



Department of Energy

Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office
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DEC 14 2010

Ms. Judy Clayton, Chair
Paducah Citizens Advisory Board
111 Memorial Drive
Paducah KY 42001

PPPO-02-967342-11

Dear Ms. Clayton:

RESPONSE TO CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS 10-10: PRESERVATION OF ARTIFACTS AND MEMORABILIA

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is in receipt of Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Consensus Recommendation 10-10: **In order that both historic information and artifacts at the PGDP site be preserved for future generations, the Citizens Advisory Board recommends:**

That DOE or its representative identify and preserve artifacts and memorabilia which are of historical significance or interest to the PGDP site. In light of the contribution this community made to the Nation through its efforts at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant site, it is essential that artifacts and memorabilia be secured, preserved, and displayed, so the community can have a properly documented and preserved historic record of the PGDP site for current and future generations. The CAB recognizes that the DOE and the Commonwealth of Kentucky have already entered into an agreement to preserve only by pictorial methods the history of the site, but we recommend that DOE go beyond that agreement and preserve tangible objects.

DOE supports this recommendation and will work with the CAB and other stakeholders, on preservation of historic artifacts from the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant site. DOE will endeavor to use the following process to identify and preserve artifacts but will adapt the process as necessary as circumstance dictates.

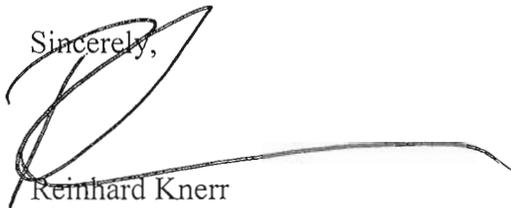
- DOE, with CAB input where possible, identifies artifacts to be preserved;
- The artifacts are removed from the facilities and evaluated for release;
- Items that are contaminated will be evaluated for decontamination based on cost and historical value;
- If the items are releasable or can be decontaminated economically, then the items will be stored for future use;
- Items that cannot be decontaminated will be disposed of compliantly; and
- In some instances it may be more desirable to replicate the artifact rather than decontaminate it.

As an example of how the process can work, presently DOE, with the assistance of CAB Chair Judy Clayton, has identified some items that are of historical interest. These items are currently being removed from the facilities and prepared for release. The difficulty and expense to decontaminate some of the items is too great for reuse or display to be practicable; therefore, those items require compliant disposal. DOE is having facsimiles fabricated where possible to preserve the history of that item for future generations. Additionally, to identify artifacts of historic interest for possible preservation DOE plans to ensure lifecycle planning including discrete steps to identify and remove items of historic interest.

DOE extends its appreciation to the CAB for their work on behalf of the community, their interest in expediting work effectively, and their support for continued enhancement of interaction among DOE, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and the Kentucky Division of Waste Management on behalf of the environmental management mission in Paducah.

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

Sincerely,



Reinhard Knerr
Paducah Site Lead
Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office

cc:
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