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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: DOE Release of DUF6 Conversion  
Facility Draft Environmental  
Impact Statements

DATE: January 13, 2004

LOCATION: Department of Energy  
Environmental Information Center  
115 Memorial Drive  
Paducah, Kentucky 42001

TIME: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

FACILITATOR: Darryl Armstrong

REPORTED BY: Amy S. Caronongan, RPR, CSR

Registered Professional Reporters

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## P R O C E E D I N G S

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MR. ARMSTRONG: Ladies and gentlemen, if

5

I can have your attention, please. The time

6

is 6:00 p.m., and this meeting has officially

7

convened.

8

My name is Darryl Armstrong. I am an

9

independent facilitator that is contracted by

10

local, state, federal agencies, and

11

corporations throughout the United States to

12

conduct meetings such as these. I am a small

13

business person. I live in Eddyville,

14

Kentucky. Well, actually on the back of Lake

15

Barkley over on Eddy Creek. I am not an

16

employee, nor am I a representative of the

17

Department of Energy or any other federal or

18

state agency. I am in no decision-making

19

capacity tonight. I am here as a facilitator

20

of this meeting.

21

A few preliminaries. In the event of an

22

emergency, you would exit through the door

23

that you came in. The restrooms are back to

24

the left, and there are refreshments back in

25

the corner up here across from the

1 registration table.

2 In a few minutes, I'll introduce to you  
3 John Sheppard, who is the project manager for  
4 the depleted uranium hexafluoride Paducah site  
5 office project. And he will, in turn,  
6 introduce Mr. Gary Hartman, who will update  
7 you on the process associated with the Draft  
8 Environmental Impact Statements for the DUF6  
9 project.

10 Now, as you all know, if you work with  
11 the government very much, they're real big on  
12 acronyms. I try to make it easy on my court  
13 reporters and transcribers, and so I  
14 frequently will speak those out. Please bear  
15 with me. And by the way, this is her first  
16 time to do a public hearing of this type, so  
17 I'm going a little bit slower than I normally  
18 would go, as well.

19 Following Mr. Hartman's presentation, I  
20 would ask that during that presentation, you  
21 hold any questions about his presentation  
22 until he's completed. And then I will step  
23 back up here and facilitate a question and  
24 answer and clarification period around that  
25 part of the presentation before I formally

1 begin the public meeting process itself.

2 Mr. Sheppard?

3 MR. SHEPPARD: Thank you, Darryl. It's  
4 good to be here tonight. On behalf of the  
5 Department of Energy, I'm pleased to welcome  
6 you to this public hearing. This is an  
7 important project for DOE, both DOE in  
8 general, and it's an especially important  
9 project for the Paducah site. It's also an  
10 important project for the Portsmouth site, as  
11 some of you are very familiar with that site  
12 also. It's important to this community.

13 And ultimately, what we're dealing with  
14 is a project that has a positive impact on one  
15 of the by-products of this enrichment process  
16 at the site that has been ongoing for some 50  
17 years. Most of you are very familiar with  
18 that. From that standpoint, like I say, it's  
19 very important to the DOE, and it's very  
20 important to this community.

21 We're talking about tonight addressing  
22 comments on the Draft Environmental Impact  
23 Statement for the depleted UF6 conversion  
24 facility, and this statement is for here at  
25 Paducah.

1           We're pleased to have you here. It is  
2 very important to have the public input and  
3 comment with regard to the content of that  
4 statement to bring this draft into eventual  
5 final form.

6           As I was thinking about this process,  
7 actually, this meeting tonight, the state of  
8 the project itself is a bit of a fruition of a  
9 long sequence of, if you will, NEPA actions  
10 with regard to this inventory of depleted UF6,  
11 not only at Paducah, but in the DOE inventory  
12 in general. So it's -- we're seeing the  
13 results of a lot of work over several years in  
14 trying to determine what is the best end  
15 result for this product.

