## Idaho National Laboratory Nuclear—Clean Energy

### **FLC Regional Meeting**

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# Data supplied by NEI and Entergy

- Scott Peterson—Nuclear Energy
  Institute
  - Generic NEI environmental presentation
- Dan Keuter—Entergy
  - Presentation to Utility Working Conference 8/8/2005





## **U.S. Department of Energy Vision for INL**

- What Become the preeminent internationallyrecognized nuclear energy RD&D laboratory
  - Become a major center for national security technology development and demonstration
  - Become a multi-program national laboratory with world-class nuclear capabilities
  - Foster academic, industry, government and international collaborations to produce the needed investment, programs and expertise

### When • By 2015

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Why • To enhance the nation's energy security



"Another advantage of nuclear energy is that it is a clean source of power ... which does not contribute to the current burden of air pollution." – Joe Lieberman Atomic Energy Commissioner 1968



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## **Nuclear Energy Prevents Carbon Dioxide Emissions**

 U.S. nuclear plants prevent the same levels of CO<sub>2</sub> as produced by 9 out of 10 U.S. passenger cars.

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In 2004 U.S. nuclear power plants avoided  $CO_2$  emissions equal to 94% of all U.S. auto emissions (138 million automobiles)

# Life Cycle CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions



Source: "Life-Cycle Assessment of Electricity Generation Systems and Applications for Climate Change Policy Analysis," Paul J. Meier, University of Wisconsin-Madison, August, 2002.



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## Nuclear Energy Limits Carbon Dioxide Emissions in Power Sector



## **Nuclear Energy Prevents Nitrogen Oxide Emissions**

 U.S. nuclear plants prevent the same NO<sub>x</sub> emissions as produced by 6 out of 10 U.S. passenger cars.





## Nuclear Energy Limits Sulfur Dioxide Emissions in Power Sector



## New Hampshire's NO<sub>x</sub> Program

- New Hampshire revised nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) regulations in 2003.
- New non-emitting energy sources, such as nuclear, may receive allowances.

 An uprate at Seabrook nuclear power plant is eligible for these allowances.



# Pollution emissions displaced by nuclear in the U.S.

### <u>2004</u>

- 3.43 million tons of SO<sub>2</sub>
- 1.11 million tons of NO<sub>x</sub>
- 700 million tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

440 worldwide nuclear plants save more than twice the Kyoto Accord CO<sub>2</sub> targets annually



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## Nuclear reduces these health effects from fossil fuels

Health Effect	<u>Study</u>	Cases/Yr
lortality	HEI, Pope	30,100
espiratory Hospitalizations	4 pooled	20,100
sthma ER visits	Schwartz	7,160
hronic Bronchitis	Pooled	18,600
sthma attacks	Whittemore	603,000
ost work days	Ostro	5,130,000
linor restricted activity	Ostro	26,300,000

□ Abt Associates, Clean Air Task Force, October 2000.



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"We have no time to experiment with visionary energy sources; civilization is in imminent danger and has to use nuclear-the one safe, available, energy source-now or suffer the pain soon to be inflicted by our outraged planet."



- James Lovelock Leading Environmentalist May 2004



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## International Programs

- Fifth reactor in Finland to meet Kyoto commitments, satisfy energy demand
- "Cap-and-trade" programs begun in Europe, most excluding nuclear
- Similar EU program planned
- Canada considering program for greenhouse gases
- China adding reactors near cities to meet energy demand and enhance air quality



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## **Nuclear is competitive**



# Nuclear power can reduce dependence on foreign oil

### **Short-Term**

Nuclear power can displace natural gas-fired generation. Natural gas can also be used in cars, trucks, buses and trains.

#### Long-Term

Nuclear power can directly reduce dependence by producing low-cost hydrogen for fuel cell vehicles







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## **Total amount of nuclear waste is** relatively small and manageable

Current high-level waste volume after 40 years of operations would fill an area about the size of a football field five yards deep

#### **Reprocessing has benefits**

- Decreased waste volume
- Converts long-lived isotopes into short-lived waste (10,000 years  $\rightarrow$ 300 years)
- Extends fuel resources
- There is no waste problem in the rest of the world
- U.K., France, Japan are reprocessing, including other countries' waste



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## Americans support building more nuclear power



## President Bush's Climate Change Initiative

 Goal: Reduce greenhouse gas intensity of the U.S. economy by 18% by 2012.

 Nuclear energy expansion will satisfy 20% of emissions reduction goals.





## Nuclear Energy Will Meet 20% of Carbon Reduction Targets in 2012

Nuclear energy sector commitment: 22 million metric tons of carbon

Bush administration's target:



## MIT-Harvard Study: The Future of Nuclear Power

- Nuclear energy "is an important carbon-free source of power."
- Tripling world nuclear capacity by 2050 would avoid 25% of added carbon emissions from coal plants.
- The U.S. should provide a production tax credit for nuclear equal to the current credit for wind power.





## **Columbia Univ. Earth Institute:** More Nuclear, Renewables

State of the Planet 2004 conference recommends "some combination of renewable and nuclear energy, energy conservation and industrial carbon sequestration" for the future.



## **Vision 2020**

### 50,000 megawatts of new nuclear energy by 2020



## Emission-Free Electric Generation With Vision 2020



## The 7 Lab Initiative: overarching recommendation



Argonne National Laboratory

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory









- Deploy new commercial reactors as planned, but also develop and deploy advanced:
- Reactor technology
- Fuel separation and recycle technology
- Proliferation prevention and detection technologies

