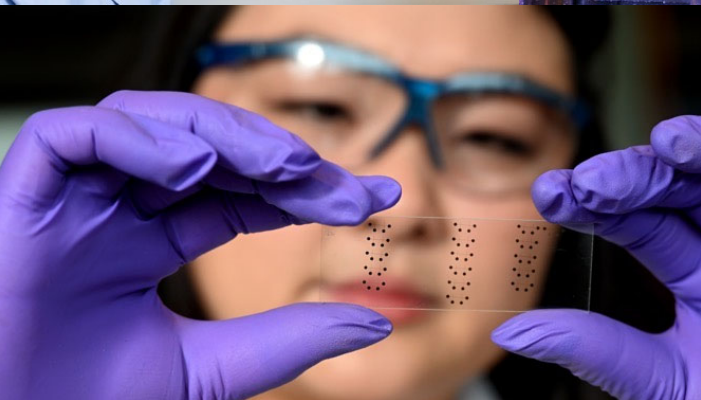


**April 8, 2024**

**J. Richard Hess, Ph.D.**

Director, Idaho National Laboratory

[JRichard.Hess@inl.gov](mailto:JRichard.Hess@inl.gov)



## Idaho National Laboratory – Creating a Secure, Resilient, Clean Energy Future

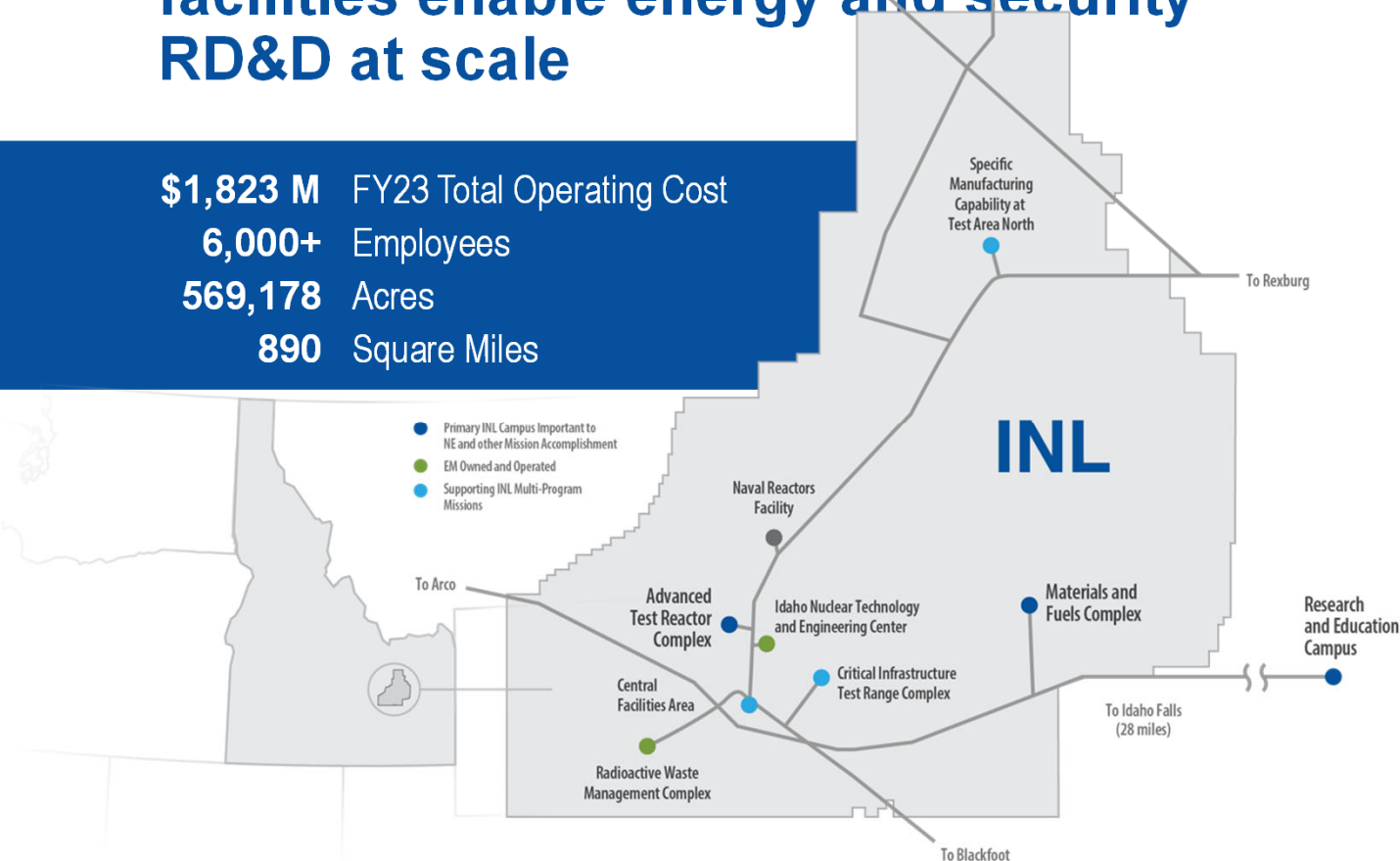
Battelle Energy Alliance manages INL for the  
U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Nuclear Energy



