Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 18, 2002

Mr. James Bird
THPO
Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Quallah Boundary
P.O. Box 455
Cherokee, NC 28719

Dear Mr. Bird:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF_6) Management Program, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concerning its plans to convert DUF_6 stored at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS), located in Pike County, Ohio, the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP), located in McCracken County, Kentucky, and the East Tennessee Technology Park (ETTP), located at Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The EIS will also evaluate transporting DUF_6 from storage at the ETTP, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. In some conversion scenarios a cylinder transfer facility would be built at ETTP. Locations at the PGDP and the PORTS are being considered for the conversion facility. In 1999, the DOE prepared a Programmatic EIS for Alternative Strategies for the Long-Term Management and Use of DUF_6. The current site specific EIS will evaluate the construction and operation of a facility to convert the stored DUF_6 to a more stable chemical form. The Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published on September 18, 2001 in the Federal Register. Public scoping for the DUF_6 EIS took place between September 18, 2001 and January 11, 2001 and included meetings and written and electronic correspondence. The enclosed map shows the location of the ETTP. No construction sites have been proposed at ETTP to date. The effects on cultural resources of constructing a transfer facility will be evaluated in a future document if and when specific construction sites are proposed. The potential effects of the operation of the facilities on cultural resources located in the area surrounding ETTP will be evaluated in this EIS.

We have determined, in accordance with §800.3 of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (Council) revised regulations for the protection of historic properties, that DOE's proposed action for the conversion of DUF_6 is: (1) an undertaking, as defined in 36 CFR §800.16(y); and (2) is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. In accordance with §800.8(c) of the Council's regulations, we are notifying you, and the Council by copy of this letter, that we intend to use the process and documentation required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for this undertaking. In using the NEPA process in lieu of the procedures set forth in §800.3 through §800.6 of the Council's regulations (i.e., the Section 106 process), we will ensure the standards set forth in §800.8(c)(1) through §800.8(c)(5) are met.

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Mr. James Bird 2

Thank you for your attention to our notification of initiation of consultation. If you have any questions or need additional information on this matter, please contact me at (865) 576-0273 (**hartmangs@oro.doe.gov**).

Sincerely,

Gary S. Hartman

Gary S. Hartman, EIS Document Manager
DOE ORO Cultural Resources
Management Coordinator

Enclosure

cc w/enclosure:
Skip Gosling, HR-76, HQ/FORS
Tom McCulloch, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Lois Thompson, EH-232, HQ/FORS
Donna Perez, EM-911, ORO

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 18, 2002

Mr. Kenneth Daugherty
Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
2025 S. Gordon Cooper Dr.
Shawnee, OK 74801-99381

Dear Mr. Daugherty:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) presenting the likely effects of constructing and operating one or more plants to convert stored Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF_6) into a more stable form. As part of this process, the DOE is initiating consultations with Native American groups with historical ties to the areas under consideration for a conversion facility.

The EIS will evaluate plans to build and operate DUF_6 conversion facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP), McCracken County, Kentucky and the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS), Pike County, Ohio. Three possible construction locations will be evaluated at each site. The Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published on September 18, 2001 in the Federal Register. Public scoping for the DUF_6 conversion EIS took place between September 18, 2001 and January 11, 2001.

The enclosed maps show the location of the PORTS site and the alternative facility locations under consideration at PORTS. Cultural resource inventories have been initiated at PORTS. In most cases the likelihood of cultural resources being disturbed by construction activities is low. Only Location B includes some land with high archaeological sensitivity. The potential effects of the operation of the facilities on cultural resources located in the area surrounding PORTS will be evaluated in the EIS.

We have determined, in accordance with §800.3 of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (Council) revised regulations for the protection of historic properties, that DOE's proposed action for the conversion of DUF_6 is: (1) an undertaking, as defined in 36 CFR §800.16(y); and (2) is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. In accordance with §800.8(c) of the Council's regulations, we are notifying you, and the Council by copy of this letter, that we intend to use the process and documentation required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for this undertaking. In using the NEPA process in lieu of the procedures set forth in §800.3 through §800.6 of the Council's regulations (i.e., the Section 106 process), we will ensure the standards set forth in §800.8(c)(1) through §800.8(c)(5) are met.

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Mr. Kenneth Daugherty 2

Please contact us if you have any concerns or comments regarding the proposed project. Any information you provide regarding specific cultural resources will remain confidential as stipulated in 36 CFR Part 800.11. To ensure that your concerns receive full consideration, please submit any comments within 30 days of the receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your attention to our notification of initiation of consultation. If you have any questions or need additional information on this matter, please contact me at (865) 576-0273 or by email at hartmangs@oro.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

Gary S. Hartman

Gary S. Hartman, EIS Document Manager
DOE ORO Cultural Resources
Management Coordinator

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:
Skip Gosling, HR-76, HQ/FORS
Tom McCulloch, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Lois Thompson, EH-232, HQ/FORS
Kristi Wiehle, PORTS Site Office

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 18, 2002

Mr. Charles D. Enyart
Chief
Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 350
Seneca, MO 64865

Dear Chief Enyart:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) presenting the likely effects of constructing and operating one or more plants to convert stored Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF_6) into a more stable form. As part of this process, the DOE is initiating consultations with Native American groups with historical ties to the areas under consideration for a conversion facility.

The EIS will evaluate plans to build and operate DUF_6 conversion facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP), McCracken County, Kentucky and the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS), Pike County, Ohio. Three possible construction locations will be evaluated at each site. The Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published on September 18, 2001 in the Federal Register. Public scoping for the DUF_6 conversion EIS took place between September 18, 2001 and January 11, 2001.

