



TVA New Nuclear: What They Are Saying February 2022

Tennessee Governor Bill Lee:

“As one of the fastest growing states in the country, there’s never been a more important time for Tennessee to invest in dependable, clean and cost-effective nuclear energy. We’re proud to partner with TVA on a long-term strategy to expand nuclear potential at the Clinch River site and ensure Tennessee remains a national leader in innovation and powering America for the future.”

U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn:

“TVA is a leader in the push for affordable, reliable and clean energy solutions. The development of designs like the small modular reactor (SMR) will help propel the advancement of nuclear energy and allow TVA to utilize more environmentally friendly energy sources. This announcement will provide energy security to the Tennessee Valley for decades to come.”

U.S. Senator Bill Hagerty:

“TVA’s new nuclear investments are a strong testament to Tennessee’s cutting-edge leadership and technology. I’m confident these developments will push America to the forefront of nuclear power innovation and maintain our position as a leader in the industry.”

U.S. Congressman Chuck Fleischmann:

“I welcome the news of TVA’s exploration of advanced reactor technology options for deployment at the Clinch River Site and other potential site locations. I am confident that TVA will be able to build on the progress made with their early site permit and that they will lead the way in clean energy generation for the nation.”

U.S. Congressman Tim Burchett:

“In many communities, nuclear power is supporting good paying jobs while keeping energy prices stable for consumers. Increasing domestic nuclear production is the future of American energy independence, and I am excited TVA’s innovators are working towards expanding its use in the Southeast.”

Maria Korsnick, president of the Nuclear Energy Institute:

“The Nuclear Energy Institute, on behalf of the entire industry, applauds TVA and its ambitious New Nuclear Program. The work that TVA is embarking on is an important step forward on a path towards a clean, reliable and affordable energy future. Your commitment to explore advanced nuclear solutions will serve not only your customers, but also help the United States reach our collective goal for decarbonizing the electric sector.”



Dr. Thomas Zacharia, director of Oak Ridge National Laboratory:

“Oak Ridge National Laboratory and TVA have been longstanding partners, working to bring innovation and prosperity to Tennessee and the nation. We look forward to continuing this partnership by developing and deploying technologies in the Oak Ridge Corridor that will deliver abundant and affordable clean energy, including the pursuit of a new era of nuclear energy.”

Randy Boyd, University of Tennessee System President:

“UT Knoxville is the steward of one of the top five nuclear engineering programs in the country producing top-level talent and innovation. We appreciate TVA’s work to provide safe nuclear energy as an important component to help move our country forward.”

Joy Ditto, president and CEO of the American Public Power Association:

“TVA has a long history of leadership on nuclear energy, a history that is positioning them well for the future of reliable and affordable electricity that is a hallmark of public power in the Valley. It’s exciting that TVA’s Board has approved the New Nuclear Program, which will allow TVA to further explore deploying an advanced nuclear reactor to provide clean baseload power to its public power and rural cooperative customers.”

Doug Peters, president and CEO of the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association:

“We believe now is the right time for TVA to pursue innovative carbon-free technologies to meet its long-term power generation needs. We support their vision for using advanced nuclear technologies like small modular reactors to reduce carbon emissions. With TVA’s successful operation of the current fleet of reactors and the inherent benefits of the Clinch River site, they are well positioned to lead in the development of SMR technology. Their work can play a vital role in advancing decarbonization goals in the Tennessee Valley and the nation. TVPPA will be watching TVA’s investigations with great interest.”

Bud Albright, president and CEO of the U.S. Nuclear Industry Council:

“The U.S. Nuclear Industry Council (USNIC) applauds TVA and its Board for its New Nuclear Program and its understanding that advanced nuclear energy is key to a net-zero carbon energy future. Advanced nuclear technology is perhaps the singularly most effective technology to address climate change and to provide reliable, cost-competitive, zero-carbon energy. Without nuclear energy, it will be realistically impossible to meet the numerous and ambitious goals set for carbon reduction. Over the past several years, USNIC, along with many other nuclear and non-nuclear organizations, have highlighted the importance of advancing the United States’ efforts to maintain leadership in the development and deployment of advanced nuclear technologies. Deployment of U.S. advanced nuclear technologies is also vital to U.S. security, because nation-state nuclear offerings of Russia and China are a threat to U.S. international interests. With TVA’s New Nuclear Program, they have taken a crucial step forward in showing the world that the U.S. intends to lead the way towards a cleaner and brighter energy future, and with American advanced nuclear technology, we will have the tools to do so.”



