## The Scioto Post

Piketon Open House Informs Community about Progress at Former Gaseous Diffusion Plant

By **Kevin Coleman** - 09/29/2024



The PORTS community open house near Piketon on September 24th, 2024.



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*Pike County and the Scioto Valley* — The gradual demolition of the Gaseous Diffusion Plant near Piketon, and its conversion into new industrial sites – as well as employment possibilities – was outlined in an open house last week.

The community open house was offered to inform the public and job seekers about the redevelopments and potential jobs. It showcased displays by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE, which owns the site), the Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership, the Oklo "advanced fusion technology" company, and Trillium H2 Power.

I spoke with three of the participants, and you can hear them in their own words (in the noisy room!) in my video interviews.

An Introduction to the displays in the PORTS community open house.

The spokesman for DOE outlined the ongoing process of decommission and demolition. Jeffrey Davis said demolition has finished on one of the two largest buildings, number 326, and polluted on-site earth was used to help bury most of it in the landfill created on the facility.



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He said they continue to deal with steel tanks of depleted uranium hexafluoride, and they are ready to start the demolition of building 333, with about 14 years left in their procedural timeline.

Learn more on their demolition-specific website.

An outline of decommission and demolition process at the Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

The Oklo (pronounced "OH-kloh") spokesman said they plan to build two small powerhouses there to generate 15 megawatts of electricity each.

John said their first powerhouse is on-track to be built in Idaho and go online in 2027, and their Piketon plants will follow.

He said their metal-fueled, metal-cooled, low-pressure, passively safe technology is based on an experimental test reactor that ran for 30 years.

John said the Piketon site has several good features for them:

- A great infrastructure with the power lines coming in that they can use to send out power.
- A great symbiotic partner with the Centrus centrifuge facility there that will sell them fuel and buy their electricity
- And a history of nuclear power there, with a potential workforce that already has experience with it.

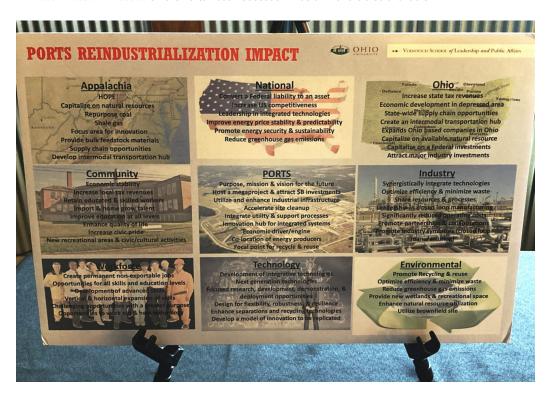
Oklo has a website and Facebook page.

The Oklo "advanced fusion technology company" plans to build two small powerhouses at the Gaseous Diffusion Plant near Piketon.

Representatives of Trillium H2 Power spoke with the Ross County Commissioners recently, and at the open house they said they did not have anything new to report.

The event in Pike County was held at the Twin Lakes Resort just east of Piketon. Another open house was held the next day in the Scioto County Welcome Center in Portsmouth.

A "virtual museum" website on the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant is also available.





The Twin Lakes Resort just east of Piketon.



## **Kevin Coleman**

http://IntrepidHeritageServices.com

Raised in Ross County, Bearcat class of '87 at Paint Valley. Wrote a column on history and historic preservation for the Chillicothe Gazette right out of high school, then a bachelors in Journalism in the OU class of '91. After starting my one-man company "Intrepid Heritage Services" in Columbus in 1997 to offer historical research, tours, and talks, I retuned to Ross County in 2003. Have been working as a radio programmer and reporter at Clear Channel / iHeart Media Southern Ohio. Started working with the Scioto Post June 27th, 2023.





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