



## **Executive Summary Fact Sheet for the NIA Report on Transforming the U.S. Department of Energy**

On January 19<sup>th</sup>, the Nuclear Innovation Alliance (NIA) released a [report](#) titled *Transforming the U.S. Department of Energy: Paving the Way to Commercialize Advanced Nuclear Energy*. This fact sheet contains the executive summary found within this report:

Historically, the Department of Energy (DOE) has primarily been a research and development agency. More recently, emphasis is shifting toward technology deployment to meet climate and energy security challenges. In particular, DOE now has an additional task: to incubate and position innovative advanced nuclear technologies for commercialization.

Catalyzing advanced nuclear energy deployment will require a dramatic transition at optimum speed. DOE will need to coordinate across many segments of the industry as they co-evolve (as with new fuels for new reactors, for example) to allow deployment at an immense scale, and to at least double the domestic nuclear energy capacity that is online today. This will be a whole-of-government and whole-of-society effort dependent on successful public-private partnerships.

The recommendations in this report provide a path for DOE to play a key role in creating the conditions necessary for success in commercializing advanced nuclear energy. These recommendations are separated into three main categories, each of which has its own chapter.

Chapter 1 recommends DOE develop a DOE-wide Advanced Nuclear Energy Strategic Plan to help commercialize advanced nuclear energy. This Strategic Plan would involve: establishing an Advanced Nuclear Energy Earthshot that integrates capabilities across DOE; leveraging recent legislation and DOE's current and future advisory committees; assessing the viable pathways to solve climate stability and energy security issues; and developing a comprehensive national strategy for exporting advanced nuclear energy technology.

Chapter 2 focuses on improvements DOE can make in its operations to assist in commercializing various advanced nuclear technologies. These improvements would require DOE to adapt to its new role as a critical partner for private companies, rather than focus solely on technical and scientific challenges, and adopt a more businesslike approach to commercialize advanced nuclear energy so that it can be deployed swiftly.

Finally, Chapter 3 recognizes that while DOE has tremendous capabilities to assist in the commercialization of advanced nuclear energy, it will face various obstacles that require help from other parts of government. To overcome these obstacles, the White House should appoint a Senior Director for Civil Nuclear Energy. Additionally, Congress should provide DOE with targeted additional funding and flexibility.

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