



4th Edition, June 8, 2020

UAMPS Statement on Equality & Respect

Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems wishes to join many other organizations in expressing our commitment to racial equality, diversity, social justice and respect for all humanity.

It is unfortunate that inequality and intolerance still exist in America. We recognize that we cannot take for granted our commitment to respect all people. The right to peaceful protest is a right granted to us by the Constitution and helps us see the pain that exists. We do not condone violence or destruction of property.

Going forward, we pledge to be a welcoming place for all races and genders to be respected and treated as equal. We seek to work to bridge the divides that exist around us with a higher degrees of inclusion and tolerance.



Rep. Ben McAdams (screenshot taken during webinar on nuclear energy)

McAdams: Nuclear Energy Allows Renewable Energy to Succeed

Utah Congressman Ben McAdams expressed support for nuclear energy and the Carbon Free Power Project (CFPP) during a webinar on May 14, sponsored by the Foundation for Nuclear Studies.

McAdams, who represents Utah's 4th Congressional District, was interviewed remotely by Maria Korsnick, president & CEO of the Nuclear Energy Institute.

Here are some of McAdams' comments during the webinar:

- *"I believe when it comes to addressing the growth here in Utah, across the Wasatch Front, and really across the country, reducing pollution, reducing carbon emissions and addressing the climate crisis we do need an 'all of the above' energy approach. So, that is why I am also, in addition to renewable energy sources, supportive and interested in the advancement of nuclear energy production particularly with advanced reactor technology. That's why I am so interested in going to see the Idaho National Laboratory [and CFPP project]."*
- *"Nuclear energy is an essential option to quickly scale up carbon-neutral power production and we are increasingly needing an off-ramp from fossil fuel."*
- *"UAMPS has been instrumental in educating me and my staff on legislation that furthers nuclear energy development, so thank you for that partnership."*
- *"I had intended (before the COVID-19 outbreak) to go to INL with UAMPS and my staff to see how small modular reactor technology worked and to see how this legislation [NELA] would help to deliver power to my constituents."*
- **Statement by Dr. Dick Meserve (former Nuclear Regulatory Commission chair) during the webinar:** *"I really think that the case should be made that nuclear and renewables need to work together."*
- **McAdams response to Meserve:** *"I couldn't say it better myself. . . The intermittency of renewable energy, unreliability of renewable energy, just won't cut it. So, you have got to have a stable energy source that you can fire up any time of day any day of the week, whether the wind is blowing or the sun is shining, you have got to have that stable source of energy. Nuclear energy is the complement that allows renewable energy to succeed."*

McAdams serves on the House Committee on Science, Space and Technology, and on the Research and Technology and Environment subcommittees.

Nuclear Isn't a Four-letter Word, But Here are Some That Should be Associated

At the end of the May 14 webinar with Congressman McAdams, interviewer Maria Korsnick noted that the congressman had mentioned that, to some people, nuclear “is a four-letter word.” She then suggested some actual four-letter words that should be associated with nuclear.

- *Safe: Safest baseload power source.*
- *Save: Save the planet from carbon emissions with nuclear power.*
- *Gift: United States brought commercial nuclear plants to the rest of the world.*
- *Best: Best energy operations in the world shown by the statistics and strong operations standards.*
- *Hero: High volume of reliable carbon-free power.*
- *Wish: We need more nuclear power.*

Articles & Updates

[An Affordable Zero-Emissions Grid Needs New Nuclear](#)

The Hill published an essay by Todd Allen and Michael Craig about the importance of nuclear energy in decarbonizing the electrical supply. Allen heads the Fastest Path to Zero Initiative at the University of Michigan and is department chair of nuclear engineering and radiological services. Craig is an assistant professor of energy systems at the University of Michigan.



Excerpt:

Cheap electricity from nuclear energy can provide flexibility that complements wind and solar power, making it easier to afford a zero-emissions grid. . . .

Nuclear energy of the 21st century could be very different from that of the 20th century and businesses with an eye on climate are

reinventing the sector. More than [75 new companies](#) in the United States are designing a wide range of advanced nuclear products for industrial and electric power applications. These reactors are being developed with larger systems in mind, including how to work with – not against – renewables.

[NuScale](#), an Oregon-based company, is on schedule to begin construction on their new design in 2026 for their mountain west customer, the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS). In 2016, the Department of Energy granted UAMPS a site license to build their first reactor at the Idaho National Laboratory.

The fastest path to zero emissions is the combination of energy sources that, as a system, equitably tackles emissions across sectors. Nuclear can play an indispensable role in that pursuit, side-by-side with renewables and other technologies.

[Atlantic Council's Global Energy Center Interview with Dr. Jose Reyes](#).

Dr. Reyes is the chief technology officer and co-founder of NuScale Power. In this excellent video interview he discusses the latest advancements in small modular reactor (SMR) design, commercialization, and deployment. He describes the development of the NuScale design and innate safety features and notes that UAMPS is the first customer of the NuScale SMR with its Carbon Free Power Project. He calls UAMPS “a great partner.”



Dr. Jose Reyes, NuScale Power

[Oregon Business Report: A Case for Small Modular Nuclear Reactors](#).

Rachel Dawson of the Cascade Policy Institute has written an article published May 21 in the Oregon Business Report discussing nuclear power and NuScale's SMR.

An excerpt:

Oregon, it's about time we talk about nuclear power.

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has completed its first SMR certification review for a company called NuScale Power, which expects final approval by (the end of) 2020. As it so happens, NuScale is headquartered right here in Portland.

NuScale is developing a new type of nuclear reactor that it claims is safer, smaller, and more affordable than traditional nuclear reactors.

. . .

According to a NuScale representative, the Fukushima nuclear disaster could never happen with an SMR. In Fukushima, the plant lost power to its safety system during an earthquake and tsunami, which caused the plant to melt down. SMRs can cool themselves without any intervention in the case of a major natural disaster.

Wind and solar plants are not currently able to power the grid by themselves given their intermittency, and battery technology is not developed enough to be implemented at utility scale. The grid needs some kind of baseload power that is capable of backing up renewables when they fail to produce power. Right now, that role is being filled by natural gas and coal plants. If Oregon officials are serious about operating the grid with 100% renewable power, they need to bring SMRs into the discussion. Otherwise the reliability—and affordability—of the grid could be at stake.



NuScale's small modular reactor that will be used in the CFPP.

Popular Mechanics Looks at SMRs, Including NuScale's Reactor. Writer Caroline Delbert explains the U.S. Department of Energy's Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program and mentions NuScale's SMR. (NuScale received previous funding and is not eligible for the advanced reactor program.)

An excerpt:

"Advanced nuclear energy systems hold enormous potential to lower emissions, create new jobs, and build a strong economy," Rita Baranwal, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Nuclear Energy, said in a DOE statement.

One of the leading projects the Nuclear Energy Institute mentions may sound familiar: "NuScale Power LLC is expected to receive the first small modular reactor design certification from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission later this year," the NEI reports. NuScale's tiny modular reactor is designed to be deployed for small

communities with lower power needs and embodies advanced reactor values.

In Other News . . .

Ron Crump Retires From Payson City. UAMPS board member Ron Crump retired from Payson City on May 28. He had been Payson's UAMPS representative and served on the UAMPS board of directors for 29 years, since 1991. During his tenure, Crump served as the Craig-Mona Project Chair from 1998-2000, the Hunter Project Chair 2007-2009; and the Payson Project Chair from 2002- 2004. We wish Ron well in retirement.



Ron Crump

If you have questions about UAMPS' plans for a carbon-free future, please email them to jackie@uamps.com.

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