



Recommendation 16-01
January 7, 2016

*Portsmouth EM Site Specific
Advisory Board*

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RECOMMENDATION 16-01: Portsmouth (PORTS) Environmental Management (EM) Site Specific Board (SSAB) priorities are for continued efforts by Department of Energy (DOE) to accelerate the Decontamination & Decommission D&D Project at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

BACKGROUND: The Portsmouth Environmental Management SSAB (PORTS EM SSAB) has been tasked by DOE to provide input to the Department that outlines the board's priorities for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. The Portsmouth facility has long been an economic staple of the southern Ohio economy and funding the site properly is not only important to the site workforce, but is important to the small business community and the regional economy in this portion of Ohio.

In recent years, Congress has had to increase funding so site workers would avoid significant layoffs at the site. This reality, in conjunction with an unorthodox funding mechanism (barter program), has led to project instability and uncertainty. By fully funding the project, billions of dollars will be saved over the lifecycle and cleanup will occur in a manner that is most conducive for redevelopment of the site. It is the goal of the PORTS EM SSAB to communicate its project priorities to DOE with the understanding that fully funding the project is in the best interest of our site workforce, our regional business community, the southern Ohio economy and taxpayers everywhere.

RECOMMENDATION: Regarding priorities for the Portsmouth D&D Project, the PORTS EM SSAB's recommendation for the project falls in line with the recent letter by the Ohio delegation to Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, dated October 19, 2015. That letter calls for employment levels to remain stable and full project funding to occur so the project can be expedited.

As you know, deactivation of the large process buildings are a central activity in the D&D project and is a priority for the board. DOE has explained in detail the need for the construction of an On-Site Waste Disposal Facility (OSWDF) to be able to accommodate the waste from those buildings' demolitions and other waste disposition activities. The board is in support of the OSWDF under certain conditions that are outlined in SSAB recommendations 13-02 and 15-05. Construction of the OSWDF is also a board priority to ensure project fluidity, provided DOE satisfies all community conditions outlined in those recommendations.

The board also prioritizes the continuation of recycling activities through the DOE/Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI) Asset Transition Agreement and other efforts related to site reindustrialization. The board appreciates and expects the D&D contractor's Community Commitment Plan and the many community benefits to continue, including local procurement, educational outreach and community giving, among others.

As always, the PORTS EM SSAB appreciates its interaction with the Department of Energy and looks forward to addressing the many challenges in FY 2017 and beyond.

Thank you.