



August 20, 2026

Chair
Ben Stinnett

Vice-Chair
Gaye Brewer

Board Members
Eric Butterbaugh
William Robert Clark
Gaylon Grubbs
Reese Henderson
Joycelyn Lightfoot
Myron Wessell
Riley Willett

Greg Simonton
DOE DDFO

Board Liaisons

April Webb
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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www.energy.gov/pppo/pgdp-cab
info@pgdpcab.org

August 2026 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

5:30 pm

Call to order, introductions
Review of agenda

DOE Comments

Liaison Comments

Administrative Issues

EM SSAB Draft Recommendation Reuse and Recycling

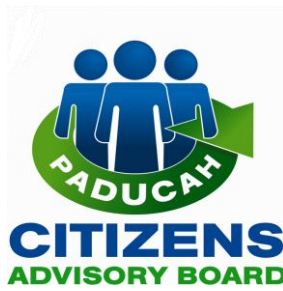
Presentation

DUF6 Update
Student ASER video

Public Comments

Final Comments

Adjourn



PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2026, CAB BOARD MEETING • 5:30 PM.

Location: TEAMS virtual meeting

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

CAB Members Absent: Billy Bob Clark, Joycelyn Lightfoot

U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and Contractors: DOE: Steven Clemons, Chris Richards, Greg Simonton; MCSA: Rob Gentry; ETAS: Zachary Boyarski; EHI Consultants: Julie Galloway, Hayly Wiggins

Liaisons: Kentucky Dept. of Energy and Environment: Mary Evans, Brian Lainhart, Brandon Marshall, Sonja Smiley, April Webb; Environmental Protection Agency: Brian Begley

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 opened the August Paducah Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting and explained it was being held virtually as a precaution after a mold concern at the facility where the CAB normally meets. The facility had subsequently been cleared, and the CAB expected to return to in-person meetings in September.

Roberts noted no requests for oral public comment had been received. Two written public comments had been submitted, were included in the meeting materials, and would be attached to the minutes.

DOE comments provided by Greg Simonton:

No comments

Liaison Comments:

Begley provided an update on the Fiscal Year 2027 Site Management Plan (SMP). EPA received a draft for review and is working with DOE and Kentucky to complete the plan before the beginning of Fiscal Year 2027.

He also reported on the review of the D&D Operable Unit Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS). He noted the review was progressing without significant comments to date and attributed the progress to continued collaboration among DOE, its contractors, Kentucky, and EPA.

Begley discussed the revised Paducah cleanup strategy and the increased coordination among the agencies. He stated the revised approach could significantly accelerate the projected cleanup schedule and result in substantial cost savings.

Stinnett asked if an accelerated cleanup schedule would increase risk.

Begley stated safety remains a priority and the revised approach is not expected to compromise safety or cleanup effectiveness. He explained the more comprehensive approach may result in more extensive cleanup by allowing related areas to be considered together.

National Chairs Recommendation

Roberts presented a draft recommendation developed by the Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EMSSAB) Chairs supporting DOE Environmental Management's Reuse and Recycle Community of Practice (RRCOP). The initiative seeks to increase collaboration among DOE sites to reuse and recycle excess materials and equipment across the DOE complex.

Stinnett and **Wessel**, who represented the Paducah CAB at the National Chairs Meeting, discussed the recommendation. **Wessel** noted the value of increased collaboration among DOE sites. **Stinnett** explained the recommendation was intended to support increased communication and potential cost savings without creating additional burdens for the Paducah Site.

Brewer moved to proceed with a vote on the recommendation, and **Wessel** seconded the motion. The CAB voted unanimously to support the recommendation.

Stinnett will sign the recommendation on behalf of the Paducah CAB, and it will be submitted to DOE Office of Environmental Management.

Student ASER Program

Simonton provided an overview of the Student Annual Site Environmental Report (Student ASER) program. The program gives students an opportunity to study portions of the Annual Site Environmental Report, work with DOE subject matter experts and university faculty to develop a nontechnical summary of the report. He emphasized the educational and workforce development benefits of the program, noting that it helps students better understand the Paducah Site's history, environmental monitoring, and cleanup activities while exposing them to STEM-related career opportunities in the region.

Boyarski explained the Paducah Student ASER program is conducted in partnership with Murray State University and McCracken County High School. Students in AP Environmental Science and Engineering Capstone classes participated during the past year. A video highlighting the program and student experiences was shown to the CAB.

