

From: [Grantham, Andrea \(UTC\)](#)
To: [Grantham, Andrea \(UTC\)](#)
Subject: FW: Badger Mountain SEPA
Date: Thursday, March 17, 2022 11:21:32 AM
Attachments: [Scan_20220114.png](#)
[Scan_20220113.png](#)
[Scan_20220115 \(2\).png](#)
[Scan_20220114 \(2\).png](#)
[Scan_20220220.png](#)
[Scan_20210809 \(2\).png](#)

From: Richard Yrjanson <dyrjanson@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 14, 2022 9:25 AM
To: Hafkemeyer, Ami (UTC) <ami.hafkemeyer@utc.wa.gov>
Subject: Badger Mountain SEPA

External Email

When will the EFASE Council finally realize that Wind, Solar, and Battery Storage is the most expensive form of electrical power and no further money should be used to produce more unreliable power and storage. It is the main cause of increased cost of production to the ratepayers.

Richard Yrjanson

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

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Though catastrophists say they "believe in science" they seem not to have noticed that most scientists, including the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), regard such a threat as barely plausible. So that means at least that there's more time than eight or even 20 years to transition to a system that produces fewer GHGs than we produce today.

Still, renewable energy proponents have every incentive to push catastrophic scenarios, and that claim has gone on for decades. Lobbying for renewables has had a great deal of success. Solar and wind have had U.S. government support since the 1970s; they have been supported especially vigorously since the early 1990s.

Politicians are constrained from making major changes in policy by an army of lobbying proponents. But they must also face the reality that there are many institutions reflecting longtime policies that make any new initiatives a hard sell.

Social scientist Richard Rose observed years ago that "inherited commitments of past government must be accepted as givens. The legacy that office holders inherit from past policy choices is carried forward by institutional commitments grounded in laws, organizations and budgets."

Inherited policies can structure government itself and the relationships of government to outside entities. "Policies may create incentives that encourage the emergence of elaborate social and economic networks," political scientist Paul Pierson has argued, "inhibiting exit from a current policy path."

Once the policy direction has been set, it may remain unchallenged even when shown to be deeply flawed. Often the response to failing policies is to increase funding in the hope that more funding will somehow make them succeed or simply to keep them going to force the hard decisions onto future presidents and congresses.

Then again, a legislative legacy provides cover. Accepting what has been is a lot safer politically than demanding something very different. A member of Congress or president today can hardly be blamed for continuing a policy passed 30 years ago by a different Congress and signed by a different president. That in fact describes the main subsidy program for wind, which was enacted as a temporary measure in 1992, signed by President George H.W. Bush, but has been renewed afterward by presidents and legislators from both parties with no end in sight.

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Yet one question lingers: Assuming we want to reduce GHG emissions, if not wind and solar, what energy technologies will help us achieve that?

First, as the U.S. has shown, replacing coal-fired generation with natural gas reduces emissions significantly. But the next step is clearly nuclear power, the major electric generating technology that is scalable, independent of the weather and GHG-free. The next generation of nukes is likely to power the future (perhaps along with nuclear fusion), but even the current generation should be considered for development.

And for heaven's sake, don't shutter still serviceable nuclear power plants as they're doing in Germany (and have done in New York State). That's a way to increase GHG emissions, not reduce them.

Any transition away from fossil fuels will take generations. It's a fantasy to think it can be accomplished in a decade or two. But an even greater fantasy is to believe that windmills and solar panels will save the planet.

Peter Z. Grossman is the author of several books on energy policy including "U.S. Energy Policy and the Pursuit of Failure" (Cambridge 2013).

Renewable energy sources - solar and wind - can't be the basis for a resilient, reliable and affordable electric system, which is necessary for a modern economy.

Both solar and wind are intermittent. Industries can't plan production if electric power depends on the weather.

Blackouts are unavoidable with solar and wind because the wind can stop blowing strongly, sometimes for weeks, and the sun sets daily and may be blocked by clouds for many days consecutively. Massive storage to date cannot fill in for more than a few hours at anything like an acceptable cost. Blackouts can cost electric customers their lives.



And in just about every case where a large percentage of electricity is generated by solar and wind, the cost of electricity to consumers has risen dramatically, and more and more people struggle to pay their energy bills.

Solar and wind also pose problems for the environment. Wind especially, but also solar, require absurdly large tracts of land, disrupt animal habitats, kill hundreds of thousands of birds and bats, and despoil natural landscapes. Extraction of materials for these technologies has scarred lands around the world. Disposal of toxic solar panels and enormous turbine blades are a growing problem.

