

Chair Lawrence, Chair Sachs and Esteemed Members of the EUT Committee

I support LD 601, An Act to Remove State-imposed Referendum Requirements Regarding Nuclear Power

I support this bill, but, I had to stop and think about it. After all, I am adamant that the people have a voice louder than the government.

I, then, realized that the intent here is not to quell the people's wishes, but to give them a better forum to speak their minds about nuclear power. Their local political divisions, the towns, the cities, the unorganized territories.

The Geo-political divisions that have enacted ordinances have successfully applied their unique desires to how they want wind and solar energy regulated. Most all ordinances allow generation facilities to be built as long as protections wanted by the citizens are in place.

With nuclear plants, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission provides oversight to everything nuclear, the design, the licensing, the environmental concerns, the construction, the safety devices, the decommissioning, waste disposal and other matters. The NRC regulations are an outgrowth of the protests that took place in the seventies and eighties. They are strict and effective. So strict, that nuclear plant construction, literally became non-existing in the USA. They are but a few designs they have approved. They are serious watchdogs. They are the expert consultants.

Times change, years of experience with nuclear plants constructed in the eighties and nineties and still operating without controversy, has awaken new dreams. Dreams of a country providing abundant electricity supply to power new technologies.

Wind farms require up to 360 times as much land area to produce the same amount of electricity as a nuclear energy facility, a Nuclear Energy Institute analysis has found. Webbertown Township wouldn't have to give up 4500 acres for 1000 megawatts of wind power. A 50 megawatt small modular nuclear plant would require approximately 2 acres of land area and produce enough power to nearly meet load for all of Aroostook County.

Maine has a chance to lead. With legislature approval to allow local decisions to be generated by the localities, for the localities, and of the localities can be the impetus to a new age of nuclear.

Thank You Clayton McKay Dixfield

NRC Certifies First U.S. Small Modular Reactor Design

January 20, 2023

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued its final rule in the Federal Register to certify NuScale Power's small modular reactor.

The company's power module becomes the first SMR design certified by the NRC and just the seventh reactor design cleared for use in the United States.

The rule takes effect February 21, 2023, and it equips the nation with a new clean power source to help drive down emissions across the country.

The published final rule making allows utilities to reference NuScale's SMR design when applying for a combined license to build and operate a reactor.

The design is an advanced light-water SMR with each power module capable of generating 50 megawatts of emissions-free electricity.

Federal Register :: NuScale Small Modular Reactor Design Certification

SUMMARY:

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is amending its regulations to certify the NuScale standard design for a small modular reactor. Applicants or licensees intending to construct and operate a NuScale standard design may do so by referencing this design certification rule. The applicant for certification of the NuScale standard design is NuScale Power, LLC.

DATES:

This final rule is effective on February 21, 2023. The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of February 21, 2023.

ADDRESSES:

Please refer to Docket ID NRC-2017-0029 when contacting the NRC about the availability of information for this action. You may obtain publicly available information related to this action by any of the following methods:

- *Federal Rulemaking Website:* Go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and search for Docket ID NRC-2017-0029. Address questions about NRC dockets to Dawn Forder; telephone: 301-415-3407; email: Dawn.Forder@nrc.gov. For technical questions, contact the individuals listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section of this document.
- *NRC's Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS):* You may obtain publicly available documents online in the ADAMS Public Documents collection at <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/adams.html>. To begin the search, select "Begin Web-based ADAMS Search." For problems with ADAMS, please contact the NRC's Public Document Room (PDR) reference staff at 1-800-397-4209, 301-415-4737, or by email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov. For the convenience of the reader, instructions about obtaining materials referenced in this document are provided in the "Availability of Documents" section.
- *NRC's PDR:* You may examine and purchase copies of public documents at the NRC's PDR, Room P1 B35, One White Flint North, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852. To make an appointment to visit the PDR, please send an email to PDR.Resource@nrc.gov or call 1-800-397-4209 or 301-415-4737, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- *Technical Library:* The Technical Library, which is located at Two White Flint North, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852, is open by appointment only. Interested parties may make appointments to examine documents by contacting the NRC Technical Library by email at Library.Resource@nrc.gov between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. (ET), Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

