

LWR Integrated Energy Systems Interface Technology Development and Demonstration

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Organization: Vistra

DOE Project Award: DE-NE0008925

DOE Hydrogen Program
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AMR Project ID: NE001

This presentation does not contain any proprietary, confidential or otherwise restricted information

Project Goal

Carry out planning, design, testing, demonstration, and evaluation of a scalable hydrogen generation pilot plant connected to a light-water reactor (LWR) power plant.

- Provide alternative revenue streams to nuclear power plants to mitigate the impact of low electricity prices
- Improve the availability of hydrogen generated by carbon-free nuclear power
- Create an infrastructure that can support long-term scalability of hydrogen generation

Overview

Timeline

- Awarded: September 2021
- Project Estimated End Date: December 2024

Budget

- Total Project Budget: \$14,702,588
- Total DOE Share: \$11,384,229
- Total Recipient Share: \$3,318,359
- Total DOE Funds Spent*\$9,032,891
- Total Recipient Funds Spent*\$3,118,027

* As of 03-31-2024 as it relates to track 2

Barriers

- Risk elimination/mitigation
- Refueling outage constraints
- Hydrogen project proficiency
- Hydrogen skid fabrication

Partners

- Idaho National Laboratory (INL)
- Xcel Energy Inc. (XE)
- Arizona Public Service Co. (APS)

Overview

Track 1

Perform a Technical Economic Assessment for Arizona Public Service Company (APS) and Xcel Energy Inc.

Track 2

Establish plant infrastructure to install an electrolysis skid to demonstrate the technical and economic feasibility of operating a Hydrogen generation plant in-situ with a nuclear power facility.

Location

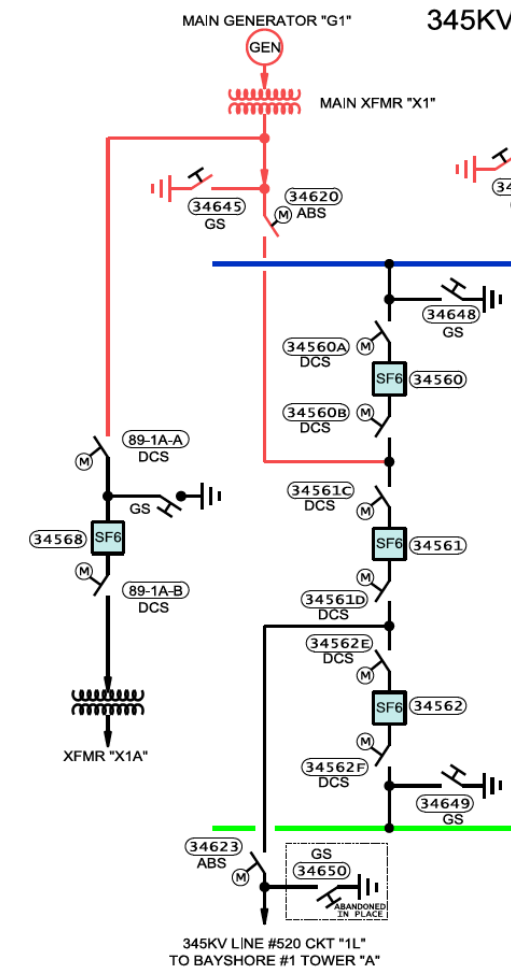
Davis-Besse Nuclear Power Plant located in Oak Harbor, OH which is approximately 25 miles east of Toledo, OH



