FACILITATOR: Ladies and gentlemen, it is 6:10 p.m. and this meeting has officially convened. Good evening. For those of you who I haven't seen in a number of years and for those of you that I recall from my former days in Oak Ridge, my name is Darryl Armstrong. I'm an independent facilitator that is contracted by the local, state and federal agencies and corporations throughout the United States to conduct public meetings such as this. My wife and I live in Eddyville, Kentucky on the back of Lake Barkley. We are independent business people, as many of you all may be. I am not an employee of the federal government, the Department of Energy, or any other federal or state agency. And I am not here in any type of decision-making capacity. A few preliminaries before we begin; the exits are as you came in and that is the only exit sign I see. May be one here. Is there one back here as well? Here and back here. And the rest rooms are behind us here. Refreshments are over here in the corner. Registration table in the back and information table in the back on the right-hand side. Could I ask you, if you would, please,
if you have cell phones or pagers, would you place them on silent ring or turn them off for the duration of the meeting so they don't interrupt us in the meeting. I am so technologically advanced that I have to leave mine in the truck because I don't have any idea how to put it on mute. In a moment I will introduce to you Mr. Gary Hartman, who will update you on the process associated with the Draft Environmental Impact Statements, known as EISs for the depleted Uranium conversion facilities, Hexafluoride conversion facilities, known as DUF6. A request, if would you, please, to hold any questions you might have about Mr. Hartman's presentation until the end of the presentation since a number of your questions may be answered. When he has finished speaking, I will return to the podium and facilitate a clarification question and answer session around his presentation. And once we are completed with that, then we will begin the formal hearing process.

