



2021 Status Report Research Reactor Infrastructure Program

October 2021

Changing the World's Energy Future

Douglas K Morrell



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Idaho Falls, Idaho 83415**

<http://www.inl.gov>

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October 18, 2021

Douglas Morrell
RRI Project Manager

2021 Status Report

DOE Research Reactor Infrastructure Program

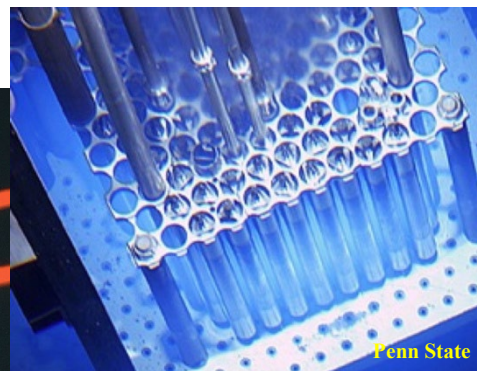
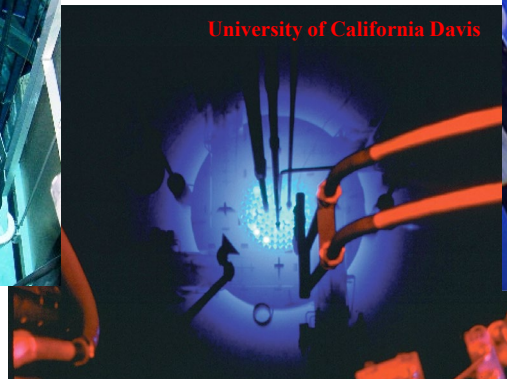
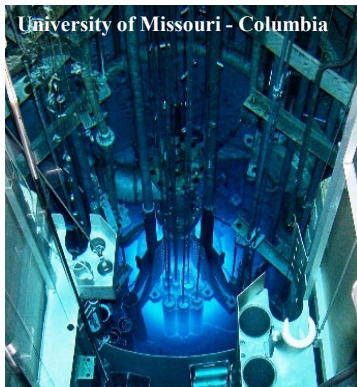
Topics for Discussion

- Overview of the Research Reactor Infrastructure Program
- Accomplishments during the past year
- TRIGA Fuel
- 2022 Forecast
- Future Challenges



Purpose of the RRI Program

The purpose of the United States Domestic Research Reactor Infrastructure Program is to provide fresh nuclear reactor fuel to United States universities at no, or low, cost to the university. The title of the fuel remains with the United States government and when universities are finished with the fuel, the fuel is returned to the United States government.





