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Draft Environmental Impact Statements
For the Construction and Operation
of Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride Conversion
Facilities at the Paducah, Kentucky and
Portsmouth, Ohio Sites

- - -
PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 7, 2004

- - -
LOCATION: Pike County YMCA
400 Pride Drive
Waverly, Ohio

TIME: 6:00
- - -

RENO & ASSOCIATES
273 LITTLE THEATRE ROAD
WAVERLY, OHIO 45690
(740) 947-9001

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1 PROCEEDINGS

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3 MR. ARMSTRONG: The time is 6:15. This
4 meeting has now officially begun.

5 I would like to ask before we begin the

6 meeting if you have cell phones or pagers, I would
7 like to ask you to place them on silent ring or mute
8 or vibration. I've never quite figured out how to do
9 that yet. If you get a call or a page, if you would
10 be so kind as to step out the door and step away from
11 the door and take it so you don't disrupt other people
12 in the meeting will be appreciated.

13 Some preliminaries. The exits are as
14 you came in. There's also exits to the right and to
15 the left behind us here. Restrooms are also
16 immediately behind us.

17 On behalf of the Department of Energy,
18 we want to thank you for attending this public hearing
19 on the Draft Environmental Impact Statements, also
20 known as EIS's, for the depleted uranium conversation
21 facilities.

22 My name is Darryl Armstrong. I am an
23 independent facilitator. I'm contracted by local,
24 state, and federal agencies and corporations to

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1 conduct public meetings and hearings such as this
2 throughout the United States.

3 Like many of you in here, I'm a small
4 business person. I live and work out of Eddyville,
5 Kentucky. That's near Paducah, Kentucky on Lake
6 Barkley. I am not an employee of or a representative
7 of the Department of Energy or any other federal or
8 state agency. I am in no decision-making capacity
9 whatsoever.

10 My responsibility this evening is to
11 insure that we start this meeting on time, and for the

12 record we started the meeting at 6:15 p.m., and that
13 we end this meeting promptly at 9 p.m. unless for some
14 reason I need to negotiate with you to extend the
15 meeting beyond that time period.

16 I'm responsible for insuring that each
17 and every member of the public that wishes to speak
18 this evening and place their comments on the record
19 has an opportunity to do so in a mannerly, courteous,
20 and orderly fashion.

21 Now, to accomplish this, I will need
22 your help, but I will explain that in a few minutes
23 the help I will need from you. Together we can get
24 this task accomplished, I believe, in the time that's

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1 been given to us.

2 The purpose of tonight's meeting is
3 twofold: First, to provide you an update and
4 information on the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride Draft
5 Environmental Impact Statements. And as you know, if
6 you've worked with the government, there are a lot of
7 acronyms. So the acronym for Depleted Uranium
8 Hexafluoride is DUF6 and Environmental Impact
9 Statements will be frequently referred to as EIS's.

10 The second purpose of tonight's meeting
11 is to get your oral and written comments and input on
12 the Draft Environmental Impact Statements and get them
13 onto the public record.

14 Now, hanging around the room on the
15 back wall and on this wall are some posters that will
16 bring you up to speed on the process and perhaps will
17 answer some of the other questions you might have.

18 These Draft Environmental Impact

19 Statements concern the construction, the operation,
20 maintenance, decontamination and decommissioning of
21 depleted uranium hexafluoride conversion facilities in
22 Portsmouth, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky.

23 This is what we'll be discussing
24 tonight. There's one for each site. One for

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1 Portsmouth, one for Paducah. If you're interested in
2 having a copy of these, your own personal copy of
3 these, they are available out here at this desk or
4 also at your local reading room, and the address for
5 that reading room is on the back of one of these
6 handouts. I'll show you in just a moment. For those
7 of you that are computer savvy, they're also available
8 on CD.

9 Public participation in the DUF6
10 conversion facility environmental impact statement
11 process has been encouraged throughout this process.
12 This public hearing tonight is just one way that you
13 can submit your comments regarding these Environmental
14 Impact Statements. DOE encourages public involvement
15 in this process and has provided regular opportunities
16 throughout the process for such input.

17 Now, there are several ways that in
18 addition to this public hearing you can provide your
19 comments to the Department of Energy.

