Stantec

November 23, 2026

To: Joni Lung
Environmental Specialist 3, 401/Isolated Wetland Permitting
Division of Surface Water
50 W. Town Street, Suite 700
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 644-2152
Joni.Lung@epa.ohio.gov

Reference: 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) Application comments
PORTS Technology Campus
Ohio EPA ID No. 262779A2

Dear Ms. Lung,

Portsmouth DevCo, LLC, has received the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's (OEPA) November 20, 2026, notice of 401 WQC application comments for the PORTS Technology Campus Project. This submittal has been prepared in response to the comments in the letter. For clarity, SBE's response in ***bold italics*** font.

3.a. a. There are several contaminated groundwater plumes of chlorinated organics (trichloroethlylene) within the Department of Energy (DOE) facility located to the west of the project area that are undergoing active treatment and remediation. The plumes are within the Gallia formation. Any pumping of groundwater near the facility could pull the plumes off-site. The Scioto Valley aquifer, located to the west of the DOE facility, is where DOE sources most of their water. Please provide information on the proposed water supplies for the data center. If the data center proposes purchasing water or plans to install wells or a surface water intakes, Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Waters should be consulted to ensure that all necessary applications are submitted and approvals are obtained.

The PORTS Technology Campus' (Project) planned water supply is purchased potable water from the US Department of Energy's (DOE) water treatment plant (WTP), delivered through a new line to the Project. The line is being planned in close coordination with DOE to avoid known contaminated areas and areas undergoing remediation or excavation. As noted in the comment and confirmed by DOE, the WTP's source water is the Scioto Well Field along the Scioto River. As such, the Project does not propose onsite groundwater wells. Raw construction water will be provided through DOE-authorized supply points. DOE and Ohio EPA have reviewed the proposed fill station locations and confirmed alignment on the safety and feasibility of those locations. SBE will coordinate the final construction water plan with both agencies and address any concerns they identify.

3.b. Many commenters expressed concerns over legacy contamination in soils, surface water, and ground water due to the proximity of the DOE facility. Please provide a demonstration that the excavated soil and fill material will be clean and free of contaminated materials, such as heavy metals, VOC, and PCBs.

The PORTS Technology Campus' (Project) planned water supply is purchased potable water from the US Department of Energy's (DOE) water treatment plant (WTP), delivered through a new line to the Project. The line is being The PORTS Technology Campus (Project) is located on private property outside the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) facility, and the Project does not plan to use soil or fill from the former Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant. To check for possible contamination from the neighboring facility, the Project tested surface and deeper soils for radioactive materials and certain chemicals. The results showed no pattern of contamination linked to the former plant. Uranium levels were consistent with levels found naturally in soil when differences in soil conditions

and testing uncertainty were considered. Reported lead, mercury, and petroleum hydrocarbon detections were below the report-selected comparison criteria; targeted pesticides and asbestos were not detected in the surface-soil samples, and targeted pesticides were not detected in the deep-soil samples.

Please feel free to contact us with any other questions.

Thank you,



Rick Gundlach, PWS
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