

UNITED KINGDOM

NuScale launches SMR action plan for Britain

U.S. nuclear technology developer NuScale Power on September 5 launched an action plan for the near-term deployment of its small modular reactor (SMR) in the United Kingdom. The plan describes how NuScale will partner with British industry to deliver a multibillion-pound SMR venture, with U.K. companies potentially supplying more than 85 percent of the content required for U.K. deployment.

The plan builds on the collaboration NuScale has been developing over several years with British organizations, including Sheffield Forgemasters, the Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre, and Ultra Electronics.

Tom Mundy, NuScale Power's chief commercial officer and managing director for the United Kingdom and Europe, said that the plan sets out a vision for NuScale's technology to be rolling off production lines in the 2020s "and transforming the U.K. into a hub for export into a lucrative global market." But, he noted, "The window of opportunity is closing, and for the benefits of our U.K. vision of near-term SMR deployments to be fully realized, decisions must be taken by government now."

Also, Mundy stressed, "NuScale's SMR is credible for near-term deployment and will help ensure that the U.K. meets its future energy challenge head on."

NuScale's vision for the deployment of its SMR technology in the United Kingdom is set out in the following five-point plan:

■ *Meeting Britain's energy challenge*—The United Kingdom needs SMR deployment in the 2020s as a low-carbon replacement for retiring coal-fired power stations, a replacement for an aging nuclear fleet, and to meet future growth in demand from, for example, electric vehicles.

■ *Bringing an opportunity for U.K. leadership and international partnership*—The United Kingdom could become a global leader in the development and deployment of innovative nuclear technology, seizing first-mover advantage of a U.K.-U.S. partnership on SMRs.

■ *Boosting the U.K. economy*—A multi-billion pound SMR venture will boost U.K. economic growth, productivity, and wealth creation by providing high-value jobs, intellectual property rights, and export opportunities for the United Kingdom's 65,000-person-strong civilian nuclear workforce.

■ *Realizing a large near-term opportunity*—U.K. SMR deployment could be achieved within the next decade, through leveraging NuScale's mature design, U.S. government support, and a pipeline of

customer interest.

■ *Providing government an opportunity to enable a successful SMR program*—The U.K. government can seize this once-in-a-generation SMR opportunity by providing long-term political support, the right market conditions, clarity on the regulatory review process, identification of sites, and continued support for U.K. nuclear capabilities.

The launch of NuScale's U.K. action plan follows the acceptance of the company's design certification application (DCA) by the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission earlier this year. This was the first ever SMR DCA to be submitted to

the NRC. It is expected that regulatory approval in the United States will be granted in the early 2020s and will support an initial deployment project for NuScale's first customer from a site in Idaho by the mid-2020s.

Fluor Corporation is the majority investor in NuScale, whose technology was initially developed and tested at Oregon State University. The basic NuScale Power Module is a fully factory-fabricated 50-MWe (gross) nuclear unit consisting of an integral reactor vessel surrounded by a high-pressure steel containment. NuScale foresees power stations housing up to 12 modules. **IN**

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