



Contribution towards H₂ Society

~Achieving Carbon Neutrality by HTGR with Inherent Safe
Characteristics~

November 15, 2023

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- Requirements to H₂ Supply Source in H₂ Society
- Features and Current Status of HTGR, a Carbon-free Energy Source
- Challenges and Approaches towards Commercial HTGR Deployment



1

Domestic H₂ production

- International H₂ supply chain requires large-scale H₂ transportation
- Transportation of Liquefied H₂ is expensive at present

162 JPY/m³

(Roly transport+Liquefaction+loading+Marine transportation cost)

Estimation by METI at 2020

2

Large-scale, stable H₂ production

- Continuous operation is mandatory for economical industrial process
- Large-scale H₂ supply is required to achieve carbon neutrality

200万t/yr
(Present)



2,000万t/yr
(2050)

Basic H₂ Strategy

3

Carbon-free H₂ production

- Increased competition in technology development of industrial process for the use of H₂ towards carbon neutral society
- Full introduction of carbon pricing expected in international trades

32,500JPY/tCO₂

(Developed nations' carbon tax in 2050 estimated by IEA)

JRI,
<https://www.jri.co.jp/MediaLibrary/file/report/researchreport/pdf/14069.pdf> (accessed on November 14, 2023)

What is HTGR?

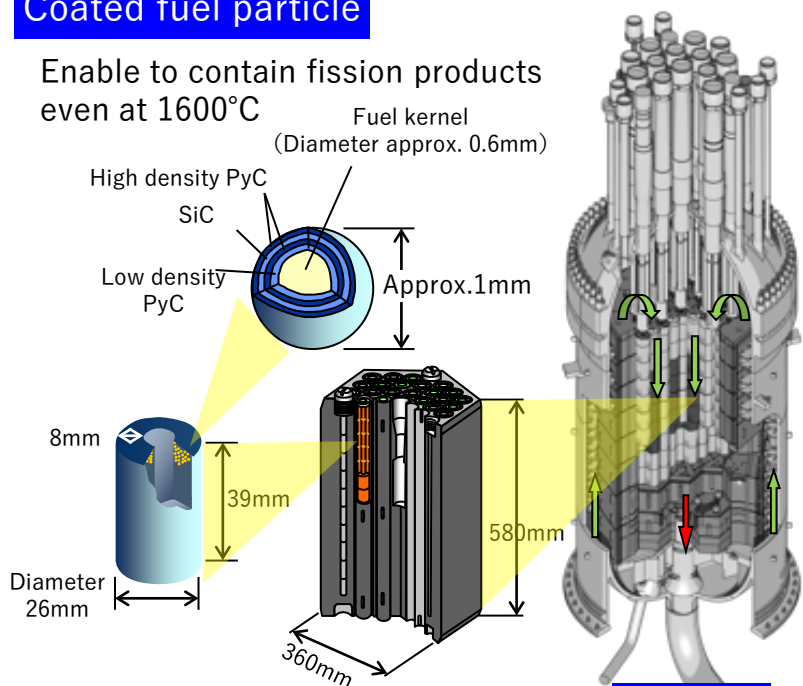


● Superior safety

Feasible to design a reactor that would not melt down due to inherent safe characteristics

Coated fuel particle

Enable to contain fission products even at 1600°C



Graphite components

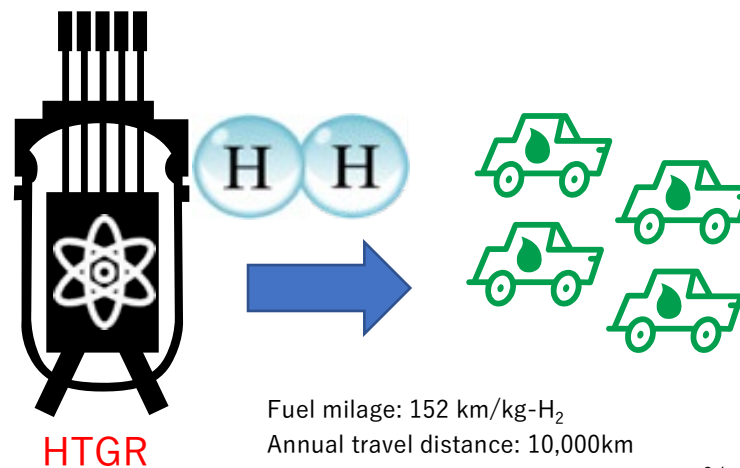
Allowable temperature limit **2500°C**

Stable at high temperature (No temperature limits, chemically inert)

Helium

● Great versatilities in applications

HTGR can supply high temperature heat above 900°C and provide for great versatility in the applications including H₂ production, power generation, desalination, etc.



Fuel milage: 152 km/kg-H₂
Annual travel distance: 10,000km
Annual H₂ consumption : Approx. 730m³/unit

One unit of HTGR* (Reactor thermal power 250MW) can provide H₂ for 300,000 FCVs

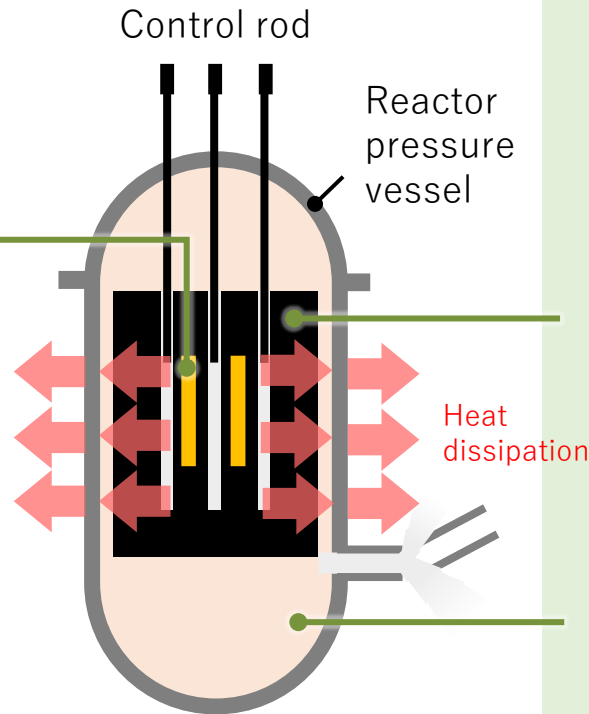
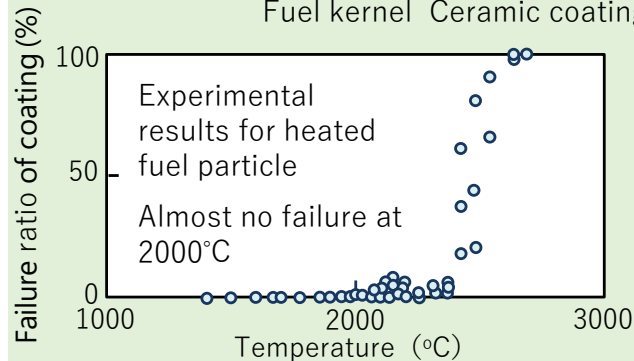
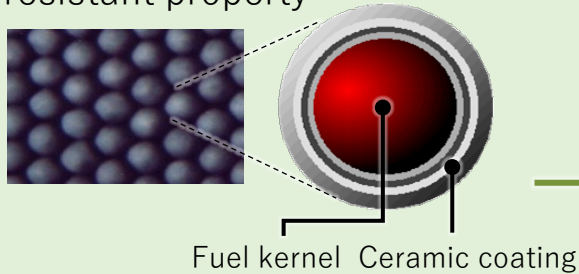
*H₂ production efficiency 50%, plant availability 80%