Program Management

DOE-HQ

Aaron Gravelle

DOE-ID

Carl Friesen

Idaho National Laboratory

Project Manager

Doug Morrell

Quality Engineer – in Idaho

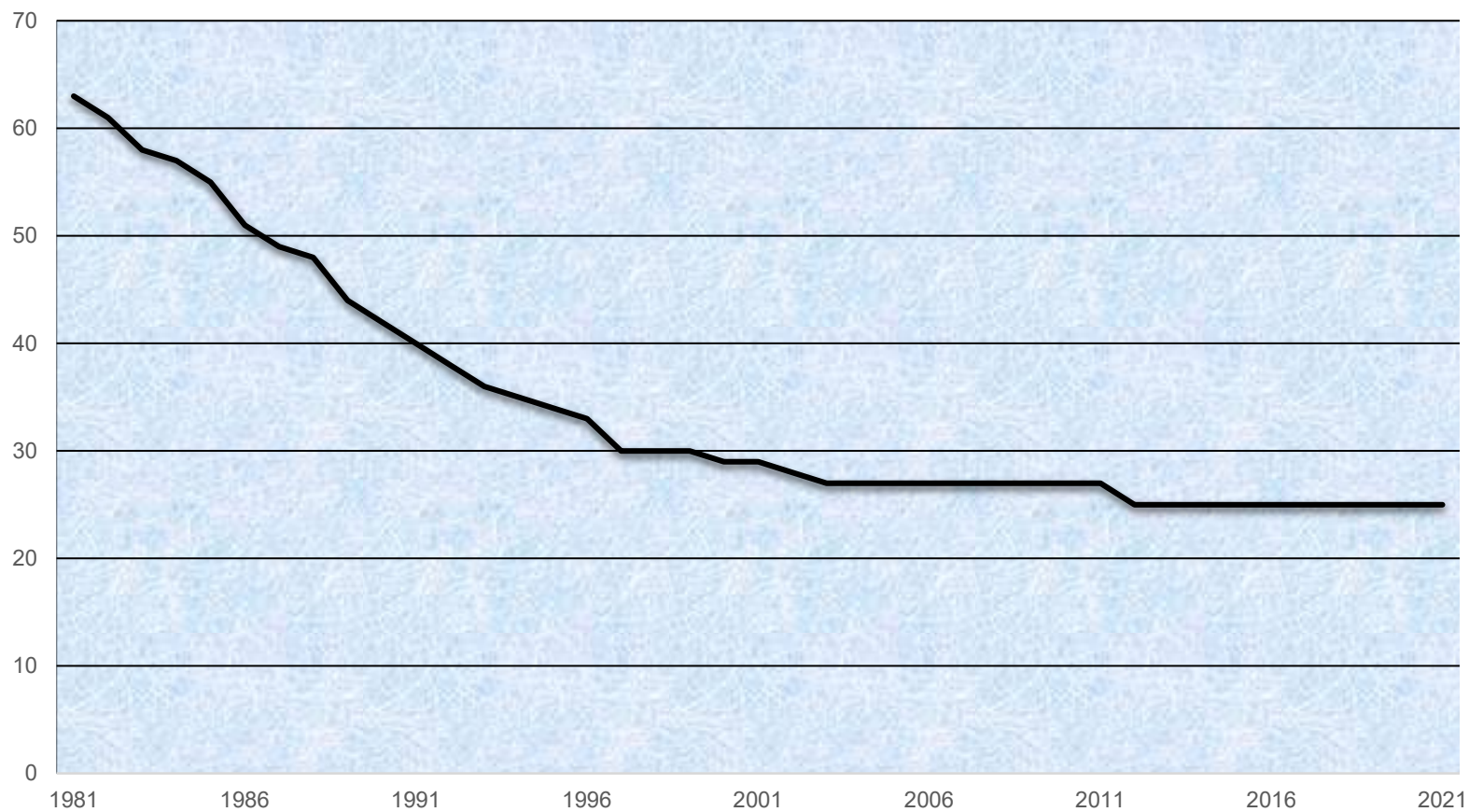
Dana Cooper

Quality Engineer – in Virginia

Melanie Sokoine

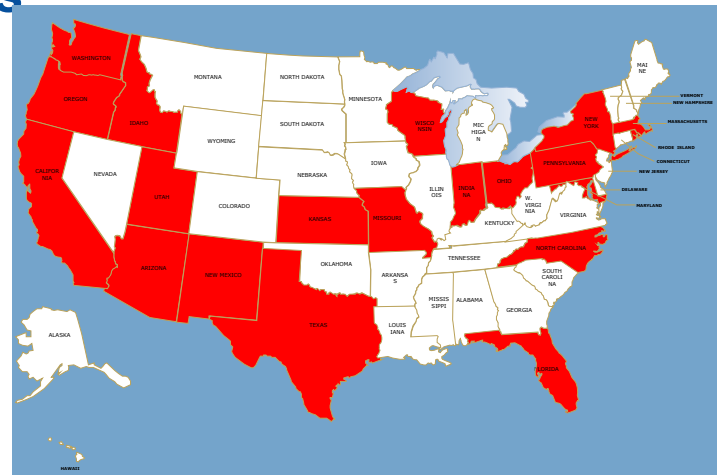
Tom Chambers

Operating University Reactor Facilities



The Research Reactor Infrastructure Program

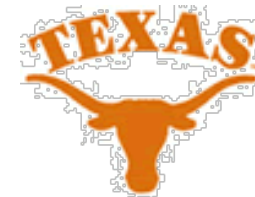
- **Funded by the U.S. Department of Energy**
- **Managed by DOE-HQ and DOE-ID Operations Office**
- **Contracted to the INL's Management and Operations Contractor – Battelle Energy Alliance**
- **Program has been at Idaho since 1977**
 - **INL subcontracts with 24 U.S. universities to supply fresh nuclear reactor fuel for operations**
 - **Twelve TRIGA facilities**
 - **Eight plate fuel facilities**
 - **Three AGN facilities**
 - **One Pulsar fuel facility**
 - **One Critical facility**



University TRIGA Reactor Facilities



- Kansas State University
- Oregon State University
- Penn State University
- Reed College
- Texas A&M
- University of California Davis
- University of California in Irvine
- University of Maryland
- University of Texas in Austin
- University of Utah
- University of Wisconsin
- Washington State University



University Plate Fuel Reactor Facilities



- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Missouri University of S&T - Rolla
- Ohio State University
- Purdue University
- Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center
- University of Florida
- University of Massachusetts – Lowell
- University of Missouri – Columbia



Other University Reactor Facilities

Idaho State
UNIVERSITY



THE UNIVERSITY of
NEW MEXICO

NC STATE UNIVERSITY



Rensselaer

- **AGN Reactors**
 - Idaho State University
 - Texas A&M
 - University of New Mexico
- **Pulstar Reactor**
 - North Carolina State University
- **Critical Facility**
 - Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

