

Nuclear Energy Overview

**Christine King, Director
Gateway for Accelerated Innovation in Nuclear**

**Oregon House Interim Committee on Climate, Energy and
Environment**

December 10 , 2024



2024 Activities



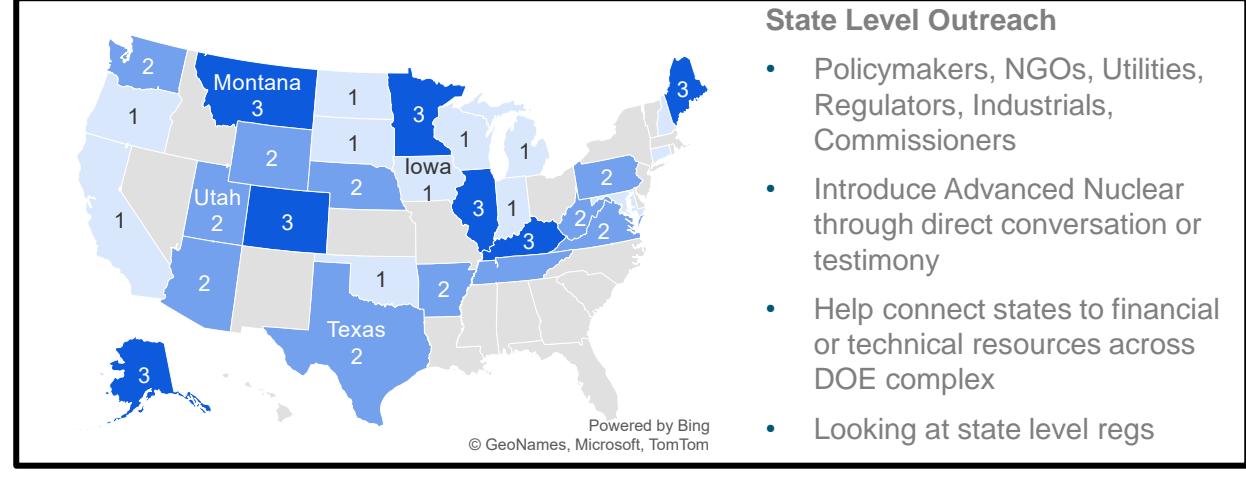
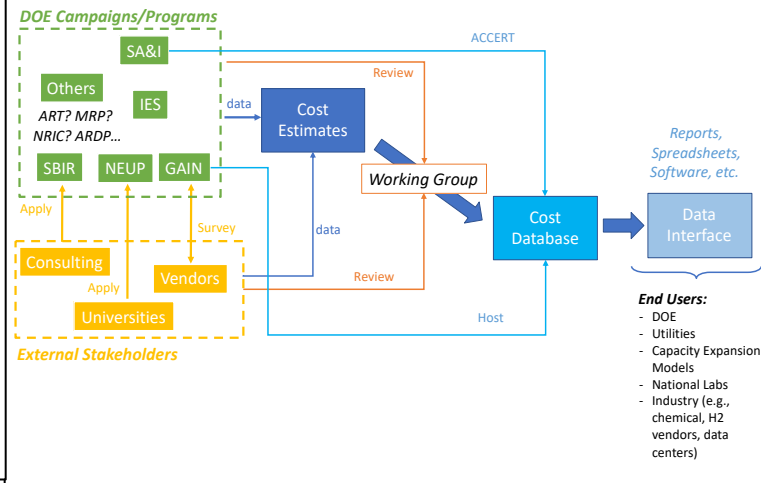
KENTUCKY OFFICE OF ENERGY POLICY AND GAIN PRESENT

Shaping our ADVANCED ENERGY FUTURE

WEBINAR SERIES: February 23rd, 10-11:30 AM ET; 8-9:30 AM MT



- ### Advanced Reactor Cost
- Project will update latest costs combining two approaches
- Use existing public nuclear cost data to develop advanced reactor cost ranges.
 - Work with developers and utilities under NDA to collect cost projections to develop an anonymous advanced reactor cost ranges.



Pathways to Commercial Liftoff: Advanced Nuclear



SEPTEMBER | 2024

Reaching U.S. net-zero goals, we need new nuclear capacity

“Power system decarbonization modeling, regardless of level of renewables deployment, suggests that the U.S. will need ~700-900 GW of additional clean, firm capacity to reach net-zero.”

