SMR & ADVANCED REACTOR 2025

12 - 13 May I Nashville

Bridge knowledge divides, secure contracts, capture market share

The global market for SMRs is expected to reach $72.4 billion by 2033, with the recent data center energy crisis driving huge growth potential for SMR players who can provide a scalable, flexible and economical decarbonized solution.

Yet to capture a share of this exponentially growing market and future-proof profits, industry players must overcome F-O-A-K, technological and regulatory hurdles and move projects from planning to execution, via stakeholder visibility and transparency. Only the establishment of stable investments and contracts will enable the market to kickstart deployment and maintain momentum.

Reuters Events: SMR & Advanced Reactor 2025 is the only senior-level meeting point for the SMR community, where 600+ public and private sector leaders from utilities, financiers, reactor developers, technology providers and regulators unite to create meaningful connections, share trusted insights, and obtain lessons-learned to inform your multi-billion-dollar strategy at pace. Join us to:

- Leverage insights in detailed case studies from first movers to efficiently build, own and operate reactors and overcome supply chain challenges.
- Successfully navigate regulatory challenges and streamlining licensing to boost investor confidence in ROI.
- Accelerate scalable deployment through innovative financing initiatives and cultivate trusting relationships with market entrants and current stakeholders.

The mission is clear, the finish line is close, and your competitors have already made headway. Are you going to be next to bring SMRs from concept to deployment?

Defining themes for 2025

Agenda at a glance

Day One | 12 May	
Keynotes | Strategy • *Data Centers, Hyperscalers and meeting nuclear power demand* • *Policy and innovation*	
Lunch & Workshops	
Yellow Stage | Finance • *Securing funding* • *Financing structures and bankability*	**Blue Stage | Technology** • *Reactor standardization and winning designs* • *Site selection and deployment*
Receptions & Exec Dinners	
Day Two | 13 May	
Keynotes | Regulation • *Streamlining and modernizing licensing*	
Lunch & Workshops	
Yellow Stage | FOAK Risks • *Mitigating and sharing liabilities* • *Business models to hedge risk*	**Blue Stage | Supply Chain, Fuel & Energy Security** • *Fuel, enrichment & mineral supply* • *Incentivising supply chain buildout*

Speaker Highlights

Speaker	Job Title	Organisation
Patrick Leonard	Energy Principal	**Amazon**
Clay Sell	CEO	**X-Energy**
Betsy Higgins	CFO	**Oglethorpe Power**
Rich Wallen	COO	**Oglethorpe Power**
Sean Sexstone	Executive Vice President, Advanced Nuclear	**GE-Hitachi**
Joseph K. Miller	President	**BWXT Advanced Technologies**
Mike King	Special Assistant for ADVANCE Act	**U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission**
Gwen Parry-Jones	CEO	**Great British Nuclear**
Elaina Ball	Chief Strategy Officer	**CPS Energy**
Chris Nolan	Vice President of New Nuclear Generation Strategy and Regulatory Engagement	**Duke Energy**
Jeffrey Lyash	CEO	**Tennessee Valley Authority**
Scott Hunnewell	VP of New Nuclear Program	**Tennessee Valley Authority**
Jean-Luc Palayer	CEO	**Orano**
Amir Vexler	CEO	**Centrus**
Paul Lorskulsint	Chief Nuclear Officer	**Urenco USA**
Julie Kozeracki	Director of Strategy	**U.S. Department of Energy**
Stuart McWhorter	Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development	**State of Tennessee**
Corey Hinderstein	VP	**Carnegie's Nuclear Policy Program**
Cosmin Ghita	CEO	**Nuclearelectrica**
Kalev Kallemets	CEO	**Fermi Energia**
James Walker	CEO	**NANO Nuclear**
Thomas Jam	CEO	**Copenhagen Atomics**
Glenn Davis	Director	**Virginia Department of Energy**
Neil Wilmshurst	Chief Nuclear Strategy Officer	**EPRI**
Guy Lonechild	CEO	**First Nations Power Authority**
Matt Kittell	Director	**Societe Generale**
Richard Voorberg	President of North America	**Siemens Energy**
Brian Fehrenbach	Interim President	**OCNI**
Rob Edwards	Managing Director	**Hamilton Clark**
Vilas Kuchinad	Managing Director & Head of Innovation, Global Sustainable Finance Group	**Bank of America**

Setting the SMR & Advanced Reactor Agenda in 2025

Agenda timings and placements are subject to change.