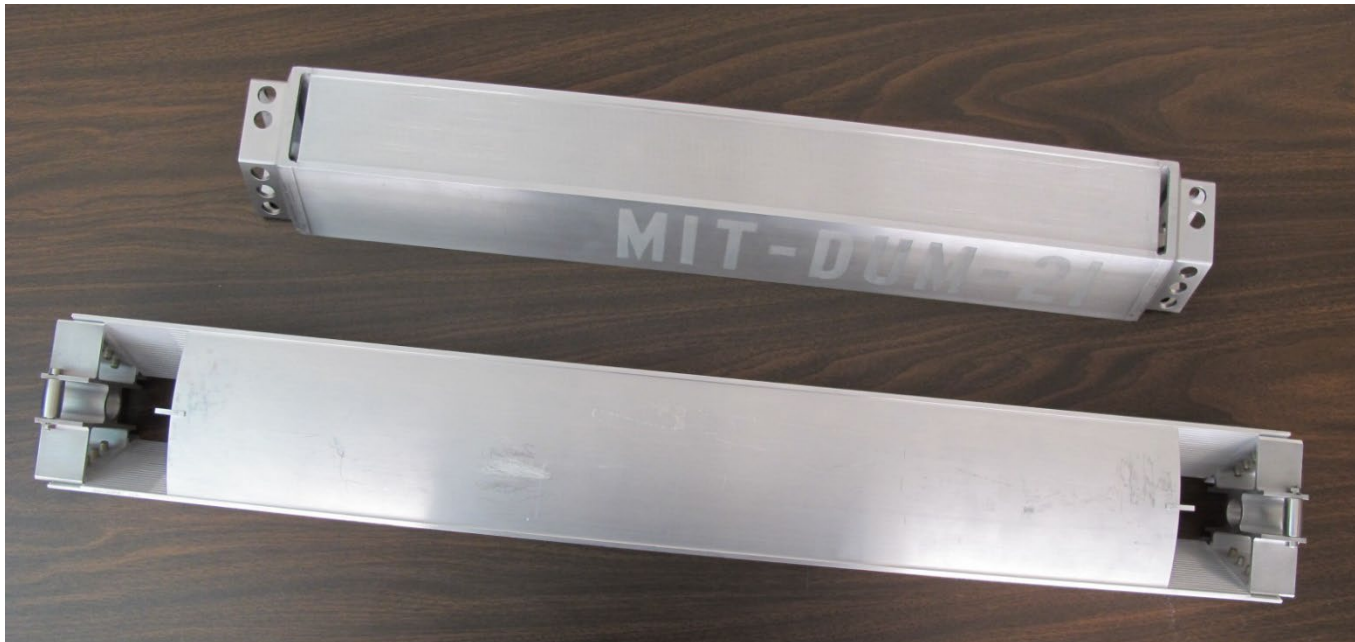
Reactor Power Levels

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Power</u>
University of Missouri – Columbia	10 MW
Massachusetts Institute of Technology	6 MW
University of California – Davis	2 MW
Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center	2 MW
Kansas State University	1.25 MW
Oregon State University	1 MW
University of Texas, Austin	1 MW
North Carolina State University	1 MW
Pennsylvania State University	1 MW
Texas A&M University	1 MW & 5W
University of Massachusetts – Lowell	1 MW
University of Wisconsin	1 MW

<u>Facility</u>	<u>Power</u>
Washington State University	1 MW
Ohio State University	500 kW
Reed College	250kW
University of California – Irvine	250 kW
University of Maryland	250 kW
Missouri University of S&T	200kW
University of Florida	100 kW
University of Utah	100 kW
Purdue University	10 kW
Idaho State University	5 W
University of New Mexico	5 W
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	1 W

2021 Accomplishments

- Provided fuel to MURR and MIT allowing them to maintain operations at current power levels



2021 Accomplishments

- Two shipments of spent nuclear fuel from MURR to Savannah River Site receipt facility
- Two shipments of spent nuclear fuel from MIT to Savannah River Site receipt facility

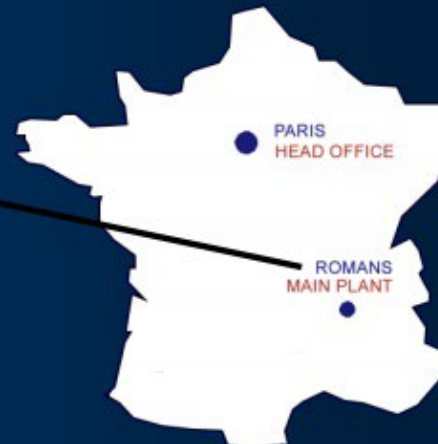


2021 Accomplishments

- Assisting TRIGA International with the modifications and upgrades of the TRIGA fuel fabrication line



TRIGA
INTERNATIONAL



2021 Accomplishments

- Major Equipment Replacement for TRIGA Fabrication Line



Fusion furnace



Hydride furnace

TRIGA Fuel Fabrication Status

- **Status of Fuel Fabrication Line Restart**
 - **ASN Review of Article 26**
 - **Procurement Quality Audit**
 - **Production Line Equipment Testing**
- **Planned Fabrication and Delivery**
- **Storage of New Fuel at Reactor Facilities**
 - **Amendment Requests for Increased Possession Limits**
 - **Physical Storage Space**
- **Fuel Needs Update**

2022 Forecast

- **Issue Research Reactor Infrastructure Program Annual Report by December 31st**
 - Fuel and usage data
 - Reactor Accomplishments and Highlights



2022 Forecast

- Provide fuel to MURR and MIT to maintain current operating power levels
- Restart fabrication of TRIGA Fuel Elements, first elements fabricated



2022 Forecast

- Complete three spent fuel shipments from MURR
- Complete one spent fuel shipment from MIT



