

# ARPA-E Workshop

## Nuclear **Heat** for Industrial Applications

Jenifer Shafer  
31 May 2023

# Nuclear Heat Team

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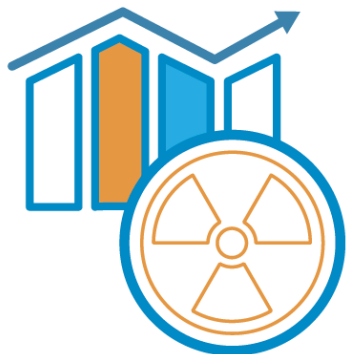
**REDUCE**  
imports



**REDUCE**  
emissions



**IMPROVE**  
efficiency



**IMPROVE**  
radioactive waste  
management



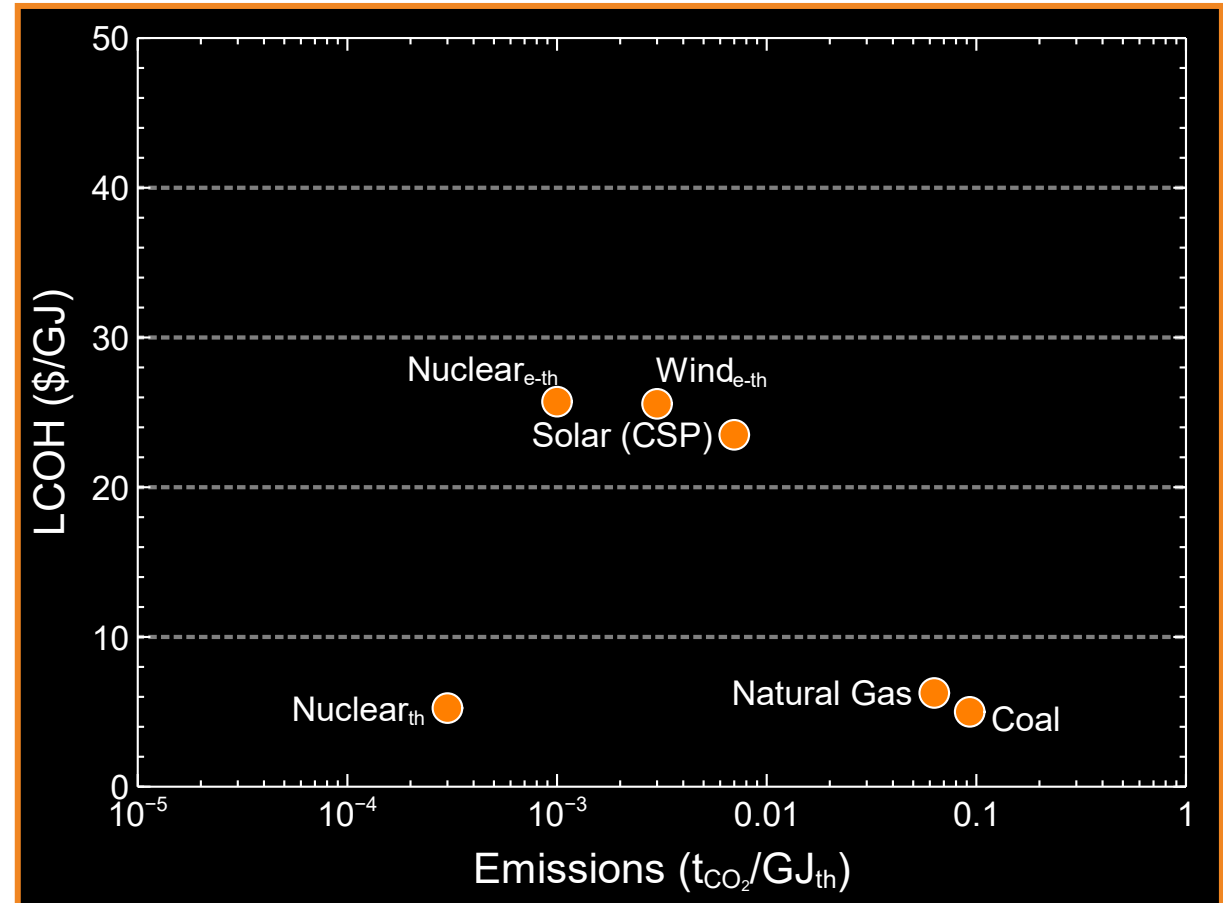
**IMPROVE**  
energy infrastructure  
resilience

