

# X-energy's Lead in a Net-Zero Future

## Meeting Future Electron and Non-Electron Energy Demands

NRC's 2022 Virtual Regulatory Information Conference  
March 08, 2022



**Travis Chapman**

Licensing Manager

**Michael Melton**

Business Development Manager

**Guy Packard**

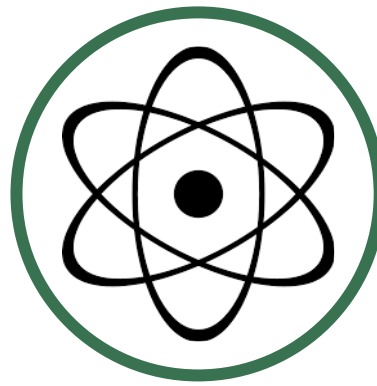
Business Development

# A New Era for Nuclear Energy

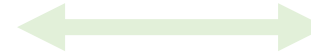
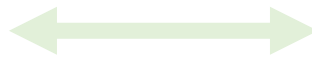
**Environmental  
Consciousness**



**Breakthrough  
Technology**



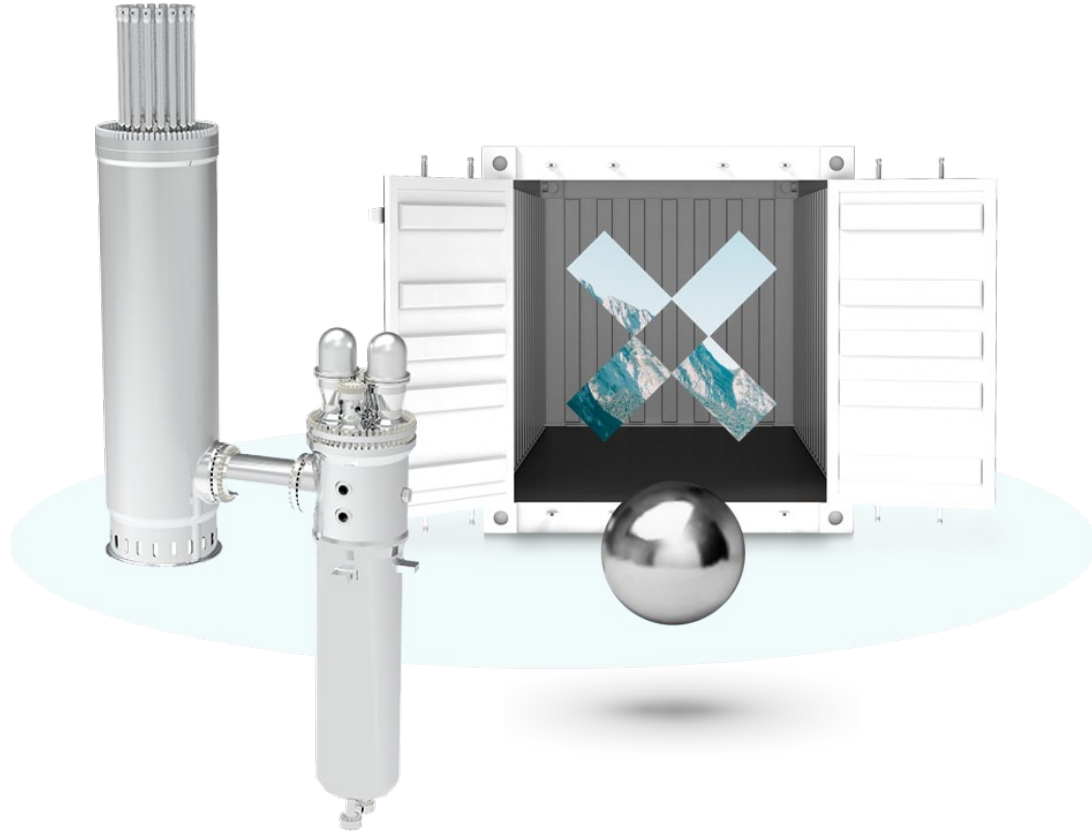
**Political  
Alignment**



**Unprecedented Convergence for  
Advanced SMR Deployment**



# We Design & Build Reactors and the Fuel That Powers Them



## Reactor: Xe-100

We're focused on Gen-IV High-Temperature Gas-cooled Reactors (HTGR) as the technology of choice, with advantages in sustainability, economics, reliability and safety.



## Reactor: Xe-Mobile

To address the need for ground, sea and air transportable small power production. We've developed reactor concepts with potential civilian government, remote community and critical infrastructure applications.



## Fuel: TRISO-X

Our reactors use tri-structural isotropic (TRISO) particle fuel, developed and improved over 60 years. We manufacture our own proprietary version (TRISO-X) to ensure supply and quality control.

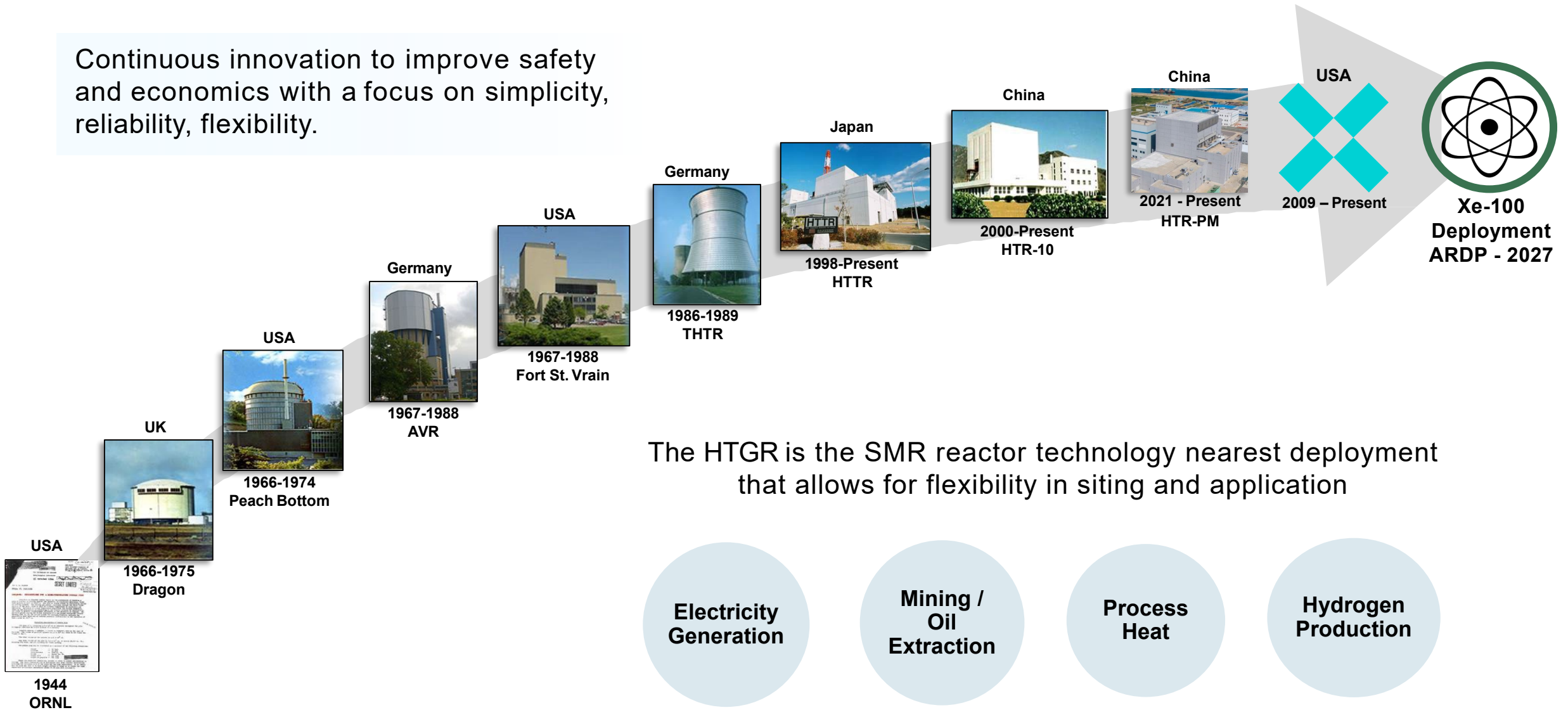


## Space Applications

NASA, DOE, and DOD are exploring our technology and fuel for nuclear thermal propulsion and fission power for the lunar surface.

# HTGR's Leverage Proven Technology with Novel Flexibility

Continuous innovation to improve safety and economics with a focus on simplicity, reliability, flexibility.