Following the video, CAB members commented favorably on the students' knowledge and ability to explain what they had learned. **Simonton** noted students involved in the program become highly informed about the site's activities and have opportunities to interact directly with university faculty and DOE subject-matter experts.

Roberts noted the CAB has historically supported student engagement, workforce development, and funding for educational programs. He encouraged the CAB to continue considering these programs when developing future budget and funding recommendations.

Simonton suggested inviting students to a future CAB meeting to discuss their experiences. **Roberts** agreed and indicated EHI would work to coordinate participation by students involved in the Student ASER and National Science Bowl programs.

Presentation- Christopher Richards, PPPO DUF6 Program Manager
Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF6) Update

<i>Question/Comment:</i>	<i>Answer:</i>
Butterbaugh: What does beneficial reuse of the uranium oxide produced by the DUF6 conversion process look like, and where would the material ultimately be used.	Richards: Uranium oxide has been provided to several national laboratories, including Oak Ridge and Savannah River. DOE is currently working with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) on additional beneficial reuse of the material in support of NNSA missions. There are other potential uses including conversion of depleted uranium oxide into uranium metal for applications such as armor-related materials and other future uses.

Final Board Comments

None

Brewer adjourned the meeting at 7:01 pm.

APPENDIX

Appendix 1

Written Statement submitted by Bonnie Koblitz

Citizens Advisory Board for DOE Site:

I attended the public meeting held on April 16, 2026. There should have been more of these meetings and much earlier in the process since the "online survey" was done in 2017. There should be more transparency from your Board, GPED, and elected county officials.

I am very concerned about health and safety of nearby residents, including myself (I live 2 miles from the site). I am deeply concerned about environmental degradation, such as soil, water and air contamination and pollution. I am very disturbed by the taking down of hundreds of trees on and near the site. Another of my concerns is noise and heavy truck traffic. An RV park was mentioned at the meeting with a chuckle. Ha, ha. Would you like a bunch of transient construction workers living in a dumpy RV man camp near you? I'm actually wondering where you all live—anywhere near the site?

I keep hearing the emphasis on jobs. I'm sure there will be a lot of very high paying jobs. What percentage of those will be for people who already live in the community? I suspect not many because if they already live here why is there so much development happening along Highway 60 west of Paducah? I suspect local people will not get these jobs, but they will go to others who will be moving in from other areas.

I heard the word "trust" at the meeting. How do you think the community trusts you when you've been making decisions in the shadows without public input? No trust from me. In my opinion there are many things wrong with the projects and that's why there has been so little public input since 2017.

Recently there was an opportunity to make public comment regarding "categorical exclusion" for the DOE site. Of course, this means that regulations will be softened or non-existent and will lead to less oversight when it comes to safety and environmental hazards. Why would you propose less oversight when it comes to safety and the environment, when our county officials have said they have the health and safety of residents as their first priority?

The only positive thing that I can say about the meeting on the 16th was the report of regular monitoring of soil, water and air around the site in 2024.

As for the AI Data Center funded by Peter Thiel, I am totally against this project. We don't need an AI Data Center. Although, it was said the water use is a closed loop process, no one can guarantee there won't be any leaks and when it does who knows what contaminants will end up in the ground water and surface water. Data centers make noise. They use enormous amounts of power. I don't think anyone knows where that power will come from and what effect it will have on homeowner electric bills. Burning natural gas to power the Center will cause air pollution.

Here are just a few comments made by the so-called "experts" in technology of

Elon Musk— "AI is a fundamental existential risk for human civilization." "...AI is potentially more damaging than nukes." "It scares the hell out of me. By the time we react with legislation it will be too late."

Sam Altman—"I'm a little bit afraid. I'd be crazy to not be a little bit afraid." Data centers can build data centers, which can build more data centers. I ask—then what?

Geoffrey Hinton, grandfather of AI—warned AI could wipe out humanity

Newsweek reported that 96% of the time AI will blackmail its user when threatened. And 96% of the time AI chose the nuclear option in war games.

Our current administration would like to use AI to collect data on American citizens. I am totally against that. How about you?

Do we really want this in our backyard? Do we really want to invest time, money, land, trees in something that contributes to our own demise. You may think I'm like a mouse running scared, but other communities have stopped Data Centers from being built in their backyards. I doubt they are the stupid ones. You've made a pact with the devil. I want no part of it.
it.

