



## URENCO Next Generation Fuels Conversion and Enrichment Options

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# URENCO – A Global Supplier

## Capacity of 18,500 tSW/year



Capenhurst, UK  
Capacity: 4,600 tSW/year



Eunice, USA  
Capacity: 4,800 tSW/year



Almelo, The Netherlands  
Capacity: 5,200 tSW/year



Head Office  
Stoke Poges, United Kingdom



Gronau, Germany  
Capacity: 3,900 tSW/year

# UUSA – The National Enrichment Facility

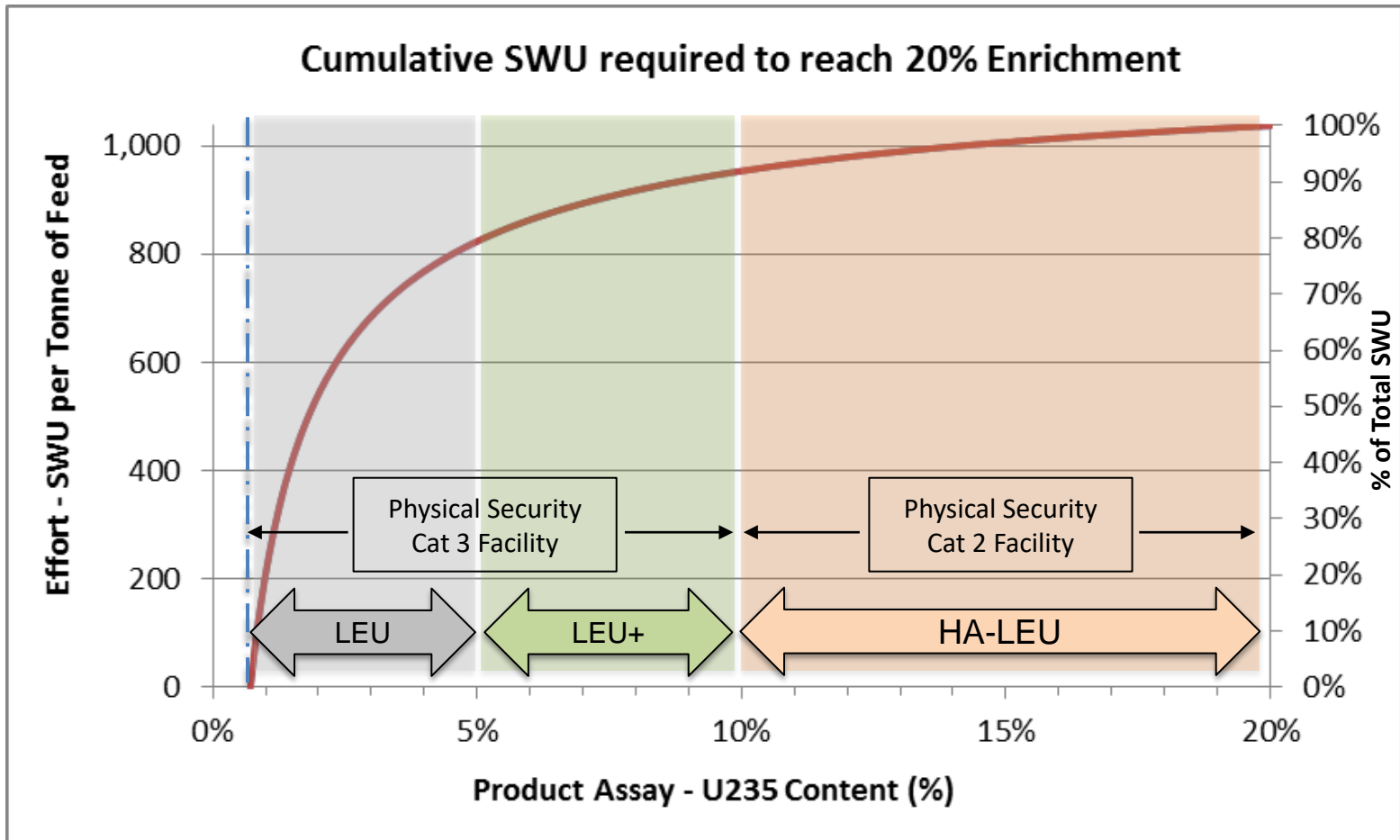


## UUSA Today

- Located in southeast New Mexico on the boarder with Texas.
- NRC license issued in 2006 with operations commencing in 2010.
- First new nuclear facility in the US for more than 30 years.
- Only operating uranium enrichment plant in North America.
- Supportive community and New Mexico state legislature.

