

## **National Reactor Innovation Center**

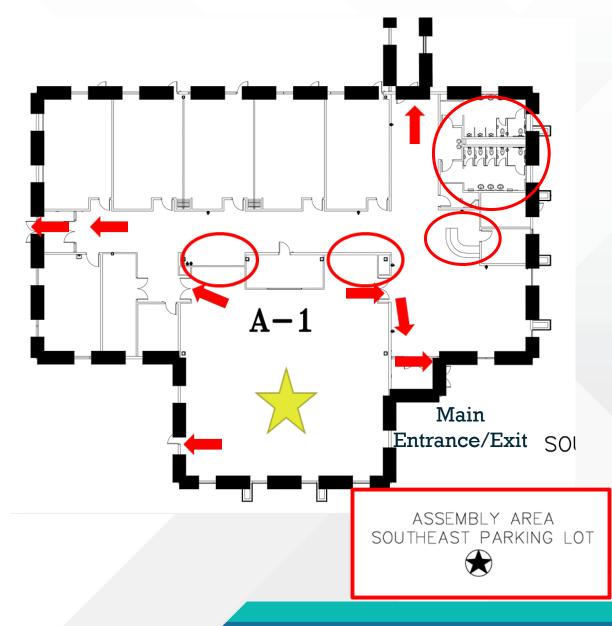
Program Review

## Welcome

Please grab your name tag, agenda, and wifi information from the front desk

## Welcome Housekeeping Items

- Restrooms
- Coffee & Snacks
- If you need assistance:
  - A person will be available at the front desk all day, or –
  - Reach out to an NRIC representative (green badge)
- Lunch will be served buffet style
- Evacuation/Assembly Point





## Z Tour Information

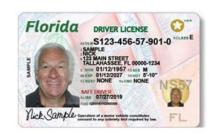
- We will load the bus outside this building (EIL) Thursday
- Please arrive by 0700 Thursday morning
- We will use the same bus all day, so you can leave personal items in your seats during tour stops. We also have EIL room reserved for the day so you can leave your items there if you prefer
- We will break into smaller groups for many of the tour stops. More detail will be provided on the bus.
- Badging will happen on the bus
  - Please make sure you bring the appropriate identification (next slide)
- Clothing Requirements and Prohibited items sent out to attendees prior to the review



# Tour Information – IDs and Badging

- For visitor access and badging at INL, U.S. citizens must present a REAL-ID compliant form of identification, such as a current U.S. passport or driver's license.
- International visitors must present a current passport and supporting documentation, such as a visa or green card.
- INL accepts HSPD-12 Personal Identity Verification and Department of Defense Common Access Card, or DoD CAC, badges as proper identification for site access. If you have an approved federal ID card, please bring it with you.













**Foreign National** 

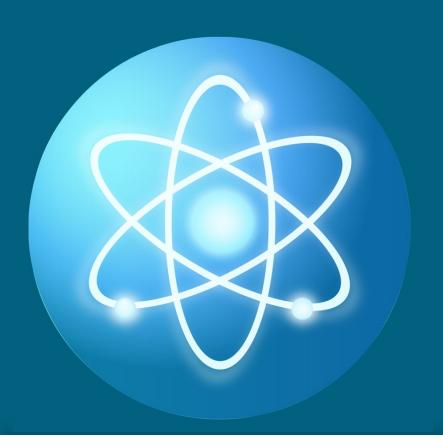


## Office of Nuclear Energy Updates

Alice Caponiti
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Strategic Crosscuts

USNIC Advanced Reactors Summit XI
April 16, 2024

## **Update Topics**



- Coal to Nuclear Transitions
- Status of New Funding
   Opportunities
- Reorganization of Office of Nuclear Energy

# COAL to NUCLEAR

Repowering coal plants with advanced nuclear reactors can help unlock **new job, economic, and environmental opportunities** for energy communities across the country as the United States shifts toward cleaner energy sources. Here's how it works.



Office of NUCLEAR ENERGY







30%
of the nation's coal plants are expected to retire by 2035

retired and retiring coal plants are suitable to host advanced nuclear plants and technologies





up to **35**%

can be saved on plant construction costs by reusing existing coal plant infrastructure

650+

high-paying nuclear jobs would be created or converted in the region

Re-Power



up to **86%** 

drop in emissions in the surrounding region by replacing coal with nuclear plants

\$275m

added annual economic activity in nuclear-sector communities



Coal to Nuclear ensures energy communities are not left behind on the transition to clean energy.



