



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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DOE Announces Addition of 43 New Employees to Support Recovery Act Projects at Piketon, OH Plant

PIKETON, OH – The U.S. Department of Energy announced today that 43 new employees have reported to work at the Department’s Piketon Plant in Southern Ohio as a result of jobs being created with American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding.

“In a region currently dealing with double-digit unemployment, we are pleased to welcome 43 new employees hired thanks to the Recovery Act,” said William Murphie, Manager of DOE’s Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office. “These new workers will join with us to help advance the important environmental cleanup work we are doing at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.”

Prior to assuming their work with LATA/Parallax, the Department’s environmental remediation contractor at Piketon, the employees must complete an initial 5-6 weeks training period. Following training, these workers will support projects to decontaminate and decommission an electrical switchyard, a cooling tower complex, and the former X-760 Chemical Engineering Building on-site. In addition, some of the workers will be employed to support two other ARRA projects to clean up large cylinders containing low-enriched uranium and excess uranium materials being stored at the Piketon plant.

Many of the employees have come from corporations that have experienced recent layoffs. One of the new hires, Anthony Howard, knows what its like to be out of work. Howard, who was born and raised in Waverly, about 10 miles north of the plant, has been unemployed since January 2009.

After working six years for a trucking company in Chillicothe, Ohio, Howard was laid off when the economic downturn hit the auto and truck industries. “I’m grateful for the opportunity to become a LATA/Parallax employee and to be working on the site. As part of this opportunity, I now have a salary and benefits to once again support my family,”

Howard said. “Plus, I am working in my community and no longer have to commute 40 minutes to get to work,” he added.

Further information on DOE’s Office of Environmental Management and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act can be found at www.em.doe.gov and <http://www.em.doe.gov/emrecovery/EMRecovery.aspx>.

As additional jobs become available, postings will be advertised on the LATA/Parallax website at: www.lpports.com.

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