



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Ms. Cinthya Roman, Chief
Environmental Review Branch
Division of Fuel Cycle Safety, Safeguards, and Environmental Review
Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Mail Stop T-4B16
Washington, DC 20555

RE: ODH Comments on the NRC Draft EA for the Lead Cascade

The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has completed the review of "Draft Environmental Assessment for the Approval to Package and Transport Classified Matter and Wastes for Disposal Under the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission License Number: SNM-7003 for the American Centrifuge Lead Cascade Facility in Piketon, Ohio", referred to in the ODH response as the "Draft EA".

ODH agrees with the U.S. NRC that the packaging of radioactive and low level mixed waste from the Lead Cascade Facility and transport to the waste repositories will have no detectible or destabilizing impacts to the surrounding environment.

ODH does have the following recommendations to provide further clarification in the EA:

1. ODH recommends adding language to the Draft EA that ensures the sealed centrifuge casings used as waste shipping containers will meet and receive all applicable waste package certifications in 10 CFR 71 and 40 CFR 173 prior to the first waste shipment; and
2. ODH recommends the Draft EA include the final disposition, if known, of liquid radioactive waste processed by Fluor-B&W Portsmouth LLC, as this could potentially have an impact on the PORTS Onsite Waste Disposal Facility waste acceptance criteria.
3. ODH recommends rewording the last sentence of the first paragraph of Section 4.1, page 8, to read:

"For comparison, the average annual dose in the United States from background radiation, due to natural sources, is 3.1 milliSievert (mSv), which equates to an average annual exposure rate of 310,000 microR/year"

4. ODH recommends rewording the second sentence Section 4.1, page 8, under "Occupational Dose" section to read:

"Recent surveys at the LCF indicate a background dose rate of approximately 6 microR/hour."

ODH appreciates the opportunity to comment on this document prior to issuance.

If you have any questions, please contact Shannon Dettmer at Shannon.Dettmer@odh.ohio.gov or at (614) 995-0761.

Sincerely,



Lance Himes, Interim Director
Ohio Department of Health

cc: Craig Butler, Director, Ohio EPA

cc: Gene Phillips, Chief, Bureau of Environmental Health and Radiation Protection