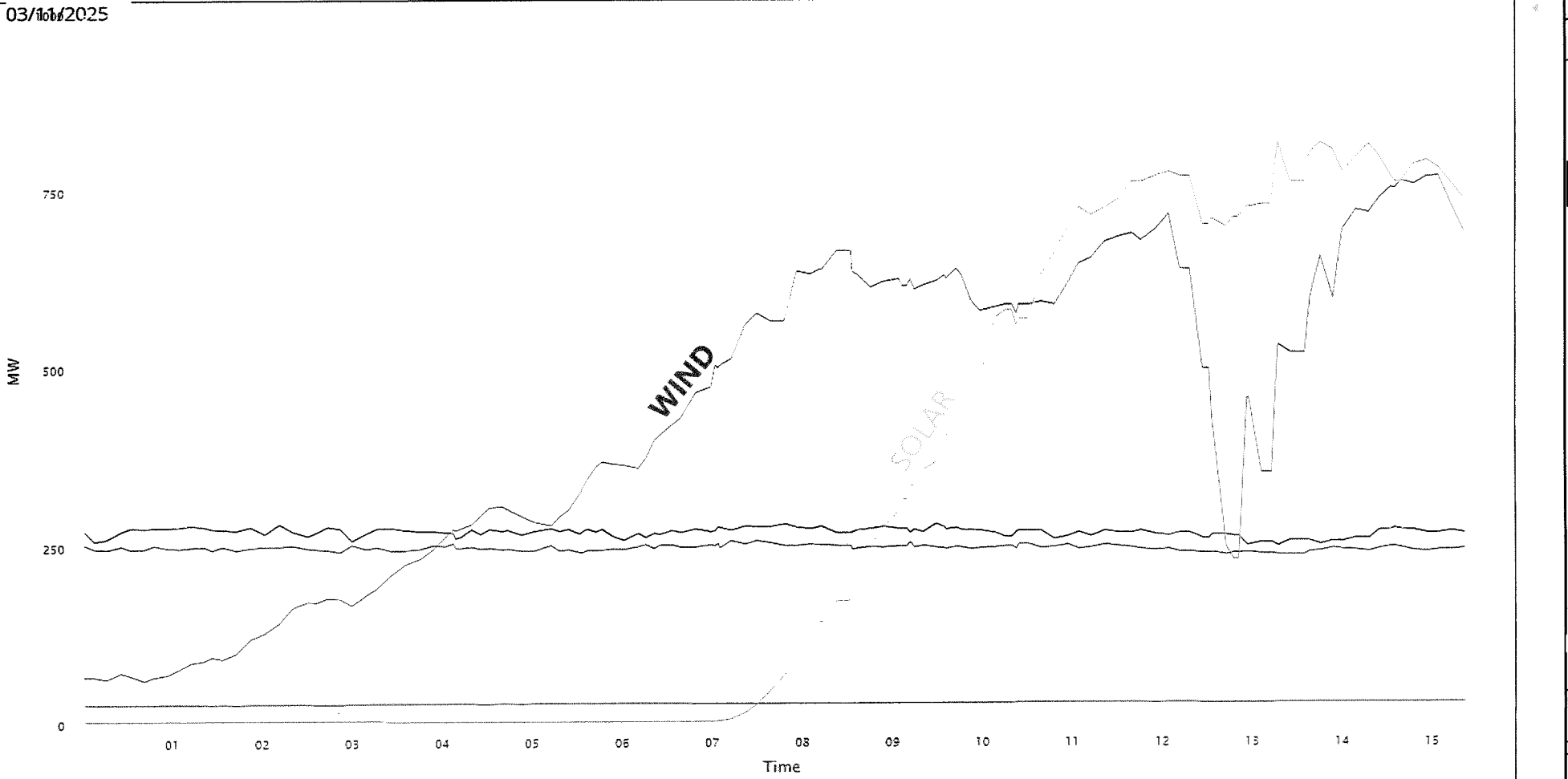
Yanely Malave, Office of Nuclear Material Safety and Safeguards, telephone: 301-415-1519, email: Yanely.Malave@nrc.gov and Carolyn Lauron, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, telephone: 301-415-2736, email: Carolyn.Lauron@nrc.gov. Both are staff of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555-0001.

