



## FACT SHEET

### Electric Cooperatives Supporting Development of Small Nuclear Reactors

Electric cooperatives are actively promoting the development and commercialization of small modular nuclear reactors. These units, 300 MW or less, would be built in a factory setting and shipped to the ultimate site.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) and three generation and transmission cooperatives belong to NuScale's Customer Advisory Board. Electric cooperatives are working with many partners to advance attractive new small nuclear technologies, including the NuScale SMR.

Electric co-ops see the following advantages for this new technology:

- The size of SMRs make them a cleaner option and also an economical and geographically viable option for replacing legacy coal plants that may have to shut down. These coal plants have much of the necessary infrastructure already in place: transmission, land and water.
- The smaller size of these generation units translates into reduced financial risk, currently one of the most significant barriers to increasing our nation's nuclear capacity.
- Cooperatives have decades of experience developing and operating nuclear generation via jointly-owned large units.
- Cooperatives support diversifying generation resources and are reluctant to depend too heavily on one source, such as a natural gas.

Where electric cooperatives stand on nuclear energy policy:

- NRECA supports the development of federal policies that will (1) ensure existing nuclear generating plants will continue to provide clean, reliable, safe and affordable electricity and (2) allow for the appropriate expansion of and investment in the next generation of new nuclear power plants.
- NRECA supports regulatory certainty in the timely permitting and approval of new nuclear plant construction.
- NRECA supports policies that ensure timely construction and operation of a permanent National Repository for High Level Radioactive Waste.
- Electric cooperatives support private and public interim storage facility proposals to provide additional flexibility for storage of spent fuel.

For more information on electric cooperatives and energy policy, go to [www.nreca.coop](http://www.nreca.coop) or contact Tracy Warren at 70-907-5746.