MR. HARTMAN: Thank you, Darryl. Good evening. I'm Gary Hartman, I'm a DOE NEPA Document Manager. NEPA is an acronym for the
National Environmental Policy Act, and I'm the document manager for these two Draft Environmental Impact Statements for the construction and operation of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride conversion facilities at the Paducah, Kentucky and Portsmouth, Ohio sites. On behalf of the Department of Energy, I would like to welcome you to tonight's public meeting. Tonight's hearing is an important step in DOE'S ongoing effort to effectively manage the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride inventory, or DUF6, stored in cylinders at the Portsmouth, Paducah and Oak Ridge sites. We are here tonight to receive your comments on the two draft site specific conversion EISs that have been prepared to support the program. The documents are an important step in meeting the requirements of Public Law 107-206 and in achieving site cleanup objectives. We look forward to receiving your comments, which we seriously consider, and encourage your continued participation. Before we start receiving your comments on the draft conversion EISs, I would like to take a few minutes to bring you up to date on the EISs and DOE'S
proposed action and alternatives. As many of
you know, a notice of intent to prepare a
single EIS for construction of DUF6, or
Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride, conversion
facilities at Portsmouth and Paducah was
published in the federal register on September
18, 2001. Public scoping meetings were held in
November and December of 2001 at Portsmouth,
Paducah and Oak Ridge. In August, 2002, while
preparation of the EIS was underway, congress
passed public law 107-206. Among other
requirements, this law directed the Department
of Energy to award a contract for construction
and operation of conversion facilities at both
the Portsmouth and Paducah sites. The
conversion contract was awarded to Uranium
Disposition Services, or UDS, on August 29,
2002. As a result of Public Law 107-206, site
specific EISs for each of the two conversion
facilities, excuse me, let me back up just a
second; as a result of the public law and the
award of the conversion contract, DOE decided
to prepare two separate site specific EISs for
each of the two conversion facilities. This
change in approach was announced in the federal
register on April 28, 2003. The two draft EISs
were published on November 28, 2003. I would
like to take this opportunity to explain the
proposed actions that are analyzed in the
conversion facility EISs. The proposed actions
are very similar in both the Paducah and
Portsmouth documents. In the Portsmouth EIS
the proposed action is to construct and operate
a conversion facility at the Portsmouth site
for the conversion of the DUF6, or Depleted
Uranium Hexafluoride, that is stored at
Portsmouth, as well as the DUF6 currently
stored at the East Tennessee Technology Park in
Oak Ridge, which is the former K-25 site. The
Portsmouth proposed action includes the
shipment of all of the UF6 cylinders from the
ETTP, or the former K-25 site, to Portsmouth,
as well as possible construction of the new
cylinder yard for the ETTP cylinders. In the
Paducah EIS the proposed action is to construct
and operate a conversion facility at Paducah
for the conversion of the DUF6 currently stored
at that site. The proposed actions in the two
EISs have many common elements. In both cases
the DUF6 cylinders would be maintained in safe
storage conditions until conversion could take place. Within the conversion facilities the DUF6 would be converted into Uranium Oxide, which is the most stable form of Uranium. Conversion would also produce Hydrogen Fluoride, or HF, as a coproduct. The Depleted Uranium Oxide would be sent to a disposal facility in Utah. The emptied cylinders would either be disposed of as low level waste or reused as disposal containers for the Depleted Uranium Oxide. The HF, which is a chemical used as an acid in many industrial processes, would be sold to a commercial HF producer for resale. As a contingency, the conversion facilities would have the option of converting the HF to Calcium Fluoride, or CaF2, which could be sold for use or sent to a disposal facility. In regard to the potential sale of HF, or Calcium Fluoride, for conversion, DOE has established a formal process for obtaining authorized limits for the release of potentially contaminated materials for unrestricted use. This process, which is described in detail in appendix E of the two EISs, is being conducted in parallel with the
current NEPA activities. Your comments on the potential sale and use of conversion products are welcome and will be considered in both the EISs and in the process for obtaining authorized release limits. I would now like to explain the alternatives that are evaluated in each of the EISs. You may notice that the alternatives differ somewhat from those described in the original notice of intent and the public scoping needs. You may recall that the original alternatives included a one conversion plant alternative and evaluation of several conversion technologies. With the passage of public law 107-206, which directed the department to build two plants, the alternatives were subsequently reevaluated by the department. At the Portsmouth site the alternatives evaluated in the direct EIS included no action alternative and three site alternatives. The no action alternative, which is required by the National Environmental Policy Act, evaluates the continued storage of DUF6 in cylinders at the Portsmouth and ETTP sites indefinitely. For the conversion alternatives three different locations for
construction are considered. Denoted locations A, B and C. In addition, the Portsmouth EIS includes an evaluation of the option of shipping the ETTP cylinders to Paducah rather than Portsmouth. The three candidate sites evaluated at Portsmouth are shown here. Location A, which is the preferred site, is located in the Northwest portion of the site in an area where warehouses were previously used to store Lithium. Directly to the south is location B, which includes the buildings previously constructed for the gas centrifuge enrichment facility. On the east side of the site is location C, which includes mostly grassy fields. The alternatives evaluated for the Paducah site EIS are similar to the Portsmouth alternatives. The no action alternative evaluates the continued storage of DUF6 in cylinders at the Paducah site where the conversion alternative three locations are also considered. In addition, the option of shipping the ETTP cylinders to Paducah instead of Portsmouth is evaluated. The three candidate sites evaluated at Paducah are shown here. The preferred location is location A,
which is located to the east of the main entrance road directly adjacent to the majority of the cylinder yards. Location B is slightly to the north and west, and location C is in the far northeast corner of the site. The public comment period on the two EISs will be open through February 2, 2004. Although, comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable. There are many ways for you to submit comments, including attendance at these public meetings, over the Internet, by E-mail, phone, fax or by writing directly to me. All comments are considered equally. Following the public comment period the draft EISs will be revised to take into account the comments received. The final EISs are scheduled to be published on June 23rd of this year. One month later, on July 23rd, the department expects to release the records of decision for the two EISs with construction of the conversion facilities scheduled to begin at the end of July. At this time I would like to turn the meeting back over to Darryl Armstrong to begin the formal public hearing portion of the EIS.
FACILITATOR: Before I do that, are there any clarifications or questions that you have on Mr. Hartman's presentation?

