## THE U.S. NUCLEAR RENAISSANCE AND THE CHALLENGES IT PRESENTS

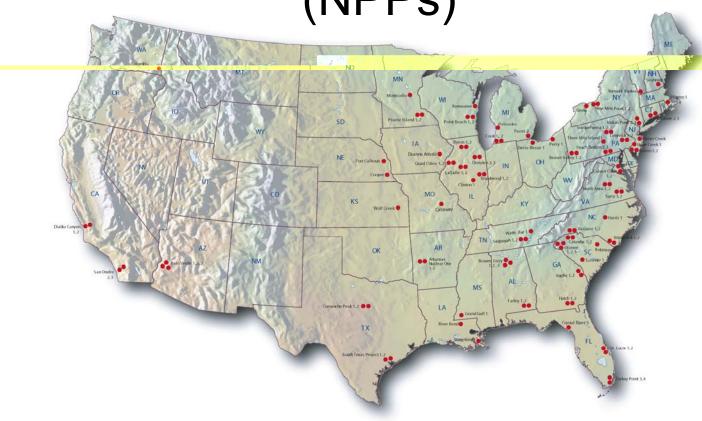
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Vice President/President-Elect
American Nuclear Society
Retired Department Head
Nuclear Engineering
Texas A&M University



ANS Virginia Local Section Lynchburg, VA May 15, 2008



# U.S. Operating Nuclear Power Plants (NPPs)

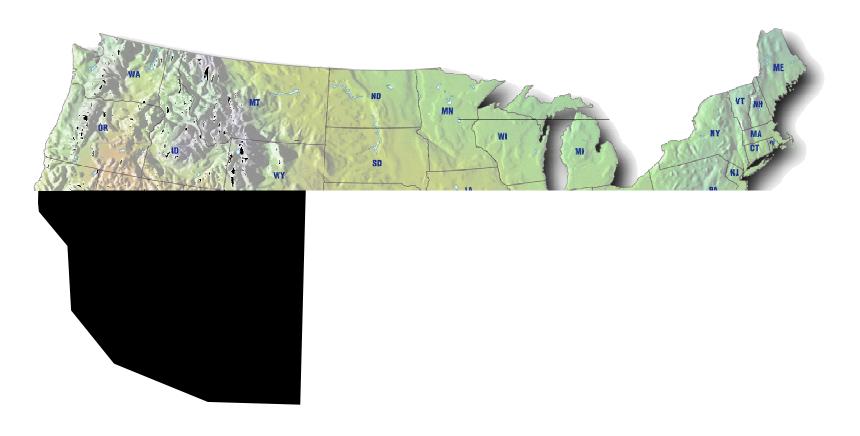


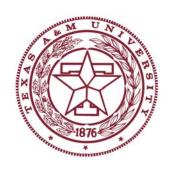


104 Operating Reactors ~20% of U.S. Electricity



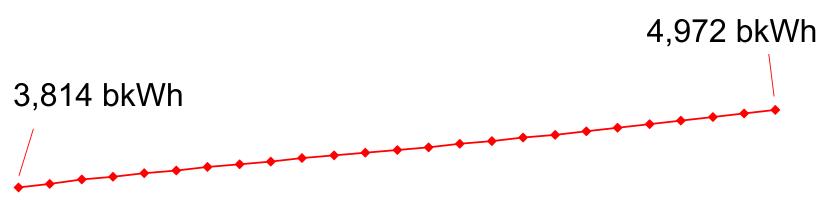
### **Announced Potential New NPPs**







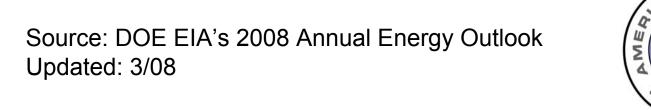
### U.S. Electricity Demand Growth



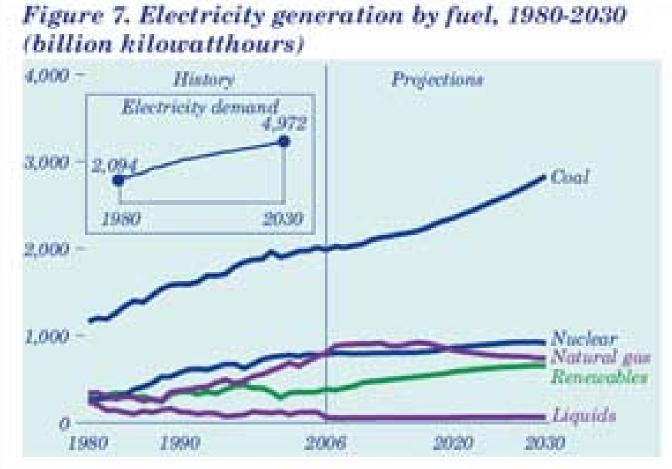
1.1 % average annual growth rate

30% increase in demand by 2030