Idaho National Laboratory

# Unique INL site, infrastructure, and facilities enable energy and security RD&D at scale

**\$1,823 M** FY23 Total Operating Cost  
**6,000+** Employees  
**569,178** Acres  
**890** Square Miles



**4** Operating reactors

**12** Hazard Category II & III non-reactor facilities/ activities

**50** Radiological facilities/activities

**17.5** Miles railroad for shipping nuclear fuel

**44** Miles primary roads (125 miles total)

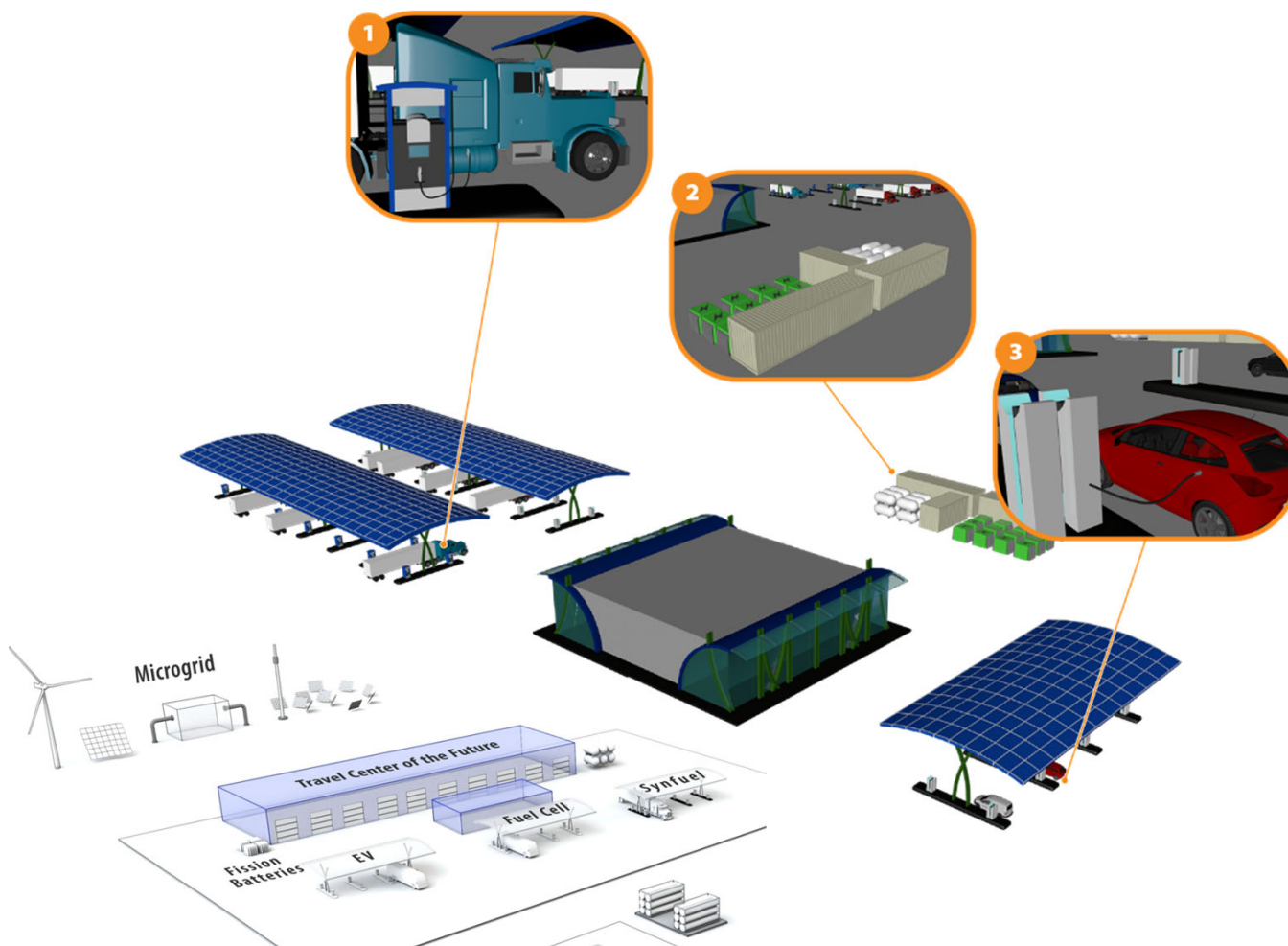
**9** Substations with interfaces to two power providers