MS. GAWARECKI: Yes, Gary, can you tell us what companies are in the coalition that forms UDS; and also will the conversion facility ultimately be used for disposal of newly generated waste or is the D&D part of the contract?

MS. WALTON: Can you repeat the question because we couldn't hear it?

FACILITATOR: The first part of the question was who forms the coalition.

MR. HARTMAN: I think we have some of the gentlemen from UDS present. Would you be willing to answer that portion of the question regarding the coalition?

SPEAKER: UDS is comprised of Duratek, Incorporated, (indiscernible) and Burns and Roe Enterprises.

FACILITATOR: And the second question?

MR. HARTMAN: I think the second part of the question had to do with the newly generated waste from the conversion.

MS. GAWARECKI: Yes.
MR. HARTMAN: Of course, the focus of these EISs is for the waste that is in the existing inventory of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride. Fred, do we evaluate newly generated waste at all in the EISs?

FRED: The EISs include a section that recognizes the possibility, recognizes that DUF6 continues to be generated by USEC and that it is possible at sometime in the future that these plans could be used for conversion of the material as well.

FACILITATOR: Other questions or clarifications on Mr. Hartman's presentation? If there are none, thank you, Gary. The time is 6:25 and I will now convene officially the public hearing section of this meeting. We will end this meeting promptly at nine p.m. unless for some reason I should need to negotiate with you to extend beyond that time. My responsibility this evening, with your assistance, and I will need your assistance, is to ensure that each and every member of the public who wishes to speak on the record tonight has the opportunity to do so in a mannerly and courteous and orderly fashion.
The purpose of tonight's meeting; the first one was to provide you an update on the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride DUF6 Draft Environmental Impact Statements and the DUF6 environmental process. These posters at the back of the room and around the room will also assist in that process. If you have an opportunity to take a look at those, we encourage you to do so.

Secondly; the purpose is to transcribe for the official record your comments, suggestions, and questions on the Draft Environmental Impact Statements. These statements concern the construction, operation, maintenance, decontamination and decommissioning of the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride conversion facilities in Portsmouth, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky. Public participation has been encouraged throughout this process and the Department of Energy has provided opportunities throughout the process for input. There are several ways, as Mr. Hartman indicated to you, that you can provide your comments. That information is on the back of his presentation, page five. If you need a copy of that, I encourage you to pick up a copy at the back
table before you leave. These are the
documents that you are commenting on. There is
one for Paducah and one for Portsmouth. They
are also available to you, if you are
interested, on CD. My personal preference
would be this. These are pretty heavy. If you
wish to secure a copy, those copies are
available here, they are available at the back
table and they will be available here even
after tonight. Certainly, if you need more
than is housed here, if you will contact
Mr. Hartman, I assure you that he will get them
to you. You are invited this evening to enter
your comments, suggestions, issues and
questions into the record. Since this is a
public hearing, however, DOE will not be
answering questions during the hearing. DOE
managers, however, and representatives from
Argonne National Laboratory, who is assisting
in this process, will be available following
the public hearing to meet with you and discuss
any questions or comments or issues that you
might have, if you wish to meet with them.
Simply, this is not a forum for debate, it is a
formal hearing session. Is there anyone who
does not understand the purpose of tonight's meeting? Since this is a formal public hearing, I would like to introduce to you to my left Ms. Joan Roberts. Ms. Roberts is with Roberts Court Reporting in Clinton, Tennessee. She is recording and transcribing this meeting. If you have written comments from which you are speaking this evening, Ms. Roberts has asked if you could leave a copy of those comments with her she would appreciate it. A copy of the transcript of this meeting will be completed and will be available here in this room in the resource area and these transcripts will also be available on the DUF6 DOE Website. Here is the process I will follow this evening. Those of you who wish to speak, be sure you have registered at the door. Those registration sheets will be what I will use to call you to this microphone to make your statements. I am advised that each person will have five minutes to speak. There will be no sharing of time or passing of leftover time to another speaker. I simply ask that you make your comments and statements succinctly and concisely within the allotted time. When you have two minutes left
on your time, I will tell you that. And when
you have one minute left, I will ask you to
summarize and conclude your statements. When
your time is up, you will hear the timer go
off. When it goes off, I will thank you and
call for the next speaker. I am using a timer,
by the way, to ensure equatability. When
everyone has had the opportunity that has
signed up to speak, I will then ask if there is
anyone that has not signed up to speak and then
I will open the opportunity for anybody that
wishes to extend their comments another five
minutes to return to the microphone and do so.
If you have comments, questions or ideas that
you wish to share, but you are kind of like I
am and you are introverted and shy, you can
also pick up one of these comment sheets and
either take it with you and send it back to
Mr. Hartman by fax or mail; or you can leave it
in the box at the back of the room tonight, if
you choose. Also the court reporter will be
available at the end of the formal session to
meet with anybody one on one who wishes to give
their comments privately. If there are those
of you who wish to extend your comment
privately, she will also be available to do that as well. This is where I need your assistance. Be sure, if you wish to speak, that you have signed up at the back of the room. I will use those registration sheets to call you to the microphone randomly. I will ask, as a courtesy, if there are any federal, state or local officials or their representatives here, first, if they would wish to speak, they will also be given five minutes. When you come to the microphone, please, clearly state your name, speak toward the court reporter so that we ensure that we get your comments on the record. Is there anyone who does not understand how I will handle the comment period? Then the sixty-four thousand dollar question. Is there anyone who is not willing to assist me in conducting this meeting in a courteous and mannerly manner? Thank you. Let's begin. I have two speakers so far that have signed up. Before I call them to the microphone, are there any representatives from the local, state or federal level, or any elected officials, who would like to speak at this time? If so, please stand up and come
forward. Seeing none, Barbara Walton will be the first speaker; who will be followed by Norman Mulvenon.

