

Advanced Nuclear Energy Demonstrations

January 18, 2022
Ashley E. Finan, Ph.D., NRIC director ashley.finan@inl.gov
nric.inl.gov



Idaho National Laboratory's origin is the National Reactor Testing Station (NRTS)

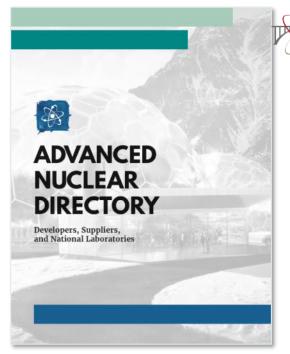
Intellectual Leadership **Building a Laboratory** INE & National Reactor **Testing Station Advancing Nuclear Energy Energy Mission – Environmental INEEL & ANL-W combined** Reactor Science, Safety **Management Mission** to create the new Idaho and Sustainability **National Laboratory** Securing & **Solutions Modernizing Critical** Infrastructure **Nuclear Energy Enabling Clean National and Homeland Energy Systems** Security **Energy and Environment** 1949 1974 1997 2005 2020



International

Strong interest in advanced nuclear energy has motivated private sector interest and the need for a new NRTS

• Facilities and capabilities to develop, test, and demonstrate promising advanced reactor concepts to enable commercialization and deployment, domestically and beyond.





TerraPower.

Nestinghouse

eVinci™ Micro Reactor











HolosGen[®]













Advanced Reactors: One size does not fit all





Advanced Fission

Categorized in terms of capacity

• Microreactors: <10 MWe

• Small reactors: 10 MWe – <300MWe (SMRs use modular construction)

• Medium reactors: 300MWe - 700 MWe

• Large reactors: > 700 MWe

Variety of coolants (gas, sodium, salt, lead, water, etc.)

Clean, high availability

Diverse markets

• Improved safety, waste, security, and target economics

• 60+ private sector projects

Small Town: 1 Megawatt (MW)

The US: 1,000 Gigawatts

Mid-size City: 1 Gigawatt (GW)





Image courtesy of **GAIN** and Third Way, inspired by the Nuclear Energy Reimagined concept led by INL. Learn more about these