### Projection of Electricity Generation by Fuel



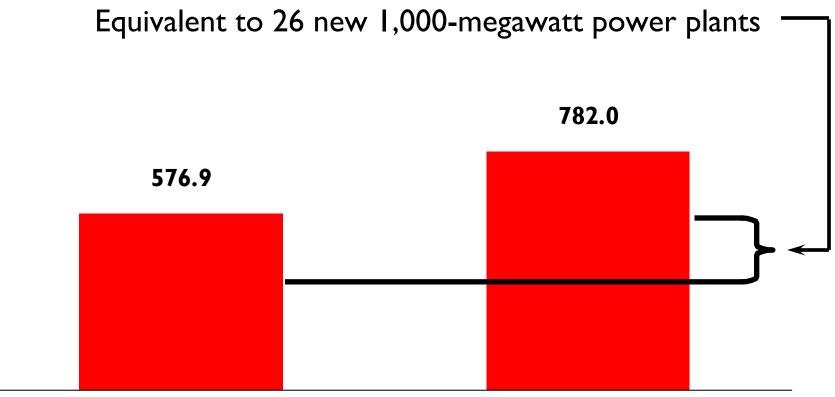


Source: DOE EIA's 2008 Annual Energy Outlook

Updated: 3/08



# Growth of U.S. NPP Production During Recent 15 Years (billion kWh)





1990 2005\*

\*Source: Global Energy Decisions / DOE

**Energy Information Administration** 

Updated: 4/06



### U.S. Applications For License Renewal

25 Units Submitted Letters of Intent

15 Units Under NRC Review

49 Units Granted License Renewal

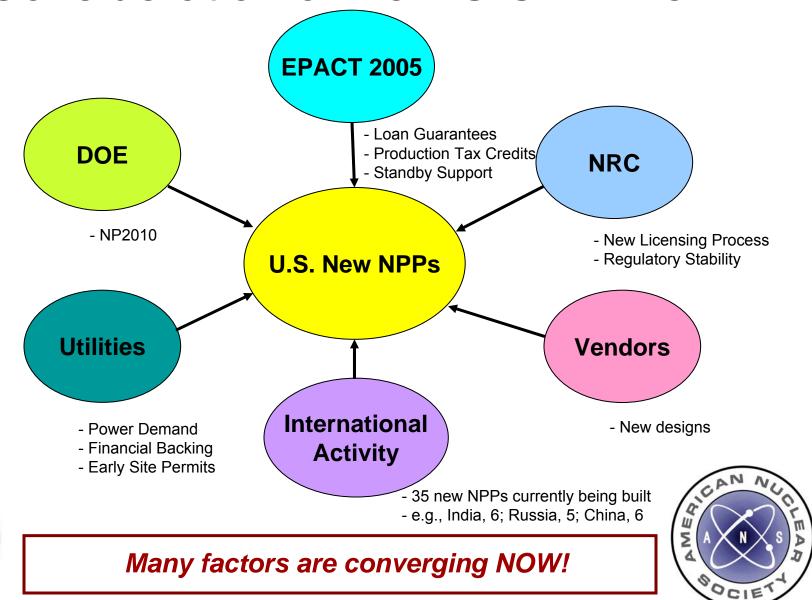


Source: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission

Updated: 5/08



### Factors Which Influence Consideration of New U.S. NPPs



# > 30 COL Applications Announced Since January, 2006





Source: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2006 Regulatory Information Conference