Relying on inherently safe designs allows for a drastic reduction of components.

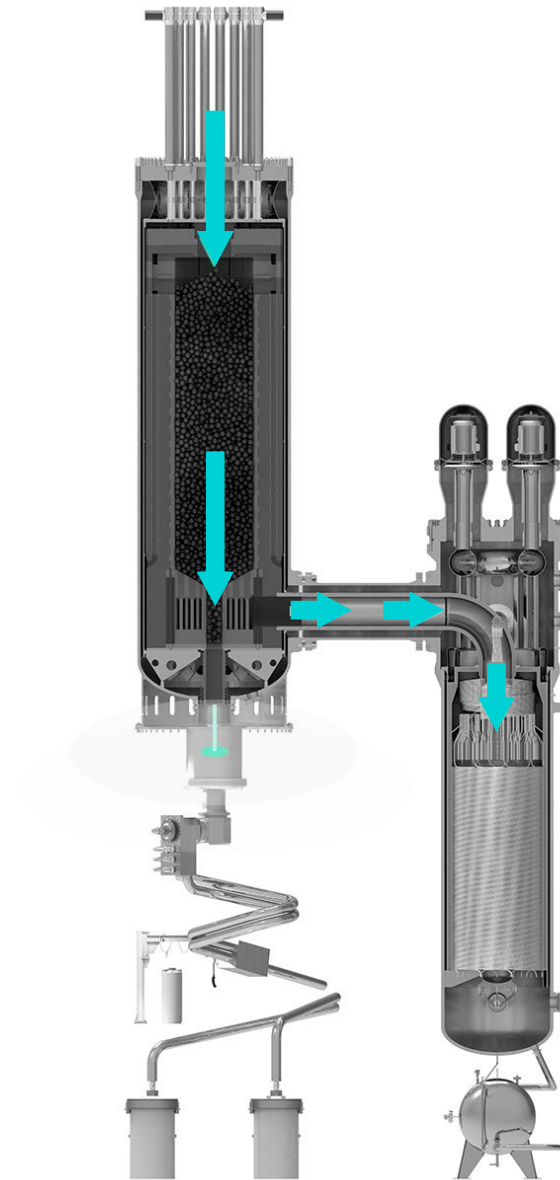
Reduction of components enables predictability on costs & significant reduction of regulation barriers.

## Why is this important?

- Allows us to revolutionize the way turnkey nuclear reactor solutions are delivered.
- Reduced cost of upfront engineering effort.
- Higher certainty on construction cost and timelines equates to lower risk.
- 4 modules optimized for the 'sweet-spot' size—320 MWe with load-following capabilities similar to a natural-gas plant.
- Deployment for electricity or process heat supports **Deep Decarbonization**.



