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JUL 28 RECD

7-24-98

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Fissile Material Disposition
P.O. Box 23786
Washington, D.C. 20026-3786

RE: Fissile Materials Disposition, SPD/EIS COMMENT

The fact that we have a surplus of fissile material to dispose of would indicate that we over produced and should be cutting back on up-grading U233, Pu239 and U235.

If we have a surplus of fissile material as you maintain, the up-grading plants at Oak Ridge, Paducah KY and Portsmouth OH should shut down; thereby lessening the requirement for electric power plants (ie Indiana Kentucky Electric (IKE) government contract plant at Madison, IN). The IKE plant that furnishes power for the diffusion plant at Portsmouth OH has been burning around 4 million ton of high sulfur coal per year for 50 years (recently switched to Wyoming coal) with environmental complaints all the way to Canada. CCHW rates the plant EPA Superfund. The Ohio river is so contaminated with PCBs the fish can't be eaten, but millions of people have to drink from it.

Thanks for your consideration.

John O'Neill
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Madison, IN 47250-1750

PH: 812-273-1600

Sincerely,



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MD003

MD003-1

General SPD EIS and NEPA Process

The Portsmouth and Paducah plants have not produced fissile materials since 1992; the Oak Ridge plant is shut down. These plants produced enriched uranium for commercial nuclear reactors.

The fate of the gaseous diffusion plants at Portsmouth and Paducah would not be affected by the surplus plutonium disposition program. Section 4.30.3 analyzes the conversion of depleted uranium hexafluoride, from a representative site (Portsmouth), to uranium dioxide, which would be used as feedstock for immobilization and MOX fuel fabrication. DOE currently has a large excess inventory of depleted uranium hexafluoride, therefore the gaseous diffusion plants do not need to operate to support this program. Further, DCS has the option of acquiring uranium dioxide from another source.