20 Did everyone get a handout when they
21 came in? There were three different handouts.
22 There's one of Mr. Hartman's presentation, one is a
23 fact sheet, and one is a comment sheet. If you are
24 interested in providing comments other than through

1 the public hearing tonight, you may also do so by
2 submitting your written comments directly to the
3 record tonight; you can mail them to Mr. Hartman; you
4 can call Mr. Hartman on the toll free number, which is
5 listed on back of his presentation here; you can fax
6 them; you can send them through the website, and that
7 web address is listed in this handout; you can send an
8 e-mail, and as I say, you can also make your comments
9 tonight for the record if you wish publicly.

10 Comments must be mailed, phoned, or
11 faxed to Mr. Gary Hartman with the U.S. Department of
12 Energy in Oak Ridge no later than close of business on
13 February the 2nd, 2004. To insure consideration,
14 those comments must be received by the date. Late
15 comments will be considered to the extent they are
16 practical.

17 So simply the purpose of tonight's
18 public meeting is to listen to and hear from you
19 comments concerning the Draft Environmental Impact
20 Statements, and I'll hold these up again, but these
21 two statements here. That means that we would like to
22 hear your comments, your suggestions, your issues,
23 your questions. They will be formally entered into
24 the record.

1 Since this is a formal public hearing,
2 we are using the services tonight of Ms. Denise
3 Shoemaker from London, Ohio with Reno & Associates.
4 She will transcribe this meeting, and a copy of this
5 transcript will be available at the Department of

6 Energy Reading Rooms locally and also will be
7 available on the website address, which is in this
8 handout.

9 Now, if you need additional information
10 on how to get to the reading room or how to access the
11 website or how to use that website, any of these
12 representatives from the Department of Energy will be
13 glad to work with you and give you that information.

14 If you have written comments as you
15 speak tonight, if you're going to speak those comments
16 but you also have them in writing, we'd like to ask
17 you to please provide us a copy of that before you
18 leave.

19 Is there anyone who does not understand
20 the purpose of tonight's public hearing?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. ARMSTRONG: Before I provide you a
23 little background information, you'll find pertinent
24 factual information on this particular fact sheet and

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1 on the back of this fact sheet a list of reading rooms
2 and the addresses.

3 The EIS's that you're about to comment
4 on are needed to assess the potential environmental
5 impacts of constructing, operating, maintaining, and
6 decontaminating and decommissioning DUF6 conversion
7 facilities at the Paducah, Kentucky and Portsmouth,
8 Ohio sites.

9 Now, prior to beginning the comment
10 period, I will introduce to you Mr. Bill Murphy, who
11 is the DOE manager for the Paducah and Portsmouth

12 project office located in Lexington, Kentucky. Mr.
13 Murphy will introduce Mr. Hartman with the Department
14 of Energy, Oak Ridge Operations.

15 Mr. Hartman will make his presentation
16 on the environmental process and update you on that.
17 I will then come back to the microphone and ask for
18 any clarifications or questions that you might have on
19 Mr. Hartman's process. Once we have satisfied those
20 requests, we will then begin the actual formal public
21 hearing itself.

22 A few things about the hearing. Those
23 of you who wish to come forward to speak should first
24 register outside at the table. That's how I will call

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1 you to the podium. I'll do that in a random order.

2 Each person will be given five minutes
3 to speak. There will be no sharing of time or passing
4 of left over time to another speaker. I'll simply ask
5 that you make your comments and statements succinctly
6 and concisely within the allotted time.

7 When you have two minutes left on your
8 time, I will let you know that; and then when you have
9 one minute left, I will ask you to summarize and
10 complete your statement. When your time is up, I'll
11 thank you for your time and attention and I'll call
12 for the next speaker.

13 As I have noted previously, and I just
14 want to reemphasize this, if you have written comments
15 that you are speaking from, please provide us a copy
16 of those.

17 Now, if you have comments, questions,
18 or ideas that you would like to make following this

19 meeting or even leave with us at the end of this
20 meeting, feel free to put those on the EIS comment
21 sheet. You also can take this with you and mail it
22 back to Mr. Hartman or fax it back to Mr. Hartman.