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We have determined, in accordance with §800.3 of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (Council) revised regulations for the protection of historic properties, that DOE's proposed action for the conversion of DUF_6 is: (1) an undertaking, as defined in 36 CFR §800.16(y); and (2) is a type of activity that has the potential to cause effects on historic properties. In accordance with §800.8(c) of the Council's regulations, we are notifying you, and the Council by copy of this letter, that we intend to use the process and documentation required to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for this undertaking. In using the NEPA process in lieu of the procedures set forth in §800.3 through §800.6 of the Council's regulations (i.e., the Section 106 process), we will ensure the standards set forth in §800.8(c)(1) through §800.8(c)(5) are met.

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Sincerely,

Gary S. Hartman

Gary S. Hartman, EIS Document Manager
DOE ORO Cultural Resources
Management Coordinator

Enclosures

cc w/enclosures:
Skip Gosling, HR-76, HQ/FORS
Tom McCulloch, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
Lois Thompson, EH-232, HQ/FORS
Kristi Wiehle, PORTS Site Office

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 18, 2002

Mr. Hawk Pope
Chief
Shawnee Nation, United Remnant Band
7092 State Route 540
Bellefontaine, OH 43311

Dear Chief Pope:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) presenting the likely effects of constructing and operating one or more plants to convert stored Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF_6) into a more stable form. As part of this process, the DOE is initiating consultations with Native American groups with historical ties to the areas under consideration for a conversion facility.

The EIS will evaluate plans to build and operate DUF_6 conversion facilities at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP), McCracken County, Kentucky and the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS), Pike County, Ohio. Three possible construction locations will be evaluated at each site. The Notice of Intent to prepare the EIS was published on September 18, 2001 in the Federal Register. Public scoping for the DUF_6 conversion EIS took place between September 18, 2001 and January 11, 2001.

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Mr. Hawk Pope 2

Please contact us if you have any concerns or comments regarding the proposed project. Any information you provide regarding specific cultural resources will remain confidential as stipulated in 36 CFR Part 800.11. To ensure that your concerns receive full consideration, please submit any comments within 30 days of the receipt of this letter.

Thank you for your attention to our notification of initiation of consultation. If you have any questions or need additional information on this matter, please contact me at (865) 576-0273 or by email at hartmangs@oro.doe.gov.

Sincerely,

Gary S. Hartman

Gary S. Hartman, EIS Document Manager
DOE ORO Cultural Resources
Management Coordinator

Enclosures

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Skip Gosling, HR-76, HQ/FORS
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Lois Thompson, EH-232, HQ/FORS
Kristi Wiehle, PORTS Site Office

Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 12, 2002

Ms. Patricia Jones
Ohio Department of Natural Resources
Heritage Program
1889 Fountain Square, Bldg. F-1
Columbus, Ohio 43224

Dear Ms. Jones:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CONVERTING DUF6 STORED AT PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT, PIKE COUNTY, OHIO

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF6) Management Program, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concerning its plans to convert DUF6 stored at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS), located in Pike County, Ohio. The DOE prepared a Programmatic EIS for Alternative Strategies for the Long-Term Management and Use of DUF6 in 1999. This new EIS will evaluate the construction and operation of a facility to convert the DUF6 stored at the PORTS to a more stable chemical form. The conversion facility would be located within the existing PORTS site boundary. The conversion products would subsequently be used or disposed elsewhere. I have enclosed maps showing the location of the PORTS and potential construction sites.

We would appreciate receiving information on any state-protected species that may inhabit or visit the PORTS vicinity and could possibly be affected by construction or operation of a conversion facility. As part of the analysis of ecological impacts we will assess potential impacts to species listed by the state of Ohio as endangered, threatened, or candidate species. A list of these species and their residency status at PORTS or in the vicinity would be useful for the analysis.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. If you need further information regarding this request, please do not hesitate to call me at (865) 576-0938 or call Mr. Robert Van Lonkhuyzen at Argonne National Laboratory at (630) 252-5973.

Sincerely,

James L. Elmore

James L. Elmore, Ph.D.
Alternate NEPA Compliance Officer

Enclosure

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Department of Energy

Oak Ridge Operations Office
P.O. Box 2001
Oak Ridge, Tennessee 37831—

July 12, 2002

Mr. Ken Lammers
Acting Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
6950-H Americana Parkway
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-4127

Dear Mr. Lammers:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT CONVERTING DUF6 STORED AT PORTSMOUTH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT, PIKE COUNTY, OHIO

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF6) Management Program, is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) concerning its plans to convert DUF6 stored at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS), located in Pike County, Ohio. The DOE prepared a Programmatic EIS for Alternative Strategies for the Long-Term Management and Use of DUF6 in 1999. This new EIS will evaluate the construction and operation of a facility to convert the DUF6 stored at the PORTS to a more stable chemical form. The conversion facility would be located within the existing PORTS site boundary. The conversion products would subsequently be used or disposed elsewhere. I have enclosed maps showing the location of the PORTS and potential construction sites.

We would appreciate receiving information on any federally-protected species that may inhabit or visit the PORTS vicinity and could possibly be affected by construction or operation of a conversion facility. As part of the analysis of ecological impacts we will assess potential impacts to federally-listed endangered, threatened, and candidate species and critical habitat. A list of these species and their residency status at PORTS or in the vicinity, or critical habitat, would be useful for the analysis.

Thank you in advance for your assistance. If you need further information regarding this request, please do not hesitate to call me at (865) 576-0938 or call Mr. Robert Van Lonkhuyzen at Argonne National Laboratory at (630) 252-5973.

Sincerely,

James L. Elmore

James L. Elmore, Ph.D.
Alternate NEPA Compliance Officer

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