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Yet politicians, especially green U.S. politicians, don't seem to have gotten the message. New York is pressing ahead with a near-term goal of 70 percent renewable electricity by 2030. President Biden, Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.) and others seek a similar kind of renewable energy commitment for the nation.

Why risk lives, immiserate the poor, disrupt economic life? There are several reasons, but one seems especially relevant: After almost half a century of government support, there are now too many people and organizations within government, industry and academia invested in solar and wind. That means a great deal of money and influence are at stake, which the current winners would not want to give up without a fight.

Of course, solar and wind proponents say we need renewables to save the planet from a global catastrophe that could wipe out life on Earth. The goal must be to greatly reduce the emission of greenhouse gases (GHG), especially carbon dioxide, which are released by burning fossil fuels. GHGs are changing the Earth's climate.

Biden calls climate change "an existential threat." And this catastrophe, it's alleged, can happen soon. Without a massive switch to renewables

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County Commissioners and related agencies

Scout Clean Energy taken over by Quinbrook a global investment manager located In England I believe, as such it appears that any revenue collected after taking tax advantages and other government write offs, which was set to end this year will be extended by the present elected party and the "green" party of this state.

I am against the approval of the Scout Wind, Solar, and Battery Storage Complex being approved. It is not needed for the following reason:

1. It only produces 30 % of its stated capacity (1,150 megawatts) it is not able to provide peak services and needs backup by dams, nuclear, etc. We are paying extra cost for our elec. Bills due to the low performance. Our taxes also increased due to subsidies and tax benefits Scout enjoys. "A very expensive way to generate quite unreliable electricity."
2. Visual eye pollution: You can't drive 180 miles without seeing the 400 foot towers: " we worked hard to eliminate bill boards near the highways, and we replaced them with wind generators".

3. Winds unpredictability means it truly has no generating capacity value. Wind is simply an additional capital cost which increases the cost to the rate payer twice as much.

4. We are here today to discuss wind power, costs, reliability, and other critical approval processes. The minute we begin to fear the opinions of others and hesitate to tell the truth that is in us, and from motives of policy are silent when we should speak, the divine floods of light and life no longer flow into our souls. And I THANK YOU for the opportunity to speak.

Report: New nuclear reactor risky; utilities disagree

Wash., Ore. among states considering signing on for power

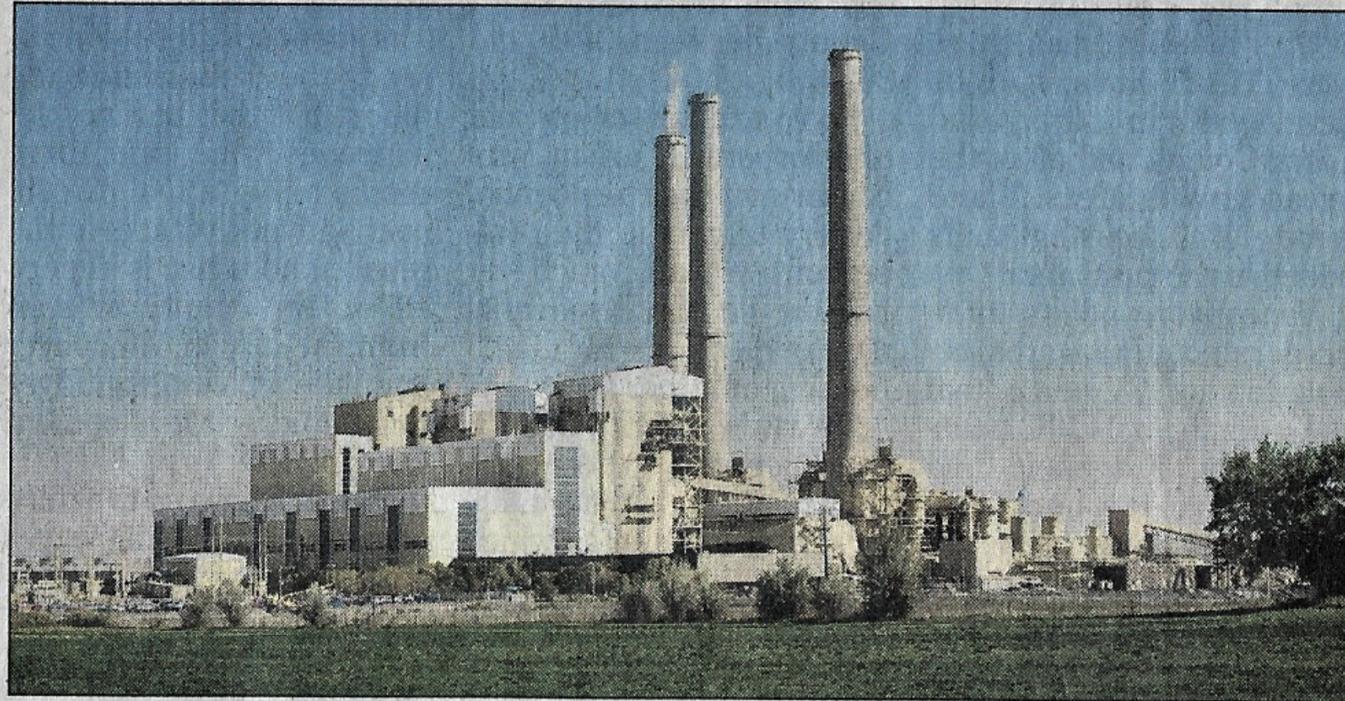
By **JENNIFER McDERMOTT**
Associated Press

