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E-001728/2026, E-001729/2026, E-001730/2026 and E-001731/2026
Answer given by Mr Jørgensen
on behalf of the European Commission
(30.7.2026)

The Commission's Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) Strategy, presented on 10 March 2026, sets out a pathway to accelerate the development and deployment of Small Modular Reactors in Europe, with the objective of bringing the first SMR projects online in the early 2030s[1]. The Commission works with the European Investment Bank to implement a temporary InvestEU top-up of EUR 200 million until 2028[2] to support innovative nuclear technologies[3]. The Important Projects of Common European Interest (IPCEI) on innovative nuclear technologies (including SMRs) is currently in design phase, with funding that will be provided by Member States. The Euratom Research and Training Programme supports research activities on the safety of SMRs[4]. The aim of public funding should be to mobilise available private capital through suitable instruments, such as guarantees for first-of-a-kind SMR projects. Public support for de-risking SMR projects as they advance towards commercialisation is essential[5]. The Commission also underlines continued international cooperation on SMRs with partner countries and international organisations, while maintaining strategic autonomy and avoiding new dependencies.

Breakthrough Energy or TerraPower are not members of the European Industrial Alliance on SMRs, nor is the Commission aware of their involvement in any of the SMR projects in the EU with which it is engaged. To ensure transparency in interactions with external stakeholders, the Commission applies its existing rules, including on the Transparency Register and publication of meetings held with interest representatives. Citizens can access information on, and minutes of, meetings held with interest representatives on the Commission's transparency websites.

[1] While securing a strong and competitive European supply chain with a high degree of local content and addressing investment barriers. See: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52026DC0117.
[2] Subject to availabilities under the Innovation Fund.
[3] In accordance with the InvestEU Regulation.
[4] In 2024, five Euratom research projects related to the safety of SMRs were launched with a total value of EUR 30 million. The Commission expects to continue funding research on the safety of SMRs with EUR 15 million under the Euratom Research and Training Programme in 2026–27, and under the 2028–34 multiannual financial framework.
[5] See: Strategy for the development and deployment of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) in Europe, p. 7. President von der Leyen also emphasised the importance of public de-risking instruments at the Nuclear Energy Summit (Paris, 10 March 2026): '[W]e will create a EUR 200 million guarantee to support private investment in innovative nuclear technologies. [...] Not only will we derisk investments in these low-carbon technologies, we also want to give a clear signal for other investors to join'.