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Governmental and Multilateral Incentives for SMR Deployment

The nuclear industry has been described as being in a “stalemate”, because constituents facing first-mover concerns are trying to simultaneously generate orders for reactors, create a record of successfully deployed projects and build out a supply chain to sustain the industry’s scaling. Most participants agree that this triple-headed problem can only be resolved with various kinds and levels of governmental and other support. This paper will attempt to identify and explain the financial and other incentives which are necessary or desirable to set the table for SMR project deployment in various international markets. Covering existing and potential programs, the discussion will touch upon legal regimes and developments in the United States, Europe, MENA and Asia, and their interaction with contracting and financing approaches taken by project participants. Some of the specific materials to be considered will include tax incentives, loan guarantees, cost overrun insurance, utility asset-backed securitization, financial assistance, fuel banks and capacity markets and other price support.

Country OR International Organization

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