



24th Edition, May 26, 2022

## **Mason Baker Appointed as UAMPS CEO/General Manager**

Mason Baker has been appointed as the new chief executive officer and general manager of Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems (UAMPS) by the UAMPS board of directors. The appointment is effective January 1, 2023. He will replace 43+ year veteran Douglas Hunter. See the [news release](#).



*Mason Baker*

## **May Carbon Free Power Project Update**

**CFPPLLC.com Web Site is Now Live.** It includes features like these: Description of project, timeline, decarbonization, the development and construction team, regulatory progress, location, technology used, NuScale Power Module, safety, and used fuel management. It's a great resource to refer anyone interested in learning more about the project. Check it out [HERE](#).

**CFPP Marketing Video.** Another great resource is the CFPP marketing video. It provides an engaging and simplified overview of all aspects of the project. It's a good introductory video to help people understand the project.



**Utah State Energy & Innovation Plan Includes References to UAMPS' Carbon Free Power Project.**

On May 10, Utah Gov. Spencer Cox released Utah's new energy plan, designed to "serve as a guidepost for energy development in Utah." It discusses all energy resources in Utah. Under the category of nuclear energy, UAMPS' Carbon Free Power Project is mentioned prominently. The document notes the advantages of Small Modular Reactors, including mass production, shorter construction periods, more deployment flexibility, smaller size and footprint, reduced capital investment, lower manufacturing costs, easier decommissioning, and emitting no carbon dioxide.

The energy plan says, "DOE also funded the Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems' (UAMPS) [Carbon Free Power Project](#), a 462 MW plant in Idaho scheduled to come online in 2030. The members of UAMPS span California, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Wyoming, and Utah, so the impact of this facility will be wide. UAMPS says this project's deployment will enable its members to add higher amounts of renewable energy to their energy portfolios, even allowing some to completely decarbonize." . . . Utah is very well-positioned to become a dominant domestic source of SMR knowledge. The leading SMR domestic pilot project, the Carbon Free Power Project, is led by the Utah-based UAMPS coalition."

**CFPP Project Director Dr. Shawn Hughes reported the following activities to the Project Management Committee on May 17:**

- **Class 3 Project Cost Estimate.** For a project as large as CFPP, it's critical to have accurate and detailed cost estimates on all elements and phases of the project. CFPP LLC is working with teams from Fluor and NuScale to further refine costs of labor, equipment, supplies, design, buildings, construction, operations, utilities, and so forth. It is a large undertaking but activities remain under budget and on schedule. Frequent interim review meetings are being held. The Class 3 estimate is projected to be completed June by 27, to be followed with detailed review by CFPP and its team of owners engineers and consultants.



*Shawn Hughes*

- **COLA Development.** Development of the Combined Operating License Application (COLA) is slightly ahead of schedule and under budget. Some geotechnical data from INL will be delivered later than expected, but the CFPP COLA team is implementing mitigation measures by developing some needed data themselves and by working on some activities concurrently instead of consecutively. Additional ecological surveys have been initiated at the site. Some 3,100 pages of geotechnical laboratory analysis of the samples collected at CFPP site have been drafted. Work is ongoing on more than 30 sections of the license application.
- **Limited Work Application (LWA).** Planning has begun to develop an LWA if it benefits the overall schedule and reduces project risk. Approval of the LWA would allow certain site preparation and limited construction work to start ahead of NRC approval of the COLA. Discussions are underway with DOE to ensure all NEPA requirements are addressed if the LWA is approved.
- **Site Activities.** Soil electrical resistivity testing was completed April 28. The testing measured soil conductivity for electrical grounding requirements. Some 16 lines were run, covering 22,000 feet. Groundwater monitoring is on-going, along with measuring compression and shear wave velocities in the rock and soil.
- **Xcel Energy Integration.** Work continues with Xcel Energy to prepare for plant operations. An Xcel team is being integrated into the development process, with Xcel working on an operations model utilizing industry best practices, lowest costs, high safety performance, and high reliability. Xcel is detailing the scope and schedule to stand up the operations organization and is helping to develop operating cost estimates and life cycle costs.
- **DOE Engagement.** The U.S. Department of Energy is closely monitoring CFPP activities and May 10-11 meetings were held with DOE. Discussion topics included overall CFPP development and agreements, COLA progress, field activities, and progress since start of the DOE cost-share award. CFPP presented a mature plan, its Integrated Master Schedule, project management fundamentals, and an overall plan for success.