# Executive Summary

Industrials need low carbon heat and nuclear offers this

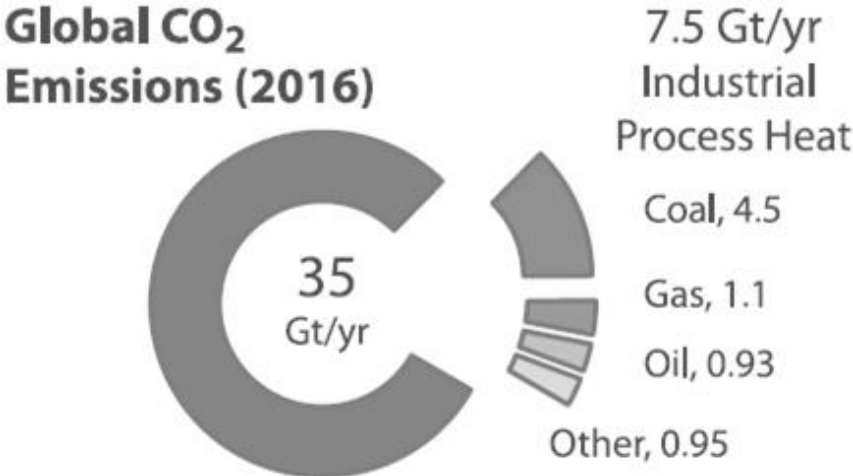
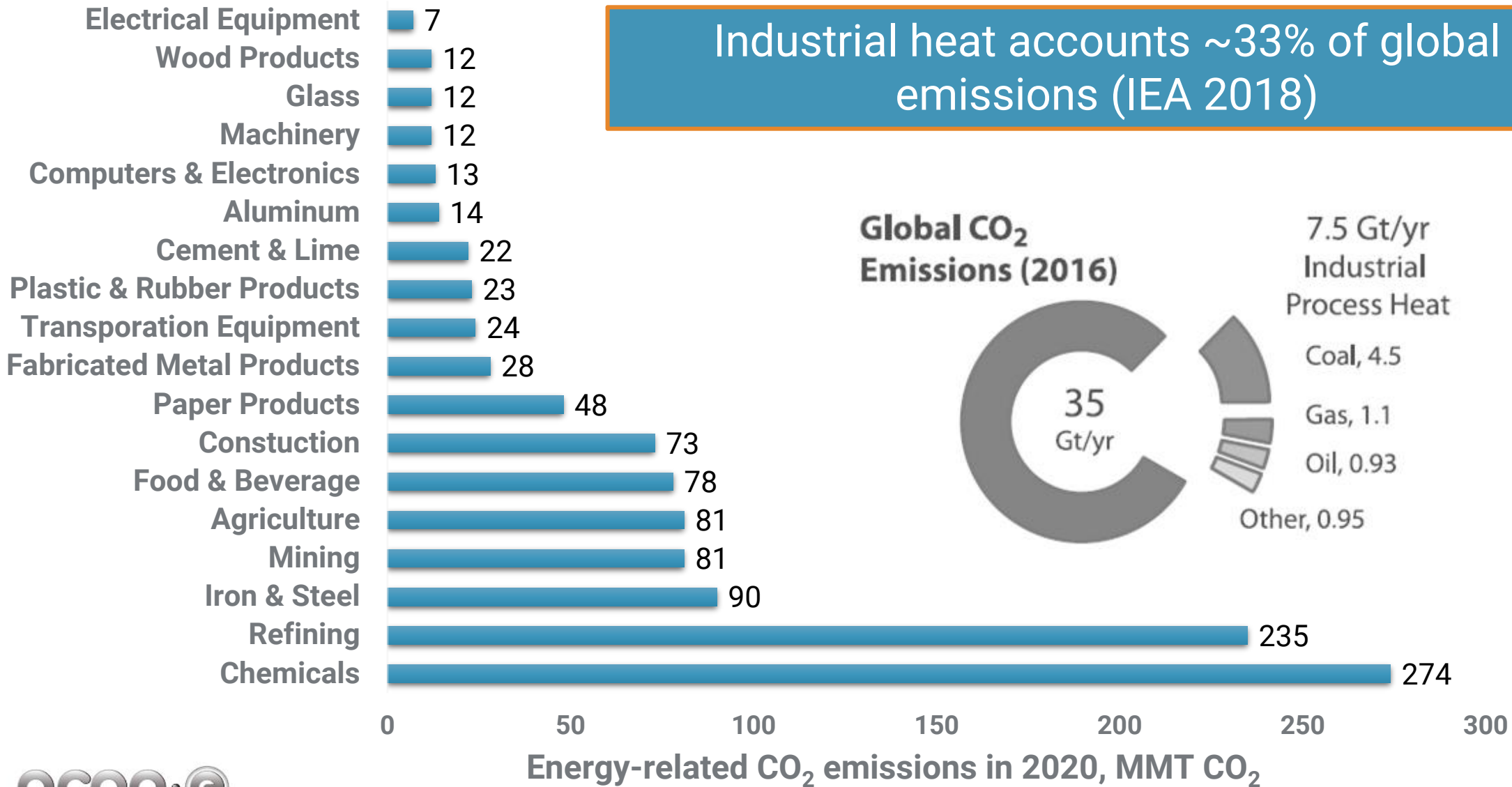
Challenges exist in deploying nuclear at speed and scale