## Announced COL Applications

Company	NPP Design	<b>Number of Units</b>	<b>COL Submittal Date</b>
Alternate Energy Holdings	EPR	TBD	FY 2009
Amarilio Power	EPR	TBD	FY 2009
AmerenUE	EPR	TBD	FY 2008
Constellation (UniStar)	EPR (3)	3	March 2008
Detroit Edison	TBD	TBD	FY 2008
Dominion	ESBWR	1	November 2007
Duke	AP1000	2	December 2007
Duke	TBD	TBD	TBD
Entergy	ESBWR	1	FY 2008
Entergy (NuStart )	ESBWR	1	February 2008
Exelon	TBD	TBD	TBD
Exelon	ESBWR	2	FY 2008
Fiorida Power & Light	TBD	2	FY 2009
Luminant	APWR	2	FY 2008
NRG Energy / STPNOC	ABWR	2	September 2007
PPL Corp.	EPR	1	FY 2009
Progress Energy	AP1000	4	March 2008
South Carolina Electric & Gas	AP1000	2	March 2008
Southern Company	AP1000	2	March 2008
TVA (NuStart )	AP1000	2	October 2007

Source: Nuclear Energy Institute

Updated: 5/08

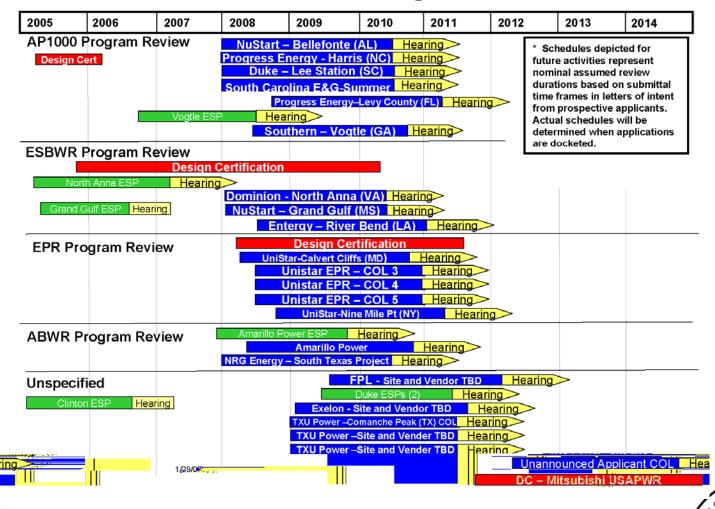
## Summary of COL Applications

- 17 companies preparing COL applications for at least 33 reactors
- 4 NPP designs certified, 4 under review
- 3 early site permits issued, 6 companies considering applications
- Industry expenditure to date on new NPPs \$3+ billion
- 4 COL applications submitted in 2007
- 5 COL application submitted YTD in 2008

Sources: Nuclear Energy Institute, Nuclear Regulatory Commission

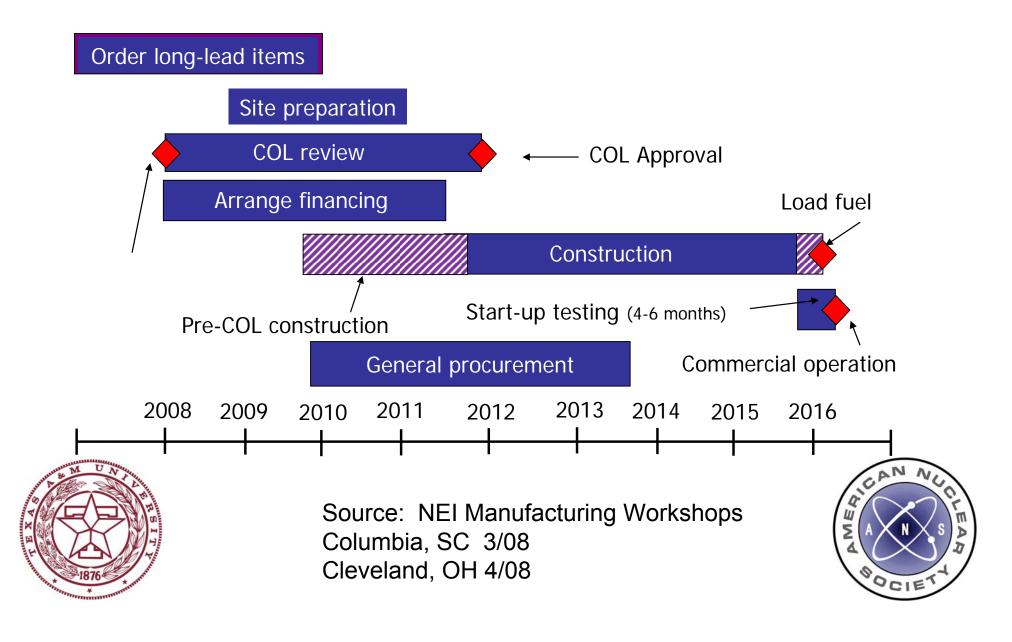
Updated: 5/08

### New NPP Licensing Applications



Source: U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission 2007 Regulatory Information Conference

