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Engineering and Construction Considerations for SMRs

Recently, various construction technologies are proposed to help minimize the risk of schedule and budget overruns for nuclear new builds. EPRI's advanced nuclear technology program focuses on practical and innovative research that enables and de-risk deployment of nuclear new builds. The purpose of this paper is to discuss ongoing key projects in advanced reactors engineering including pursue of design standardization, balance of plants optimizations designs, project development and execution as well as EPRI's new plant technical assistant initiative. Moreover, owner's oversight, contracting strategies play a major role in the success of the new build project. EPRI proposed a framework of project development and execution for new nuclear build and initiated the new plant technical assistance to help member utilities and the industries better plan and execute new nuclear build. This paper will provide a summary of the framework and will discuss needed research to close gaps for efficient deployment of new nuclear builds.

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