We need your help in identifying technical R&D to solve this challenge!

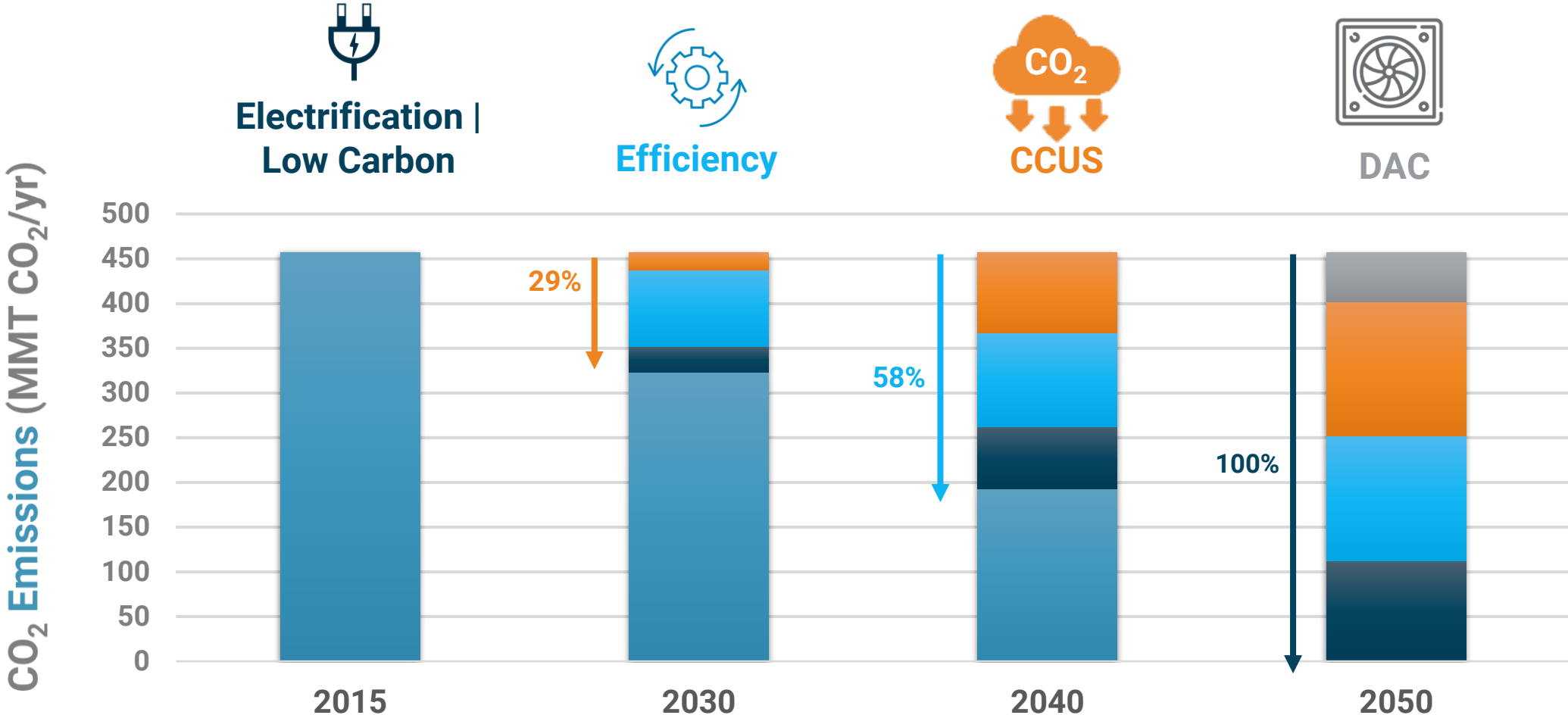


# Intersection of Heat & Decarbonization

Industrial heat accounts ~33% of global emissions (IEA 2018)