- **NuScale Tours.** UAMPS continues to host tours at NuScale's Oregon facility for dozens of utilities considering joining UAMPS' Carbon Free Power Project. Tours in early May included 80 participants representing 18 utilities



*UAMPS members and Emerald PUD tour NuScale's simulated SMR Control Room*

- **Subscription update.** With ongoing project progress, the CFPP continues to attract subscription interest from a variety of outside utilities. A clear path has been outlined to get transmission from the CFPP site to the Bonneville Power Administration network in the northwest.

## Industry Information & Developments

**Some Of Korea's Biggest Conglomerates Want To Build Small-Scale Nuclear Plants In Asia With NuScale** (Forbes) Samsung and two other Korean conglomerates have signed an agreement with U.S.-based NuScale to build small-scale modular nuclear reactors, known as SMRs, in Asia as demand for clean energy grows globally. "This announcement is a critical next step in bringing NuScale's clean energy solution to Asia," NuScale [said](#) in a statement.

"With this MOU, it is expected that there will be great progress in SMR business development through stronger cooperation between NuScale and Korean strategic investors," said Byungsoo Lee, a vice president at Samsung C&T, in the statement. "I think SMRs will play an important role to respond to the demand of carbon-free and climate change."

**NuScale Power Signs MOU with Associated Electric Cooperative to Explore SMR Deployment** (Business Wire) NuScale Power LLC ("NuScale") and Associated Electric Cooperative ("Associated") signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to evaluate NuScale's VOYGR™ power plants for potential deployment. This announcement showcases the ever-growing demand for NuScale's small modular reactor ("SMR") technology to supply communities across America with reliable, affordable and clean energy. ...

Headquartered in Springfield, Missouri, Associated is owned by and provides wholesale power to a system of six regional transmission cooperatives and their 51 local distribution cooperatives. This cooperative system delivers electricity to 2.1 million people in Missouri, northeast Oklahoma and southeast Iowa.

### **Your Trusty Neighborhood Utility: How Public Power Keeps its Reliability**

**Edge** (APPA) When it comes to reliability metrics, public power utilities have long maintained an edge compared to their investor-owned and cooperative utility counterparts. In the latest data from the Energy Information Administration, in 2020, public power utilities had an average System Average Interruption Duration Index, or SAIDI, for non-major events that was 50 minutes shorter than the average for IOUs, and more than 90 minutes shorter than the average for cooperatives. For major events, public power utilities reported less than half the average outage time for customers — about 3.5 hours compared to almost 8 hours.

Aside from usually having smaller service territories, allowing lineworkers to quickly arrive on the scene for repairs, public power utilities take steps to keep their reliability edge — continually improving for their customers and preparing for the future.

### **Colorado remains uninterested as much of U.S. turns to nuclear power**

(Denver Gazette) The Polis administration appears uninterested in nuclear energy, bucking a growing consensus that nuclear power is an essential component in eliminating carbon emissions. . . .

“It’s available whenever it needs to be sent to wherever it needs to go and is very much worth the cost of \$58 per megawatt hour,” LaVarr Webb, spokesman for the Utah Associated Municipal Power System (UAMPS) Carbon Free Power Project, told The Denver Gazette. “The other forms of carbon free, firm, reliable energy like carbon capture and batteries are going to come in at or well above that price.” .

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### **Small Modular Reactors Provide Opportunity to Rethink Automation for**

**Nuclear Generation** (Power Magazine) An emerging generation of small modular reactors is encouraging suppliers and regulators alike to consider new digital instrumentation and control approaches.

