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## **Ohio EPA Issues Final Permit Renewal for Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant**

Ohio EPA issued a final renewal of a hazardous waste permit for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant, located at 3930 U.S. Route 23 South in Piketon (Pike County).

DOE generates hazardous and mixed waste from environmental cleanup operations. U.S. Enrichment Corporation also generates similar waste on site during general plant operations. The permit that allows and regulates the storage of this waste must periodically be renewed.

Ohio EPA held an information session and public hearing on February 28, 2011, to answer questions and accept comments regarding the draft renewal of DOE's hazardous waste permit. Ohio EPA issued the draft renewal permit after determining DOE's permit renewal application was complete and met appropriate standards.

The purpose of the hearing was to obtain additional information to be considered before Ohio EPA issued or denied the final permit renewal. Ohio EPA carefully considered public comments received before taking final action on the renewal permit.

The permit will allow DOE to continue storing waste in containers inside a building on site. It also will require DOE to investigate and, if necessary, clean up any contamination from hazardous wastes that may be at the facility.

The final permit renewal, response to comments, application and related documents may be viewed at U.S. DOE's Environmental Information Center, Room 207, 1862 Shyville Rd., Piketon (740-897-2336); Ohio EPA's Southeast District Office, 2195 Front St., Logan (740-385-8501) and Division of Hazardous Waste Management, 50 W. Town St., Suite 700, Columbus (614-644-2917).

Issuance of the final permit renewal can be appealed to the [Ohio Environmental Review Appeals Commission \(ERAC\)](#). Many appeals must be filed within 30 days of issuing the final action; therefore, Ohio EPA recommends that anyone wishing to file an appeal contact ERAC online or at (614) 466-8950 for more information.

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