**126** Miles high-voltage transmission lines

**3** Fire Stations

IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY

# The “Gap”: *Travel Center of the Future*



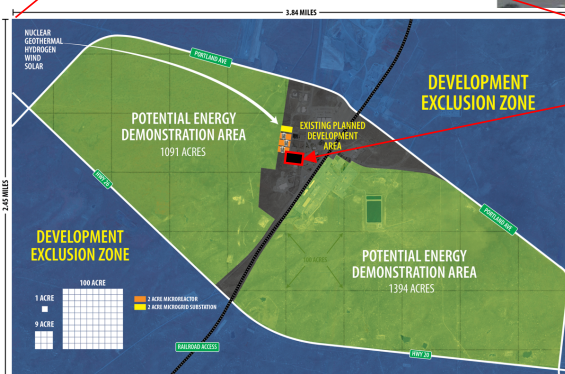
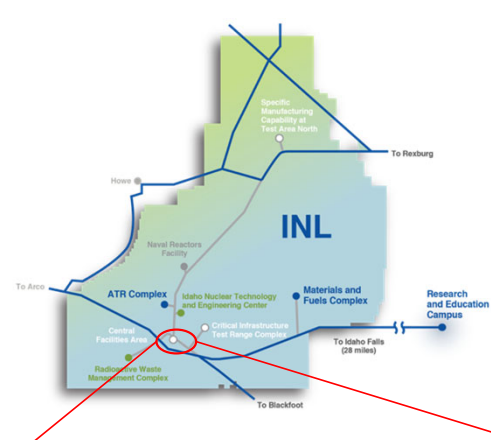
## Initial Focus

- 1 H2 fueling** for fuel-cell Class 8 fuel-cell electric trucks  
Onsite nuclear microreactor produces electricity and heat for high-temperature electrolyzer for H2 production
- 2 Stationary batteries** allow balancing of microreactor/grid load with local renewable generation to minimize electricity cost
- 3 350-kW charging** for medium and heavy-duty electric trucks and light-duty EVs in the near term  
**1-3 MW** for HD EVs mid/long term

