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DOE Announces Transfer of Depleted Uranium to Advance the U.S. National Security Interests, Exten Operations at Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant

May 15, 2012 - 4:00pm NEWS MEDIA CONTACT

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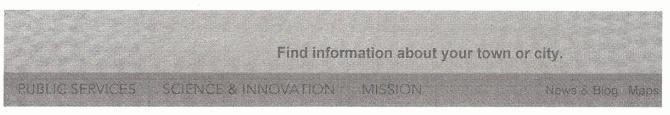
WASHINGTON – The Department of Energy – in collaboration with Energy Northwest Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), and USEC Inc. – today announced the finalized deta transfer of depleted uranium to EN that will be enriched at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusi during the next year and ultimately result in fuel for EN and TVA. The transfer will delive benefits to U.S. national security and the Department's cleanup missions, as well as prc commercial benefits to each of the collaborating organizations and continuing operation at the Paducah site, which USEC estimates will employ over a thousand workers.

"After much hard work, the Energy Department, in cooperation with the other organizatic identified a creative path forward to utilize a portion of our depleted uranium inventory ir brings together the public and private sector to advance America's national security inte reduced cost to taxpayers," said Secretary Chu. "This effort will also provide benefits to ratepayers in two areas of the country and maintain operations at the Paducah enrichmenter thereby avoiding costs to the Department's cleanup program and keeping jobs in the loc community."

The Department's transfer is the initial step in an arrangement between the collaborating organizations that includes: the transfer of a portion of the Department's high-assay depuranium tails to EN; commercial contracts between EN and USEC for about a year's wc enrichment services; the sale of low-enriched uranium (LEU) from EN to the TVA; and the of an agreement between TVA and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA tritium for the nation's nuclear deterrent. A more detailed description of the project is av HERE.

The project will ensure a supply of U.S.-origin unobligated uranium to support the NNSA production for up to 15 years. In addition, continuing operations of the Paducah plant wi extra year for the Department's Office of Environmental Management to plan for the eve decommissioning and cleanup of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant and, based on ϵ

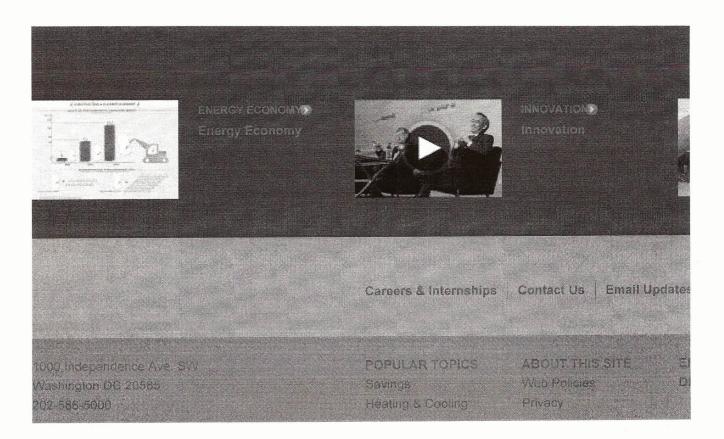
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Before agreeing to enter into the project, the Energy Department undertook an analysis domestic uranium market to ensure that the transactions under the project would not ha adverse material impact on the domestic uranium mining, enrichment, or conversion ind completed analysis, conducted by Energy Resources International (ERI), which conclud there is no adverse material impact, is available **HERE**.

The analysis took a comprehensive view of the Department's uranium sales and transfe additional transfers to support the cleanup at the Department's Portsmouth site in south and transfers of low-enriched uranium related to NNSA's programs for down-blending sihighly enriched uranium. Based on this analysis, Secretary Chu made a determination above transfers will not have an adverse material impact on the domestic uranium minir conversion or enrichment industry. The Determination is available **HERE**. The conclus market analysis will form the basis for an updated DOE Uranium Management Plan exp released later this summer.





http://www.doe.gov/articles/doe-announces-transfer-depleted-uranium-advance-us-national-... 6/7/2012