

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 13, 2017

The Honorable Rick Perry
Secretary of Energy
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Secretary Perry,

Congratulations on your confirmation as the fourteenth Secretary of Energy. We are confident that you will make an excellent leader of the department, and we are particularly encouraged by the commitment you made to Senator Portman during your confirmation hearing to visit the DOE site in Piketon, Ohio, to witness the important work being done there.

As you know, one of DOE's most important missions is maintaining our nuclear deterrent and the infrastructure that supports it. The people of southern Ohio made great sacrifices to support this mission during the Cold War through their work at, and support of, the Piketon site, and they continue making those sacrifices today through DOE's cleanup and enrichment operations on site.

The decontamination and demobilization of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant is massive in scope and complexity, employing nearly 2,000 skilled workers who labor ceaselessly through our highly uncertain fiscal environment. Meanwhile, DOE is assessing options for developing a domestic uranium enrichment capability, including advanced centrifuge technology demonstrated at Piketon.

We strongly believe that a visit to Piketon will provide you with crucial insight into these issues that will be very helpful as you face tough decisions in the near future. As such, we hope that your visit takes place as early as possible in your tenure.

Thank you again for your dedication to public service, your leadership on these difficult issues, and your commitment to visiting Piketon. We stand ready to assist you in any way possible.

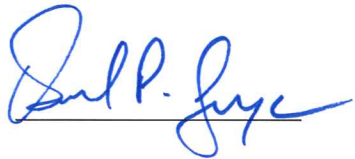
Sincerely,



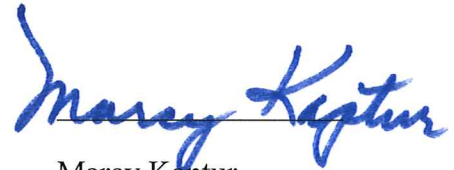
Brad R. Wenstrup
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



David P. Joyce
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Steve Stivers
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan
Member of Congress