# ENERGY COMMUNITY TRANSITIONS



#### **Coal Transitions Industry Research Group**

- Reduces duplication of research
- Share new insights efficiently
- Co-hosted 1<sup>st</sup> national workshop on topic





Overview of transition issues



Practical guidebook coal-tonuclear transition



Policy recommendations on early site permits



Stakeholder guidebook on economic impacts, infrastructure, and licensing



Southwest Pennsylvania

Rosebud/Treasure Montana

Northwest Colorado

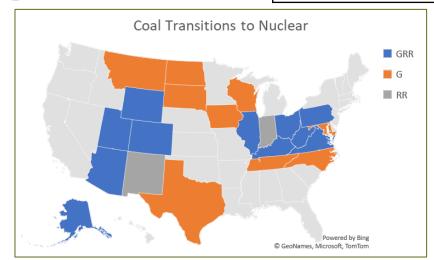
Coal Country Utah





**Northwest Colorado** 

**Coal Country Utah** 



# What can State Policy Makers do?

## **Policy Areas Begin Considered:**

- Define clean energy to include nuclear energy vs. renewables only
- Studies, task forces, working groups, commissions to understand "the fit" for your generation and industrial needs
- Energy transformation
- Workforce development
- Economic development
- Regulatory/siting considerations
- Nuclear moratorium repeals/exemptions
- State financial support



## Office of Nuclear Energy Engagement Partnerships

- National Conference of State Legislatures –
   Nuclear Legislative Working Group –
   Nuclear Energy Tribal Working Group
- National Governors Association Center for Best Practices – NEW – Nuclear Cohort
- National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) – Nuclear Energy Partnership (NEP)
- NARUC-National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) – Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative
- Energy Communities Alliance
- Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal & Power Plant Communities & Economic Revitalization













# FY2024 Spending Bill Fuels Historic Push for U.S. Advanced Reactors

- \$100 million plus up to \$2.7B from unobligated appropriations to build out our advanced nuclear fuel supply chain
- \$800 million for DOE to demonstrate two advanced light-water reactor systems in the United States
- \$100 million for competitive awards to support the advanced lightwater reactor supply chain
- \$100 million to help identify, develop, and implement new safety training programs at universities, trade schools, and 2-year colleges

## **Additional Ongoing and New Funding Opportunities**

- GAIN Voucher Program ongoing
  - Funding to national lab to perform work
- Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) – ongoing
- Communities Local Energy Action Program (C-LEAP) ongoing
  - Facilitate sustained community-wide economic and environmental benefits primarily through DOE's clean energy deployment work
  - Nuclear-related work supported by GAIN
- Qualifying Advanced Energy Project Credit (48C) Program
   – ongoing
  - Provides a tax credit for investments in advanced energy projects
- Advanced Reactor Licensing Cost-Share Grant Program new FOA expected to be released soon



## **Pre-reorganization**

#### **Nuclear Energy Enabling Technologies**

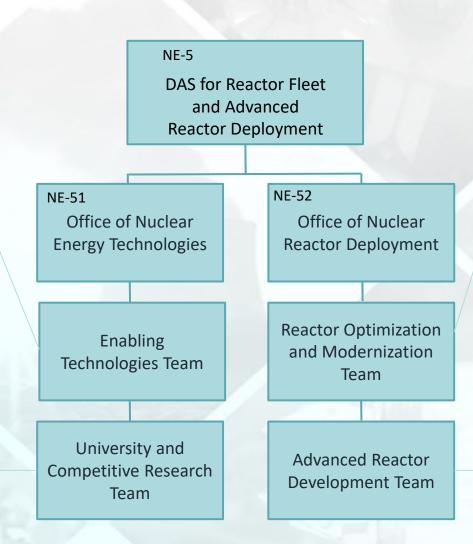
- Nuclear Science User Facilities (High Performance Computing)
- Advanced Modeling and Simulation
- Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies
- Advanced Sensors and Instrumentation

#### **University Support**

- Nuclear Energy University Program
- Distinguished Early Career Program
- Research Reactor Infrastructure
- University Nuclear Leadership Program (Scholarships, Fellowships)

#### **Industry Support**

- Advanced Nuclear Energy Funding Opportunity (Industry FOA)
- Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear (NE Voucher awards)
- Small Business Innovative Research (SBIR) / Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR)
- Technology Commercialization Fund (TCF)



#### **Light Water Reactor Sustainability**

- LWR modernization and optimization
- Hydrogen production demonstrations

#### **Advanced Reactor Modernization**

- Integrated Energy Systems
- Safeguards and Security

#### Advanced SMR R&D

- NuScale and Carbon Free Power Project awards
- Other Industry Awards

#### **Advanced Reactor Technologies**

- Advanced non-LWRs R&D
  - Gas-cooled/TRISO
  - · Molten Salt cooled/fueled
  - · Fast metal cooled
  - Advanced structural materials
- Microreactor R&D
  - MARVEL and MAGNET
- ARC-20 Projects