This presentation will focus on Track 2

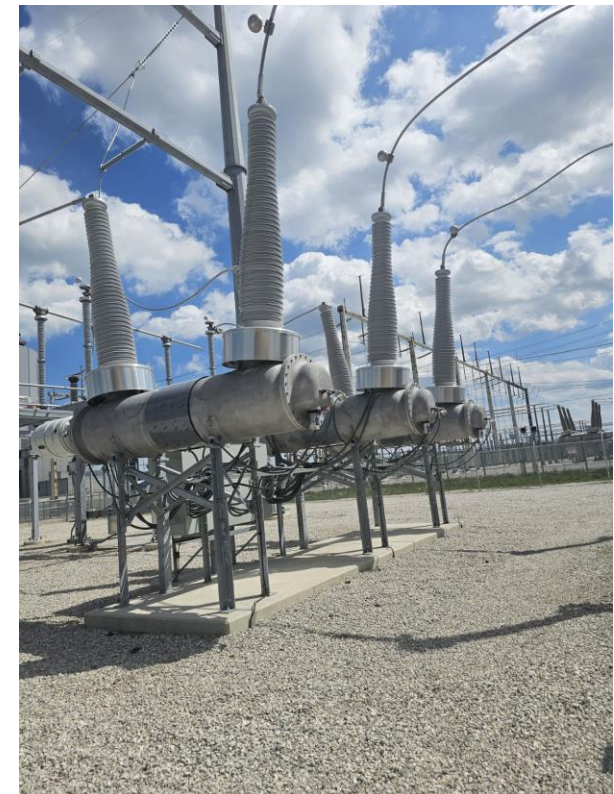
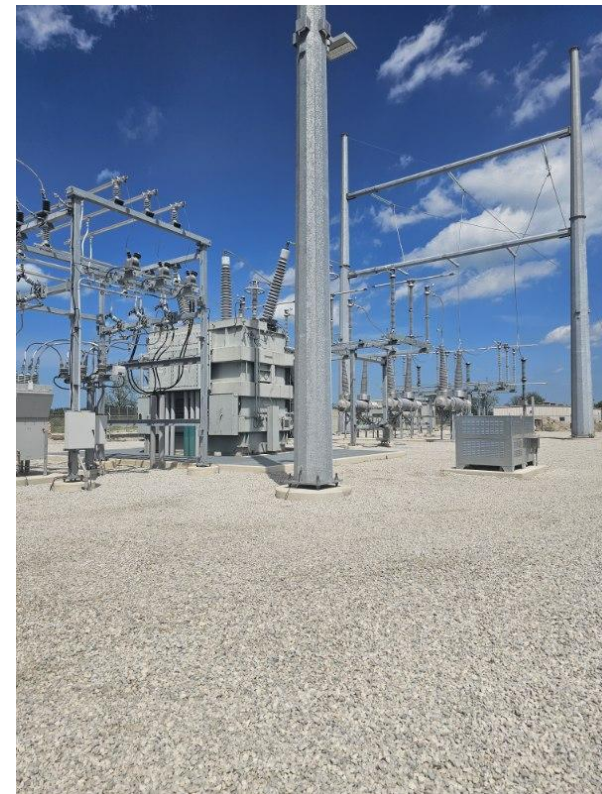
Electrical Infrastructure

- Electrical tie-in was added between the main transformer and generator output breakers
- New differential relaying needed to be added to protect the assets
- Connection required load study by the utility



Electrical Infrastructure

Installation/testing of electrical modifications is complete.



Hydrogen Infrastructure

Hydrogen Infrastructure is in progress.

Location considerations:

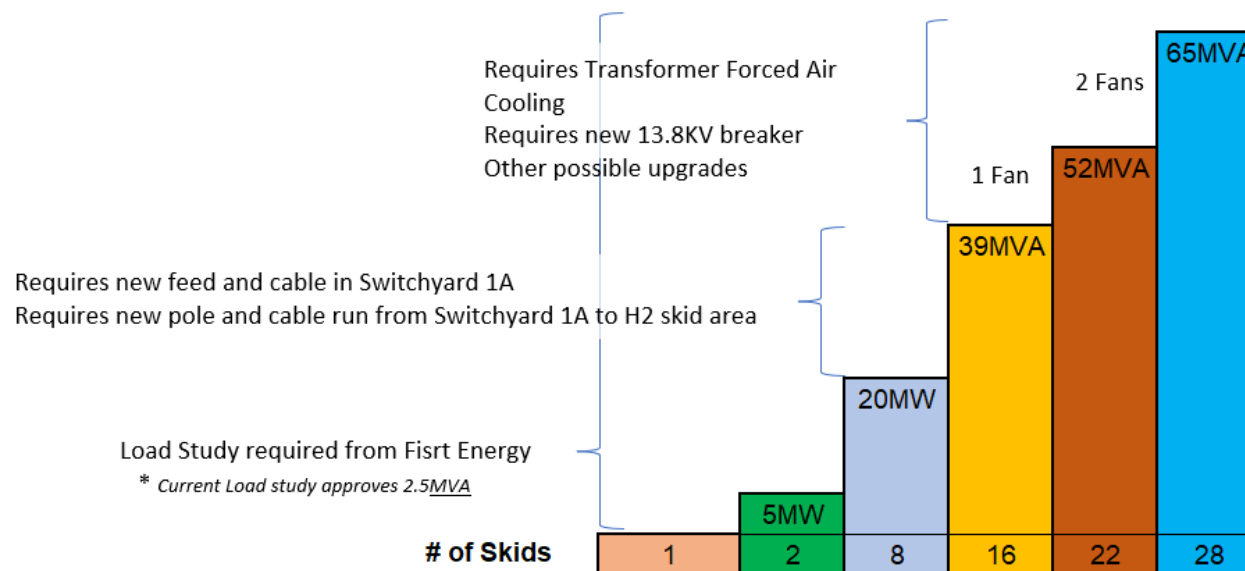
- Hazard creation
- Proximity to the electrical source
- Proximity to a water source
- Traffic flow
- Scalability



