

SB 194

ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTORS



Architectural rendition of Power Plant, Clean Air Task Force report page 29

Advanced Nuclear Reactors

- ▶ Advanced nuclear reactors are
 - ▶ small enough to transport easily
 - ▶ run for 10 or more years without needing to be refueled
 - ▶ can power rural Alaskan villages, mining operations, military installments, or provide backup electricity to existing power grids
- ▶ Clean, safe, and reliable power can be provided to bring rural Alaska out of energy poverty
- ▶ SB 194 ensures that investments can be made with the knowledge that advanced nuclear reactors have a market here in Alaska

Current Law:

- ▶ AS 18.45.025 requires a **law** to be passed by the legislature for each individual location of use
 - ▶ This is in addition to licensing by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

What SB 194 does:

- ▶ Adds “**advanced nuclear reactor**” to the siting requirements in AS 18.45.025
- ▶ Removes requirement of a law being passed by the legislature for each parcel of land used by an **advanced nuclear reactor**
 - ▶ Only applies to advanced nuclear reactors
 - ▶ Leaves in local control
 - ▶ Leaves in DEC licensing
 - ▶ NRC licensing is federally required
- ▶ Signals to the industry that Alaska is open for business

Advanced Nuclear Energy

What is it?

- ▶ Advanced nuclear energy is not a specific technology.
- ▶ There are many companies who are developing advanced nuclear
- ▶ To be classified as “advanced nuclear energy,” a reactor or fuel cycle must offer some of the following attributes:
 - ▶ lower capital and/or operational costs
 - ▶ manufacturability or rapid deployment capability
 - ▶ passive safety systems and inherent safety strategies
 - ▶ ease of operation and maintenance
 - ▶ reduced emergency planning zones, reduced offsite impact during an accident, and increased flexibility/scalability of siting
 - ▶ increased proliferation resistance
 - ▶ decreased water use
 - ▶ decreased waste production and/or an actinide management capacity
 - ▶ more efficient use of fuel resources
 - ▶ hybrid generation adaptability (e.g. hydrogen production, desalination) and/or load following
 - ▶ reduced material inputs

Why Alaska?

5

Remote Capability

Rural communities

Alaska has ~300 remote communities that have small independent grids

Mining

Current challenges accessing reliable and affordable energy

Lower power costs could help extend mine life by making lower grade ore more profitable

Military

Long-term operation without refueling

Independent grids to supply secure and resilient power

Black-start capable

Cost Effectiveness

Reduce electricity and heating costs significantly

Refuel every 10+ years

Projected cost:

\$.09-.41 / kwh

Climate Friendly

Improving air quality in remote communities in Alaska

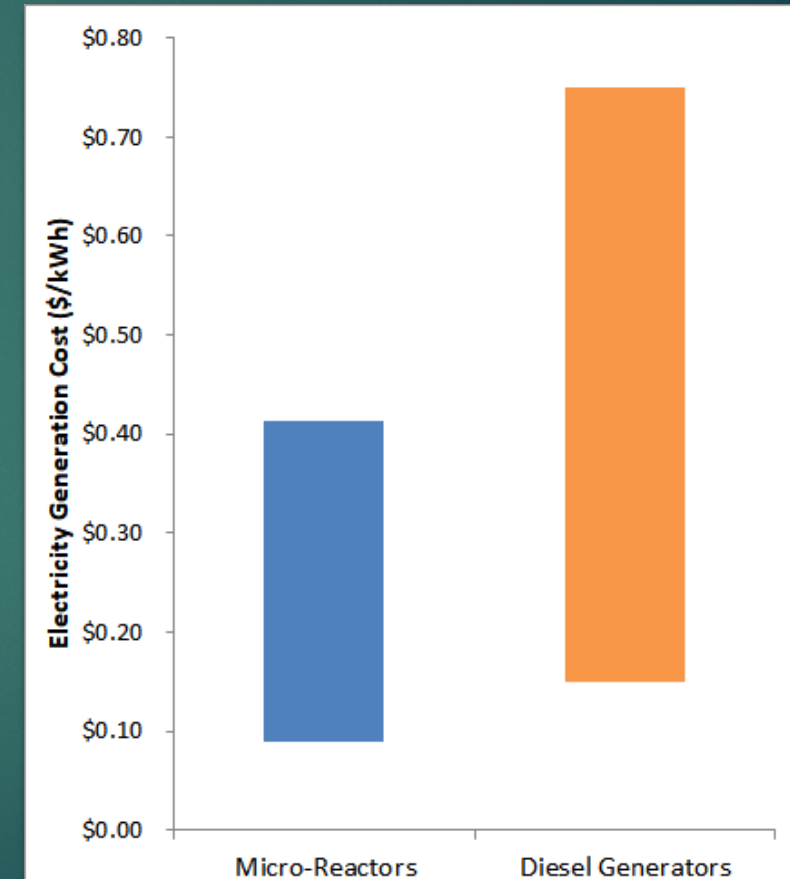
Diesel and coal account for 13% and 10% of the electricity generation, respectively