#### **Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program**

- National Reactor Innovation Center
- Risk Reduction Projects
- Regulatory framework and technical support



## **New NE-7 DAS for Strategic Crosscuts**

#### **New NE-5 DAS for Nuclear Reactors**

#### **Nuclear Energy Enabling Technologies**

- Nuclear Science User Facilities (High Performance Computing)
- · Advanced Modeling and Simulation
- Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Technologies
- Advanced Sensors and Instrumentation
- Nuclear Cybersecurity

#### **University Support**

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NE-5

DAS for Reactor Fleet

and Advanced

Reactor Deployment

NE-51
Office of Nuclear
Energy Technologies

Enabling Technologies Team

University and Competitive Research Team NE-52

Office of Nuclear Reactor Deployment

Reactor Optimization and Modernization Team

Advanced Reactor Development Team

#### **Light Water Reactor Sustainability**

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#### Advanced SMR R&D

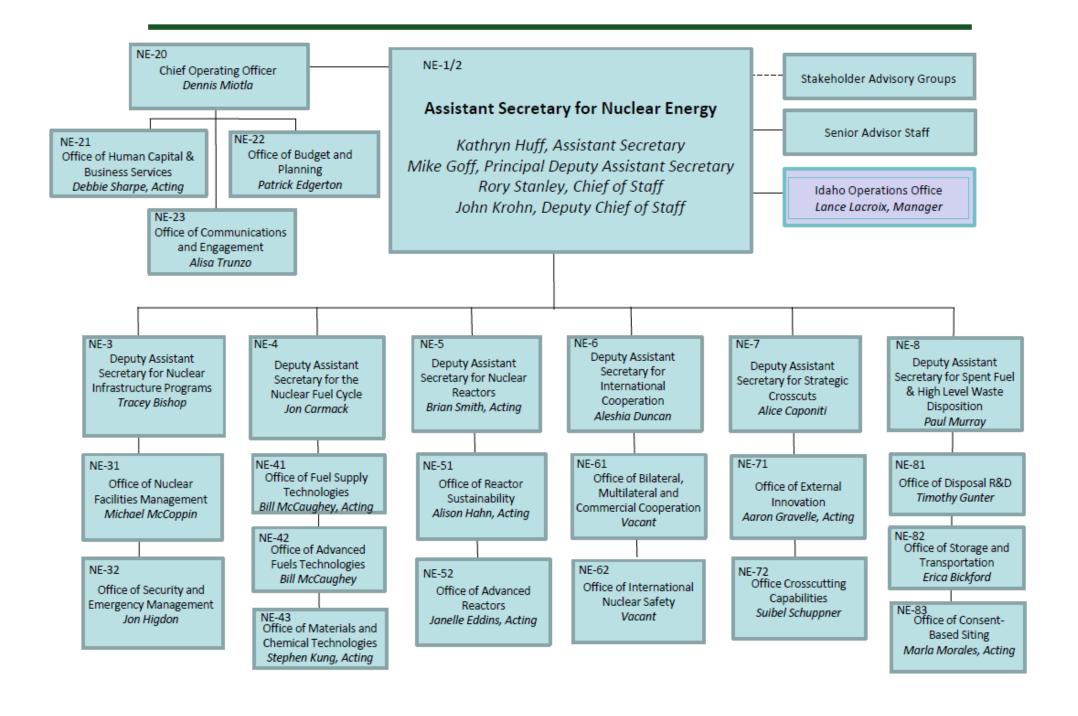
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# Thank You!

ENERGY

Office of

NUCLEAR ENERGY



# National Reactor Innovation Center Overview

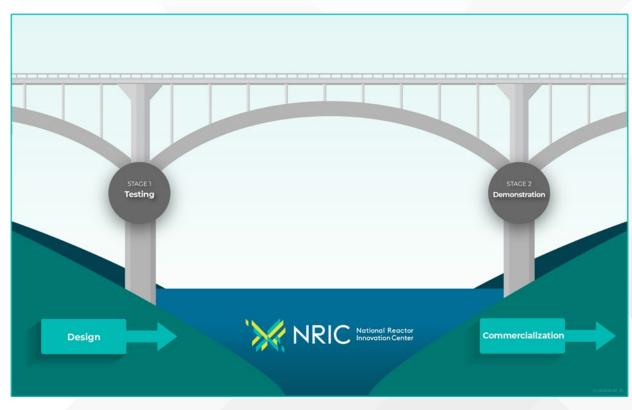
NRIC Program Review

April 23 – 25, 2024

## NRIC is a DOE program launched in FY20

## NRIC Enables Nuclear Reactor Tests and Demonstrations

- Authorized by the Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act (NEICA)
  - DOE-Office of Nuclear Energy; INL Nuclear Science & Tech
- Partner with industry to bridge the gap between research and commercial deployment
- Leverage national lab expertise and infrastructure





## Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Reactors, NE-5



NE-5 Deputy Assistant Secretary for Nuclear Reactors, NE-5

Brian Smith, Acting, Deputy Assistant Secretary Allison Hahn, Acting, Assistant Deputy Assistant Secretary

NF-51

Office of Reactor Sustainability

Allison Hahn, Acting, Director

NE-52

**Office of Advanced Reactors** 

Janelle Eddins, Acting, Director Savannah Fitzwater, NRIC FPM



#### Office of the Manager

L. Lacroix

Manager, Idaho Operations Office **R. Boston**, Advisor to Manager **K. Trusty**, Executive Secretary, Secretary

## Office of Nuclear Energy Facilities, Operations & Security

Chief Operations Officer

M. McAnulty

Acting Deputy Manager for Nuclear Energy Facilities, Operations and Security

## Office of Nuclear Energy Program Support & Execution S. Olson

Deputy Manager for Nuclear Energy Program Support and Execution

#### **Idaho Cleanup Project**

(Office of Environmental Management)

M. Brown

Manager Idaho Cleanup Project

C. Flohr

Senior Advisor to the Idaho Cleanup Project Manager

#### Nuclear Programs Support Division

B. Ford, Director K. Sterling, Secretary

#### **Fuel Cycle Technologies**

- G. Kropp, Supv
- C. Bunting
- L. Friedel\*\*
- D. Herrin
- J. Jardine
- B. Merkle

#### **Reactor Programs and Space Power**

- B. Brown, Supv
- W. Amos
- T. Haack
- S. Markovich
- N. McBride
- C. Vance



## **National Reactor Innovation Center**



National Reactor Innovation Center (NRIC) - C300 Acting Director
Brad Tomer



**Administrative Assistant**Nelly Olivas



**Chief Operating Officer**Brad Tomer



**Collaboration Manager** Sanjay Mukhi



Configuration/Control Manager AnnMarie Marshall



**Department Manager**Adrian Collins



Risk Coordinator/Program Manager Josh Kiel

## Demonstration Infrastructure and Support/Demonstration Project Partnerships – C310



**Technical Program Manager**Troy Burnett



**Technical Program Manager**Samuel Reiss



**Technical Program Manager**Chance Price



Technical Program
Manager
Curtis Nielsen



**Technical Program Manager**Greg Core



**Technical Program Manager**Luke Voss



**Project Manager**Marvin Fielding



Configuration
Management Coordinator
Salome M. OwusuAchampong



**Technical Program Manager**Jacob Rhymer



**Configuration Management Coordinator**Katelyn Mitchell



## Collaborative Approach

NRIC is
partnering
regionally and
nationally to
support
demonstrations





## **NRC Collaboration**

- Congress recognized the importance of agency coordination in the Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act
- DOE/NRC MOU to "coordinate DOE and NRC technical readiness and sharing of technical expertise and knowledge on advanced nuclear reactor technologies and nuclear energy innovation, including reactor concepts demonstrations, through the [NRIC]."
  - NRIC Rotations



Fred Sock Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Monthly Coordination Calls – DOE/NRC/NRIC

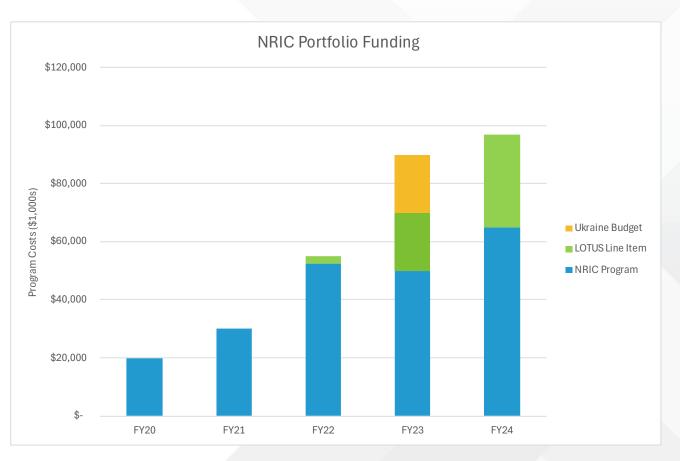


Allen Fetter Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation



## NRIC Portfolio Budget (FY20-FY24)

- FY20 \$20M NRIC Program
- FY21 \$30M NRIC Program
- FY22 \$55M : NRIC Program \$52.4M, LOTUS Line Item \$2.6M
- FY23 \$90M: NRIC Program \$50M, LOTUS Line Item \$20M, Ukraine \$20M
- FY24 \$97M: NRIC Program \$65M, LOTUS Line Item \$32M





