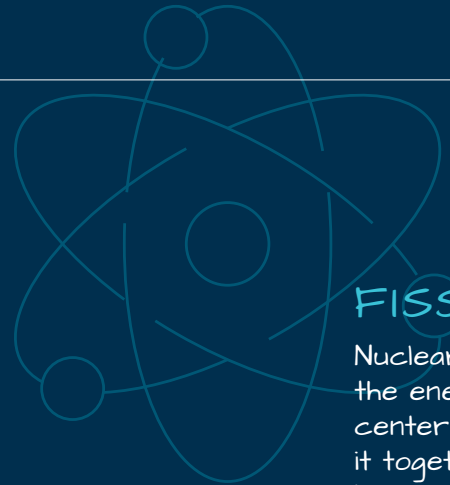
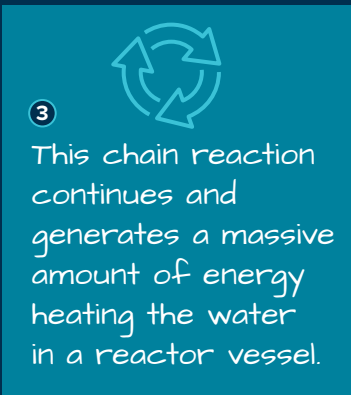
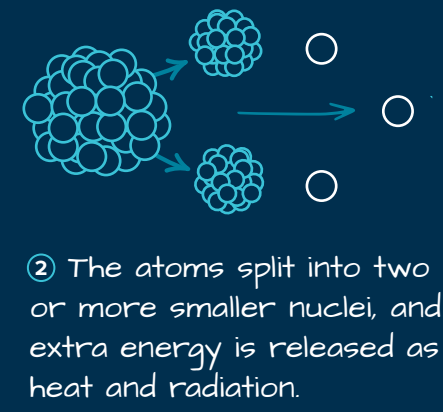
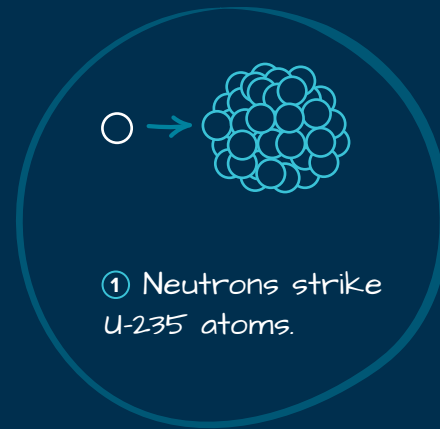


WHAT IS NUCLEAR ENERGY?



FISSION

Nuclear energy comes from the energy stored in the center of an atom that binds it together. The atom has to be split into smaller atoms to release the energy. This process is called fission.






A reliable, clean power source that can play a vital role in decarbonizing the U.S. economy.

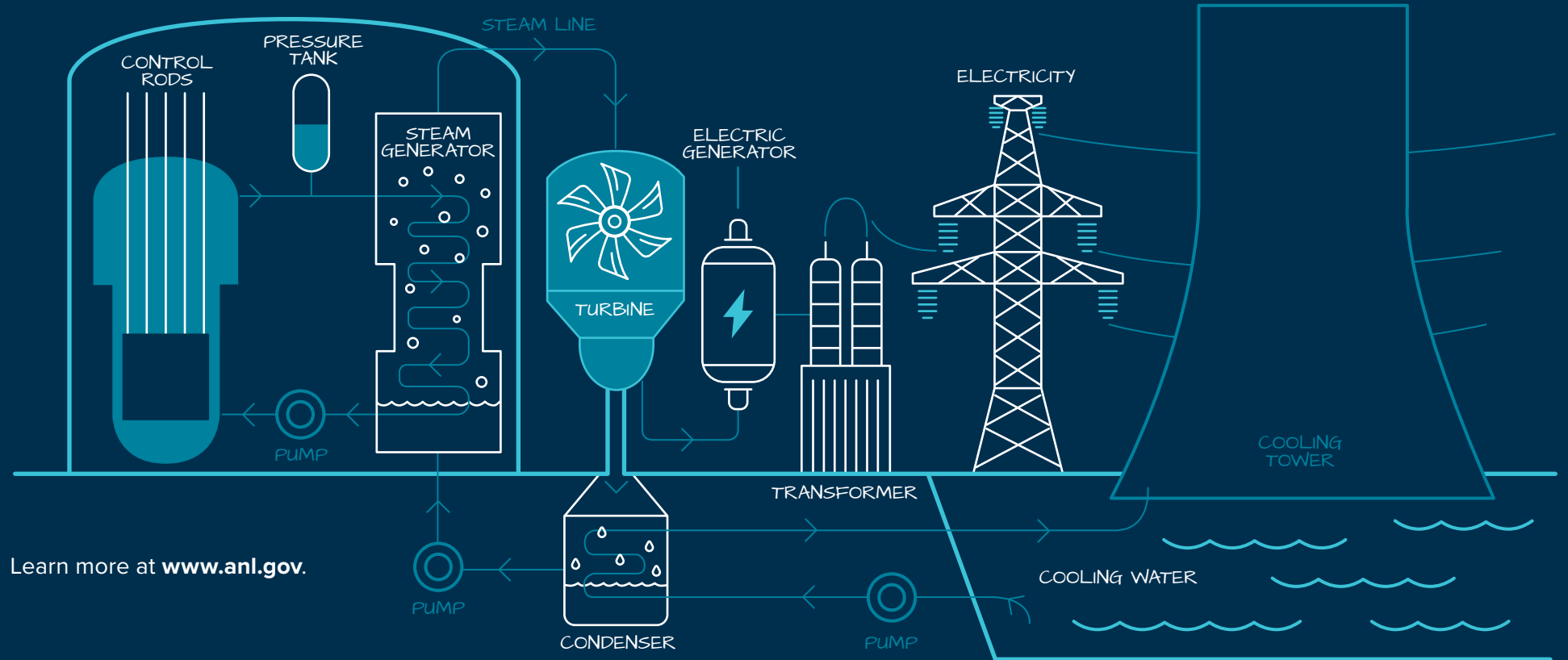
Uranium in a nuclear reactor produces heat when it splits, or fissions, which is what happens when a fragile uranium-235 (U-235) atomic nucleus is hit by a neutron. At the same time, fission produces several neutrons

that can go on to cause yet more fissions, providing a smooth, stable supply of heat that is used to produce electricity. Huge amounts of heat—and, in turn, electricity—are produced using extremely tiny amounts of fuel.

DID YOU KNOW?
A half-inch (1/25th of a pound) uranium fuel pellet can create as much energy as

		
OIL	COAL	NATURAL GAS
149 GALLONS	ONE TON	17K CUBIC FEET

REACTOR



Learn more at www.anl.gov.