Bonnie K. Kahlitz

Appendix 2

Written Statement submitted by Troy Astin

Dear Mr. Roberts and Ms. Wiggins,

I am writing to formally submit the attached 22-page Congressional Oversight Referral (GAO-REF-2026-PGDP-001) and respectfully request that it be entered into the formal public record for the next scheduled Paducah Citizens Advisory Board (CAB) meeting. Additionally, I request that this document be distributed to the Board Chair and all active board members for their review prior to that meeting.

While much of the recent public discussion regarding the Parcel A footprint has centered on commercial development and future operations, this audit directly concerns the Department of Energy's (DOE-EM) handling of legacy cleanup materials—a matter that falls squarely within the CAB's statutory oversight jurisdiction.

Specifically, this federal referral documents that site contractors, operating under a misapplied NEPA Categorical Exclusion, have physically disturbed and transported 65,000 cubic yards of potentially contaminated Superfund soil and uncharacterized legacy biomass off the federal site footprint. This earthwork bypassed the mandatory characterization, sampling, and tracking protocols established for legacy materials at PGDP. Furthermore, uncontained stormwater from this project is currently routing into Bayou Creek, threatening to destabilize the passive controls holding back leachate seeps from the C-746-K Landfill.

Because the CAB is the federally chartered body tasked with advising the DOE on environmental restoration, waste management, and risk assessment at this specific site, it is critical that the board members are made aware of these ongoing administrative maneuvers involving legacy soil. As detailed in the attached submission, these findings are currently the subject of an active investigation confirmed by the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet on July 22, 2026.

Thank you for your time, your service to the community, and for ensuring this intelligence is formally logged into the CAB's administrative record so the board can advise accordingly.

Sincerely,

Troy Astin
Paducah, Kentucky

Appendix 3

Website to view Written Statements and Documents

[August 2026 Board Meeting - Google Drive](#)



A Community Based Advisory Board Chartered by the Department of Energy

Local Chapters:

Hanford · Idaho · Nevada · Northern New Mexico · Oak Ridge · Paducah · Portsmouth · Savannah River

INSERT DATE

Mr. Timothy Walsh
Assistant Secretary for the Office of Environmental Management
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Mr. Walsh:

During the April 29, 2026, Spring Chairs meeting, the Environmental Site-Specific Advisory Board (EM SSAB) received a presentation about the U.S. Department of Energy Environmental Management's (DOE-EM) Reuse and Recycle Community of Practice (RR CoP). The RR CoP endeavors to collaborate between interested program offices and sites to reduce costs by facilitating the reuse and recycling of excess materials and equipment across the DOE complex.

Each DOE-EM site has its own unique mission, timeline, and budget. These sites may overlook collaboration when immediate material needs arise. The RR CoP aims to bridge this gap by providing a way for the sites to prioritize reuse and recycling among themselves.

The EM SSAB Chairs understand that the RR CoP was informally chartered in 2023 and is relatively new. It is encouraging to see how DOE-EM Office of Infrastructure and D&D is integrating current site activities to ensure the reuse of federal assets across the DOE complex. This effort may ultimately reduce expenses to procure equipment and materials. The EM SSAB Chairs commend DOE-EM's efforts to save taxpayer dollars through the integration of RR CoP.

The EM SSAB Chairs support the RR CoP initiative and recommend that DOE-EM continue to foster the integration of this practice across the complex by increasing the number of sites involved with the goal of improving communication and awareness.

Who We Are

The EM SSAB is the DOE-EM's most effective vehicle for fostering two-way communication between DOE-EM and the communities it serves. The EM program is the world's largest environmental cleanup program, and the EM SSAB is its only citizen advisory board. For more than 30 years, the volunteer citizens of the EM SSAB have partnered with EM officials at both the local and national levels to ensure that the public has a meaningful voice in cleanup decisions.

Public participation is required/recommended as part of a number of environmental regulations. It is also good business practice, resulting in better decisions that often result in improved cleanup. Over the past three decades, EM SSAB members have volunteered over 50,000 hours of their time and submitted to EM officials over 1,800 recommendations, of which 84% have been fully or partially implemented, resulting in improved cleanup decisions.

