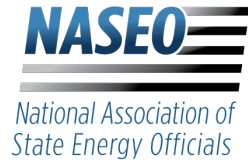




**NARUC**  
National Association of  
Regulatory Utility Commissioners



## **Public Utility Commissions and State Energy Offices Take a Deep Dive into Nuclear Energy in Charlotte, North Carolina** *April 2025*



*Nuclear Tour Group Outside of the Charlotte EPRI Labs*

Over 40 state utility regulators, State Energy Officials, and staff representing 16 states joined a one-and-a-half-day nuclear site visit in Charlotte, North Carolina, on April 15 and 16, 2025, hosted by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) and the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO). During the visit, participants toured the Catawba Nuclear Station, heard presentations from North Carolina utilities and industry experts at Duke Energy's Charlotte headquarters, and had a guided tour of the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) offices and research facilities in Charlotte. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Nuclear Energy made this visit possible through a cooperative agreement with NARUC.



*Presentation by Catawba Nuclear Station Vice President*



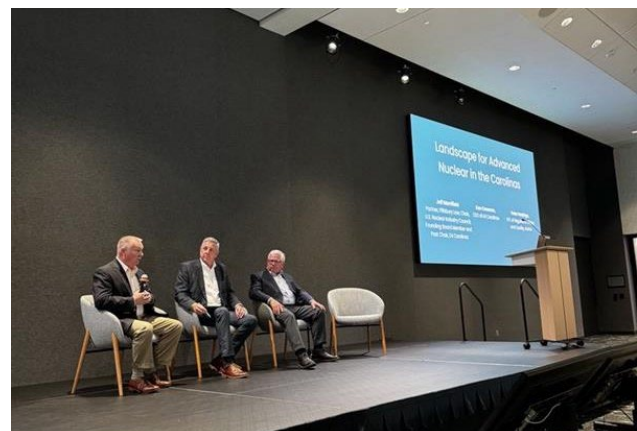
*Tour Group Inside Catawba Nuclear Station Unit-1*

### **Catawba Nuclear Station**

The site visit kicked off at the Catawba Nuclear Station located in York, South Carolina, on Tuesday, April 15. Catawba hosts two pressurized water reactors, commissioned in the mid-1980s and licensed to operate through 2043. The plant provides 2,310 MW of electricity to the Southeast. During the visit, attendees learned about how the plant is operated in a presentation by the site vice president, toured the innerworkings of the station including the turbine buildings, and learned about how plant operators are trained through a control room simulator at the operations training center.

### **Charlotte Duke Energy Headquarters**

After the tour of the Catawba Nuclear Station, the group headed back into Charlotte to Duke Energy Plaza to hear a set of presentations on the status of key nuclear energy topics. These included a welcome by Hon. Floyd B. McKissick, Jr. of the North Carolina Utilities Commission (NCUC), an update on DOE's collaboration-based siting program from Stephanie Weir of Idaho National Laboratory, an overview of Duke Energy's advanced nuclear strategy and carbon plan filings with the NCUC by Chris Nolan



*Panel Discussion on the Landscape for Advanced Nuclear in the Carolinas*

of Duke Energy, and a discussion on the landscape for advanced nuclear in the Southeast by Ken Canavan of E4 Carolinas, Peter Hastings of Kairos Power, and Jeff Merrifield of Pillsbury Law.

### **EPRI Charlotte Labs**

To end the trip, the group visited the EPRI Charlotte offices and research facilities on Wednesday, April 16. The visit included guided tours of EPRI's concrete, training and learning virtual reality, guided wave ultrasonics, welding and repair, and piping and vessel non-destructive evaluation ultrasonic qualification labs. After the lab tour, the group sat down for lunch and remarks from EPRI's Steve Chengelis on the organization's work to enhance operations of the existing nuclear fleet and prepare technology and workforce for advanced nuclear generation.

NARUC and NASEO thank DOE for supporting this site visit, and Duke Energy and EPRI for arranging tours and presentations. This visit was part of the NARUC-NASEO Advanced Nuclear State Collaborative (ANSC). The ANSC convenes state utility regulators and State Energy Officials to enhance collective understanding of the unique regulatory and policy questions surrounding the consideration and deployment of new nuclear generation, and to support peer learning across states.

For questions about the site visit, contact Kathryn Kline at [kkline@naruc.org](mailto:kkline@naruc.org) (NARUC) or Kelsey Jones at [kjones@naseo.org](mailto:kjones@naseo.org) (NASEO). Find more information on NARUC nuclear activities on the [nuclear energy webpage](#).