



April 16, 2026

Chair
Ben Stinnett

Vice-Chair
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Eric Butterbaugh
William Robert Clark
Gaylon Grubbs
Reese Henderson
Joycelyn Lightfoot
Myron Wessell
Riley Willett

April Ladd
DOE DDFD

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Division of Waste Management
Brian Begley
Environmental Protection Agency
Mike Hardin
Fish and Wildlife Resources

Support Services
EHI Consultants, Inc.
Emerging Technology Center
5100 Alben Barkley Dr.
Paducah, KY 42001
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April 2026 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

5:30 pm

Call to order, introductions
Review of agenda

DOE Comments

Federal Coordinator Comments

Liaison Comments

Administrative Issues

Presentation

Annual Site Environmental Report
Future Use of DOE Paducah Site

Public Comments

Final Comments

Adjourn



PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 2026, CAB BOARD MEETING • 5:30 PM.

Location: Emerging Technology Building, WKCTC, Paducah, Kentucky

Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) Members Present: Chair Ben Stinnett, Vice-Chair Gaye Brewer, Eric Butterbaugh, Gaylon Grubbs, Reese Henderson (TEAMS), Riley Willett (TEAMS)

CAB Members Absent: Billy Bob Clark, Joycelyn Lightfoot, Myron Wessel

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Contractors: DOE: Greg Simonton, Mitchell Guthrie, April Ladd; FRNP: Dylan Nichols; ETAS: Kelly Layne, Zachary Boyarski; EHI Consultants: Hayly Wiggins, Julie Galloway (TEAMS)

Liaisons: Kentucky Dept. of Energy and Environment: Mary Evans (TEAMS), Brian Lainhart (TEAMS), Brandon Marshall, Sonja Smiley (TEAMS); Environmental Protection Agency: Brian Begley (TEAMS), Bart Schaffer (TEAMS); Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife: Tim Kreher

Attendees: Bryce Anglin, Lana Blish, Jack Buri, Cassandra Douglas, Matonacal Dumas-Williams, Angie Heady, Benny Heady, Ida Heady, Robert Hernandez, Jacob Hinkle, Bonnie Koblitz, Regina Lamm, Mackenzie Lionberger, Brandon Marshall, Josh Massey, Linda Mayes, Michael McVicker, Harmony Perillaux, Marley Rounds, Elaine Thomas, Molly Thompson, Amina Watkins, Darwyn Watkins, Susan Wallace, Lenore Web, Bruce Wilcox, Rita Wilton, Glenda Wray, Joey Wray, Theresa Young, Vane Young

Facilitator: Eric Roberts, EHI

Approved by Ben Stinnett, Board Chair

Signature on file

Ben Stinnett

Call to Order: 5:30 pm Ben Stinnett, CAB Chair.

Attendees introduced themselves.

Roberts introduced CAB Recommendation 26-01: CAB input on Budget and Funding Priorities at the DOE Paducah Site. Roberts called for any discussion of the recommendation. **Brewer** asked that the final bullet point of the recommendation read “Emphasize a proactive approach to advanced technologies at Paducah as an innovation and research hub for the Nuclear Renaissance.”

Brewer: Moved to approve the recommendation with this edit.

Grubbs seconded the motion.

Roberts called for the vote. 5 votes in favor, none opposed.

The recommendation passes.

DOE comments provided by Greg Simonton:

Thank you to the board for the opportunity to serve you.

Liaison Comments: none

Presentation- Bruce Wilcox, GPEC

Future Use of DOE Paducah Site

Question/Comment:	Answer:
<p>Butterbaugh: All those jobs you're mentioning are those full-time jobs, the non-construction jobs.</p>	<p>Wilcox: The projects discussed will create a substantial number of full-time, permanent jobs with benefits, along with significant additional impact through indirect (supplier-related) and induced (service-based) employment, plus a large but variable number of construction jobs supported in part by transient workers. Local housing development is already expanding to meet anticipated demand.</p>
<p>Stinnett: You talked about how big of a deal these projects are. The money they will bring into our area communities, if this wasn't the path forward, how would you replace it? How would you pivot? Or what happens to us as a community?</p>	<p>Wilcox: We would continue looking for new opportunities. These types of large-scale economic development projects are rare and difficult to replace, representing a unique opportunity for the region, particularly given their higher-than-average wages (often exceeding \$100,000). The community has proactively built a strong workforce development pipeline through partnerships between schools, colleges, and</p>

	employers, with ongoing efforts to tailor training programs to specific industry needs. Overall, the projects are expected to deliver significant, long-term economic benefits not only locally but across the broader region.
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Presentation- Mitchell Guthrie, ETAS
2024 Annual Site Environmental Report

Question/Comment:	Answer:
<p>Stinnett: Your study reflects DOE sampling and testing. Does EPA do their own testing?</p> <p>Grubbs: Do you always sample the same spots each year?</p>	<p>Guthrie: Yes, they do.</p> <p>Guthrie: Soil sampling is conducted across a wide area, including creeks and accessible public locations, with sampling points (shown as red dots on a map) sometimes shifting over time based on accessibility and areas of interest rather than fixed, permanent sites. Samples are generally collected from the same locations year to year, but adjustments may be made if conditions or priorities change.</p> <p>Evans: Kentucky performs its own independent oversight sampling, often splitting samples with the Department of Energy (DOE) to verify results. While the state maintains separate data, findings are consistently aligned, with only rare discrepancies, reinforcing confidence in the accuracy and reliability of the environmental monitoring process.</p>

Roberts: Are there any public comments?

Public Comments

Joshua Massey

Hello, my name is Joshua Massey. I'm a resident of Paducah, Kentucky. Five hundred jobs sounds like a lot. It probably makes it easy to forget how many jobs the AI is projected to replace across the entire country, especially in McCracken County. Technology moves fast. Silex began development in 1999, and in my opinion, it will be

Chartered as an EM Site Specific Advisory Board under the Federal Advisory Committee Act

obsolete long before it is decommissioned. Considering solar, wind, and water, it already is. In 2017, Bloomberg reported that over half of U.S. nuclear facilities were operating at a loss. A 2019 study by DIW Berlin found that nuclear power has never been profitable anywhere in the world. AI will kill us all, and Peter Thiel is the devil.

Bonnie Kolitz

Thank you. Well, you guys made it sound so good, so very good. I hardly know what to say, but I want to thank you for having this meeting. And I think there should be more of them, and there should have been more before now, and I'd like to suggest lots more transparency, like, how do we have access to some of the stuff that was presented on the screen? It went by fast, so I'm not sure I could write fast enough to get it all down. So, I'll want to know how to access that. I'm very concerned. I live two miles from the site. I wonder if any of your data-collection sites were that far from the site. So that's a question that I have. I'm also concerned about the helicopter noise over my house at six o'clock in the morning. I'm wondering where you guys all live in relation to the site. Do any of you live near it? Yes, good, good. And how many public meetings have been held before this one? And I guess I'll have to write my comments since I only had ninety seconds.

Joey Ray

I live out in West Paducah. I have a lot of questions, and so do a lot of people who live out in this area. Just like this, you don't accept questions on it. That needs to be addressed. The communities want information, and we have no way of finding it out, or no easy way of finding it out, which needs to be addressed, so that we can get information. That's basically all it does for the community: it wants information on what's going on. They want to be kept informed, and you made it intentionally difficult to get that information or find that information; that's it.