**1/10<sup>th</sup> the components of a traditional nuclear plant**



**Xe-100 Reactor (80 MWe)**



**Pebble Fuel Element**  
(60mm)

**TRISO Fuel particle**  
(≈1mm)

**We manufacture our own proprietary TRISO encapsulated fuel (TRISO-X) to ensure supply & quality control.**

The U.S. DOE describes TRISO fuel as “the most robust nuclear fuel on Earth,” it retains waste and fission products within the fuel during ALL conditions, even worst-case accidents and cannot melt.

## Why is this important?

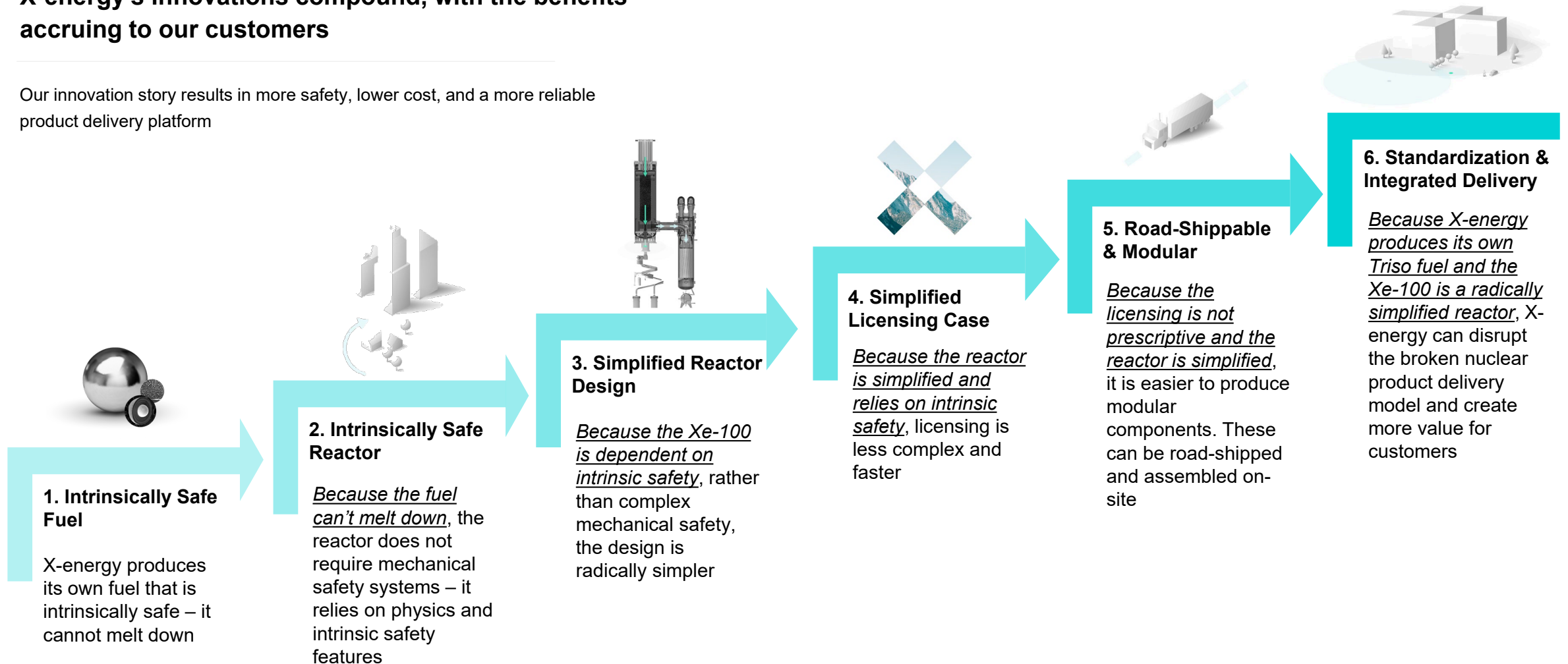
- Because TRISO-X Fuel IS the containment vessel we will have no more expensive, gigantic concrete & steel structures to build, maintain and decommission.
- TRISO Fuel has 40+ years of prototype and full-scale demonstration reactors.  
**This is a proven safety approach.**
- The low reactor power density and self-regulating core design (i.e., if cooling stops, the core shuts down), ensures the reactor is always ‘walk-away safe.’