A new type of nuclear reactor that would provide carbon-free energy to at least four states in the Western U.S. poses financial risks for utilities and their ratepayers, according to a report released Thursday that was immediately criticized by the project's owner and the company developing the reactor.

The report by the Ohio-based Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis said the small modular nuclear reactor being developed by NuScale Power in Oregon is "too expensive, too risky and too uncertain."

The NuScale design is the only small-scale reactor to win safety approval so far from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the agency is poised to issue a rule this summer that would fully certify it.

The Utah Associated Municipal Power Systems,



The Salt Lake Tribune files

The coal-fired Hunter 2 power plant in Castle Dale, Utah.

a cooperative representing utilities in seven Western states, wants to build and operate six of the company's reactors at the Idaho National Laboratory as part of a broader effort to reduce greenhouse gases and fight climate change. The first is projected to come online in 2029.

In addition to Utah, utilities in Idaho, Nevada and New Mexico have signed on to receive power from the NuScale reactors, and utilities in Washington and Oregon are considering it, according to the cooperative.

A recent Associated Press survey of the energy policies in all 50 states and the District of Columbia found that a strong majority — about two-thirds — say nuclear energy will help take the place of fossil fuels. Many state energy experts have concluded that power generated from wind, solar, water and other renewable sources won't be enough to fully replace energy from oil, coal and natural gas.

The new nuclear reactors being developed are far smaller than those in a traditional nuclear power plant.

Some use water to cool the core, while advanced reactors use something else such as gas, liquid metal or molten salt. The NRC expects more designs to be submitted.

The report from the institute, which supports renewable energy, said it's likely the NuScale reactor will take longer to build than estimated and that the final cost of power will be higher than anticipated and greater than the cost of power from renewable alternatives.

"The nuclear industry has been claiming that

small modular reactors ... are the wave of the future and are essential in the fight against climate change," report co-author David Schlissel said. "Based on the industry's long history of overpromising and underproducing in terms of providing low-cost power, we believe that these claims must be viewed carefully and cautiously."

LaVarr Webb, spokesperson for the Utah energy cooperative, said the report omitted important facts, including the federal government's strong support for the project. The Energy Department approved a cost-sharing arrangement in 2020 that could provide up to \$1.4 billion. The plans called for 12 reactors, but the cooperative said last year that it needs only six.

Webb said that while the authors highlighted construction cost overruns at some large traditional nuclear plants, they didn't mention that the NuScale modules will be built in a factory and not at a site that could be affected by weather delays.

"There was a lot of misinformation," he said. "Our members are very support-

ive of the project and we will go forward as planned."

Both Webb and NuScale said they were not asked for feedback before the report was published.

"This report provides a wholly uninformed view of the value of advanced nuclear energy technology in meeting our energy needs and climate goals," Diane Hughes, a vice president at NuScale, wrote in an email. "The report also mischaracterizes NuScale's costs, does not accurately reflect or examine schedule timeframes and even fails to understand the output."

Thom Carter, the energy advisor to Utah's governor, said replacing carbon energy sources such as coal for generating electricity is a "nationwide struggle without an easy answer."

"We do believe that nuclear power needs to be part of the decarbonizing conversation," he said after receiving the report.

NuScale signed an agreement last week to explore bringing its small modular reactor technology to Poland. The company says it has 20 tentative agreements with customers in 11 countries.