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## **LATA/Parallax Portsmouth Demolishes Last Of 14 Inactive Facilities At Piketon Plant In Frigid Weather**

**PIKETON, OH (February 22, 2007)** – Despite frigid temperatures and snow and icy conditions this month, LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC achieved another major milestone in the cleanup program at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant. LATA/Parallax Portsmouth completed demolition on the last of the 14 inactive, surplus facilities the company was contracted by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to remove from the site. The 22,640 square foot X-770 Mechanical Test Building was the most complex and also the largest of the inactive facilities assigned to LATA/Parallax Portsmouth for removal at the plant located in Piketon, Ohio.

Preparations for the building demolition were initiated in May 2006. Preliminary work included the removal of asbestos and other hazardous materials. Demolition of the structure began in late January and was completed on February 7, 2007. Final off-site shipment of the building debris to the Nevada Test Site is expected to be completed by the middle of March.

The X-770 facility was constructed in 1954 and operated until 1974. It was built to test equipment prior to installation into the gaseous diffusion process buildings. The building contained test loops, each comprised of the essential components of a typical process stage used in the uranium enrichment buildings. The facility operated separately from the uranium enrichment process since the purpose was only to test equipment and not to enrich uranium.

“Due to the similarities of this building to the much larger, old gaseous diffusion process buildings, the demolition of the X-770 structure has provided excellent insights for the Department of Energy as they begin their planning toward the future decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) of the other buildings at the plant,” said Paul Kreitz, LATA/Parallax Portsmouth’s Project Manager.

The project also involved extensive interface with the United States Enrichment Corporation to prevent any impacts to site operational activities because the building’s location was within close proximity to major utility lines and operating facilities.

In the last 12 months, LATA/Parallax Portsmouth has removed nearly 55,000 square feet of inactive facilities and more than 1,093 cubic meters of debris. The structures included old warehouses, an old sewage treatment plant, storage facilities, and former maintenance buildings.

“We are extremely proud of our workers’ efforts to safely complete the removal of this facility during some of the most extreme winter weather we’ve experienced in southern Ohio,” said Kreitz. “Once all the debris from the X-770 building is shipped to the Nevada Test Site for disposal, we will have essentially completed this portion of our work more than two years ahead of the contract period of performance,” Kreitz added. LATA/Parallax Portsmouth’s contract required the removal of all the structures from the site by September 2009.

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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. Further information is available on the LATA/Parallax Portsmouth public website at: <http://www.lpports.com>

*Photo Cutlines:*

*91063107.jpg – The X-770 Mechanical Test Building as it looked before demolition.*

*LPP-P-07-339.jpg and LPP-P-07-283.jpg – Photos taken in early February while shearing equipment demolish the X-770 Mechanical Test Building during snow and icy conditions.*

*LPP-P-07-425.jpg – Only a pile of rubble remains at the site of the X-770 Building. The debris will be size-reduced and placed into containers for shipment to the Nevada Test Site for disposal. All waste is expected to be removed by mid-March.*