# Development of the Thorizon One molten salt reactor

Kiki Lauwers Netherlands, June 5<sup>th</sup> 2024



Nuclear. For life.



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Kiki Lauwers

May 2024



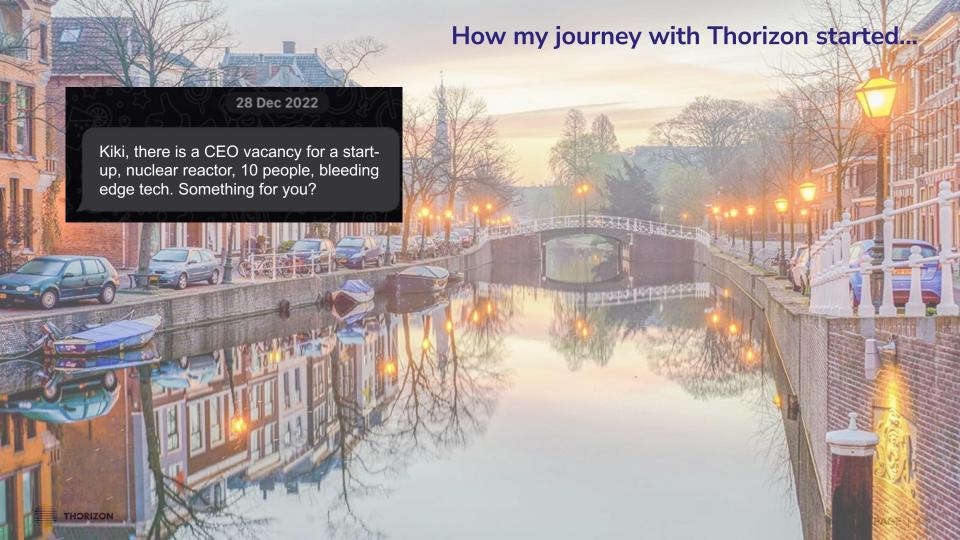


#### **Speaker introduction**

#### Kiki Lauwers

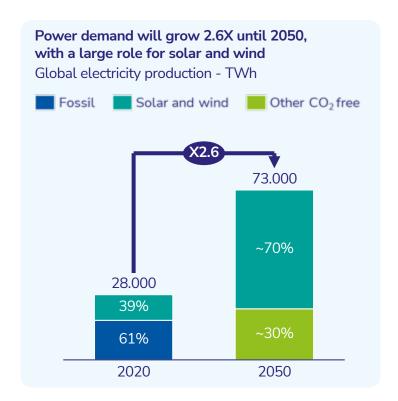
- CEO of Thorizon since May 2023
- Obtained Masters' degree in Aerospace Engineering at Delft University of Technology and MBA at INSEAD business school
- Started career as strategy consultant with McKinsey & Company specializing in advanced industries
- Over 15 years of experience in technology strategy and management including scale-ups (leading innovation at Bol.com)
- Government Board Member of the SNETP (Sustainable Nuclear Energy Technology Platform)

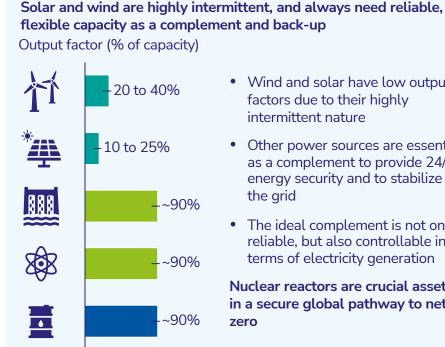




#### We need to revolutionize power generation beyond solar and wind

Decarbonizing electricity production





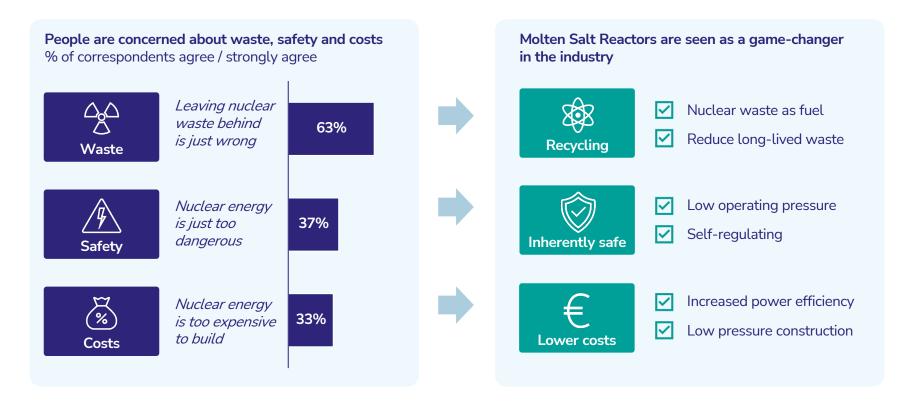
- - Wind and solar have low output factors due to their highly intermittent nature
  - Other power sources are essential as a complement to provide 24/7 energy security and to stabilize the grid
  - The ideal complement is not only reliable, but also controllable in terms of electricity generation

Nuclear reactors are crucial assets in a secure global pathway to net zero



#### Molten salt reactors can unlock the full potential of nuclear energy

The potential of molten salt reactors







#### Our mission: The Thorizon One is the missing piece in the energy transition

The Thorizon One





Flexible carbon-free energy



Reduction of long-lived waste



Walk-away safe



**Cost competitive** 





#### If Molten Salt Reactors are such a great idea, where are they?

History of Molten Salt Reactor Technology



#### The problems to be solved

**1**Material Integrity

Impossible to find and license reactor materials for a lifetime of >60 years due to effects of corrosion, heat, and irradiation

**2**Fuel
Management

Large volume of salt is needed for operations and salt is difficult to transport and handle after use.



# Thorizon solved the two main issues in molten salt reactor realization due to its innovative cartridge-based core

Innovative cartridge based-core

#### The solution

**1**Material
Integrity

- Salt is contained in cartridges that are replaced every 5 to 10 years.
- Containment materials are already gualified for nuclear use.

**2** Fuel Management

- Fuel volume is compartmented and contained in modular cartridges all the time.
- Cartridges allow for transport and handling of fuel.



Thorizon's concept: combining molten salt cartridges into a set creates a critical reactor core

- In a molten salt reactor, the salt acts as both the coolant and the fuel
- Cartridges contain all primary system components: salt, pump, heat exchanger
- When the pump is active, the molten salt is circulated
- Only when cartridges are together and salt is circulated, fission energy is generated through neutron interaction between the cartridges

Patented by Thorizon, positively reviewed and recognized by industry experts as very promising



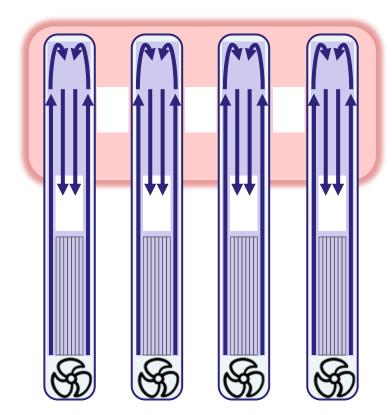
- Cartridge contains all primary systems: salt, pump, heat exchanger
- When the pump is active, salt is pumped upwards through the cartridge







 Only when cartridges together are active, there is a critical configuration at the top of the reactor

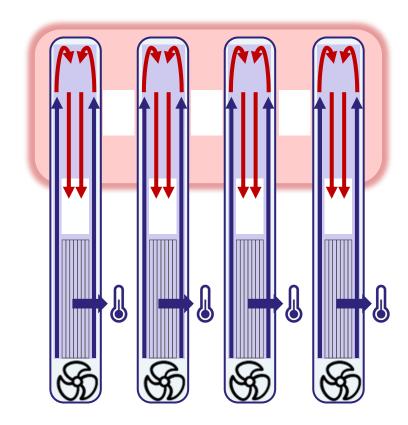






 Only when cartridges together are active, there is a critical configuration at top of the reactor

 Heat is extracted through the heat exchanger on the lower part of the cartridge

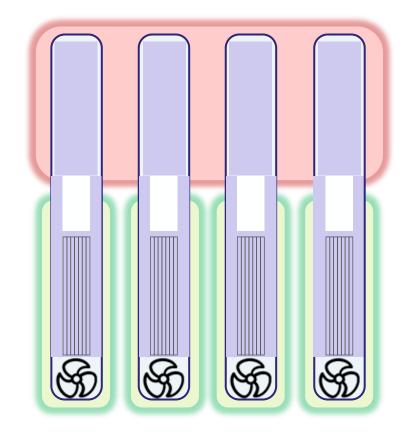






 When the pumps stop, the salt drops to the bottom of the cartridges

 The fission reaction stops, the reactor is not critical anymore



#### Resulting in superior technology in terms of safety, feasibility and circularity

Safe, Smart & Circular



#### Safe

Walk-away safe - Safety by design and gravity

**Low pressure** - Always operates under low pressure

**Self-regulating** - Temperature increase slows down reaction



#### Smart

**Solves material degradation** - Allows use of existing materials

**Easy to handle** - Cartridges can be replaced and transported

**Continuous upgrades** - enhance performance with core exchange



#### Circular

Carbon free energy - Providing ample, CO<sub>2</sub> free electricity or heat

**Nuclear waste as fuel** - More energy from spent nuclear fuel

No long-lived waste – Acting as a nuclear waste burner

Our technology leverages the full potential of molten salt and the modularity of the cartridges