Domestic nuclear capacity has the potential to scale from ~100 GW in 2023 to ~300 GW by 2050

- **Preservation of existing fleet 100 GW**
 - Large light water reactors (generally ~1000 MW) are essential for bulk electricity production.
- **200 GWs from new nuclear**
 - Small modular reactors (SMRs) are generally considered ~50 to ~350 MW.
 - Microreactors are generally <50 MW.

State Nuclear Energy Feasibility Studies

Completed Working Groups

- Nebraska
- South Dakota

Completed Studies

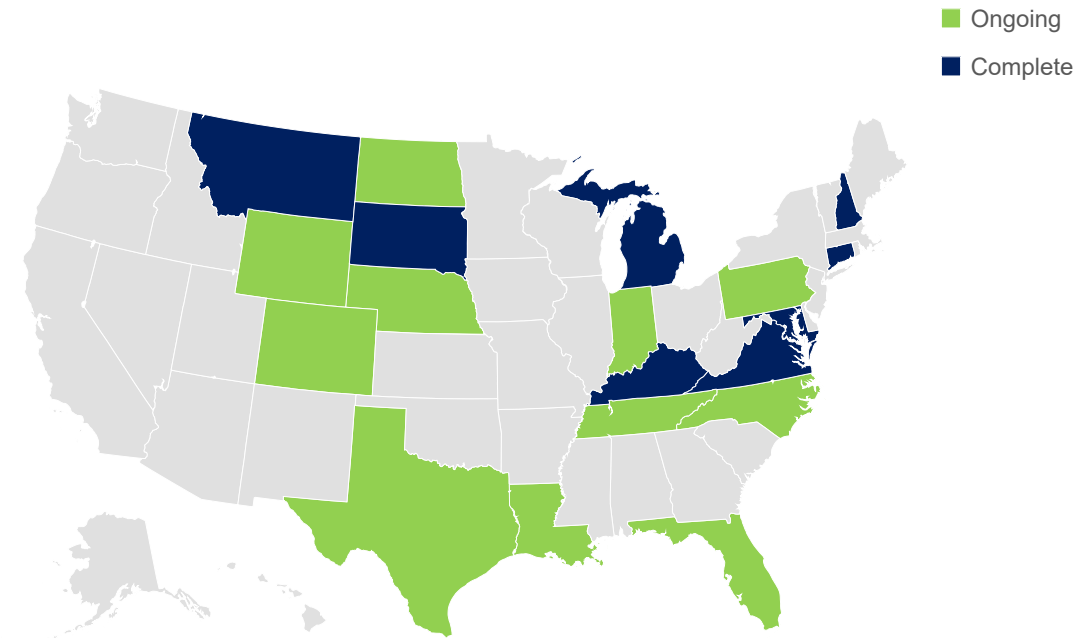
- Connecticut
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Michigan
- New Hampshire
- Pennsylvania
- Virginia
- Montana