16           As Darryl indicated, Gary Hartman will be  
17 providing some introductory comments, giving  
18 an indication of the status of where we are  
19 and where we are going. Gary comes from DOE  
20 in Oak Ridge. He is the acting NEPA  
21 compliance manager, and that is out of the  
22 Office of Environmental Safety, Health, and  
23 Quality Assurance in Oak Ridge. He has also  
24 been serving as the NEPA document manager.  
25 And particularly, he has had the lead on this

1 document along the way. We're glad to have  
2 Gary with us here and to help open us up to  
3 the process we're dealing with.

4 We also have from Oak Ridge Walter Perry,  
5 who is from the Office of Public Affairs.  
6 Most of you are very familiar with Walter,  
7 because he's been at the site many times and  
8 been very helpful to us in dealing with public  
9 interactions with regard to site matters.

10 There's one other group that's here that  
11 I'd like to identify in support of Gary  
12 Hartman and the preparation of this EIS  
13 statement, which has been Argonne National  
14 Laboratory. There's four representatives from  
15 that team. I know that there are others who  
16 have worked on it, but four key people. John  
17 Gasper is from ANL Washington DC office.  
18 Halil Avci is from Argonne Chicago. Fred  
19 Monette is from Argonne Chicago, and Heidi  
20 Hartmann. All three of them have had -- all  
21 four of them have had key technical input in  
22 the development of this EIS statement, and  
23 we're pleased to have them here tonight.

24 Again, I would simply say that the public  
25 input with regard to this project and the path

1 forward is extremely important, and I welcome  
2 you here and look forward to a good hearing  
3 tonight. Thank you.

4 MR. HARTMAN: Thank you, John.

5 Good evening. I'm Gary Hartman, the DOE  
6 document manager for the two Draft  
7 Environmental Impact Statements for  
8 construction and operation of depleted uranium  
9 hexafluoride, or DUF6, conversion facilities  
10 at the Paducah, Kentucky, and Portsmouth,  
11 Ohio, sites.

12 First, I'd like to thank you for coming  
13 to tonight's meeting. We look forward to  
14 receiving your input and comments on these two  
15 important documents.

16 Before we start receiving your comments  
17 on the draft conversion EISs, I'd like to take  
18 a few moments to bring you up to date on the  
19 EISs and DOE's proposed actions and  
20 alternatives.

21 As many of you know, a notice of intent  
22 to prepare a single EIS for construction of  
23 DUF6 conversion facilities at Paducah and  
24 Portsmouth was published in the federal  
25 register on September the 18th, 2001.

1 Public scoping meetings were held in November  
2 and December of 2001 at Portsmouth, Paducah,  
3 and Oak Ridge. In August 2002, while  
4 preparation of the EIS was underway, Congress  
5 passed Public Law 107-206. Among other  
6 requirements, this law directed the DOE to  
7 award a contract for construction and  
8 operation of conversion facilities at both the  
9 Paducah and Portsmouth sites. The conversion  
10 contract was awarded to Uranium Disposition  
11 Services, or UDS, on August the 29th, 2002.

12 As a result of Public Law 107-206 and the  
13 award of the conversion contract, DOE decided  
14 to prepare separate site-specific EISs for  
15 each of the two conversion facilities. This  
16 change in approach was announced in the  
17 federal register on April the 28th, 2002 --  
18 2003. I'm sorry. The two draft EISs were  
19 published on November the 28th, 2003.

20 I'd like to take this opportunity to  
21 explain the proposed actions that are analyzed  
22 in the conversion facility EISs. The proposed  
23 actions are very similar in both the Paducah  
24 and Portsmouth documents. In the Portsmouth  
25 EIS, the proposed action is to construct and

1 operate a conversion facility at the  
2 Portsmouth site for the conversion of the  
3 DUF6, or depleted uranium hexafluoride, stored  
4 at Portsmouth, as well as the DUF6 currently  
5 stored at the East Tennessee Technology Park  
6 in Oak Ridge, which is the former K-25 site.

7 The Portsmouth proposed action includes  
8 the shipment of all of the UF6 cylinders from  
9 the ETTP site or the K-25 site to Portsmouth,  
10 as well as possible construction of a new  
11 cylinder yard for the ETTP cylinders.

