



C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

May 16, 2017

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing today to encourage your support for continued U.S. Department of Energy cost-share funding of the groundbreaking and potentially game-changing small modular reactor (SMR) program.

Clean, efficient, safe and scalable SMR technology could reshape commercial nuclear energy in America. Research by Fluor Corp's NuScale Power, with the support of Department of Energy (DOE) cost sharing since 2013, promises to revitalize the nuclear industry while reducing our dependence on greenhouse gas-producing fossil fuels.

As you may know, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) accepted the NuScale SMR design certification for review in March. A voluminous design application recently was submitted to the NRC with the help of DOE funding, and the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) and Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) are engaged in site permitting for potential SMR deployments in Tennessee and at the DOE's Idaho National Laboratory.

However, the \$165 million that DOE has been authorized to provide for NuScale's work will be exhausted at the end of calendar 2017. Along with the company's \$425 million investment, the DOE funding has helped double the rate of design work since 2013 while increasing NuScale's employment from 300 to 700. Domestic manufacturers throughout the country also have received \$180 million for their work on the SMR technology.

Fluor/NuScale has identified an additional \$700 million needed to complete development of the technology, including construction design and manufacturing support. Site permitting is expected to cost an additional \$300 million or so. The loss of DOE cost sharing would result in slower progress toward commercializing the SMR technology and achieving a first deployment in Idaho in 2026.

As federal budget deliberations for fiscal 2018 continue, I urge your positive consideration of the potential benefits the nation could derive from advancing work on the SMR program. It is an investment that figures to pay enormous long-term dividends and a unique opportunity to position America at the cutting edge of this crucial energy sector.

Thank you for your time and attention to this issue.

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As Always – Idaho, “Esto Perpetua”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C.L. Butch Otter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "C" and "O".

CLO/mw

C.L. “Butch” Otter  
Governor of Idaho

Cc: Energy Secretary Rick Perry  
Senator Mike Crapo  
Senator James E. Risch  
Congressman Mike Simpson  
Congressman Raul Labrador