Michael McVicker

I'm Michael McVicker. I'm a local business owner, a father of two young children, and I'm running for state representative against Randy Bridges. Through my campaign, I've noticed a discrepancy between these two companies that the public can tell. Number one is that GLE has undergone a lengthy process, as you stated earlier. They recently completed their EIS, which is publicly available. But with General Matter, there is a large worry about that. We're not talking about the nuances of the fact that that company was incubated by Peter Thiel's Founders Fund, and that he has said repeatedly in public that poor people should not have a voice when it comes to projects like this, and safety and regulations are a massive wall in front of the projects he has going on for all the companies he owns. And one thing I wanted to mention was we talked about the fact that natural gas turbines may be used to power the AI data center, and Danny Carroll on the State Senate floor earlier this month read some of the names of those companies that forbid in and out. One was Google, and one was Elon Musk's xAI. xAI famously tried to power their massive Memphis computer by secretly operating 30 unpermitted methane gas turbines; they pump out massive amounts of toxic smog, pouring pollution directly into neighboring communities, and their emissions are only disclosed to environmental groups. Caught them red-handed using thermal imaging drones to prove the legal turbines running. We're asking for transparency and for a discussion of these types of companies.

Susan Wallace

I am a radiological worker from the plant. I support nuclear energy when it is done properly and under control—not the way Honeywell did it or the way it was done in the past, which caused massive damage. I do not support accelerating the cleanup process, because if you accelerate things past regulations, they just kind of hurry up. You cannot simply hurry through something like that. I also don't understand how AI would benefit citizens. It seems like a large facility that doesn't create many jobs but takes advantage of a community in need of economic support. That is the concern—we all need jobs and resources, and it feels like that need is being exploited.

Marley Rounds

My name is Marley. Actually, my name is not important—I'm going to read names that matter to me. Joe Hardy worked at the gaseous diffusion plant. He died of cancer at age 58 in 1980. In 1983, his body was exhumed and tested. It found uranium in his bones that was 97,000 times the expected levels. Denied compensation. Joe often spoke up about conditions, stating that he recorded 50 cancer cases among his 200 coworkers. On one occasion, Harding and his coworkers dropped smoking chunks of uranium into their urine samples to be checked by company safety inspectors. They never heard from them, he recalled. Robert E Lynch died in 1986 from complications of surgery due to radiation exposure. DOE admitted no wrongdoing. Garland E Jenkins, Bill Allen, Norman Rader, Marvin Whiteside, they all spoke up in the worker class action lawsuit before they died. I've heard a lot about how this facility will be much smaller, making it easier to hide. How is this a new thing? This is a new technology, and most of the facilities are still in their early stages. Paducah has a history of wrongdoing with nuclear energy. If we learn from our history, how do we learn? Learn from people like Joe Hardy.

Jacob Hinkle

I don't have anything prepared; I just want to make a few points. I'm tired of hearing about the average wage in McCracken County. We should be talking about the median wage because it reflects what many people are earning. We have the second highest income inequality in the state. A lot of people talk about the annual impact of a project like this; I wonder what they mean by that. Do they mean that workers' wages are being spent in the community? Because if a worker goes to Walmart and buys a full meal, that money is no longer in our community; it's gone. So, I wonder what kind of reinvestment these million dollars every year will be reaching towards. I always wanted to say that Peter Thiel is inventing a vertical, vertically integrated baby-cancer machine in our backyard, and I hope everybody can stand up for that.

Harmony Perillaux

I'm a resident of Paducah. I just want to start by echoing what everybody else said. I think it's extremely unfair that when people are in opposition to things like this that called anti-progress, and that, you know, this stuff is supposed to bring more jobs to our town, and we're so focused on, you know, that our poverty level is low, and it almost makes this feel inescapable and that there's no other option. I'm glad that you asked the question. Where can we pivot if we don't go with this? It almost seemed like the answer was, we could go somewhere else, but you really don't want to, and it just feels like we're being backed into a corner to accept this, just because it's supposed to bring a lot of jobs. But

the report at the library says that after it's all set up, there will be about 300 jobs for the GLE site, which is laughable. There are probably that many jobs at the mall, so I don't think it's going to bring as many jobs as it promises. I also think that using the site for AI is unethical. And I know that they mentioned the closed-loop system. But if y'all look at Bill Hollingsworth's testimony at the Ohio data center site, they mentioned they worked at the AI center and mentioned that a closed-loop system does not necessarily guarantee that there will be no toxic chemicals in the water system. You can't guarantee that. So, a closed-loop system is not necessarily safer. And I also think that there should be more ability to ask questions and understand, because I've spent countless hours at the library researching, energy I don't have, and I have more time and energy than a lot of people to look this stuff up. So, I just think the amount of information given hasn't been super great. Thank you.

Final Board Comments

none

Stinnett adjourned the meeting at 6:53 pm.

2024 Annual Site Environmental Report

Paducah CAB

April 16, 2026

Mitchell Guthrie



U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY

Annual Site Environmental Report (ASER)

- DOE Order 231.1B – Environment, Safety and Health Reporting
- Offers detailed overview of environmental activities at the Paducah Site
- Monitoring conducted to determine if cleanup activities are impacting the workforce, environment or site neighbors

US Department of Energy
Paducah Gaseous
Diffusion Plant

2024



Paducah Site



U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY

Environmental Sampling Includes...

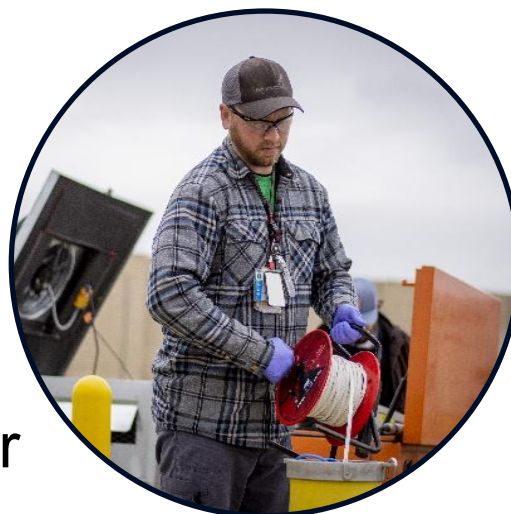
Each year more than 2,000 samples are collected from both on and off-site sources



