Nuclear Science St Technology

Advanced Reactor Demonstration Project Opportunities in Idaho



Dr. Corey McDaniel *Chief Commercial Officer Nuclear Science & Technology*

June 4, 2020



International Intellectual Leadership

The Idaho National Laboratory – 70 Years of Groundbreaking Nuclear Energy R&D

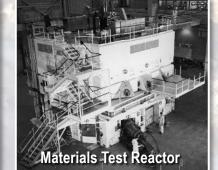
			Building a Laboratory	
<section-header></section-header>	Energy Mission – Reactor Science, Safety and Sustainability Solutions	Environmental fisionent Mission	Visit of the second	Advancing Nuclear Energy Securing & Modernizing Critical Infrastructure
			National and Homeland Security	Enabling Clean Energy Systems
	Argonne NATIONAL LABORATORY		Energy and Environment	
1949	1974	1997	2005	2020

The National Reactor Testing Station drove nuclear innovation in the U.S. and around the world

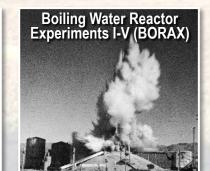
- First nuclear power plant
- First U.S. city to be powered by nuclear energy
- First submarine reactor tested; training of nearly 40,000 reactor operators until mid-90s
- First mobile nuclear power plant for the army
- Demonstration of self-sustaining fuel cycle
- Basis for LWR reactor safety
- Aircraft and aerospace reactor testing
- Materials testing reactors











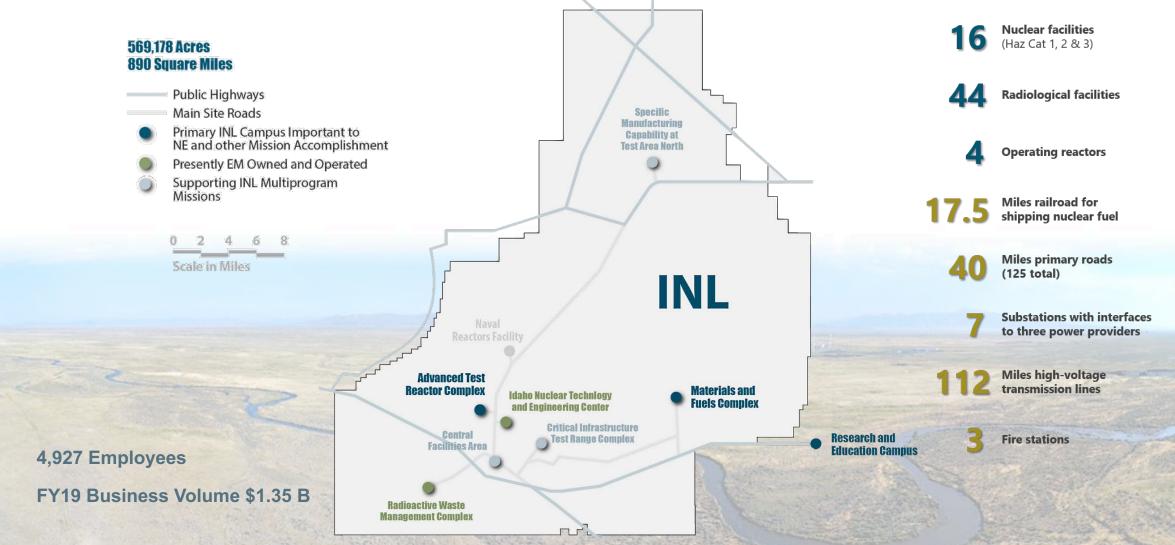




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The Idaho National Laboratory Site – A Unique Capability for the Nation





Addressing the world's most challenging problems

 Nuclear S&T

- Nuclear fuels and materials
- Nuclear systems design and analysis
- Fuel cycle science and technology
- Nuclear safety and regulatory research
- Advanced Scientific Computing



Advanced Test Reactor

- Steady state neutron irradiation of materials and fuels
 - Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program
 - Industry
 - National laboratories and universities



Materials & Fuels Complex

- Transient testing
- Analytical laboratories
- Post-irradiation
 examination
- Advanced
 characterization
- Fuel fabrication
- Space nuclear power and isotope technologies



- Environmental sustainability
- Clean energy
- Advanced manufacturing
- Biomass



National & Homeland Security S&T

- Critical infrastructure
 protection and resiliency
- Nuclear nonproliferation
- Physical defense systems

Nuclear Science St Technology

Nuclear Capabilities of the Idaho National Laboratory

Idaho National Laboratory Dr. John Wagner Associate Laboratory Director Nuclear Science & Technology john.wagner@inl.gov

June 8, 2020



Post-irradiation examination

Advanced characterization

Materials & Fuels Complex

Transient testing

Space nuclear power and

Experiments and engineering that drive the world's nuclear energy future. Analytical laboratories