Day One | 12 May

AM I Keynotes & Plenary – Strategic

Keynotes & Plenary | 8:40 – 12:40PM		
Session	**Format**	**Time**
Welcome to Day One of SMR & Advanced Reactor 2025	Opening Address	
The Growth of U.S. Advanced Reactors - Wall Street's Cinderella Story *James Walker, CEO, NANO Nuclear*	Keynote Presentation	09:00 – 09:20
How Big Ideas and Big Tech are building the future of SMRs	Keynote Fireside Chat	09:20 – 09:50

Speakers: Patrick Leonard, Energy Principal, Amazon & Clay Sell, CEO, X-Energy *Moderator: Nidhi Thakar, Senior Vice President, Policy. Clean Energy Buyers Association*		
Providing Certainty & Visibility to Attract Investors • Explore ways to facilitate SMR planning and production to ensure nuclear energy is selected ahead of natural gas and other commodities to service the growing demand for power. • Learn to clearly show interested but hesitant customers how you can provide more certainty in costs and schedules to enhance visibility and transparency and attract further investors. • Shift the focus from generating large amounts of energy from fossil fuels to using nuclear power to seize market share.	Keynote Presentation	09:50 – 10:10
Nuclear Power and Big Tech: Meeting the Surging Data Center Demand • Learn how the leading hyper-scalers selected designs to inform your selection strategy to meet power demand projected to grow 160% by 2030. • Discover lessons learned from building data centers next to plants – the challenges experienced and how they were overcome – to strategically assess your siting strategy. • Gain exclusive insights into the specific economics of producing first-of-a-kind units to accurately forecast ROI for your projects. *Speakers: Greg Cullen (Vice President Energy Services & Development, Energy Northwest), Scott Hunnewell (VP New Nuclear Program, Tennessee Valley Authority), Richard Voorberg (CEO, Siemens Energy), Aaron Johnson (Senior Vice President, Nuclear, AECON)* *Moderator: Corey Hinderstein, VP, Carnegie's Nuclear Policy Program*	Keynote Panel	10:10 – 11:00
Networking Break I 11:00 – 11:30AM		
Welcome from TVA's CEO *Speaker: Jeffrey Lyash, CEO, Tennessee Valley Authority*	Presentation	11:30 – 11:50
Unlocking Opportunities: Navigating Government Tax Credits and Funding • Gain key insights into how revisions around the 48E Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit – which provides cost overrun insurance – will impact on the cost and timelines of your projects. • Navigate the effects of ARDP amendments to establish new financial arrangements between reactor developers and owner operators to finance project development. • Assess how to leverage incoming policies and programs as a result of the new administration to share costs and mitigate financial risks associated with your project.	Case Study Presentation	11:50 – 12:10
Minimizing Cost Overrun Risks in SMR & AR Deployment • Identify strategies to mitigate construction risks, control costs, and ensure timely, on-budget project completion for owner operators. • Strategize to more accurately estimate schedule and costing scopes despite the absence of preliminary data from a completed SMR project to strengthen investor and lender confidence. • Investigate how to spread the risk of cost overrun facilities with stakeholders involved in the design, licensing, and funding of the SMR & AR units. *Speakers: Chris Nolan (VP New Nuclear Generation Strategy & Regulatory Engagement, Duke Energy), Kalev Kallemets (CEO, Fermi Energia), Julie Kozeracki (Director of Strategy, U.S. Department of Energy Loans Program Office)* *Moderator: to be announced, LEK Consulting*	Panel	12:10 – 13:00
Lunch I 13:00 – 14.30 *Networking break, interactive workshops, and exhibition tours*		

