



Joe J Hoagland
Associate Lab Director for Fusion and Fission
Energy Science Directorate

Joe Hoagland serves as associate laboratory director for ORNL's Fusion and Fission Energy and Science Directorate, where he oversees more than 350 scientists and engineers working to advance fission and fusion energy technologies. The directorate's work spans materials, modeling, fuels, fuel-cycle technologies, and engineered solutions, as well as research addressing fusion materials, blankets, and plasma production.

Hoagland joined ORNL in 2025 as director of strategic initiatives. In that role, he supported laboratory initiatives involving data centers, quantum computing, and fission and fusion technologies. He also worked with industry, government, and regional stakeholders to develop public-private partnerships and strengthen the region's nuclear energy ecosystem, supply chain, and workforce.

Before joining ORNL, Hoagland spent more than 30 years with the Tennessee Valley Authority, where he held several leadership positions, including senior vice president of policy and oversight, vice president and chief of staff in the Office of the CEO, and vice president of environmental science, technology, and policy. His responsibilities spanned research and innovation, strategic planning, environmental policy, energy efficiency, and executive operations. Most recently, he served as vice president of innovation and research and chief scientist, overseeing TVA's research and development portfolio and its partnerships with universities, national laboratories, federal agencies, and other research organizations. Earlier in his career, he managed research involving advanced generation, energy storage, distributed energy technologies, and Generation IV nuclear energy.

Hoagland is chair-elect of the East Tennessee Economic Council and serves on the boards of the Oak Ridge Community Development Corporation and Cherokee Farm Development Corporation. He chaired the Tennessee State Energy Policy Council and is an adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee's Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy.

He holds a doctorate and master's degree in physical chemistry from Washington State University and a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Southern Utah University.