



Obama didn't bring to Ohio a loan promise for uranium-enrichment plant, \$2 billion guarantee still sought for Piketon project

By Jessica Wehrman

The Columbus Dispatch Thursday September 15, 2011 4:49 AM

WASHINGTON — When President Barack Obama took the stage in Columbus on Tuesday to talk about how he hoped to bring jobs to the state, Sheri Anderson of Portsmouth had high hopes he would announce that his administration had approved a \$2 billion loan guarantee to a long-stalled proposal to enrich uranium in southern Ohio.

Anderson was disappointed.

Obama did not mention the proposal in his remarks, instead focusing solely on his proposed economic-stimulus bill during his 13-minute talk.

“We’re just dying to get this project off the ground,” said Anderson, an employee of USEC, the Maryland-based company that hopes to create a uranium centrifuge plant in Piketon, Ohio. “We feel like we’ve just been hanging on.”

Anderson has long tied her hopes to USEC. She started working at the plant in 2008. After about a year and a half, she said she was laid off for about nine months. She was one of the lucky ones: She got her job back.

But as the program waits for the financing to get off the ground, she’s worried about the future.

“We’ve been patient for a long time,” she said. “We want this. This is good for our community.”

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE:

<http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2011/09/15/obama-didnt-bring-loan-promise-with-him.html>

Kasich Says He's Not Giving Up On Piketon

By Cheri Russo
9/14/2011

Ohio's governor says he is not giving up on a loan guarantee for an uranium enrichment project in Piketon.

John Kasich sent out a tweet around noon saying, "Sorry there was no good news from the Pres on Piketon loan guarantee yesterday. Southern OH needs this. I'm not giving up."

Kasich sent a letter to the president asking for a \$2 billion federal loan guarantee for financing, to move ahead with construction for the American Centrifuge Plant .

READ FULL ARTICLE HERE: <http://woub.org/2011/09/14/kasich-says-hes-not-giving-piketon>



Kasich urges Obama to support ACP loan guarantee

By MATT LUCAS
mlucas@newswatchman.com

Just in time for President Barack Obama's speech to a joint session of U.S. Congress on Thursday outlining his new plan for job creation, Ohio Governor John Kasich sent the president a letter urging him to lend his support to a \$2 billion loan guarantee from the U.S. Department of Energy for USEC Inc.'s American Centrifuge Plant (ACP) in Piketon.

Kasich's letter, sent on Tuesday, said that while Ohio is creating jobs, the unemployment rate in the state is still too high, especially in areas like southern Ohio where some counties have a nearly 15 percent jobless rate.

"We are looking for innovative and common sense solutions to create jobs today," Kasich's letter reads in-part. "My JobsOhio program is a unique partnership that encourages job creators to grow and invest now. We believe that the kind of investment needed to sustain growth into the future will come from the private sector."

"As you are developing your jobs plan, I remind you of a project in Ohio that stands ready to create thousands of jobs within months of your approval. The American Centrifuge Plant in Piketon is an advanced uranium enrichment facility that holds great promise for economic development and job creation in southern Ohio. I understand the project is in the final stages of consideration. It should be approved immediately."

Kasich told the president that he has toured the facility and finds it impressive. "This project is fully ready to ramp-up to full-scale production," he continued. "With your approval of a loan guarantee, this project will create 8,000 jobs across the United States, including nearly half of those in Ohio. These are the kind of high-tech manufacturing and construction jobs that we sorely need for future growth and that contribute to a clean energy economy.

"This project is also vital to our nation's energy security and national security." The governor added that a loan guarantee would not increase the federal deficit but would rather bring the government millions of dollars in revenue.

"However, without a commitment for the loan guarantee very soon the entire project is at risk, including the 2,000 jobs currently associated with it. The project needs your leadership to cut through the bureaucratic red tape and unleash this catalyst for job creation and energy innovation. Taking action on this project would demonstrate a commitment to jobs for Americans, and I urge you to include approval of the American Centrifuge loan guarantee in your upcoming jobs plan."

Read more Here:

<http://www.newswatchman.com/articles/2011/09/14/news/doc4e6ae2fd53456458585607.txt>
(may require subscription)