12 In the Paducah EIS, the proposed action  
13 is to construct and operate a conversion  
14 facility at Paducah for the conversion of the  
15 DUF6 currently stored at that site.

16 The proposed actions in the two EISs have  
17 many common elements. In both cases, the DUF6  
18 cylinders would be maintained in safe storage  
19 condition in accordance with the recent  
20 agreement with the Commonwealth of Kentucky  
21 until conversion can take place.

22 Within the conversion facilities, the  
23 DUF6 would be converted into uranium oxide,  
24 which is the most stable form of uranium.  
25 Conversion would also produce hydrogen

1 fluoride, or HF, as a co-product.

2 The depleted uranium oxide would be sent  
3 to a disposal facility in Utah. The emptied  
4 cylinders would either be disposed of as  
5 low-level waste or reused and disposed -- in  
6 disposal containers -- excuse me -- or they  
7 would be reused as disposal containers for the  
8 depleted uranium oxide.

9 The HF, which is a chemical use as an  
10 acid in many industrial processes, would be  
11 sold to a commercial HF producer for resale.  
12 As a contingency, the conversion facilities  
13 would have the option of converting the HF to  
14 calcium fluoride or  $\text{CaF}_2$ , which could be sold  
15 for use or sent to a disposal facility.

16 In regard to the potential sale of HF or  
17 calcium fluoride from conversion, DOE has  
18 established a formal process for obtaining  
19 authorized limits for the release of  
20 potentially contaminated materials for  
21 unrestricted use. This process, which is  
22 described in detail in Appendix E of the two  
23 EISs, is being conducted in parallel with the  
24 current NEPA activities.

25 Your comments on the potential sale and

1 use of conversion products are welcome and  
2 will be considered in both the EISs and in the  
3 process for obtaining authorized release  
4 limits.

5 I'd now like to explain the alternatives  
6 that are evaluated in each of the EISs. You  
7 may notice that the alternatives differ  
8 somewhat from those described in the original  
9 notice of intent and at the public scoping  
10 meetings.

11 You may recall that the original  
12 alternatives included a one conversion plant  
13 alternative and evaluation of several  
14 conversion technologies. With the passage of  
15 Public Law 107-206, which directed the  
16 department to build two plants, the  
17 alternatives were reevaluated by the  
18 department.

19 At the Portsmouth site, the alternatives  
20 evaluated in the draft EIS include a no-action  
21 alternative, which is required by the National  
22 Environmental Policy Act and three siting  
23 alternatives. The no-action alternative  
24 evaluates continued storage of DUF6, or  
25 depleted uranium hexafluoride, in cylinders at



1 the Portsmouth and ETTP sites indefinitely.

2 For the conversion alternatives, three  
3 different locations for construction are  
4 considered -- denoted locations A, B, and C.  
5 In addition, the Portsmouth EIS includes an  
6 evaluation of the option of shipping the ETTP  
7 cylinders to Paducah rather than Portsmouth.

8 The three candidate sites evaluated at  
9 Portsmouth are shown here. Location A, which  
10 is the preferred site, is located in the  
11 northwest portion of the site in an area where  
12 warehouses were previously used to store  
13 lithium. Directly to the south is Location B,  
14 which includes the buildings previously  
15 constructed for the gas centrifuge uranium  
16 enrichment process. On the east side of the  
17 site is Location C, which includes mostly  
18 grassy fields.

19 The alternatives evaluated for the  
20 Paducah site EIS are similar to the Portsmouth  
21 alternatives. The no-action alternative,  
22 which is required by NEPA, evaluates the  
23 continued storage of DUF6 in cylinders at the  
24 Paducah site.

25 For the conversion alternative, three



1 locations are also considered. In addition,  
2 the option of shipping the ETPP cylinders to  
3 Paducah instead of Portsmouth is evaluated.

