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March Carbon Free Power Project Update

**News Release:** [UAMPS Takes Key Step Forward in Potential Agreement with Xcel Energy to Operate Carbon Free Power Project](#)

Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) and Xcel Energy Nuclear Services Holdings have entered into a Term Sheet agreement outlining a process, roles and next steps that would be taken if Xcel Energy were to become a potential operator of the Carbon Free Power Project (CFPP) being developed by UAMPS.... “We are pleased to take this step forward with Xcel Energy to explore a significant partnership,” said UAMPS CEO & General Manager Doug Hunter. “Xcel Energy has impressive experience with all elements of nuclear plant development and management. We look forward to additional due diligence as outlined in the Term Sheet.”

Read the full news release [HERE](#).

**CFPP Project Director Dr. Shawn Hughes reported the following activities to the Project Management Committee on March 15:**

- In addition to signing a Term Sheet agreement with Xcel Energy (mentioned above), CFPP LLC has entered into a Master Services Agreement with Xcel to provide consulting services to the project as development moves forward.

- In late March, CFPP principals participated in meetings with the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, hosted by NuScale Power. Key topical reports were reviewed, including NuScale’s Standard Design Application for the power module, Standard Plant Design, and the Emergency Planning Zone. These activities support UAMPS’ development of the Combined Operating License Application.
• CFPP LLC has issued a task order for NuScale and Xcel Energy to establish workflow arrangements so that the reactor technologies and operations development will work together.

• Ongoing site work includes finalizing water rights, developing water at the site, wastewater treatment, and planning the security administration building, warehouse, and fire station.

• Development of Class 3 cost estimates is on schedule, including site-specific engineering, procurement and contracting. Cost estimates on some 116 vendor and supplier packages are being developed to inform overall project costs. Current inflationary pressures, cost estimates of raw materials and labor wage rates are being closely monitored.

• The CFPP Construction Management Team is developing cost estimates for early project phases, including field costs, site staffing plans, and temporary plant facilities.

• Project leaders are evaluating whether to seek Limited Work authorization from the NRC. This would allow some non-nuclear parts of the project to begin ahead of full COLA approval. That could include some construction work and site preparation. The evaluation will determine whether such a schedule would provide cost savings, de-risking of the project, and support project completion goals.

• Overall, project work activities are progressing on schedule and slightly below budget. NuScale has developed detailed project completion milestones for 2022 and all are on schedule. Project staffing is ramping up, focused on priority activities. Project leaders receive weekly updates on all activities and hold monthly focused, dedicated sessions on all aspects of the project.
**Industry Information & Developments**

**Growing Number Of States Taking Steps To Clear A Path For Nuclear Power (American Public Power Association)** In February, West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice signed into law a bill that lifts the state’s ban on the construction of nuclear power plants, following similar action by other states in recent years. In 2016, Wisconsin repealed a moratorium on the construction of new nuclear facilities within the state and Kentucky took similar action a year later. . . Since the start of this year, a number of state legislatures have considered or taken action related to legislation related to nuclear power including small modular nuclear reactors (SMRs).

“Right now, between state legislation being introduced and new nuclear projects underway in states like Tennessee, Washington, Wyoming and Idaho, nuclear energy is being discussed in half of the country with the majority considering policies that will directly impact the industry,” said Christine Ciszmadia, director of state governmental affairs and advocacy at the Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI). “The appetite to learn more about nuclear energy technology is clearly there and continuously increasing.”

Carbon Free Power Project, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, continues to advance the development and deployment of its first-of-a-kind small modular reactor nuclear plant at the U.S. Department of Energy’s Idaho National Laboratory near Idaho Falls, Idaho.

**NuScale Attends Meeting on Nuclear with UK PM Boris Johnson** (Energy Central) Johnson wants the UK to obtain 25% of its electricity from nuclear power, up from the current 16%. However, almost half of the country’s current nuclear generating capacity is due to be retired by 2025 and all but one of its reactors will retire by 2030. . . Johnson held a meeting with NuScale Energy and other nuclear organizations to discuss how to achieve the 25% goal.

**Elon Musk is Right, The World Needs More Nuclear Energy** . (Real Clear Energy) Earlier this month, Musk tweeted support for nuclear power to alleviate energy reliability and security concerns in Europe, even offering to eat food grown locally near reactors to show that the energy source is safe. Musk is right to support nuclear power, the benefits of which have been well-documented for years. It’s safe, reliable, and the largest source of carbon-free energy in the
United States. In 2019 it prevented more than 476 million metric tons of CO2 from entering the atmosphere, the equivalent of removing 100 million cars from the roads. Radiation risks are also lower than many believe.

