



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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Two New Contractors Assume Operations Today at the Department of Energy's Portsmouth & Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plants

Lexington, KY: Following two major contract announcements in 2010, the Department of Energy today announced that Fluor-B&W Portsmouth LLC (FBP) and Babcock & Wilcox Conversion Services, LLC (BWCS) assumed operations March 29. FBP at the Department's Portsmouth, Ohio site, and BWCS at both Portsmouth, Ohio and Paducah, Kentucky, sites.

FBP assumed phased-in cleanup operations from the United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) and LATA/Parallax, Portsmouth, LLC (LPP) for maintaining and preparing Cold War-era uranium enrichment facilities for decontamination and decommissioning (tear down) at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (GDP). FBP has an initial five-year contract period, with an option to extend up to another five years.

DOE contracted with FBP to undertake the demolition of three massive process facilities with cleaning up and remediating adjacent grounds at the DOE site for future development. To perform the work FBP is expected to eventually employ approximately 1,600 people, primarily existing Site personnel from LPP and USEC.

Additionally, Uranium Disposition Services' (UDS) contract has ended and BWCS assumed operations of the Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF₆) facilities at the Portsmouth GDP, and the Paducah GDP, in Paducah, Kentucky. The contract calls for

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converting the DUF₆ in 62,000 legacy storage cylinders into a stable compound suitable for transportation or beneficial reuse.

The Portsmouth DUF₆ inventory is expected to be processed in approximately 18 years and Paducah's larger inventory within 25 years. BWCS will employ approximately 380 employees between the sites.

Bill Murphie, Portsmouth/Paducah Project Manager said, "The new contractors, Fluor and Babcock Wilcox will take us forward in accomplishing our mission to clean up legacy waste and restore the sites for new beneficial reuse.

"We were fortunate to have our former contractors USEC, LPP and UDS; they accomplished a lot during their contracts and prepared the highly skilled workforce to safely perform the significant decommissioning mission looking forward."

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