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LATA/Parallax Portsmouth Demolishes Another Surplus Facility at Piketon Plant

Two to Go – Last of 14 Inactive Facilities to be Removed by Early 2007

PIKETON, OH (August 30, 2006) – In August, LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC completed demolition of the X-720A Maintenance and Stores Gas Manifold Shed at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, Ohio, bringing the total of inactive surplus facilities to 12 demolished since February. The company, contracted in 2005 by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to perform environmental remediation work at the plant, plans to finish the dismantlement of the remaining two facilities by March 2007.

Paul Kreitz, LATA/Parallax’s Project Manager, stated the project is running smoothly and ahead of schedule. As part of LATA/Parallax’s contract with DOE, the company is responsible for completing the characterization, decontamination and decommissioning of all 14 facilities by the contract’s end date of September 2009.

The X-720A Maintenance and Stores Gas Manifold Shed, built in 1954, served as a filling station for gas cylinders used throughout the site and to store compressed gas cylinders. Demolition of the facility began on August 2 and was completed nine days later. Off-site shipment of the debris to a licensed disposal facility and refill of the area with soil was completed by August 17, 2006.



The X-720A Maintenance and Stores Gas Manifold Shed is demolished in August 2006 (left). Pictured at right is the area after all debris has been removed.

The remaining two facilities are the X-105 Electronic Maintenance Building and the X-770 Mechanical Test Building. The X-105 Electronic Maintenance Building is an 11,000 square foot structure that was constructed in 1957, initially as a temporary facility for use as a construction field office where process pipe was fabricated during construction of the gaseous diffusion plant. The building was later used as an instrument development building, engineering office area, and for electronic maintenance of equipment. It has been vacant since 2001.

The 22,640 square foot X-770 Mechanical Test Building is the largest facility to be removed. The X-770 had three test loops used to test modified equipment before installation into the process building. The facility operated separately from the uranium enrichment process since its purpose was only to test equipment and not enrich uranium. This facility was constructed in 1954 and operated until 1974.

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About LATA/Parallax Portsmouth

LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC performs environmental remediation services, including groundwater cleanup and waste management activities, under contract to the U.S. Department of Energy at the Portsmouth site. The LATA/Parallax Portsmouth contract is through September 2009.