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Jordan's SMR RTA Experience

Jordan has been extensively studying using SMRs for electricity and water desalination. Being highly dependent on imported natural gas for its power, the need for a local cheap power source alternate is extreme. Since Jordan is a developing country, its abilities, and resources are limited, an evaluation matrix presenting these limitations was generated, in addition to the country's demands and needs to assess the compatibility of the design to the program's needs. Several problems were faced due to the special treatment that SMRs demand forcing some modifications to the guidelines in the reference used No. NP-T-1.10 "Nuclear Reactor Technology Assessment for Near-Term Deployment". Several technical proposals were challenged against it and a handful of reactors showed some promise. This paper discusses the steps and methods used in this evaluation and the result of this RTA as well as the challenges faced in the process such as migration from large reactors to SMRs.

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Country OR International Organization

Jordan Atomic Energy Commission

Email address

khaleel.hamdan@jaec.gov.jo

Author: HAMDAN, Khaleel (Jordan Atomic Energy Commission)

Presenter: HAMDAN, Khaleel (Jordan Atomic Energy Commission)

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