

ClinchRiverESPEISCEm Resource

From: Herald, Matthew Tyler <mherald1@vols.utk.edu>
Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 8:15 PM
To: ClinchRiverESPEIS
Subject: [External_Sender] Comment on DEIS

The Tennessee Valley Authority's (TVA) decision to explore siting a small modular reactor on the Clinch River is a good decision and should be supported. As the provider of electricity for millions of people in Tennessee and the Southeast United States, the TVA's responsibility is to ensure their ratepayers have access to affordable, reliable electricity. The future of nuclear energy, and by extension energy generation, may include small modular reactors. This new technology offers many benefits, technological and social which make it attractive to produce electricity. However, like any new technology safety is the utmost concern. Both the design of a reactor and its siting deserve attention to address any and all safety concerns.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement conducted by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission seeks to assess the types and severity of environmental impacts to the Clinch River Site. I have read and reviewed the draft to conclude that the siting of small modular reactor, within the limits established by the TVA, will pose minimal environmental impacts. Further, the severity of the environmental impact is found to be inherently lower due to the passive safety features inherent to many small modular designs like those under consideration.

For example, the NuScale Power Module design, features passive safety features and a high safety margin. The unit is able to safely shut itself down in the event of an abnormality in operating conditions and stay shut down indefinitely without external action. The underground design provides a high level of resistance against external threats which could result in radiation releases. Additionally, redundant passive decay heat removal ensures that more than one system is available. These features and additional considerations on-site make the Clinch River site appropriate for the siting of a nuclear reactor in my view.

The TVA's decision to pursue advanced nuclear energy seems to me a good investment for their ratepayers. Electricity will be produced under safer conditions, emit zero greenhouse gases in the process, and will support the domestic nuclear industry.

Federal Register Notice: 83FR18554
Comment Number: 8

Mail Envelope Properties (A56E4D39-2164-496E-A908-7AB7FF57CA58)

Subject: [External_Sender] Comment on DEIS
Sent Date: 7/2/2018 8:14:40 PM
Received Date: 7/2/2018 8:14:44 PM
From: Herald, Matthew Tyler

Created By: mherald1@vols.utk.edu

Recipients:

Post Office: vols.utk.edu

Files	Size	Date & Time
MESSAGE	2164	7/2/2018 8:14:44 PM

Options
Priority: Standard
Return Notification: No
Reply Requested: No
Sensitivity: Normal
Expiration Date:
Recipients Received: