



#### Power to the Arctic













Lead-cooled reactors for electricity generation in Arctic areas

### 🥏 Canadian market

Technical status update of SEALER plant

R&D program

Demo plant

Investment



# Canadian market for replacing diesel



- IO off-grid communities in Nunavut & NWT with projected power consumption of 2-10 MWe in 2025
- Estimated market: 10 units of 3 MWe
- Arctic mining applications: 2 x 10 MWe
- $\bigcirc$  Economic life of diamond/gold ore:  $\approx$  10 years
- Estimated market: 4 units of 10 MWe/year



### **SEALER:**

### Swedish Advanced Lead-cooled Reactor

- Small lead-cooled reactor
  19.9% enriched UO<sub>2</sub>-fuel
  3-10 MW electricity
  Core life: 10-30 years
  Reactor vessel: 2.7 x 6.0 m
- Transportable to/from site





### Core



- 19 fuel elements, 1729 fuel pins
- Core height: 110 cm
- Output Active core diameter ≈ 0.8 m
- 2415 kg of 19.9% enriched UO<sub>2</sub> fuel
- 12 control rod elements (B<sub>4</sub>C)
- 6 shut down rod elements (W,Re)B<sub>2</sub>
- ZrO<sub>2</sub> reflector, <sup>10</sup>B<sub>4</sub>C shield
- Core barrel diameter = 1.7 m



# Primary system parameters (3 MWe design)



- 8 pumps operating @ 160 kg/s
- **8** steam generators @ 1 MWth
- Nominal lead flow rate: 1300 kg/s
- Max lead velocity in core: 1.6 m/s
- Max lead velocity relative to pump: 2.0 m/s
- Core inlet temperature: 390°C
- Core outlet temperature: 430°C
- Max cladding temperature: 450°C



## Steam generator tube material



- PhD thesis of J. Ejenstam
- Close collaboration with Sandvik
- Fe-10Cr-4Al-0.2Zr is in perfect condition after 19 000 h of exposure to lead at 550°C!
- 600 h test at 750°C successful.
- Model Fe-10Cr-5Al alloy irradiated to 1.8 dpa by Oak Ridge. No hardening!
- To be codified with ASME



### **R&D** program





- 5 year long stagnant corrosion tests of Fe-10Cr-4Al-materials
- Pump test facility for test of impeller endurance ( target: > 2 years )
- 1:1 scale electrically heated mockup for integral system test
- Irradiation test of steels and absorber materials in materials test reactor



# Electrically heated mock-up



- One-to-one non-nuclear prototype of SEALER
- 8 MW power supply
- Validation of design & computer codes
- Life-time of pumps & steam generators
- Training facility for operators
- Engineering design: Hatch & Promation
- Potential location: Pinawa/Whiteshell
- Start of operation: 2019



### Demo-plant



- Customers request operation of demonstration plant
- To be built on a nuclear site in Canada
- Option to replace fuel elements
- Power uprating scheme: 1 MW<sub>e</sub> 3 MW<sub>e</sub> 10 MW<sub>e</sub>
  - Business model: Power to site & Advanced fuel qualification
  - License to build: 2021
  - Operational: 2025



# Investment from Essel Group ME







- On January 20, Essel Group ME signed an investment and financing agreement with LeadCold of ≈ 200 MUSD
- Indian owned media, mining & energy conglomerate
- Operates 4 mines in Africa
- Funds commercialisation of SEALER, including R&D, licensing, engineering and construction of demo-plant.



### Primary system internals





# Balance of plant (3 MWe version)



- Steam flow rate: 5.5 kg/s
- Live steam (1.8 kg/s @ 390°C) used for high pressure feed water pre-heating
- On-shelf turbine capacity: 7 MW<sub>e</sub>
- Turbine inlet pressure < 130 bar</p>
- One turbine extraction (1.0 kg/s) for feed water tank heating to 180°C.

Conversion efficiency = 36%



# Transient analysis: UTOP

- LeadCold's BELLA transient analysis code was extended with model of secondary system.
- Control rod withdrawal without scram (Δρ = +0.5\$) reveals increase in asymptotic power & fuel temperatures (relative to case without SG). No consequence for safety case.

