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OFFICE OF SECRETARY
RULEMAKINGS AND
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I'm Vina Colley, President of PRESS (Portsmouth/Piketon Residents for Environmental Safety and Security). Co (Chair National Nuclear Workers for Justice NNWJ

PRESS asks that you stop the licensing of the Centrifuge project because more time is needed to view the recently revealed problems with USEC and the site.

We are deeply concerned that we could become the site for storing spent fuel rods from all over the country if this license is permitted. We believe that the license would be used to hold control of the site for the next 30 years while USEC's subsidiary company transports in irradiated fuel to be dumped here for the long haul.

We even question if the centrifuge proposal is for real or just a carrot that was dangled before us while the real dirty work of converting Piketon into a high-level nuclear waste dump was going on behind our backs.

We don't trust that USEC has even developed a usable centrifuge technology. If they have, why haven't they shown it?

We don't trust that USEC is capable of financing the centrifuge facility they say they are proposing. If they were, why have they admitted that they don't have the investors on board to get started?

We don't trust that the EIS has even dealt with the new revelations about USEC. That is, that they don't have the technology, they don't have the money for uranium enrichment, but they do now own a subsidiary that's in the business of storing and transporting spent fuel rods. And there have been other traceable connections between USEC and this new plan to dump radioactive waste at Piketon.

Too many of my neighbors and co-workers have already been killed by the coverups and the contamination at Piketon. The site is already a super fund sea of contamination and the clean-up is stalled. Allowing a High Level Nuclear Waste dump to slip in here under the guise of USEC's license for a centrifuge plant, would be an enormous crime.

Holding out the promise of good jobs to a deeply depressed community, while the real story is that there are no good jobs coming, well, that would also be an enormous crime.

If the centrifuge is on the level, which we seriously doubt, then we are concerned because the high costs that the community will pay in tax abatements and other subsidies will not be balanced out with an equal return in the number of safe, livable-wage jobs for our community.

Where, in your EIS have you dealt with the impact of granting a license to USEC while USEC is connected to the plans for storage of high-level radioactive waste dump at Piketon?

How will the spent fuel rod dump impact the safety and health of the workers at the proposed centrifuge facility (that is if there really is a legitimate plan for a centrifuge facility)?????

How does the public get to consider all these impacts put together? Again, we ask that you stop the licensing process at least until these urgent questions are answered to the benefit of the community.