Fuel Fabrication

Nuclear RD&D Team at INL

1559

staff working to revive, revitalize, and expand nuclear energy, enabled by unique research facilities, infrastructure & capabilities

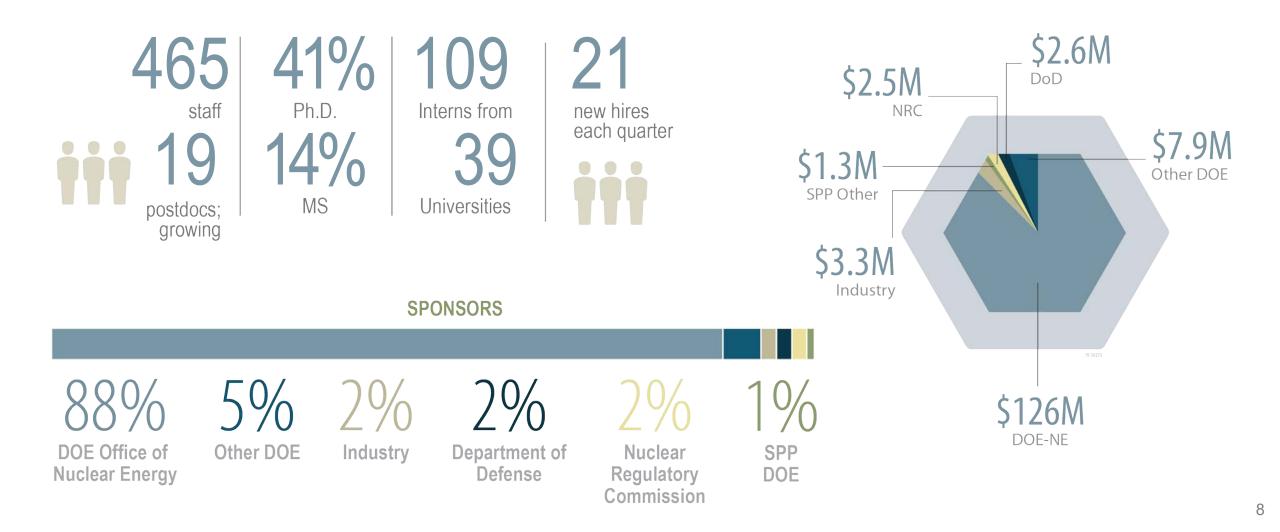


Unique Research Facilities and Infrastructure/Foundational Enablers



Nuclear S&T Directorate

NS&T FY 2019 Budget Authority





Nuclear S&T Directorate



Leadership Positions in Major DOE-NE Initiatives/Programs



NUCLEAR BURGEV A SAMAGED MODELE



Sustaining the existing LWR fleet: Vision for a Thriving Existing Fleet

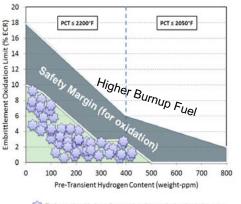
Energy systems and market analyses

- Define attributes of zero-emission baseload energy for market recognition
- Establish vital relationships to other market and grid attributes – resilience, reliability, etc.



Risk-informed tools and analyses to recover plant margins and reduce cost

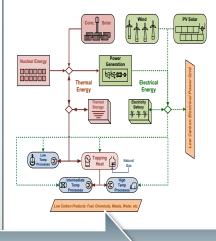
- Employ advanced PRA tools and best estimate codes to reduce unnecessary conservatisms that drive costs
- Key to NEI and industry initiatives



Estimated oxid tion observed during a single simulation run

Integrated energy system testing

- Revenue and energy supply that addresses grid futures for US fleet
- CRADAs and industry engagement initiated to demonstrate technology



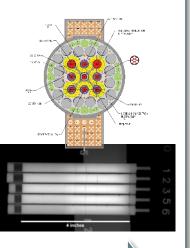
LWR modernization and life extension

- Work with plant operators to implement digital I&C upgrades to modernize plant control rooms
- Provide scientific basis of long-term material performance of SSCs to support license extension
- Develop sensors and more efficient methods and systems for plant health monitoring



Advanced Accident-Tolerant Fuel concepts

 Establish technical basis for licensing and deployment of accident-tolerant fuel concepts



2019

2020



Creating the Next-Generation National Reactor Testing Station: Vision for Advanced Reactor Demonstrations and Deployment

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2024	2025		2025	2030



Enabling the nuclear energy future: Vision for Effective, Integrated Fuel Cycle Solutions

Availability of Special Nuclear Materials

- Supply HALEU and other UNF to support advanced reactor start-ups
- Support development of HALEU transportation infrastructure



Management of Radiological Materials

 Develop computational tools to inform used nuclear fuel and waste management policy

Reduce Risk of Nuclear Proliferation

 Demonstrate direct immobilization of used nuclear fuel that increases proliferation resistance



Management of Legacy Fuels

 Develop technical and engineering modeling solutions to ensure safe and compliant storage of UNF