and other energy park concepts at thirdway.org/blog/

nuclear-reimagined



NRIC Vision

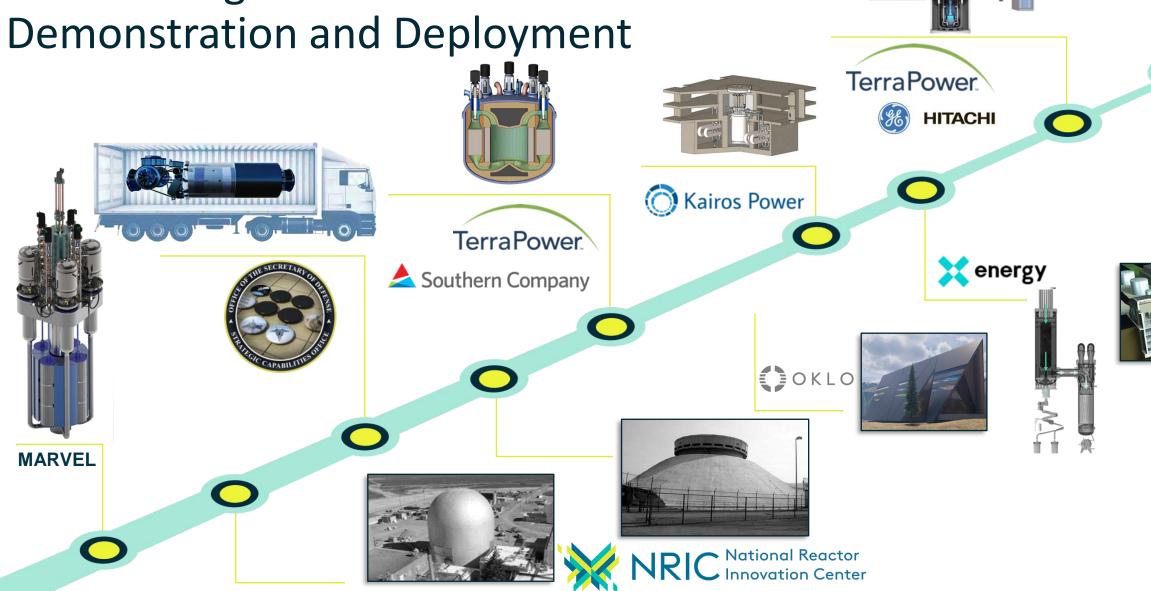


Commercial Advanced Nuclear by 2030

inspire



Accelerating Advanced Reactor



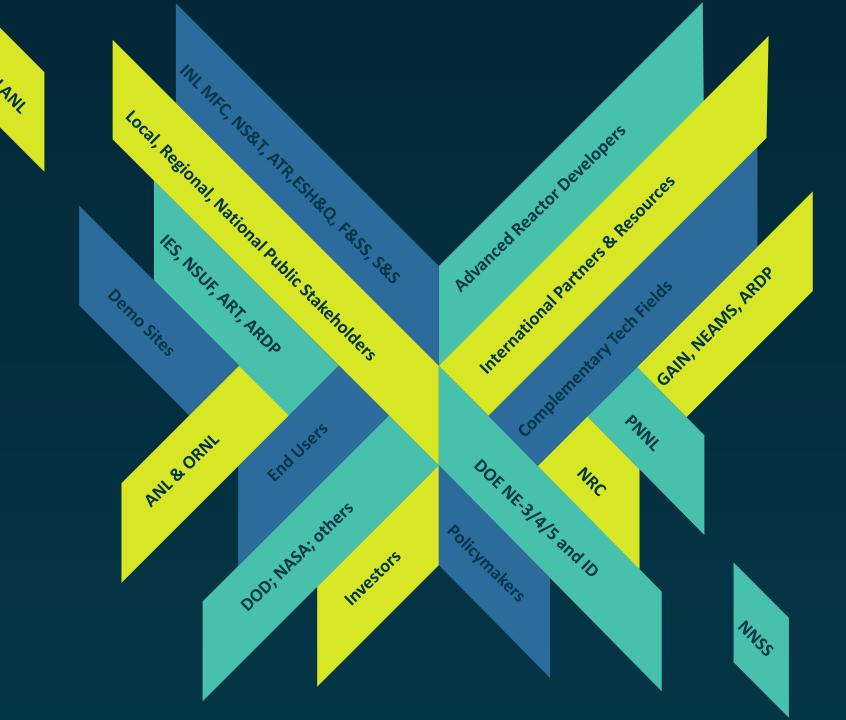
2030



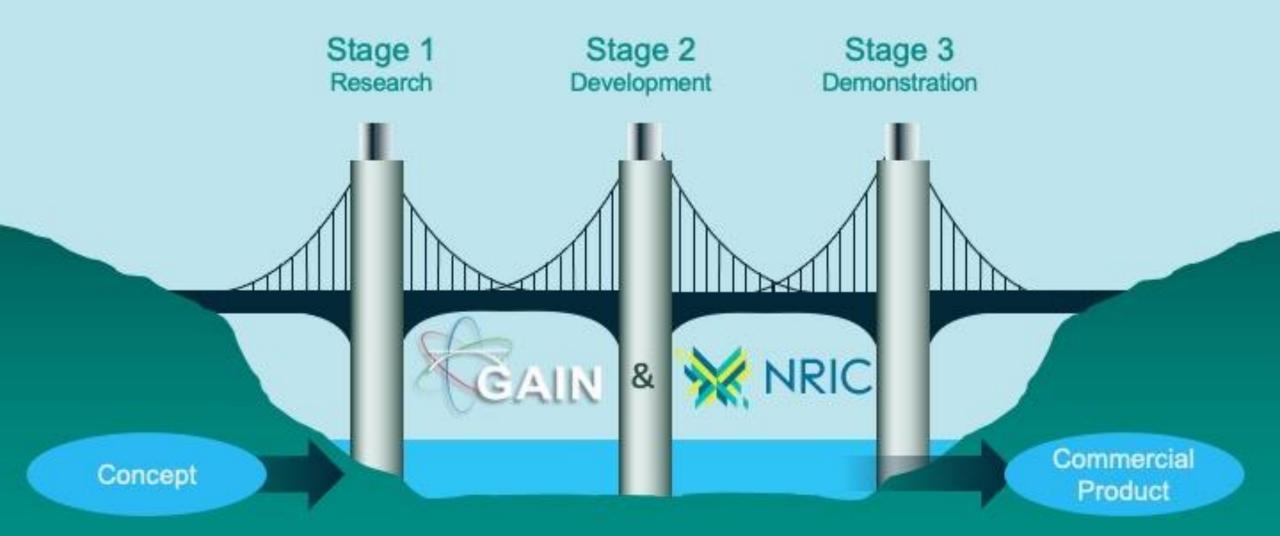


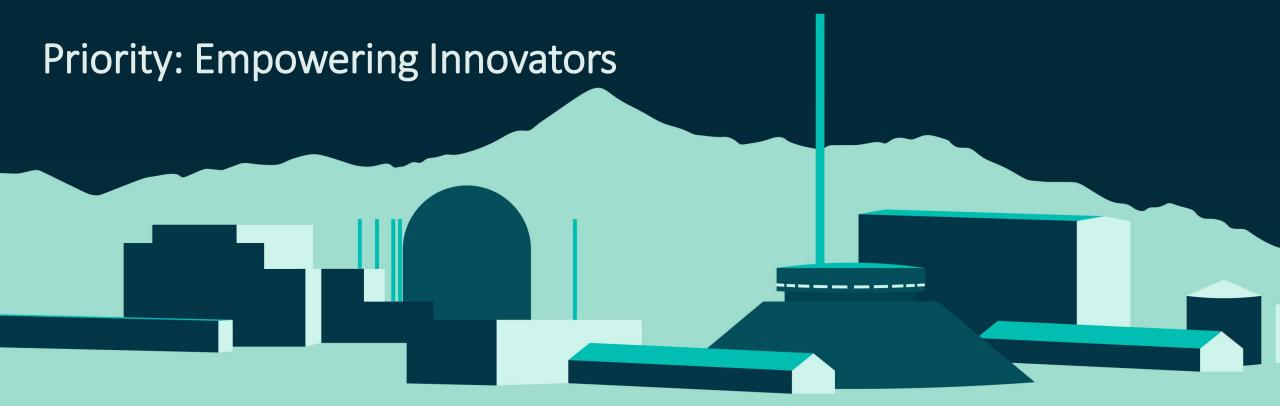


NRIC is a **National** Program and Central Integrator for Partners and Collaborators









- Demonstration Test Beds
- Experimental Facilities
- Regulatory Risk Reduction

- Planning Tools
 - NRIC Resource Team
 - NEPA guidance
 - Demonstration Resource Network (<u>https://nricmapping.inl.gov/</u>)
