

Invited Seminar

Small Modular Reactors, National Security & Clean Energy: An Innovative U.S. Leadership Strategy

Dr. Victor H. Reis

Senior Advisor,

Office of Science and Nuclear Energy, DOE

10:10 am – 11:00 am, Friday, March 22, 2013

McBryde 113

Hosted by: Dr. Satish Kulkarni (Director of Energy Initiatives, ESM) and Dr. Ali Haghghat (Professor, Nuclear Engineering Program, ME)

Abstract:

In his 2011 State of the Union, President Obama equated clean energy to the U.S. response to Sputnik, and the subsequent Apollo program. In his speech at South Korea's Hankuk University on March 26, 2012, President Obama said: "When we enhance nuclear security, we're in a stronger position to harness safe, clean nuclear energy. When we develop new, safer approaches to nuclear energy, we reduce the risk of nuclear terrorism and proliferation." Dr. Reis will apply the Sputnik/Apollo model to outline an innovative U.S. government strategy for the development of a U.S. pressurized water, small modular reactor industry to support U.S. government goals in clean energy and non-proliferation.

Biography

Dr. Reis had primary responsibility for the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership, part of President George W. Bush's Advanced Energy Initiative. He served as a member of the Strategic Advisory Group of the U.S. Strategic Command, the Sandia National Laboratory National Security Advisory Panel, the Argonne National Laboratory Board of Governors, the NNSA's Predictive Science and Independent Capability Review Committees, and chaired the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory National Security Panel, and the Los Alamos National Laboratory Weapons Physics External Review Committee.

From 1993 to 1999, he served as Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs in the U.S. Department of Energy, where he led the development of the DOE's Stockpile Stewardship Program. From 1991 to 1993 Dr. Reis was Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E) at the Pentagon, the principal advisor in the Office of the Secretary of Defense for scientific and technical matters, basic and applied research, laboratories and early development of defense weapons systems. He also chaired the Nuclear Weapons Council. Earlier, he served as Deputy Director and then Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA). He has been Assistant Director for National Security and Space, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President, (OSTP). He was also a member of the Director of Central Intelligence Science and Technology Advisory Panel.

Dr. Reis earned a B.M.E. in Mechanical Engineering from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, (1957), a M.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering from Yale University (1958); and an M.A. and Ph.D.(1962) from Princeton University. His many awards include two Department of Defense Distinguished Public Service Medals. He has authored numerous scientific and policy publications.