Ambient Air



Surface Water



Groundwater

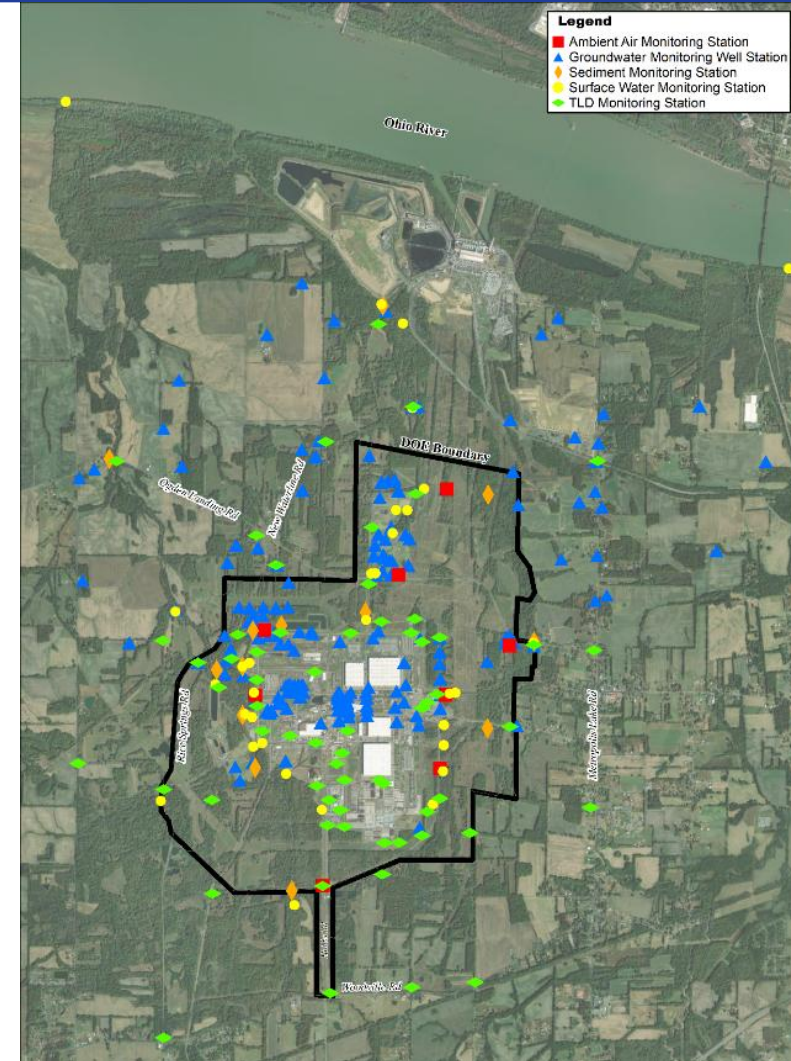


Soil



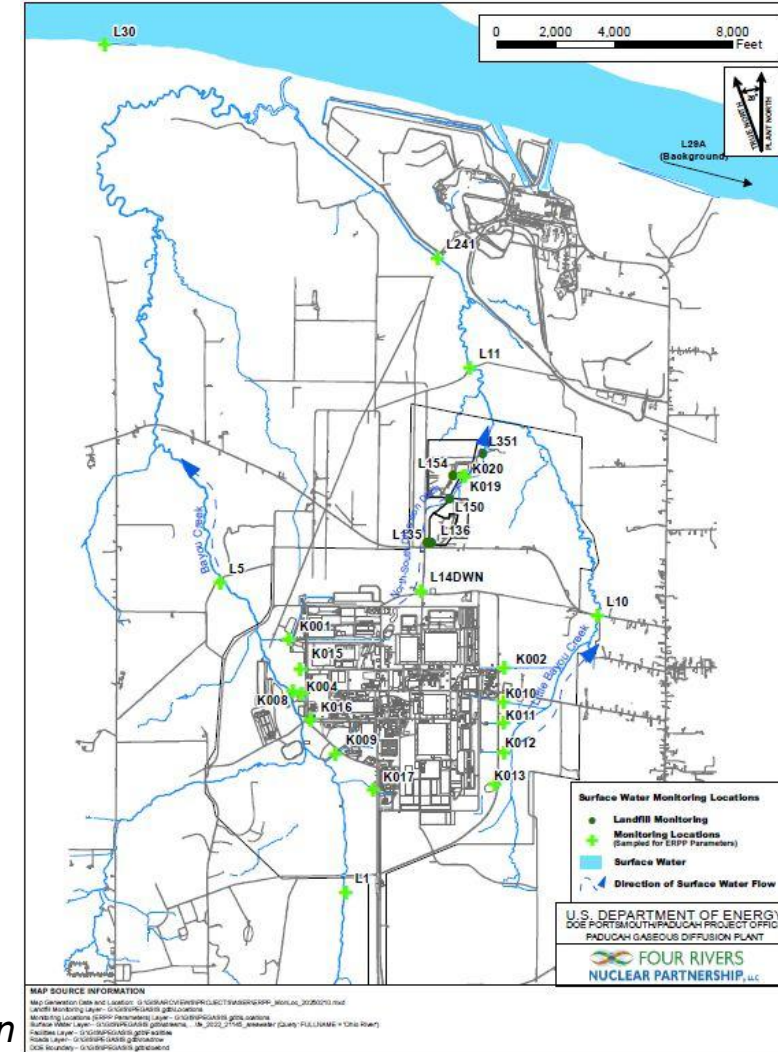
Sampling

- In 2024, more than 2,000 samples of air, sediment, and water collected and analyzed for radioactive and nonradioactive contaminants:
 - Air: 504
 - Sediment: 34
 - Surface Water: 679
 - Groundwater: 879



2024 Major Sampling Efforts – Water Quality

- Monitoring for water quality performed at locations where water flows into the Bayou and Little Bayou creeks
- 277 surface water samples analyzed for multiple parameters as part of Kentucky Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit monitoring during 2024

