

REGULATORY AND PUBLIC POLICY

A small, modular reactor (SMR) that is scalable to demand fits well into national and international goals to reduce CO2 emissions while increasing supplies of energy. A NuScale nuclear power plant can provide reliable, constant power supplies to complement the intermittent and variable supplies from renewables such as wind and solar.

Here are highlights of regulatory and legislative activities now under way:

- Like all commercial nuclear technology, SMR designs must prove their safety to the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission. **NuScale has successfully tested its design** and is preparing its application for design certification.
- NuScale Power aims to file for Design Certification with the NRC in 2012 with the goal of obtaining approval in 2015. The company hopes to see the first plant online as early as 2018.
- **The NRC is gearing up internally** to review and license several proposed SMRs. Because NuScale's design relies on familiar, proven light water reactor technology, it fits within the NRC's established regulatory framework.
- In the **U.S. Senate** and House, legislators have introduced several pieces of **bi-partisan legislation**. The legislation proposes to support the development and deployment of SMRs through cost sharing and research programs. Several also propose support to revitalize America's manufacturing base and workforce.
- Legislators in a number of states also propose to rescind bans on nuclear power. These were passed before technologies like NuScale's were an option and before climate change was known to be an issue. In 2010, legislators in Alaska unanimously rescinded its ban on commercial nuclear power.