



# U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY**

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## **Portsmouth Site Donates Excess Rail Cars for Southeast Ohio “Rails to Trails”**

**PIKETON, OHIO** -- Under the Environmental Management program, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is removing excess materials from the 3,777-acre Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Piketon, Ohio. The plant is a former uranium enrichment facility that is now in cold shutdown and preparing for future decontamination and decommissioning.

As part of the excess materials disposition project, DOE’s environmental remediation contractor LATA/Parallax Portsmouth, LLC evaluates potential reuse or recycling. Items that are free of contamination can be released for reuse, rather than being disposed as waste. Items are released to the public through an Asset Transition Agreement for Economic Development between DOE and its designated community reuse organization, the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative (SODI).

Through a cooperative effort, SODI, LATA/Parallax and DOE’s infrastructure contractor Theta Pro2Serve Management Company (TPMC) arranged on August 13, 2009 to donate four excess flatbed rail cars to the Moonville Rail Trail Association, a non-profit organization that will use the rail cars as bridge spans in its Vinton County, Ohio public rail trail.

Brian Blair, a supervisor with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency’s Southeast District Office, was instrumental in notifying DOE and SODI of the need for the rail cars by the Moonville Rail Trail Association. The Moonville Rail Trail Association offers 16 miles of scenic trails for walking, biking and horseback riding in some of the most picturesque areas of southeast Ohio from the Zaleski State Forest in Vinton County to Athens County, Ohio.

“We are pleased we could provide these vintage rail cars to a community organization that will be able to use them for such an aesthetic and functional public purpose for years to come,” said Dave Kozlowski, DOE’s Deputy Manager of the Portsmouth/Paducah Project Office.

A 120-ton heavy duty crane was brought on-site to lift the rail cars onto semi-trailers to facilitate transport of the cars to the Moonville organization. By transferring the rail cars for reuse, an estimated \$233,000 transportation and disposal cost avoidance was achieved by eliminating requirements to cut up the rail cars and ship the material as waste for off-site disposal.

**-DOE-**



**Photo Cutlines:**

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*LATA/Parallax workers at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant use a 120-ton crane to hoist an excess rail car onto a flatbed semi-trailer for reuse by the Moonville Rail Trail Association in southeast Ohio.*

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*Pictured with the first excess rail car loaded at the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant for transport to the Moonville Rail Trail Association in southeast Ohio are, left to right, Jeff Middaugh, Val Tinsley and Miles Smith with LATA/Parallax; Amanda Mayo, TPMC; Jennifer Chandler, executive director of the Southern Ohio Diversification Initiative; and Kristi Wiehle and Dee Perkins, U.S. Department of Energy.*