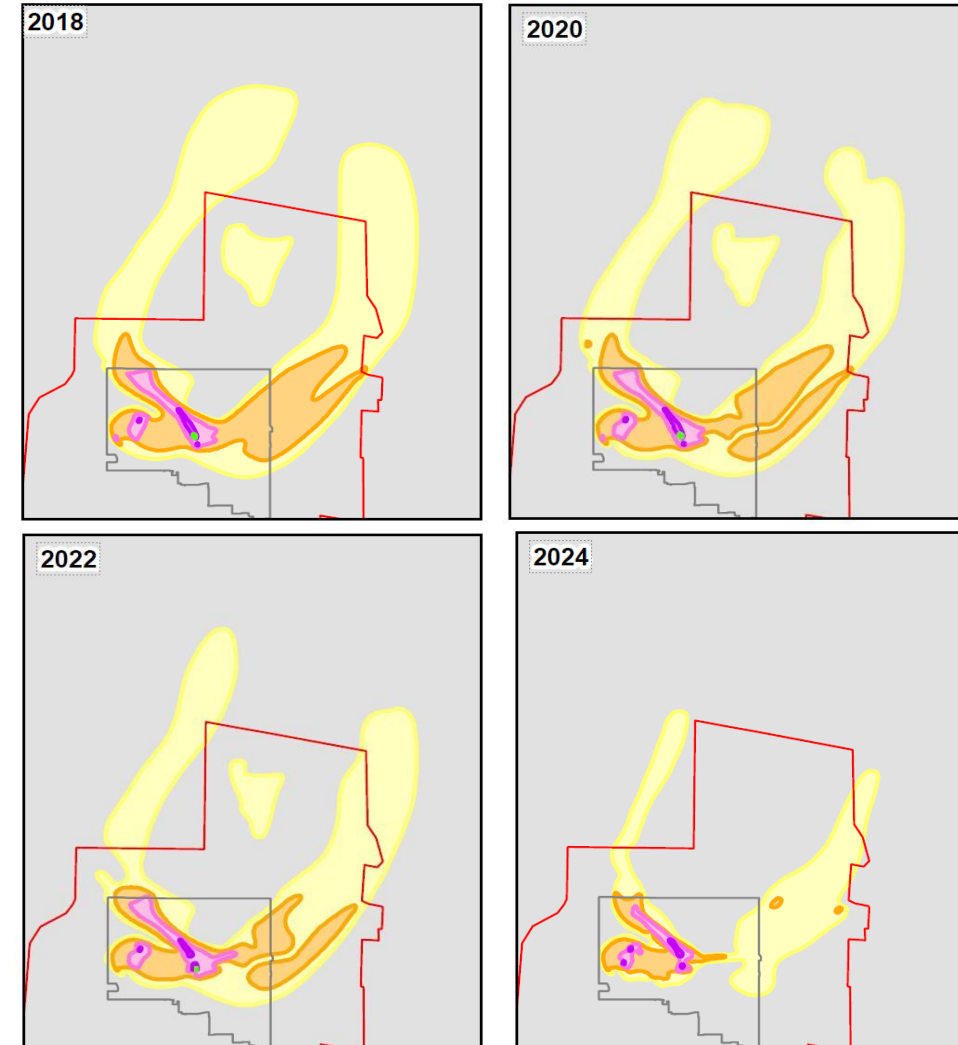


Not all sampling locations shown



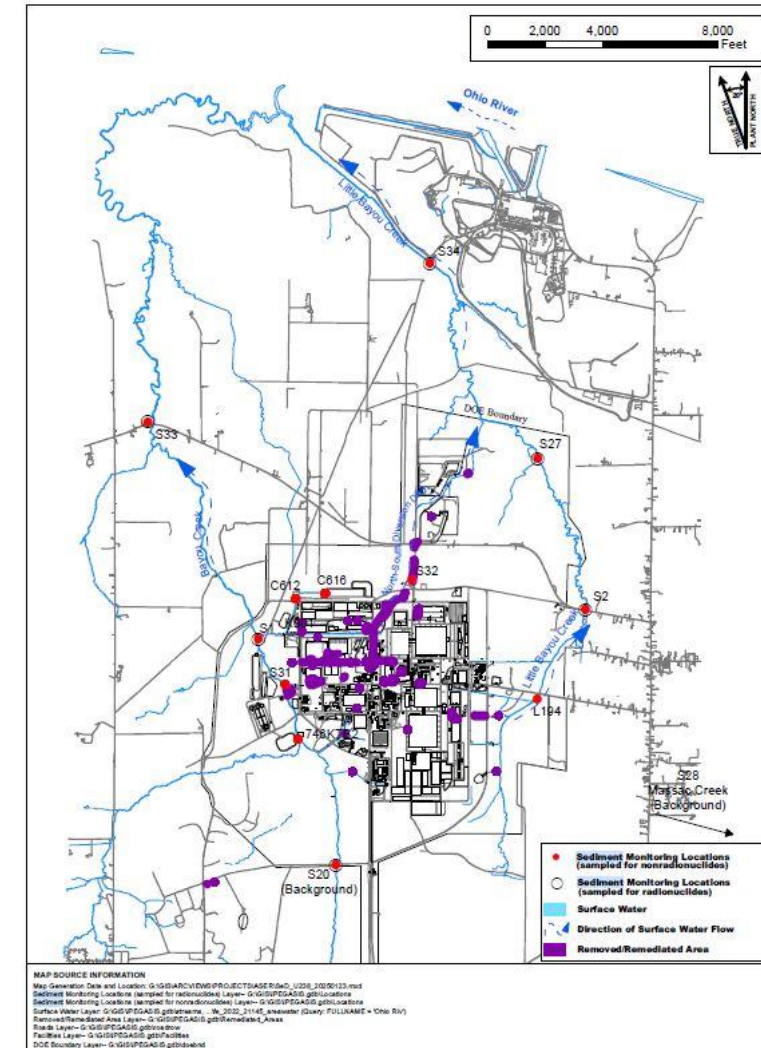
2024 Major Sampling Efforts – Groundwater

- Concentrations of primary contaminants detected in the groundwater plumes at the Paducah Site continued to decrease in 2024
- Plume maps are updated every two years



2024 Major Sampling Efforts – Soil

- Samples collected at various locations, on and off-site
- Focus on radiological and non-radiological contaminants
- Analyzed for radionuclides and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)

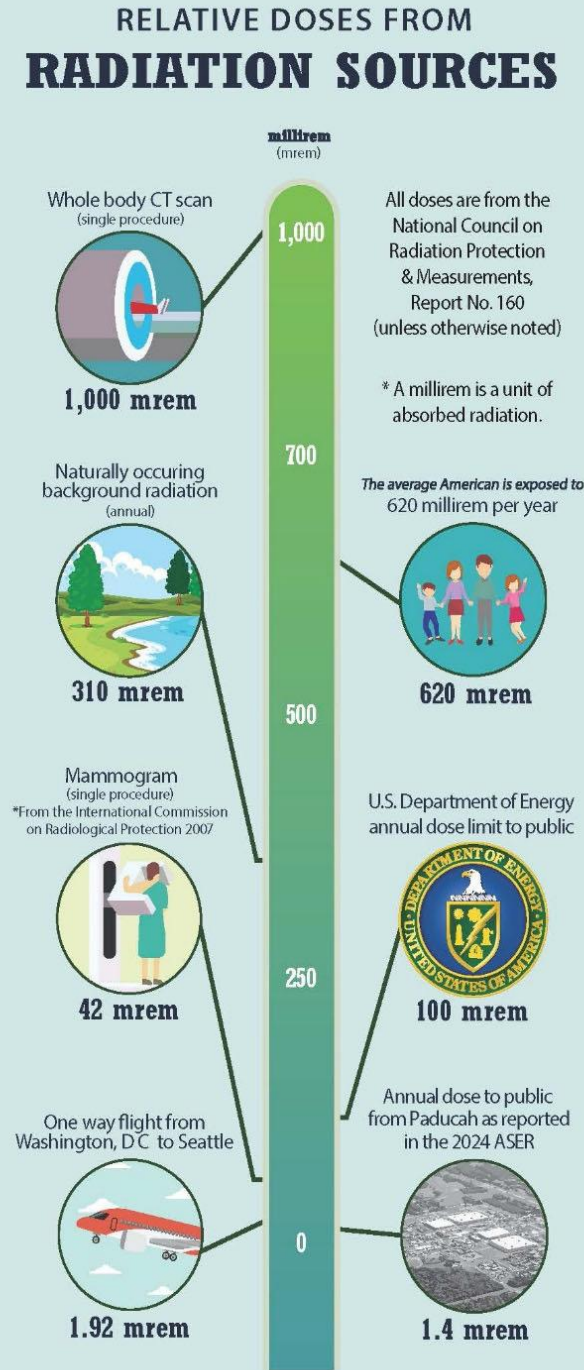


Not all sampling locations shown



2024 Environmental Risk Summary

- The sampling results are compiled for a dose calculation
- In 2024, The calculated radiation dose that could be received by a member of the public from activities at the Paducah Site was 1.4 millirem (mrem)
 - DOE annual dose limit = 100 mrem



2024 Environmental Summary

- The Paducah Site received two Notices of Violation during 2024
 - NOV ENV20240002 issued for the total recoverable zinc exceedance at KPDES Outfall 013
 - NOV ENV20240001 issued for the total suspended solids exceedance at KPDES Outfall 015
- Environmental monitoring data collected in 2024 similar to data collected in previous years
- Continues to show reduction in contaminants at the site
 - Demonstrates effectiveness of cleanup efforts



ASER Public Outreach

- Key component of DOE's effort to inform the public about environmental conditions at the Paducah Site
- Access the ASER online by visiting
 - <https://www.energy.gov/pppo/articles/paducah-annual-site-environmental-reports>
 - <https://www.fourriversnuclearpartnership.com>
- Mailed to identified stakeholders
- Available online at the Paducah Environmental Information Center
- Printed and distributed to community leaders, the CAB, the McCracken County Library, etc.
- Monitoring results available via PPPO Environmental Geographic Analytical Spatial Information System (PEGASIS) at <https://pegasis.pad.pppo.gov/>



Student ASER

- A partnership with Murray State University
- McCracken County High School selected for 2025-2026 academic year
- Student ASER provides a visual, condensed and non-technical summary of ASER



Student ASER

- Goals
 - Educational Outreach
 - Skill Development
 - Environmental Awareness
 - Career Exploration
 - Community Engagement



Student ASER Expo

- Students create academic posters and present to the public
- Showcases students finding and work
- Students receive certificates of achievement
- 2025-2026 Student ASER Presentations
 - Thursday, April 23
 - 4-6 p.m. @ Murray State University – Paducah Campus
 - 4430 Sunset Avenue, Paducah, Ky





U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY



Greater Paducah

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT





Food Prep & Serving Related Industries

"Q2 2025 1.40"