 - Siting Tool for Advanced Nuclear Development



NRIC-DOME Test Bed

(Demonstration of Microreactor Experiments)

Strategy:

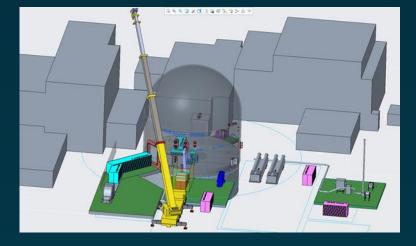
- Repurpose EBR II which operated from 1964 1994
- Establish a demonstration platform that is flexible enough to test 4-5 known small modular reactors such as high temperature gas reactors

Capabilities:

- Small Modular Reactors (SMR) up to 20MW thermal power
- High-Assay Low-Enriched Uranium (HALEU) fuels < 20% enrichment
- Safety-Significant confinement for reactors to go critical for first time

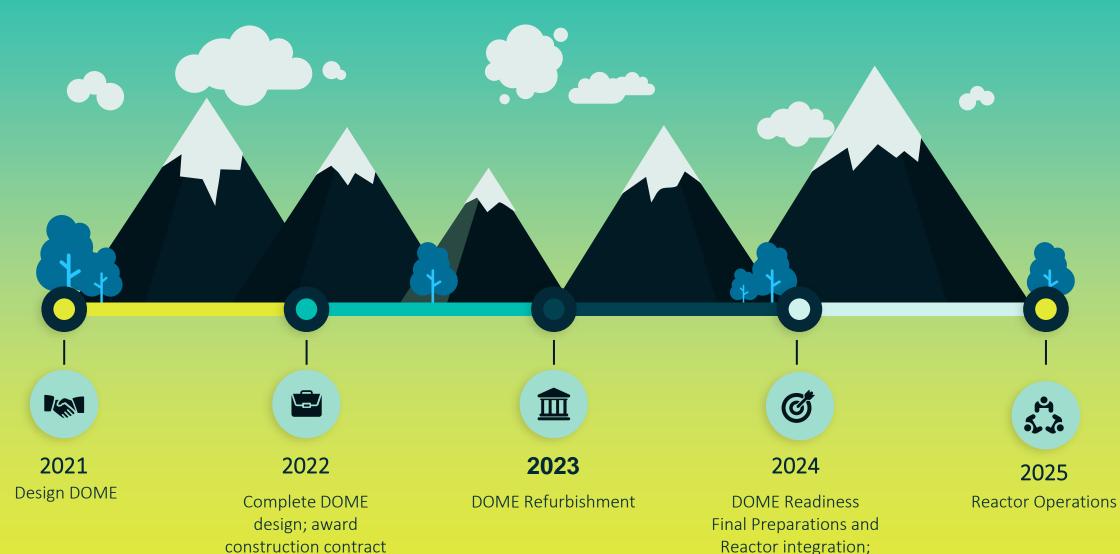








NRIC Timeline for Microreactor in 2024 (example)



