

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Cincinnati, Ohio)

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Later today, I will be releasing a comprehensive statement on nuclear policy, calling upon all nations of the world to join in a cooperative effort to expand the benefits of peaceful uses of nuclear energy while preventing nuclear proliferation.

The actions I am announcing are designed to:

- strengthen the commitment of all nations to the goal of non-proliferation,
- change and strengthen U. S. domestic policies and programs to support our non-proliferation goals, and
- establish a stronger foundation for increasing the use of nuclear energy in the U. S. and abroad.

The State of Ohio will have an important role to play in meeting these objectives. We must have new capacity to provide fuel for nuclear power plants here and abroad. The additional uranium enrichment plant that we are going to build at Portsmouth, Ohio, is critical to that capacity.

Construction of the Portsmouth plant is now expected to cost \$4.4 billion and will mean 6,000 new jobs for Southern Ohio. The Administrator of ERDA has assured me that construction of that plant can begin early next year.

Construction of the plant at Portsmouth will assure a central role for Ohio for years to come in providing fuel needed for nuclear power plants in the United States and around the world.

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