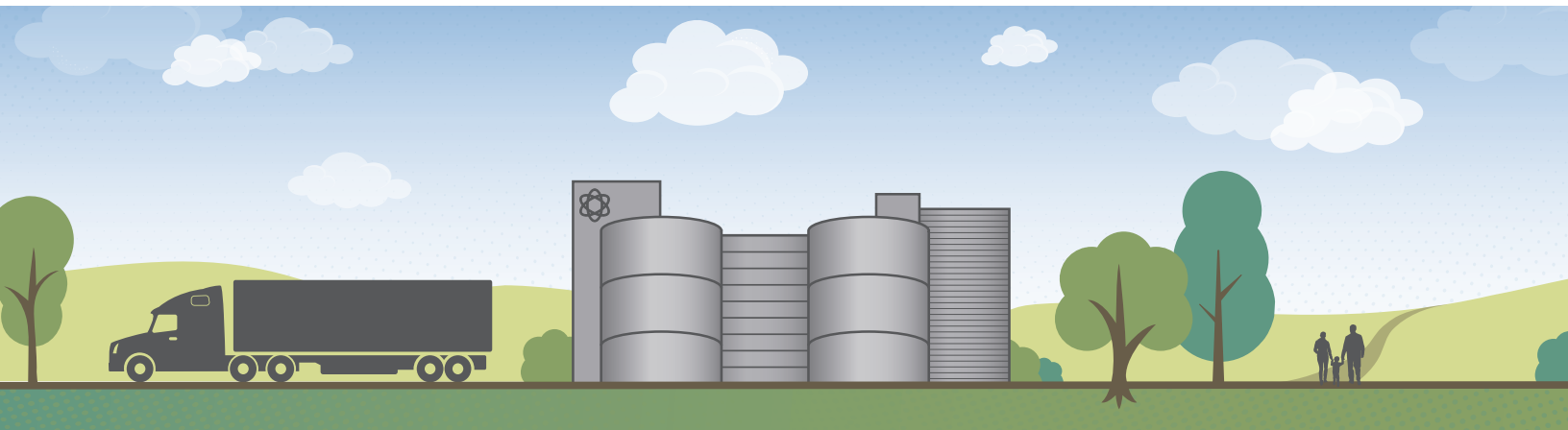
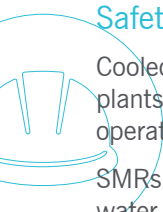




Small Modular Reactors Offer Tangible Benefits

Duke Energy is closely monitoring advances in clean energy technologies, and small modular reactors (SMRs) are one of the most promising. SMRs are advanced reactors that produce about 350 megawatts (MW) of safe, reliable and clean energy 24 hours a day regardless of weather conditions. One megawatt can power about 750 average homes.

Safety and operational benefits



Cooled by water, SMRs will operate like traditional nuclear plants that have a proven safety record and history of operational excellence.

SMRs will have advanced cooling systems – meaning cooling water will continue to flow through natural circulation without operator action.

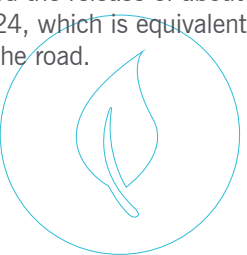
Due to their smaller size and enhanced safety features, SMRs are expected to have smaller emergency planning zones. Based on plant locations, an emergency planning zone might not extend beyond the site boundary or impact plant neighbors.

Environmental benefits

Electricity from nuclear power plants is the only clean source of energy that is safe, reliable and available 24 hours a day regardless of weather conditions. Energy from nuclear plants also complements renewables like solar and wind power.

Duke Energy's model for SMRs would need about 300-500 acres to produce 1,000-1,200 MW of energy, depending on the design. Solar plants need about 8 acres of land for every 1 MW produced. In contrast, SMRs will need about 20 times less land.

Duke Energy's 10,819 MW of clean energy from its 11 existing nuclear units at six nuclear sites in the Carolinas avoided the release of about 47 million tons of carbon dioxide in 2024, which is equivalent to removing 7 million vehicles from the road.

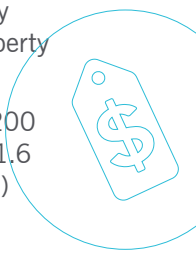


Economic benefits

Power plants serve as the bedrock of many communities – contributing to the vitality and economic growth of these communities, providing high-wage jobs and generating millions in property and other taxes annually. Power plant workers are also known for volunteering their time and talents – and making financial or in-kind contributions – to advance the mission of local nonprofits.

Duke Energy's existing six nuclear sites employ nearly 4,300 people and generate millions of dollars in property and other taxes for local communities.

Nuclear plant employees contributed more than 12,200 hours in sweat-equity volunteerism and more than \$1.6 million (including the Duke Energy Foundation match) in financial contributions to nonprofits in 2024.

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- Due to their smaller size, SMRs could use more commercially available and standardized equipment, and some prefabrication could be performed off-site, making SMRs easier and more affordable to build.
 - Building multiple SMRs at one site to generate 1,000-1,200 MW of clean energy could create about 250-500 permanent, high-wage jobs and 1,000-2,000 temporary construction jobs for six to 10 years, depending on the design selected and staggered construction schedule.
 - New nuclear energy would also create jobs for generations of workers and offer jobs for the whole community – jobs like welders, mechanics, engineers, chemists, cybersecurity experts and communicators.



BUILDING A SMARTER ENERGY FUTURE®