Day One | 12 May
PM I Finance Track

Stream A – Finance | 14:30 – 18:00		
Session	**Format**	**Time**

Lessons Learned from Vogtle – Case Study • Gain tangible learnings from the Vogtle 3 and 4 projects to ensure your projects are completed on time and within budget. • As the first start-to-finish reactor built in the US in 35 years, discover the experience gained in nuclear construction to offset the possibility of project delays. • Take key learnings back to the office on training and allocating the workforce into different aspects of Vogtle projects to inform your strategy for SMR projects. *Speaker: Betsy Higgins (CFO, Oglethorpe)*	Presentation	14:30 – 14:50
Evaluating Financing Structures for SMR Projects • Analyze the effectiveness of low-cost, long-term financing models for projects with extended construction periods to minimize interest expenses and reduce overall costs of unit delivery. • Assess the most realistic debt and equity structures for SMR projects to plan your project milestones with certainty and transparency. • Build investor understanding of nuclear project returns and risk mitigation strategies to secure investors commitment to deliver low megawatts per dollar that compete with local electricity prices. *Speakers: Dr. Richard Springman (President of Global Clean Energy Opportunities, Holtec)*	Fireside Chat	14:50 – 15:10
How do Banks Perceive the Bankability of SMRs? • Learn in advance about next steps: will banks ramp up interest rates up or down given lengthy construction periods and regulatory processes? Identify the partners willing to inject finance to bring your plans from concept to reality. • Discover what financing terms will look like, and the extent of financial liabilities banks are willing to accept in order to calculate the economics of your project. • Hear leading financial institution's risk tolerance level to lend when reviewing SMRs to gain access to capital and evaluate the timing of launching your project. *Speakers: Vilas Kuchinad (MD & Head of Innovation, Global Sustainable Finance Group, Bank of America), Ryan Nielson (VP Investment Banking, Citi), Maritza Liaw (Partner, NGP Energy), Maheep Madloi (Director, Mizuho Bank)* *Moderator: Rob Edwards (Managing Director, Hamilton Clark)*	Panel	15:10 – 16:00
Afternoon Coffee and Networking I 16:00 – 16:30		
Hackathon - Finance - Addressing Capital Intensity • Assess financing options and partnership models to deploy the first-of-a-kind unit. How can we secure developmental capital into the sector as the costs before financial close are significant and constraining? *Speakers: Larry Stone, Managing Director, FTI Capital Advisors*	Hackathon	16:30 – 18:00
End of Day | Networking Drinks | 18:00 – 19:30		

Day One | 12 May

PM I Technology Track

Stream B – Technology | 2:20PM – 5:40PM		
Session	**Format**	**Time**
Enhancing Innovation: Boosting Technological Flexibility and Capability • Leverage insights on load management and ramp-up capabilities to assess operational effectiveness for industrial applications and energy grids. • With no track record on reactor technologies, discover how to attract investment and accelerate the transition from prototype to commercial deployment. • Learn how to establish demonstration and risk reduction programs at scale component test facilities to determine the readiness of the technology for operation. *Speakers to be announced* *Moderator: Michael Dubreuil, Managing Partner, PTAG Inc*	Fireside Chat	14:30 – 14:50

Tripling Nuclear Power by 2050: The "All-Hands-on-Deck" Approach *Speakers: Christo Liebenberg, CEO, LIS Technologies*	Presentation	14:50 – 15:10
Accelerating Reactor Design Standardization and Deployment Readiness • Deliver market standardization to move past incomplete designs and achieve commercial viability and scalability • Set a realistic feasibility analysis and deployment schedule to align project timelines with market demands and enhance supply chain confidence, encouraging the supply chain to expand capabilities for further orders. • Develop shared risk models to balance risk between utilities and vendors, to support faster deployment and design development. *Speakers: Cosmin Ghita (CEO, Nuclearelectrica), Patrick Aquino (Director, Energy Utilization Management Bureau, Philippines Department of Energy), Elizabeth Muller (Co-founder CEO, Deep Fission), TVA speaker to be announced.* *Moderator: Serge Gorlin (Head of Membership and Business Development, WNA)*	Panel	15:10 – 16:00
Afternoon Coffee and Networking | 16:00 – 16:30		
Technology - Selecting Winning Designs • Explore how to support the industry slim down to 4 leading designs. Gain visibility on timelines, hurdles and progress to inform your contractual strategy. *Speaker: Thomas Jam, CEO, Copenhagen Atomics*	Hackathon	16:30 – 18:00
End of Day | Networking Drinks | 18:00 – 19:30		

Day Two | 13 May

Agenda timings and placements are subject to change.