Infrastructure Updates

 Deploy test bed facilities that couple front and back-end fuel cycle processes with enhanced safeguards and security systems





National Reactor Innovation Center Will Provide Capabilities to Accelerate Technology Readiness From Proof-of-concept Through Proof-ofoperation

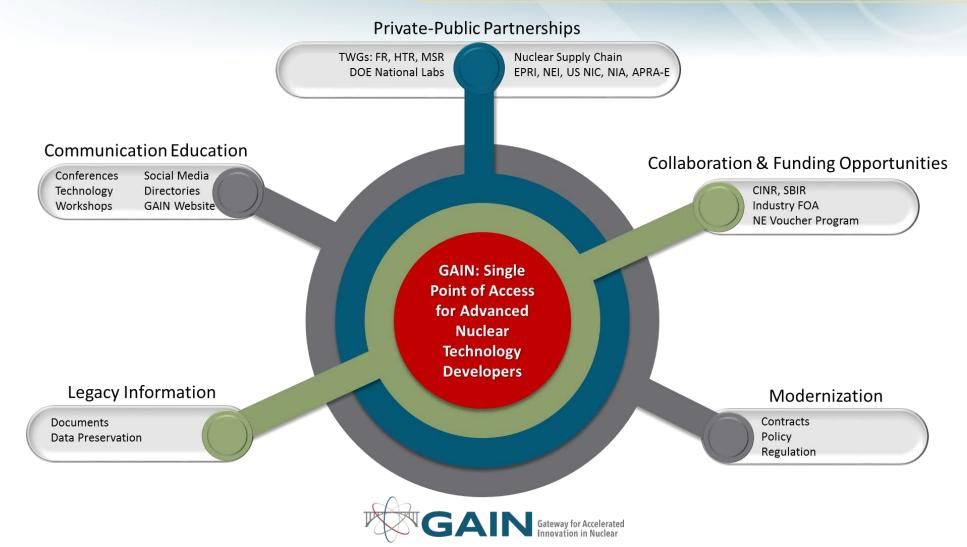


Nuclear Energy Innovation Capabilities Act

Signed into law September 2018, NEICA calls for the creation of a **National Reactor Innovation Center** to support demonstration of cost-shared private reactors.

National Reactor Innovation Center NRIC is a place where government and private companies can test and demonstrate new reactor designs, as well as materials, fuels, and other nuclear energy technologies.







Other NST Topics for Discussion

- TRISO R&D (w/ ORNL)
- Microreactors (Jess Gehin)
- HALEU (Monica Regalbuto)
- Versatile Test Reactor (Kemal P.)
- Integrated Energy Systems (Shannon Bragg-Sitton)
- Others...

DOE Microreactor Program

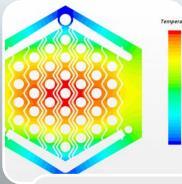
Technology Development for Microreactor Development, Demonstration and Deployment Jess. C. Gehin, National Technical Director (jess.gehin@inl.gov, 208-526-3486)

<u>Program Vision</u> Through cross-cutting research and development and technology demonstration support, by 2025 the Microreactor Program will:

- Achieve technological breakthroughs for key features of microreactors
- Empower initial demonstration of the next advanced reactor in the US
- Enable successful demonstrations of multiple domestic commercial microreactors.

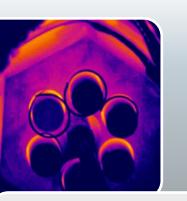
Program Objectives

- Engage with industry and private-sector developers to provide technologies
- Enable demonstration of microreactors
- Mature key technologies specifically needed by microreactor developers
- Assess microreactor specific regulatory and licensing issues



System Integration & Analyses

- •Economics & Market Analysis
- Integrated Systems Analysis
- •Applications of NEAMS computational Tools
- •Technoeconomic Analyses
- •Regulatory Development



Technology Maturation

- Advanced Heat Pipes
- Advanced Moderators
- Heat Exchangers
- Instrumentation & Sensors
- •Advanced Materials and Material Code cases



Demonstration Support Capabilities

- •Non-nuclear thermal and integration testing
- Microreactor Agile Non-nuclear Experimental Tesbed (MAGNET)
 Microreactor Applications

•Microreactor Applications Research, Validation and Evaluation (MARVEL)



Microreactor Demonstrations & Applications

- Reactor Demonstrations
- Remote heat & power
- Hydrogen co-generation
- District heating
- Desalination

R&D Capabilities to Support Microreactor Development

MAGNET - Microreactor AGile Non-nuclear Experimental Testbed

- 250 kW General-purpose non-nuclear test bed for performance evaluation of microreactor components and integrated system testing (heat pipe, gas-cooled, other).
- Demonstrate integration with relevant power conversion units and control Co-located with the Thermal Energy Distribution System (TEDS) and the High-Temperature Steam Electrolysis System to enable application and microgrid testing