The new wave of small modular reactors (SMRs) currently in development are particularly ripe for new digital technology solutions. SMRs offer cost, siting, and safety benefits relative to full-scale nuclear generating plants, but will lack comparable economies of scale. . . .

Diane Hughes, NuScale Power’s vice president of Marketing and Communications, commented that “the NuScale Power Module design is very safe and simple to operate with no operator actions or complicated automated sequences needed for safety.”

### **NuScale Power Completes Merger with Spring Valley Acquisition Corp. to Create World’s First and Only Publicly Traded Provider of Transformational Small Modular Nuclear Reactor Technology** (Press Release) Combined

company is expected to have enterprise value of more than \$2.2 billion; . . .

Transaction provides approximately \$380 million in gross proceeds, including \$235 million in PIPE capital from leading financial and strategic investors

NuScale's proprietary and innovative carbon-free baseload and load-following power solution, the NuScale Power Module™, is the only viable, near-term deployable U.S. advanced nuclear small modular reactor technology

**NuScale Power Signs Agreement with Nuclearelectrica and Owner of Preferred Site for First SMR Site in Romania** (Business Wire) NuScale Power LLC has announced a Memorandum of Understanding with Romania's state nuclear power corporation S.N. Nuclearelectrica S.A. to conduct engineering studies, technical reviews, and licensing and permitting activities at a site in Doicești, Romania that is the preferred location for the deployment of the first NuScale VOYGR™ power plant. The announcement, highlighted in advance of a small modular reactor workshop in Bucharest, Romania hosted by the United States Trade and Development Agency, is the latest step in NuScale and Nuclearelectrica's partnership to bring advanced nuclear technology to Romania.



**NuScale Listed as One of 7 Best Energy Stocks** (InvestorPlace) The leader in small modular reactors, NuScale could be the gamechanger for nuclear power. . . . If you've got the patience, SMR is probably one of the best energy stocks to buy now. . . . NuScale can integrate nuclear power facilities in areas that previously could not support full-size power plants. Additionally, these advanced units feature strong safety protocols and enable greater energy resilience.

**Gov. Newsom considers keeping California's last nuclear power plant active beyond 2025 planned closing** (KABC) -- Facing possible electricity shortages, California Gov. Gavin Newsom is considering keeping the state's last nuclear power plant online beyond its planned closing in 2025. The Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant in San Luis Obispo County is the state's largest producer of electricity, and it will be difficult to replace, even with an increase in renewables.

## In Other News . . .

**Government Affairs Report.** In the May 17 GPA Project Committee Meeting, UAMPS Government Affairs Director Mike Squires said CFPP continues to have strong bicameral, bipartisan support in Congress and in the Biden administration. He presented short video clips of [Utah Sen. Mike Lee](#) and [Idaho Congressman Mike Simpson](#) making supportive comments about CFPP in Congress. Lee said the project “is making tremendous progress” and he suggested that the regulatory process needs reform “to be able to quickly deploy more reliable nuclear energy.” Simpson said CFPP and other innovative nuclear projects need more federal funding and support to bring these innovative, non-carbon energy resources to production.



*Mike Squires*

**UAMPS Supports Los Alamos Firefighting With Mobile Generator.** UAMPS and Mobil Generator participants have loaned a 1.5 megawatt generator to Los Alamos Department of Public Utilities to ensure water wells used in fighting fires have ample power supply. The Los Alamos area has suffered extensive wildfires this spring and concern arose that water wells used to support firefighting efforts could lose power. The mobile generator was delivered to Los Alamos in early May and was placed to supply power to the Guaje Water Well Field in case the nearby township loses power.



*Philo Shelton*

Utility Manager Philo Shelton, a UAMPS board member, said: “Our top priority is the safety of Los Alamos and White Rock. During wildfires, that safety hinges on having ample water supply. This electric generator is important to ensuring we are able to provide enough water here to fight the fire should it become necessary.” He expressed appreciation for the loan of the generator.

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*If you have questions about UAMPS’ plans for a carbon-free future, please email them to [jackie@uamps.com](mailto:jackie@uamps.com).*

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