

# Synergies between renewable energy and SMRs in the transition to Net Zero

UNECE Sustainable Energy Week

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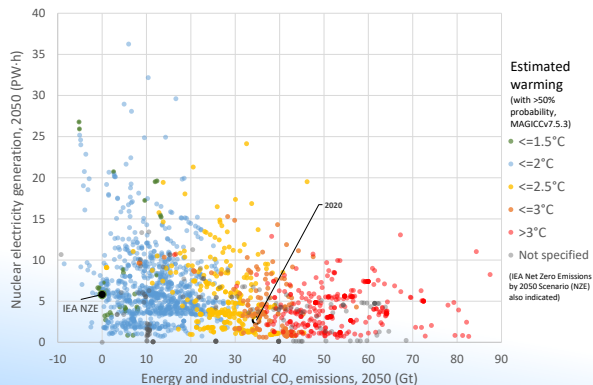
Department of Nuclear Energy

International Atomic Energy Agency

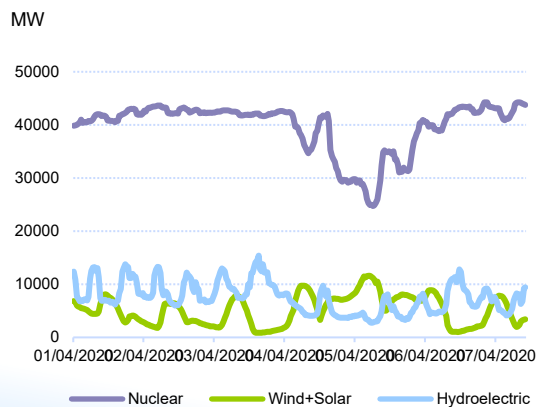
# Achieving a sustainable future

Alongside other low-carbon energy sources, advanced nuclear technologies can help to

