



Title: Inclusion of Work for Others Information in Oral Histories Video and Historical Document

Background:

The Paducah Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) has requested through Recommendation 10-08: *Historical Preservation: Comprehensive Oral Histories Program*, and 10-09: *Historical Preservation: Document Outlining the History of PGDP by Fall 2011*, that an oral histories project, along with an historical document, be developed. The DOE responded positively to the CAB's recommendations, and as a result a contract was let with the University of Kentucky, Kentucky Research Consortium for Energy and the Environment, to develop and execute a plan of action for both of these projects.

The CAB deeply appreciates the willingness of the DOE to capture and preserve the history of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) and the impacts it has had upon this area, and has taken actions toward completing that goal. CAB members are hopeful that by capturing oral histories of the Cold War veterans the history of the PGDP will come to life.

In an effort to incorporate as much as possible of the work which was accomplished at the PGDP into these two projects, it would please the CAB if the public could be made more knowledgeable of the Work for Others Program. The work done by the employees at the PGDP under this Program was invaluable to our Nation. While some work contributed to the success of America's space exploration, other work contributed to the sovereignty of our Nation. The Work for Others Program fused together the unique skills developed at the Paducah site with complicated national projects, allowing local employees to broaden their contribution to the scientific world.

It could be a source of community pride if the stories could be captured; if what was actually accomplished under the Work for Others Program by people who lived in our communities could be told. We are aware that national security requirements still exist and in no way want the security of our Nation compromised. However, information still classified for which there is no longer a national security need could be declassified. In this way, the general public could be enlightened on some of the work once performed in secret at the PGDP and the history of the Plant, whether oral or written, would be enriched.

Recommendation

In an effort to capture valuable oral histories without compromising classified information, the CAB respectfully requests that:

Information regarding Work for Others Program projects done at the PGDP, particularly space exploration projects, should be considered for declassification and release to the general public, providing national security concerns no longer exist.

In the long term, DOE conduct a classification study on the Work for Others Program accomplished at the PGDP in an effort to declassify information regarding work which was done that no longer jeopardizes national security.

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