Microreactor Design, Component Design & Safety Analysis

- Design and independent verification of microreactor components and design concepts
- Neutronics, thermal-hydraulics, structural analysis safety analysis
- Consequence-driven Cyber-informed Engineering (CCE) methodology for critical infrastructure

Instrumentation, Sensor and Control Development and Testing

- Sensor development and testing at High Temperature Test Lab (HTTL) for aa wide range of sensors (flux, temperature, strain)
- Control systems, wireless instrumentation, prognostics and component health

HPC Access and coupled code systems

- National Computational Resource Center provided industry access to HPC and Codes
- Integrated Neutronics, thermal, structural simulation capabilities targeting microreactors

Capabilities developed and support through multiple DOE-NE R&D programs







Nuclear Fuels & Materials

Mission:

Develop and qualify nuclear fuel systems and materials for use in nuclear energy systems

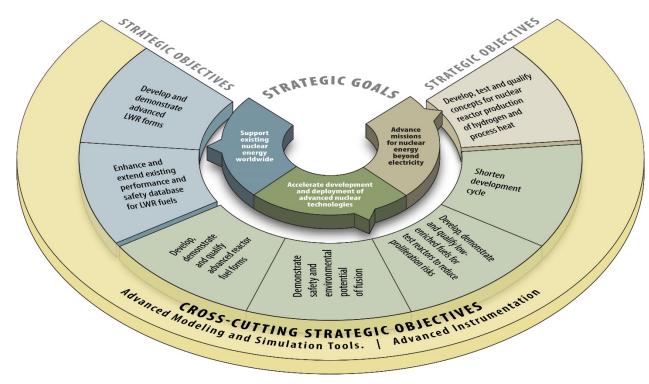
Major DOE Programs:

- Nuclear Technology Research and Development (NTRD, formerly FCRD)
- Accident Tolerant Fuels program (ATF)
- Advanced Gas Reactor Fuel Development and Qualification (AGR)
- Nuclear Energy Advanced Modeling and Simulation (NEAMS)
- High Performance Research Reactor (HPRR) Fuel Development
- Nuclear Scientific User Facility (NSUF)

Other Major Programs:

- TerraPower
- Ki-Jang Research Reactor fuel qualification Phase II
- Defense-related fuel programs
- Two EPRI pilot projects







Fuel Cycle Science & Technology

Mission:

Perform world-class separations research, from basic to applied, and complete demonstration activities to enable effective technology selection and implementation

Major Programs and Focus Areas:

- Office of Nuclear Energy Nuclear Technology R&D Program– Material Recovery and Waste Form Development
 - HEU Recovery Project/Zr volatilization
 - Joint Fuel Cycle Studies (incl. ROK CRADA)
 - Material Protection, Accountability and Control Tech. (MPACT)
- National and Homeland Security
 - NNSA, DHS, DOD
- Critical Materials Institute Hub
- EBR-II Spent Fuel Treatment
- Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation







Reactor Systems Design & Analysis

Reactor Physics, Design & Analysis:

 Perform neutronics analysis, develop protocols and the verification & validation tools necessary to support design of advanced nuclear systems (reactors & fuel cycles) and the safe operation of INL test reactors.

Nuclear Engineering Methods & Development:

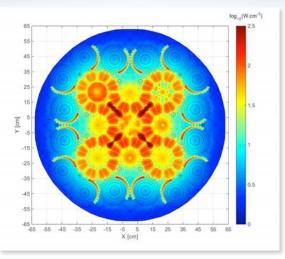
 Provide the next-generation set of tools and methods for design and operation of nuclear systems through the use of the most advanced computational frameworks and validation methodologies.

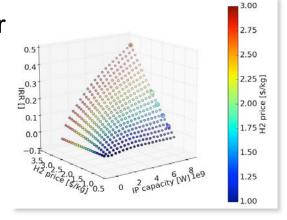
Experiment Analysis:

 Support design, irradiation, shipping and post-irradiation examination of nuclear material experiments through efficient performance of neutronic, thermalhydraulic and structural analyses.

Systems Integration:

 Systems research analyses and nuclear systems integration across interfacing technologies, including economics, non-electric applications, civil/structural/seismic engineering, and siting, to inform policy and technology considerations.





Nuclear Fuels and Materials Capabilities for NRIC and ARDP

Colby Jensen, Nick Woolstenhulme, Dave Kamerman, Dan Wachs, Jason Schulthess, Randy Fielding, Steve Hayes, Doug Porter

June 2020





Unique World-Leading Capabilities for Nuclear Fuel R&D

- Advanced Test Reactor (ATR)
 - High flux, multi-position test reactor for burnup/dose accumulation, methods for local spectra hardening
 - Instrumentation lead-out capability for real-time fuel performance data
- Transient Reactor Test facility (TREAT)
 - Versatile power maneuvering ability for transients from milliseconds to minutes, nuclear-heated specimens for fuel safety and separate effects research
 - Accessible layout for high quantity of data via in-situ instruments, ex-core fuel motion monitoring system to quantify fuel motion in real time, opportunities for real time radioisotope release
- Fuel Fabrication Facilities
 - Metallic and advanced ceramic fuel fabrication and fresh-state characterization capabilities
 - Demonstrated agility in establishing new pilot scale fabrication equipment (e.g. U_3Si_2 LTA)