4 The three candidate sites evaluated at  
5 Paducah are shown here. The preferred  
6 location is Location A, which is located to  
7 the east of the main entrance road directly  
8 adjacent to the majority of the cylinder  
9 yards. Location B is slightly to the north  
10 and west. And Location C is in the far  
11 northeast corner of the site.

12 The public comment period on the two EISs  
13 will be open through February the 2nd, 2004;  
14 although, comments received after that date  
15 will be considered to the extent practicable.  
16 There are many ways for you to submit  
17 comments, including attendance at these public  
18 meetings, over the Internet, by e-mail, phone,  
19 fax, or by writing directly to me. All  
20 comments will be considered equally.

21 Following the public comment period, the  
22 draft EISs will be revised to take into  
23 account the comments received. The final EISs  
24 are scheduled to be released on June 23rd of  
25 this year. One month later, on July the

1 23rd, the department expects to release the  
2 records of decision for the two EISs with  
3 construction of the conversion facility  
4 scheduled to begin at the end of July.

5 At this time, I would like to turn the  
6 meeting back over to Darryl Armstrong so that  
7 we can begin the formal comment session on the  
8 two draft conversion EISs.

9 MR. ARMSTRONG: Before I begin the formal  
10 hearing process, are there any questions or  
11 clarifications for Mr. Hartman in regards to  
12 his presentation?

13 (No response)

14 The time is 6:17. I will now officially  
15 convene the public hearing section of this  
16 meeting.

17 We will end this meeting promptly at  
18 9:00 p.m., unless for some reason I should  
19 need to negotiate additional time with you to  
20 extend beyond that point.

21 My responsibility this evening with your  
22 assistance -- and I'm going to need your  
23 assistance -- is to ensure that each and every  
24 member of the public that wishes to speak on  
25 the record on this subject tonight has the

1 opportunity to do so in a mannerly, courteous,  
2 and orderly fashion.

3 The purpose of tonight's meeting is  
4 twofold. The first was to provide you an  
5 update on the depleted uranium hexafluoride,  
6 also known as DUF6; Draft Environmental Impact  
7 Statements; and the DUF6 environmental  
8 process. These posters that are around the  
9 room will also help you in regards to  
10 understanding that process.

11 The second purpose is to transcribe for  
12 the record your comments, suggestions, and  
13 questions on these Draft Environmental Impact  
14 Statements. These Draft Environmental Impact  
15 Statements, also known as EISs, concern the  
16 construction, operation, maintenance, and  
17 decontamination and decommissioning of  
18 depleted uranium hexafluoride conversion  
19 facilities in Portsmouth, Ohio, and Paducah,  
20 Kentucky.

21 Public participation in the EIS process  
22 has been encouraged, and there are several  
23 ways for you to provide comments, as  
24 Mr. Hartman has indicated. This public  
25 hearing tonight is just one of those ways.

1 DOE has encouraged public involvement  
2 throughout the process and has provided  
3 regular opportunities as appropriate to  
4 provide that input.

5 If you need a copy of Mr. Hartman's  
6 presentation or a copy of the fact sheet, they  
7 are available on the table here to the left.  
8 I would encourage you to get a copy before you  
9 leave. All the names, addresses, telephone  
10 numbers that you need to get in touch with  
11 Mr. Hartman are on those sheets.

12 And these, ladies and gentlemen, are the  
13 documents that you are commenting on this  
14 evening, one for Paducah and one for  
15 Portsmouth. Any of you that would like to  
16 have your own personal copy of this, you can  
17 pick up a copy at the back table there.  
18 Copies will be left here in this office for  
19 you. You can also get copies of this on CDs,  
20 if you are so inclined. And there is one for  
21 Paducah and one for Portsmouth, and they're  
22 quickly selling out at the back table.

23 If at any time you need more copies than  
24 are available here, please feel free to  
25 contact Mr. Hartman at his toll-free number,

1 and he will see to it that your requests are  
2 fulfilled.