 **Physics, not mechanical systems, ensures 100% of safety.**



## X-energy's innovations compound, with the benefits accruing to our customers

Our innovation story results in more safety, lower cost, and a more reliable product delivery platform



# Competitive Position Reinforced by ARDP

X-energy's selection for the DOE's Advanced Reactor Development Program ("ARDP") represents a critical advantage that cannot be replicated

## ARDP Overview

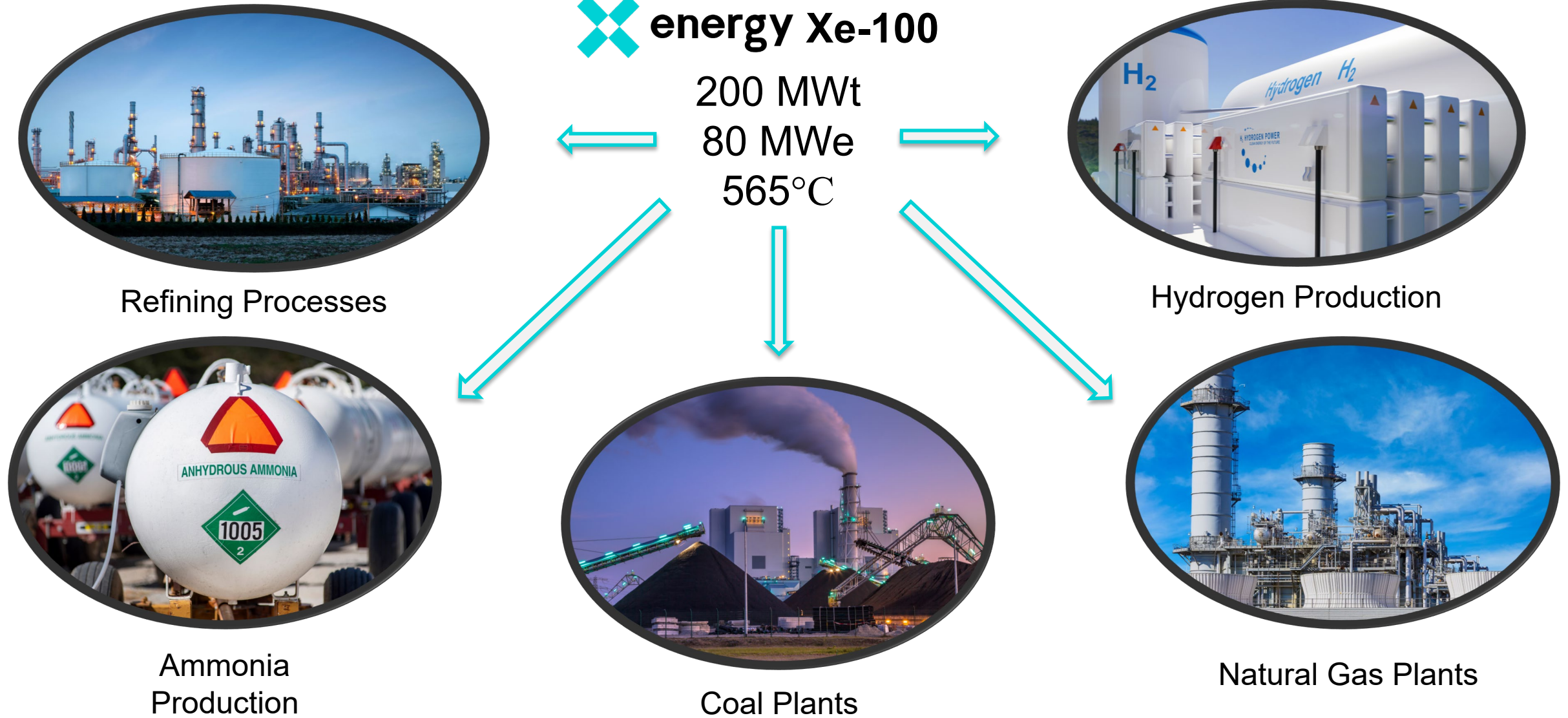
- In May 2020, the DOE announced the ARDP to speed the transition of next generation nuclear reactors from concept to demonstration through cost-share partnerships
- In October 2020, X-energy was selected to deliver a commercial a first-of-a-kind advanced nuclear plant with Energy Northwest<sup>1</sup> as well as a commercial TRISO-X fuel fabrication facility
- ***The program provides 50% cost share on all costs to deliver the first plant***