• Hot Fuel Exam Facility (HFEF) & Irradiated Materials Characterization Laboratory (IMCL)

- Hub for receiving, remanufacturing, and assembling experiments to/from TREAT, ATR
- Engineering scale post irradiation exams (PIE) from macro-scale to optical metallography
- Mechanical and furnace-based testing for properties and safety performance research
- Various shielded instruments for characterizing microstructure and properties (e.g. thermal conductivity)
- Irreplaceable fuel specimens irradiated in fast spectrum reactor (EBR-II)
 - Metallic (U-Zr) & advanced ceramics (UN, UC), retained for future R&D opportunities
- Unique personnel experience base
 - Advanced fuel performance and reactor system modeling
 - Gathering/qualifying data under NQA-1, preparation of NRC topical reports

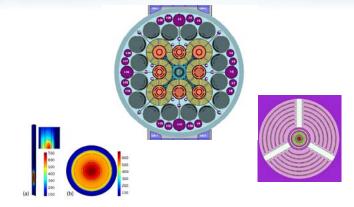


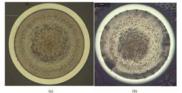




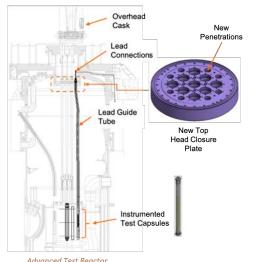
Advanced Reactor Capabilities at ATR

- Diverse capabilities in neutronic conditions:
 - 1.2 m long core, test positions up to 13 cm dia, enables large scale test specimens
 - Fluxes ranging from \sim 5E14 n/cm²s (inner core) to \sim 5E13 n/cm²s (outer reflector)
 - Water-moderated test reactor, well suited to thermal-spectrum advanced reactor irradiations, rich experience with TRISO-VHTR irradiations
 - Not a true fast reactor, but high flux positions enable respectable dose rates (5 dpa/yr in SST) on engineering-scale specimens (full diameter cladding tubes)
 - Spectral modification via flux boosting and thermal shrouds, fast-to-thermal ratio up to 40:1 achievable, mimics well fuel radial power profile in fast spectrum reactor (INL/EXT-17-41677)
 - Specimen geometry/enrichment scaling (paired with special fuel fabrication capabilities) for accelerated burnup accumulation (up to 10 at% per yr)
- Specimen temperature achieved via self heating and thermal resistance gap:
 - Capsule gas gap set and forget method with passive temperature monitoring (measure in PIE), cost effective strategy with increased temperature uncertainty
 - Lead-out experiments for real time measurements (e.g. fuel centerline temperature, internal pressure), temperature control via gas blend adjustment, and radioisotope release spectroscopy
- Fluid chemistry control in flowing loops possible
 - Vast majority of experience to date with pressurized water loops, but feasibility studies show viability of molten salt loop (INL/EXT-19-52917)





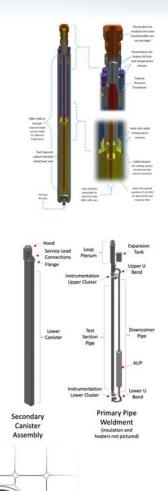
no National Laboratory





Advanced Reactor Capabilities at TREAT

- Inert gas test capsule (SETH)
 - Helium filled capsule with specimen temperature instrument, cost effective testing for GFR overpower studies, recently used for fuel irradiations with SiC cladding
 - Modular heat sink holders with transient shaping for fuel thermomechanical studies (e.g. fuel fracture), to be used for first microreactor AM fuel tests in mere months
- Sodium capsule (THOR)
 - Larger capsule with single pin (EBR-II length) sodium bonded to heat sink, ideal for longer-term SFR transient overpower, first deployment 2021
 - Straightforwardly adaptable to other low temperature liquid metals (e.g. Pb, Pb-alloy)
- Sodium loop (Mk-IIIR)
 - Forced convection loop for single pins and 7-pin SFR bundles, highly prototypic for SFR transient overpower tests, first deployment 2022
- Microreactor system scale benchmark experiments (NIMBLE)
 - Large microreactor core lattice large enough for neutronics benchmarking, first deployment 2022
 - Nuclear-heated thermal-hydraulic and safety testing, modular for direct gas or heat pipe cooling
- Gas Fast Reactor Loop
 - Efforts underway for NASA H_2 loop in 2023, adaptation viable for inert gas GFR loop
- Molten Salt
 - Not designed in detail yet, but capsule and loop-based molten salt experimentation viable
 - FMMS uniquely equipped to measure salt volume expansion under nuclear heating