HTGR Features – Superior safety –



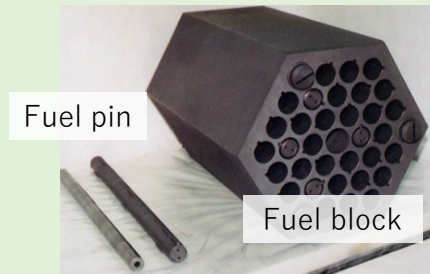
Ceramic coated fuel

Inability to melt due to heat-resistant property



Graphite structure

Capable to remove heat passively from RPV outside due to high heat capacity and large thermal conductivity



Helium coolant

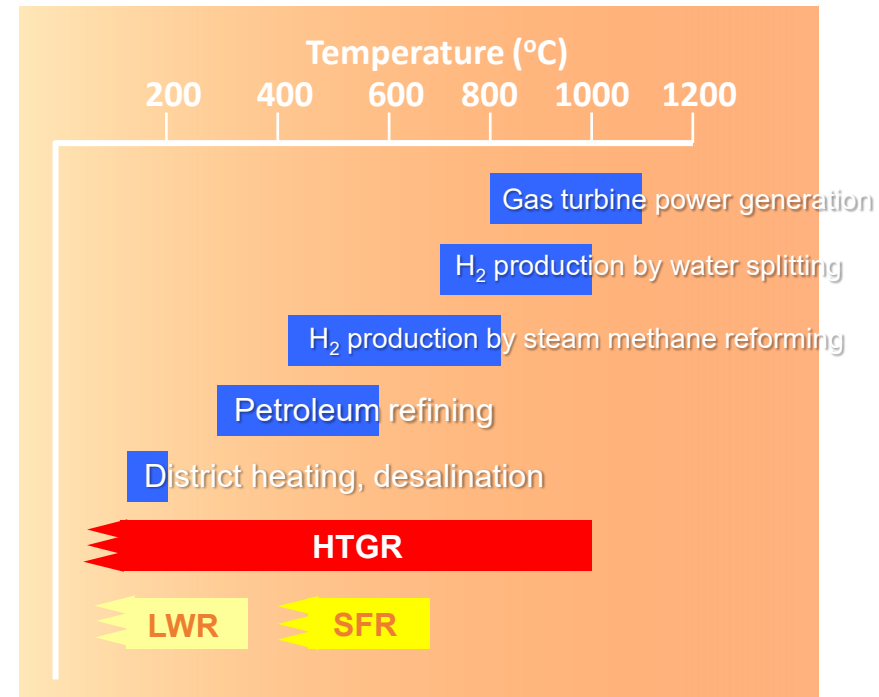
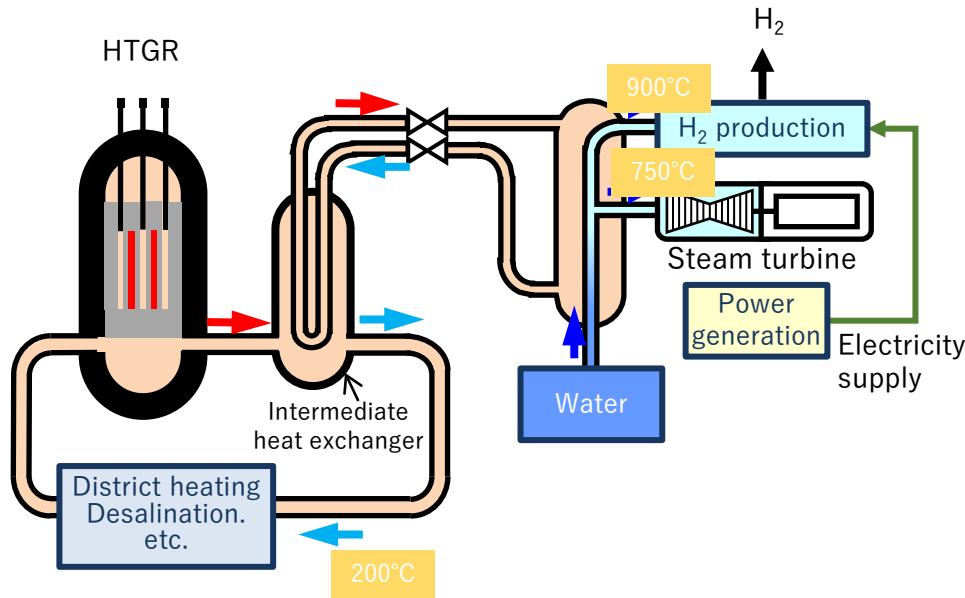
No explosions of H₂ and vapor due to chemical inertness and phase change inability

Reactor can be shut down and cooled intrinsically, as well as contain radionuclides under abnormal conditions such as loss of offsite power and coolant

