

ARPA-E GEMINA Portfolio and Digital Twins

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IMPROVE

radioactive waste management





2

Advanced Reactors are Coming

Significant Private Sector & Govt Investment

Kairos Power

~2026

2027

~\$22B in overall funding since 2008

2021

~2025

- Bi-partisan legislation supporting advanced and existing nuclear
 - NEICA, NEMA, ANIA, BIL, IRA, CHIPS



Installed Capacity? 2033



TerraPower

2 GWe

Installed Capacity?

2030



3

GEMINA Seed Idea

- Nuclear industry used to be leaders in asset performance management
 - Has achieved incredible capacity factors/uptime fraction
 - Happened on a slow learning curve
 - Advanced reactors need to be very economical/reliable for them to make an impact
- Lots of industries are developing better controls, better models, better data, better algorithms
 - Focus on autonomy and machine learning (ML) is getting many questions answered
 - Answer those questions specific for nuclear and prove out ideas in our systems and with our software; aid in code validation



TIME OR SCALE





 Goal: Develop the tools and cost basis for ARs to achieve fixed O&M costs of \$2/MWh without shifting costs to other parts of LCOE

Awardee teams are developing the following for one or more of the most promising AR designs:

- Digital twins for advanced reactor systems
- Relevant cyber physical systems
- O&M approaches for advanced reactors
- Cost models and design updates



https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/aeo/pdf/electricity_generation.pdf,

https://www.innovationreform.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/01/Advanced-Nuclear-Reactors-Cost-Study.pdf



5

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Digital activities within GEMINA Portfolio

- Modeling (or twinning) an aspect of the reactor system.
- Are purely at the advisory stage
- Envisioned deployment is in parallel with conventional advisory and indicator tools



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6

CHANGING WHAT'S POSSIBLE

ARPA-E teams are building digital tools for ARs and building blocks for DTs





LISA: NC State University & PowerN, Inc.



Project Title:

A Data-driven Approaches to High Precision Construction and Reduced Overnight Cost and Schedule

PI:

Kevin Han kevin.han@powern.ai

Project Outcomes:

Economic competitiveness through reduced construction costs and schedule. Reduction in uncertainties associated with construction of nuclear power plants

CPMS in the Supply Chain Loop



Key takeaway: Reduce uncertainties, construction costs, and schedule delays



GEMINA: Framatome Inc.

framatome Argonne metroscôpe Constellation.

Project Title:

Digital Twin Diagnostics for Nuclear Plant Auxiliary Systems

PI:

Eric Helm, Framatome eric.helm@framatome.com

Project Outcomes:

Expanded the reach of Metroscope automatic diagnostics technology to advanced reactor auxiliary systems; working toward testing at an operating reactor to reach TRL 9 and accelerate commercialization



Automated Diagnostics: Reduced O&M Costs

Key takeaway: Revolutionizing nuclear reactor diagnostics and cutting costs with field-proven digital twin technology



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GEMINA: Massachusetts Institute of Technology



Project Title:

HIGH FIDELITY DIGITAL TWINS FOR BWRX-300 CRITICAL SYSTEMS

PI:

Emilio Baglietto emiliob@mit.edu

Project Outcomes:

High-fidelity simulations based maintenance approaches and model based fault system detection techniques





snapshot 2

(b) Streamwise velocity: STRUCT

enanshrit 3

Solid point x15.0 (

olid point x-1.25 0

Feedwater system

fidelity CFD-stress

simulations

digital twin from high

snapshot

certainty Quantification in crack initiation

Fatigue cycle /

STRUCT-ε

Fatique cycle N.

If it works...

will it matter?