23 Also, if there is anyone here tonight
24 that following the conclusion or at the conclusion of

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1 the actual formal public hearing that wishes to enter
2 their comments into the record one on one with the
3 court reporter, the court reporter will be available
4 for you to do that at the conclusion of the meeting.

5 Is there anyone who does not understand
6 the process that I'll use to conduct this hearing?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: So what should you
9 expect to get out of this meeting for taking time away
10 from your families as well as citizens and taxpayers?
11 This public hearing provides you the opportunity to be
12 updated on the status of this process by those people
13 that are responsible for the development of these two
14 documents. It also provides you the opportunity to
15 provide your public input into the process.

16 This record will be reviewed and the
17 information gathered at these three meetings, this is
18 the first of three, the other two will be one at
19 Paducah and one in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. All that
20 information will be gathered and analyzed to determine
21 the best path forward in terms of the process.

22 The transcripts from these meetings
23 will be made available on the project website when
24 they are ready.

1 Now to remind everyone, you will get a
2 written -- there will be a written transcript of this
3 meeting. It will be available at your local reading
4 room as well as on the website itself.

5 Is there anyone who doesn't understand
6 then what you should expect to get out of the meeting?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: This is where I need
9 your assistance then. Be sure that you signed up at
10 the registration table if you wish to speak. When I
11 begin the public hearing, I will ask those of you that
12 wish to speak to please come up and I'll move the
13 microphone over here in front of the court reporter so
14 you can speak directly to the court reporter, which it
15 is important that you speak into the microphone and
16 speak toward her so that she insures that she gets
17 your comments.

18 Please, before you begin your comments,
19 clearly state your name for the record. If you don't
20 state your name for the record, I'll interject and ask
21 you to do so.

22 Now, before I begin the public piece of
23 this, I will ask if there are any local officials at
24 the local, state, or federal level or their

1 representatives as a courtesy that would like to
2 speak. They will also be given five minutes. When
3 those officials are completed with their remarks, I'll
4 begin calling on the names of those people who have
5 registered to speak in random order.

6 Is there anyone who doesn't understand
7 how I will handle the comment period?

8 (No response.)

9 MR. ARMSTRONG: The big question of the
10 evening, is there anyone who's not willing to assist
11 me in handling this public meeting in an orderly,
12 mannerly, and courteous manner?

13 (No response.)

14 MR. ARMSTRONG: Okay. Then let's
15 begin the meeting. Let me introduce to you Mr. Bill
16 Murphy. Mr. Murphy in turn will introduce Mr.
17 Hartman.

18 MR. MURPHY: Thank you.

19 I had a speech, but I decided to make
20 it short. I really just had four things that I wanted
21 to do. One is welcome you for coming to this meeting.
22 It's very cold, and I really do appreciate your coming
23 out under these conditions.

24 This is very important to us. The main

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1 thing I want to do is emphasize the value that we
2 place on these public meetings so you know that what
3 you say, what you provide as comments is important.
4 Your comments will be considered. All comments are
5 considered.

6 Lastly, I just wanted to introduce Gary
7 Hartman, who's the DOE Oak Ridge NEPA manager. He's
8 been working on this for a long time. He's going to
9 walk us through the process in much greater detail,
10 and hopefully we will have very positive and
11 significant comments that will be both supportive and

12 reflective of any of your input. Thank you.

13 MR. HARTMAN: Good evening. I'm Gary
14 Hartman of the DOE, NEPA document manager for the two
15 Draft Environmental Impact Statements for the
16 construction and operation of the depleted uranium
17 hexafluoride conversion facilities at the Paducah and
18 Portsmouth, Ohio sites. Paducah, Kentucky and
19 Portsmouth, Ohio sites.

20 First I'd like to thank you all for
21 coming to tonight's meeting. We look forward to
22 receiving your input on these two important documents.

23 Before we start receiving your comments
24 on the draft conversion EIS's, I would like to take a

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1 few minutes to bring you up-to-date on the EIS's and
2 DOE's proposed actions and alternatives.

3 As many of you know, the notice of
4 intent to prepare a single EIS for construction of
5 DUF6 conversion facilities at Portsmouth and Paducah
6 was published in the Federal Register on September 18,
7 2001. Public scoping meetings were held in November
8 and December of 2001 at Portsmouth, Paducah, and Oak
9 Ridge.