HTGR Features – Versatile heat application –



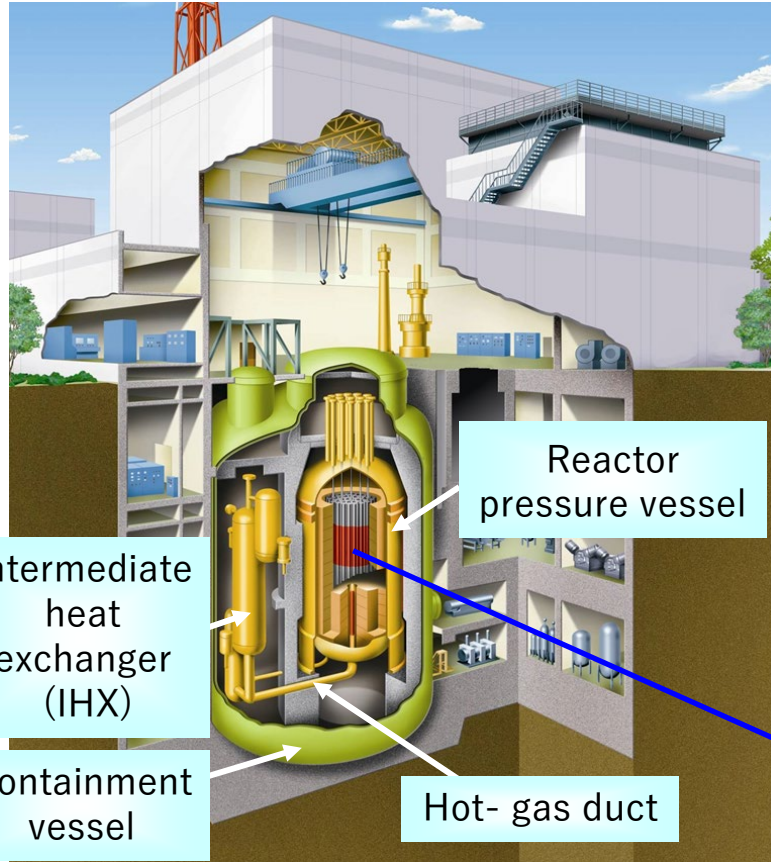
HTGR can provide for great versatility in application of non-electric field including H₂ production, district heating, desalination, etc.



HTGR can contribute to reduce a large amount of CO₂ emission from non-electric field by supplying carbon-free, versatile energy



HTTR



Intermediate heat exchanger (IHX)

Containment vessel

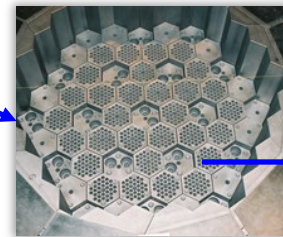
Reactor pressure vessel

Hot- gas duct

Japan's first HTGR

- Reactor thermal power 30MW
- Coolant Helium gas
- Reactor temp. inlet/outlet 395/850,950°C
- Coolant pressure 4MPa
- Reactor structural material Graphite

- Nov., 1998 First criticality
 - Mar., 2010 50 days 950°C operation
 - Dec., 2010 Safety demonstration test*
 - Jul., 2021 Restart operation following permission of changes to reactor installation in conformity to New Regulatory Requirements
 - Jan., 2022 Safety demonstration test*
- *OECD/NEA LOFC project



Reactor core



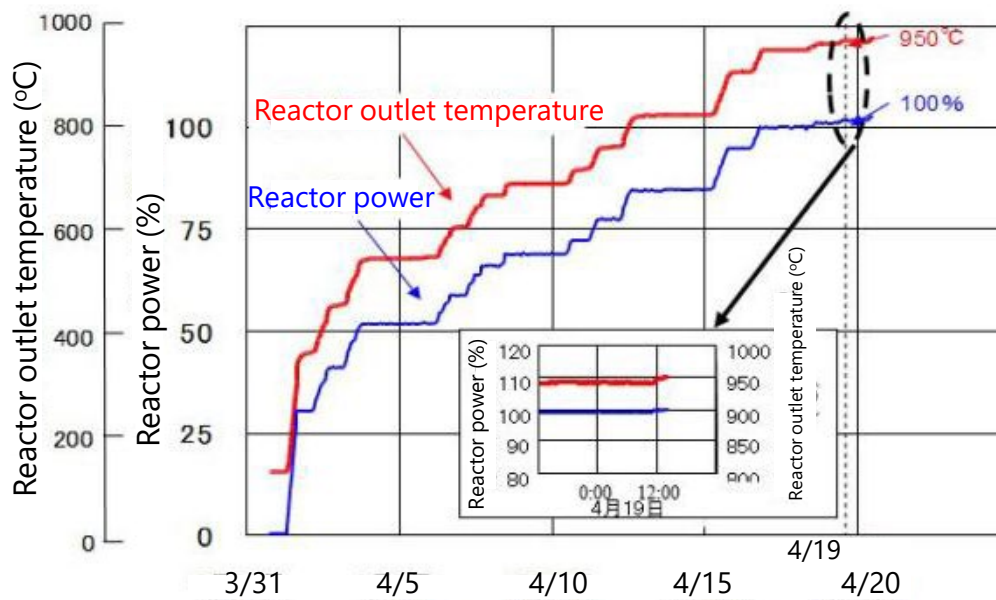
Core graphite block

HTTR achieved world's highest reactor outlet temperature of 950°C

Japan's HTGR Technologies

– High temperature heat supply demonstrated by the HTTR –

H₂



Capability of high temperature heat supply above 900°C was demonstrated by HTTR operation

Japan's HTGR Technologies

– Technologies owned by Japanese entities –



■ HTTR design, construction, operation experience

(MHI, Toshiba/IHI, Hitachi^{※1}, Fuji Electric, KHI, etc.)

Large amount of HTGR technology data accumulated in vendors

Enables an optimized commercial reactor design

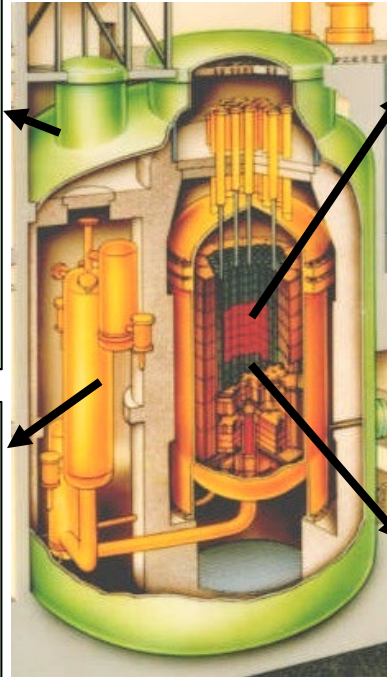
■ Heat resistant alloy Hastelloy XR, co-developed with Mitsubishi Materials^{※2}



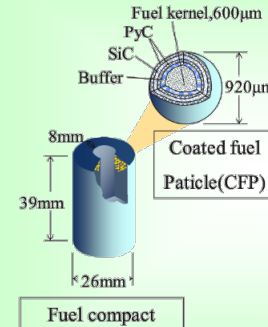
Intermediate heat exchanger

Metallic material used as structural material at world's highest temperature of 950°C