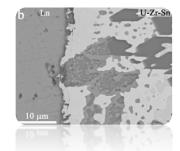
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Fuel Fabrication

- Hazcat III fuel fabrication facilities (<700 g ²³⁵U)
 - Ceramic/intermetallic fuels
 - Lab-scale synthesis, direct metal nitridation, direct melting for carbide and silicide
 - Demonstrated agility for pilot scale production of U₃Si₂ (hundreds of grams for LTAs)
 - Various presses, mills, & controlled atmosphere furnaces for conventional powder processing, sintering, and centerless grinding
 - Spark plasma sintering capability
 - Metallic fuels
 - Various alloying, casting, and post machining capabilities
 - Extrusion capabilities
 - Cladding and assembly operations
 - Pressure resistance, laser, and TIG end cap welding
 - Some experience with assembly of ceramic cladding (SiC)
 - Sodium bonding capability
 - Reference material fabrication (large grain or single crystal material)
- Hazcat II fuel fabrication facilities (<700 g ²³⁵U and transuranic)
 - Similar as list above, except transuranic gloveboxes geometry constrain typically limits specimen size
- Fresh fuel characterization equipment
 - Microstructure: SEM/TEM, EPMA, APT, XRD
 - Thermal Characterization: DSC, TGA, Dilatometry, Laser flash diffusivity











Intact un-melter

Shielded Exam and Testing

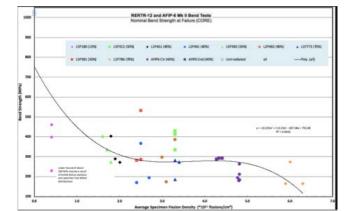
Engineering scale PIE in HFEF, metrology down to optical metallography

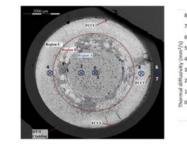
- GASR fuel rod puncture and fission gas release analysis
- NRAD neutron radiography and re-irradiation for short lived isotopes
- FACS furnace for TRISO high temp accident with real time fission product release testing
- Mechanical properties testing
- Planned construction of transient furnace (modern whole pin furnace) (burst, creep, fatigue, pressure differential)
- Remanufacturing, instrumentation, and assembly of materials for testing in furnaces, TREAT, and ATR
 - Target sections of interest for follow on irradiation or furnace testing with instrumented segments
 - Prototypic integral materials, seal welding at desired pressure

Microstructural PIE in IMCL, microstructure, properties, etc.

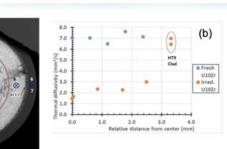
ma FIR FPMA, SEM, TEM, Thermal Conductivity Microscope

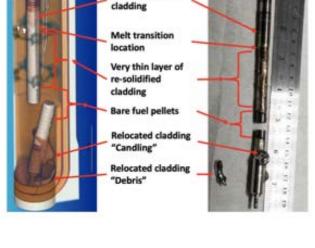
microstructure of the interaction (PCI) in (WR fuel A TEM sar out from the position the white rectangle.	27 alky 20 μm		
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(d) To	(e) Ru	mu (1	Z.

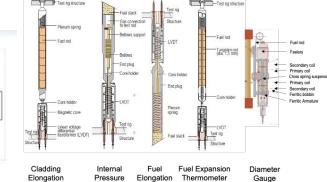




(a) SEM image of a polished section of the irradiated U-10 wt.% Z fuel pin. The TCM measurement locations on the profile of the pin are marked along with the measurement number







Idaho National Laboratory

Legacy Materials

- Lack of fast reactor testing capability is limiting for achieving long term goals for related technology
 - A lot can still be done with fabrication at MFC, out-of-pile experiments, and irradiation testing in ATR/TREAT
- Legacy materials originate from variety of programs including historical fast reactor programs as well as space program for UN
- Some material from small AFC rodlets from last ~15 years of DOE irradiations
 - U-Zr, U-Pu-Zr, MA-bearing Nitrides
- EBR-II/FFTF fuels and materials stored at INL are "priceless"
 - U-Fs, U-Zr, U-Pu-Zr
 - MOX
 - UN?, UC? (need to confirm)
- Includes variety of stainless-steel cladding alloys including austenitic, ferritic/martensitic; a few exotic materials (LANL)



