THE NEUPdate- FY 2011 Report

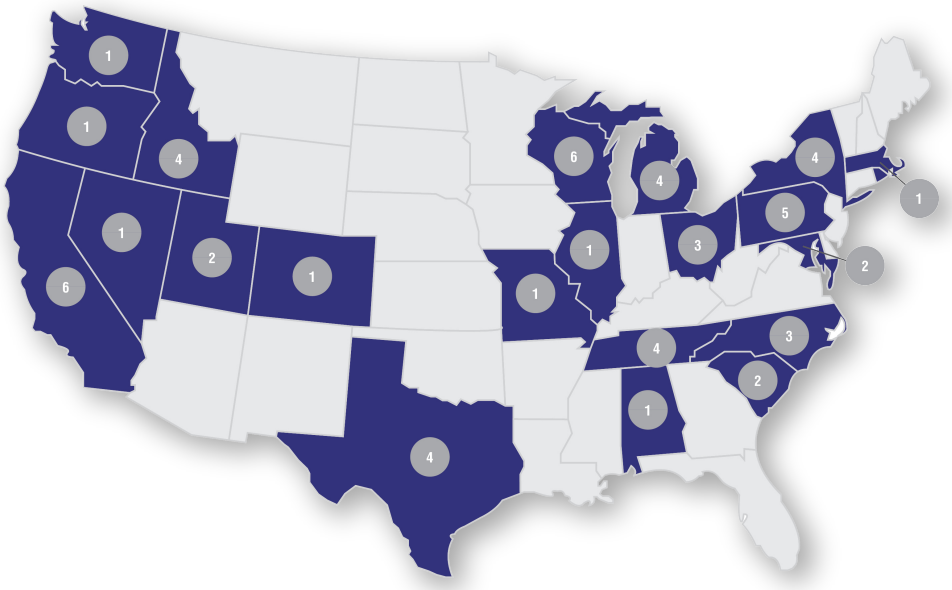
FEBRUARY 2012
U.S. Department of Energy's
Nuclear Energy University Programs

NEUP Announces FY 2011 Awards in Research & Development, Infrastructure, and Integrated Reseach Projects

The NEUP Integration Office recently announced funding awards for FY 2011 totaling over $60 million in three separate areas: Research & Development, Integrated Research Projects, and Infrastructure.

Research & Development

Selection of FY 2011 awards consisted of 57 university-led projects totaling $44 million. Thirty-one universities will act as lead research institutions for the projects in twenty-one states. The map below illustrates project distribution by state (based on project lead).



Integrated Research Projects

Two university-led research teams were awarded $12 million in funding through NEUP's new Integrated Research Projects (IRP) solicitation.

The research teams have been tasked with developing an advanced thermal reactor concept and evaluating aging of used nuclear fuel and canister when stored for 100 years or more. Each team consists of collaborators from universities, national laboratories, and industry.

FY 2011 IRP projects include partners from Texas A&M University, Boise State University, North Carolina State University, University of Florida, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, University of California-Berkeley, Savannah River National Laboratory, and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

From the director

In FY 2011, NEUP added another critical component to university-led research and development: Integrated Research Projects (IRP).

IRPs differ from the traditional R&D awards in two ways. First, proposals are interdisciplinary and focused on a complex problem. Second, IRPs are intended to engage the university community on larger research projects that incorporate involvement by multiple universities, as well as industry/utility and national laboratory partners.

IRPs provide a new and exciting opportunity for university researchers to partner with experts from across the country to explore novel approaches to specific NE programmatic areas of interest.

In its first year, two IRP projects have been awarded funding. A research team, led by Texas A&M, will focus on aging of used nuclear fuel and canisters that are stored for an extended period of time.

A second project, led by MIT, will test a new, advanced molten salt reactor design that generates electricity that has multiple uses.

Finally, we are excited about the 2012 fiscal year where it is anticipated that a full range of programs, at a significant funding level, will be available. Stay tuned to our website at www.neup.gov.

Sincerely,

Dr. John Gilligan, Director
NEUP Integration Office

Meet the NEUP Staff

Greg Bala
NEUP Integration Office Deputy Manager

Greg Bala has worked at Idaho National Laboratory (INL) since 1989 as a Principal Investigator and a Program Manager. Prior to joining NEUP, he was responsible for the management and integration of research and operation activities for multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary research teams in physical, chemical and biological sciences at INL.

Greg earned his bachelor's degree in microbiology from University of Idaho and his master's in microbiology from Miami University, Ohio.

In his current position, Mr. Bala assists in the day-to-day operations of the NEUP Integration Office and leads certain activities including the Infrastructure solicitation process.