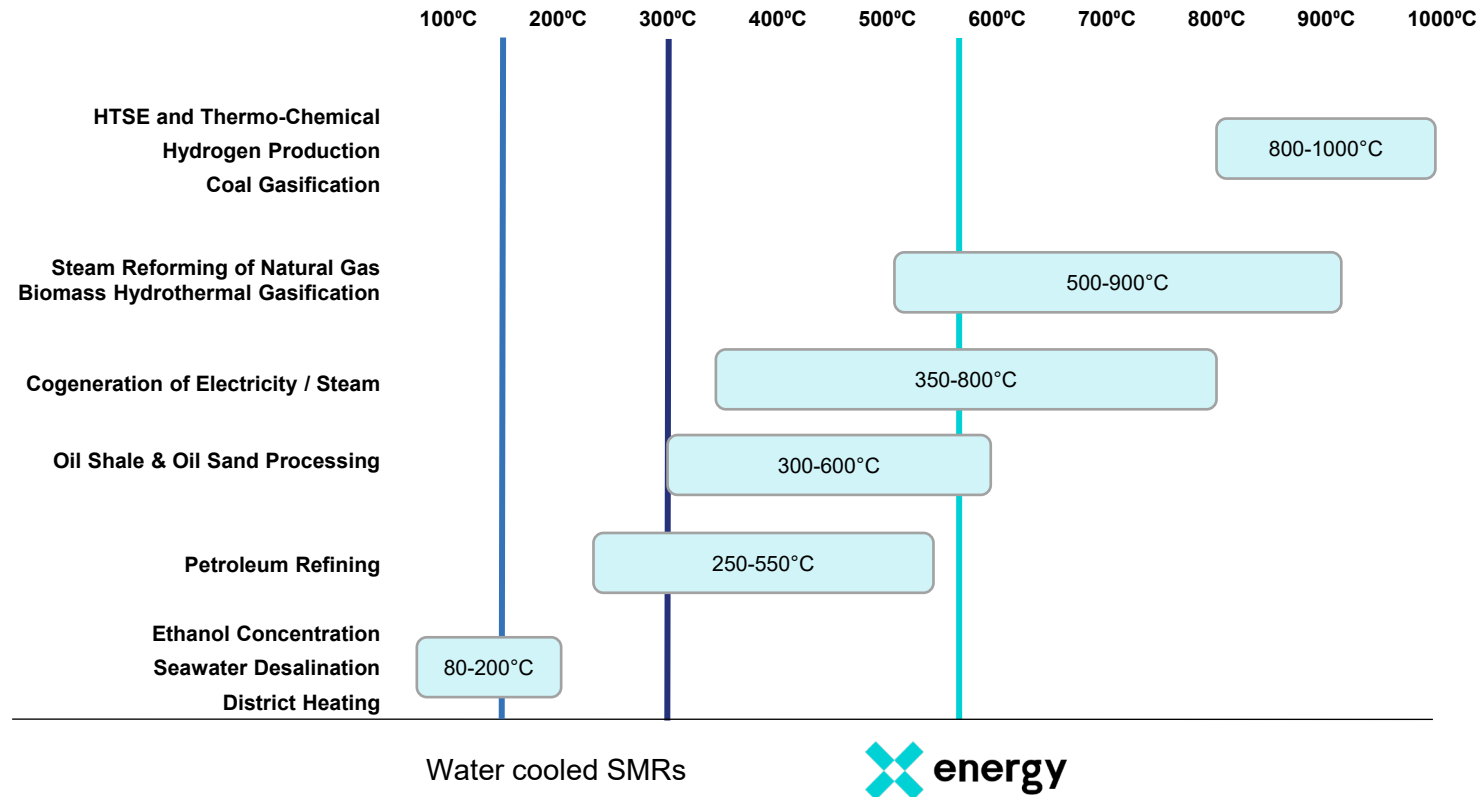
## What ARDP Selection Means to X-energy

