Georgia: New Nuclear Power Plants Vogtle Units 3 & 4: 15 years to build. \$36.8 billion. TWICE the timeline and cost.

Georgia Power racked up \$17 Billion in & \$18 Billion in Cost Overruns.

Ratepayers are stuck with the highest bills in the US.



# Eye-popping new cost estimates released for NuScale small modular reactor

January 11, 2023 David Schlissel

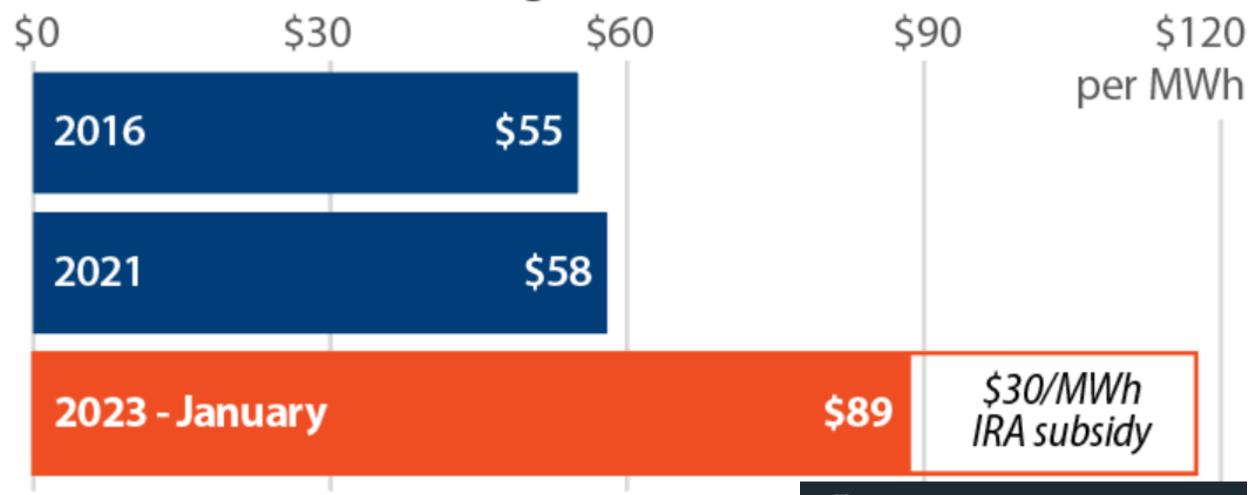
NuScale and the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) announced costs of a 462-megawatt small modular reactor (SMR) have risen dramatically.

As recently as mid-2021, the target price for power was pegged at \$58 per megawatt-hour (MWh); it's risen to \$89/MWh, a 53% increase.



## Taxpayer Subsidies to NuScale SMR: \$4+ Billion

UAMPS NuScale SMR Target Price of Power



Sources: UAMPS statements; January 3, 2023



Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis



#### November 2024

Dennis Wamsted | Energy Analyst

David Schlissel | Director of Resource Planning Analysis

## **Nuclear Hype Ignores High Cost, Long Timelines**

Nuclear Options Are Years Away While Solar, Wind, Storage and Geothermal Are Clean, Cost-Effective Options Ready Now

# Nuclear hype ignores high cost, long timelines

November 18, 2024

Dennis Wamsted and David Schlissel

Announcements of new SMR plans have one thing in common: They've been very short on details.

Solar and geothermal plants are being built for less money and in much less time than even the most optimistic SMR designs.

Most telling is the critique offered by John Ketchum, the CEO of NextEra Energy, parent of Florida Power & Light, the largest U.S. utility as well as a major renewable energy developer. In the company's third quarter earnings call in October, Ketchum told analysts that "alternatives such as new utility scale nuclear and SMRs are unproven, expensive and again, not expected to be commercially viable at scale until the latter part of the next decade (emphasis added)."

## CA wildfires: a warning to NRC on climate change

January 16, 2025

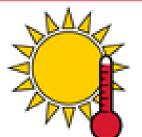
Photo: From NOAA weather satellite of California wildfires, January 13, 2025]



#### Government Accountability Office, April, 2024:

### Examples of Natural Hazards that May Pose Risks to Nuclear Power Plants

Heat



Heat can impair cooling systems and degrade or damage equipment.

Drought



Lower water availability can result in cooling water that is too hot and reduce its supply. Wildfires



Fires can damage parts of the electricity grid and obstruct plant access. Flooding



Water inundation can damage cooling systems and parts of the fuel cycle.

Hurricanes



Storm surge can cause flood impacts, and high winds can damage parts of the plant or the electricity grid. Sea level rise



Rising mean sea level adds to overall storm surges and flood levels, worsening flood impacts.

Extreme cold weather events



Unusually cold weather can cause icing or freezing of parts of plants or the electricity grid.