3           You are invited this evening to enter  
4 your comments, suggestions, issues, and  
5 questions into the record. However, please  
6 note that DOE will not be answering questions  
7 during the hearing itself. The DOE managers  
8 will be available, as well as the folks from  
9 ANL, Argonne National Laboratory, after this  
10 meeting to meet with any of you and explore  
11 any questions or issues that you wish with  
12 them. Simply, this is not a forum or a  
13 debate. This is a formal listening session.

14           Is there anyone who does not understand  
15 the purpose of tonight's meeting?

16           (No response)

17           Well, since this is a formal public  
18 hearing, I want to introduce you to our court  
19 reporter, Amy Caronongan, with West Kentucky  
20 Reporting Service. She is recording and  
21 transcribing this meeting. If you have  
22 written comments from which you are speaking  
23 tonight, she would very much appreciate you  
24 sharing a copy of those comments with her  
25 before you leave this evening.

1           A copy of this transcript, once it's been  
2 completed, will be available here in this  
3 room, I understand. These transcripts will  
4 also be available on the DUF6 DOE website  
5 address, which is in the information available  
6 on the table to the left.

7           The process I will follow this evening  
8 for the public hearing. Those of you who wish  
9 to speak should sign up at the registration  
10 table at the back. I will then take those  
11 sign-up sheets, and I will call you in random  
12 order. I would ask that you come forward to  
13 this microphone and you speak to the court  
14 reporter at this microphone to ensure that she  
15 gets your comments for the record.

16           I am advised that each person will have  
17 five minutes to speak. There will be no  
18 sharing of time or passing of leftover time to  
19 another speaker. I simply ask that you make  
20 your comments and statements succinctly and  
21 concisely within your allotted time.

22           Now, when you have two minutes left on  
23 your time, I will tell you that. And when you  
24 have one minute left, I will ask you to  
25 summarize and conclude your statements. When

1 your time is up -- and you will know that  
2 because I'm using a timer, and it'll go off --  
3 I will thank you for your comments and call  
4 for the next speaker.

5 Is there anyone who doesn't understand  
6 the process that I'll use?

7 (No response)

8 If there are those of you, like myself,  
9 believe it or not, that are introverted and  
10 don't like to speak in public and you have a  
11 need to make comment and you would prefer to  
12 do that in writing, there are comment sheets  
13 available tonight. You can put your comments  
14 on these sheets and return them to Mr. Hartman  
15 tonight before you leave, or you can take a  
16 comment sheet with you and fax it or mail it  
17 back to him before the date of February the  
18 2nd, 2004.

19 The court reporter will also be available  
20 at the end of this meeting to take one-on-one  
21 comments from anyone who wishes to sit with  
22 her, and you can provide those comments  
23 privately to her.

24 As I said, this meeting is being  
25 transcribed, and an official document will be

1 prepared. That record will be reviewed, and  
2 all information gathered at these meetings  
3 will be considered in the final analysis and  
4 in the decision-making path -- -making process  
5 to make the best possible decision for the  
6 path forward.

7 Now, this is where I need your  
8 assistance. Be sure that you've signed up at  
9 the back table. Everyone's done that that  
10 wishes to speak. I'll be calling you in  
11 random order.

12 When I begin the public hearing, which I  
13 indicated to you is a listening session for  
14 the purposes of the DOE folks that are  
15 attending, and that means that they will not  
16 answer questions or make any comments during  
17 this listening session.

18 I will begin this public hearing first  
19 asking if there are any public officials or  
20 public representatives from the federal,  
21 state, or local level that wish to speak. I  
22 will ask for them first. Each public official  
23 or representative will also get five minutes.  
24 When those officials have completed their  
25 remarks, I will begin calling the names of the

1 other folks that have signed up. Remember, I  
2 need for you to come to this microphone and  
3 speak towards the court reporter.

4 Is there anyone who doesn't understand  
5 how I will conduct the comment period?

6 (No response)

7 Now, the \$64,000 question of the night.  
8 Is there anyone who's not willing to help me  
9 conduct the comment period in a courteous and  
10 mannerly method?

11 (No response)

12 Very good. Let's begin.

13 Are there any local, state, or federal  
14 officials or representatives present this  
15 evening that wish to make a comment at this  
16 time?