Date:

03/11/2025

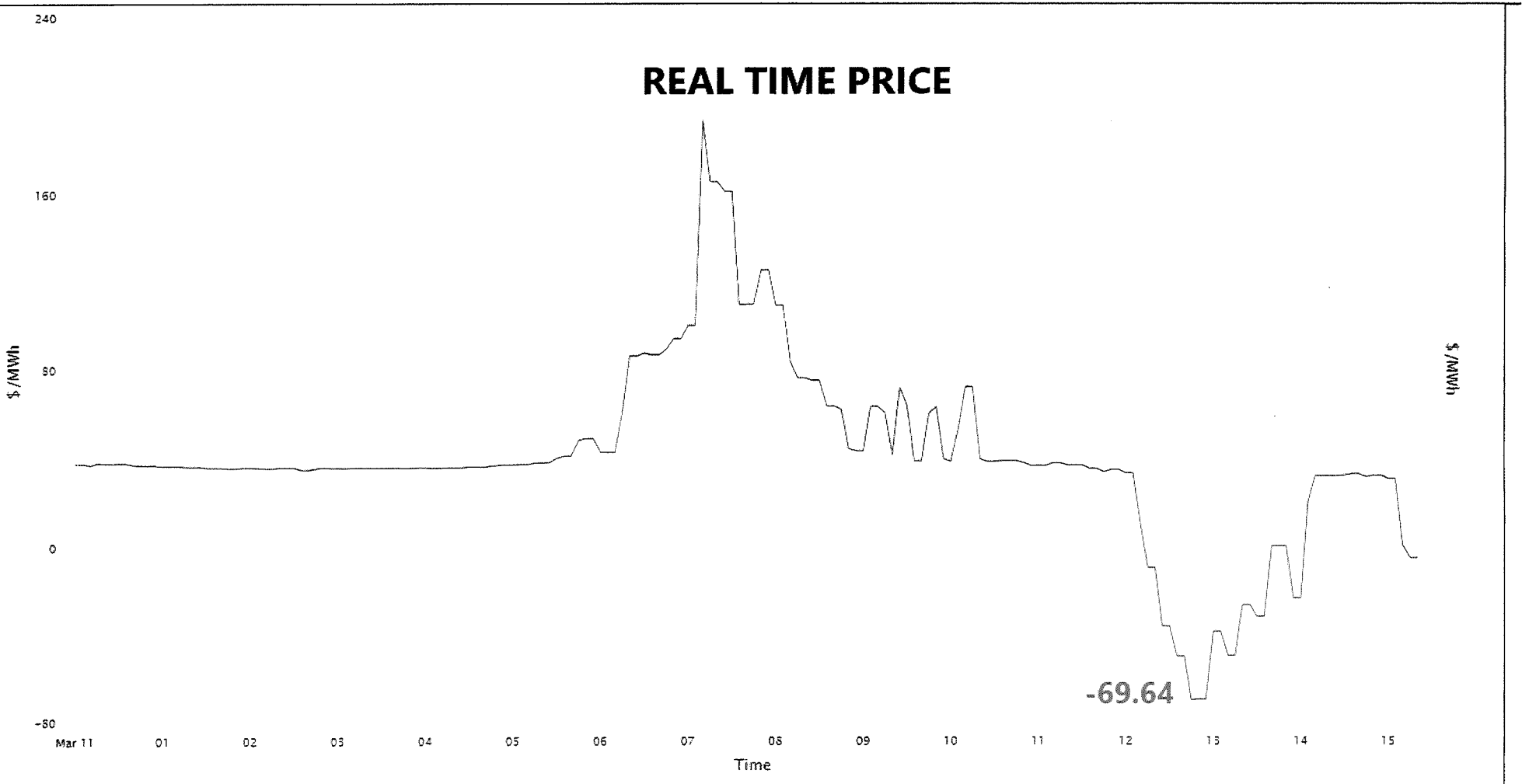
Resources

Renewables



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