INL facilities at the Materials and Fuels Complex

Nuclear Science St Technology

Siting in Idaho for Advanced Reactor Demonstration Projects



Dr. George Griffith SMR Siting Lead George.Griffith@inl.gov

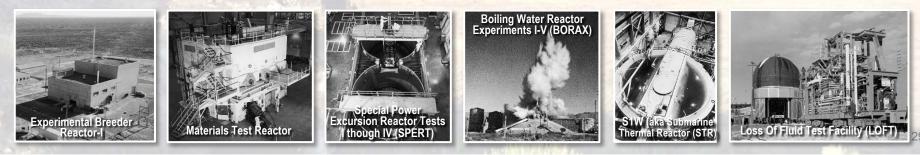
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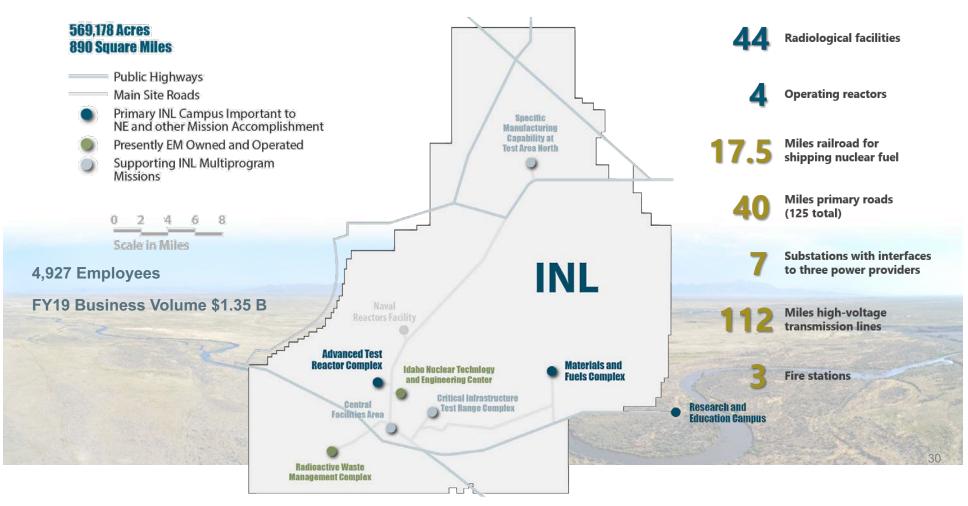


Nuclear facilities

(Haz Cat 1, 2 & 3)

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The Idaho National Laboratory Site A Unique Capability for the Nation





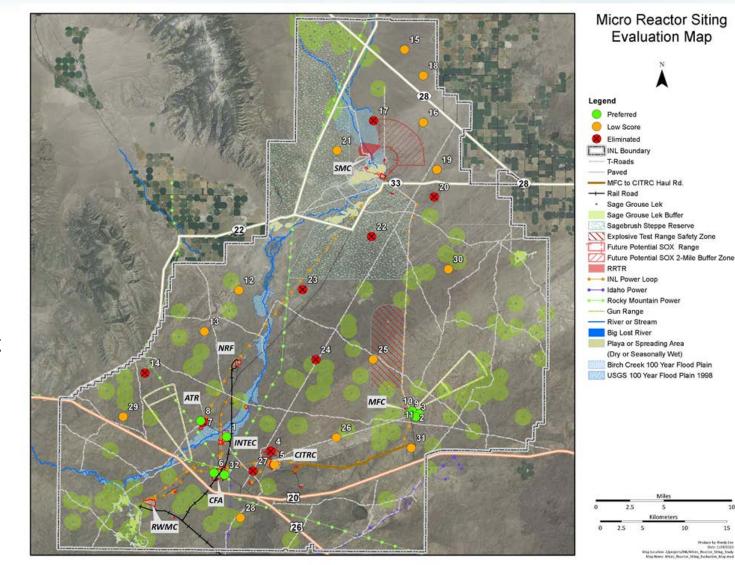
Siting Process has been Established and Used

- INL and DOE have an established Site Use Permit.
 - A 99 year camping permit to access and develop a site
 - Provides separation of DOE and NRC regulation
 - Access to INL services as desired
- INL is the only DOE site to grant site use permits
 - NuScale (2017)
 - Oklo (2019)
- INL is developing the site to assist vendors



Candidate Sites

- Nine sites failed "Must" criteria
- Twentythree sites evaluated by team of INL subject matter experts using "Want" criteria





Preferred Microreactor Sites – Green Fields

 Greenfield sites near MFC (#9, #10, #11) and ATR Complex (#8) ranked high based on existing site-specific characterization data, existing seismic hazard analysis data, and proximity to existing infrastructure (i.e., utilities, roads, security, etc.)







Integration with INL Site

- INL is initiating a site wide NEPA analysis.
 - Supports NRC EIS submittals
- DOE is supporting multiple site upgrades
 - SSHAC Seismic Study started in 2019