17 If you would, please step up to the  
18 microphone, state your name clearly.

19 MR. ORAZINE: Thank you. My name is  
20 Danny Orazine. I'm the county judge executive  
21 here in McCracken County. I can't speak to  
22 the document, but I can speak about the  
23 project, because the local civic leaders and  
24 elected leaders here have long worked with DOE  
25 and our other elected representatives in

1 Washington -- Senators McConnell and Bunning  
2 and Representative Whitfield -- on this  
3 project. And we very much view this as a  
4 positive project for our community, and we'd  
5 very much like to see and hope that you can  
6 stick to the schedule that you showed on the  
7 board, and construction starts in July of '04.

8 We view this as good for the community in  
9 a couple of ways. It's going to clean up the  
10 environment, but we also look at the economic  
11 impact of building the plant and the jobs that  
12 will operate the DUF6 plant.

13 I'm not going to belabor this. I don't  
14 need five minutes. But we, the elected people  
15 and what people we speak for in this county  
16 and also the region, very much would like to  
17 see this project happen. Thank you.

18 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you, sir. Would  
19 you spell your last name for the record,  
20 please?

21 MR. ORAZINE: O-R-A-Z-I-N-E.

22 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

23 Are there any other elected officials or  
24 representative from the federal, state, or  
25 local level that wish to speak at this time?

1 (No response)

2 I wanted to make sure there. I'll  
3 call -- this is like church. I'll call the  
4 third time. Anybody I'm missing in terms of  
5 representatives or elected officials?

6 (No response)

7 Okay. Then let me introduce Vickie  
8 Jurka, J-U-R-K-A.

9 MS. JURKA: Thank you for this  
10 opportunity. Active Citizens for Truth is a  
11 local citizens organization interested in the  
12 health effects of industrial emissions in  
13 their community near the Paducah Gaseous  
14 Diffusion Plant. In the spring of 2003, they  
15 collaborated with staff at the University of  
16 Kentucky for their first mini-seminar at Heath  
17 High School regarding chemicals and health.

18 During their September meeting, members  
19 developed the list of health-related topics  
20 for which they are seeking speakers for future  
21 seminars. And from that meeting, I would like  
22 to read from the minutes.

23 The health effects of chronic exposures  
24 to multiple environmental contaminants:  
25 Chemicals, metals, and radionuclides.

1           The second was kidney disease associated  
2           with environmental contaminants found in  
3           drinking water wells near Paducah Gaseous  
4           Diffusion Plant.

5           The third was lung nodules: Cause,  
6           short- and long-term health effects, types of  
7           treatment.

8           Number four, health effects of neptunium,  
9           plutonium, and beryllium, how they enter the  
10          body, what organs they target, and how the  
11          organs are damaged, and how they're excreted.

12          Number five, health effects of long-term  
13          exposure to low levels of radiation.

14          Number six, environmental contaminants as  
15          the cause of chronic diarrhea.

16          Number seven, kidney disease damage  
17          associated with the exposure to radionuclides.

18          Number eight, how environmental  
19          contaminants damage human blood: Chemical,  
20          metal, and radionuclides.

21          The eight topics in this list concern  
22          community members because they represent  
23          health conditions found in the community. It  
24          is my opinion that this Draft Environmental  
25          Impact Statement does not adequately address

1 the health effects on an already exposed  
2 population, those living closest to the plant.  
3 This is of special concern, because expected  
4 emissions are known to target the lungs and  
5 kidneys, what was already of concern to this  
6 community.

7 I would like to say that I'm not opposed  
8 to the conversion process, but I do think that  
9 the community this time needs to be taken into  
10 account. I will be submitting written  
11 comments at a later date. Thank you.

12 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

13 For the record, David Mast from  
14 Congressman Ed Whitfield's office is present.

15 That's all the speakers I have signed up.  
16 However, it would be inappropriate for me to  
17 close without first asking, is there anyone  
18 who wishes to speak that has not signed up?