# Roadmap Projections



Nuclear can support electrification/low carbon efforts

# The Role of Nuclear Heat

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Nuclear reactors provide clean firm **heat & power**

Maximize constant use of nuclear by hybridizing

**Heat**

**Power**

**Heat + Power**

with industrial consumer needs



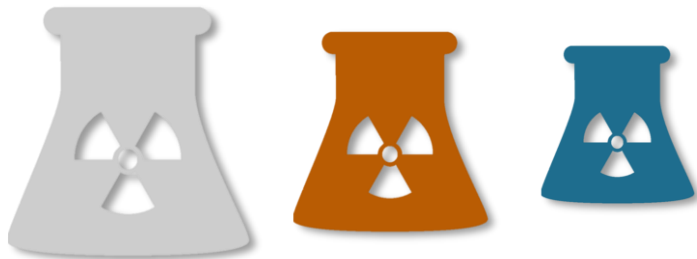
# Nuclear Reactor Primer

## Reactor sizes

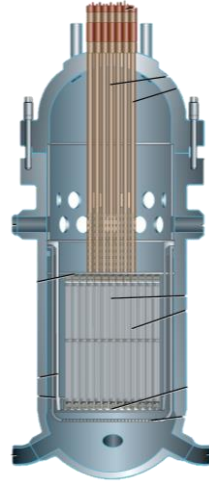
Current Fleet  
1 GW<sub>e</sub> | 3 GW<sub>t</sub>

