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LATA/Parallax and Garnet A. Wilson Library Training Partnership

PIKETON, OH (October 22, 2009) – LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC, the U.S. Department of Energy’s environmental remediation contractor at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Southern Ohio, is partnering with the Garnet A. Wilson Public Library of Pike County in Waverly to use the community room for training the company’s new hires.

As in many communities, the Pike County library has experienced significant cuts in State funding. With the expected 31 percent cut in operating funds, Tom Adkins, Executive Director, said he was thrilled when LATA/Parallax contacted him about using the library space as a training facility for its new hires. “The Library Board is very happy to help in any way to bring new jobs to the area,” Adkins said. “Education is at the forefront of what we do so this arrangement fits exactly with what we do as a public library.”

The Department of Energy has received \$118.2 million to support accelerated cleanup projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and LATA/Parallax has saved and/or created and trained 249 positions as of September 2009. New hire training requires approximately 160 hours of instruction per individual to prepare the workforce to safely deal with potential hazards that might be encountered on the cleanup projects.

Joel Bradburne, the Department of Energy’s Site Lead, who attended the signing ceremony between the library and LATA/Parallax said, “The intention of ARRA is to support jobs in the community and this is a perfect example in action.” He also stated that it supports jobs in less visible ways, from the person who stocks the soft drink machines to others who provide support services as well.

LATA/Parallax Project Manager Bill Franz also participated in the signing event and views this as a win-win partnership. He said, “Having this space as a training facility serves the needs of LATA/Parallax to train ARRA new hires plus it makes good use of an existing community resource.”

Ruth Traugott, LATA/Parallax Human Resources and Training Manager, said, “LATA/Parallax is grateful for the opportunity to be able to offer new jobs to local residents. We are excited about this unique solution of using available space and computer resources at the Garnet A. Wilson Library to provide training to our new employees.”

The ARRA funding for accelerated cleanup provides jobs for Pike County, where the Gaseous Diffusion Plant resides, and where the current unemployment rate is 15.7 percent.

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Joel Bradburne (seated left), DOE Site Lead, and Bill Franz (seated right), LATA/Parallax Project Manager, participated in signing a partnership arrangement with Tom Adkins (seated center), Executive Director, Garnet A. Wilson Library, for providing space to train new employees. Also participating in the event and pictured from left (standing), are Jennifer Wright, the library's Public Services Coordinator; Linda Kobel, Business Operations Manager, LATA/Parallax; and Ruth Traugott, Human Resources and Training Manager, LATA/Parallax.

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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 Gaseous Diffusion Plant site in Piketon, Ohio. Further information is available at <http://www.lpports.com> or by calling the Public Affairs Office at (740) 897-2336.