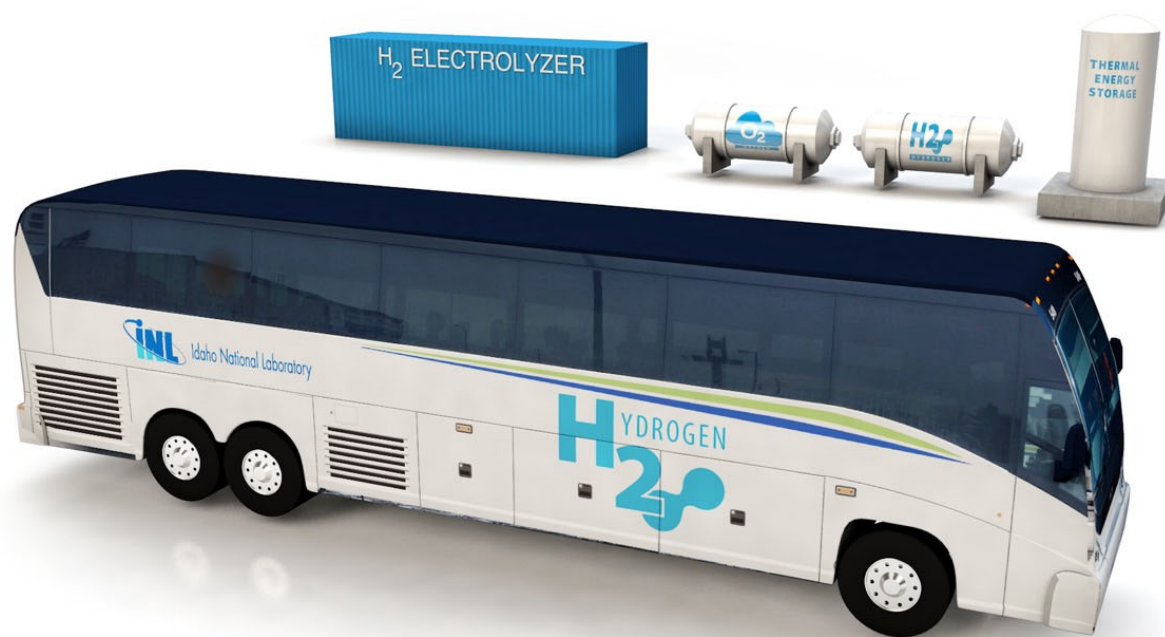


# INL Central Facilities Area

## the new Energy Technology Proving Ground



## Converting the INL fleet to hydrogen and electric vehicles is essential to achieve net-zero by 2031



**86**  
MOTOR  
COACHES

**2.7**

MILLION MILES DRIVEN  
EACH YEAR

**435,000**

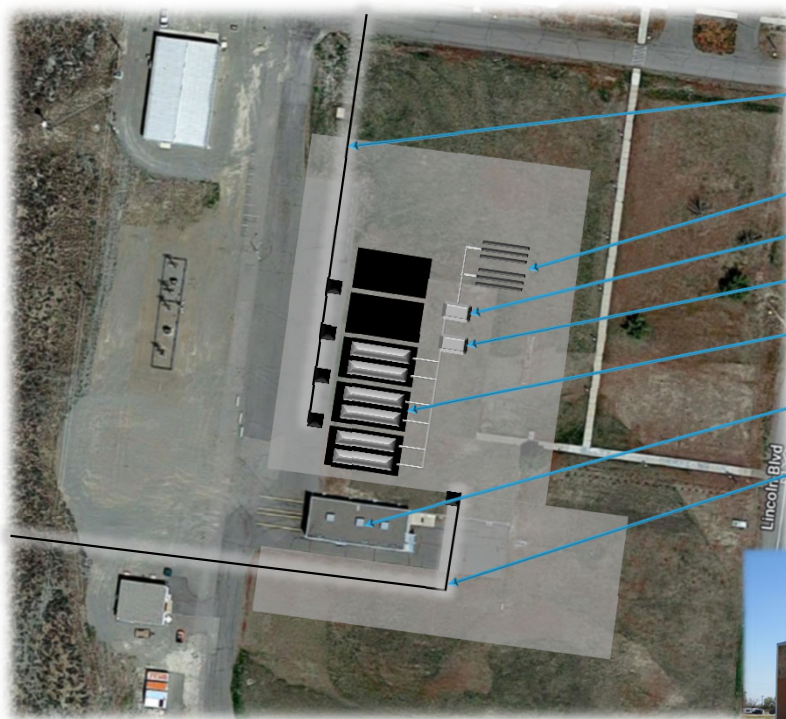


GALLONS OF  
FUEL USED  
EACH YEAR

IDAHO NATIONAL LABORATORY

# Proving Ground Hydrogen Production & Utilization

More than 10 Acres of Initial Testing Space Available



10 MW System Under Test Power Line

Low and high Compression H<sub>2</sub> Tanks