LQ = 1.33

\$30,100



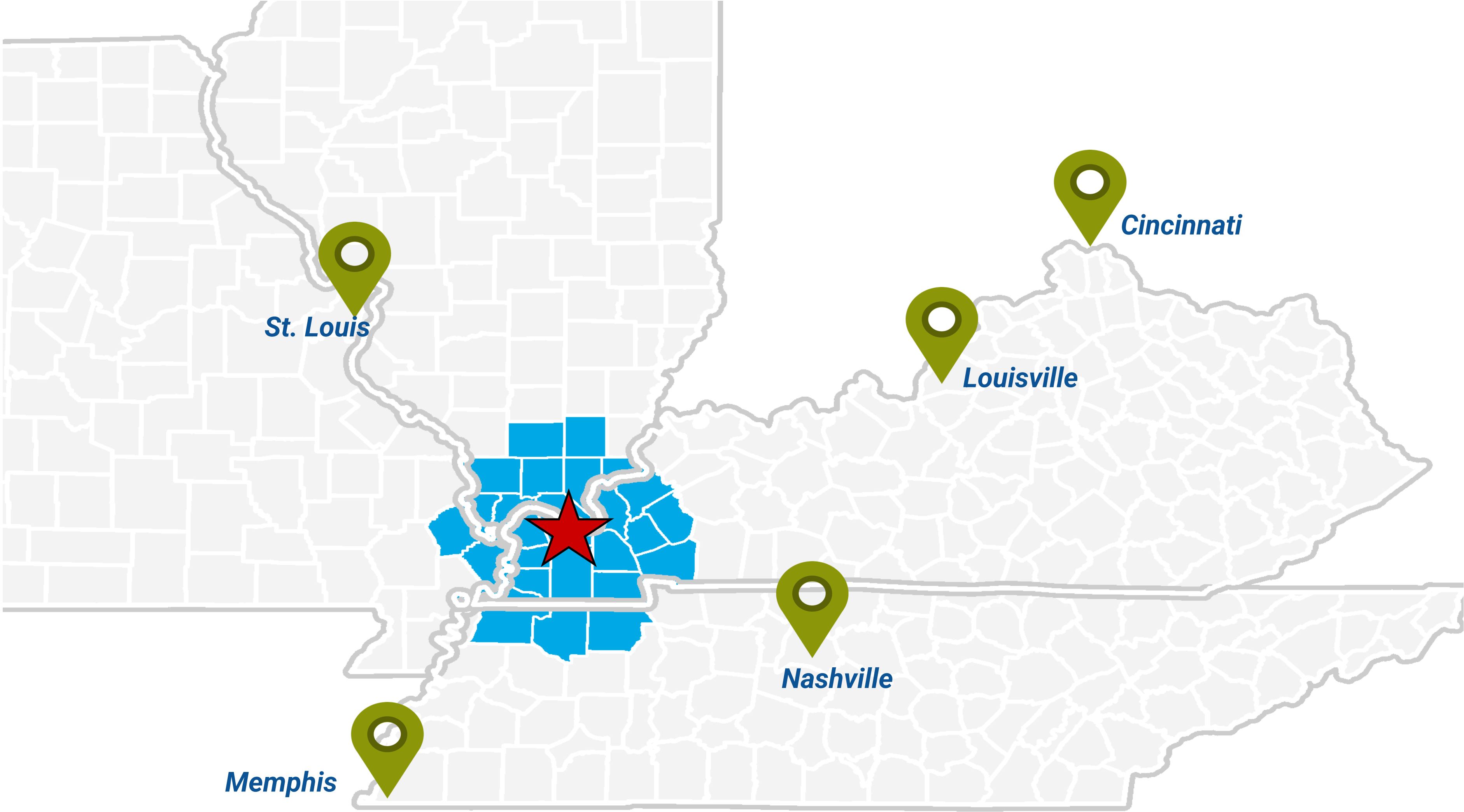
Living Wage

\$40,352 / Year

(Or \$19.40 / Hour)



Greater Paducah Labor Shed



Source: JobsEQ, 2024Q1 Economic Overview for McCracken County, Kentucky
American Community Survey 2018-2022



Labor Shed Poverty Rate

16.6%

Federal Poverty Income Level ~ \$30,000

(11% Nationally)

(15% McCracken County)

(22% within City of Paducah)



43,299

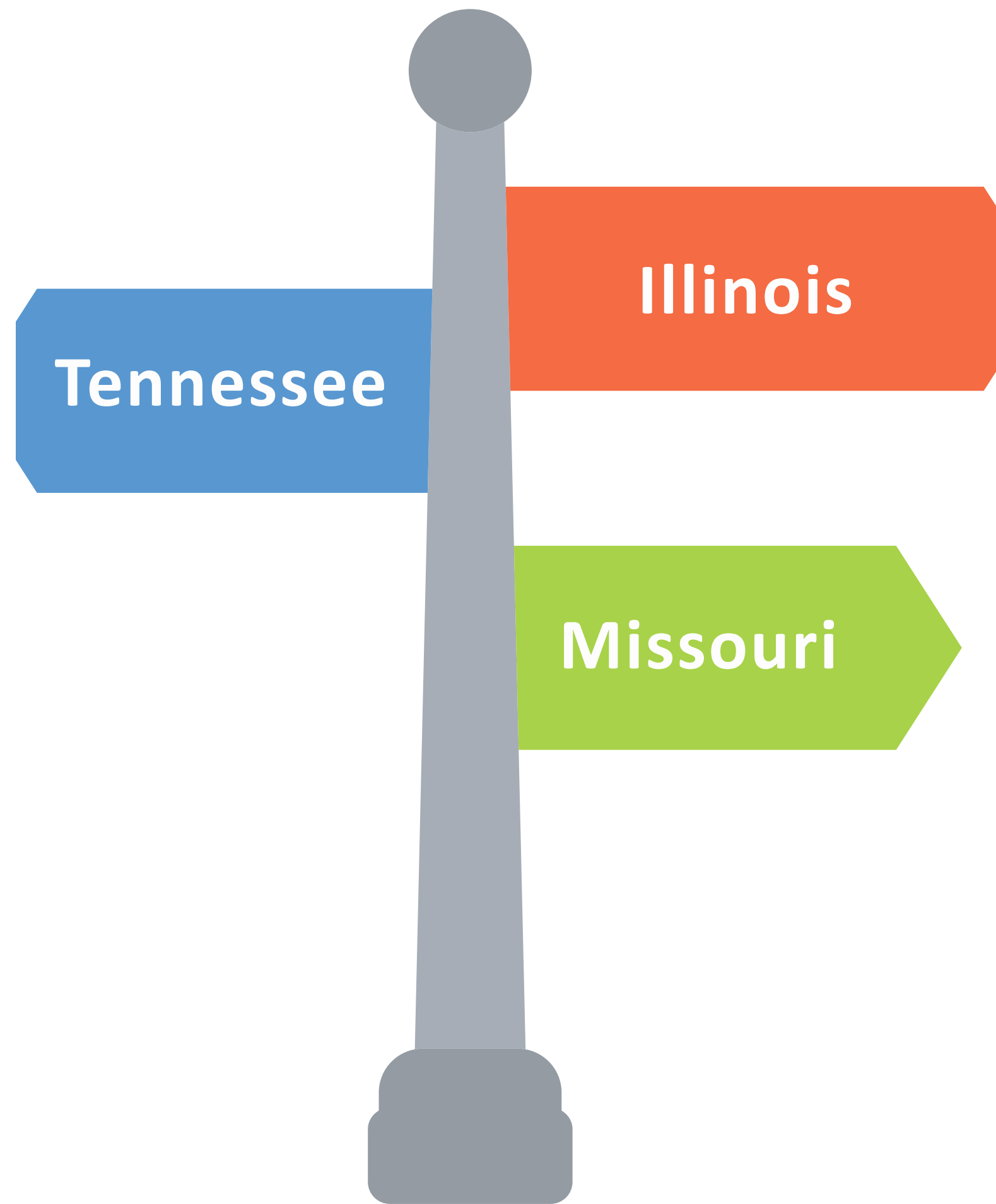
Jobs In McCracken County

\$58,800 Average Wage

(\$44,680 December 2019)



The Inbound Commuter



20,300 McCracken County Jobs are filled with Non-Residents

- 6,600 = trade, transportation, and utility jobs
- 2,400 = goods-producing jobs
- 11,300 = All other industry sectors
- **9,464 = monthly wages < \$1,250 - \$3,333**



3.6%

Unemployment Rate

(December '25)





Greater Paducah
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

OUR MISSION

Greater Paducah Economic Development (GPED) is a public/private partnership that exists to proactively recruit and support companies that provide high-quality, high-paying jobs for our region.