#### The Thorizon One is an attractive proposition for nuclear operators

The Thorizon One reactor

Facility includes a 250MWth reactor island and a salt storage system





A flexible turnkey, full-service asset with attractive economics into the existing value chain

Highly flexible asset

- 50-300 MWe flexible power, 100 MWe baseload
- Multiple units can be combined per site
- 550°C heat for industrial processes

Full-Service turnkey delivery

- Project management from pre-feasibility to commissioning
- Scalable reactor design adapted to site requirements
- Fuel and cartridge lifecycle management

Attractive economics

- Targeting LCOE of € 60 per MWh
- Industrialized cartridge production in series offsite
- Basic reactor building, no pressure dome, no primary system





# Via our design choices, licensing strategy, way of working and partner strategy we focus on optimizing our path to market

A realistic path to market

#### We have a realistic approach to ensure our ambitious timeline



- Joint and ongoing engagements with Dutch and French regulatory bodies
- Following existing regulations for nuclear sites
- Use of nuclear qualified materials





- Safety by design is leading for our entire team
- Agile, solution driven team with option to scale up through trusted partners
- Best practice systems engineering approach to ensure requirements are met





- Co-development with industry leaders across Europe on key components
- Strong partnership with Orano, with decades of experience in nuclear fuel recycling and dedicated to molten salt development and transportation





# We are on track for cartridge demonstration in 2026 to start building the first of a kind Thorizon One by 2030

Development roadmap

~Q3 2022 ~03 2024 ~02 2027 ~2032 Phase 1 Phase 2 Phase 3 Initial design **Technology demonstration Industrialization** € ~ 22,5 mln € ~ 125 mln €~750mln System requirements in place Site confirmed for first of a kind reactor. • Series production of the cartridge Computational methods in place • Full scale cartridge prototype tested FOAK site preparation Licensing process initiated in NL & FR Nuclear proof of concept (validation) FOAK construction Detail design of full reactor island Conceptual design ready License to operate PSAR obtained, license to build submitted Start of commissioning Patent portfolio of 3 patents



#### We succeed in rapidly attracting and onboarding industry and scale-up talent across Amsterdam and Lyon

Experienced and scalable

#### Our management team



Sander de Groot CTO & Co-founder 25vr nuclear research and development



Kiki Lauwers CFO 15vr tech scale-up and management



Laure Claquin COO & director France 15yr large nuclear projects & management



Margriet Hooghiemstra Chief of Staff 10vr strategy, M&A and





6 management

team members

 32% women 15 nationalities

 Growing to ~40FTE by Autumn



14 engineers in Lvon **France** 

Arthur van Wylick **CFO** 30+vr finance incl. 15yr scale-ups



**CBDO** 25vr BD. extensive nuclear network

Titus Tielens



business building



Safety

**Neutronics** 

Thermal Hydraulics Mechanical Engineering







Program management



































































### We secured important partnerships, and aim to combine the best of France and the Netherlands in our supply chain

Industry leading Partnerships









# Thorizon is backed by committed investors and proudly recognized as one of two non-French born companies in France 2030

Backed by committed investors











Conclusion

We are continuously looking for talent, strong partners and investors to join our mission to secure our energy future and combat climate change

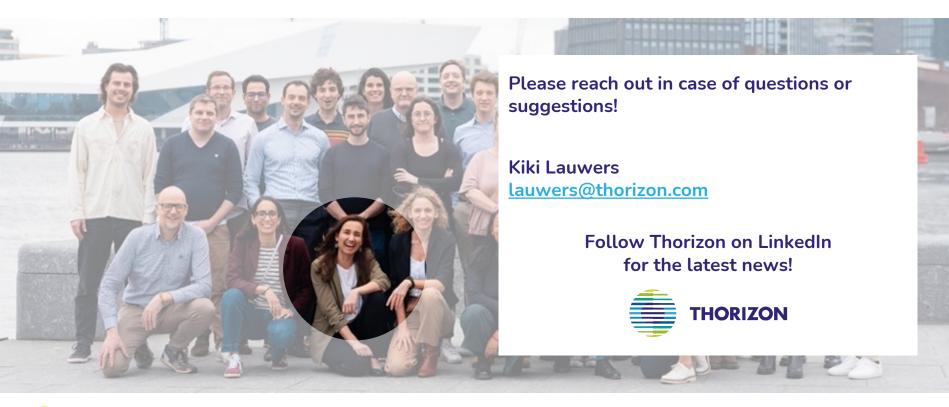




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Join our mission

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#### **Questions?**

If you have questions after this briefing, don't hesitate to contact me

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