10 In August 2002 while preparation of the
11 EIS was underway, Congress passed Public Law 107-206.
12 Among other requirements, this law directed the
13 Department of Energy to award a contract for
14 construction and operation of conversion facilities at
15 both the Paducah and Portsmouth sites.

16 The conversion contract was awarded to
17 Uranium Disposition Services or UDS on August the
18 29th, 2002. As a result of Public Law 107-206 and the

19 award of the conversion contract, DOE decided to
20 prepare separation site specific EIS's for each of the
21 two conversion facilities. This change in approach
22 was announced in the Federal Register April 28th,
23 2003. The two draft EIS's were published on November
24 28, 2003.

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1 I would like to take this opportunity
2 to explain the proposed actions that are analyzed in
3 the conversion facility EIS's. The proposed actions
4 are very similar for both the Paducah and Portsmouth
5 documents.

6 In the Portsmouth EIS, the proposed
7 action is to construct and operate the conversion
8 facility at the Portsmouth site for the conversion of
9 the DUF6 stored at Portsmouth as well as the DUF6
10 currently stored at the East Tennessee Technology Park
11 in Oak Ridge, which we refer to as ETTP or the former
12 K25 site.

13 The Portsmouth proposed action includes
14 the shipment of all of the DUF6 cylinders from the
15 ETTP or former K25 site to Portsmouth as well as
16 possible construction of a new cylinder yard for ETTP
17 cylinders.

18 In the Paducah EIS, the proposed action
19 is to construct and operate a conversion facility at
20 Paducah for the conversion of the DUF6 currently
21 stored at that site.

22 The proposed actions in both of the
23 EIS's have common elements. In both cases the DUF6
24 cylinders would be maintained in safe storage

1 condition until conversion could take place. Within
2 the conversion facilities the DUF6 would be converted
3 into uranium oxide, which is the most stable form of
4 uranium. Conversion would also produce hydrogen
5 fluoride or HF as a co-product. The depleted uranium
6 oxide would be sent to a disposal facility in Utah.

7 The empty cylinders would either be
8 disposed of as low level waste or reused as disposal
9 containers for the depleted uranium oxide. The HF,
10 which is a chemical used in acid in many industrial
11 processes, would be sold to a commercial HF producer
12 for resale.

13 As a contingency, the conversion
14 facilities would have the option of converting the HF
15 to calcium fluoride or CaF_2 , which could be sold for
16 use or sent to a disposal facility.

17 In regard to the potential sale of HF
18 or calcium fluoride from conversion, DOE has
19 established a formal process for obtaining authorized
20 limits for the release of potentially contaminated
21 material for unrestricted use.

22 This process, which is described in
23 detail in Appendix E of the two separate EIS's, is
24 being conducted in parallel with the current NEPA

1 activities. Your comments on the potential sale and
2 use of conversion products are welcomed and will be
3 considered in both the EIS's and in the process for
4 obtaining authorized release units.

5 I would now like to explain the

6 alternatives that were evaluated in each of the EIS's.
7 You may notice that the alternatives differ somewhat
8 from those described in the original notice of intent
9 and at the public scoping meetings.

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

17 At the Portsmouth site, the
18 alternatives evaluated in the draft EIS include: The
19 no action alternative and three siting alternatives.
20 The no action alternative, which is required in the
21 NEPA process, evaluates the continued storage of DUF6
22 cylinders at the Portsmouth and ETTP sites
23 indefinitely.

24 For the conversion alternatives three

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1 different locations for construction are considered.
2 Denoted locations A, B, and C. In addition, the
3 Portsmouth EIS includes an evaluation of the option of
4 shipping the ETTP cylinders to Paducah rather than
5 Portsmouth.

6 Three candidate locations or sites
7 evaluated at Portsmouth are shown here. Location A,
8 which is the preferred site, is located in the
9 northeast -- the northwest portion of the site in an
10 area where warehouses were previously used to store
11 lithium. Directly to the south is location B, which

12 includes the buildings previously constructed with a
13 gas centrifuge enrichment facility. On the east side
14 of the site is Location C, which includes mostly
15 grassy fields.