Capable to supply high temperature heat above 900°C



■ Fuel, co-developed with NFI

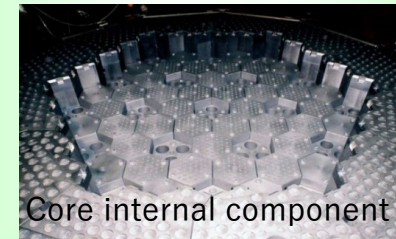


Ceramic coating with high fission product containment performance

Coating is stable for long period of time (Three times higher burnup than LWR)

■ Graphite IG-110, co-developed with Toyo Tanso

World's highest quality graphite (isotropic high density graphite)



Core internal component

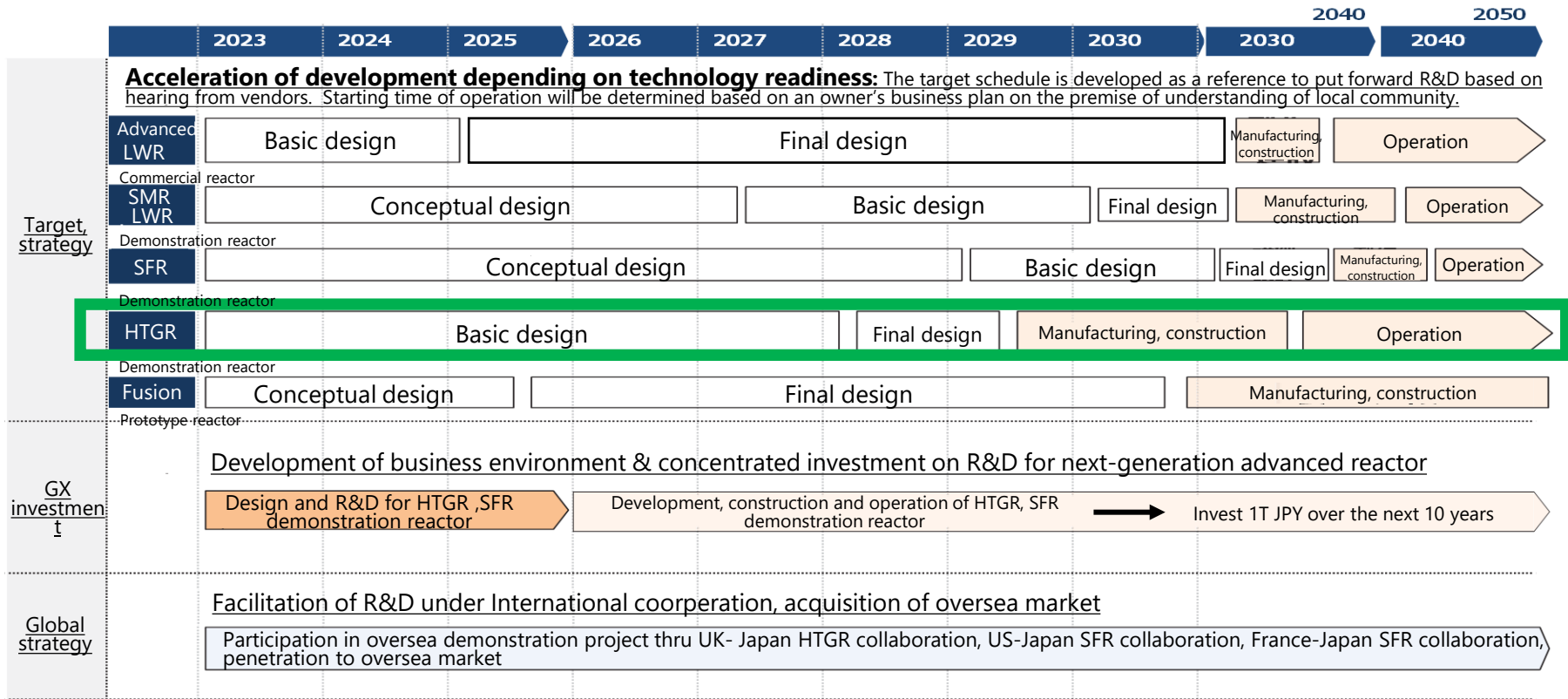
Superior strength, high thermal conductivity, superior resistance to irradiation

HTGR can be constructed using domestic technologies

HTGR Demonstration Reactor Development Plan – Basic Policy for GX Implementation –



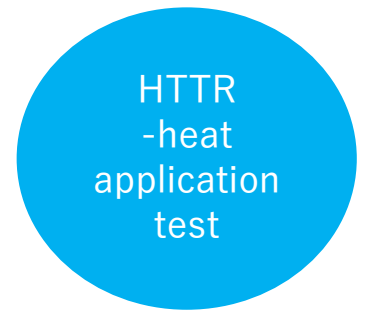
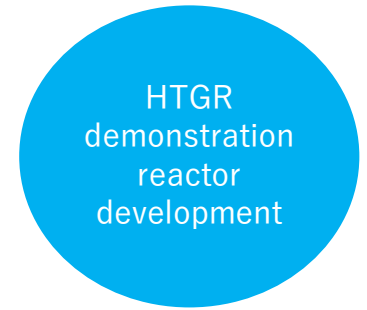
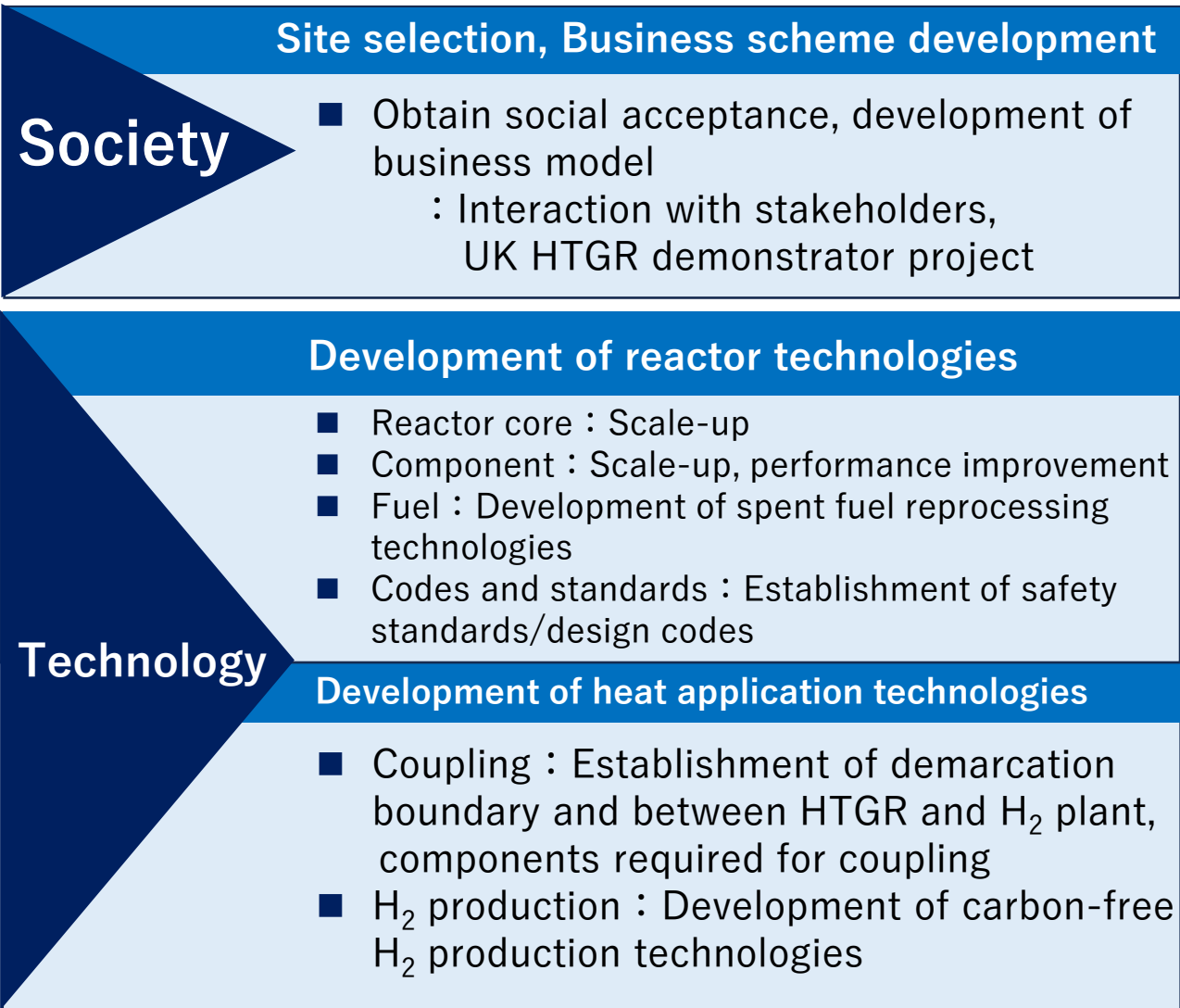
Develop a HTGR demonstration reactor to be operated in 2030's.



