

# Ohio University Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs

**BUILDING TALENT, KNOWLEDGE, CAPITAL  
AND STRATEGIC CAPACITY**

The facility at Piketon, Ohio

**PORTS  
FUTURE**



# Adding Value

Since 1981, the Voinovich School has applied the knowledge and assets of Ohio University to solving problems and promoting growth in the Ohio Appalachian region, throughout the State of Ohio, and beyond.

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# Voinovich School

- Each of our three focus areas is associated with a Masters degree program.
- Faculty, students, and professional staff join together to work on applied projects for the region.
- Many of our professional staff are from the region we serve.

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# Voinovich School

- Public Service and Leadership
  - Masters of Public Administration
- Energy and the Environment
  - Masters of Environmental Studies
- Entrepreneurship, Competitiveness and Innovation
  - Masters of Business Administration

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# The Project

- The DOE Public Outreach Project and Energy and Environmental Issues Projects will capitalize on the Voinovich School's strengths and three decades of experience and success.

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# Mission Statement

## Project Mission

OHIO will engage in activities that support the efficient and economical environmental restoration of the Department of Energy's (DOE) Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PORTS) near Piketon, Ohio by:

## Objectives

1. Designing and conducting a widespread community-based engagement process through which stakeholders will discuss remediation scenarios and make recommendations for the cleanup and disposition of the site that will stimulate education, research, and facilitate investment and development in local communities.
2. Applying Ohio University's expertise to expedite the implementation of cost-effective technologies and methodologies in order to accelerate clean-up and risk reduction.

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# Mission Statement (con't)

3. Creating problem-specific Project Teams, comprised of engaged faculty and researchers from participating universities who will work in conjunction with stakeholders, including the Department of Energy, its partner agencies, and its contractors, to accelerate education and awareness and conduct research projects leading to risk reduction and remediation of the site to minimize the impacts to public and environmental health.

4. Use Project Teams to interface directly with DOE, DOE national laboratories, the US and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA and Ohio EPA), and other state regulatory agencies to help forge consensus solutions to technical problems related to the clean-up and ongoing operations of the PORTS site.

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# Outreach Accomplishments to Date (January 22 - December 31, 2010)

- Attended every SSAB board and subcommittee meeting held since January 22, 2010
  - SSAB engagement plan – Submitted May 12, 2010
- Outreach work plan developed and approved – March 26, 2010
- Created project website: [www.PORTSfuture.com](http://www.PORTSfuture.com)
- Energy and Environmental Research tasks and additional outreach proposals submitted and approved- January 31, 2011
- Ongoing consultation with UK-KRCEE on OU project development and implementation and lessons learned by UK in their process
- Implementing multi-modal public outreach strategy

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## Public Outreach Tasks

### Completed

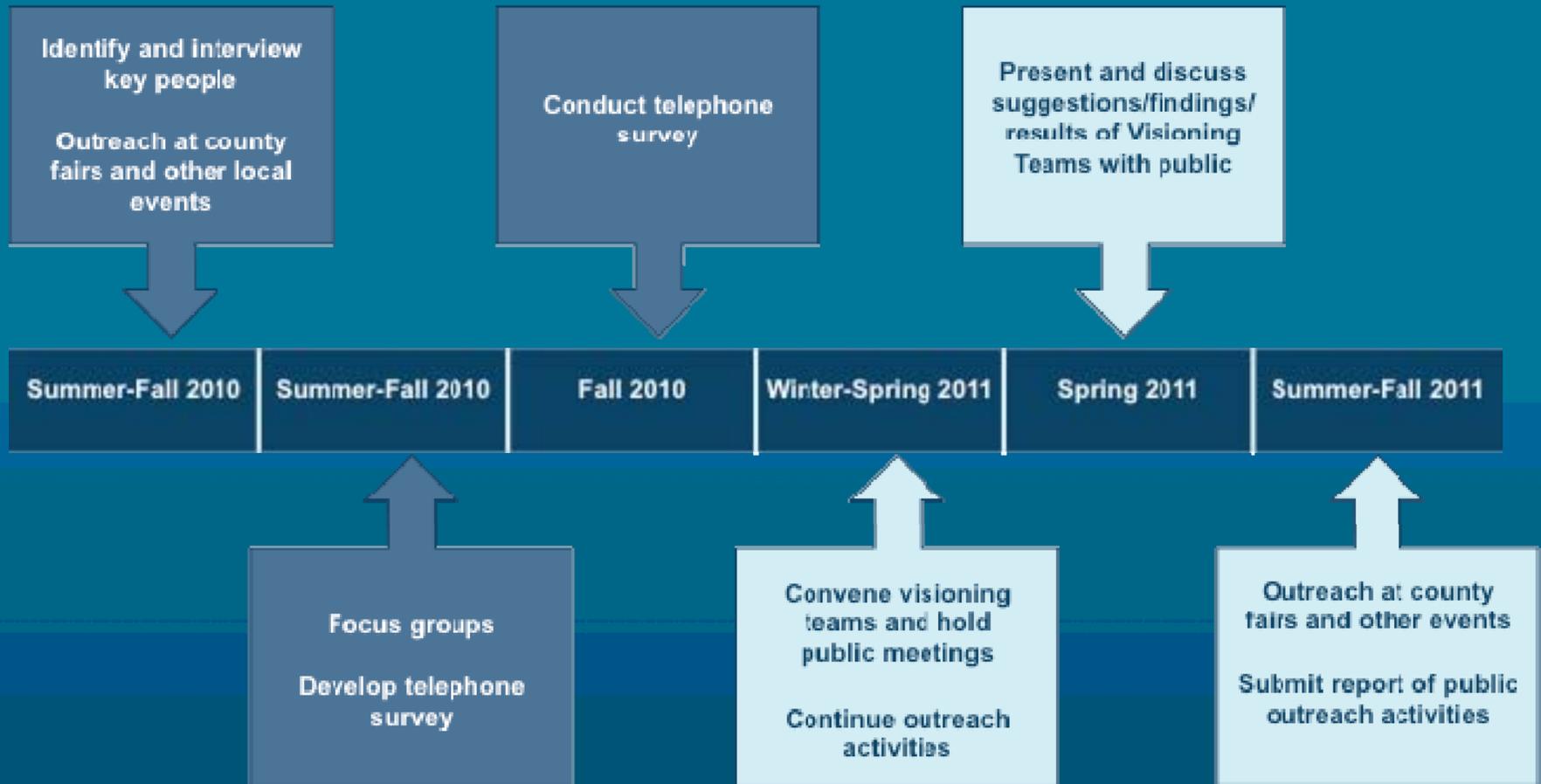
- Interviewed key informants to inform about project and gather historical information
- Met with key stakeholders for updates (SSAB,SODI, key informants, others as applicable based on project activity)
- Advertised outreach project in four-county region
- Attended public events, including all four-county fairs, to publicize project
- Conducted media content analysis to identify key themes and stakeholders
- Conducted focus groups in every county to inform the development of survey instrument
- Conducted telephone survey in four-county area on public views to determine familiarity with the site and to ask their input about issues in the region