Scalability

Electrical Infrastructure and skid location allows the station to scale up.

Future Hydrogen Production Scalability Constraints



Risk Impact

Installation of a new electrical infrastructure that connects directly to the nuclear power plant presents risks. The following risks were addressed:

- Generation Risk – New protective relaying needed to be tied into a cabinet in the control room. Existing circuitry in the cabinet could have caused a plant trip if an error was made
- Personnel Safety Risk – Installation of new poles and cable requires proper standoff distances from high voltage lines
- Nuclear Safety Risk – System outages for electrical modifications have to be coordinated to achieve shutdown defense in depth
- Cyber Security Risk – New equipment must be adequately assessed and hardened to preclude cyber threats

Refueling Outage

Some of the risks were eliminated by conducting installation during a refueling outage. This presented other challenges:

- Coordination – Alignments required for testing may not be compatible with the shutdown defense in depth philosophy.
- Resources – The amount of work during an outage can cause a competing demand for work location and personnel to perform the work.
- Duration – Refueling outages are set to a specific duration to meet business goals. Project activities need to fit within discrete windows to perform the work.

Hydrogen Project Proficiency

- Our organization is proficient at running nuclear power plants and installing modifications that improve the nuclear power plant.
- Our lack of proficiency in designing and installing hydrogen generation requires us to get assistance from outside experts for the design and installation.
- We do not plan to operate the hydrogen generation equipment ourselves.
 - Testing – equipment manufacturer
 - If demonstration is successful and economics are favorable, we would seek potential relationships with leading gas suppliers.

Hydrogen Skid Fabrication

- Failure of the equipment supplier to meet contractual commitments has led to delays in the Hydrogen Infrastructure
- Currently working with a different supplier that will minimize further delays
- Being open to electrolysis technologies (HTE vs LTE) creates more possibilities for resolution

Positive Public Impact

Stakeholders that have visited our site to learn about the project have walked away with a positive perception of nuclear power and hydrogen generation.

- Local / State / Federal political figures
- Community organizations
- High school and college students
- Nuclear Regulatory officials
- Community day participants



Accomplishments and Progress

- Design of new Switchyard – completed April 2022
- Design of plant interface – completed February 2023
- Design of Hydrogen skid installation – in progress
- Construction of new Switchyard – completed March 2024
- Installation of plant interface – completed March 2024
- Hydrogen production demonstration – TBD (expected December of 2024)

Safety

- Safe operation at a nuclear power plant takes precedence over all other considerations including time, economic, and competitive pressures.
- Activities at a nuclear power plant must consider:
 - Nuclear Safety
 - Radiological Safety
 - Personnel Safety
 - Environmental Safety

Summary

- Electrical infrastructure has been successfully installed and tested
- Hydrogen skid infrastructure is in progress
- Design and equipment selection allows scalability
- Results and lessons learned will be shared with others pursuing hydrogen generation capabilities

Technical Backup and Additional Information

Technology Transfer

Track 1

- Location specific Technical and Economic Assessments have been created by Xcel Energy Inc. and Arizona Power Service Co.

Track 2

- An economic analysis of the viability of hybrid operations at a LWR facility will be completed. This analysis will incorporate costing data from the design, installation, maintenance, and operation of the skid.
- This report will ultimately be used by other utilities that operate nuclear power facilities for large-scale commercialization.