## Portfolio Built to Empower Innovators



## Building testing foundation

- Advanced Reactor Test Beds
- Experimental Facilities
- Virtual Test Bed

## Addressing Costs & Markets

- Advanced Construction
- Digital Engineering for Nuclear
- Maritime Applications



## **NRIC Testbed Strategy**

## **NRIC-DOME Testbed**



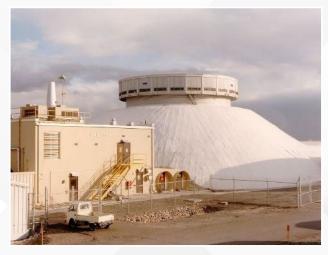
- EBR-II Operated from 1964 to 1994
  - 62.5 MW thermal
- Repurposing EBR-II as NRIC-DOME
  - <20MW<sub>th</sub> <20% enriched fuels</li>
  - Final design complete
  - Construction began 2023
  - First user expected 2026

Materials & Fuels Complex at INL



# 

## **NRIC-LOTUS** Testbed

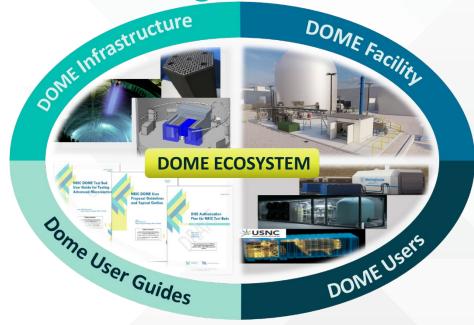


- ZPPR Operated from 1969 to 1990
  - Used for transuranic and enricheduranium material inspection/repackaging and experiments
- Repurposing ZPPR Cell as NRIC-LOTUS Testbed
  - Small KWth reactors
  - >20% enriched fuels
  - Preliminary/Final Design Initiated
  - First user expected 2027/2028



## NRIC-DOME Test Bed Ecosystem





#### **Test Bed Ecosystem Extends Beyond Facility Construction:**

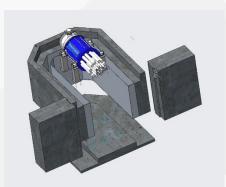
- Complete end-to-end support equipment from fresh fuel storage, supplemental shielding, testing support, and decommissioning
- Processes and procedures to ensure consistent, repeatable testing.

#### **Support Infrastructure and Equipment**

- Shielding conceptual design complete w/fabrication in FY25
- Evaluated crane options and developed path forward for polar crane
- Secured options for fresh fuel storage in CPP 651 & irradiated reactor at RSWF.
- Developing irradiated reactor removal, storage, defueling, and pathway for irradiated fuel

#### **Processes & Procedures**

- Developed new version of end-to-end user guide
- Developing draft environmental assessment of envelop of possible reactors

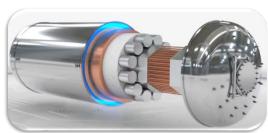




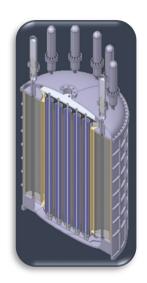
## Front End Engineering and Experiment Design

- \$4.5M in DOE-HQ funding w/NRIC issuing EOI/RFP
- 11 EOI responses and 5 RFP responses
- Conducted process in <5 months and awarded 3

Developer	Reactor Name	Design	Power Mwe	Power MWth	Fuel Type	Fuel Enrichment	Primary Coolant	Moderator	Refueling Interval (Years)	Power Conversion System
Radiant	Kaleidos	HTGR	1.2	3.5	TRISO	19.75%	Helium	Graphite	6	Brayton Cycle
USNC	Pylon	HTGR		1	TRISO	9.90%	Helium	Graphite		Rankine
Westinghouse	eVinci NTR	Heat Pipe	1	3	TRISO	19.75%	Sodium	Graphite	8	Brayton Cycle