- ✓ **Recognition from the DOE as an advanced reactor technology of choice**
- ✓ **Secures first customer deployment**
  - Partnered with Energy Northwest to deploy with one of the public utility districts
  - Customer also benefits from the 50% cost share on their development and construction costs
- ✓ **Provides \$1.2 billion in funding from the DOE**
  - Fully funds all remaining design, licensing and commercialization milestones of the reactor
  - Funds the completion of the first TRISO-X fuel fabrication facility
- ✓ **Strengthens DOE's support of the advancement of TRISO fuel**
  - Exemplifies the DOE's commitment to scaling TRISO fuel production in the U.S.
  - We are the only advanced reactor company producing TRISO fuel





# Positioned to Decarbonize Industrial Processes

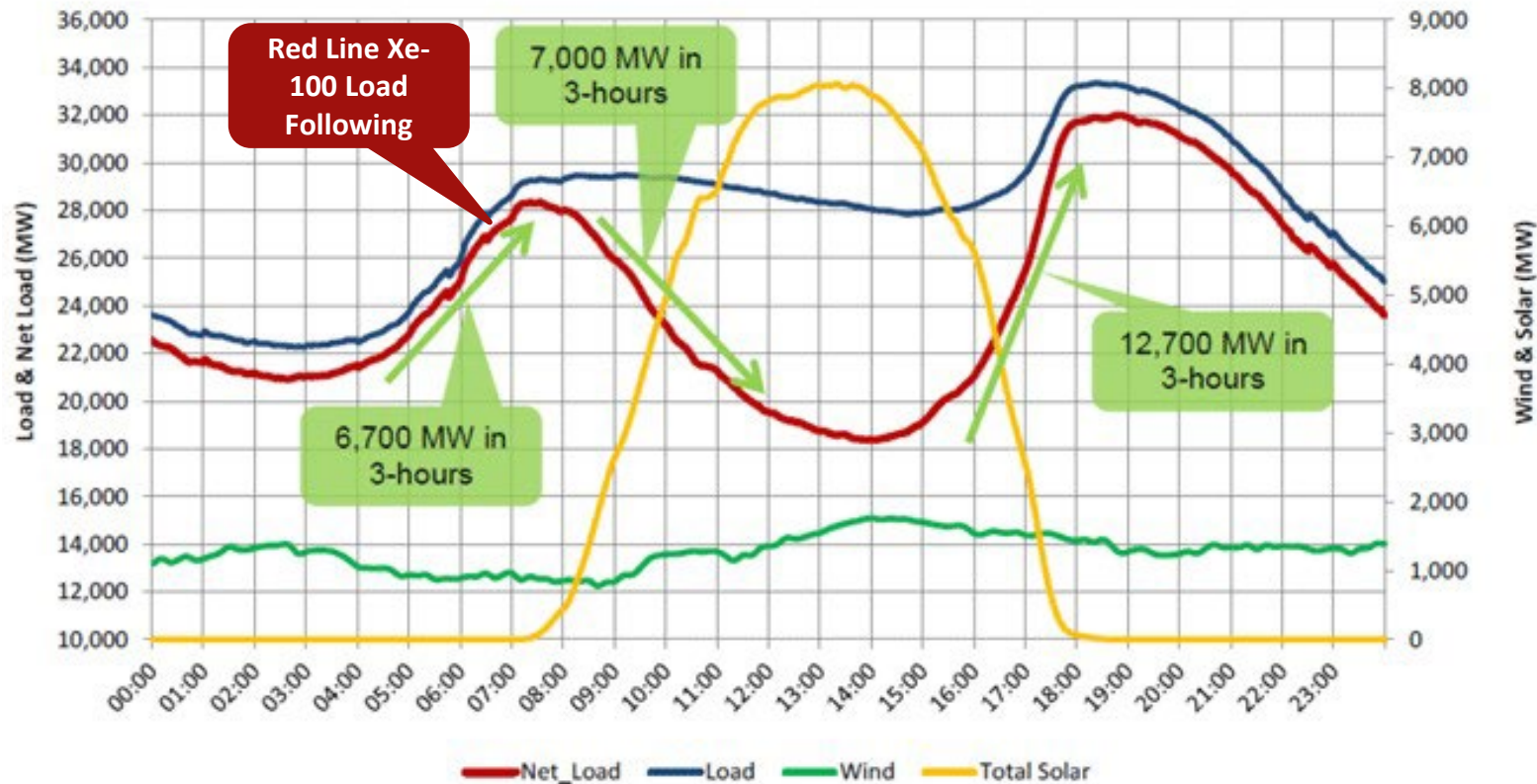




Ramp rate of 5% per minute, up or down between 40-100% power



Provides grid resiliency and stability for intermittent renewables



## **Cogeneration and industrial process heat**

- How are we preparing to bring in non-traditional customers that desire nuclear options, but are not existing nuclear users?

## **Economics of deregulated markets**

- Highly dependent on predictability and timeliness of licensing activities

## **Peaking and renewables integration**

- Depends on load-follow technology capability and license-ability of automation

## **Integrated end-to-end solution providers**

- Design, license, fabricate/construct, deliver, operate, service, decommission as part of a PPA: the user just wants power
- Impact on how [and on whom] regulatory oversight is conducted

## Functional Containment & Mechanistic Source Terms

- Defending the technical adequacy of barriers other than a pressure-retaining containment structure to fulfill the safety function of radionuclide retention (i.e., TRISO-coated particles)