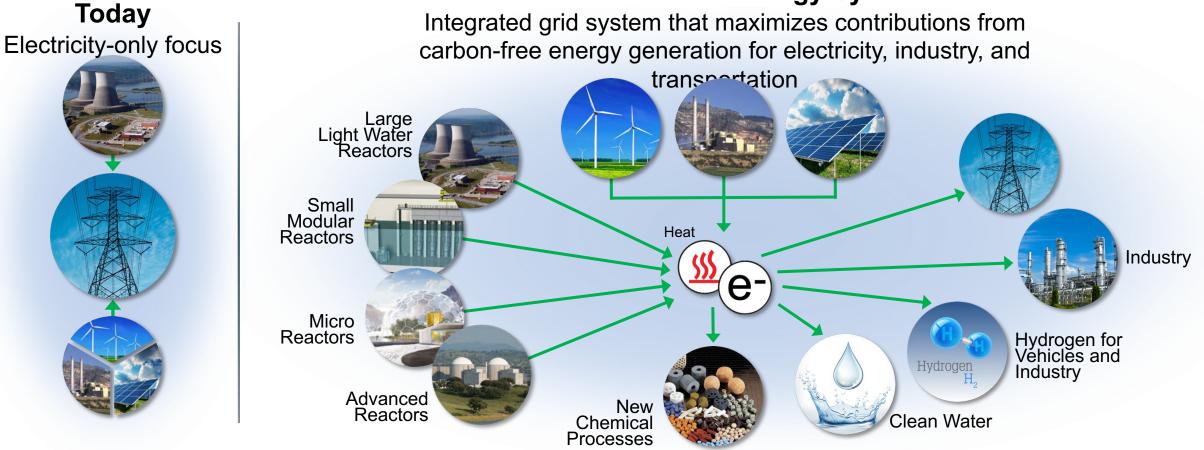
3 year/\$10m Study to provide probabilistic seismic hazard assessment

- LIDAR Study of INL site and surrounding area
 - Flooding, volcanic, seismic and cultural information
- Supporting multiple commercial siting activities are planned or started
 - Services established
 - Unique local studies on-going
 - Meteorology studies
 - Volcanology to support draft NRC methodology
- Electrical Grid Upgrades
 - 345keV upgrades
 - Commercial grid access



Integrated Energy Systems: A Key Opportunity

Potential Future Energy System



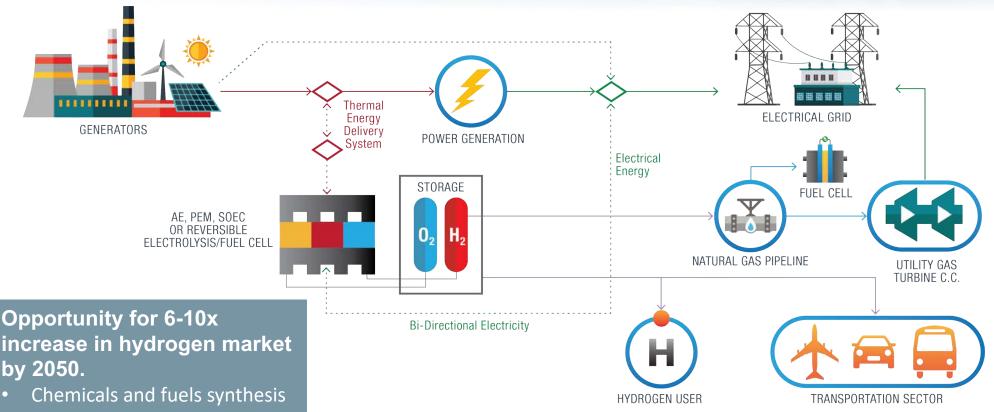
Flexible Generators & Advanced Processes & Revolutionary Design

For more information, contact Shannon Bragg-Sitton, email: Shannon.Bragg-Sitton@inl.gov



For details on

Example: Hydrogen Production via Electrolysis



upcoming LWR-H₂ demonstrations, see Part I of the Clean Nuclear Energy for Industry webinar series at https://gain.inl.gov/Sit ePages/GAINWebina rSeries.aspx

increase in hydrogen market by 2050.

- Steel manufacturing
- Provides second source of revenue
- 2) Provides energy storage, for electricity production or hydrogen user
- 3) Provides opportunity for grid services, including reserves and grid regulation







Meeting future **CLEAN** energy needs



Image courtesy of GAIN and ThirdWay, inspired by *Nuclear Energy Reimagined* concept led by INL.

Download this and other energy park concept images at: https://www.flickr.com/photos/thirdwaythinktank/sets/7215766537288928 9/



INL is Open for Business to Support the Development, Demonstration and Commercial Deployment of your Reactor

- Idaho's track record is unprecedented 52 reactors and counting
- INL is the first (and only) site where DOE has granted site use permits to an SMR (NuScale) or an AR (Oklo) – in less than 16 months and 8 months respectively.
- Utilities in Idaho have expressed interest in meeting prospective ARDP applicants, INL can facilitate these introductions.
- INL can support IES demonstrations and licensing in Idaho.
 - Hydrogen, Desalination, District Heating, Integration with Renewables, etc.
- HALEU is available for reactors demonstrated in Idaho.
- Next Steps?
 - Request additional information on siting and/or technical collaborations
- This presentation, contacts and supporting information are updated here:

https://inl.gov/inl-siting/



Questions / Discussion we appreciate your feedback and input

corey.mcdaniel@INL.gov