## UUSA Future

- Available space on existing Category III nuclear licensed site for additional facilities.
- Scope for expansion to accommodate Category II Facility – HA-LEU.
- URENCO Technology Centre – laboratory.
- URENCO Advanced Nuclear Fuel Campus:
  - Co-location of facilities for the production of next generation.
  - Shared facilities, services and security.

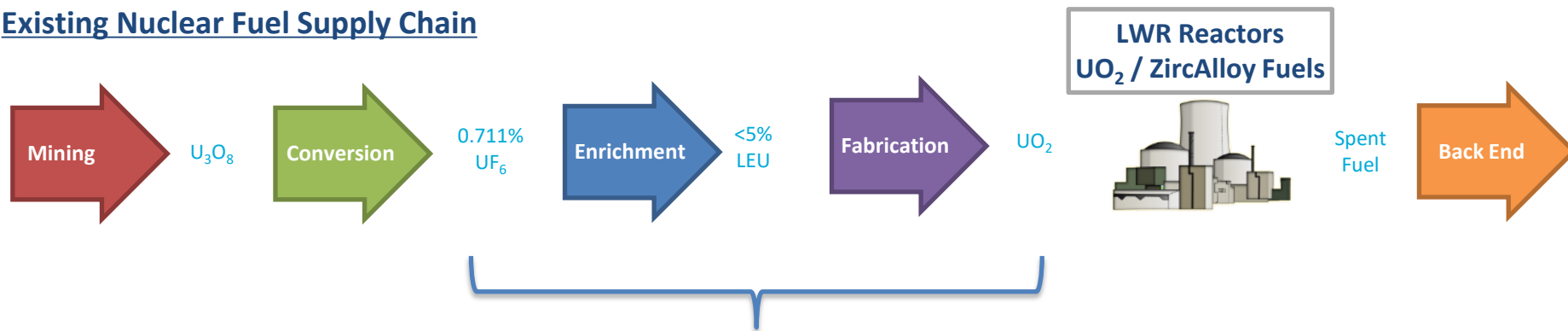


## U235 Enrichment Levels

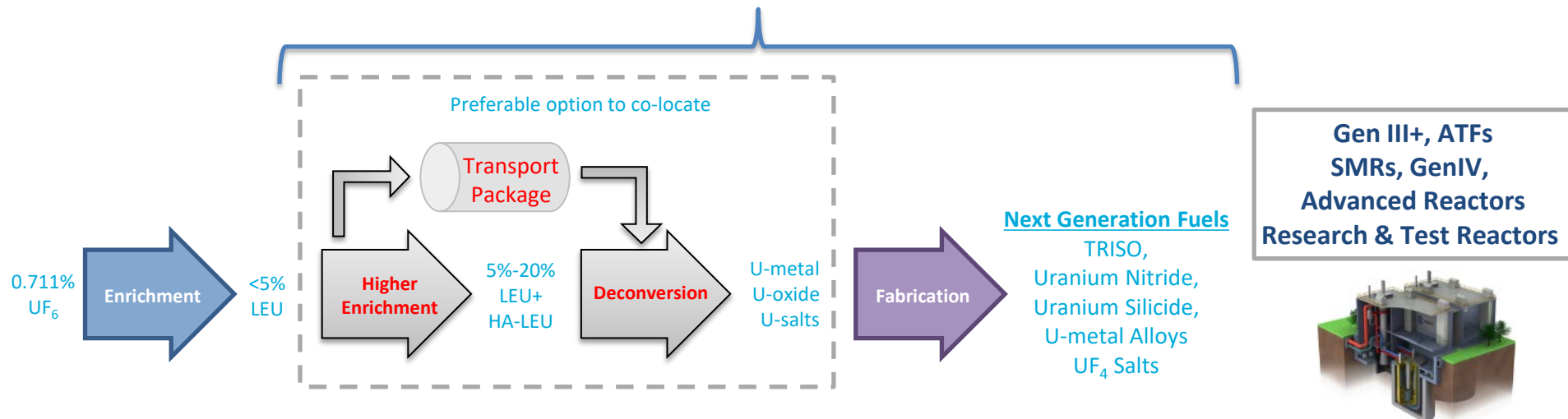
- Feed 0.711%**  
 Natural Uranium
- LEU <5%**  
 Civil Nuclear Reactors
- LEU+ 5% - 10%**  
 Extended Fuel Cycles & ATFs
- HA-LEU 10% - 20%**  
 Test, Research and Gen IV Reactors

