Overview
Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF₆) Management Program

Presentation for
DUF₆ Conversion Project
Environmental Impact Statement Scoping Meetings
November/December 2001
• **Mission**: Safely and efficiently manage the DOE inventory of DUF$_6$ in a way that protects the health and safety of workers and the public, and protects the environment
DUF₆ Inventory Distribution

57,634 Cylinders

East Tennessee Technology Park - ETTP (formally K-25):
- 4,683

Portsmouth:
- 16,041

Paducah:
- 36,910

704,000 Metric Tons of DUF₆

Portsmouth:
- 198,000

Paducah:
- 450,000

ETTP:
- 56,000
Deteriorating Storage Conditions Create Environmental and Safety Concerns

• Breaches
• Rust & Corrosion
• Yard Conditions
• Water Damage
• Ground Contact
Cylinder management involves safely storing the Department’s inventory of DUF₆ at the Paducah, Portsmouth, and ETTP sites until the DUF₆ is either used or disposed.
Long Term DUF₆ Management

The issue:
704,000 metric tons of DUF₆ stored outdoors in 57,634 carbon steel cylinders subject to corrosion and breaching, requiring perpetual maintenance.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Approach:
Tiered environmental review

• Programmatic EIS (PEIS) address broad issues

• Site Specific EIS is a focused review associated with implementing the PEIS Record of Decision (ROD)
# PEIS and ROD for Long Term DUF₆ Management

## Alternatives
- No Action
- Storage as UF₆
- Storage as Oxide
- Use as Oxide
- Use as Metal
- Disposal as Oxide

## The Preferred Alternative
- Draft PEIS (December 1997) - Begin Conversion, to metal and/or oxide when use is identified.
- Final PEIS (April 1999) - Begin Conversion as soon as possible.

## Record of Decision (August 1999)
- Begin conversion promptly
- Conversion facilities built consistent with Plan submitted in response to P.L. 105-204, consistent with NEPA
Public Law 105-204
(McConnell Act)

• Prepare and Submit to Congress a Plan, consistent with NEPA, that uses USEC Funds set aside for DUF6 disposition to:
  - Establish facilities that treat and recycle the Department’s DUF$_6$ inventory.
  - Build these treatment (conversion) facilities at Paducah and Portsmouth.

• Plan submitted in July 1999
DUF₆ Conversion Contract Scope

- Design, build, and operate for five years conversion plants at Paducah and Portsmouth
  - Conversion to be completed in no more than 25 years.
- Maintain the DUF₆ and conversion product inventories
  - Six month storage for conversion products
- Transport ETTP cylinders to Portsmouth for conversion
- Arrange for and transport excess conversion products to appropriate disposal facility
- Schedule to be defined by contractor such that:
  - Construction begins by January 2004
  - ETTP cylinders transported by December 2009
## Draft Scope for the EIS to the DUF₆ Conversion Project

### Proposed Alternatives

- No Action
- One Plant
- **Two Plants**
- Existing Conversion Capabilities
- OTHERS?

### Environmental Issues Associated with

- Construction, operation, maintenance, D&D of the facilities.
- Transport ETTP cylinders to conversion site.
- Transport conversion products not beneficially used to a LLW site.
- OTHERS?

### Decision Needed

What alternative to follow in implementing the “begin conversion promptly” PEIS ROD
We are seeking your input on the proposed EIS scope
What Happens Next in the DUF$_6$ NEPA Process

- Transcripts of the Scoping Meetings will be placed in Oak Ridge, Paducah, Portsmouth, and DOE-HQ reading rooms/information rooms and DUF$_6$ Web Site.

- Draft EIS scheduled for June 2002
  - Public meetings in Paducah, Portsmouth, and Oak Ridge
  - Scoping comments summary
  - 45-day comment period
  - Federal Register announcement will contain details

- Final EIS scheduled for January 2003

- ROD no earlier than 30-days after Final EIS
The Depleted UF6 Management Information Network Web Site is an online repository of information about the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) inventory of depleted uranium hexafluoride (UF6), a product of the uranium enrichment process. The site informs the public and other stakeholders about UF6 and DOE's program for management of its UF6 inventory, and facilitates public involvement.

News and Events

9/25/2001 Press Release for UF6 Conversion EIS
9/24/2001 NOI for Depleted UF6 Facilities

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