Requests for Assistance

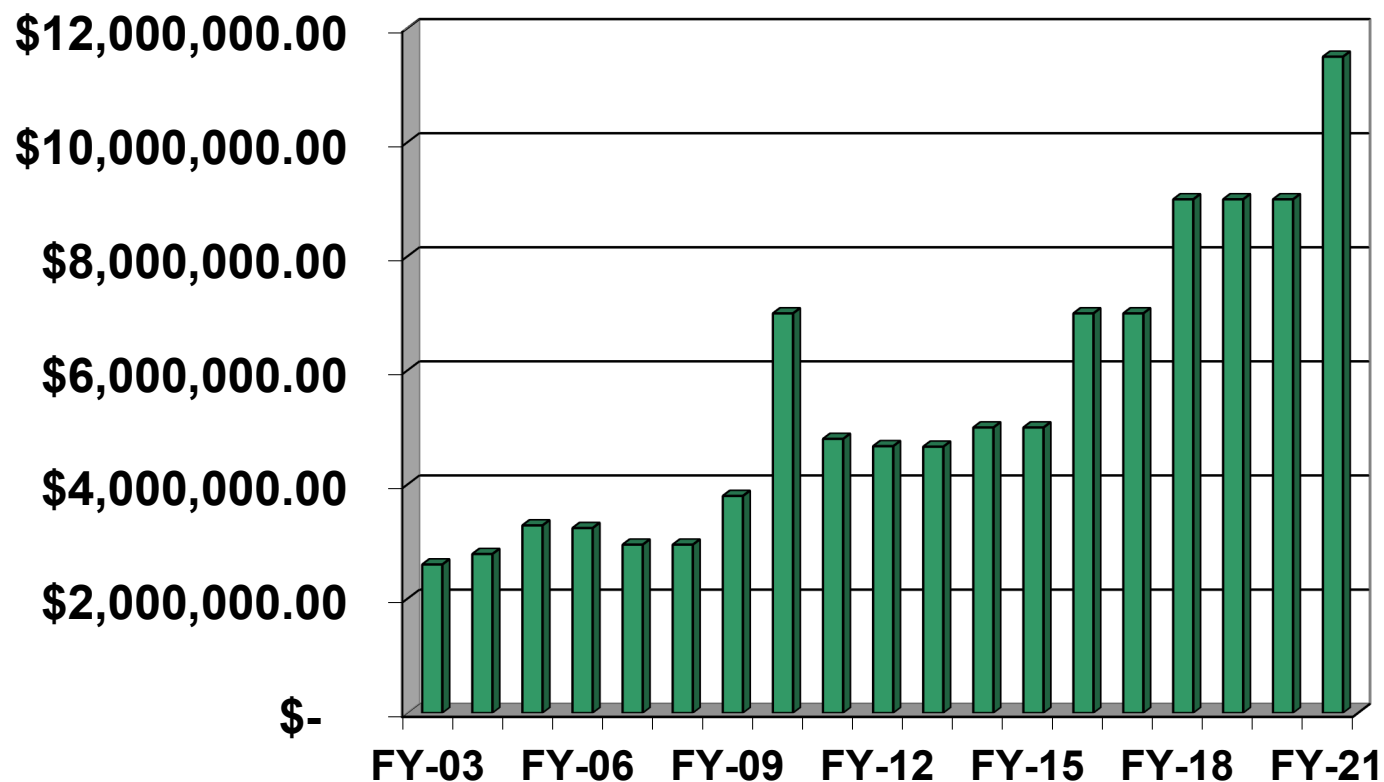
- **Future requests for fresh fuel or spent fuel shipments need to be communicated to program office – Provide documentation to justify request (E-mail or official letter notification preferred)**
- **Other university concerns or assistance requests should be communicated to program for consideration as part of future budget planning activities.**
- **Doug Morrell (208) 201-6595**



Future Challenges

- **Receipt of additional Irradiated TRIGA fuel at the Irradiated Fuel Storage Facility located at the Idaho National Laboratory**
- **Conversion of MURR and MIT from HEU to LEU fuel type**

Funding Profile



RRI Team Members





Thank You!

Easy Questions?