HTGR Demonstration Reactor Development Project

Enacted: JPFY2023 48B JPY (JPY2023-JPY2025 431B JPY)

Request: JPFY2024 256B JPY (JPY2023-JPY2026 1279B JPY)



Development of Coupling Technology between HTGR and H₂ plant – HTTR-heat application test –



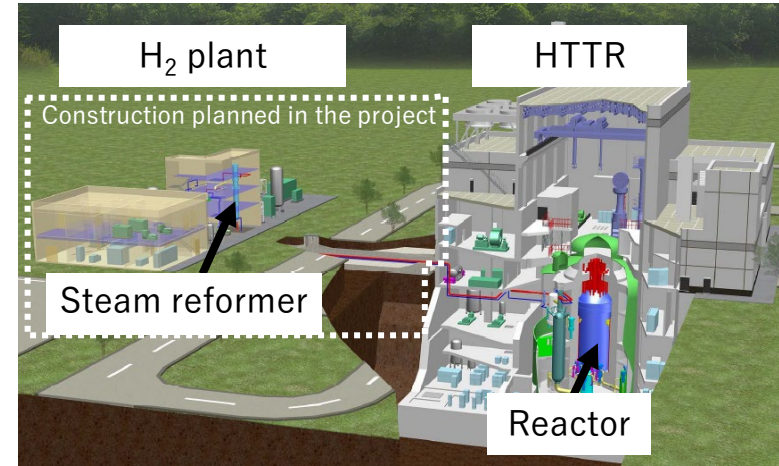
【Tasks】

- Use the HTTR as a heat source which demonstrated 950°C heat supply capability
- Establish safety design and evaluation technologies for coupling between HTGR and H₂ plant
- Demonstrate performance of components required for coupling between HTGR and H₂ plant



【Expected results】

Develop safe coupling technologies between HTGR and H₂ plant



Bird's eye view of the test

- ✓ Develop coupling technologies by connecting a steam methane reforming H₂ plant to the HTTR
- ✓ H₂ plant with carbon-free H₂ process will be connected to the HTTR in the future

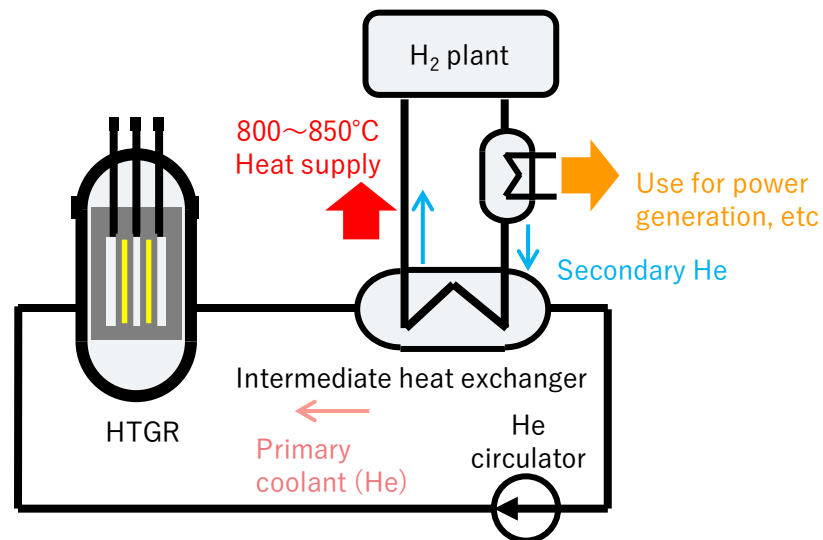
Draft test schedule

	R4 2022	R5 2023	R6 2024	R7 2025	R8 2026	R9 2027	R10 2028	R11 2029	R12 2030
HTTR-heat application test	Safety design · evaluation		Application	Licensing					
	HTTR modification/H ₂ plant design (steam methane reforming process)				HTTR modification/H ₂ plant manufacturing, installation			H ₂ production test	
	[Green bar]					[Red bar]			

