

**Submission for Ontario's 2021 Budget Consultations to the
Honourable Peter Bethlenfalvy, Minister of Finance, c/o
Budget Secretariat**

By: U-Battery Canada

Introduction to U-Battery Canada

U-Battery Canada is reimagining the way we power Ontarians' lives through sustainable energy development by pairing technological innovation with nuclear energy development. With an experienced network of industry-leading partner organizations—including global nuclear supply chain company Urenco and Canadian engineering firm Kinectrics—U-Battery Canada is dedicated to advancing Ontario's first commercial small modular reactor (SMR).

Our advanced SMR can enable a broad range of energy-intensive industries, including mining operations in the Ring of Fire, as well as northern and remote communities to be self-sufficient by accessing a clean, local, low-carbon, cost-effective and safe alternative to fossil fuel generation. More specifically, our SMR is designed as a cogeneration unit to produce heat and power, emissions-free, with the capabilities to facilitate hydrogen production and desalination.

Our recent milestones include:

- Contributed an industry partner chapter to Natural Resources Canada's (NRCan) SMR Action Plan
- Progress through pre-qualification stage of the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories' (CNL) invitation to site an SMR demonstration projects at their Chalk River facility
- Participated in industry consultations for Natural Resources Canada's Hydrogen Strategy
- Hosted a second Canadian Supplier Forum in partnership with Organization of Canadian Nuclear Industries
- Service agreement with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) for pre-licensing vendor design review.

An opportunity for Ontario

SMR development and deployment will enable significant investment into the Ontario economy as it recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. It will also drive innovation, spur research and provide employment to communities across the province to help start Ontario down the road to economic recovery and build a more resilient energy sector to help mitigate the impacts of climate change.

U-Battery Canada is confident that its advanced SMR will deliver significant environmental, economic, and social benefits while enhancing Ontario's status as an innovation hub and nuclear energy powerhouse. U-Battery has made progress through the CNL's siting competition to establish a first-of-a-kind SMR demonstration unit at Atomic Energy of Canada Limited's Chalk River Laboratories campus in Chalk River, Ontario. Further, U-Battery has a service agreement with the CNSC for pre-licensing vendor design review. Combined, these developments will help ensure that U-Battery's design is well positioned to meet regulatory and feasibility requirements as well as Canadian codes and standards as it works towards commercial deployment.

U-Battery continues to look for partnerships within Ontario that can progress the development and deployment of SMRs to the point of practical application within the province's economy.

Our recommendation

For the Government of Ontario to establish a dedicated funding program to support SMR developers as part of its 2021 Budget. A dedicated funding stream would strengthen Ontario's competitive advantage in the nuclear industry, supporting strong economic growth through affordable clean energy and durable gains in the employment market.

A dedicated funding stream would also allow Ontario to:

- Secure the position of province's nuclear supply chain in global markets;
- Foster enhanced interprovincial cohesion and potential for greater (low carbon) energy security and resilience;
- Create a pipeline of attractive, inclusive, diverse, global talent through Ontario universities and organizations;
- Create bilateral opportunities through strategic partnerships with allies (i.e. UK; U.S.).