



# American Nuclear Society

## Georgia Section

### Nuclear Goes...Hollywood?

This is our first newsletter of 2023 and as we go to press we've seen an uptick in the number of times nuclear energy has been touted as a dispatchable power source to complement renewables. With new films and documentaries taking up the pro-nuclear position, one could even argue that nuclear is going a bit Hollywood.

Two features caught our eye recently. We're very excited that the movie *Nuclear Now*, based on the book "A Bright Future" by Dr. Joshua Goldstein and directed by Oliver Stone, will premiere nationwide May 1. This movie has been on our chapter's radar for a while and we were happy to connect ANS corporate with the film's distributors. Our ability to speak with an expert's perspective on nuclear energy as this movie reaches a broader community is invaluable. **We'll be hosting our own Nuclear Now screening of the movie at Atlantic Station's Regal Theatre, May 5 – more details in an upcoming communication.**

Here's an [article in The Guardian](#) about the film "Atomic Hope: Inside the Pro-Nuclear Movement." This documentary features the emerging global pro-nuclear movement and has been released in the UK and Ireland. We hope to see it showing in the U.S. very soon.

Look for a meeting in fall 2023 when we invite Dr. Goldstein of *Nuclear Now* and other industry experts to be a part of a panel to discuss public opinion about nuclear. See more on page two and stay tuned for more info about this event!

*The ANS GA Section Leadership Team –*

*Juan Villarreal, Dom Napolitano, Dan Glassic, Andrew Hummel, Ronald Borel*

### Startups:

Several companies [announced plans](#) to help fuel the nation's next wave of reactors.

X-energy [broke ground](#) on its TRISO-X fuel fabrication facility in Tennessee, which will be the nation's [first commercial-scale facility](#) dedicated to fueling HALEU-based reactors.

TerraPower and GE's Global Nuclear Fuel also started efforts to build a [fast reactor fuel facility](#) in Wilmington, NC to support the Sodium reactor demonstration.

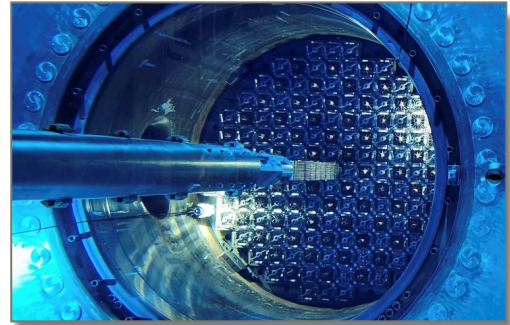
Other notable fuel developments included a [ribbon-cutting\(link is external\)](#) of Ultra Safe Nuclear Corporation's pilot fuel manufacturing facility in Oak Ridge, TN and BWX Technologies' [recent production](#) of TRISO particles to help fuel Pele, a Department of Defense micro-reactor.

DOE also [awarded](#) \$150 million to Centrus Operating Corporation to demonstrate the nation's ability to produce HALEU using an enrichment cascade in Piketon, OH. The demonstration is expected to produce 20 kilograms of HALEU material by the end of 2023 and 900 kilograms per year afterwards.

Thought we'd share some more good reading: United Nations Economic Commission For Europe, report on [Life Cycle Assessment of Electricity Generation Options](#).

## Vogtle Nuclear Plant Status

**Unit 3 went critical in early March at Plant Vogtle** in Georgia. Technicians loaded 157 fuel assemblies into the core back in October and are currently progressing through a series of start-up tests. Unit 3 is projected to enter service in the second quarter of 2023 with Unit 4 starting up later next year. Once operating, the two units will become the largest single generator of clean power in the U.S.—providing reliable power to more than 1 million Georgia homes and businesses. For more information: [Georgia Power Vogtle Plant](#).



### Speaking of nuclear

We've enjoyed hearing Dr. Joshua Goldstein discuss his book, *A Bright Future*, and the movie of that book "[Nuclear Now](#)," directed by Oliver Stone. In the film, Oliver Stone explores the possibility for dispelling myths about nuclear safety and how the global community can overcome the challenges of climate change and energy poverty through the power of nuclear. The film will premiere May 1 across the country in 300 theaters. Dr. Goldstein and Oliver Stone recently attended DAVOS and spoke to many there about nuclear energy and the movie. [See this interview](#).

ANS GA is preparing to host Dr. Goldstein in the fall to discuss his book, show a clip of the movie and engage with our audience and a panel about creating more positive momentum for nuclear energy which would include a broader audience.

**Another speaker of interest** has caught our eye. [This video captures](#) Mark Mills, Senior Fellow Manhattan Institute, and his presentation to the SKAGEN FUNDS New Year's Conference where he discusses inescapable mineral realities of the energy transition.

**Our 2022 4th quarter meeting** (pictures below) was a big hit, providing opportunities for networking and a chance to hear straight from an industry professional. Brad Adams, Vice President of Technical Compliance, Alvin W. Vogtle Electric Generating Plant spoke about the "[Digital Transformation of the Southern Nuclear Operating Fleet](#)," and took questions from the audience.



### Historic Climate Legislation

Over the summer, President Joe Biden signed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) into law. THE IRA is the most significant piece of climate legislation in U.S. history and includes multiple tax incentives for the U.S. nuclear industry. The most notable is a \$15 per megawatt-hour production tax credit that will keep the existing fleet competitive with other power generators.

The budget also allocated \$700 million to help build a domestic supply chain for high-assay low-enriched uranium (HALEU) required by most advanced U.S. reactor designs and \$150 million to improve nuclear research and development infrastructure at Idaho National Laboratory (INL).

Newsletter editor: [Julia Curran](#)