



## **Paducah Citizens Advisory Board**

*"working for the future"*

Emerging Technology Center, Room 221  
5100 Alben Barkley Dr.  
Paducah, Kentucky 42001  
(270) 554-3004

## **Recommendation No. 25-01: Artificial Intelligence on DOE Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Site**

### **Background**

On April 7, 2025, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a Request for Information to inform about the possible use of DOE land for artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure development to support the growing demand for data centers. To support this effort, DOE's Office of Policy identified 16 potential sites uniquely positioned for rapid data center construction, including in-place energy infrastructure that can fast-track permitting for new energy generation, such as nuclear.

DOE is seeking input from data center developers, energy developers, and the broader public to advance this partnership further. The information collected will inform development, encourage private-public partnerships, and enable the construction of AI infrastructure at select DOE sites with a target of commencing operation by the end of 2027.

The Paducah CAB, alongside over 20 community organizations, endorses a support letter submitted to The Honorable Chris Wright, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Energy, and Neelesh Naurkar, Director of Infrastructure Policy, Office of Policy, U.S. Department of Energy. The attached letter highlights unique capabilities and assets of the DOE Paducah Site and identifies the many advantages our community offers potential industry and investors. As stated in the letter, utilizing the DOE Paducah Site aligns with the executive order signed January 23, 2025, titled "Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence," which aims to sustain and enhance the United States' global AI dominance. A continued partnership between Paducah and DOE would provide "transformational opportunities" for the region and the country.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**To ensure the United States leads the world in AI while helping to lower energy costs, the CAB recommends:**

- 1) DOE Secretary Chris Wright and DOE Director of Infrastructure Policy for the Office of Policy Neelesh Nerurkar utilize the property, infrastructure, and workforce available at the DOE Paducah Site to implement the planned development of AI data centers and new energy infrastructure.**
- 2) The Portsmouth Paducah Project Office and the DOE Paducah Site make ample utilities infrastructure available to support site reindustrialization and the**

**development of AI data centers, new energy infrastructures, and supporting industries.**

- 3) DOE consider all avenues of baseline acceleration to reduce federal liabilities and increase the property, materials, and infrastructure that could be transferred for reindustrialization.**



May 5, 2025

**The Honorable Chris Wright**  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

**Neelesh Nerurkar**  
Director of Infrastructure Policy  
Office of Policy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue SW  
Washington, D.C. 20585

**RE: Artificial Intelligence on DOE Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Site**

Dear Secretary Wright and Director Nerurkar,

I am writing to express our support for the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) to leverage its unique assets offerings in response to the recent Department of Energy's Request for Information on Artificial Intelligence Infrastructure on DOE Lands.

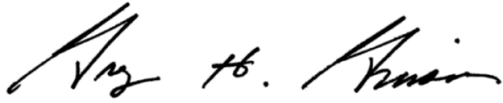
Since 1952, the PGDP has played a critical role in the Paducah, and McCracken County region's economy initially producing enriched uranium for the nation's nuclear weapons program and later for nuclear fuel for commercial power plants. In more recent years, enrichment services were halted, and the site has since been deactivated and is now in demolition mode.

The United States has long been at the forefront of artificial intelligence (AI) innovation and maintaining that leadership is a key national and economic security priority. AI infrastructure, including data centers, is a critical component of the modern economy, enabling AI training and inference, scientific research, and a wide range of other essential services. Reindustrializing the PGDP site by capitalizing on existing infrastructure and the region's unique assets, including power infrastructure, education, workforce, and logistics provides an opportunity like no other in the nation.

The utilization of the PGDP aligns with the executive order signed January 23, 2025 titled "Removing Barriers to American Leadership in Artificial Intelligence" which aims to sustain and enhance America's global AI dominance.

Utilizing the PGDP site would provide transformational opportunities for families and businesses by creating good paying jobs, driving economic growth across the region, enhancing national security, and contributing to our nation's leadership in global AI development.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Grissom". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Greg" being more prominent than the last name "Grissom".

Greg Grissom  
Board Chair  
Greater Paducah Economic Development