## Drive climate and decarbonization goals



## Ensure energy system diversity and security

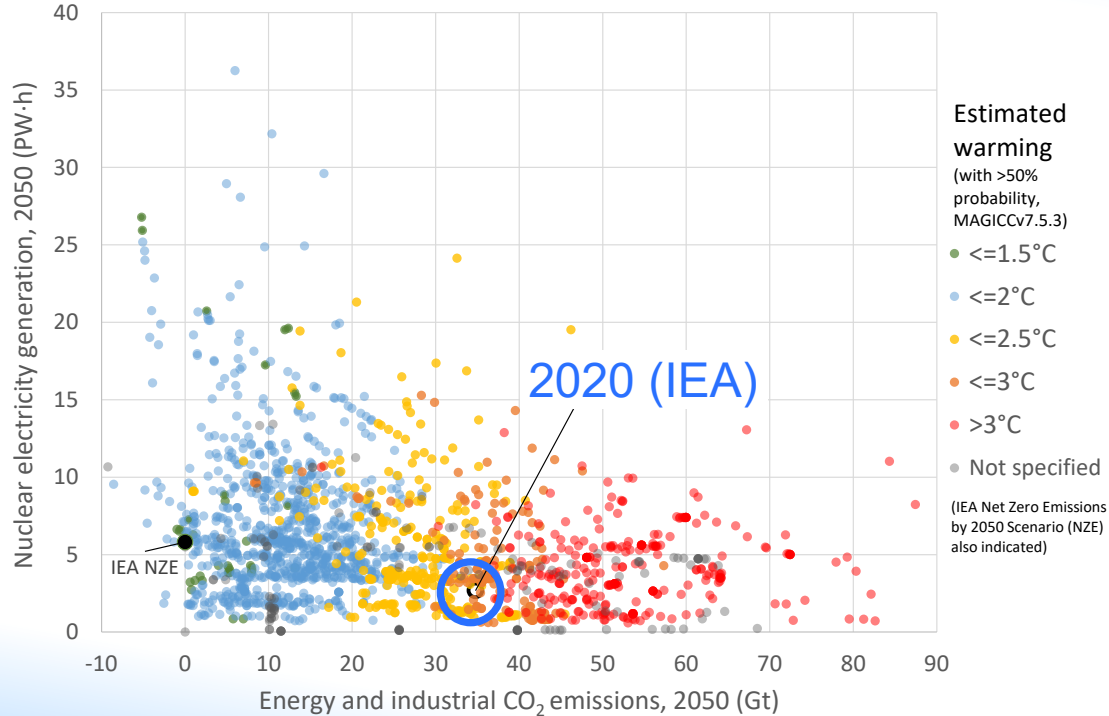


## Enhance energy infrastructure resilience



# Climate and decarbonization

## Nuclear electricity generation and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, 2050

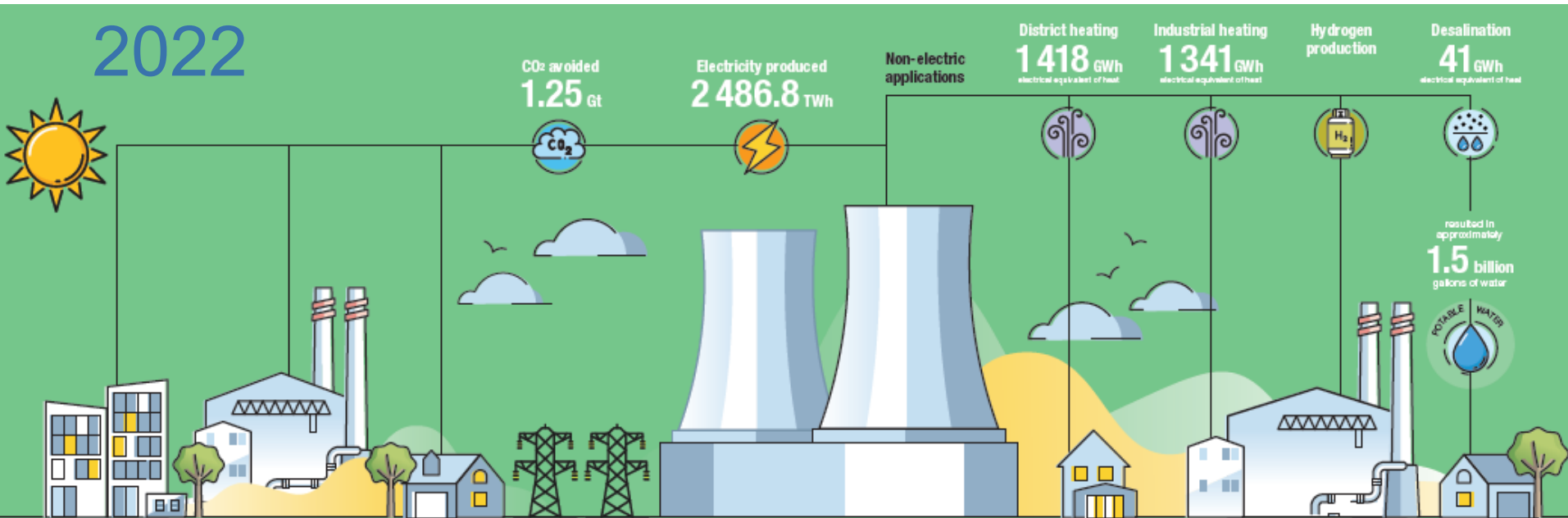


- Low emission energy source
- Enables greater integration of renewables and reduces the need for fossil fuel backup
- Lower investment ranges compared to traditional large reactors
- May be deployed as a replacement for fossil fuel-based power generation (coal-to-nuclear)

# Decarbonization beyond power

## Low carbon energy systems will be complex and highly integrated

- SMRs can provide various scalable, low carbon products to sustainable energy systems

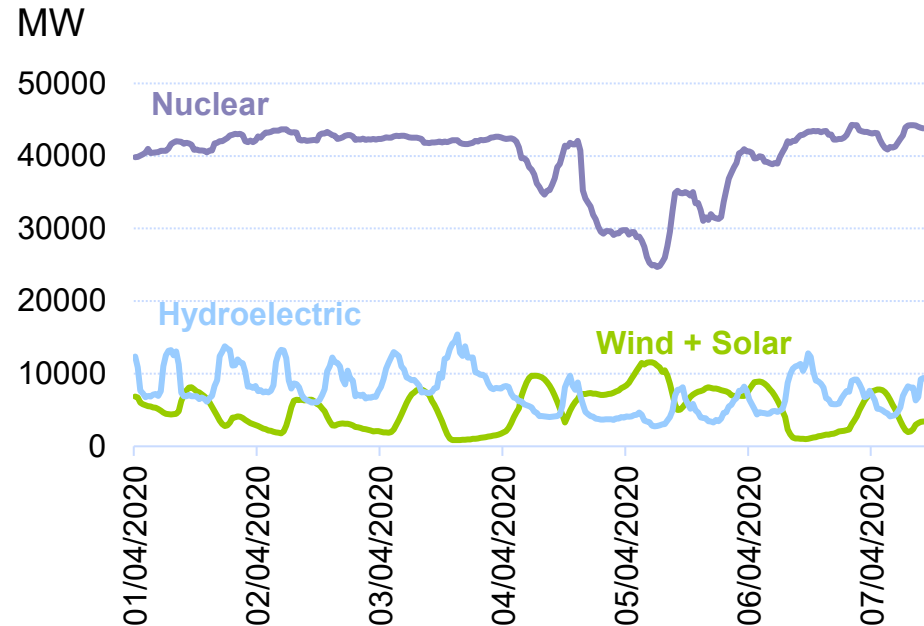


# Energy diversity and security of supply



- Flexibility of nuclear (in general)
- SMRs offer modularity of deployment, helping to meet the challenges of meeting demand in an evolving energy landscape
- Distributed generation model reactors to be deployed near end-users / in isolated geographies
- Complementarity of dispatch with renewables – SMRs can enhance grid stability with location-specific deployment

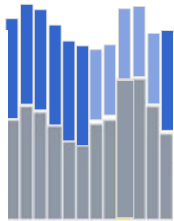
France electricity generation, April 2020



# Resilience of energy infrastructure

## Seasons

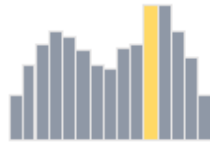
*Dispatchable power*



Monthly dispatch

## Hours

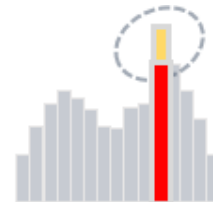
*Day-ahead markets*



Hourly dispatch

## Minutes

*Spinning reserves*



Contingency power

## Seconds

*Balancing services*



Frequency control

- Non-tangible energy infrastructure via grid support services: management of seasonal imbalances via the optimisation of planned outages, load modulation, balancing, inertia and voltage regulation
- Optimizing energy production and reducing infrastructure overbuilding



**IAEA**

International Atomic Energy Agency  
*Atoms for Peace and Development*

Department of Nuclear Energy  
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thank you!

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# Comparing emissions, water, land and materials