Small Modular Reactor  
50-300 MW<sub>e</sub> | 120-900 MW<sub>t</sub>

Microreactor  
1-50 MW<sub>e</sub> | 3-150 MW<sub>t</sub>



## Light Water



Light Water  
Reactor

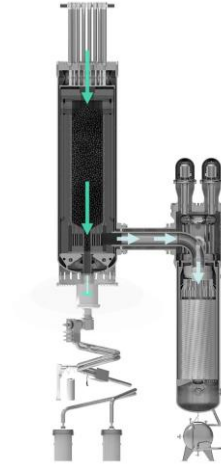
Fuel  
Coolant



U Oxide

Water

## Advanced Reactors

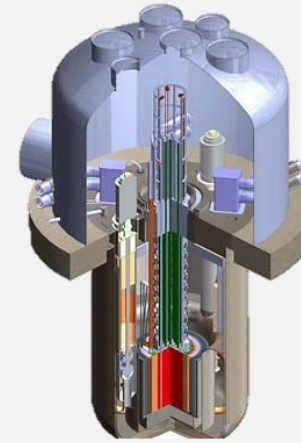


High Temp Gas  
Reactor

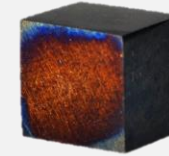


TRISO

Gas

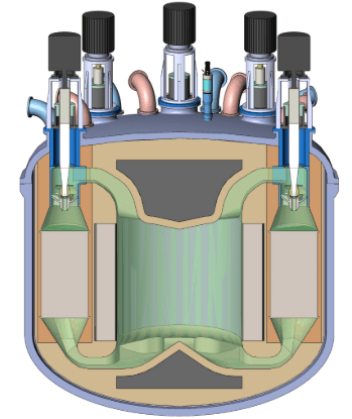


Metal Fast  
Reactor

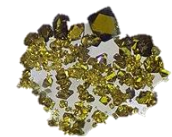


U Metal

Liquid Metal



Molten Salt  
Reactor



U Cl

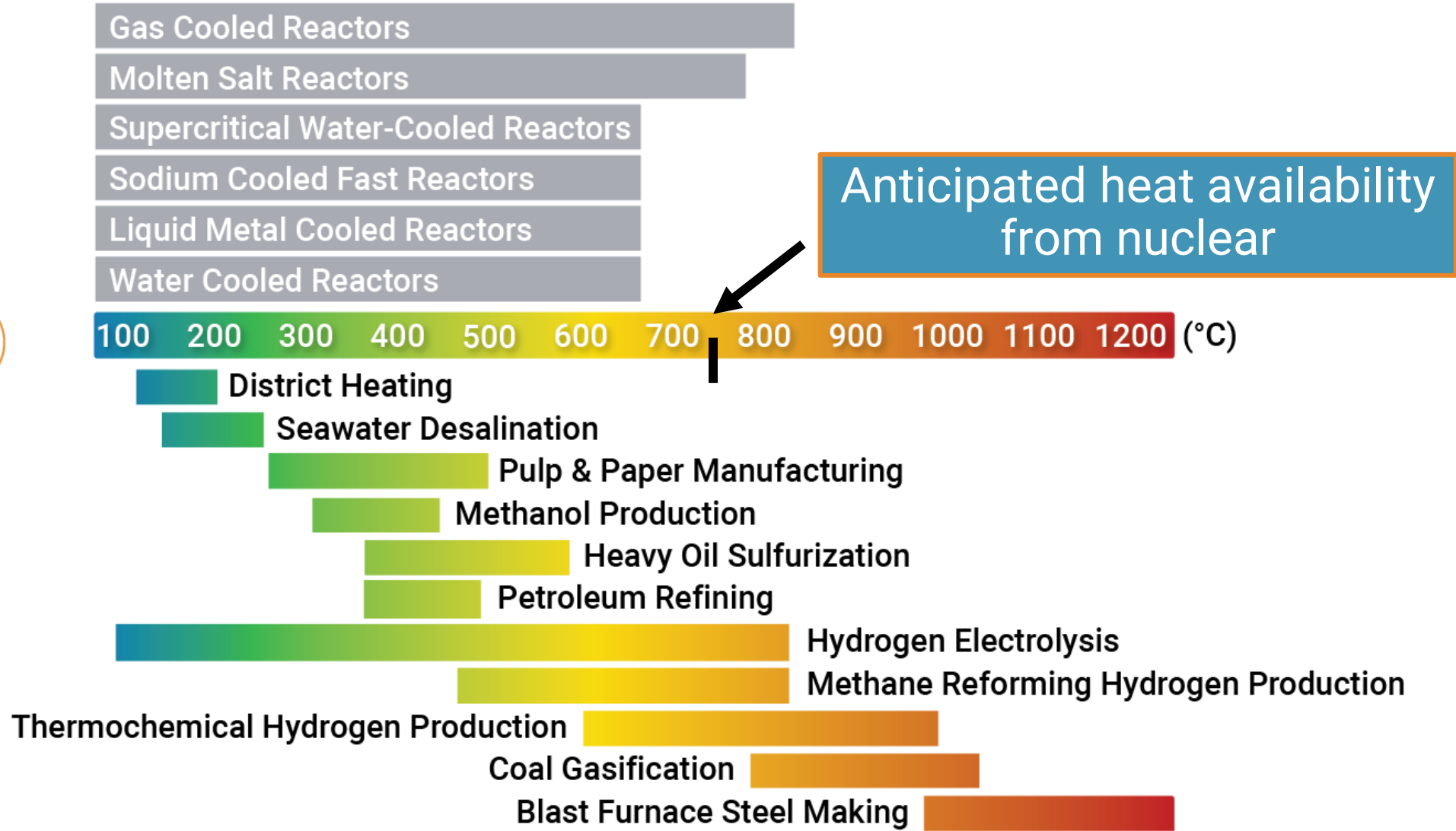
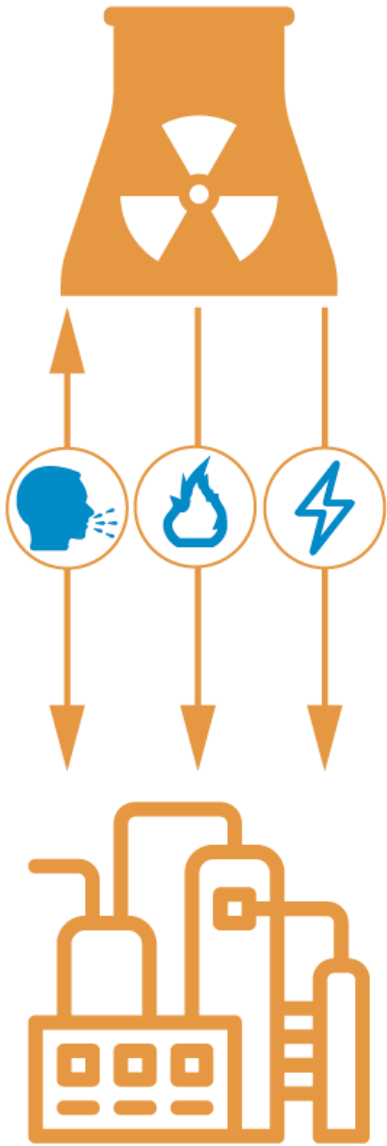
Cl Molten  
Salt