16 The alternatives evaluated for the
17 Paducah site EIS are similar to the Portsmouth
18 alternatives. The no action alternative required by
19 the NEPA process evaluates the continued storage of
20 DUF6 in the cylinders at the Paducah site. For the
21 conversion alternative, three locations are also
22 considered. In addition, the option of shipping the
23 ETPP cylinders to Paducah instead of Portsmouth is
24 evaluated.

19

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

7 The public comment period on the two
8 EIS's will be open through February the 2nd, 2004,
9 although comments received after this date will be
10 considered to the extent practical.

11 There are many ways for you to submit
12 comments, including attendance at these public
13 meetings, over the internet, by e-mail, phone, fax, or
14 by writing directly to me. All comments will be
15 considered equally.

16 Following the public comment period,
17 the draft EIS's will be revised to take into account
18 comments received.

19 Final EIS's are scheduled to be
20 released on June 23rd of this year. One month later,
21 on July the 23rd, the department expects to release
22 the records of decision for these two EIS's with
23 construction of the conversion facilities to begin at
24 the end of July.

20

1 At this time I would like to turn the
2 meeting back over to Darryl Armstrong so that we can
3 begin the formal comment session on the two draft
4 EIS's.

5 MR. ARMSTRONG: Are there any questions
6 or clarifications for Mr. Hartman?

7 Yes.

8 MR. MURPHY: Basically as a note of
9 clarification with regard to Gary Hartman's speech,
10 Congress did not direct the awarding of the contract
11 to UDS. They directed the awarding of the contract.
12 Not to whom it would be awarded.

13 MR. ARMSTRONG: Are there any
14 clarifications or questions?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. ARMSTRONG: If there are none, then
17 I will begin the formal public hearing comment period.
18 I remind all speakers that you have five minutes.
19 I'll tell you when you have two minutes remaining, and
20 when you have one minute remaining, I'll ask you to
21 summarize and complete your statements.

22 I will ask that you come up here to the
23 microphone and speak toward the court reporter. Make
24 sure to state your name for the record at the outset.

1 As I stated previously, I'll invite any
2 representatives from the local, the state, and the
3 federal government to speak first.

4 Are there any representatives from the
5 local, state, or federal government that would wish to
6 speak at this time?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. ARMSTRONG: For the record, let's
9 acknowledge that we do have a representative from
10 Governor Taft's office and we do have a representative
11 from the congressman's office, Congressman Portman's
12 office.

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Could we get
14 them to stand and see them.

15 MR. ARMSTRONG: There has been a
16 request if you would stand so folks can see who you
17 are.

18 MS. GLASGOW: I'm here from
19 Congressman Portman's office. I'm Mary Glasgow.

20 MR. JUSTICE: T. J. Justice with
21 Governor Taft's office.

22 MR. ARMSTRONG: I have three speakers
23 that have signed up to make comments. I'll call them
24 in the order that I have them here, which were given

1 to me random order, as I understand it. Vina Colley.

2 Ms. Colley, if you would come forward.
3 To insure that everybody has an equitable opportunity
4 to speak, I am using a timer. So when you hear that
5 little beep-beep go off, that's me, don't worry.

6 MS. COLLEY: First of all I want to
7 say that I didn't have time to write up something.
8 They said this would be a question-and-answer session
9 here at the last meeting we came to. So we weren't
10 prepared to write up anything.

11 My name is Vina Colley, and I'm
12 president of the Portsmouth Picketon Residents for
13 Environmental Safety and Security and also co-chair of
14 the National Nuclear Works for Justice.

15 We feel that the oxide conversion
16 facility was here from '57 to '78 and it was one of
17 most hazardous radiological chemical operations at
18 Portsmouth. There were high levels of transuranium
19 problems there, and the report explains that the oxide
20 conversion process was originally established as a
21 waste recovery process. We feel that the depleted
22 uranium hexafluoride plant is another process in
23 establishing waste. It will put workers and the
24 community at risk.

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1 Mounting evidence of health effects of
2 the depleted uranium on humans and the environment is
3 showing up in the Gulf War, and now lawsuits have
4 started. So this is going to be another big issue
5 here if we have this conversion plant.