Strategy, Trends, & Insights





Nuclear Ready State and Community



- ✓ Kentucky Nuclear Energy Development Authority Established
 - Incentives added in 2025 by General Assembly

- ✓ Nuclear Ready Community Resolutions
 - McCracken County
 - City of Paducah
 - Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce
 - Greater Paducah Economic Development
 - Paducah Area Community Reuse Authority

2011 UK Survey – Community Desire to Reindustrialize the Site

2017 DOE & EPA On-Line Survey “Reconfirmed Community Reindustrialization”

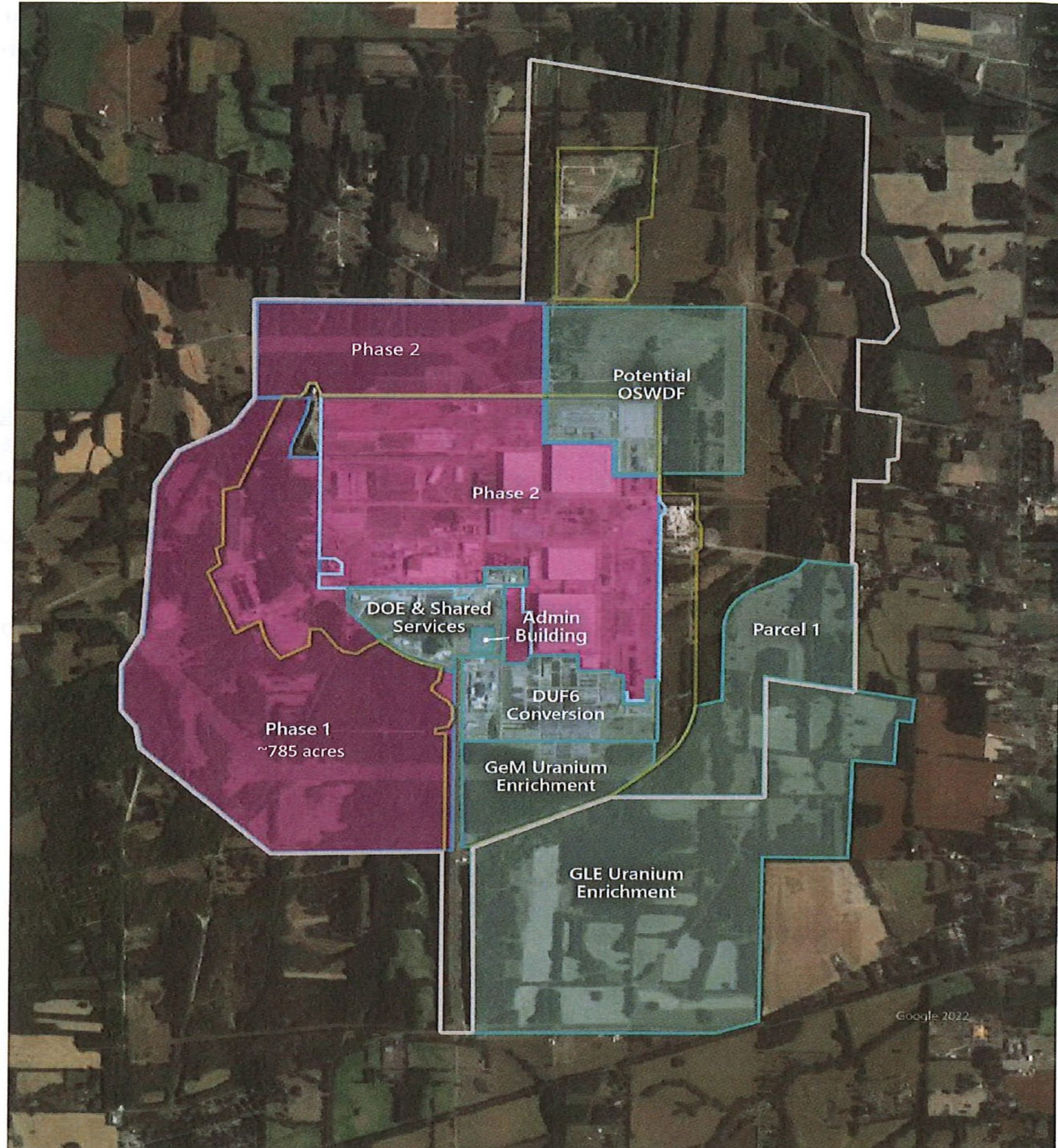


Site Overview

- **Global Laser Enrichment**
- **General Matter**
- **Artificial Intelligence**
- **Nickel Expressions of Interest**
- **Potential On-Site Waste Disposal Facility**



DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY (DOE) OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (EM)
COMMERCIAL AI & ENERGY GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM
REQUEST FOR OFFER (RFO) NUMBER: DE-FOA-0000000





Land Swap Completed:	November 2024
NRC License Application:	June 2025
TRL Announced:	November 2025
Federal Award:	\$28 Million Q1 '26
Formerly Announced:	March 26, 2026
Capital Investment:	\$1.762 Billion
Job Creation:	240
Average Rate of Pay:	\$100,000 +
Recurring Annual Impact:	\$113.6 Million
Operational:	~2030



You're Invited

GLOBAL
Laser Enrichment

Open House



April 29, 2026

4:00 - 6:30 PM

**Walker Hall Events
Center**

229 Madison Street
Paducah, KY 42001

Learn about GLE's vision, technology, and the
planned Paducah Laser Enrichment Facility.

For More Information

<https://www.gle-us.com>





DOE Lease Completed:	June 2025
Formerly Announced:	August 2025
Federal Award:	\$900 Million Q1 '26
Current Status:	Clearing / Grubbing / Site Work
Capital Investment:	\$1.5 Billion
Job Creation:	140
Average Rate of Pay:	\$100,000 +
Recurring Annual Impact:	\$71.1 Million
Operational:	~2030