AM I Keynotes

Keynotes| 08:50 – 10:30		
Networking & Breakfast Workshops - 7:50 – 8:50AM		
Regulation Theme	**Format**	**Time**
Welcome from the Reuters Events Team	Opening Address	08:50 – 09:00
Securing Success: Leveraging Winning Business Models to Mitigate Risks • Explore suitable business models for your organization to either build, own, and operate reactors, or to purchase electricity from developers through a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) to deliver steady, long-term profit. • Hear how to integrate units at sites with existing assets to supply clean energy in the right locations. • Gain a clear proposal of how risks of cost overrun will be mitigated through the chosen reactor business model to avoid incurring crippling debt. *Speaker: Sean Sexstone (Executive Vice President, Advanced Nuclear, GE-Hitachi)*	Keynote Presentation	09:00 – 09:20
Progressing Deployment: Comprehensive Readiness Assessments for Regulatory Approval • Discover learnings from undertaking extensive environmental, geological, and geotechnical work to advance progress toward submitting a Construction Permit Application to the U.S. NRC for review and approval. • Deep dive into ways to facilitate detailed analysis and testing of site environment soil and water to ensure reactors are designed and constructed based on unique site characteristics. • Gain first-hand feedback on case study draft preliminary safety analysis reports to streamline your pre-application readiness assessment for regulatory approval.	Keynote Presentation	09:20 – 09:40
Pioneering Progress & Legislation: Streamlining Regulatory Paths for Advanced Reactor Deployment		

• Hear how the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will implement the different provisions within the Advanced Act and Part 53 to have a predictable, regulatory overview and move your pipeline of projects at the right pace. • Learn what the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission are doing to enhance the readiness of their regulations to identify synergies that accelerate construction and operation processes. • Assess how to maintain the gold standard of safety and protection on an international scale to unlock international markets. *Speakers: Mike King (Special Assistant for ADVANCE Act, U.S. NRC), Glenn Davis (Director, Virginia Department of Energy), Anna Bradford (Director, Division of Nuclear Installation Safety, IAEA)* *Moderator: Chip Perkins, Executive Director Business Planning, Certrec*	Panel	09:40 – 10:30
Networking Break I 10:30 – 11AM		
Stream A – FOAK Risks 11:00 – 12:30AM		
Great British Nuclear – A Case Study of Successive Development and Overcoming First of a Kind Risk • Explore the two technologies chosen by Great British Nuclear, their unique development model – never used before in the UK – plus, the potential announcement of an SMR program. • Learn about advancing projects successfully with the UK government's successive development approach and plans for proceeding reactor fleets, with final investment decisions by 2029, and first power by 2035. • Review the financial structure involving a Final Investment Decision (FID) on first units, followed by private funding for subsequent units, with GBN taking on initial risks that then lessen with future unit construction. *Speaker*: *Gwen Parry-Jones, CEO, Great British Nuclear* *Moderator: Tom Greatrex, CEO, NIA*	Fireside Chat	11:00 – 11:20
Strategic Elements: Uranium Enrichment to Secure Energy • Learn how to expand traditional uranium mining, enrichment and fabrication capacities to respond effectively to rising prices and sanctions. • Find out how to address the HALEU supply gap by gaining the latest learnings on developing new enrichment and fuel fabrication capabilities. • Develop a sustainable strategy to navigate concerns around the long-term availability of uranium resources and processing, so you have sufficient deposits to meet future demand. *Speaker: Amir Vexler, CEO, Centrus*	Presentation	11:20 – 11:40
The Chicken-and-Egg Dilemma: Building SMRs and HALEU Supply Simultaneously • Formulate a strategy to establish a market for enriched fuels that secures 30-year commitments for reactors. • Assess how to expand HALEU production capacity and broaden the customer base for reactors fuelled by HALEU, to facilitate extended fuel cycles for SMR designs. • Discover how to commercially finance HALEU production capacity to improve reactor performance and reduce refuelling. *Speakers: Paul Lorskulsint (Chief Nuclear Officer, Urenco USA), Jean-Luc Palayer (CEO, Orano), Stuart McWhorter (Commissioner of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development, State of Tennesssee)* *Moderator: Marsha McDaniel (Chair of the Idaho Chapter, Global Women in Nuclear)*	Panel	11:40 – 12:30
Lunch | 12:30 – 14:00		
PLENARY AFTERNOON SESSIONS		
Applying Lessons from Large Conventional Reactors to SMRs • Explore the advantages of small reactors over large reactors to inform your investment portfolio. • Assess the economics of requiring three 300-megawatt reactors to balance the energy provided by a 1000-megawatt reactor to select the most cost-effective reactors for your strategy.		

