

DOE Radiological Activities in Area IV



Systems for Nuclear Auxiliary Power (SNAP):

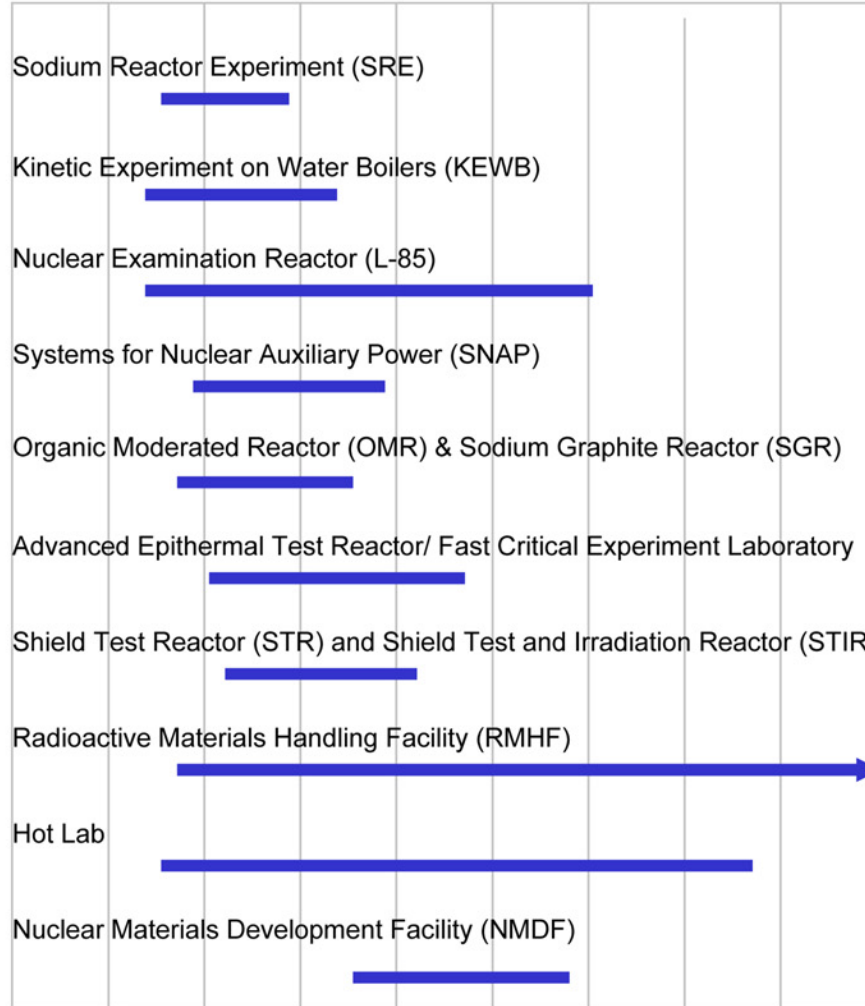
- Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) program to develop space nuclear power systems.
- A system was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base on April 3, 1965.
- Remains the only nuclear reactor placed in space by the U.S.



The Hot Lab:

- Used for 30 years to handle, examine, and disassemble highly radioactive items.
- Activities done remotely in heavily shielded rooms.
- Decontaminated and decommissioned in the mid-1990's.

1950 1955 1960 1965 1970 1975 1980 1985 1990 1995



Sodium Reactor Experiment (SRE):

- Atomic Energy Commission program to test a sodium-cooled power reactor.
- Supplied power to the City of Moorpark.
- The first nuclear reactor in the U.S. to produce power for a commercial power grid.
- Partial melting of 13 of the 43 reactor fuel assemblies occurred in 1959, which released radioactive gasses.



The Radioactive Materials Handling Facility (RMHF):

- Used for packaging radioactive material for offsite disposal.
- Septic tank leach field was contaminated by cesium and strontium in 1962.
- Leach field was remediated.
- RMHF remains in use supporting the cleanup of other facilities.