The EM SSAB comprises approximately 160 people from communities in Georgia, Idaho, Kentucky, Nevada, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee and Washington. The Board is cumulatively representative of a stakeholder population totaling millions of people who are affected by generator sites, transportation routes and disposal sites. As we move forward, the EM SSAB welcomes the opportunity to highlight the value of this unique volunteer board and discuss its priorities during the months and years ahead.

Susan Coleman, Chair
Hanford Advisory Board

Robert Skinner, Chair
Idaho Cleanup Project CAB

Mark Hilton, Chair
Nevada SSAB

Beverly Martin, Chair
Northern New Mexico CAB

Kris Bartholomew, Chair
Oak Ridge SSAB

Benjamin Stinnett, Chair
Paducah CAB

Donna Carson, Chair
Portsmouth SSAB

Deborah Creech, Acting Chair
Savannah River Site CAB

cc: Kelly Snyder, Designated Federal Officer, EM-2.33
Shannon Chester, DOE EM, EM-4.11

Depleted Uranium Hexafluoride (DUF6) Update

Chris Richards, PPPO DUF6 Program Manager

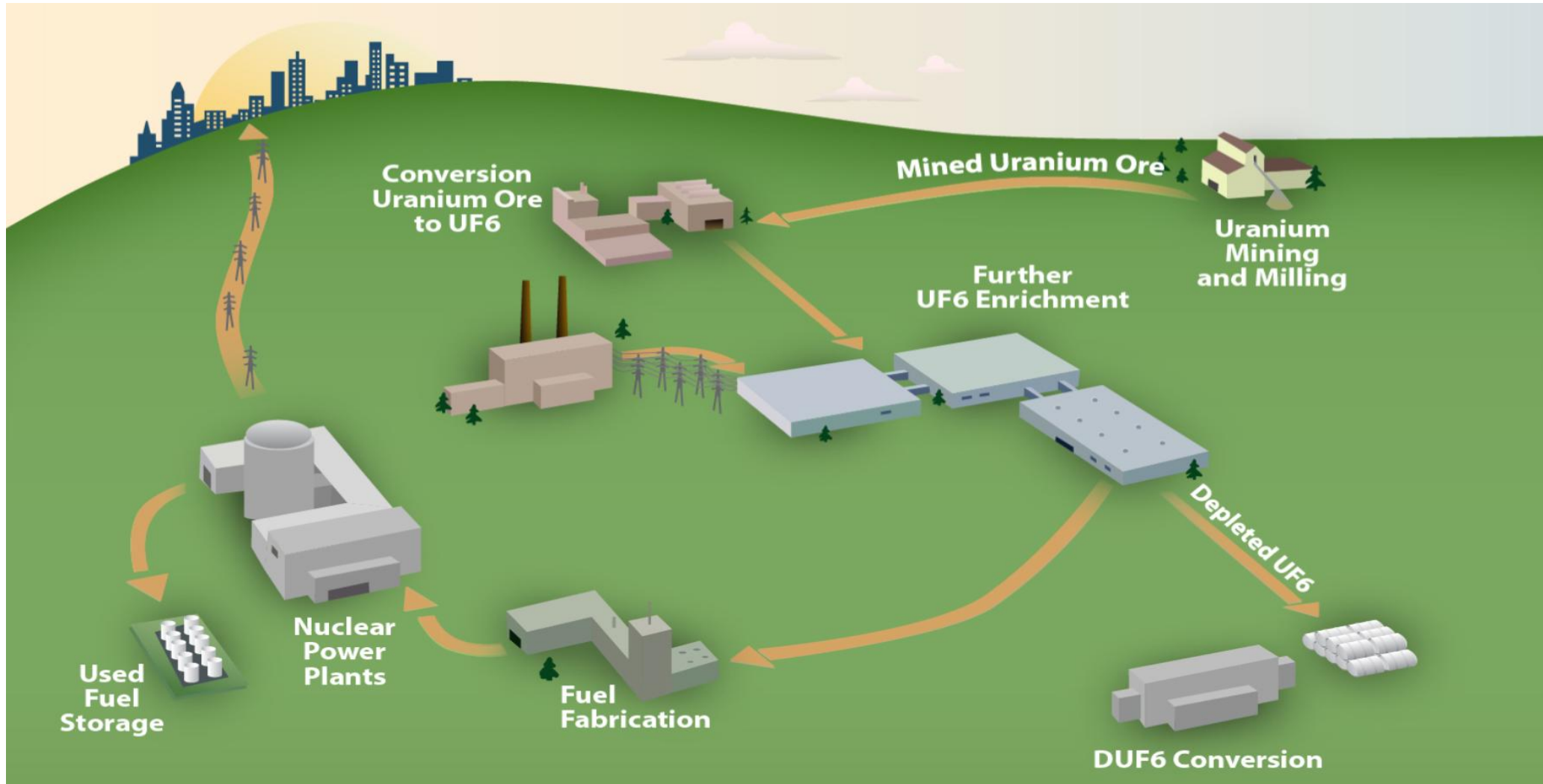
August 20, 2026

DUF6 Conversion Project

- The U.S. Department of Energy is operating facilities at Portsmouth and Paducah to convert DUF6 and advance American energy dominance and innovation
- DUF6 is a coproduct of the uranium enrichment process
- DUF6 was placed in ~67,000 steel cylinders that accumulated in Oak Ridge, Portsmouth and Paducah storage yards



Uranium Enrichment Cycle



DUF6 Mission

- Operate conversion facilities to safely convert DUF6 into a more stable chemical form for beneficial reuse or disposal thus reducing immediate and future risk to workers and the surrounding community
- The DUF6 program includes three primary activities:
 - DUF6 cylinder surveillance and maintenance
 - Conversion of DUF6 to a more stable chemical form for use or disposal
 - Identification of beneficial uses of depleted uranium