### Schedule Leading to New NPP Operation



## First U.S. New NPP Ordered – April 8







Georgia Power, acting for itself and for Plant Vogtle's co-owners (Oglethorpe Power, Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia [MEAG Power], and Dalton Utilities), entered into an

Engineering, Procurement and Construction contract (EPC) with a consortium consisting of Westinghouse Electric Company LLC and The Shaw Group Inc.'s Power Group for the engineering, procurement and construction of two AP1000 nuclear units with electric generating capacity of approximately 1,100 megawatts each and related facilities.

Source: Georgia Power, Westinghouse, and Shaw Press Releases, 4/8/08

### The Challenges



**Utilities** Universities Vendors Government Labor

**Investors** 

Determine fabrication sources

Maintain high performance standards

Address proliferation concerns

Continue to build public confidence

Long-term nuclear waste disposal

License Yucca Mtn.

Close the nuclear fuel cycle





**Nuclear Waste** 





### Examples of Infrastructure Issues

- DOE funding for university Nuclear Education Programs
- Knowledge, experience, & labor shortages
- DOE failure to implement 1982 Nuclear Waste Policy Act
  - DOE Standard Contract with utilities
  - Accept SNF by January 31, 1998
- Delays in applying for Yucca Mountain repository license following 2002 approvals by Congress and President
- Slow implementation of 2005 Energy Policy Act
  - 4/24/06, Production tax credit
  - 8/4/06, Standby support coverage
  - 10/4/07, Clean-energy loan guarantee program





# Equipment & Commodities for First Eight Commercial Plants

- Up to 20,000 high quality valves
- Up to 2,000 high quality pumps
- Over 200,000 ft quality pipe
- Over 1,800 miles of cable
- 4 million cubic yds of concrete
- 500,000 tons of steel
- 700,000 electrical components

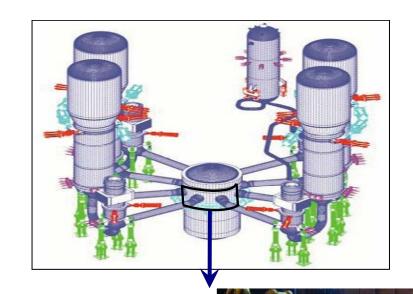
Source: NEI Manufacturing Workshops Columbia, SC 3/08 Cleveland, OH 4/08





### **Fabrication Sources**

U.S. EPR #1
forgings are
currently
in production
at Japan
Steel Works
(JSW)







Nozzle shell forging for U.S. EPR #1

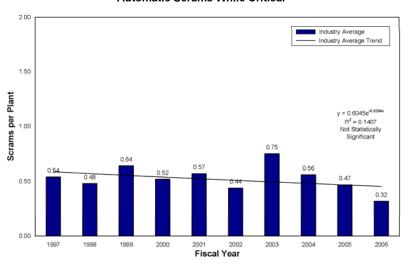


Source: Unistar

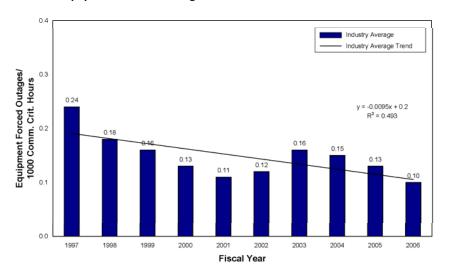


## High Performance Standards

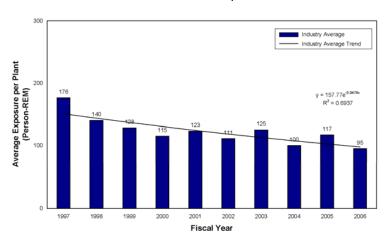
#### **Automatic Scrams While Critical**