### Pending

- Convene community visioning teams to develop possible future use scenarios**
- Draft future use vision scenarios**
- Attend public events to get additional public input on possible future use scenarios for the site**
- Draft future use vision report for submission to DOE for their consideration**



# Ohio University (OU) Public Outreach Project Timeline



 Completed Steps

 Ongoing/Upcoming Steps

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# Video and Photographic Documentation Project

## Description

- In cooperation and consultation with the SSAB, develop video and photographic documentation that will accelerate the greater understanding of past, present, and future conditions at the PORTS site. The objectives of the documentary and photographic essay are to capture oral histories of the site and illustrate the current public engagement process as it relates to the ongoing cleanup of the PORTS site. The PI will meet with the SSAB throughout the project.

## Deliverables

- (1) Documentary film highlighting the history of the PORTS site, the current clean-up process, and the outreach and visioning project and (2) A complimentary photographic essay.

## Benefits

- Informs the SSAB's current and future community engagement strategies and efforts by providing a visually compelling public record of the OU public end-state visioning process which will document the varying and innovative approaches to engaging the public. This will inform outreach efforts of the SSAB and any other future DOE grantees at any DOE site in the nation. Preserves the history of the site and the viewpoints of the stakeholders involved in the project.

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# ASER Summary Student Project

## Description

- Sponsor and help develop an Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER) Summary utilizing staff and students from a local high school. The Summary will utilize information found in the most recently-available ASER from PORTS as well as presentation materials developed by the high school staff and students.

## Deliverables

- An Annual ASER Summary Report.

## Benefits

- (1) Replicates a successful process developed at the Oak Ridge facility. (2) Supports public engagement process by disseminating information to more people than would otherwise be interested in the work at the PORTS site. (3) Helps build regional capacity and enhance the education of local students in the critical science and engineering disciplines.

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# Economic Analysis and Visualization of Future Industrial Applications at PORTS

## Description

- Complete an economic analysis and visualization of future industrial applications possible for the PORTS site. Publicly-available information and digital imagery on site conditions will be combined with off-the-shelf computer animation technology to provide visualizations of community-derived end uses for the PORTS site.

## Deliverables

- A series of computer-animated future use alternatives and economic analyses that can be viewed and manipulated by the public to make informed decisions about future site conditions.

## Benefits

- Community-based decision makers will be adequately informed of site development options at the completion of this work. This in turn will lead to an integrated approach for the final intended uses of the site.



# Additional Education and Training Opportunities at PORTS

## Description

- In consultation with local stakeholders (SSAB, SODI, contractors, etc...), OU will provide facilities for and sponsor training covering a variety of issues in support of the PORTS environmental cleanup mission or topics facilitating the completion of the PORTS environmental cleanup mission. Examples of training may include introduction to CERCLA process, expedited sampling protocols, and others as defined in consultation with local stakeholders.

## Deliverables

- Summaries of participation following completion of the training.

## Benefits

- Collaborating with the abovementioned local stakeholders to keep them, the general public, and agency personnel informed of the latest innovations and analytical and assessment techniques will be critical to ensuring that cleanup is proceeding as efficiently as possible.

# Discussion

## Questions & Answers

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