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## CFPP Set to Enter Next Phase of Development

The last few weeks have produced major progress for the Carbon Free Power Project (CFPP). Three key contracts have been approved, all of which significantly de-risk the project for participants and propel the project into the next phase.

- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) multi-year cost-share award will provide \$1.355 billion toward development and construction of the project. That amounts to about one-fourth of the entire cost of the project. Much of the funding will be provided in the project's early phases, substantially reducing the early-stage obligations of participants. The award announcement generated significant national and international news media interest. See press release [HERE](#).



The cost-share award agreement demonstrates DOE's confidence in UAMPS and the project and highlights the importance of decarbonizing the electrical grid and maintaining U.S. leadership in nuclear development and innovation.

- The Development Cost Reimbursement Agreement between UAMPS and NuScale has been approved. This agreement ensures that UAMPS will be reimbursed for development costs in the early phases of the project if cost projections do not meet target levels, or if the project is terminated for cause as outlined in the agreement. This means participant investments are not at risk until the project is far enough along to be substantially de-risked.
- The Engineering, Procurement and Construction Development Agreement with Fluor Corporation has been approved. This agreement confirms Fluor as the contractor that will construct the plant at the Idaho National Laboratory near Idaho Falls. Fluor is an international construction and engineering firm that has built numerous nuclear plants. With Fluor on board, more detailed

engineering and construction design and plans can be developed, further refining costs and the timeline.

As the project has been de-risked with these three agreements, interest levels have substantially risen among a number of utilities outside of UAMPS that have been watching the project and are supportive.

The next phase of the project begins in November and will include development of an application to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to construct and operate the plant. As this process proceeds, additional utilities are expected to join the project.

## [CEO Perspective: Nuclear Project Needed for Abundant, Carbon-Free Energy](#)

UAMPS CEO & General Manager Doug Hunter outlines why UAMPS is pursuing the Carbon Free Power Project. “. . . we’re entering a period of global uncertainty, especially over climate change and over the rules that will govern emissions from the electric power sector. It’s pretty clear that our coal assets aren’t going to be allowed to run forever and that we’ll need to replace them. If we end up with policies that discourage carbon dioxide emissions, as already exist in Europe and parts of the United States, then natural gas isn’t going to be cheap anymore.

“Solar and wind will play a big role in our energy future, but it’s clear those can’t do the job alone. One of the [reasons cited recently for California’s rolling blackouts](#) was that solar farms weren’t producing as had been expected. As we push toward 100 percent emissions-free electricity, our system will be more vulnerable to weather fluctuations. We’re going to need emissions-free energy that is “dispatchable” — that is, that shows up when ordered.”



Doug Hunter, UAMPS CEO & General Manager

## Articles & Updates

### [Trusted and Ready — The CFPP is a Success in the Making](#)

Pete Lyons and Luis Reyes, who have a combined 43 years of experience at the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy, wrote a joint

column in the Idaho Falls Post Register responding to questions about the safety of the NuScale Power Module:

“The reality is that small, safe and flexible nuclear power plants are critical in achieving zero-carbon goals in the UAMPS region and across the country. Small modular reactors offer the opportunity to repurpose coal-fired power plants while creating new jobs. They also offer load-following capabilities that will complement renewables, thereby supporting a balanced, reliable grid to accelerate the transition to clean energy.”

## [Small Modular Reactors are Good for the Environment and the Economy](#)

*By Marc Nichol, director of new reactors at the Nuclear Energy Institute*

In a recent guest column, Ralph Hutchison made the argument that small modular reactors are “neither clean nor green – and [are] cost-prohibitive to boot.” Unfortunately, Ralph, who is the coordinator for the anti-nuclear Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance, is incorrect on both points. The truth is that small modular reactors are the perfect partners with renewable energy sources, like wind and solar, to achieve a carbon-free, reliable and affordable electricity supply.

The Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems should be commended, not criticized, for their efforts that see the benefits that SMRs can provide to their future generation portfolio. They are also not the only ones; other utilities are also making moves to plan for the future inclusion of SMRs into their generation portfolio.

## [Idaho Falls Post Register Editorial: City Council Should Remain Committed to SMR Project](#)

Idaho Falls is poised to play a pivotal role as a leader in the fight against global climate change, with a chance to provide cheap, clean power to the city’s residents and businesses for decades to come. The city should not waver.