Tom Kuhn, president of Edison Electric Institute:

“Deploying and demonstrating the next generation of 24/7 carbon-free technologies, including new advanced nuclear, is critically important to our industry’s efforts to deliver resilient clean energy to our customers. We applaud TVA for developing its New Nuclear Program and for its work to accelerate carbon reductions across the U.S. economy.”

Rich Powell, CEO of ClearPath:

"ClearPath applauds TVA for doubling down on its commitment to advanced nuclear energy, which provides an opportunity for the U.S. to lead on nuclear innovation. TVA's pursuit of a New Nuclear Program not only provides an innovative, accelerated method to reducing emissions, but it also demonstrates nuclear's key role in utilities achieving their clean energy goals."

Sheila Hollis, acting executive director of the United States Energy Association:

“USEA supports TVA’s ambitious New Nuclear Program. To manage increasing global energy demand and the transition to a clean energy economy, innovation is necessary. Employing a robust energy mix and developing emerging technologies must be priorities in order to reduce carbon emissions. SMR’s have the potential to revolutionize the nuclear industry and play a central role in decarbonizing the energy sector. This new technology could boost nuclear-related scientific endeavors, as well as create opportunities in education and academia. In addition, an ascendent nuclear industry would create thousands of new jobs, helping to sustain and rejuvenate communities across our country, and possibly the world. The energy industry is expected to double its services to customers by 2050 while simultaneously decarbonizing the energy sector. To meet this challenge, all forms of energy, including nuclear, must be utilized in order to make energy supply and its delivery safe, secure, and affordable.”

Jim Campbell, president of the East Tennessee Economic Council:

“Our organization is excited about TVA’s new nuclear program and its potential to bring cost-effective, carbon free energy to the people in East Tennessee. We’re particularly looking forward to the deployment of a Small Modular Reactor on the Clinch River Site in Oak Ridge, which will help the large national laboratory and national security facilities in Oak Ridge reliably operate at near net-zero carbon emissions over the coming decades. It will do the same things for the industries industrial development groups are recruiting here.”

Ron Woody, Roane County Executive:

“TVA has always been a leader and innovator in our community. TVA’s development and deployment of nuclear energy has powered the Valley with clean, dependable power for decades. We are excited to have TVA once again leading our region and the nation in nuclear innovation with the next generation of nuclear power. We in Roane County stand ready to assist TVA in their quest with an available, skilled workforce along with expert assistance from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. Thank you, TVA, for choosing the Roane County Clinch River site as a potential site for this technology, and we stand ready to support.”



Mark Gradkowski, chair of the Board of Directors at the Tennessee Valley Corridor:

“The Tennessee Valley Corridor (TVC) salutes TVA's long-term vision and strategic planning to deliver affordable, reliable, resilient, and clean energy for our region. We are excited by and strongly support TVA's announcement today of a New Nuclear Program to explore even more advanced energy options in partnership with many of the TVC's other institutions. As a leader in nuclear energy, TVA is once again prepared to demonstrate and lead the nation to innovative carbon-free energy solutions. We look forward to working with them in the months and years ahead to support these important efforts to advance clean energy and energy security both for our region and the entire nation.”

Cortney Piper, executive director of the Tennessee Advanced Energy Business Council:

“TVA is an asset to Tennessee’s advanced energy economy and its commitment to innovation and decarbonization will spur new markets, new business opportunities and further cement Tennessee's role as a leader in the new energy economy. Deploying an array of technologies, like Small Modular Reactors, will help TVA meet its net-zero carbon energy goals faster and is consistent with TVA’s three focus areas of energy, environment and economic development.”