MS. WALTON: I'm Barbara Walton and I live here in Oak Ridge and I'm speaking as an individual. I appreciate this opportunity to comment. I think they did a good job of preparing these documents and I agree with the preferred alternatives. However, we have somewhat been overtaken by events and the decision has been made to build the centrifuge base enrichment plant at Portsmouth. And partly as a result of that, and partly for other reasons, the cumulative impacts section of the Portsmouth document, I feel, has some inadequacies, which I would like to see remedied in the final EIS. They refer to a 1977 document, a 1977 Analysis of Environmental Consequences for such an action that was done by U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration. This is on page 5-117 of the Portsmouth document. I would like to see that updated. I'm assuming that there will be an EIS done for the enrichment facility that will be built at Portsmouth. This document does
state that it will be located in area B that was considered here, so there is no conflict there. Also, there were, in the worker dose on page 5-115 there were two footnotes. Note I said that there was no worker dose given for the lead cascade and the information just was not available. And I hope that that can be remedied to where a better estimate than a 1977 document could be given for the final. In addition, there is a section on historical safety for Anhydrous Ammonia and Hydrogen Fluoride, which goes up through 2002, but the table of impacts on page 5-104 analyzes forty-nine percent and seventy percent Aqueous Hydrogen Fluoride. I suspect that was done because it is a bounding, but I would like a clear statement about that. I note that there was a recent derailment of fuming Sulfuric Acid in Knoxville and a lot of people were evacuated away from their homes for three or four days and that is a similar order of magnitude. And thirdly; in the Paducah Environmental Impact Statement on page 320 is figure 3.1-4 on the wetlands. This figure is titled Paducah, but it is the identical figure that is in the
Portsmouth document on page 3-19. In other words, they have shown the Portsmouth wetlands in the Paducah document. And I assume that could be corrected for the final. Also, they say in the document that use of an overpack is most likely to ship the noncompliant cylinders, but they also analyze the building of a facility in Oak Ridge. I would like a more definitive statement on that. They don't analyze it as an alternative or give a preference, it's just a general statement and I would like a definite statement that that is what they plan to do. It's fine that they analyze more than one thing, which is what you are supposed to do in an EIS. And I think that covers the major points that I had. Thank you.