DUF6 Conversion Facilities

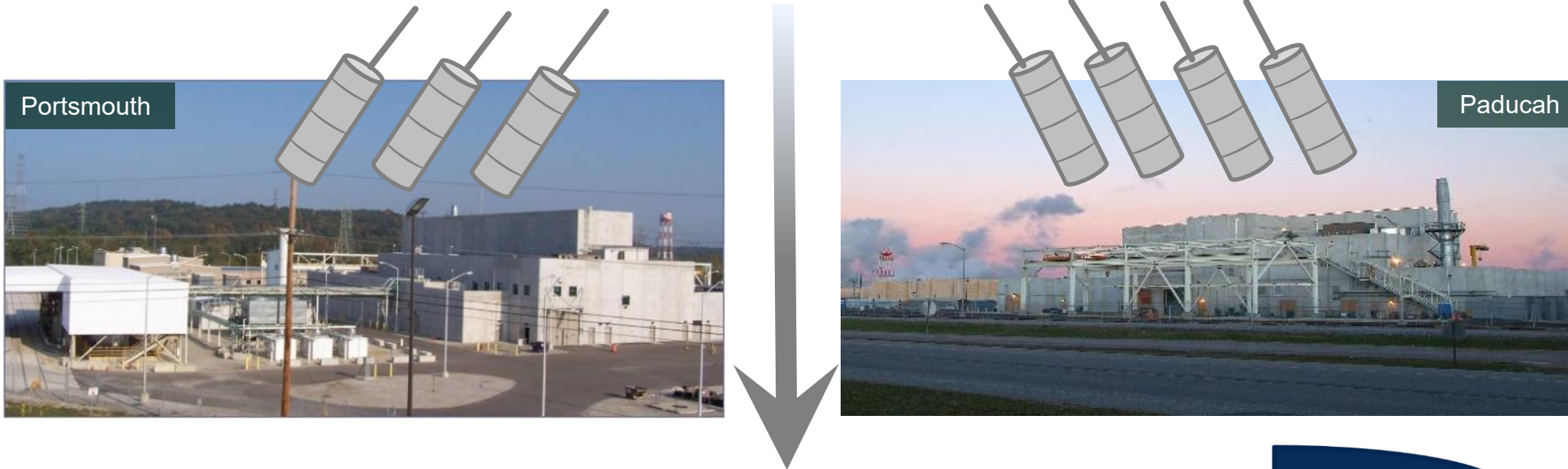


Paducah



Portsmouth

DUF6 Project Operating Lines

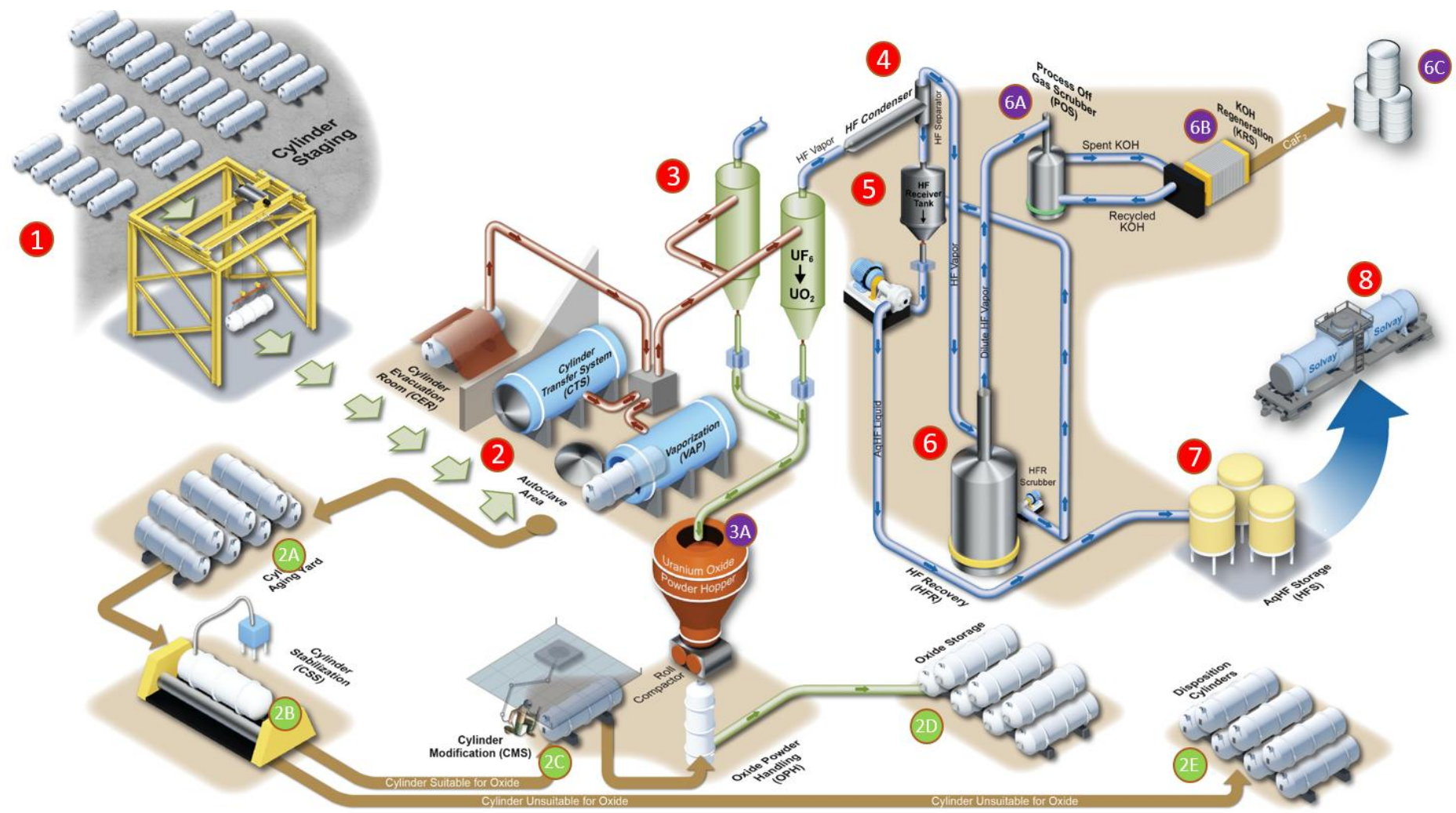


One DUF6 Project – 7 Operating Lines

- Four operating lines at Paducah; three operating lines at Portsmouth (fewer lines due to less inventory)
- Gain efficiencies through common design modifications
- Gradually increase production capacity
- Apply Lessons Learned across both sites



DUF6 Conversion Process



DUF6 Conversion Products

- Conversion generates two coproducts:
 - Uranium Oxide
 - Stored for eventual disposal or reuse
 - Aqueous Hydrofluoric Acid (HF)
 - Beneficial reuse from resource recovery
 - Offsets a portion of operating costs



Recent Accomplishments and Upcoming Modifications

- Converted 10,000th DUF6 cylinder in March 2026
- Hydrogen PRISM Reformer
- Tow Motors
- Evacuation Header System
- Uranium Oxide Loadout facilities





U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY

Student ACER Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t5lo2RwwO3E>