• Take home lessons learned from deploying conventional reactors to apply when planning SMR delivery and deployment to reduce costs and supply power to grids facing sudden increases in demand. *Speakers: Mohamed Al Braiki, Vice President of Strategy, Emirates Nuclear Energy Company*	Presentation	14:00 – 14:20
Repurposing Coal Plants with SMRs – A Realistic Next Step? • Explore the feasibility of building SMRs on existing coal plants to take advantage of available electrical transmissions lines. • Identify how to integrate reactor designs into coal-fired plant turbines with different design requirements, to decarbonize electricity production. Break down the steps to retrofit coal plants to achieve significant cost savings and enhance operational efficiency.	Presentation	14:20 – 14:40
Strategic Locations: Mastering SMR Site Selection • Utilize siting strategies implemented for research reactors to establish small reactors for the first time, delivering localized, reliable and clean energy for consumers. • Discover how to apply the standard regulatory approach for new reactors to lower the risk profile and decrease siting expenses. • Strategically select sites and industrial partners to begin your detailed engineering design and the licensing process for your reactor locations. *Speaker: Neil Wilmshurst (Chief Nuclear Strategy Officer, EPRI)*	Presentation	14:40 – 15:00
2025 and Beyond: Policy, Governance & Accelerating SMR Commercialization Globally • Evaluate the effectiveness of government policies, initiatives and programs bringing SMRs to market to exchange and implement effective rollout plans for nuclear units. • Understand what private and public institutions need to see from the SMR value chain to secure financial and regulatory support. • Delve into the new administration's expected impact on new nuclear globally for planning future power generation, and how SMR commercialization can be accelerated alongside this. *Speakers: Elaina Ball (Chief Strategy Officer, CPS Energy), Gary Greenblatt (Vice Chairman, Marathon Capital), Brandon Gibson (Chief Operating Officer, State of Tennessee), Matt Kittel (Director, Societe Generale)* *Moderator: John Cornwell (Director of Policy, Good Energy Collective)*	Panel	15:00 – 15:50

Day Two | 13 May

PM I Supply Chain & Fuel Track

Stream B – Supply Chain, Fuel & Energy Security | 11:00 – 12.30AM		
Sessions	**Format**	**Time**
Expanding Horizons: Scaling Up the Nuclear Supply Chain & Incentivizing Capacity Buildout • Explore ways to expand domestic manufacturing for key components like fuel storage and reactor vessels to deliver future electricity and construction demands. • Establish partnerships to develop durable materials to withstand neutron and radiation bombardment to reduce maintenance expenses, extend reactor uptime, and decrease electricity costs. • Develop a strategy with the supply chain to incentivize buildout of capacity needed to transition to nth of a kind units.	Presentation	11:00 – 11:20
Preventing Construction Bottlenecks: Securing Material and Fuel Supplies • Collaborate to secure early orders for forging and machining reactor vessels – which can take over six years – to prevent bottlenecks in construction schedules. • Integrate modelling and data validation to create accurate simulations that speed up material development and improve reactor reliability. • Assess how the industry can provide clear demand signals to encourage suppliers to expand capacity to ensure sufficient supply for rapid nuclear buildout.	Fireside Chat	11:20 – 11:40
The role of advanced nuclear technologies in energy and international security *Speakers:*	Panel	

