



Eielson Micro-Reactor Quarterly Newsletter

07.26.2023

Welcome,

This is the fifth in a series of quarterly updates from the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Environment, Safety, and Infrastructure (SAF/IEE) on the Micro-Reactor Pilot at Eielson Air Force Base. This newsletter is intended to provide updates on the pilot status, meetings with public officials, as well as any relevant ancillary news that affects these efforts. Previous newsletters can be found on the Eielson Air Force Base micro-reactor website at <https://www.eielson.af.mil/microreactor/>.

Please direct any questions regarding the Micro-Reactor Pilot to our mailbox at SAF.IEE.Micro-ReactorPilot@us.af.mil.

Pilot Program Updates:

The micro-reactor Request for Proposal (RFP) closed on 31 January 2023. Currently, the Department of Air Force (DAF), in partnership with the Defense Logistics Agency Energy (DLA Energy), is in the proposal review process. The DAF is also participating in ongoing dialogue with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) regarding the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. Additional project updates will be shared when available.

For reference, the RFP is available at <https://sam.gov/opp/aa745d680417440caaf2d911eef09959/view>.

Meeting/Briefing Activity:

Local Leadership Meetings

In early April 2023, the SAF/IEE micro-reactor team and project partners traveled to Fairbanks, Alaska to engage with community stakeholders, including local leadership. SAF/IEE met with Tanana Chiefs Conference and Fairbanks North Star Borough leadership, including Mayor Ward. These engagements allowed SAF/IEE and project partners to learn more about the greater Fairbanks community, listen to concerns, and answer questions regarding the pilot.

CAMP Meetings

In April 2023, SAF/IEE also hosted the Council for the Alaska Micro-Reactor Program (CAMP) meeting at the North Pole Branch Library. SAF/IEE provided a high-level update on the Micro-reactor Pilot Project, stakeholder outreach efforts, and the Tribal Consultation process. NRC detailed current environmental and safety review and licensing pathways and their proposed new licensing pathway for smaller, advanced reactors, which is in development with estimated completion in FY25. Department of Energy (DOE) gave an update on their micro-reactor efforts, including the MARVEL reactor's progress at the Idaho National Laboratory. Learn more about the MARVEL reactor at <https://www.energy.gov/ne/articles/new-marvel-project-aims-supercharge-microreactor-deployment>.

The next CAMP meeting is scheduled for 30 August 2023. Visit the [micro-reactor website](#) for more information. The DAF and NRC will provide pilot project updates and offer time for community leader discussion and Q&A.

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Micro-Reactor Pilot Public Community Meeting

SAF/IEE and Eielson Air Force Base invites the public to join a community meeting on 31 August 2023 from 5:00-6:00 PM at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Joseph E. Usibelli Building, Druska Schaible Auditorium. Attendees will receive a brief overview of the Micro-reactor Pilot Project from DAF and NRC panelists and will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback about the project.

Alaska Defense Forum

The Alaska Defense Forum is scheduled for 29-30 August 2023 in Fairbanks. The official agenda can be viewed on the Alaska Defense Forum website listed below. On Monday, 28 August, registered participants are welcome to sign up to attend a University & Research Tour at the University of Alaska. On Thursday, 31 August, participants are encouraged to sign up for Mission Tours at Eielson Air Force Base and US Army Garrison Alaska Fort Wainwright.

Visit the Alaska Defense Forum website for event information: <https://alaskadefenseforum.com/>

Resources:

New Micro-Reactor Educational Video

SAF/IEE released its 2nd micro-reactor educational video, which describes how micro-reactor technology has the potential to contribute to the DAF's energy resilience goals at Eielson Air Force Base and beyond. The video can be found [here](#).

Please visit <https://www.eielson.af.mil/microreactor/> for the most up to date information and the following resources:

- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#)
- [Educational Videos](#)