H<sub>2</sub> Multi-Stage Compression

H<sub>2</sub> Gas Dewatering and Clean-up

2-10 MWe Electrolyzers

DI Water Supply and MWe Boiler

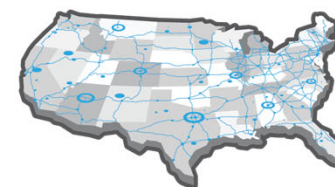
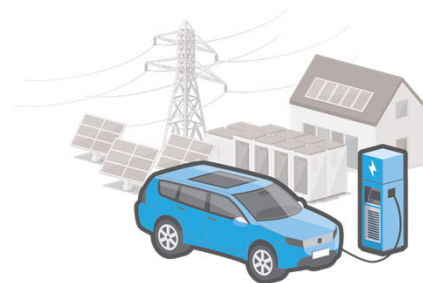
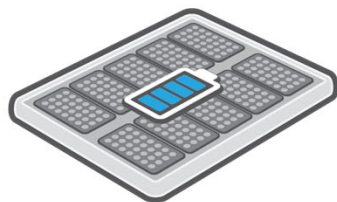
5 MW Balance of Plant Power Line





# Transportation & Energy Storage Research Focus

CYBER SECURITY

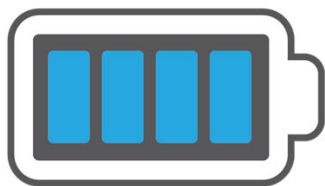


Emerging Battery Technology

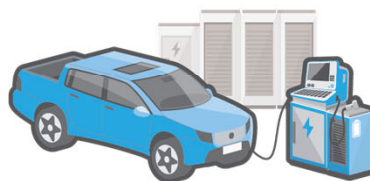
Advanced Battery Systems

Vehicle-Grid Integration

Future Mobility Systems



BATTERY TEST CENTER  
(BTC)



ELECTRIC VEHICLE  
INFRASTRUCTURE LABORATORY  
(EVIL)