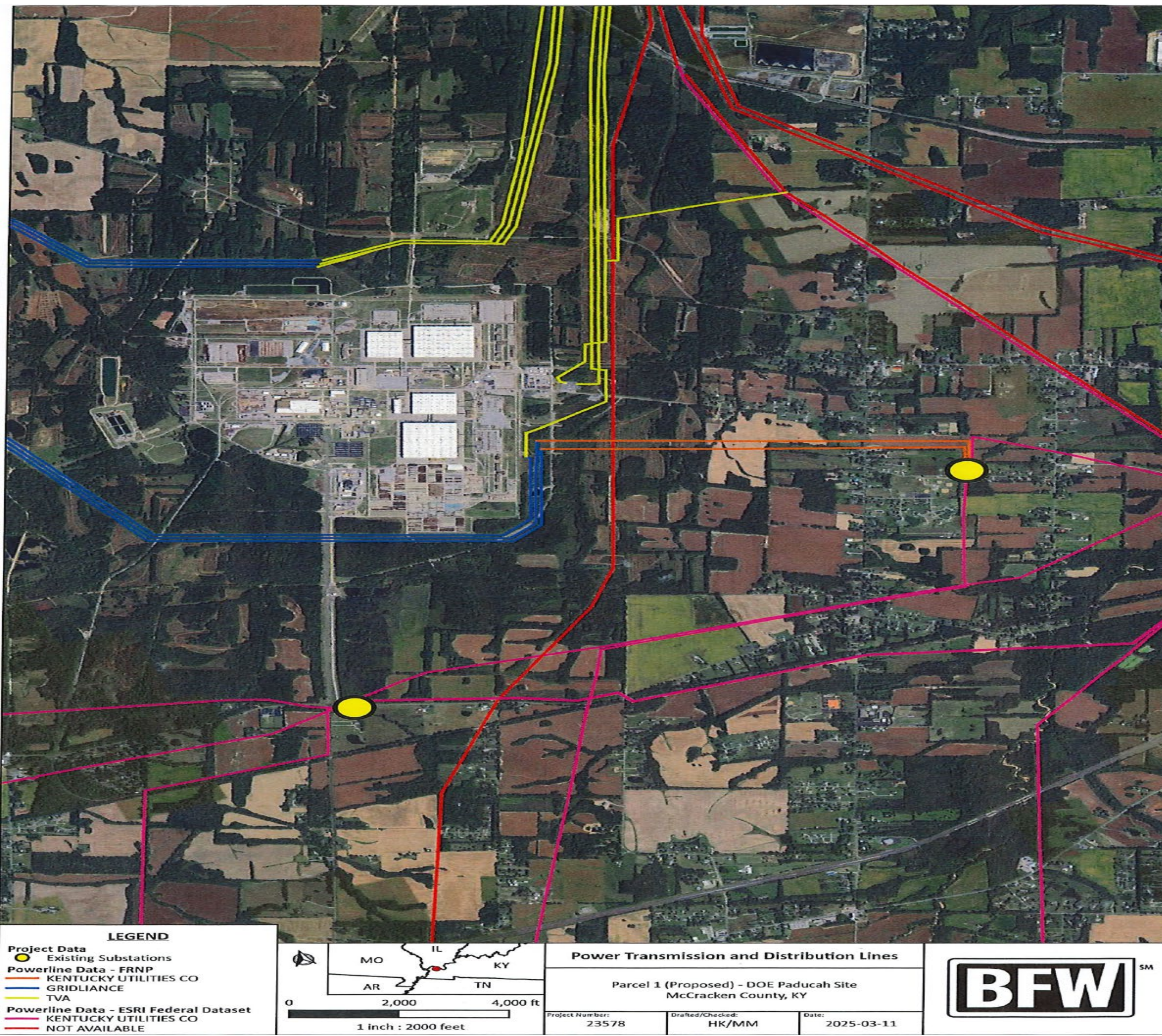


DOE AI Request for Offers

Identified as Preferred Site:	July 24, 2025
Industry Day Hosted:	December 18, 2025
Request for Offers Submitted:	January 31, 2026
Submission Evaluations:	In-Process
Announcement:	? – Next 45 to 60 Days
New Power Generation:	Data Center Load <u>PLUS</u>
	Anticipate Natural Gas
Water Demand:	Existing 30 MGD Pump
	Chilled Closed Loop



Electricity

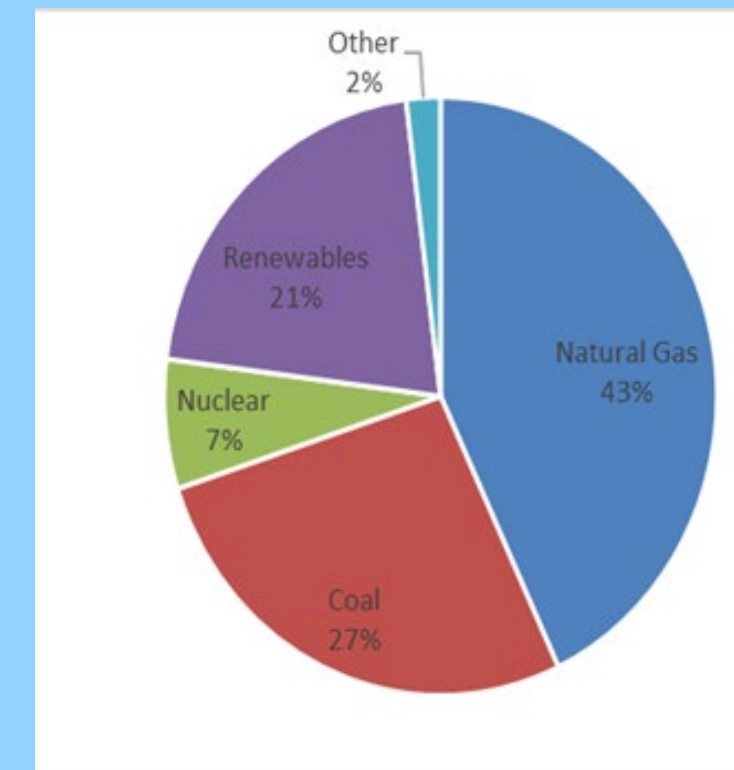


MIDCONTINENT INDEPENDENT SYSTEM OPERATOR

MISO membership provides access to 200,000 megawatts of power-generating resources



Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO), a not-for-profit member-based organization that ensures reliable, least-cost delivery of electricity across all or parts of 15 U.S. states and one Canadian province.



Nickel Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest Identified:	November 21, 2025
Interested Party Visits to Paducah:	2
Expressions of Interest Submitted:	February 19, 2026
Submission Evaluations:	In-Process
Announcement:	?



Other Industry Segments of Interest

Conversion

De-Conversion

Fuel Fabrication

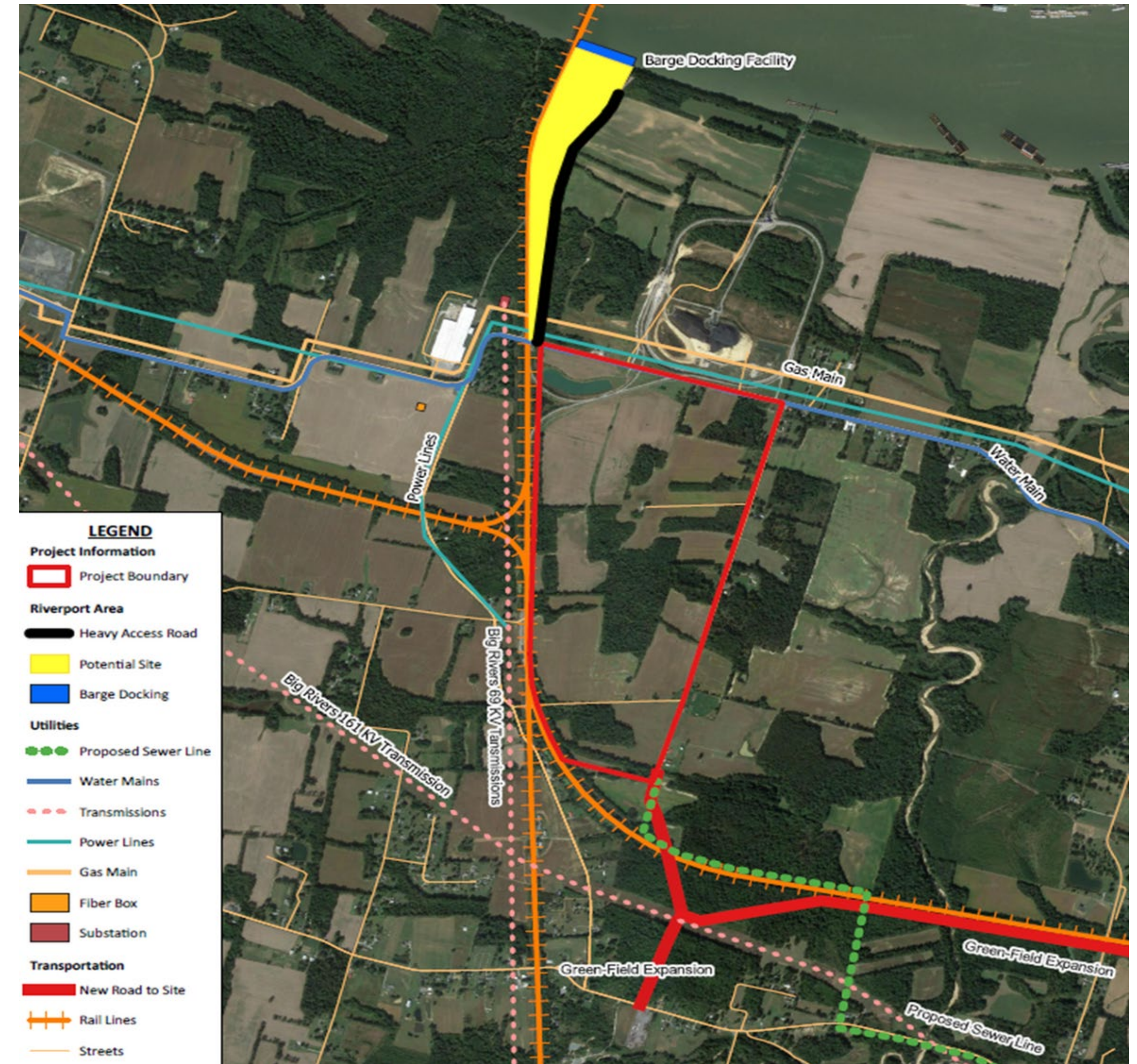
Rare Earth Mineral Recycling

Heavy Industrial Applications



Triple Rail Site / Riverport West

- Own and/or control ~800 Acres
- \$15.5 Million New Road
- \$750,000 Sewer Extensions
- 1,000' of River Frontage
- \$75 Million Preliminary Design Riverport West
- \$3.5 Million For Environmental, Engineering, & Design



Thank You!