- Providing evidence, verification, and validation that current modeling/analysis capabilities can predict radionuclide production, release, retention, and transport characteristics

## Fuel Qualification

- Developing the bases for new fuel forms that adequately establish safe performance envelopes
- Verification and validation of fuel performance codes



## Licensing Basis Event Identification & Safety Classification Approaches

- For reactor designs with less operating experience, using probabilistic and deterministic methods for establishing:
  - What events are postulated to occur?
  - How likely are they to occur?
  - What are the consequences?

## Emergency Planning Requirements (and Expectations)

- Current requirements enforce planning zones in the community for emergency preparedness and response to radiological accidents
- Many advanced reactors can demonstrate significantly reduced needs for those zones (both in size and postulated consequences)
- Leads to possibility of siting plants much closer to the end-user



- Communications
- Establish a Regulatory engagement plan with expectations and performance metrics for both sides to use
- Task and Resource Planning
- Identify policy issues early for resolution planning
- Identify potential technical challenging review areas and planned exemptions early
- Leverage consensus Codes and Standards
- Leverage the Licensing Topical Report review process
- Pro-active engagement with the Advisory Committee on Reactor Safeguards (ACRS)
- Regular periodic Executive briefings









**Michael Melton**  
mmelton@x-energy.com

**Guy Packard**  
gpackard@x-energy.com