



NRC NEWS

U.S. NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

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NRC PUBLIC MEETING MAY 19 IN PIKETON, OHIO, TO DISCUSS DECERTIFICATION OF PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission staff will hold a public meeting May 19 in Piketon, Ohio, to discuss the decertification process for the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, a former uranium enrichment facility on the Department of Energy's (DOE) Portsmouth reservation.

The meeting will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Ohio State University South Centers/Endeavor Center, Training Room 160, at 1862 Shyville Rd., in Piketon. NRC staff members will be available starting at 5 p.m. to talk informally with members of the public about the project.

During the meeting, NRC staff members will discuss the regulatory requirements of the decertification process. United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) staff will discuss the termination of operations and the transfer of the facility to DOE, while DOE staff will discuss the final transfer of regulatory authority from the NRC to DOE. Members of the public will have opportunities to ask questions throughout the meeting.

The Portsmouth plant was operated by DOE until it was privatized in the 1990s, and placed under NRC regulation in 1997. Every five years, the NRC certifies that the plant continues to meet NRC regulatory requirements. The current operator, USEC, ceased enrichment operations and placed the facility in cold shutdown in 2001. Much of the facility has been previously transferred back to DOE's regulatory control.

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