Selection of H₂ production Technology

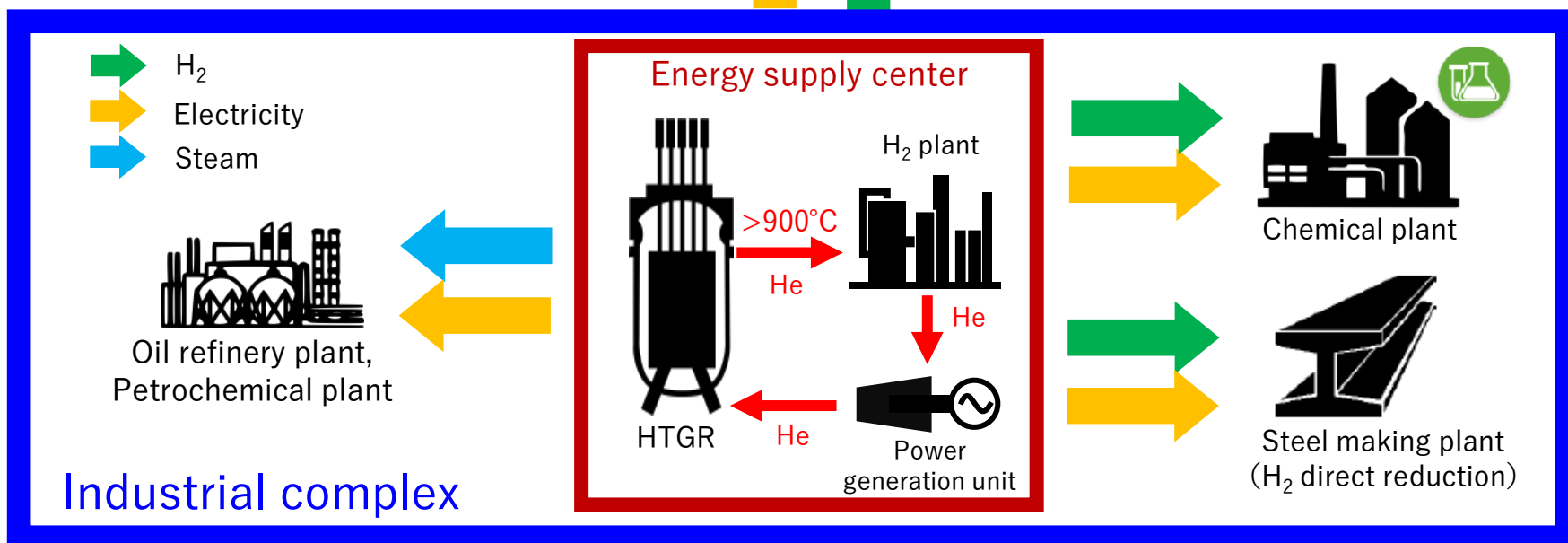


- Reactor thermal power 150MW~250MW
- Supply high temperature above 800°C to H₂ plant
- Waste heat can be used for power generation to be supplied to internal load of steel making plant
- Combination with a carbon-free H₂ production technology enables large-scale carbon-free H₂ production
- A carbon-free H₂ production technology will be selected considering technology readiness



	Steam methane reforming	High temperature steam electrolysis	Methane pyrolysis	IS process
概要				
	$\text{CH}_4 + 2\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO}_2 + 4\text{H}_2$	$\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + 1/2\text{O}_2$	$\text{CH}_4 \rightarrow 2\text{H}_2 + \text{C}(\text{s})$	$\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{H}_2 + 1/2\text{O}_2$

HTGR Commercial Deployment Model



Adding new social value

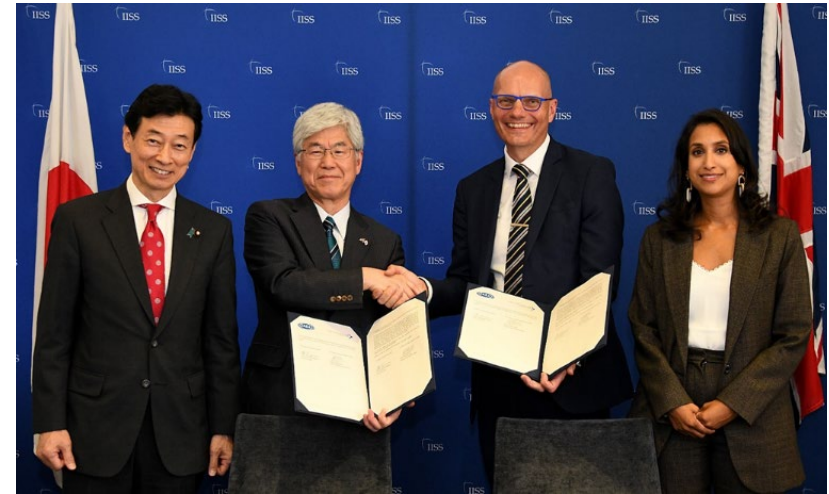
Achieving carbon neutrality in Hard-to-Abate industries

Reinforcement of resilience for carbon neutral society

Expectation to Japan's HTGR Technology – UK –



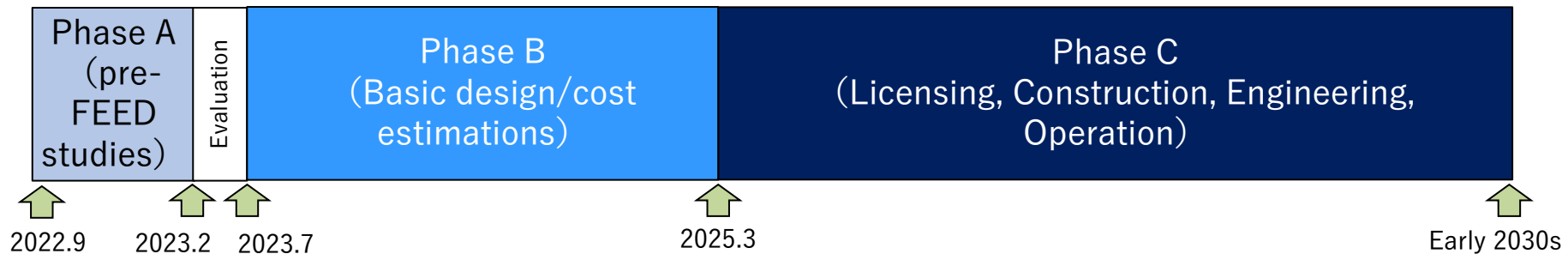
- Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) selected National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) and JAEA team as project entities to implement the Phase B reactor project
- JAEA and NNL signed comprehensive Memorandum of Co-operation in the field of HTGR under the attendance of Ms. Coutinho, Secretary of State for DESNZ and Mr. Nishimura, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry
- JAEA will collaborate with NNL to accelerate early deployment of HTGRs in order to contribute to the achievement of carbon neutrality by 2050.