Westinghouse - eVinci







## **NRIC-LOTUS Test Bed**

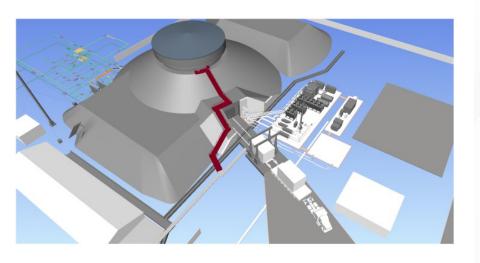
#### **Description**

- Advanced Microreactors up to 500kW<sub>th</sub> using high security materials
- 13ft X 13ft side entry
- 50kWth Ventilation: standalone/upgraded/neg pressure/stack
- Provides Safety-Class confinement
- 480V / 400Amp electrical Service
- ≈ 30ft diameter floor space with a 20ft ceiling, includes a recessed pit area.
- Designed up to 500kW<sub>th</sub> direct reactor cooling

### **Funding Profile**

	Major Project Area	FY23	FY24	FY25	FY26	Notes
JS ction	LOTUS TEC Line Item	\$22.25M	\$32M	\$18.75M		Total \$73M
OTO:	Other Project Costs	\$1M	\$3M	\$9M	\$7.64M	Total \$25M including FY21 and FY22 CO
l o	Totals	\$23.25M	\$35M	\$27.75M	\$7.64M	

- Cost Estimate: \$66M low, \$77M point; \$98M high (budgeting number)
- LOTUS design & construction is a capital line-item project
- The project is managed as a DOE 413.3B project with Gerardo Islas-Rivera as the Federal Project Director and Contracting Officer Representative; NE-3 is the Project Management Executive



## Schedule (Performance Baseline to be set at CD-2/3)

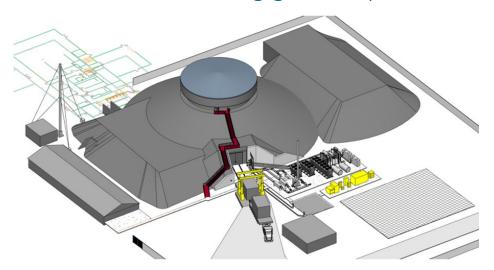
- Conceptual design completed 12/21
- CD-0 (Mission Need) approved 3/22
- CD-1 approved 6/23
- Awarded prelim/final design 6/23
- Final design complete 4Q/FY24
- CD-2/3 approve baseline /start construction -1Q/FY25
- Construction finish 1Q/FY27
- Operational readiness 4Q/FY27

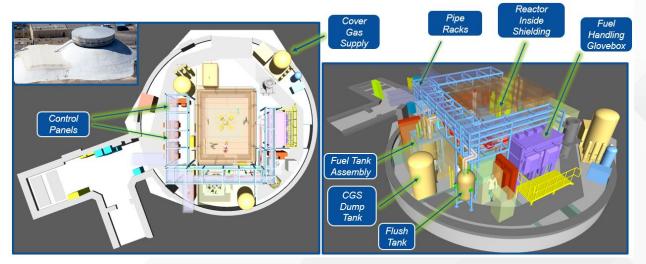


## **LOTUS Test Bed & MCRE Integration**

<u>Laboratory for Operation and Testing in the United States</u>

- Maintaining collaboration on interfaces, design requirements, concept of operations
- Includes interfaces and requirements for MCRE (reactor, shielding, fresh fuel canister, irradiated fuel canister, fueling glovebox)





Continued MCRE ARD 3D digital integration and interface management work reduces the risk of any installation delays or infrastructure misalignment between LOTUS and MCRE.



## Siting Tool for Advanced Reactor **Development (STAND)**

What is it?:

STAND is an integrated tool used to help identify and compare possible siting locations in the U.S. for advanced nuclear facilities based on factors related to:

- Socioeconomics
- Proximity
- Safety

A tool to help answer the question of "Where?" and "Why there?"