19 Please step to the microphone and state  
20 your name, please.

21 MR. DONHAM: Yes. My name is Mark  
22 Donham, D-O-N-H-A-M. I just have a few  
23 questions I want to put on the record. I know  
24 they won't get answered tonight, but they can  
25 possibly be addressed through the response to

1           comments.

2           One has to do with the marketing of the  
3           hydrogen fluoride. And it gives a figure in  
4           the EIS for the demand, the national demand  
5           for this particular product, aqueous hydrogen  
6           fluoride. And it says that there's another  
7           plant in, I believe, Geismar -- is that  
8           Louisiana? -- that produces the same product,  
9           but it doesn't -- it gives a total amount of  
10          hydrogen fluoride that it produces, but it  
11          doesn't divide it up into the two different  
12          kinds.

13          And then it talks about importing  
14          hydrogen fluoride from Mexico, but it never  
15          does say exactly how much that Louisiana plant  
16          produces. And it leaves this whole question  
17          about demand and whether something -- whether  
18          this product can actually be sold or not. And  
19          that's a huge -- that's a huge gap in knowing  
20          what's really going to happen.

21          So that's something that, I think, the  
22          EIS should address. I wanted -- there was one  
23          paragraph in here about transuranics -- if I  
24          can find the section here -- that I made some  
25          notes on.

1           Okay. It says: The transuranic  
2 contaminants that are dispersed throughout the  
3 depleted uranium hexafluoride might be  
4 entrained in the gaseous DUF6 during the  
5 cylinder emptying operation and carried out of  
6 the cylinders. These contaminants could be  
7 captured in filters between the cylinders and  
8 the conversion units.

9           And then it says: These filters would be  
10 monitored and changed out periodically to  
11 prevent buildup of transuranics. They would  
12 be disposed of as low-level waste.

13           Well, that seems inconsistent, because if  
14 you're going to be capturing all the  
15 transuranics, and they're going to be  
16 concentrated in a certain place, why would  
17 that be that low-level waste then?

18           And also, I don't like this, "... might  
19 be entrained in the gaseous DUF6 ..."  
20 "... could be captured in filters," that's not  
21 the kind of language that I like to hear when  
22 I'm talking about -- when you're talking about  
23 pollution controls.

24           There's also some assumptions, such as it  
25 says: It is also expected that the

1 nonvolatile forms of technetium that exist in  
2 the cylinders would remain in the heels --

3 MR. ARMSTRONG: Two minutes.

4 MR. DONHAM: -- or be captured in the  
5 filters.

6 And then it goes on, but there's no  
7 citations. There's no references to any  
8 studies. You've got a bibliography that gives  
9 your references, but it's extremely hard to  
10 pin what reference comes from what place,  
11 because there doesn't seem to be a citation  
12 after the particular sentences.

13 And also, you know, I've got an ongoing  
14 concern about a cumulative impact analysis,  
15 similar to the previous commenter, that NEPA  
16 requires a cumulative impact look of past,  
17 present, and reasonably foreseeable future  
18 action. And that would include everything  
19 that's been going on in the past and the  
20 things that you think in the future, which  
21 would be all of the cleanup activities that  
22 you would expect, all the decontamination.  
23 And I've never seen all of that in one  
24 document as far as cumulative impact. So  
25 those are my comments.

1           MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

2           Also, I acknowledge, for the record, Tim  
3 Thomas from Senator Mitch McConnell's office  
4 is present this evening.

5           Is there anyone else who has not signed  
6 up that wishes to speak at this time?

7           Please step to the microphone and state  
8 your name for the record.

9           MR. KLEBE: Thank you. My name is  
10 Michael Klebe, K-L-E-B-E. I'm an engineer  
11 with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency,  
12 Division of Nuclear Safety. However, here, I  
13 am representing this evening the Central  
14 Midwest Interstate Low Level Radioactive Waste  
15 Commission.

