



### **Advanced Reactor Track Opening**

### **NRG Advanced Reactor Activities**

NIC 2024 June 5-6, 2024 Amsterdam, Netherlands





### **MSc Tjark van Staveren**

- Tjark van Staveren
- Programme manager materials irradiations at NRG
- 13 years of experience in R&D projects for nuclear materials to support LTO, operation and new reactors
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### Contents

- Advanced reactor track objectives, organizational matters
- NRG activities in support of Advanced Reactor developments





### NIC 2024 Programme

- Keynote plenary session 1
- Track 1 LTO (ageing management and LTO of NPPs)
  - Session 1.1: Regulatory approaches and research
  - Session 1.2: Industry challenges
- Track 2 New Build
  - Session 2.1: Government
  - Session 2.2: Industry and supply chain
- Track 3 Advanced Reactors
  - Session 3.1: Reactor developers
  - Session 3.2: Cooperation within the advanced reactor eco-system
- Keynote plenary session 2

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### Advanced reactors, what is happening?

- World-wide efforts by industry, (research) organisations and academia for development of advanced reactors
- Range of private and state-owned organisations around the world develop advanced reactor designs, often in partnership with existing nuclear supply chain
- NEA SMR dashboards report progress on SMRs and advanced reactors working on:
  - Licensing
  - Siting
  - Fuel
  - Engagement
  - Supply chain
  - Financing
- IAEA advanced reactor information system (ARIS) reports 78 advanced reactor and SMR reactor designs)
- But there are quite a few more...

#### The NEA Small Modular Reactor Dashboard









Time	Advanced reactors
13:00-16:30	Track 3 – Advanced Reactors, Session 3.1
13:00-13:30	Track opening: NRG activities in support of Advanced Reactor developments, Tjark van Staveren (NRG, The Netherlands)
13:30-14:00	Fuel cycle development for Molten Salt Reactors, Isabelle Morlaes (ORANO, France)
14:00-14:30	Development of the Thorizon MSR One reactor, Kiki Lauwers (THorizon, NL)
14:30-15:00	Coffee break
15:00-15:30	Hermes Reactor Design Overview, Micah Hacket (KAIROS Power, U.S.)
15:30-16:00	Designing for advanced reactors, Jean-Mary Hamy (Framatome, France)
16:00-16:30	Striving to streamline SMR deployment, Eleonora Lambridis (Tractebel, Belgium)
16:30-17:00	Panel session moderated by Tjark van Staveren (NRG, The Netherlands)





Time	Advanced reactors
9:00-13:30	Track 3 – Advanced Reactors, Session 3.2
09:00-09:10	Opening day 2
9:10-9:40	IAEA activities in support of advanced reactor developments, Aline des Cloizeaux (IAEA)
9:40-10:10	OECD/NEA and GIF activities to support the transition of Advanced Reactor Technologies from R&D to demonstration and deployment, Brent Wilhelm (OECD/NEA, France)
10:10-10:40	Regulatory framework in the Netherlands for licensing of advanced reactors. Joran de Jong (ANVS, Netherlands)
10:40-11:10	Coffee break
11:10-11:40	The SMR-LFR program, an enabler for innovation in nuclear, Pascal de Langhe (SCK CEN, Belgium)
11:40-12:10	EDF Energy perspective on development of advanced reactors in the UK, Jim Reed (EDF Energy, UK)
12:10-12:40	Progress in Developing Nuclear Graphite Grades for HTR and MSR application, Houzheng Wu (SINOSTEEL, China)
12:40-13:40	Lunch
13:40-14:10	Assessment of economical and societal impact of the development of molten salt reactors, Anna Menenti (Technopolis, the Netherlands)
14:10-14:40	Panel session moderated by Tjark van Staveren (NRG, The Netherlands)





### NIC 2024 – Advanced reactor track organization

- Track leader will introduce speaker
- Speakers have 30 min timeslots
- Max 25 min for presentation + 5 min Q&A
- Track leader keeping time (signal after 20 minutes to conclude)
- Sticky notes to be provided to audience to collect questions
- One junior engineer will provide briefing about Advanced Reactor session topics, discussions and conclusions in plenary session







### Ensuring Nuclear Performance

Advancing Nuclear Medicine







Advanced reactor development



Nuclear new build projects



Operational support



Long term operation



Decommissioning services













HFR is a multipurpose reactor for medical isotope production and nuclear energy research.

It is in operation since 1961, and operates in 9 'cycles' per year with intermediate maintenance and fuel loading.

High flux in combination with instrumentation allows (accelerated) testing of materials and fuels under controlled conditions











### **Advanced reactor activities at NRG**

- Decades of experience in R&D activities for LWR and advanced reactor concepts (incl. High Temperature Reactors, Lead cooled reactors, Molten Salt Reactors, fusion etc.)
- Utilisation of unique nuclear infrastructure for neutron irradiations in combination with expertise on modelling and (safety) analyses
- R&D activities
  - Sponsored by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs (incl. co-funding of international R&D projects
  - Bilateral activities for industry



Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands





### Material and fuels R&D

- Advanced reactor concepts require ulletassessment of materials and fuels performance for challenging operating conditions
- Fuels and materials performance is established by test irradiations and  $\bullet$ characterisation during or after neutron irradiation
- $\bullet$
- Fuel performance, e.g.:Retention of fission productsChanges in physical properties
- Materials performance, e.g.:  $\bullet$ 
  - Physical and mechanical properties
  - Interaction with cooling media •

















**Modelling reactor systems** 

System Thermal Hydraulics codes (e.g. Relap5, TRACE)

Development of SPECTRA code







# **Modelling reactor components**

- Application of 3D CFD / FEM
  - Practical engineering increasingly complex geometries and physics to perform safety analyses)
  - High resolution to improve understanding and create reference data (numerical experiment) complementary to real experiments
- Development of tools towards:
  - Multi-phase
  - Multi-scale
  - Multi-physics



y z

Heat transfer in a fuel assembly *practical engineering resolution* 



Heat transfer in a sub-channel *high resolution* 

Taylor bubble in a pipe high resolution multi-phase

Flow and heat transfer ESCAPE electrical mock-up practical engineering resolution



Flow and heat transfer in Phénix multi-scale simulation (system & component level)





### Conclusions

- NRG will continue to support advanced reactor developments in collaboration with international partners
- Existing nuclear infrastructure neutron irradiations will continue to be utilised to enable materials and fuels characterisation while new utilities are developed (PALLAS)
- Looking forward to interact with international experts to exchange thoughts at the Nuclear Innovation Conference 2024!





### Thank you for your attention!

## Any questions?

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