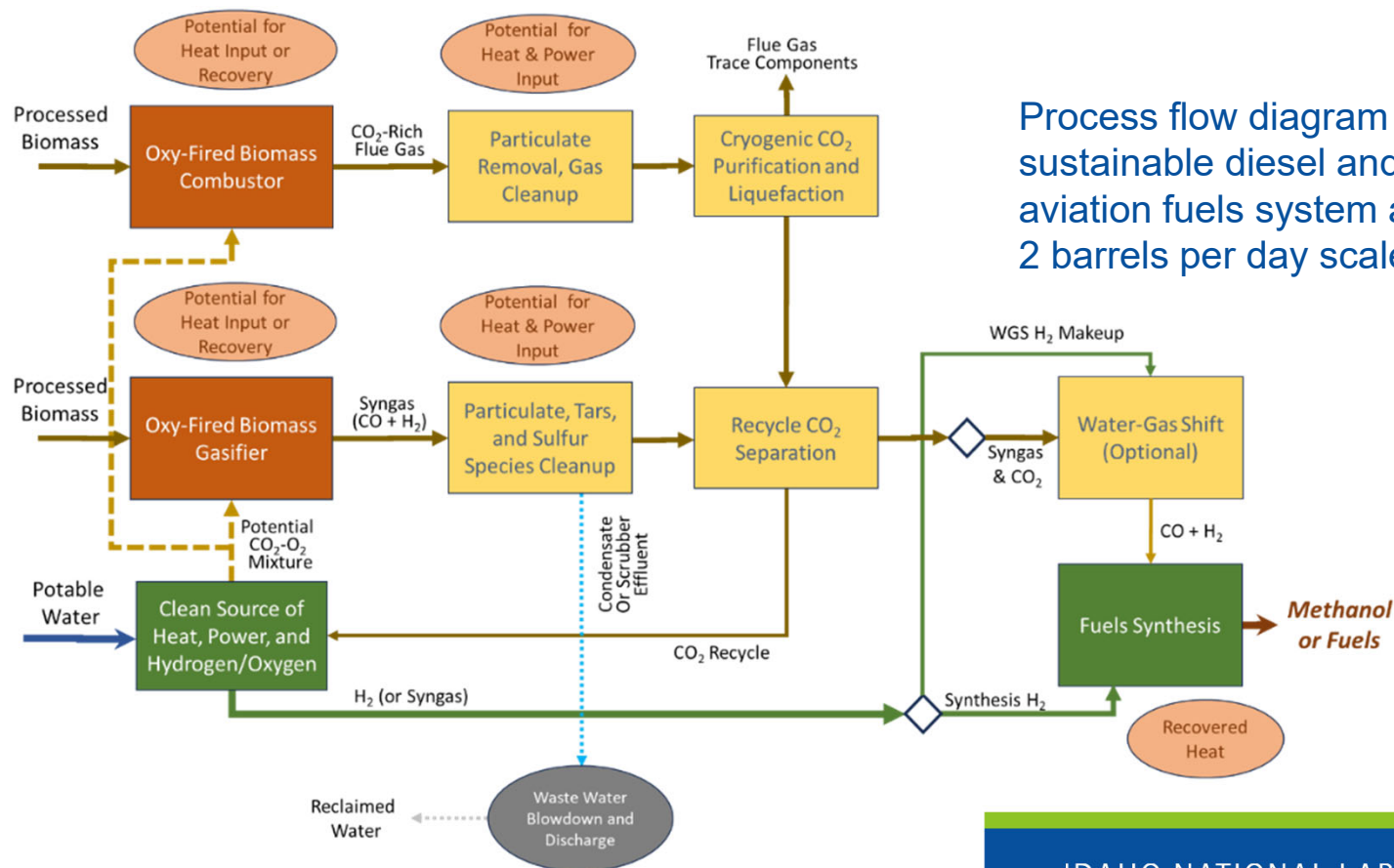
CALDERA EV CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE  
SIMULATION PLATFORM

23-50388\_R5

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# Low Carbon Intensity Fuels from Biomass Carbon + Non-Carbon Energy Sources

Upstream emulation  
of advanced reactor  
thermal energy



Process flow diagram for  
sustainable diesel and  
aviation fuels system at  
2 barrels per day scale

Capability to integrate  
a Micro Reactor



## INL's Heritage: *The National Reactor Testing Station drove nuclear innovation in the U.S. and around the world*

1<sup>st</sup>

Nuclear power plant

U.S. city to be powered by nuclear energy

Submarine reactor tested; training of nearly 40,000 reactor operators until mid-1990s