TRISO

F MS

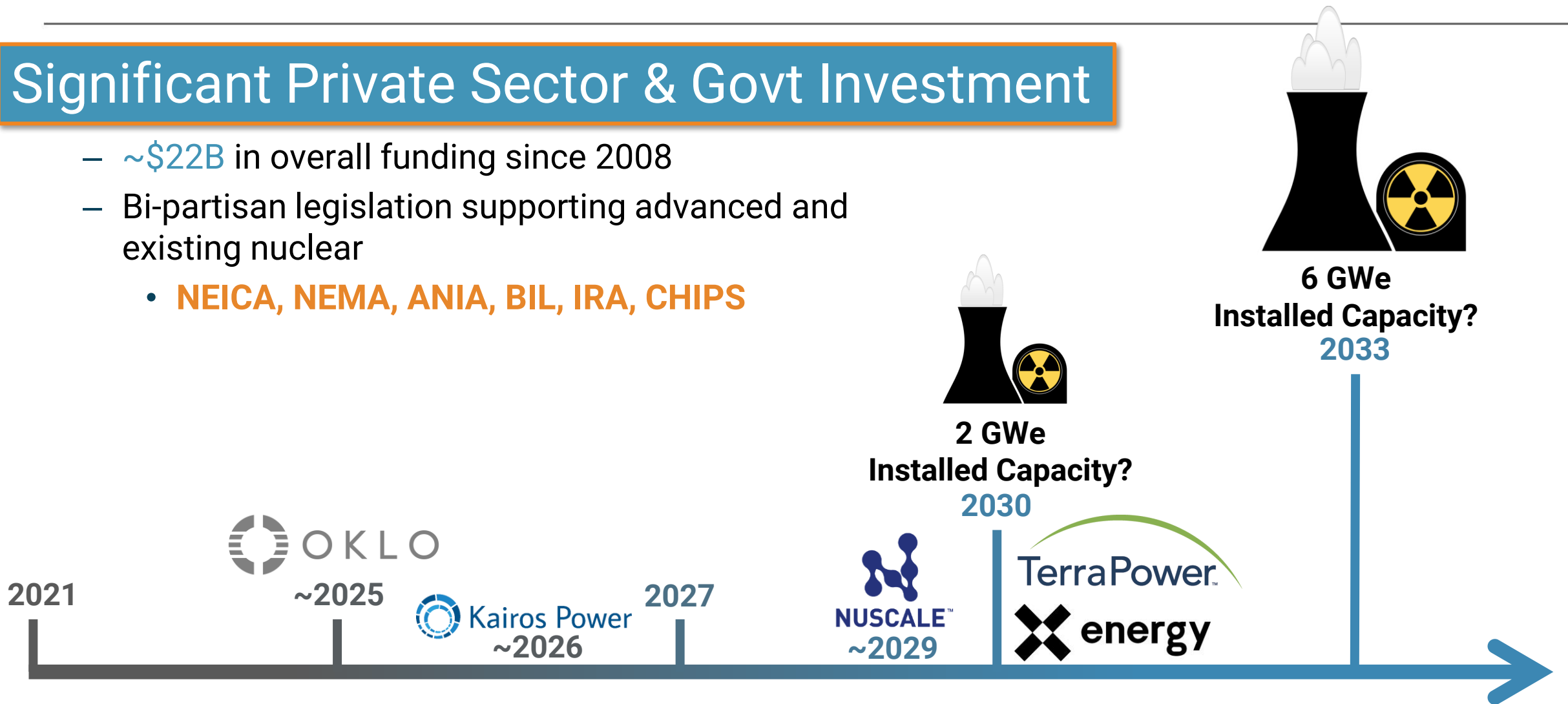




# Advanced Reactors are Coming

## Significant Private Sector & Govt Investment

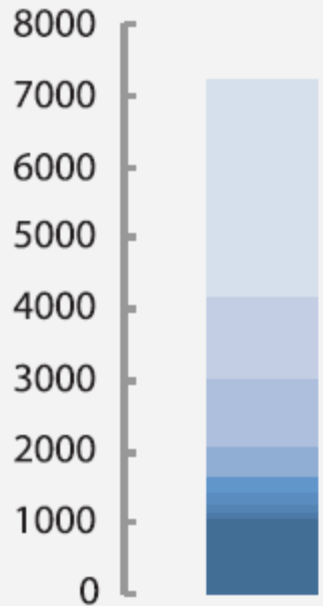
- ~\$22B in overall funding since 2008
- Bi-partisan legislation supporting advanced and existing nuclear
  - **NEICA, NEMA, ANIA, BIL, IRA, CHIPS**



# Back of the envelope

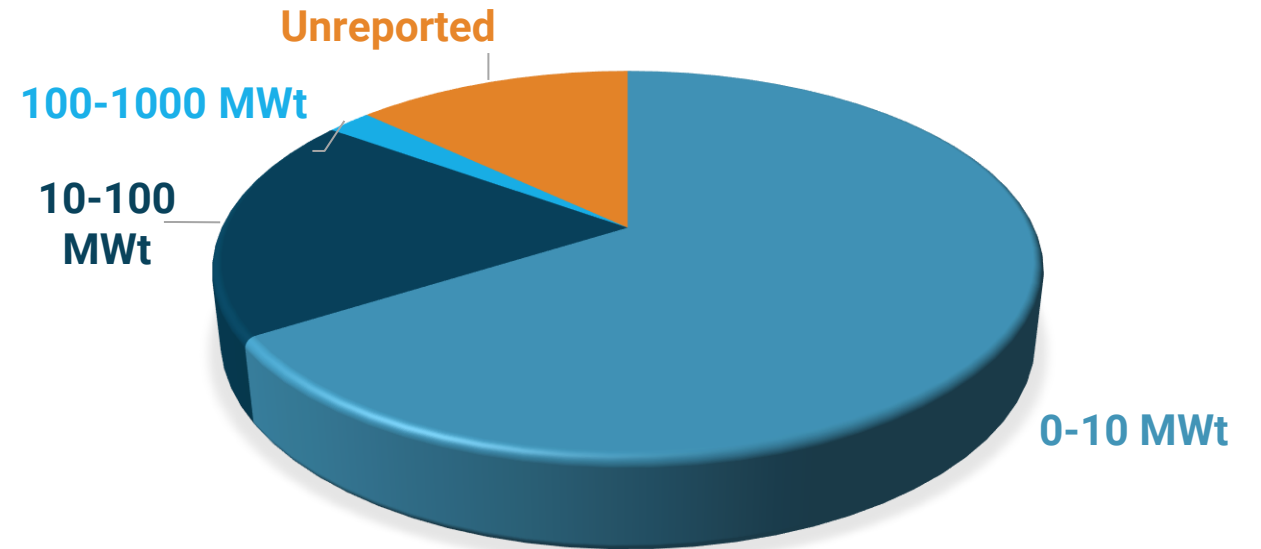


U.S. Process Heat End Uses (TBtu/yr)



- Fluid heating, boiling, distillation
- Drying
- Metal melting and smelting
- Calcining
- Metal heat treating
- Non-metal melting
- Curing and forming
- Coking
- Other

	AP1000	Natrium	Xe-100
Reactors / year	1.4	6	25
Heat Output (MWt)	3500	825	200



Deploying nuclear *fast* will be needed

# Introduction to Metrics and Our Initial Thoughts

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Metric Topic Area	Metric	State-of-the-Art	Program Target
Cost	Cost of Heat	\$2 / MWh <sub>t</sub>	\$3 / MWh <sub>t</sub>

Others?