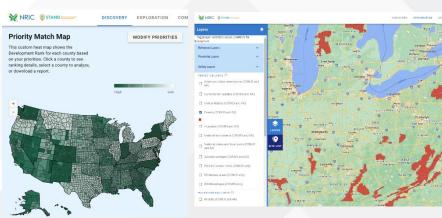
Discover areas that may be a good fit



**Explore** areas to identify specific sites



Compare sites to identify an optimal option









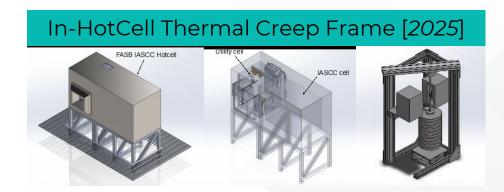




## NRIC Experimental Infrastructure











## NRIC - Virtual Test Bed (VTB)

- Central location for reactor developers/stakeholders to access and leverage state-of-the art ModSim models of advanced reactors to evaluate performance and safety
- Cross-laboratory and cross-program collaboration between NRIC and DOE Nuclear Energy Advanced Modeling and Simulation (NEAMS) program
- Repository/library of simulations for. Sodium, lead, micro and molten salt reactors (continuously tested)
- Currently hosting 47 distinct models with 15 NEAMS codes
- Averaging 250+ visits/month (period Jan-March 2024)
- FY23 accomplishments:
  - Uploaded 20 new models to the repository
  - Developed reference microreactor and MSR model for DOME and LOTUS testbeds – MSR model already being leveraged for MCRE ARD confirmatory analysis
- FY24 plans
  - Develop virtual model of the NRIC physical test bed (DOME) to accelerate the process for confirmatory safety analysis for future reactor tests.
  - Continue uploading models from external programs to the VTB (NEAMS, ART, NRC, etc)
  - Improve searchability of models and enable large scale testing on the INL HPC system

## Reactor Demonstrations

Accelerate Licensing Evaluation (NRC)

Targeted Model Generation Accelerate Authorization Evaluation (DOE)

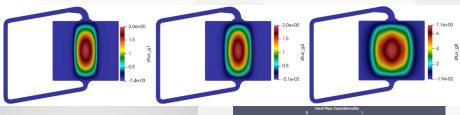
Library of Reference Models Accelerate
Design
Maturation
(industry)

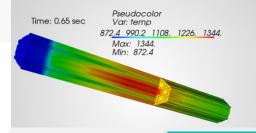
Testing for Agile Software QA

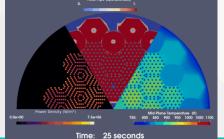
VTB Scope

Mission

**NRIC** 









# Addressing Cost and Markets

- Advanced Construction Technologies
- Digital Engineering and Knowledge Sharing/Lessons Learned
- Demonstration/Deployment Opportunities (Maritime)

Pood Man for the Dovelenm

January 2023

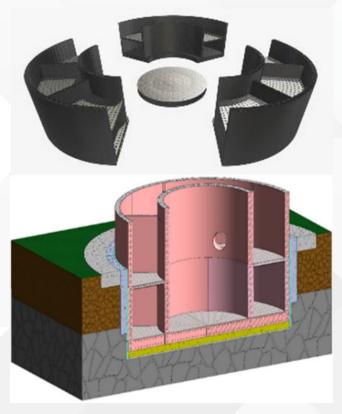
Road Map for the Development of Commercial Maritime Applications of Advanced Nuclear Technology













## **Advanced Construction Technologies**

#### Demonstrate technologies that:

- Reduce cost of new nuclear builds by 10%+
- Compress construction schedule by as much as 25%
- Reduce required site work & improve overall quality of structure
- Support long-term structure monitoring

#### Phase One (Expected completion July 2024)

- Prototype modular steel/concrete composite walling system
- Developed non-destructive examination and welding techniques
- Demonstrated strength of wall systems

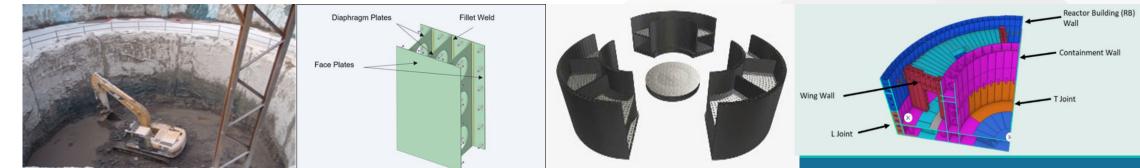
#### Optional Phase Two

- Demonstrate 60-degree pie shape containment walling system
- Inner and outer walls, base mat integration, multi-story
- Deploy digital twin plus sensor technology for monitoring



#### Team - General Electric Hitachi

EPRI, Black & Veatch, Purdue, UNCC, Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, Caunton Engineering w/Modular Walling Systems Ltd, Aecon and Tennessee Valley Authority





## Digital Engineering (DE)

- **What?** An integrated digital approach that uses authoritative sources of truth for data and models across disciplines to support project lifecycle activities from concept through disposal
- Why? With typical industry project cost overruns of 241% and 180% in schedule delay, digitization of the overall processes can have a significant impact on nuclear deployment and cost viability

#### Implementation Process & Progress to Date

- Transform the way organizations generate design data by deploying model-based tools: IBM DOORS Next, Innoslate MBSE, PTC Creo, Autodesk Revit, etc. [Complete, TRL 9]
- 2. Transform the way organizations manage, store, and connect data using digital threads to form a comprehensive digital ecosystem: PTC Windchill, INL Deep Lynx Warehouse, software adapters & APIs, etc. [In Process, TRL 6]
- Transform the way organizations leverage data using digital twin technology: extended reality (XR), Unity game engine, real-time data acquisition (DAQ), machine learning (ML), artificial intelligence (AI) [In Process, TRL 3]

#### Next Steps:

- Progress digital ecosystem development and release "playbook" and open-source code repository
- Develop first nuclear facility digital twin at DOME incorporating physicsbased modeling, predictive machine learning, real-time data feedback, etc.