#### **Equipment Forced Outages/1000 Commercial Critical Hours**



#### **Collective Radiation Exposure**



Source: Nuclear Regulatory Commission Office for Analysis and Evaluation of Operational Data, 4/08





### Addressing Proliferation Concerns

- Physical solutions
  - Continue current barriers (guns, gates, & guards)
  - Reduce inventory of weapons-grade material by fission in power reactors
  - Implement advanced fuel cycles
- Political solutions (proposed by GNEP)
  - Prohibit reprocessing facilities in additional countries
  - Prohibit enrichment facilities in additional countries
  - Establish centralized world-oversight of all weapons-grade material



## Physical Solutions - Barriers







Barriers

No-Man Zones

Surveillance







Guards

Gates

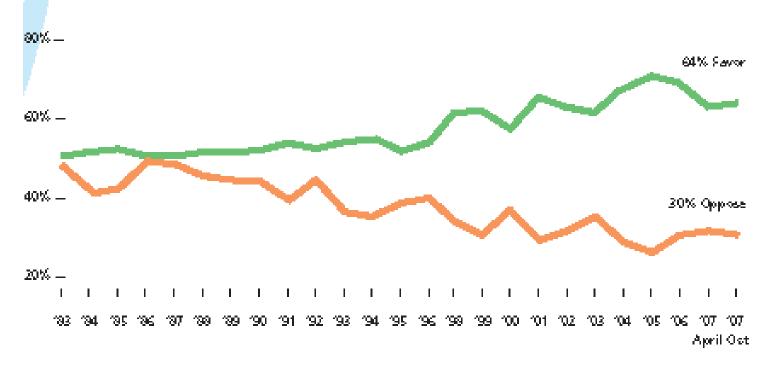
Guns



### U.S. Public Opinion Of Nuclear Power

Percent Who Favor, Oppose Nuclear Energy

TOMERAUL, OO YOU STRONGLY SAMOR, SOMEWHAT SAMOR, SOMEWHAT OPPOSE OR STRONGLY OPPOSE THE USE OF NUCLEAR. ENERGY AS ONE OF THE WAYS TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY IN THE UNITED STATES?





Savor

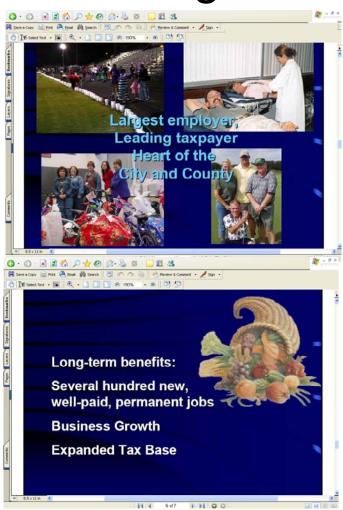
Source: Bisconti Research 12/07

Oppose



### Public Opinion – NPP Neighbors





Source: Presentation by Mayor of Bay City Texas, Location of South Texas Project NPP

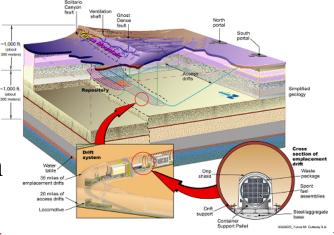
### **Nuclear Waste Disposition**





Long-Term
Storage
Yucca

Mountain

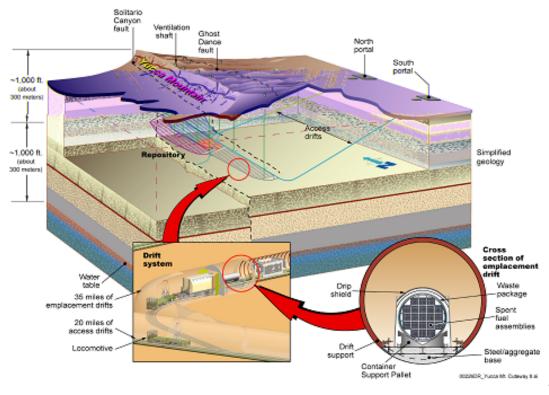


### **Ultimate Options:**

- Fuel Reprocessing
  - ➤ Recycle Fissile Material
  - > Transmute High Level Waste
  - ➤ Vitrify Residual Waste
- As demonstrated currently in

France, Russia, Japan and previously in USA

### License Yucca Mountain



Current projection for license application

**Submit** 

Summer 2008

Open

2017?

