

ORNL's Advanced Reactor Systems Group to Lead DOE International Nuclear Energy Research Initiative on System Implications of Multi-Modular Nuclear Power Plants

The Nuclear Science and Technology Division's Advanced Reactor Systems (ARS) Group is to lead the U.S. effort on a joint International Nuclear Energy Research Initiative (I-NERI) project to start in January 2006. DOE's Office of Nuclear Energy, Science and Technology (NE) and Brazil's National Nuclear Energy Commission (CNEN) recently announced an agreement to collaborate on this new joint project worth about \$1.8 million over three years. This project will be in the area of International Near Term Deployment (INTD) and is entitled [System Implications of Multi-Modular Nuclear Power Plants](#). The objective of this project is to investigate the prospective approaches to implementation and management of a multi-modular nuclear plant so that technical issues can be identified and resolved. The outcome of this investigation is expected to be demonstration of strategies and methods that facilitate optimized use of the flexible characteristics of modular small reactors. The small modular reactor design to be used in this proposed project will be the International Reactor Innovative and Secure (IRIS) since all participating organizations are members of the IRIS Consortium. The results also will be general and applicable to other small modular reactor concepts including the pebble-bed modular reactor (PBMR). Richard Wood of ARS will be the Principal Investigator for the U.S. with support from Westinghouse.

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