-2018 US Energy Information Administration Report

Carbon free

Cost of Energy Provided

- ▶ Microreactors can be cost competitive for remote applications such as arctic communities, islands, mines, and defense installations
- ▶ 1st generation micro-reactors
 - ▶ Estimated between 14-41 cents/kwh
- ▶ Future generations
 - ▶ Estimated between 9-33 cents/kwh



PCE communities:

Example of electricity rates in rural Alaska

| | Population | \$/KWH* |
|-----------------|------------|---------|
| Adak | 309 | \$ 1.43 |
| Stevens Village | 41 | \$ 1.07 |
| Takotna | 64 | \$ 1.02 |
| Chalkyitsik | 79 | \$ 0.95 |
| Igiugig | 53 | \$ 0.92 |
| Ruby | 178 | \$ 0.75 |
| Napakiak | 355 | \$ 0.70 |
| Galena | 488 | \$ 0.67 |
| Fort Yukon | 558 | \$ 0.66 |
| Tanana | 224 | \$ 0.65 |
| Tenakee Springs | 140 | \$ 0.65 |
| Aniak | 517 | \$ 0.63 |
| Ambler | 260 | \$ 0.54 |
| Unalaska | 4448 | \$ 0.50 |
| Bethel | 6294 | \$ 0.35 |
| Nome | 3777 | \$ 0.33 |