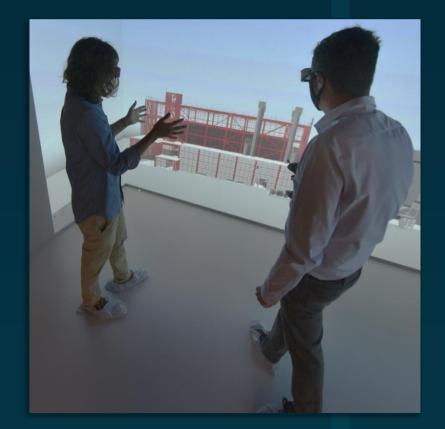
Startup



Priority: Addressing Cost and Markets

- Advanced Construction Technologies
- Digital Engineering
- Construction Readiness
- Integrated Energy Systems
- Considerations for Deployment



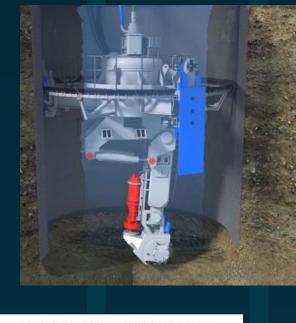






Advanced Construction Technology

- Project Team General Electric Hitachi
 - EPRI, Black & Veatch, Purdue, UNCC, Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, Caunton Engineering w/Modular Walling Systems Ltd and Tennessee Valley Authority
- Demonstrate 3 technologies: 1)Vertical Shaft, 2) Steel Bricks™3) Advanced Sensors and Digital Twin
- Contract executed; kickoff in January 2022
- Involve Regulators and NRC early
- Phase 1: 12 months
- Phase 2: 2-3 years







Priority: Proactive Impact Management

- Environmental impact assessme
 - Cultural and biological surveys
 - Plant parameter envelope
 - Water use
- Packaging, storage, transport, and disposition

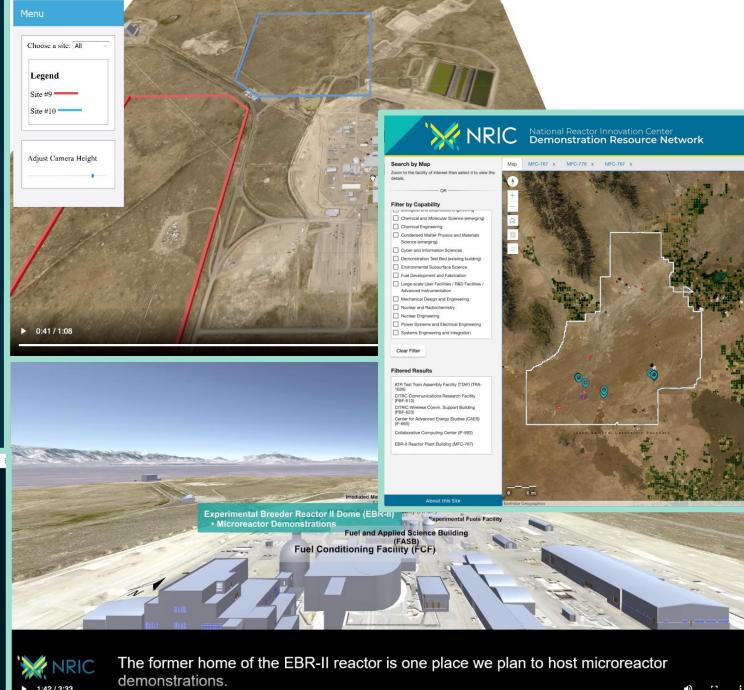




Priority: Engagement

- Tools
 - Web/Social
 - Flyover, Mapping, Videos
- Best practices development
 - University of Michigan, Fastest Path to Zero





Goals for FY22

Maintain progress to support demonstrations by the end of 2025 and sustained innovation

Demonstrate Prepare vital Build and develop cost-cutting infrastructure the NRIC team technology Strengthen and **Provide Anticipate and** expand planning tools address regulatory partnerships and and resources needs engagement



Thank you!

Questions?