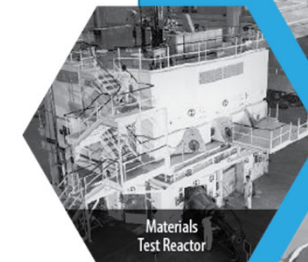
Mobile nuclear power plant for the army

Demonstration  
of self-sustaining  
fuel cycle

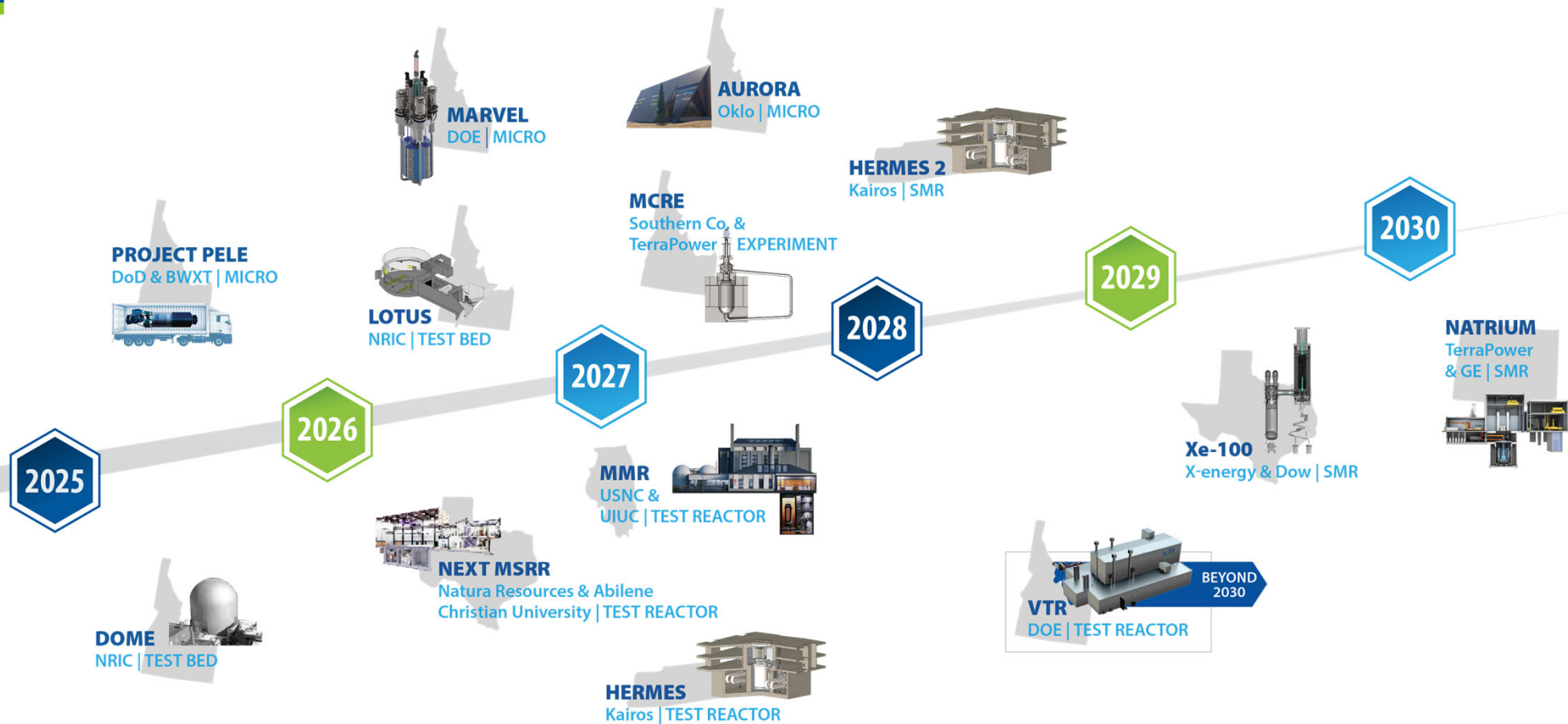
Basis for LWR  
reactor safety

Aircraft and  
aerospace  
reactor testing

Materials  
testing  
reactors



# Accelerating advanced reactor demonstration & deployment



## Nuclear Energy Generation

## Energy Technology Proving Ground

## Other Clean Energy Generation

**MARVEL #53**

DOE | MICRO

**MCRE #55**  
Southern Co. &  
TerraPower |  
EXPERIMENT

**AURORA #56**  
Oklo | MICRO

**LOTUS**  
NRIC | TEST BED

**PROJECT PELE #54**  
DoD & BWXT | MICRO

**DOME**  
NRIC | TEST BED

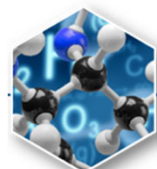
### Energy Currencies

STORAGE



Variable renewables, geothermal, MSW, fossil with carbon capture, etc.