April 30, 2026

Chair
Ben Stinnett

Vice-Chair
Gaye Brewer

Board Members
Eric Butterbaugh
Gaylon Grubbs
Reese Henderson
Joycelyn Lightfoot
Ben Stinnett
Myron Wessell
Riley Willett

April Ladd
DOE DDF0

Board Liaisons

April Webb
*Division of Waste
Management*

Brian Begley
*Environmental Protection
Agency*

Mike Hardin
Fish and Wildlife Resources

Ms. April Ladd
U.S. Department of Energy
Paducah Site Office
P.O. Box 1410
Paducah, Kentucky 42001

Subject: Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB)
Recommendation 26-01

Dear Ms. Ladd:

On behalf of the PGDP CAB, I am pleased to forward for your consideration the following recommendation, which was approved at the April 16, 2026, Board meeting:

Recommendation No 26-01: CAB input on Budget and Funding Priorities at the DOE Paducah Site

Please contact the CAB Office at (270) 554-3004 if you have any questions or wish to discuss this recommendation further. Your prompt response to the recommendation will be greatly appreciated.

Ben Stinnett
Chair, PGDP CAB

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Email Distribution:

Alvey, M., McConnell Field Representative
Begley, B., EPA
Bray, G.P. Paducah Mayor
Boyarski, Z., ETAS
Cantrell, Y., ETAS
Clymer, C., McCracken County Judge Executive
Comer, J., U.S. Congressman
Cooper, T., Ballard County Judge Executive
Evans, M., KDWM
Hatton, T., KDEP
Hudson, M., DOW HQ
Jeffords, G., Metropolis Mayor
Kreher, T., KDFWR
Ladd, A, DOE/PPPO
Lainhart, B., KDWM
Lawrence, J., PACRO
Marshall, B., KDWM
McConnell, M., U.S. Senator
Olds, E, DOE/PPPO
Paul, R., U.S. Senator
Perry, J., Graves County Judge Executive
Peterson, C., Paul Field Representative
Roberts, E., CAB Support
Shaffer, B., KDWM
Smiley, S., KDWM
Snyder, K., DOE HQ
Spraggs, K., Marshall County Judge Executive
Travis, C., KDWM
Wetherington, A., Comer Field Representative
Webb, A., KDWM
Williamson, L., KDWM
Wilson, S., Paducah Chamber of Commerce



Paducah Citizens Advisory Board

"working for the future"

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

CAB Recommendation 26-01: CAB input on Budget and Funding Priorities at the DOE Paducah Site

Background

The Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) was established to provide a structured, public forum for stakeholder input into the environmental cleanup of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Paducah Site in Kentucky. Composed of residents, technical experts, and community leaders, the CAB serves as a bridge between DOE, its contractors, regulators, and the public. Its formation reflects DOE's commitment to transparency, accountability, and meaningful public participation in complex environmental management decisions, particularly those involving legacy contamination from uranium enrichment operations conducted during the Cold War.

The Paducah CAB plays a critical role in the cleanup mission by reviewing technical documents, evaluating proposed remediation strategies, and offering consensus-based recommendations to DOE. These recommendations often address priorities such as risk reduction, groundwater protection, waste disposition, and long-term stewardship. Community values such as protection of public health, environmental sustainability, economic stability, and intergenerational responsibility are central to the CAB's deliberations. By incorporating these values, the CAB ensures local perspectives meaningfully shape cleanup priorities and approaches, which in turn can influence DOE decisions on project sequencing, resource allocation, and risk communication.

Through its advisory function, the Paducah CAB enhances the credibility and responsiveness of the cleanup program by fostering trust and collaboration between DOE and the community it serves. Its input helps DOE better understand local concerns and align technical solutions with community expectations, ultimately contributing to more effective and publicly supported outcomes. The CAB's recommendations can and do inform DOE's decision-making processes, including adjustments to cleanup scope and strategy, demonstrating the tangible impact of community engagement on federal environmental management efforts.

The CAB also provides valuable input to DOE's budget request and formulation processes, helping ensure funding priorities reflect both technical needs and community-driven cleanup objectives.

While economic development and cleanup timelines vary, the CAB has consistently promoted the consideration of community values in the formal decision-making process. To that end, the CAB continues to promote the following community values:

1. Accelerated Environmental Cleanup & Risk Reduction

DOE should continue to place emphasis on environmental remediation, particularly the C-400 groundwater project, while expediting the decontamination and decommissioning (D&D) of legacy facilities and promoting a more robust cleanup, while continuing work to remediate contaminated soil and groundwater. The near- and long-term focus for the CAB remains on reducing long-term environmental and human health risks to stakeholders.

2. Waste Management & On-Site Disposal Solutions

The Board insists that waste disposal decisions be based on efficient, cost-effective waste disposal pathways. The CAB supports on-site disposal to reduce costs and accelerate cleanup timelines, promoting reindustrialization and the best use of the site's future.

3. Workforce Stability, Recruitment & Economic Transition

The CAB is committed to working alongside DOE to improve workforce recruitment and retention. This approach includes but is not limited to STEM programs in schools; union-based certifications offered to high school and college students; and internships, externships, and workforce pipeline development. The strong ties between a trained, stable workforce, the DOE cleanup mission, and regional economic stability make this a high-value item for the CAB.

4. Future Land Use & Reindustrialization

With a priority on creating a Site Master Plan through a grant administered by the Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce, the CAB seeks to align cleanup decisions with future industrial or commercial reuse. The integration of cleanup decisions and future use plans with community visioning processes for redevelopment is critical for this project's long-term success and community buy-in.

5. Transparency, Public Engagement & Communication

The decades-long relationship between DOE and the CAB has yielded a continued emphasis on clear, accessible communication. Moving forward, expanding DOE and contractor public outreach tools (videos, education, engagement platforms) will help DOE maintain public trust during the current phase of cleanup decisions and reindustrialization projects.

6. Technology & Innovation in Cleanup

Interest in advanced technologies (e.g., AI, innovative remediation methods) puts Paducah at the forefront of the Nuclear Renaissance. A clear focus on improving efficiency, safety, and cost-effectiveness puts the Paducah Site in a position to be a hub for innovation, product development and design research. The CAB and surrounding communities look forward to partnering with DOE and private industry to make this possibility a reality.

Paducah Citizens Advisory Board

"working for the future"

Recommendation: Considering the community values and understanding the current timeline where accelerated cleanup and site reindustrialization are meeting head-on, the CAB recommends:

- **Establish and communicate a “cleanup-to-reuse acceleration strategic plan” including:**
 - **Increase funding for continued environmental remediation and D&D activities to accelerate removal of legacy facilities, ensuring environmental remediation is completed in phases, matching private-sector redevelopment timelines**
 - **Align cleanup sequencing with redevelopment-ready parcels**
 - **Continue working with community leaders to develop a Comprehensive Site Master Plan for future land use**
 - **Prioritize funding for waste disposition infrastructure to accelerate cleanup while minimizing lifecycle cost**
- **Expand training, apprenticeships, and internships to build, develop, and improve the workforce**
- **Enhance public engagement and communication efforts through expanded DOE and contractor outreach tools to maintain community trust and transparency.**
- **Emphasize a proactive approach to advanced technologies to advance Paducah as an innovation and research hub for the Nuclear Renaissance.**