6 In 1997 the National Institution of
7 Occupational Safety and Health, NIOSH, evaluated the
8 cylinder yard and they found that there was neutron
9 exposures there. They concluded that there was
10 potential and chronic neutron exposures in the area
11 where uranium was stored, and the cylinder yard was

12 just one of the areas that neutron exposures occurred.

13 Documents indicated that there's
14 various slips associated with the valves on the HF
15 cylinders deactivation and the coupling welds. So
16 we're concerned that this could be a huge problem when
17 they start moving these cylinders around. We've also
18 been told that they really don't have any expertise
19 that knows how to get these cylinders moved from place
20 to place.

21 In 1992 there was a valve that was
22 knocked off of one of these cylinders in the yard and
23 there was an airborne plume that left the site. The
24 workers were told to stay in the building, and I

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1 monitored it on my own radio at home but no one in the
2 community was even notified. At no time have we ever
3 had a release in this community that the alarm went
4 off to warn the community.

5 We lack stakeholder involvement here.
6 At Piketon they made a mockery of the real public
7 involvement. I'm a stakeholder, and I've not been
8 invited to one stakeholder meeting for probably a
9 couple years.

10 I know that they're going to keep
11 accumulating more and more waste. We had a Russian
12 scientist that came here and we did soil samples
13 off-site, and some of the community residents want
14 their land and water and things cleaned up. We found
15 radiation levels a hundred times the background level
16 and we sent some of these samples to Russia to get
17 them analyzed further.

18 There's a foam that's coming down

19 through Mr. West's property where his cows are grazing
20 and drinking out of these creeks and the foam has
21 little brown particles that has radiation and uranium
22 in it.

23 We scored -- double scored the
24 superfund list here at this site, and we're asking

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1 that we do an environmental impact statement on the
2 property and the air and the releases and the
3 community health that's been affected from here.

4 There's not enough time. I wasn't
5 prepared to do this.

6 And I looked in the book and it says
7 something about mines underground where they might
8 think about doing some storage of this waste and we're
9 concerned about that.

10 We're also concerned about maybe
11 burning this -- heating up these cylinders again
12 because, like I said, in 1979 we lost a cylinder here
13 and we lost 24,000 pounds of uranium hexafluoride to
14 the air, to the creeks, and to this day there's never
15 been an impact statement on the health effects of this
16 cylinder. And according to the lawsuit and the
17 community residents, it's been compared to Three Mile
18 Island.

19 I want to remind you we do have -- that
20 there is a citizen lawsuit that's tied up in court. I
21 didn't see it anywhere in that book. I still have to
22 read it. I want to give more comments later.

23 But last time we came to the last
24 meeting last month they said that we would be asking

1 you questions and you would respond because they
2 couldn't answer any questions. So that's why we're
3 not prepared for this meeting tonight.

4 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Linda
5 Howell.

6 MS. HOWELL: Hello. My name's Linda
7 Howell, and I'm just a private concerned citizen with
8 some questions about some of the things that I read in
9 the EIS statement.

10 In 1995, the Defense Nuclear Safety
11 Board gave three recommendations on the cylinders, and
12 the first one was that the coating be renewed, the
13 second one was that there be steps taken to protect
14 the cylinders from the elements, and the third was a
15 study be conducted on more suitable chemical form for
16 storage. My question is: Have these things been
17 done?

18 Another page in the EIS stated that
19 there have been 11 breaches or holes in the cylinders
20 and nine of those were caused from mishandling.
21 Again, that shows lack of expertise in training the
22 workers to handle the cylinders. Only two were caused
23 from corrosion.

24 Again, from the EIS, another question

1 says that many of the containers no longer meet DOT
2 requirements for physical -- for transportation
3 because of the physical deterioration or because
4 documentation has been lost and some might also
5 violate more than one requirement of DOT.

6 And it said that some of the breaches
7 could go undetected for up to four years because
8 that's the period between planned inspections and, you
9 know, I'm not real familiar with nuclear handling
10 requirements and so forth, but just as a person using
11 their common sense, one would think that four years
12 between inspections shows a lack of responsibility.

13 And again one further question: If the
14 requirements and the criteria that they're supposed to
15 be meeting have not been done to this point, how can
16 the public be assured that those plans that are being
17 made for the facility now will be carried out to
18 specification?

