## **Opportunities for Communities**

- Energy in Society
- Low Cost Reliable Ultra Low carbon grid power
- Nuclear Power Plant Options and Applications
- Participate in the Nuclear Fuel Cycle



## James Hansen and Tom Wrigley at COP 27 Both advocates for nuclear energy to be in the mix









In a nuclear reactor the neutron-driven chain reaction is controlled and stable, producing heat at steady rate. Uranium enriched to 3% to 6% U<sup>235</sup>



## The "tamed" nuclear fission reaction

236.053 amu in - 235.867 amu out = 0.186 amu 0.186 x C<sup>2</sup>= 172.57 MeV + 26 MeV delayed



e.g.  $1n + {}^{235}U \rightarrow {}^{137}Cs + {}^{96}Rb + 3neutrons$ 

## Hydrogen production costs Now through to 2050

Figure 10. Cost of hydrogen production from different energy technologies in the real world now and in 2030

Figure 11. Projected cost of hydrogen production from different energy technologies in 2050





Sources: Unless otherwise indicated, capital and operating costs and capacity factors for solar and wind were sourced from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Annual Technology Baseline (NRELATB). Nuclear costs and capacity factors were sourced from <u>"The ETI Nuclear Cost Drivers Project: Full Technical</u>, <u>Report," (by LucidCatalyst) September 2020</u> as well as the NRELATB. Sources for the range in electrolyzer costs included publications from McKinsey, Bloomberg New Energy Finance, the IEA, NREL, and Idaho National Laboratory. For more detail on sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A. Sources: Unless otherwise indicated, capital and operating costs and capacity factors for solar and wind were sourced from the National Renewable Energy aboratory's Annual Technology Baseline (NRELATB). Nuclear costs and capacity factors were sourced from <u>"The ETI Nuclear Cost Drivers Project: Full Technical</u> <u>Report." (by LucidCatalyst) September 2020</u> as well as the NRELATB. Sources for the range in electrolyzer costs included publications from McKinsey, Bloomberg lew Energy Finance, the IEA, NREL, and Idaho National Laboratory. For more detail on sources and assumptions, please refer to Appendix A.



## Emissions target vs Gen Mix vs Energy cost



Source: Based on Sepulveda (2016).



## Its Vital to Design the System for the End Goal – If not, A Massive Cost Risk

Figure 22. Driving to net zero with different mixes of generation capacity



Source: Based on Sepulveda (2016).







#### Electric Power Consulting Pty Ltd Power System Generation Mix Model

#### Three Day Plot of Nuclear Integrated System Plan

- Note the demand curve
- Nuclear Provides
  70% base load,
  solar 21%, Wind
  6% and Hydro 3%
- Solar in excess of demand goes to battery and pumped storage





# Recently completed four unit Barakah project in UAE with 5,600 MWe South Korean Plants





## Darlington Nuclear Power Plant in Ontario 4 units of 878MWe = 3,512MW





## **Boiling Water Reactor (BWR)**



## **Small Modular Reactors**

**On-grid** SMRs

- •150 to 300 Mwe
- Reliable, baseload power
- Displace coalfired generation
- Near term deployment; by the end of this decade

 GE-Hitachi **BWRX-300** 



- 10 to 150 Mwe Advanced reactors
- Heavy industrial applications
- Expected to be deployed in mid-2030s

- ARC
- Moltex
- X-Energy



Off-grid SMRs

#### •1 to 10 MWe

 Ideal for remote industrial and off-grid communities

 Commercial demonstration in the mid/late 2020s.

- Global First Power MMR
- Westinghouse eVinci



13

# Darlington New Nuclear Project – Ontario Power Generation (OPG)

- Holds Licence to Prepare Site for new site in Clarington, Ontario
  - renewed in 2021 for another 10 years
- OPG has selected a SMR technology GE Hitachi's BWRX-300
  - 300 MWe boiling water reactor
- OPG intends to apply for a licence to construct in fall 2022
  - Start construction of one BWRX-300 unit by early 2025 with an expected in-service date by 2028

https://www.opg.com/powering-ontario/our-generation/nuclear/darlington-nuclear/darlingtonnew-nuclear/









## Optimized for cost and ease of construction

# Constructability and Design-to-cost

- Underground construction using proven methods from other industries
- Maximum use of catalogueitems
- "Off the shelf" turbine/generator



## Small footprint and simple plant layout





Power Block dimensions: 140m x 70m Secure or Protected Area: 2.7 Ha Owner's Area: 13.8 Ha EPZ: Expected to be site boundary





## NSW Locations for Nuclear Power Plants







# The scheme of open and closed nuclear fuel cycles

From JRC report Figure 3.3.1-1

Technical assessment of nuclear energy with respect to the 'do no significant harm' criteria of Regulation (EU) 2020/852 ('Taxonomy Regulation')





2014)

### Uranium prices are low and set by politically stable countries





A nuclear power plant uses uranium within fabricated fuel assemblies Yellow cake (U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>)

U ore





Fuel assembly



Enriched uranium dioxide  $(UO_2)$  pellets

Fuel pin







## Conclusions

- Electricity is the life blood of our economy but industry and the broader economy will be destroyed if it becomes too expensive and load shedding is required
- 2. We need to look at the best International precedent as we move to an ultra low carbon future Ontario is a standout example
- 3. Look at all options for energy generation and that needs to include nuclear energy in the mix
- 4. Current policies focused only on wind and solar have poor outcomes in locations such as California, Germany and locally in South Australia
- 5. Repeal the anti-nuclear fuel cycle legislation



# Now for a Q&A

**Robert Parker** Nuclear For Climate Australia <u>https://nuclearforclimate.com.au/</u> info@nuclearforclimate.com.au