2021?

Address Nevada political resistance to Yucca Mountain by demonstrating support of Nevada state goals

- Synergism with gaming tax income
- Boost of local employment
- National leadership position
- No negative impact on tourism



## WIPP Has Operated for 8 Years



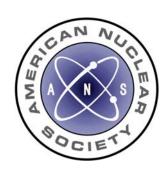




"The Salado Salt Formation (WIPP) can take as much nuclear waste of any type from anywhere for the next ten thousand years."

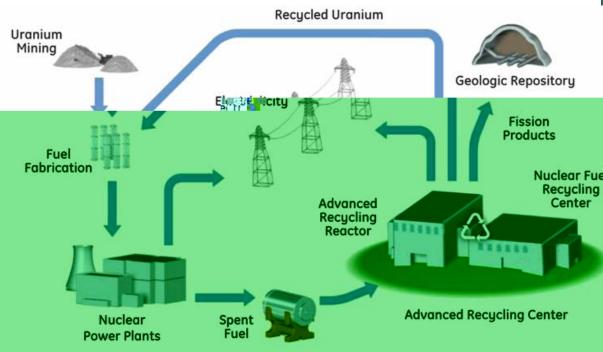
James Conca UNM





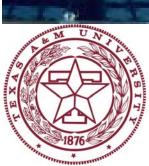
### Close The Nuclear Fuel Cycle





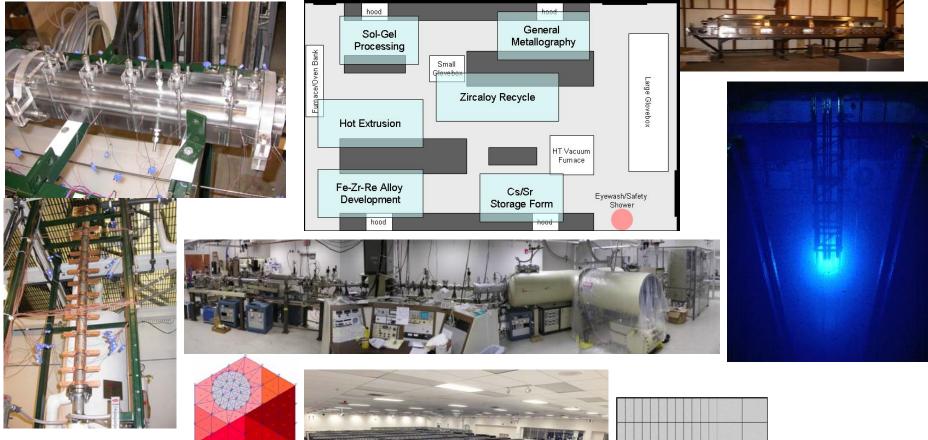


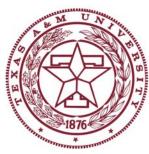
- •Establish recycling (with or without MOX and advanced reactors)
- Define HLW forms
- Establish geologic repository

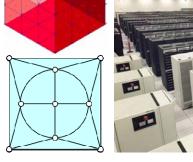




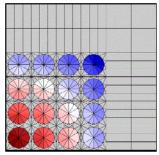
# Texas A&M University Nuclear Engineering Research







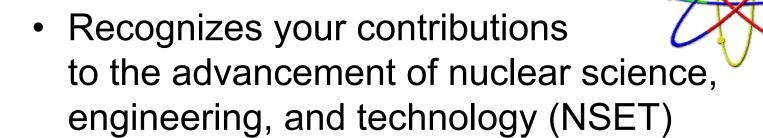




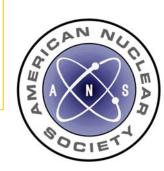


### Advantages of ANS Membership

 Provides you a professional home and an extensive peer network







### Advantages of ANS Membership

- Provides you with many forums to exchange technical information
- Serves you as a credible source of technical information









### Advantages of ANS Membership

- ANS professional divisions
  - provide peer review of new NSET developments
  - advance NSET at topical meetings and workshops



- ANS public policies and public information
  - inform the Public
  - assist Government in developing sound policies



### QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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