Executive Director of the Radiation and Public Health Project, who has completed dozens of epidemiological studies in locations throughout the U.S., has performed 3 separate studies of the Piketon area. In his latest study last year,

Mr. Mangano found the overall premature death rate from cancer of those between the ages of 0 & 74 in Pike County from 2021 to 2023 to be 81.8% higher than the national average, with the overall death rate of that cohort to be 107.1% higher than the national average.

On the other hand, ATSDR, which has never performed a single epidemiological study, concluded an epidemiological study in the Piketon area wasn't warranted. That's because ATSDR doesn't want to perform epidemiological studies since doing so would reveal what Mr. Mangano found; higher cancer and premature death rates.

In April of this year, Duane Pohlman, Chief Investigative Reporter for WKRC-TV Channel-12 in Cincinnati, held a Town Hall for the victims of DOE's recklessness, yet not one of you bothered to attend.

On Sunday, August 24th, Mr. Pohlman released a damning one-hour special report titled "Fallout: Contamination, Cancer & Death" In that report, Mr. Pohlman spoke with everyone from former Assistant Secretary of DOE Anne White and former Senator Joe Manchin to former Chief Scientist at PORTS, Dr. David Minuta.

I'll end by playing a clip of a conversation between Mr. Pohlman and Dr. Minuta discussing "midnight rockets": *{for the record}*, Mr. Pohlman: "*Did our government kill our own people?*" Dr. Minuta: "*Yes*".

Lee Blackburn
Former member SSAB

Date: 9-16-25 **To:** U.S. Dept. of Energy Portsmouth Paducah Project Office (DOE) and the Portsmouth Site Specific Advisory Board (SSAB)

My name is Pat Marida and I'm from Columbus. Members of the public have been told that materials submitted to Eric Roberts 24 hours before SSAB meetings will be included in the printed information packets for the Board. We understand that materials of longer length will be linked and made available to the Board online. Please let us know if there has been a change in this policy.

The public would like to see the Board materials put onto the SSAB website. Materials include DOE information on the status of activities at PORTS that is important for the public to know. It is also important to have these materials available after the fact.

We understand that the National Advisory Board has requested that DOE give members of the public 5 minutes to speak at the various EM site SSAB meetings. They have also requested that meeting minutes and materials be put up on the websites in a timely fashion, and remain there. After that recommendation, Eric Roberts announced that members of the public would have 5 minutes to speak. Which lasted, as I recall, for one meeting. Since that time, Eric has revised the time to 2 or 3 minutes. Two minutes is not enough to raise one issue, let alone two or three that might become relevant during the now several-month periods between PORTS SSAB meetings. When only a few are signed up to speak, it amounts to an insult, particularly since PORTS SSAB meetings occur so infrequently. It is important that DOE include information about public speaking time in their announcements, both on the PORTS website and in ADAMS.

I am putting my statement in writing because in the past, the minutes have borne no resemblance to the statements I have made. This has also been true for others. Concerns and criticisms have been omitted, while foolish and meaningless statements have been attributed to speakers.

Since DOE came to town, cancer rates in Pike County have nearly doubled and premature death rates are double the U.S. average, according to government statistics researched by epidemiologist Joseph Mangano. Radioactivity is not compatible with life. It kills cells, meaning it can damage every system in the human body. It can damage DNA, causing problems with childbearing and worse, birth defects.

There is no reason for a sane society to create nuclear weapons and their so-called "peaceful" front, nuclear power. Whether or not nuclear war or nuclear power end up destroying most higher forms of life, human-made radioactivity is likely inside every one of us here now. It is bathing us with near speed-of-light rays and particles, adding to the dangers of naturally occurring radioactivity. Since there is no stopping radioactivity, the time for us to stop making it is now.

Yes, a handful of well-paid staff will need to find other jobs. For workers, there are over 3 times as many jobs in wind and solar as in nuclear. And those jobs aren't radioactive. We in the antinuclear movement stand in solidarity with unions. The same companies that expose workers to radioactivity (in many places not paying well) are also wreaking havoc with the places we live in multiple ways: from mining and extraction of minerals, to the many industries involved in nuclear production, to the transportation of materials – not to mention the energy use through all of this.

Another issue is that nuclear is not an ordinary business. In the case of weapons, the public pays for everything, including the jobs. Nothing useful to society is produced, diverting money that could go to education, housing, and healthcare. Wall Street will no longer invest a penny in nuclear power, so you and I will now pay for everything that goes on at PORTS. Watch our electric bills go through the roof, since the projected cost of nuclear electricity by 2040 is 3 to 5 times more than solar and wind.

It's time for DOE to move to solar and wind and stop bringing more deadly nuclear activities to PORTS. I'd like to recommend Duane Pohlman's latest video, 8-24-25: [Local 12 Investigates Special - Fallout: Contamination, Cancer, and Death](#). 55 minutes.

We are submitting these questions for Accountability.

1. Are the gaskets used in the process buildings made of Telon “forever chemicals’ and do they pose a radioactive risk?
2. The creek signs are still missing, which raises concerns about the effectiveness of the advisory board in addressing community concerns.
3. Moreover, recent news about a board member’s arrest and the funding of projects to county commissioners demands transparency and accountability.
4. What’s the real story behind these issues? Was the surrounding area Commissioners given money to put those 12 waste cell here, that shouldn’t be here at all, because of the moisture and the groundhogs, but most of all the largest aquifer in the Midwest under the site with bed rock fractures.
5. I have been told most of Sinclair Broadcasting has sold out to Black Rock Inc. they are shareholders with Vanguard INK. Why would Black Rock want to buy a contaminated School here and a contaminated quarry in Paducah.

Vina Colley

P.R.E.S.S

September 15, 2025