The Carbon Free Power Project, under which Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems will construct a small modular reactor designed by NuScale, promises to bring the next generation of nuclear power to our backyard. Like the city’s existing stock of hydropower plants, which prior city leaders had the foresight to invest in, the small modular reactor project wouldn’t release carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gasses.

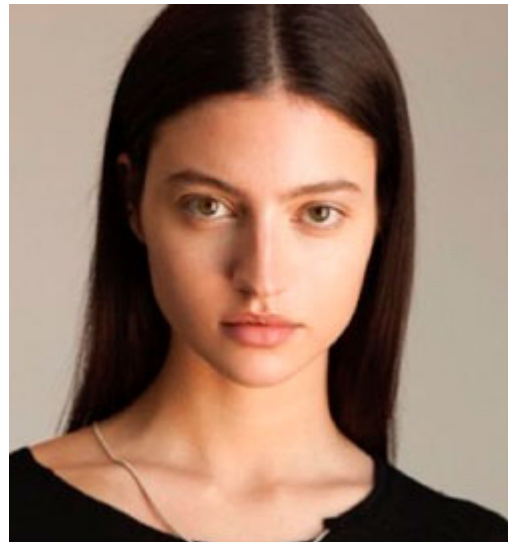
Given the city’s solid position, ability to contain future risks and the tremendous potential benefits of the project, both globally and for ratepayers, the Idaho Falls City Council should stay the course on the Carbon Free Power Project.

## [Fluor and NuScale Power Poised for Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems \(UAMPS\) Carbon Free Power Project Next Steps](#)

“Fluor is poised to assist UAMPS and NuScale in bringing the world’s first clean energy, carbon-free SMR project to commercialization. Fluor and NuScale are working with UAMPS in the development of the Carbon Free Power Project, a 720-megawatt plant in Idaho using 12 NuScale SMRs, which once completed, will provide reliable, cost competitive, base load, carbon-free electricity to UAMPS member participants.”

## [This Famous Fashion Model Wants You to Stop Worrying and Love Nuclear Energy](#)

The more Isabelle Boemeke learned about nuclear, the more she was convinced that it was crucial to mitigate climate change, and that the stigma around it was based on misinformation. So last fall, when devastating fires were blazing in Australia and the Amazon, and Boemeke was considering how she wanted to use her platform, an idea came to her. “What if I become a nuclear influencer,” she thought, “and . . . deliver something that I deem meaningful?”



Model Isabelle Boemeke

“My goal is for our civilization to move beyond fossil fuels,” she said. “And if nuclear is this incredibly powerful tool that we have in our fight against climate change, I don’t see why we shouldn’t be using it, or at least having it be a part of the conversation.”

## [Domestic Nuclear Power Important to Safety of U.S.](#)

John Snyder, a retired commercialization manager for Idaho National Laboratory, writes: “I completely agree that the city of Idaho Falls and other Carbon Free Power Project members should not, and cannot, be expected to bear the financial risk associated with the project alone. Nevertheless, it is imperative to our national security that the existing CFPP members remain committed to ensuring the success of this project.”

## **Member Highlight**

### [UAMPS Member Truckee Donner Public Utility District and the local school district collaborate to deliver WiFi to underserved students](#)

“One critical issue in our community has been a lack of internet service or poor connectivity issues for some of our families. Tahoe Truckee Unified School District had identified several communities within Truckee, with significant student populations, where access to the internet was a barrier for the student to access the high-quality education they deserve. Truckee Donner Public Utility District became aware of this critical community need and reached out to the school district to collaborate on a solution.”

“Truckee Donner PUD is dedicated to maintaining critical utility services during the COVID-19 pandemic but we understand that the community needs more help,” said Remleh Scherzinger, TDPUD general manger and chief executive officer. “Our staff took the initiative to build upon our existing infrastructure and strong partnership with the schools to quickly deliver quality WiFi to families identified by TTUSD.”



Remleh Scherzinger  
TDPUD general manger and CEO

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*If you have questions about UAMPS' plans for a carbon-free future, please email them to [jackie@uamps.com](mailto:jackie@uamps.com).*

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