12th Edition, April 29, 2020

April Update: Carbon Free Power Project

Project Management Committee Hears Update. At the April UAMPS project committee meetings, members of the CFPP received a positive progress report. Here are highlights:

- Development of Class 4 Project Cost Estimates is going forward with more refined operating costs and design of the NuScale Power Module and Balance of Plant. Engineers are assessing costs of 6-pack and 8-pack configurations, uprated to the 77MWe design.

- The next Economic Competitiveness Test to determine the Levelized Cost of Energy will assess capital costs, financing costs, operating expenses, fuel costs, spent fuel storage and decommissioning.

- UAMPS is working with the U.S. Department of Energy on the plant configuration and number of power modules.

- Critical on-going site development work includes mowing and cultural surveys, core boring, well drilling preparation, planning subcontractor mobilization, permit applications, site engineering and quality assurance.

- Work on the Combined Operating License Application (COLA) is moving forward with schedule and cost estimates being prepared for COLA development.

- On the subscription front, UAMPS continues working with six Pacific Northwest utilities, one Arizona utility and one Colorado utility who are interested in the project.
Meet Shawn Hughes: CFPP Project Director

UAMPS has contracted with Dr. Shawn Hughes to manage the day-to-day development of the Carbon Free Power Project, the nation’s first small modular nuclear reactor project. Dr. Hughes is an accomplished executive with more than 40 years of domestic and international experience in the nuclear project management, engineering, construction and deactivation/decommissioning fields.

He has executed diverse project and line management responsibilities at a variety of commercial nuclear power and nuclear weapon sites, including executive management of complex Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) projects; meeting project technical, cost, schedule, quality, safety, performance and regulatory challenges; recruiting, motivating and leading teams of contractors and the building trades unions; and commercial nuclear power plant (NPP) operational readiness planning and execution.

As CFPP project director, Hughes is responsible for all aspects of project development, including interfaces with NuScale and Fluor on EPC and COLA development, resolution of remaining technical issues with support from Owner’s Engineers, development and implementation of an operating strategy, compliance with DOE funding requirements and conformance with cost model thresholds to assure project viability among the numerous power offtake subscribers.

In his 40 years of experience in the nuclear field, Hughes has worked for a who’s who of nuclear corporations and agencies in the United States, Canada, China, and the United Arab Emirates in a variety of management and development positions.

Hughes earned a Ph.D. in industrial and systems engineering management from the University of Alabama in Huntsville, and has bachelors and masters degrees in civil engineering from University of New Hampshire and University of Tennessee, respectively.

“We are delighted to have Shawn on board to manage this project,” said UAMPS CEO & General Manager Doug Hunter. “Shawn brings broad experience and
knowledge to the CFPP and he has hit the ground running. Shawn will help ensure this project is completed on time and under budget.”

**Industry Information & Developments**

**UAMPS on the radio.** UAMPS Government Affairs Director, Mike Squires, recently appeared on the Salt Lake Chamber’s Speaking on Business radio program. Squires said he enjoys representing UAMPS and community-owned electric utilities in six western states, as they move forward in developing energy projects that advance sustainability, affordability, and reliability.

“As the energy landscape continues to shift, UAMPS remains firmly focused on the future energy needs of its member communities,” he said. “Most notably, UAMPS is leading the nation, and indeed the world, in its development of a small modular nuclear reactor. This facility will be capable of providing a 24/7 supply of carbon-free power and complement UAMPS’ growing renewable energy footprint.” Listen to the brief program HERE.

**U2’s The Edge endorses nuclear power.** An article in the Deseret News entitled “How U2’s The Edge and Utah’s quest for nuclear power are related” says: “The way to get the edge on climate change and bring emissions down is next-generation nuclear technology being pursued by a Utah coalition of public power producers via small modular reactors. Or at least that’s the opinion of the Edge, U2’s iconic guitarist, also known as David Evans.” The article by reporter Amy Joi O’Donoghue highlights UAMPS’ Carbon Free Power Project as an example of the next-generation nuclear technology supported by the Edge to meet climate goals.

**NuScale’s Reyes spreads word on SMRs.** José Reyes, cofounder and chief technology officer at NuScale Power, touted the potential of the company’s technology in an interview with Yahoo Finance. (At up to 77 MWe gross, the NuScale Power Module is the smallest of the light-water SMRs in development.) Speaking with journalist Akiko Fujita, Reyes also touched on nuclear’s role in addressing the issue of climate change. He noted that NuScale is offering different configurations and is working toward meeting UAMPS’ LCOE target of $0.055
per kilowatt hour. The eight-minute discussion is available online, along with the interview transcript.

**Nuclear must be included in net-zero debate.** The Canadian Nuclear Association, Europe's Foratom, the Japan Atomic Industrial Forum, the USA's Nuclear Energy Institute, the UK's Nuclear Industry Association and World Nuclear Association issued a joint statement in advance of the recent Leaders Summit on Climate. The statement highlighted the benefits of nuclear technologies as unmatched and include: a proven track record, 24/7 reliability, cost effective, energy services beyond electricity, jobs and socio-economic benefits, and scalable.

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**In Other News . . .**

- UAMPS wishes Robert Erquaiga the best as he moves to his new employment as the Deputy District Attorney in Reno, Nevada. Robert served as the City of Fallon’s UAMPS representative and board member since January 2013. Robert was serving as the Power Pool Project chairman at the time of his departure, a position he had held since July 2018.

- Six UAMPS members have achieved recognition for exceptional electric reliability in 2020 from the American Public Power Association. The eReliability Tracker Service, highlighted Brigham City, Hurricane City, Kaysville City, Santa Clara City, Springville City, and Washington City as performing in the top quartile (25%) of utilities for System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI), thereby qualifying for the 2020 Certificate of Excellence in Reliability.

- Nine UAMPS members have earned the American Public Power Association Safety Award of Excellence for the year 2020. The Safety Award honorees include:
  - Mt. Pleasant City: First Place in Group A (systems with less than 15,000 worker-hours of exposure)
Hurricane City and South Utah Valley Electric Service District: First Place in Group B (systems with 15,000 to 29,999 worker-hours of exposure)

Payson City Corp.: Honorable Mention in Group B (systems with 15,000 to 29,999 worker-hours of exposure)

Brigham City, Kaysville City and Springville City: First Place in Group C (systems with 30,000 to 59,999 worker-hours of exposure)

Heber Light & Power Co.: First Place in Group D (systems with 60,000 to 109,999 worker-hours of exposure)

City of St. George: First Place in Group E (systems with 110,000 to 249,999 worker-hours of exposure)

The winners were recognized during APPA’s recent Engineering & Operations Virtual Conference.

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