16           The commission, who recently met this  
17 past December, is very concerned about the  
18 transportation of low-level radioactive waste  
19 within its region. Clearly, the commission  
20 acknowledges that this radioactive material  
21 that would be shipped from the ETPP to either  
22 Portsmouth or Paducah is federal waste and is  
23 not, clearly, under the commission's  
24 jurisdiction. The commission is concerned  
25 about its safe transport nonetheless.

1           Now, I admit that I have not made it  
2 through the entire Draft Environmental Impact  
3 Statement for both of the facilities to know  
4 whether or not these issues that I'd like to  
5 address this evening are included. But as  
6 part of the -- as part of the Environmental  
7 Impact Statement, I would hope that it would  
8 include the potential impacts for  
9 transportation hazards, transportation  
10 accidents, and the impacts that this would  
11 represent to local first responders, whether  
12 or not these first responders are adequately  
13 trained, adequately supplied, adequately  
14 funded to respond to a transportation accident  
15 of the 4,000-plus casts that would be shipped  
16 from the ETTP to either Portsmouth or Paducah.

17           I would hope that the Department of  
18 Energy would make some very specific  
19 commitments, time frames, in terms of  
20 providing the necessary support for the first  
21 responders along the path as it travels  
22 through Kentucky, not only in terms  
23 of transpor -- not only in terms of training,  
24 but also in terms of funding for equipment and  
25 necessary materials that would be needed to

1       respond to any sort of transportation  
2       accident.

3               Obviously, along the path, the path is  
4       both rural, the path is urban. Certain  
5       districts, fire departments, are more  
6       technically capable than others, but certainly  
7       they all should be -- they all should be on a  
8       relatively equal footing in terms of funding  
9       and ability and training.

10              So I will look forward to completing the  
11       review of the Environmental Impact Statements,  
12       and will be providing written comments before  
13       the deadline. Thank you very much.

14              MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

15              Final call. Anyone that has not signed  
16       up that wishes to speak at this time?

17              (No response)

18              If there's anyone who wishes to place  
19       their comments on the record, once I adjourn  
20       the formal public hearing process, you're  
21       invited to do so by coming up and visiting  
22       with the court reporter. If there is anyone  
23       who wishes to extend their comments for the  
24       record, you are also invited to come up and  
25       extend those comments one-on-one.

1           The public record will remain open and  
2           accept comments from the public through  
3           February the 2nd, 2004. Comments that I  
4           receive by this date will be included in the  
5           public record. Comments received after this  
6           time will be considered to the extent  
7           practical.

8           If you wish to have your comments on the  
9           official record after tonight, as Mr. Hartman  
10          has indicated, you may send those to him by  
11          mail, fax, or e-mail.

12          Ladies and gentlemen, the time is 20  
13          minutes to the hour of 7:00. I want to thank  
14          each of you for coming. I'm always comforted  
15          when I know that there are people that are  
16          willing to give up time from their families to  
17          come out to a public meeting such as this.  
18          Your participation has made this meeting  
19          successful. We thank you for your attendance.  
20          Please be safe driving home. This public  
21          hearing is now officially adjourned.

22                 (The hearing was concluded at 6:40 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF KENTUCKY

2 COUNTY OF McCRACKEN

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4 I, AMY S. CARONONGAN, RPR, CSR, and  
5 Notary Public in and for said State of Kentucky at  
6 Large, do hereby certify that the above and  
7 foregoing is a true, correct, and complete  
8 transcript of the public hearing taken at the time  
9 and place and for the purpose set out in the  
10 caption hereof; that said public hearing was taken  
11 down in stenotype by me and thereafter transcribed;  
12 that the appearances were as set out in the caption  
13 hereof.

14 I further certify that I am neither  
15 attorney for, nor counsel for, nor related to, nor  
16 employed by any of the parties to the action in  
17 which this public hearing is taken; and further,  
18 that I am not a relative or employee of any  
19 representative or entity employed by the parties  
20 hereto nor financially interested in the action.

21 My commission expires on June 9, 2007.

22 Given under my hand and seal of office on  
23 this the 17th day of January, 2003.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy S. Caronongan, RPR, CSR  
Notary Public  
State of Kentucky at Large

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