# Evaluating Maritime Applications NRIC and American Bureau of Shipping (ABS)

#### **Maritime Nuclear Application Group**

- Collaboration with ABS and Morgan & Lewis Law Firm
- Research Hub and Resource Center
- 120 members representing 40+ companies
- Gap assessment of testing capabilities for maritime nuclear applications

#### **ABS iFOA Award**

- DOE Readiness Report (Task 3)
- Upcoming: Overcoming Barriers to Nuclear-Maritime Demonstrations (Task 4)

#### **Nuclear Energy University Program**







MNAG is a <u>research hub</u> and <u>resource center</u> that brings together experts from the maritime and nuclear energy sectors to facilitate the demonstration of advanced nuclear technologies for a range of marine applications.



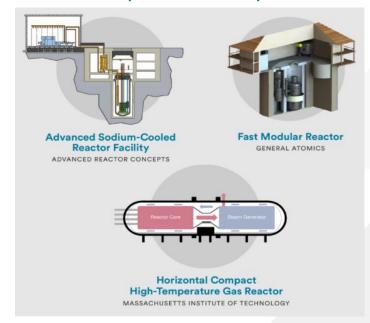
## **INL Participation in ARDP Projects**

- 9 projects supported
- Scope range
  - Modeling & Simulation
  - Irradiation & PIE
  - Fuel design & fabrication
- $\sim$ \$175M 7 years
  - \$1M \$75M per project
- NRIC/INL Coordinator
- NRIC Deployed Digital Engineering and project management tools

#### Demonstration



### Concept Development



## **Risk Reduction**





## Benefits of Testing and Demonstration

- Bridge the gap between development and commercialization
  - Providing funding to mature technology readiness and reduce risks to participants for first of a kind build
  - Facilitate partnership between technology developers, end users, national labs, universities, regulators, industrial participants
- Learn by doing reduces risks associated with first commercial build
  - Types of materials standardly available in the US vs Europe
  - Optimize design for assembly
  - Establish construction procedures welding, lifting, NDE, etc.
  - Sequencing of operations
- Builds confidence with regulators, construction entities, and trades
- Develop supply chain



## Summary: Key Accomplishments

- Testbeds
  - DOME
    - Awarded construction contract to Estech Aug 23
    - Initiated full construction Oct 23
    - Established CPP-651(INTEC) as fuel storage location
    - Established RSWF as irradiated reactor temporary storage location
    - Awarded preliminary design contract for Reactor Supplemental Shielding
    - Awarded three Front-End Engineering and Experiment Design contracts Sept/Oct 23
  - LOTUS Test Bed
    - CD-1 approved, and design contract awarded Jun 23
    - Preliminary design review Jan 24
    - Technical Independent Project Review (TIPR) Mar 24
- Experimental Infrastructure
  - MSTEC construction is moving along well Glove box delivered and installed
- VTB developed new models and problem sets
- ACTI
  - Pivoted to new design on steel/concrete composite modular walling system
  - Extended Phase I to test new design
- Adjusted NRIC's project portfolio to focus more on core activities and eliminated efforts in:
  - Resource Team program deferring to GAIN voucher program
  - Leading community engagement activities



## <sup>r</sup> Challenges

## Challenges over past year

- Significant cost increases across many projects
  - Supply chain for key equipment and labor market shortages
  - NRIC trending to maintain cost and schedule on key projects
- Advanced reactor testing requires a complex ecosystem
  - Support equipment (fueling/shielding/defueling)
  - NRIC has plan to secure these items
- Securing needed program managers and engineering workforce to support rising workload associated with multiple tests
  - NRIC brought on new technical program managers this past year and will bring on more

## Challenges going forward

- Human resources across INL
- Budget needs to be sustained
- NRIC/INL/DOE need to run as fast as our industry partners



## Look Ahead

## Test Infrastructure

- Complete three FEED Efforts
- Complete final design and submit PDSA (Preliminary Design Safety Analysis) for LOTUS
- Complete construction of MSTEC

## Other Program Areas

- Complete Phase 1 testing under ACTI program
- Ship motion test facility conceptual design (Maritime Program)
- Update NRIC gap assessment



