

What Will Advanced Nuclear Power Plants Cost? Energy Options Network (EON)

- Study undertaken to accurately estimate costs for advanced nuclear designs
 - Difficult to evaluate costs of adv. nuclear when companies hold proprietary info
 - This study allowed a third party to aggregate cost estimates in a consistent format between groups
 - Elysium, GE, Transatomic, Moltex, NuScale, Terrestrial Energy, ThorCon, X-Energy
 - Study used Gen IV forum accounting protocols (follows DOE EEDB)
 - Coarse categories, broken down smaller
 - Defaults were provided, companies asked to denote deviations
 - All participating companies had lower capital, operating, and LCOE projections than current nuclear designs (this is somewhat expected... if not, why do this?)
 - Not all lower direct construction costs, but all saw substantial reductions in indirect services
-
- I liked the aggregated discussion, the study actually gave credibility to the companies, not just the industry
 - I was surprised by the methodology (giving deviation from default) but thought it was a good solution; it prompts self-evaluation (non-experts can appreciate when something is 100x cheaper than the standard rather than saying our new pumps will cost \$50,000?when the going rate is \$5M)
 - I wish they had gone into a deeper breakdown of data (i.e. distributions of predictions at a more specific level like turbine generators had a mean projected value of x with a st. dev of σ)