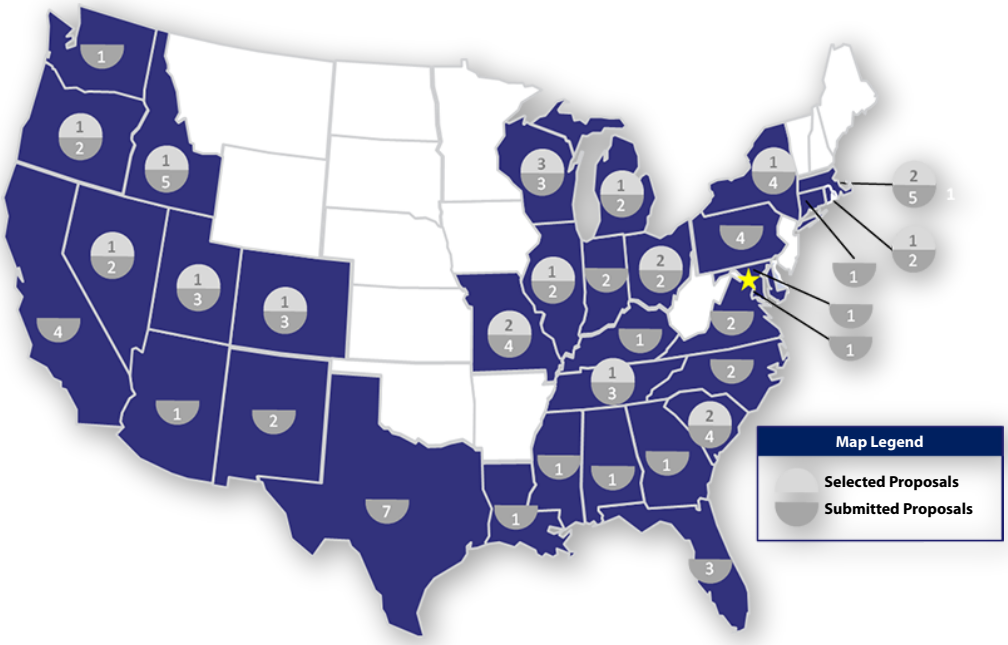
Solicitation Update

- The Infrastructure solicitation closed on February 8, 2012.
- NEUP's Scholarship and Fellowship Request for Applications closed on February 8, 2012.
- Integrated Research Projects Call for Proposals is anticipated to open in the March-April timeframe.

www.neup.gov

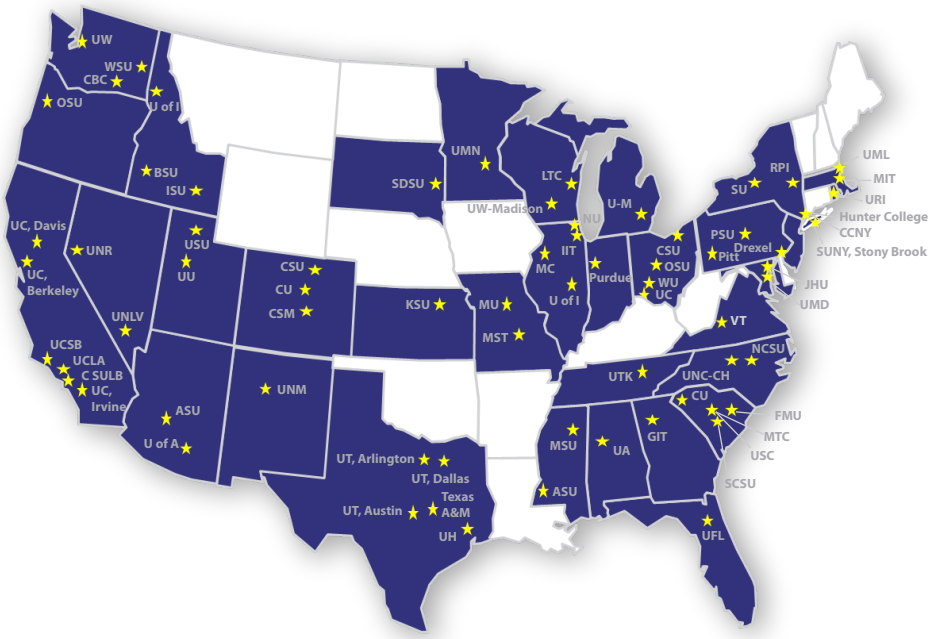
Infrastructure

Over $5 million was awarded to 21 projects at 19 U.S. Universities and colleges in 15 states. These grants are used to upgrade university reactors and purchase equipment that will enhance nuclear research and educate the next generation of nuclear scientists, engineers, and technicians. The map below illustrates grant distribution by state.



NEUP Funded Universities: 2009-2011

Since FY 2009 NEUP has funded more than $170 million in research and development projects, infrastructure upgrades, and student support at dozens of U.S. colleges and universities. The map belows shows universities that have received NEUP funding from 2009-2011.



For additional details about the FY 2011 awards, including a complete list of universities, PIs, and funding amounts, visit the NEUP website at www.neup.gov.