Ongoing Working Groups

- North Dakota
- Tennessee
- Texas
- Virginia

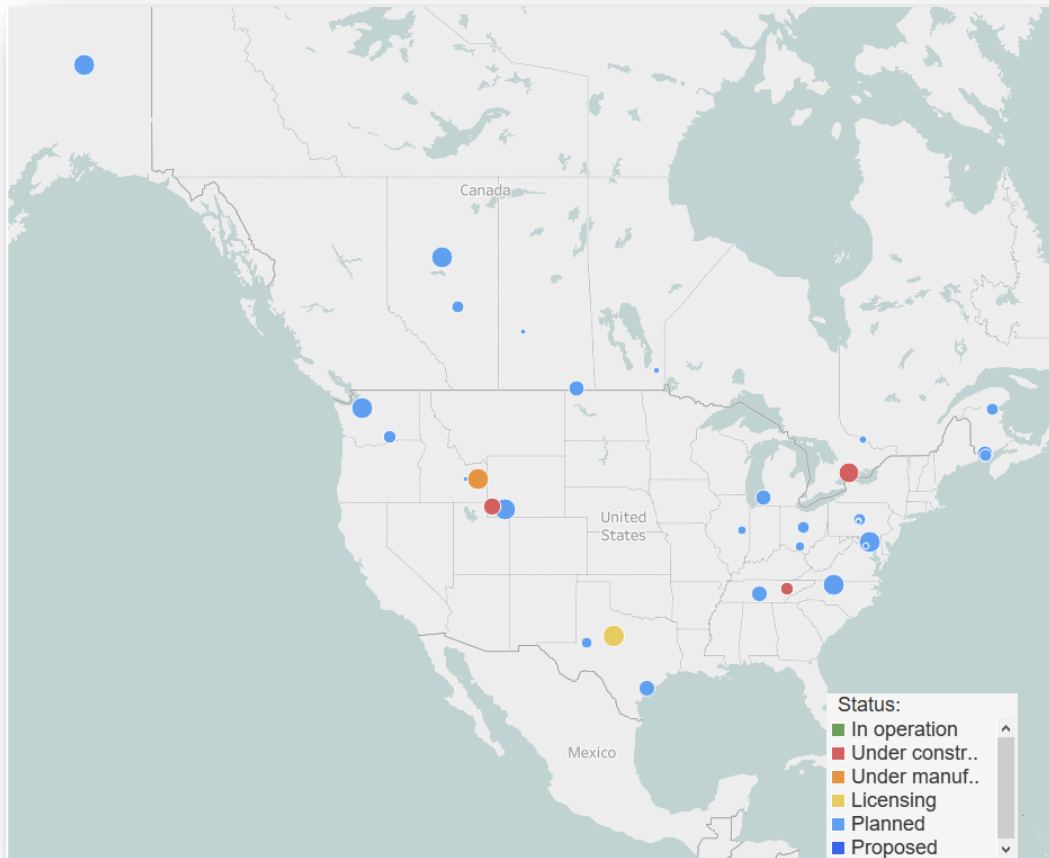
Ongoing Studies

- Colorado
- Florida
- Indiana
- Nebraska
- North Carolina
- Tennessee
- Texas



Advanced Nuclear in North America

- 34 active projects that includes a mix of reactor demonstrations, commercial demonstrations, and commercial reactors
- 12 deployment dates prior to 2030
- Variety of agreements, 7 are firm contracts



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MICROREACTORS

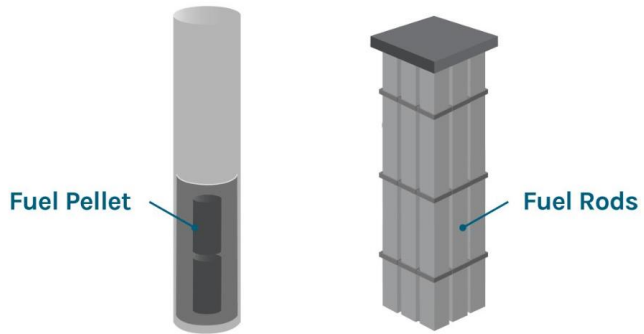
- 4 HIGH TEMPERATURE GAS REACTOR
- 3 SODIUM FAST REACTOR
- 2 MOLTEN SALT REACTOR
- 3 SOLID CORE HEAT PIPE
- 2 TBD

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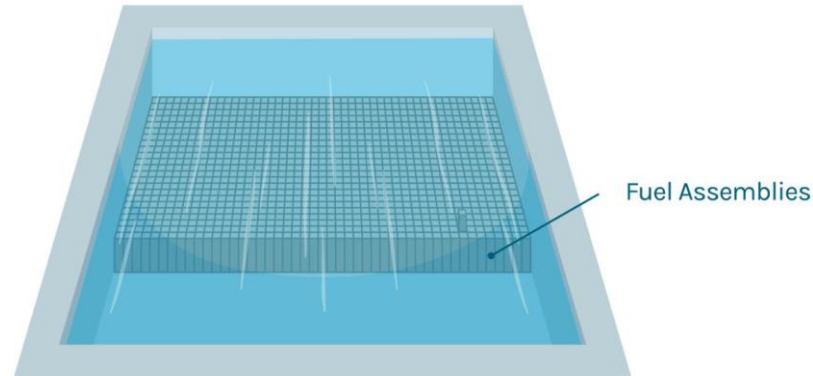
SMALL MODULAR REACTORS

- 4 HIGH TEMPERATURE GAS REACTOR
- 3 SODIUM FAST REACTOR
- 3 MOLTEN SALT FAST REACTOR
- 7 LIGHT WATER REACTOR
- 1 FLUORIDE SALT-COOLED HIGH-TEMPERATURE REACTOR