**Where will the first small modular nuclear reactors be?** (Power Technology) Governments love nuclear, mostly. Grid planners love the reliability, low cost of generation, and prestige of nuclear generation. However, the construction costs, long lead-up time and security implications have deterred governments from investing in new generations of nuclear. Because of these factors, governments have looked toward smallmodular reactors (SMRs) for a new wave of investment. . . US engineering firm NuScale also plans to develop SMRs in Poland, under a contract with mining company KGHM. This would involve deployment of a 924MW VOYGR SMR, the most powerful SMR around. It also plans to build a similar plant in Idaho, US, starting operations in 2029.

**Power politics: Dairyland wisely explores zero-carbon nuclear; greens not cheering** (Badger Institute) Dairyland Power Cooperative said it’s exploring whether a cutting-edge miniature nuclear reactor might someday substitute for fossil fuels in generating electricity for rural western Wisconsin. . . Thus, Dairyland’s memo of understanding with NuScale, the Oregon-based company that proposes to manufacture small nuclear reactors, bundle them in groups of four, six or 12, and create a nuclear plant cheaper and better than the regulatory mess that building a conventional plant has become. There are many unknowns. NuScale won federal approval of its design last fall, but it hasn’t yet built its first commercial plant — it expects to have one (the CFPP) in Idaho running by 2029.

**In Other News . . .**

**Government Affairs Report:** In the March Project Management Committee meetings, Mike Squires, UAMPS Government Affairs director, reported that support remains strong in Congress and in the Biden administration for the CFPP, including for future appropriations needed for the project.

Squires also reported that the recent APPA rally in Washington, D.C., was very productive, with UAMPS board members and leaders meeting with all Utah and Idaho congressional members to talk about the needs of public power and to provide updates on the CFPP project.

Squires also reported that UAMPS will have a seat on the new grid resilience committee created by the Utah Legislature in its recent session.
Public Power Women in History: Carolyn McNeil (APPA) To celebrate Women’s History Month, APPA highlighted women who have greatly contributed to public power. Among those honored was Carolyn McNeil, former UAMPS General Manager, who passed away in 2001.

The article about McNeil says: “An examination of our archive indicates that Carolyn S. McNeil (July 19, 1938 – March 15, 2001) from Sandy, Utah, was one of the first women to lead a public power organization. McNeil was named general manager of the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems, or UAMPS, on June 15, 1983. The joint action agency was founded in 1980 and today represents 50 community-owned power systems operating in seven Western states.” . . . “Caroline McNeil was a truly remarkable leader and trailblazer,” said Doug Hunter, UAMPS CEO and General Manager. “She understood the great value of public power and had a vision for its potential. She elevated the status of public power not just in her home state of Utah, but across the nation through her APPA leadership positions. For me, personally, she was a great mentor and example. She built a strong foundation at UAMPS on which we have been able to ascend to greater heights. She is truly deserving of recognition as one of the first and most effective women leaders in public power.” Read the full article HERE.
Nine UAMPS Communities Honored with Safety Award of Excellence. The award is presented by APPA for safe operating practices in 2021. “In our industry, safety is the top priority,” said Bob Scudder, Chair of APPA’s Safety Committee and Industrial Hygiene. “These awarded utilities have embraced this priority, and they deserve to be celebrated.”

The 318 utility entrants from across the country were placed in categories according to their number of worker-hours and ranked based on the most incident-free records during 2021.

UAMPS 2021 Safety Award Honorees:

- Mt. Pleasant City: Honorable Mention in Group A (<15,000 worker-hours of exposure)
- Payson City Corp.: First in Group B (15,000 to 29,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- Washington City: First in Group B (15,000 to 29,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- Hurricane City Power: Second in Group B (15,000 to 29,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- Brigham City Corp.: First in Group C (30,000 to 59,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- City of Springville: First in Group C (30,000 to 59,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- Kaysville City Corp.: First in Group C (30,000 to 59,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- Lehi City: First in Group D (60,000 to 109,999 worker-hours of exposure)
- City of St. George: First in Group E (110,000 to 249,999 worker-hours of exposure)

The Safety Awards have been held annually for more than 65 years.

If you have questions about UAMPS’ plans for a carbon-free future, please email them to jackie@uamps.com.