*ETPG will advance the existing kW-scale Energy Systems Laboratory to MW demonstration scale*



Polymers, Chemicals



Biofuel



H<sub>2</sub>



Ammonia Fertilizer



Steel, Metals



Paper Products



General Industry



Clean Water



District Heating

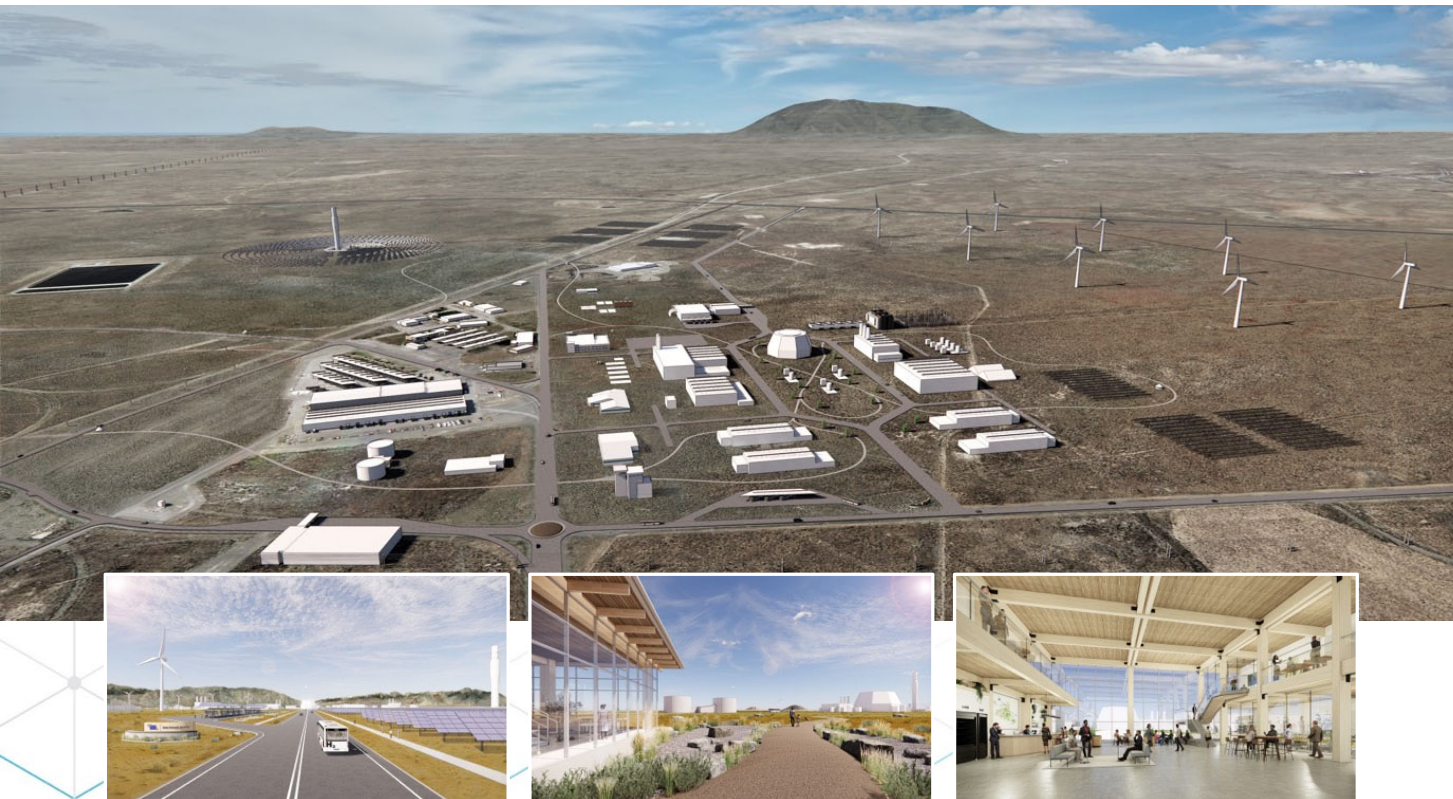


Flexible Electricity

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# INL's Energy Technology Proving Ground



*\*Artist rendition*

*A demonstration and testbed complex that:*

- *Validates industrial technologies*
- *Designs and controls integrated energy systems*
- *Leverages contributions from nuclear energy beyond electricity*
- *Integrates and leverages testbeds across the DOE laboratory complex, e.g. NREL-ARIES*