• *Jennifer Gordon, Director, Nuclear Energy Policy Initiative, Global Energy Policy Center* • *Joseph K. Miller, President, BWXT Advanced Technologies* • *Justin Martin, Program Manager Energy Portfolio, Defense Innovation Unit, Department of Defence* • *Rebecca Isacowitz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Energy Resilience & Optimization), Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Energy, Installations and Environment*		11:40 – 12:30
Lunch | 12:30 – 14:00		

Day One and Two | Workshops

Participate in meaningful interactive sessions with the most relevant and engaged audience.

Interactive Session	Format	Timings
Igniting Innovation: Lasers, Wafers, Nuclear, and AI - The Pioneering Journey of LIS Technologies • Delve into the semiconductor industry: Explore how infrared lasers are used to generate EUV (extreme ultraviolet) to produce advanced semiconductor chips at a commercial level. Over the last 4 years, this has enabled industries including AI and data centres, requiring enormous amounts of energy, spiking renewed interest in SMRs by big tech companies. • Enhancing Innovation with LIS Technologies: Explore synergies between the lasers used for EUV, and lasers used for uranium enrichment, and how this can assist in providing an efficient and more cost-effective method for producing the necessary fuel for SMRs. • Overcoming Scaling Challenges: Compare 1st, 2nd and 3rd generation enrichment technologies. 3rd gen Laser Enrichment has been around for 50+ years, attempted by 26 countries, but scaling has been a showstopper. Hear how LIS Technologies plans to overcome the scaling barriers and their roadmap to commercial production. *Speaker: Christo Liebenberg, CEO, LIS Technologies*	Workshop	Day 1, 1:05pm-2:05pm
Strengthening International Competitiveness • Explore principles underpinning responsible nuclear deployment and how stakeholders must be involved to systematically address them • Assess how new technologies and alternative business models could redistribute responsibilities and risks amid a fluid and highly competitive market for new nuclear energy • Chart a path to strengthen industry competitiveness in new market segments by identifying the mid-term actions that nevertheless need near-term work, including legal requirements for international deployments *Speaker: Corey Hinderstein, VP, Carnegie's Nuclear Policy Program*	Workshop	Day 1, 4:30-5:30pm
Women in SMR • Grow your network with innovative initiatives to engage female talent, ensure gender equity, and encourage interest in the nuclear space. • Deep dive into case studies of workforce inclusion groups including the recent "Next Up" programme to assist in closing the middle-management gap through youth engagement in nuclear. • Explore how to address both the nuclear age and gender imbalance through attracting new talent to the workforce in the mid and long term. *Speakers: to be announced*	Workshop	Day 2, 12:30-1:30pm
Building a Skilled Workforce for Nuclear Expansion • Address the current insufficient workforce available to build 10GW of nuclear required annually starting in the 2030s, to meet carbon reduction goals on schedule. • Form joint ventures with international players to leverage their reactor construction expertise to execute projects on time to enable quicker energy production and ROI. • Attract talent by offering clear career pathways, long-term job security and promoting generational knowledge-sharing to mitigate hesitancy in skill investment in an uncertain market. *Speakers: Global WIN*	Workshop	Day 2, 07:50-08:50

Pathways to Indigenous Relations • Discover innovative programs that share knowledge on the necessity of nuclear energy, how it works and waste management solutions to secure the support of indigenous nations. • Understand the constitutionally protected rights indigenous nations hold to shape your site selection strategy. • Find out about best practices on building relationships with indigenous nations to build units beneficial to the local community and SMR stakeholders. *Speakers: Guy Lonechild, CEO, First Nations Power Authority*	Workshop	Day 2, 10:30-11:30am