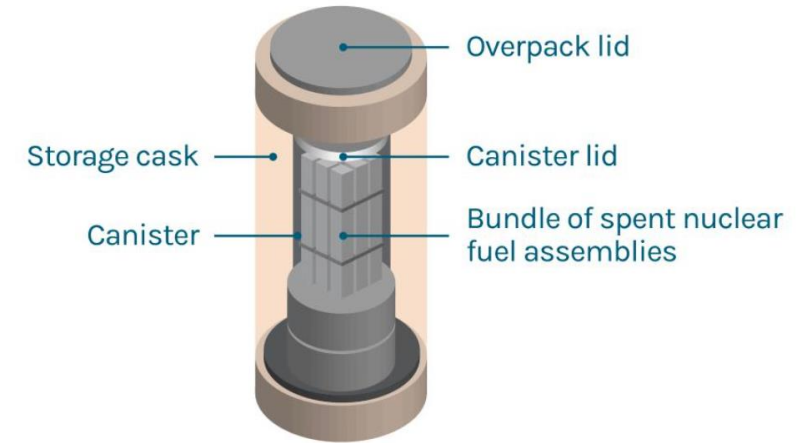
Fuel Rod Fuel Assembly



Storage Pool



Dry Cask

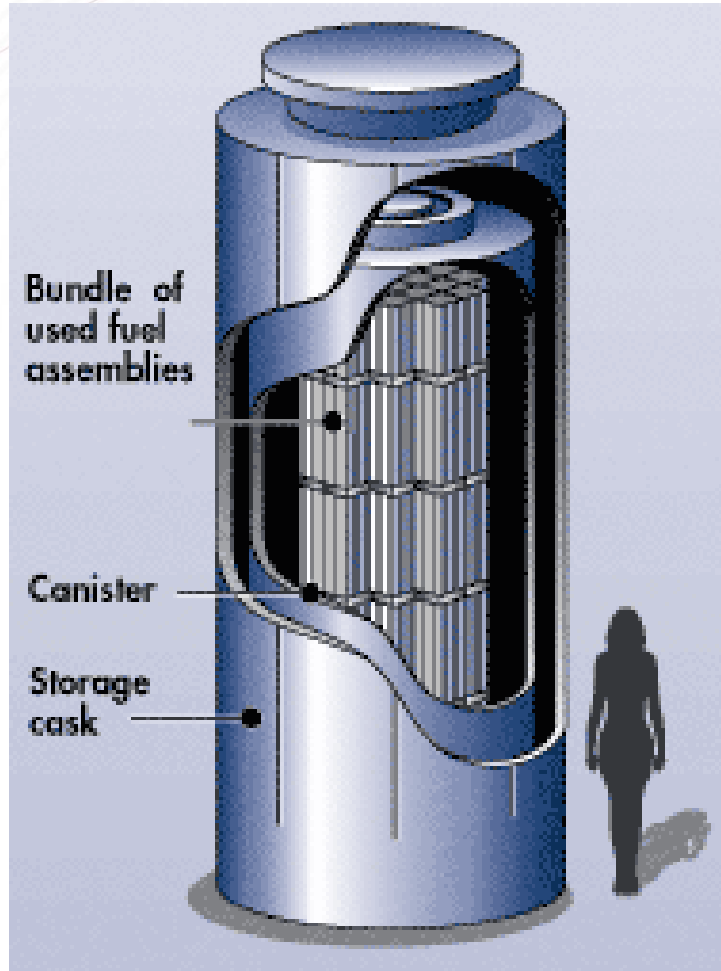


- Small ceramic uranium pellets are stacked inside metal tubes, called fuel rods.
- Fuel rods are bundled together into fuel assemblies that are placed inside the nuclear reactor.

- Assemblies are moved underwater from the reactor to a storage pool located inside or next to reactor building
- The water in the pool shields workers from radiation emitted from the spent nuclear fuel while the fuel cools

- Five years or more later, spent nuclear fuel assemblies are transferred from the pool to dry storage casks
- The casks are designed and certified to provide radiation shielding

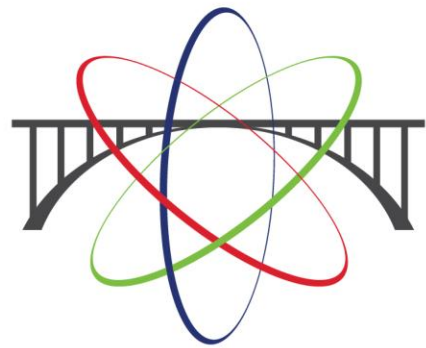
On-Site Storage of Used Fuel



Source: <https://www.nrc.gov/waste/spent-fuel-storage/diagram-typical-dry-cask-system.html>



The 57 used fuel casks hold all the fuel from 49 years of the DC Cook Plant in Michigan operations. Both units at DC Cook are still operating.



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