FACILITATOR: Norman.

MR. MULVENON: I'm Norman Mulvenon. M-u-l-v-e-n-o-n. I'm a resident of the City of Oak Ridge. My main theme is to thank the Department of Energy finally for issuing these environmental impact statements. And the second thing is that I concur with everything that Ms. Walton said. Barbara is very meticulous in reading these documents and is
one of our resources in making sure that the
Department of Energy follows all the rules.
Our main theme here in Oak Ridge is that we
ship those cylinders out of here. We don't
particularly care whether they go to Portsmouth
or Paducah, but they are scheduled to go to
Portsmouth. There are some empties that have
been recently sent to the Nevada test site and
there are some partially filled cylinders that
are ready to go to Ohio right now. And then
the bulk of them are the cylinders which are
going to be shipped out. Our main theme is
that they should leave the City of Oak Ridge.
They present an issue with us about being able
to use the K-25 or ETTP site as a
reindustrialization site. If you were a person
who wanted to lease or build a building out
there and all you see is thousands of these
cylinders stacked around it, I don't think it
is very conducive to people wanting to actually
use the site. Our main theme; ship them out of
here. Thank you very much.

FACILITATOR: Thank you, sir. Anyone
else registered, Fred?

FRED: No, sir.
FACILITATOR: Is there anyone who has not registered who would like to speak at this time? Please step forward and state your name for the record.

MS. GAWARECKI: Good evening, I'm pleased to be able to speak on the EISs. I am Susan Gawarecki, G-a-w-a-r-e-c-k-i, Executive Director of the local oversight committee and several of our stakeholder members are here tonight. We follow EISs like this quite closely and will issue some official comments on them. I wanted to say that I concur with Barbara Walton and Norman Mulvenon and especially emphasize that safe and rapid shipment of the cylinders out is a high priority in this community. We would hope that UDS would look at this for their part of the shipping very early on, involve the stakeholders. Do consider the option of rail transportation instead of by truck. And understand that you are going to have to be working with a number of states and emergency management organizations as well. And there are good organizations already built up and a lot of planning done already. And certainly,
we are eager to work with the company and make sure that they understand what the needs of the communities are. But again, we are very interested in seeing those cylinders shipped out in a timely and safe manner. Thank you.

FACILITATOR: Thank you. Is there anybody else who is not registered that would like to speak at this time? Please step forward and state your name for the record.

MR. FORSBERG: Charles Forsberg, F-o-r-s-b-e-r-g. Short comment; the facilities should include expandable long-term storage facilities for the stable Depleted Uranium Dioxide waste product. The historical record of the United States and other Western countries is that disposal always takes longer than planned. Plan ahead.

FACILITATOR: Thank you, sir. Is there anyone else who would like to speak who is not registered at this time? This is like church, you are going to get two more calls. Anyone else? Is there anyone who would like to extend their comments who has already spoken? If there is anyone who would like to give their comments one-on-one with the court reporter
privately at the close of this session, she will be available until the close of business on this hearing which is at nine o'clock. The DOE and the Argonne National Laboratory representatives are available following this meeting, if you would like to meet with them privately one-on-one or discuss any issues with them. The public record will remain open and accept comments from the public through February 2, 2004. Comments that are received by this date will be included in the public record. Comments received after this time will be considered to the extent practical. If you wish to have your comments on the official record after tonight, you may submit written comments by mail, by fax or by e-mail directly to Mr. Gary Hartman with U.S. Department of Energy. That information is on page five of his presentation. Fred, what time is it back there?

FRED: Quarter to seven.

FACILITATOR: Ladies and gentlemen, it is 6:45. I want to thank each of you for coming this evening. I am always comforted to know that people are willing to take time away
from their families to come to meetings like this and let their opinions be known on such projects. Participation has made this meeting successful and we thank you for your attendance. Please be safe driving home. This meeting is now officially adjourned.
CERTIFICATE


_____________________________
JOAN S. ROBERTS, COURT REPORTER