# The Future Nuclear Fuel Supply Chain

## Existing Nuclear Fuel Supply Chain



## Completing the Future Nuclear Fuel Supply Chain



A sustainable HA-LEU fuel cycle includes three fundamental capabilities:

1. Higher Enrichment Facility
  - to produce HA-LEU in the form of uranium hexafluoride ( $UF_6$ ) up to 19.75%
2. Deconversion Facility
  - to (de)convert HA-LEU  $UF_6$  into U-metal, U-oxides and/or U-salts
3. Fabrication Facilities
  - to manufacture the specific fuel types required by the various reactor designs

Packaging and transportation solutions are also required:

- A certified transport package (cylinder and protective overpack) will need to be developed to store and transport production volumes of HA-LEU as  $UF_6$

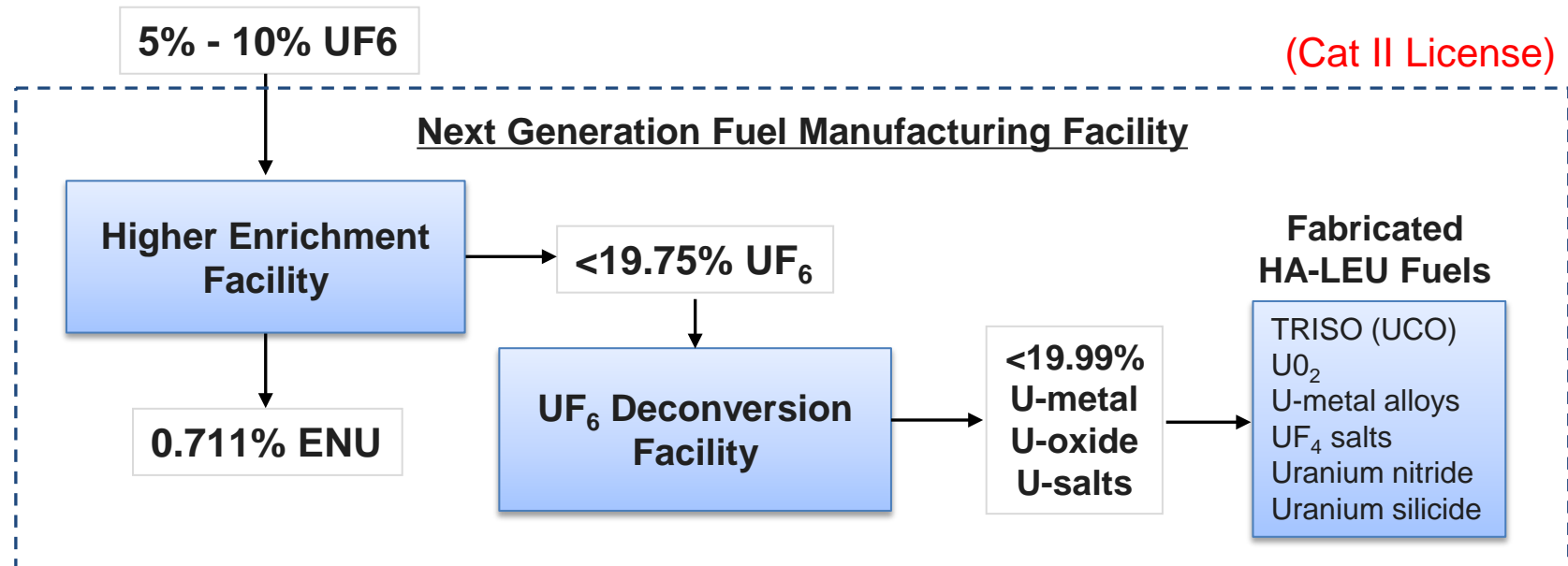
No “Show Stopper”:

- There are [no treaty considerations or export control restrictions](#) associated with HA-LEU production at UUSA.
- URENCO’s [existing advanced gas centrifuges are capable](#) of producing the full span of HA-LEU enrichments without further development or testing.
- We estimate that if detailed design, site permits, and contractor selection were undertaken in parallel with the regulatory licensing process, we could construct, commission and start-up a [HA-LEU production unit within 24 months of regulatory licensing approval](#).



## '3-Box' Model:

- Co-location of higher enrichment, deconversion and fuel fabrication facilities.
- Satisfying the requirements of a number next generation fuel types for HA-LEU.
- Leverages existing site characterization data, site infrastructure, and regulator familiarity



Addressing the issues related to the transport of enriched uranium between 5% and 20%, there are a number of steps required to arrive at a viable long-term solution:

**Government and Industry should look at this question as two distinct pathways**

1. LEU+ (5% -10%)

EITHER: Use of existing 30B cylinder with DN30 overpack:

- Requires analytical confirmation for regulatory/license exemption to 10% as a long-term solution
- DN30 overpack can be demonstrated to be a safer and more robust option over the UX-30

OR: Development of a New Cylinder with moderation control

- Requires Industry and Regulatory backing for design, testing and manufacture of a long-term solution

2. HA-LEU (10% - 20%) - use of existing 5B cylinder:

- Requires development of a modified DN30 overpack with integrated 5B storage racks
- May need development of a more robust solution with increased capacity as HA-LEU volumes develop

Cylinder Model	Diameter (inches / mm)	Maximum Enrichment	Maximum UF6 (lbs / kg)
1S	1.5 / 38.1	100.00%	1.0 / 0.5
2S	3.5 / 88.9	100.00%	4.9 / 2.2
5B	5.0 / 127	100.00%	54.9 / 24.9
8A	8.0 / 203.2	12.5%	255 / 115.7
<b>30B</b>	<b>30 / 762</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5020 / 2277</b>



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## Industry Task Force

NRC, DOT, National Labs, Industry Groups, Enrichers, Fabricators, Utilities

- Leadership to prioritize the issues, develop the project plan and channel resources
- Aggregate demand and specifications of reactor developers
- Make a consistent and coherent ask of Government

## The Role of Government

- Sustained and dedicated funding:
  - Special funding profile so that interdependent projects are not competing for the same finite resource, i.e. Next Generation Fuels vs Advanced Reactors vs Transport.
- DOE “Wholesale Buyer” of HA-LEU
  - Purchase of initial HA-LEU output to enable industry to invest in commercial facilities of a minimum economic scale ahead of nascent demand.

# Closing Remarks

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1. It is imperative that the enrichment, deconversion and fabrication facilities - and the concordant packaging solutions - be developed on [concurrent schedules](#).
2. [Regulatory resources](#) are required to support the licensing framework needed for the development of a HA-LEU fuel cycle.
3. The timing of front-end fuel cycle development for next generation fuels must match the [forecast aggregate demand](#) of advanced reactor vendors coming to market.
4. Companies making investments in HA-LEU facilities need to be sufficiently assured of a [reasonable and necessary economic return](#).
5. There is a role for national Governments and NGOs to both [stimulate and facilitate](#) this exciting next phase in the growth of the nuclear industry.



# Thank You

For additional information on URENCO's Next Generation Fuels please contact:

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