PCE Floor
17.58 cents

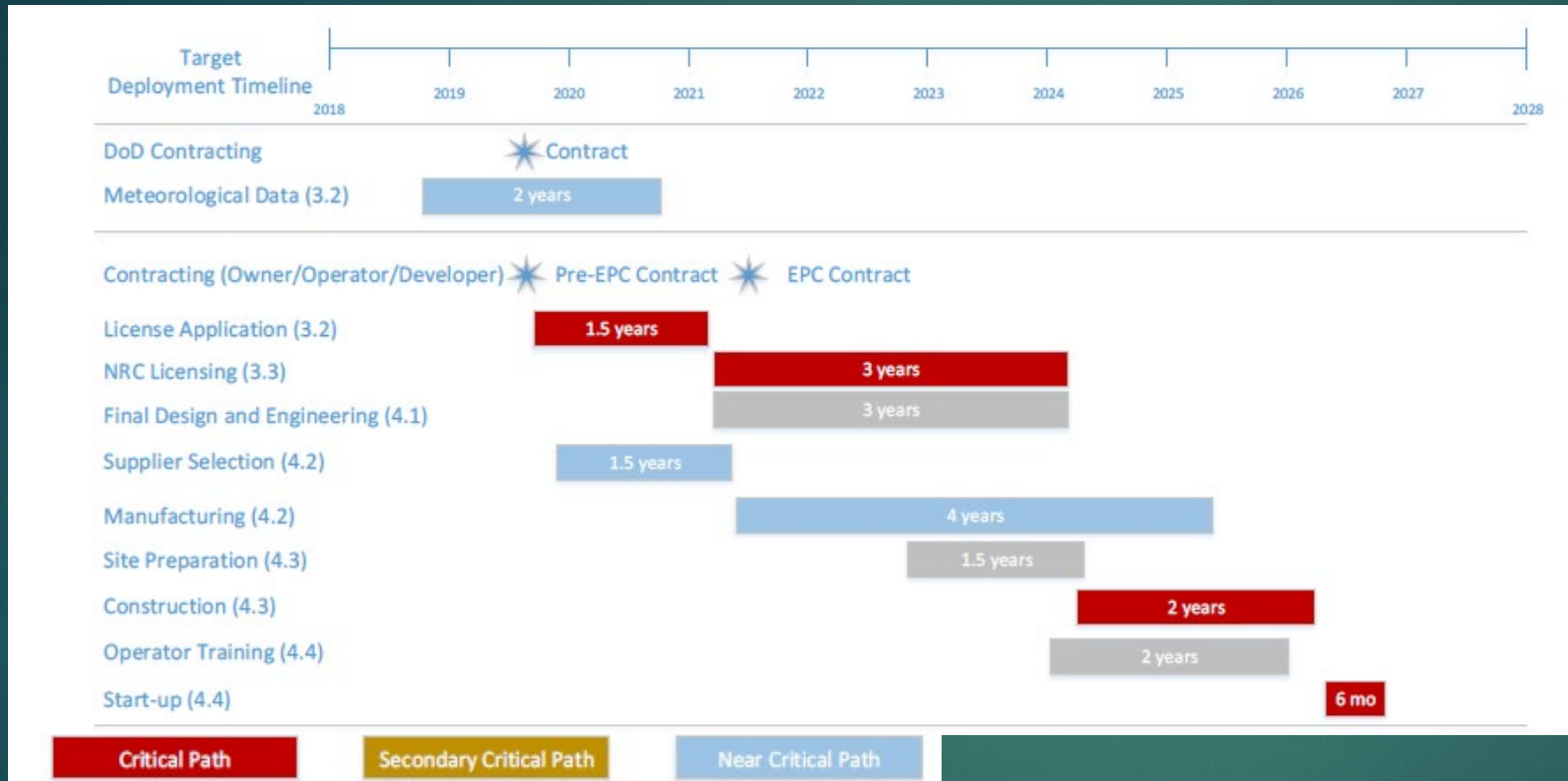
*before PCE

The Power Cost Equalization Program provides economic assistance to communities and residents of **rural** electric utilities where the cost of electricity can be **three to five** times higher than for customers in more **urban** areas of the state

-PCE Fact Sheet April 2019

Estimated Timeline

8



Micro-reactor technology is maturing rapidly, with over a dozen designs under development, and an expected deployment of the first commercial micro-reactor in the mid-2020s.

- NEI Cost Competitiveness report

Safety

9

- ▶ Many technologies incorporate passive or inherent safety features
- ▶ Require no active controls or operational intervention to avoid accidents in the event of malfunction, and may rely on gravity, natural convection or resistance to high temperatures
- ▶ Designed to reduce the probability of an accident
 - ▶ Atmospheric Pressure
 - ▶ Cooling system that doesn't use water
 - ▶ Liquid Metal
 - ▶ Molten Salt
 - ▶ Minimal or no moving parts

* Traditional reactor safety systems are 'active' in the sense that they involve electrical or mechanical operation on command

Nuclear Energy Leadership Act (S. 903)

Senator Lisa Murkowski

10

- ▶ SB 194 aligns with Senator Murkowski's efforts at the national level
- ▶ NELA sets goals for nuclear energy in the US
 - ▶ Calls for demonstration of two advanced nuclear reactors by end of 2025
- ▶ Defines “advanced nuclear reactor” the same as SB 194



Calendar No. 217

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|
| 116TH CONGRESS } 1st Session } | SENATE | { REPORT 116-114 } |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-----------------------|

NUCLEAR ENERGY LEADERSHIP ACT

SEPTEMBER 24, 2019.—Ordered to be printed

Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany S. 903]

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to which was referred the bill (S. 903) to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish advanced nuclear goals, provide for a versatile, reactor-based fast neutron source, make available high-assay, low-enriched uranium for research, development, and demonstration of advanced nuclear reactor concepts, and for other purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment (in the nature of a substitute) and recommends that the bill, as amended, do pass.

The amendment is as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Nuclear Energy Leadership Act”.

SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF LONG-TERM POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENTS.

Section 501(b)(1) of title 40, United States Code, is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

(B) PUBLIC UTILITY CONTRACTS.—

(i) TERM.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—A contract under this paragraph to purchase electricity from a public utility may be for a period of not more than 40 years.

(II) OTHER PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES.—A contract under this paragraph for a public utility service other than a service described in subclause (i) may be for a period of not more than 10 years.

(ii) COSTS.—The cost of a contract under this paragraph for any fiscal year may be paid from the appropriations for that fiscal year.

SEC. 3. LONG-TERM NUCLEAR POWER PURCHASE AGREEMENT PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title VI of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-58; 119 Stat. 782) is amended by adding at the end the following:

89-010

Questions?

Presentation by:

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Staff to Senator Click Bishop