# Potential Program Pillars

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## Digital Technologies



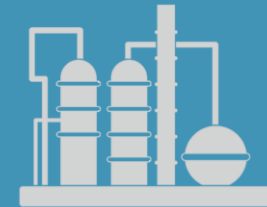
Construction  
Engineering  
Process Design &  
Optimization  
VR/XR Technology  
Development

## Physical Interfaces



Heat Exchangers  
Valves  
Sensors  
Controls

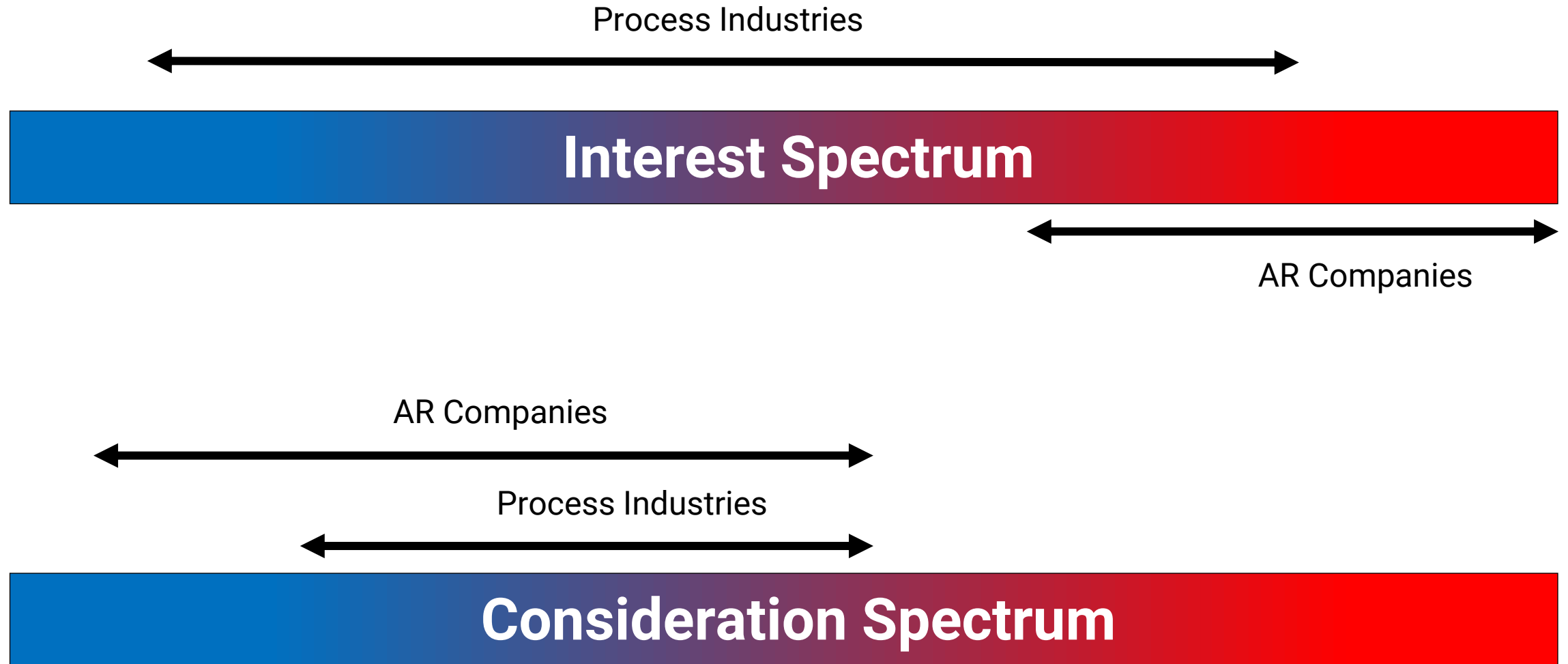
## Non-nuke modifications



Heat amplification  
solutions  
Process  
modification  
New chemistries

# Outreach lessons so far...

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# Agenda

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## ▶ Presentations

- Jeremy Shook – [EPRI](#)
- Shannon Bragg-Sitton – [INL](#)
- James Shaeffer – [Guggenheim](#)
- Lucas Mir - [OECD](#)

## ▶ Panels

- Advanced Reactor Panel
  - [Everyone who asked](#)
- Industrial Partners Panel
  - [Dow, Exxon, Shell](#)
- Digital Technologies
  - [Ansys, PowerN, Terra Praxis, VTT](#)

## Breakouts

### Day 1

1. Reliability
2. Process Co-Optimization
3. Minimum Viable Product
4. High Temp Augmentation

### Day 2

1. Modeling & Simulation Tools
2. System & Component Needs
3. Retrofit vs. Greenfield
4. Risk Identification

# General Rules of the Road

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**ADVISE:** No one should say “we can’t do that because”:  
“It has never been done”  
“We tried that and it didn’t work (technology has evolved!)”  
“It is not covered by existing regulations”





If it works...

*will it matter?*