Public Support for Nuclear Energy is Higher Than Ever, Finds 2022 National Nuclear Energy Public Opinion Survey

U.S. public support for nuclear energy continues at a record high level. The National Nuclear Energy Public Opinion Survey conducted May 10-19, 2022 found record high majorities of the public favoring nuclear energy and building more nuclear power plants.
CFPP Project Director Dr. Shawn Hughes reported the following recent activities to the Project Management Committee on June 15:

- **Class 3 Project Cost Estimate.** Work remains on schedule and under budget for this critical element of the project. After submittal of the Class 3 Cost Estimate by Fluor, detailed review is underway by UAMPS and its team of owner’s engineers and other consultants. This cost estimate will guide budgets and financial decisions through the next phase of the project. It provides more refined cost projections of labor, equipment, supplies, design, buildings, construction, operations, utilities, and so forth.

- **COLA Development.** Work continues on more than 30 sections of the Combined Operating License Application (COLA) and the process remains slightly ahead of schedule and under budget. Some 21% of the COLA work is completed, ahead of the 17% schedule projection. Numerous subject matter experts are working on the COLA, including development of geotechnical and meteorological data. Engagement is underway with state and local emergency response agencies to develop protocols and plans. The projected submittal date to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission remains January 2024.

- **Limited Work Authorization (LWA).** Work is underway with Fluor to consider options supporting the authorization of early construction activities prior to the Combined Operating License being issued. A Limited Work Authorization would allow an early start on some site prep and excavation while the NRC is still reviewing the COLA. The LWA option evaluation considers project timelines, potential licensing obstacles, risks, assumptions, and advantages/disadvantages. LWA milestones are being incorporated into the COLA schedule.

- **Site Activities.** A limited amount of site characterization work continues. The meteorological tower was lowered and recalibrated; bird deterrents were installed, and it is up and operating again. A cultural resource and ecological survey is being planned, in collaboration with the Shoshone Bannock Tribes. The survey will cover 308 acres in advance of pre-construction activities like road work and other activities at the site.

- **Xcel Energy Activities.** Xcel continues to work on preparations to operate the plant. It is planning for security operations, working with NuScale to evaluate key Design Basis Threat scenarios. This analysis will help determine security staffing levels and other safeguards.

- **Tribal Working Group.** Meetings are on-going with tribal representatives to provide updates on COLA activities, site activities, cultural resource review plans, and operations planning. All participants are looking forward to future project updates.

- **Subscription update.** As utilities outside of UAMPS project their carbon-free energy needs in the 2030 decade, a number are very interested in participating in the CFPP. Discussions with those utilities continue. CFPP executives are confident full subscription will be achieved before COLA submittal in early 2024.

**CFPPLLC.COM Website Provides Great Information**

It includes features like these: Description of project, timeline, decarbonization, the development and construction team, regulatory progress, location, technology used, NuScale Power Module, safety, and used fuel management. It’s a great resource to refer anyone interested in learning more about the project.

[CFPP Website]

**CFPP Marketing Video**

Another great resource is the CFPP marketing video. It provides an engaging and simplified overview of all aspects of the project. It’s a good introductory video to help people understand the project.

[CFPP Video]
NuScale’s John Hopkins Discusses UAMPS’ Carbon Free Power Project (Power Engineering)

President Biden Announces Support for NuScale Power’s Nuclear Project in Romania (Presidential Speech in Germany)

SMR Company NuSale Shifts Strategy From Development to Delivery (Power Engineering)

U.S. to Provide $14 Million to Romania for NuScale Power SMR Plant Studies (SeeNews)

NuScale Power Reports Strong Financial Outlook and Provides Business Update (Business Wire)

Gov. Newsom Considers Keeping California’s Last Nuclear Power Plant Active Beyond 2025 Planned Closing (KABC)

Nuclear is Back on the Table for a Green Future (New York Times)

Repurposing Fossil Fuel Power Plant Site with SMRs to Ease Clean Energy Transition (International Atomic Energy Agency)

NEI’s Maria Korsnick Charts ‘Sea Change’ for Nuclear (World Nuclear News)
Oak City Representative and UAMPS Board Member Dwight Day Receives American Public Power Association’s Public Official Award

Dwight Day, Oak City representative serving on the UAMPS board, received the Spencer Vanderlinden Public Official Award during the American Public Power Association’s National Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. The award recognizes elected or appointed local officials who have contributed to the goals of the American Public Power Association (APPA).

Award Article  Award Video  Award Press Release