

Project Report:

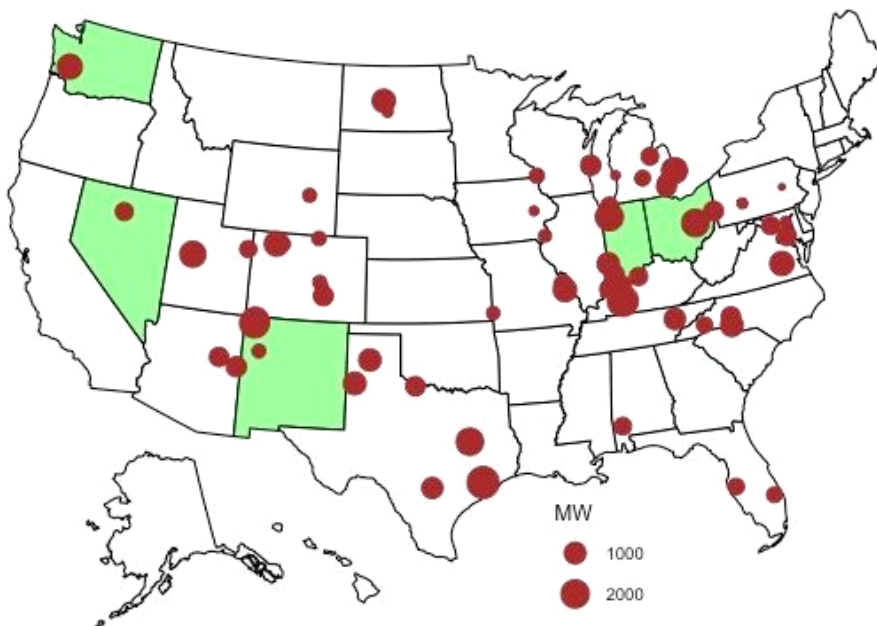
Good Energy Collective

Purpose

- Investigates causes tending to destroy or impair the free-market system.
- Explores and develops market-based solutions.

Summary

We will analyze the national potential for a coal-to-small modular reactor (SMR) transition, and develop guidelines for a pilot program to engage potential host communities.



The maps shows the locations and sizes of coal plants in the US that are scheduled to retire after 2020. Plants were restricted to those larger than 100MW, and not in a state that has restrictions on new nuclear power plants. Light green states are those that have some sort of mandate for clean energy that includes nuclear.

Description

We will make a map and dataset of coal plants retiring in the US after 2020, then identify those communities most amenable to a potential SMR replacement, and quantify the total market size. We will evaluate potential communities based on public opinion of new nuclear, along with environmental justice indicators, and state level incentives for new nuclear. Our final report will also include analysis of how much re-training is involved for the different types of jobs at a new nuclear power plant, along with the thousands of temporary jobs created during the construction of the nuclear plant and decommissioning of the coal plant.

Purpose

Coal plants are retiring across the U.S. mainly because of cheap natural gas prices. It was federal investment in hydraulic fracturing that led to this boom of natural gas

Contacts

Details

Attachments

- ▶ [Coal Plants Retiring After 2020](#)
- ▶ [LA Times. Saving California's Last Nuclear Plant](#) (Doc)
- ▶ [Lovering & Hobbs Baker - Can Nuclear Go Local \(Spring 2021 ISSUES\)](#) (PDF)

Location

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Posted 8/31/2020 5:00 PM

Updated 9/1/2021 8:56 AM

Nonprofit

production. Similarly, federal and state governments should make smart investments to spur the commercial SMR market as a way to demonstrate this new technology, support struggling communities in coal country, and eliminate local air and water pollution. Coal communities are worried that they will be left behind by a Green New Deal, but a Coal-to-SMR program could address the market failure of an unequal distribution of benefits from a clean energy transition.

Scope

Broadly, this project will have a national scope as we evaluate the market size of a potential Coal-to-SMR program, but we will also be identifying communities that will be a good fit for the first SMR demonstrations. We will study these communities in more detail and look to local policies and economic needs to understand how to develop a successful pilot program.

Information Dissemination

Our results will be published in a final report that we will make available on our website. We will develop a media strategy for the report's release that could include a panel discussion, meetings with policy-makers, and media interviews.

Amount Approved

\$50,000.00 on 10/5/2020 (Check sent: 10/29/2020)