(From left to right) Mr. Nishimura, Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Mr. Koguchi, President of JAEA, Mr. Howarth, CEO of NNL, Ms. Coutinho, Secretary of State for DESNZ (September, 2023, London, UK)

UK HTGR Demonstration Reactor Programme

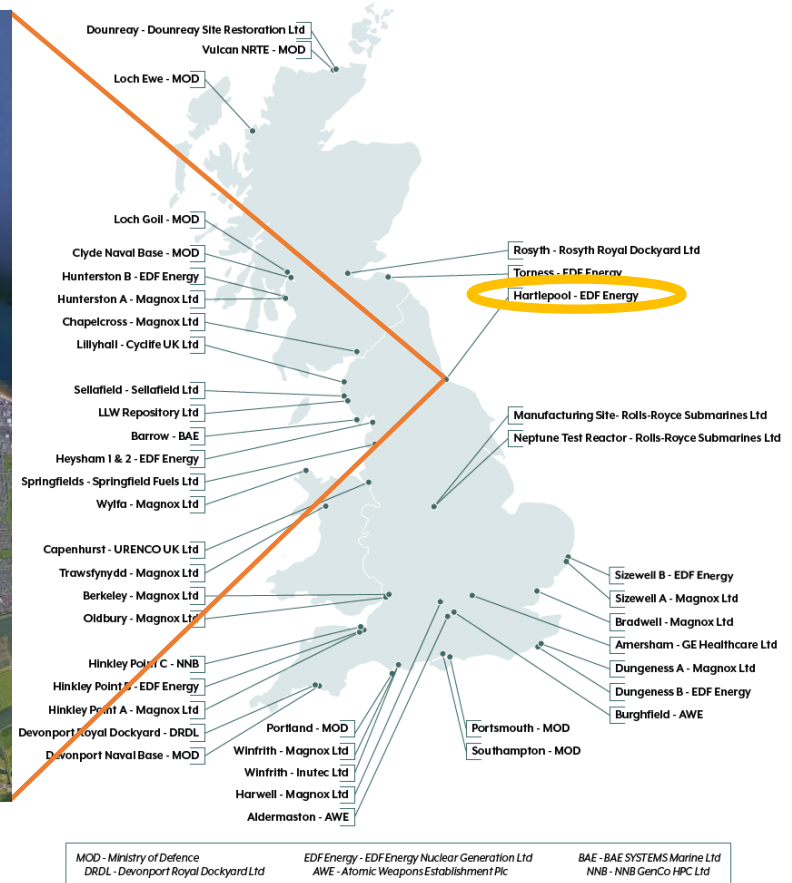
- Phase A : pre-FEED studies (2022.9~2023.2)
- Phase B : Basic design, cost estimations (2023.7~2025.3)
- Phase C : Licensing, Construction, Engineering, Operation



