

Development and Qualification of Advanced Fuel Designs for the Natrium™* and Molten Chloride Fast Reactor Designs

James Vollmer Senior Manager, Fuel Development & Qualification

*A TerraPower & GE-Hitachi Technology

Fuel Development and Qualification Efforts

- Since our inception in 2008 TerraPower has actively been working on advancing fuel designs including metallic fuels for the Traveling Wave Reactor (TWR®) and Natrium reactor designs and molten salt fuels for the Molten Chloride Fast Reactor (MCFR) designs
- Active engagement with the NRC to advance our fuel qualification strategies
- Advanced Fuel Qualification Methodology effort was funded by the Department of Energy through a regulatory assistance grant to help TerraPower refine our approach for metallic fuel qualification by supporting early engagement with the NRC (ML20209A155, ML20316A038, ML21057A008)
- Four total documents prepared as part of this effort:
 - 1) Overall fuel qualification methodology, 2) Fuel Assembly Qualification Plan, 3) Type 1 Fuel
 Pin Qualification Plan (host fuel), and 4) Type 1B Fuel Pin Qualification Plan (advanced fuel)



Advancing Metallic Fuel Designs

Cladding

Bond Sodium

Fuel

Fuel Pin Cross-Sections

U-10Zr 75% Smear Density

EBR-II*

(Mk IV)

5.84mm

FFTF*

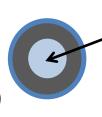
(MFF)

6.86mm

Host Fuel (Type 1)

>6.86mm

Commercial Advanced Fuel (Type 1B)



He-filled
Central Pore
Fuel-Cladding
Chemical

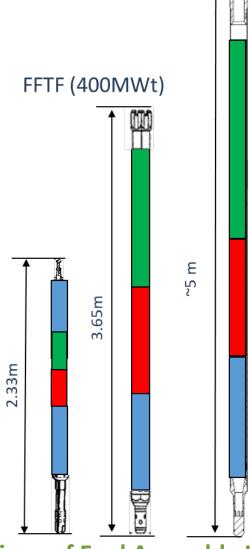
Interaction Barrier

Pins Arranged in Hexagonal Assembly Surrounded by a Duct



*EBR-II: Experimental Breeder Reactor II

*FFTF: Fast-Flux Test Facility



Comparison of Fuel Assembly Heights



Natrium Fuel Qualification Path

Type 1/Host Fuel Activities

Qualification of Existing EBR-II Fuel Data Post-Irradiation Exams on Historic FFTF/MFF Pins

Irradiation Test
Comparing Historic
and New Na-Bonded
Fuels

Transient Testing of Irradiated FFTF/MFF Pins

Natrium Reactor

Type 1B/Advanced Fuel Activities

Advanced Test Reactor (ATR) Tests of Type 1B

Fuel

Transient Testing of Fresh and Irradiated Advanced Fuel Pins

Lead Test Assembly
Testing of Advanced Fuels
in Natrium Reactor

Commercial Natrium
Reactors

Host and Advanced Fuel Testing Activities Being Performed in Parallel



Natrium Program Roadmap





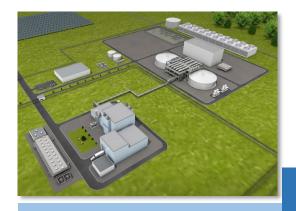
U.S. legacy sodium-cooled fast reactor experience, PRISM and TWR® development

1980s-2019

Natrium
Plant
(345 MWe \rightarrow 500 MWe)

Commercial Plant Economics +Energy Storage & Peaking Capability

2021-2028



Natrium
Commercial Series I
(345 MWe → 500 MWe)

3 yr. Construction +Energy Storage & Peaking Capability

2028-2030s









Commercial Series II+ (Up to GWe scale)

Commercial Series I Benefits

+Depleted Uranium

Breed-and-Burn

+Potential Used Nuclear Fuel

Recycling

+Potential Pu Disposition

+Zero-Carbon Process Heat

~2040s



