



Paducah Citizens Advisory Board

"working for the future"

111 Memorial Drive
Paducah, Kentucky 42001
(270) 554-3004

Recommendation 14-02: DOE Funding Priorities for the FY 2016 Budget

May 15, 2014

Background

The Department of Energy received a 2-year notification from the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) of their intent to return the facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant to DOE in August 2013. Consistent with the President's budget request DOE received \$324,524,000 to execute planned de-lease and deactivation activities, as well as meeting ongoing cleanup commitments at the PGDP site. The FY14 Continuing Resolution created a delay in PGDP facility return that could jeopardize meeting the August 2015 turnover date, thereby decreasing the ability to spend the full amount allotted in FY14.

To continue to meet the planned activities, DOE will have to accelerate work at the site through FY15 and into FY16. DOE will need an estimated \$369,773,000 to meet FY16 base operations, enforceable commitments, and other priorities, including those activities associated with returning the plant back to DOE.

The CAB was provided the following generic list of categories (in draft form) for the FY 16 IPL.

1. **IMMINENT THREATS** – No activities at Paducah currently are identified in this category.
2. **BASE OPERATIONS**
 - Security
 - Surveillance and Maintenance
 - Infrastructure Optimization
 - Waste Operations
 - UF₆ Cylinder Maintenance
 - DUF₆ Conversion Operation and Maintenance
3. **ENFORCEABLE COMMITMENTS** – Federal Facility Agreement (FFA)
 - C-400
 - Southwest Plume Sources
 - CERCLA Waste Disposal Facility (if selected)
 - Burial Grounds – SWMUs 5 and 6
 - Burial Grounds – SWMU 4
4. **OTHER PRIORITIES/PLANNING PACKAGES**
 - Deposit Removal
 - Accelerated Deactivation
 - Accelerated Environmental Restoration
 - Accelerated Decontamination and Decommissioning

The CAB requests that all of the categories listed on the IPL provided be fully funded. Items listed under Base Operations must be fully funded in order for the site to continue operations.

Paducah Citizens Advisory Board

"working for the future"

Enforceable commitments should be funded to comply with the Federal Facility Agreement milestones. Continued progress toward environmental remediation milestones remains a top priority of the CAB. Now that operation of the PGDP has ceased, DOE and the regulatory agencies involved with the FFA should explore site-wide remediation strategies that take into account operations ceasing at the PGDP. Decontamination & demolition sequencing that could not be part of the existing FFA due to the operation of the PGDP, could now enhance high priority remediation areas and complement adaptive reuse desires of the community.

While there are no Imminent Threats listed at the Paducah site, the CAB is aware that the items listed under Other Priorities/Planning Packages are critical to the safety of future workers and the environment. The CAB does not wish to see these additional items ignored to the point where risk level increases. Elimination of these potential risks and safety hazards is the most cost effective long term strategy.

Recommendation

The CAB recommends:

- **DOE fully fund the anticipated FY16 site request of \$369,773,000 to complete the list of 2016 IPL activities.**
- **DOE maintain an annual target funding level equal to the FY16 total in future budget requests, consistent with OMB flat funding requirements. This will allow the site to better meet enforceable milestones, facilitate the safe turnover of site facilities, allow for accelerated deactivation activities and minimize chances of increased contamination threats at the Paducah site.**