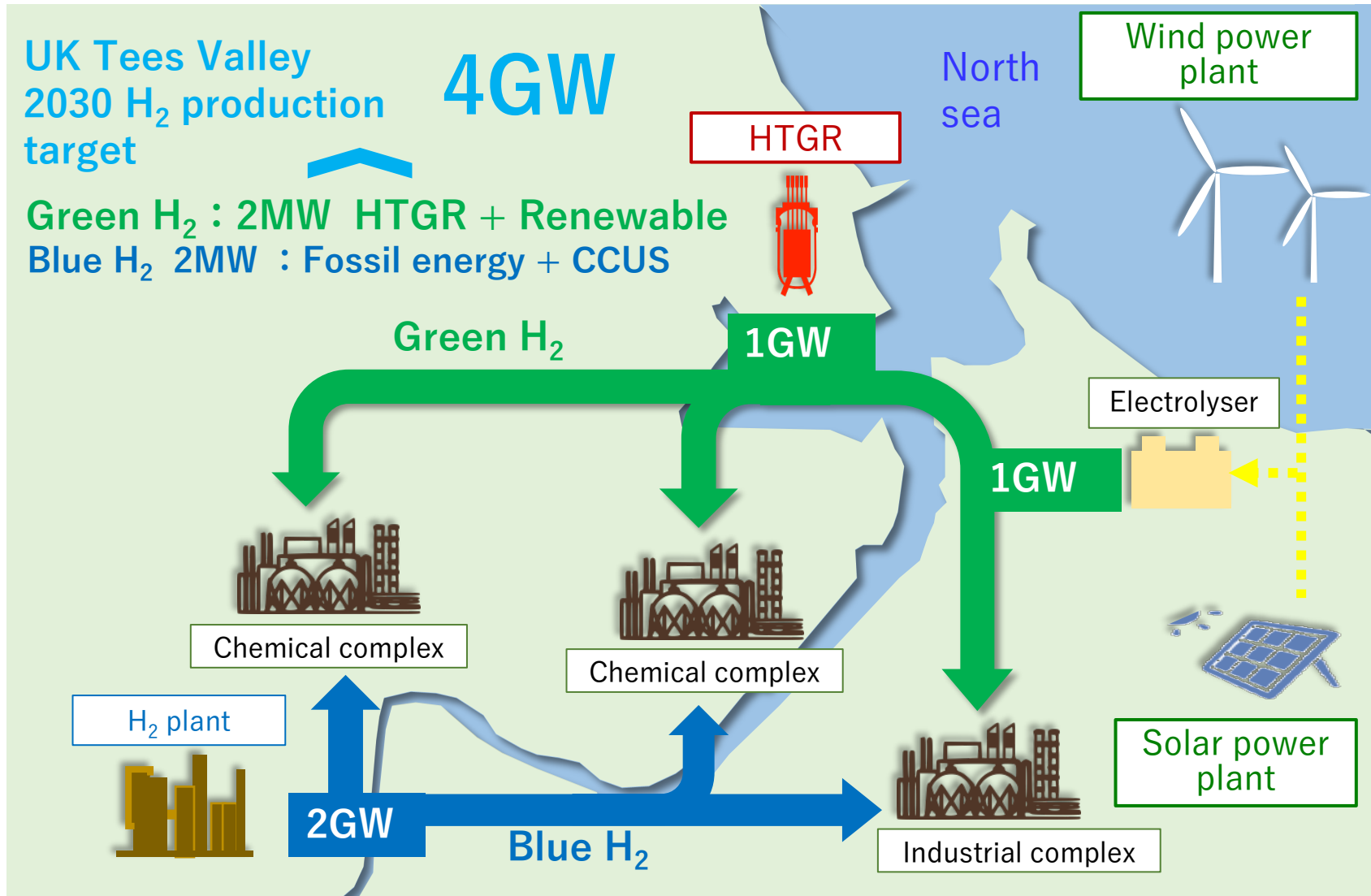
UK HTGR Demonstrator Potential Site



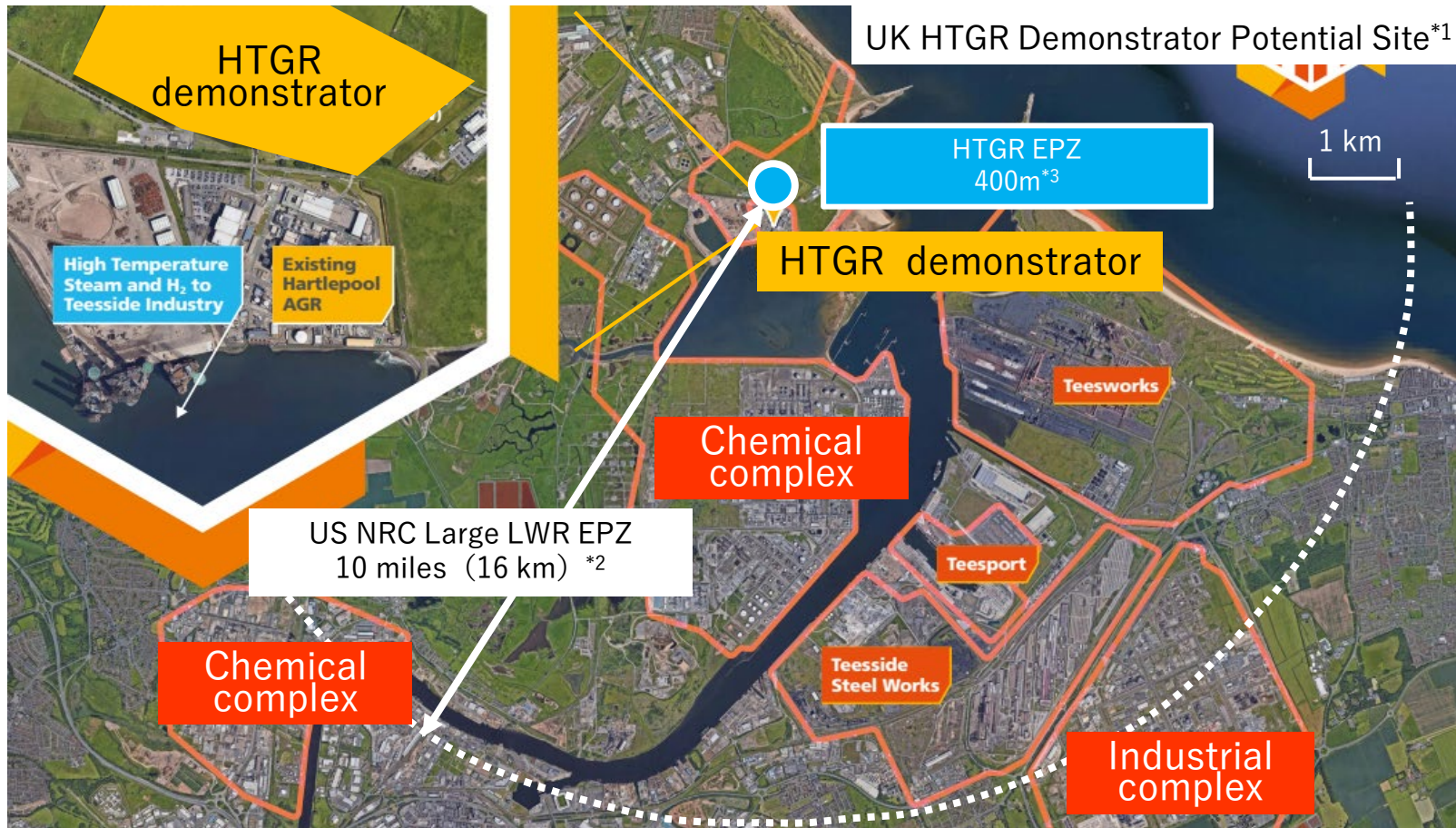
EDF-Energy flyer



HTGR Commercial Deployment Model – HTGR × Renewable –



Towards Collocation of HTGR with Industrial Complex



Superior safety enables collocation of HTGR with industrial complex

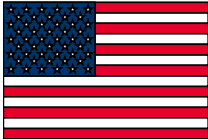



*1 EDF energy, <https://www.edfenergy.com/energywise/amr> (accessed on November 7, 2023)

*2 US NRC

*3 X-energy, X-energy's Xe-100 Reactor Design Status, National Academy of Sciences, May 26, 2021.

HTGR Development Projects around the World



USA 	<u>DOE support for HTGR development</u> (Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program, 2020~) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support construction of advanced reactors to have an operation by 2028 (750°C, Electric power 80MW)
UK 	<u>DESNZ support for HTGR development</u> (Advanced Modular Reactor R&D, demonstration program, 2022~) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UK government selected HTGR as a advanced modular reactor, and will have demonstration by the beginning of 2030s
Poland 	<u>Poland government support for HTGR project</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HTGR research reactor (750°C, Reactor thermal power 30MW) basic design started (2021)
China 	<u>China Energy Technology Innovation Action Plan 2016-2030</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• R&D using research reactor (700°C)• Demonstration reactor (750°C, Electric power 210MW) in operation (Grid connection : Dec. 2021, Full power operation, 2022)

- Increasing momentum in development projects worldwide towards HTGR commercial deployment
- No other project in the world aims to supply high temperature heat above 900°C that enables efficient H_2 production



1

Domestic H₂ production

Collocation of HTGR with industrial complex

2

Large-scale, stable H₂ production

High temperature heat supply above 900°C by HTGR

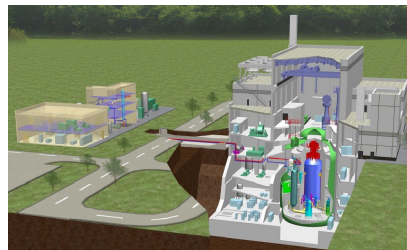
3

Carbon-free H₂ production

HTGR + Carbon-free H₂ plant

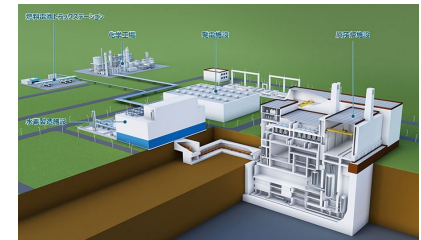
HTTR-heat application test

Establish coupling technologies between HTGR and H₂ plant



Demonstration reactor development

Demonstration of technical and economical feasibility



MHI www.mhi.com/jp/news/230725.html