19 And one other thing, you asked for this
20 to be submitted if we have it in writing but mine is
21 partially in shorthand. That's why I had such a hard
22 time reading it. So I can't think you can read that.

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: Thank you.

24 Last name is Minter. I'm not sure the

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1 spelling of the first name.

2 MR. MINTER: Dave.

3 MR. ARMSTRONG: Dave Minter.

4 MR. MINTER: Good evening. My
5 name's Dan Minter, and I'm the vice chairman of the
6 Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative as well as
7 the worker representative of the workforce at the
8 Piketon enrichment site.

9 Regarding the conversion activity, when
10 you consider the options of these cylinders sitting
11 and having no activity, decaying, and the

19 Those are, I believe, the responsibility of the Ohio
20 E. P. A. as well as possibly the Ohio Department of
21 Health. But I did want to enter as a matter of record
22 our support for both DUF6 facilities.

23 We have worked very hard with the
24 administration in Washington to secure funding for the

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1 construction of these facilities, as Dan said, to
2 responsibly dispose of the material in question here
3 as well as look at the tremendous economic impact it's
4 going to have with regard to job creation.

5 I just want the record to reflect, as
6 is evidenced by many letters which have been sent to
7 the department of the administration, our support for
8 the project, and I believe there will be a separate
9 submission coming from the Ohio E. P. A. relative to the
10 specific EIS. Thank you.

11 MR. ARMSTRONG: Is there anyone else
12 who would like to make comments that did not sign up?

13 Yes, ma'am.

14 MS. COLLEY: Since there is time
15 left over, I just wondered -- we were told that there
16 would be some experts here to answer some of these
17 questions if we ask them. I wondered if we could ask
18 some, like the person here, he talked about E. P. A. We
19 would like to know how much authority does the E. P. A.
20 really have because if they don't have authority on
21 transportation problems and releases from this plant,
22 then who does have?

23 MR. ARMSTRONG: What I would suggest to
24 you, I'm quite confident that the DOE folks will

1 remain here as long as they need to and I would
2 suspect the state folks' representatives will be
3 available to discuss these type of issues with you.

4 If there is anything else you wish to
5 enter into the record, Ms. Colley, I encourage you to
6 come up afterward and visit with the court reporter.

7 Is there anyone else? This is the
8 third call, so to speak, to the altar.

9 Let me remind you, please, that
10 comments can be submitted after this meeting up until
11 February the 2nd. They must be received by that date
12 either by mail, electronic mail, or fax. That
13 information on how to submit those comments are here
14 on this poster as well as on these handouts.

15 Also I would like to encourage you to,
16 if you would like to have a personal copy of these
17 statements or a CD copy, to pick those up before you
18 leave tonight or let anyone that you know of that may
19 wish to have a copy of these know they will be
20 available at the reading room.

21 I thank you for your time and your
22 attention. I have to honestly say it's probably the
23 shortest public hearing I've conducted in 20 years of
24 my existence. I believe something, though, that Dr.

1 Margaret Meade, the imminent sociologist, said that's
2 ringing true, "Never doubt that a small group of
3 people can change the world, indeed, it is the only
4 thing that ever does."

5 And I thank you for your time and your

6 attention. I appreciate your participation tonight,
7 and I encourage you to drive safely going home. Thank
8 you.

9 It is now 5 minutes to 7:00 and this
10 public hearing is officially adjourned. DOE
11 representatives and folks from the state will be
12 available for a while after this meeting.

13 MS. CHANDLER: Jennifer Chandler, I'm
14 with Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative, and we
15 want to submit these comments for public record.

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17 (Whereupon, the proceedings were
18 concluded at 8:00 p.m.)

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1 R E P O R T E R ' S C E R T I F I C A T E

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I hereby certify that the transcript of the
proceedings and evidence contained herein are a true
and accurate transcription of my stenographic notes
taken by me at the time and place of the within case;
that the transcription was reduced to printing under
my direction; and that this is a true and correct
transcript of the same.

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DENISE L. SHOEMAKER, Notary Public
in and for the State of Ohio.

My Commission Expires: January 25, 2004.

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