

**United Steelworkers Local 5-689 Safety Group Public Statement
Atomic Safety and Licensing Board, Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Public Meeting, Piketon, Ohio, January 9, 2007**

Statement prepared by Charles Wiltshire, a lifetime resident of Southern Ohio,
Triangle of Prevention Coordinator of United Steelworkers (USW) Local 5-689
and a 35 career at the Piketon Enrichment Plant

I am a second-generation worker at the Piketon Facility. My father first worked for a contractor in the early years of construction and later was employed as a Uranium Materials Handler. I began work in 1972 and have been involved in the health and safety in many areas in the last 35 years.

It has been during the last nine years I have seen first hand how safe a well regulated a NRC (Nuclear Regulatory Commission) facility can be. "The Nuclear industry is frequently cited as an example of an industry that has achieved excellence in fostering work environments in which employees have -- and readily use--avenues designed to capture and resolve safety concerns."

USEC and the Union works hard to assure each individual who employed at the facility is aware of the obligation in developing attributes that are essential to a safe working environment, a safe environment and a safe community for our families and neighbors to reside.

Deploying this new technology represents an essential step in assuring our domestic and international energy needs.

- More than 20% of our nation's electrical energy is produced from nuclear energy. It is in our nation's best interest to ensure that reliable and cost-effective enrichment fuel is domestically produced. This is a significant step to ensure our nation's future energy independence, using American technologies.
- This technology will help assure that clean, reliable energy is available at a critical point in our growing energy economy.
- Nuclear energy represents one of the safest energy production resources available.

The Piketon site workforce has demonstrated the capability to function in the NRC regulated environment, and can continue to do so well into the future.

DOCKETED
USNRC

February 7, 2007 (8:30am)

OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
ADJUDICATIONS STAFF

Docket 70-7004-ML

TEMPLATE = SECY-038

SECY-02