#### Extreme Cold Weather Events Pose Risks to Nuclear Power Plants

- Loss of offsite power
- Create ice that block a plant's cooling water intake system
- Force a plant to rely on backup diesel that may be vulnerable or difficult to re-supply

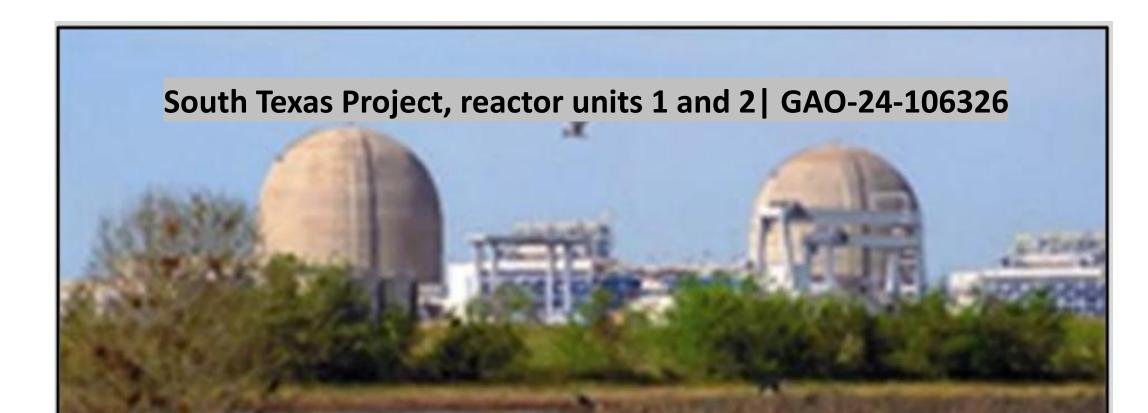
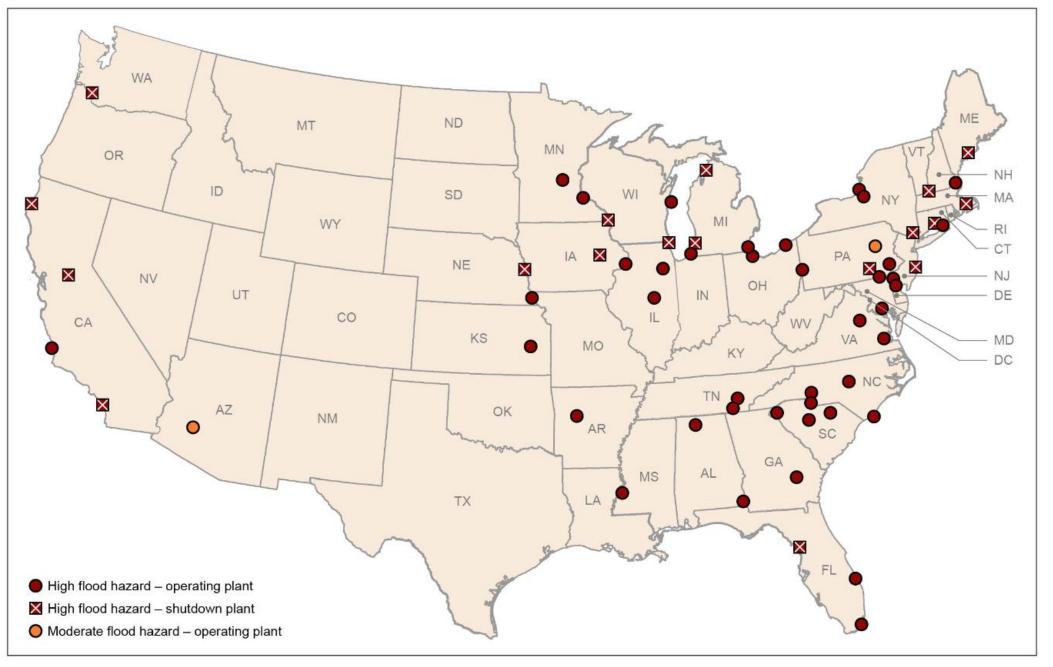


Figure 6: Nuclear Power Plants Located in Areas with High and Moderate Flood Hazard



## Nuclear Power = Massive Taxpayer Subsidies

- No Insurance Company will underwrite nuclear power. Nuclear power only exists because taxpayers forced to cover the costs of accidents and meltdowns.
- Taxpayers & Ratepayers Pay. Nuclear Companies Walk Away With Profits.
- We suffer Cancers, Birth Defects, Health Harm. We pay the Medical Bills & Lose Work.
- Taxpayers stuck with radioactive waste management & costs.

Safe, Clean, Local, Secure, Affordable Energy for MN Communities

LESS HARM
LOWER BILLS
MORE JOBS

NO NEED FOR TAXPAYER
SUBSIDIES
NO RADIOACTIVE WASTE
NO RADIATION ILLNESSES & BILLS

