

# TRISO-X Overview

## RadWaste Summit 2025

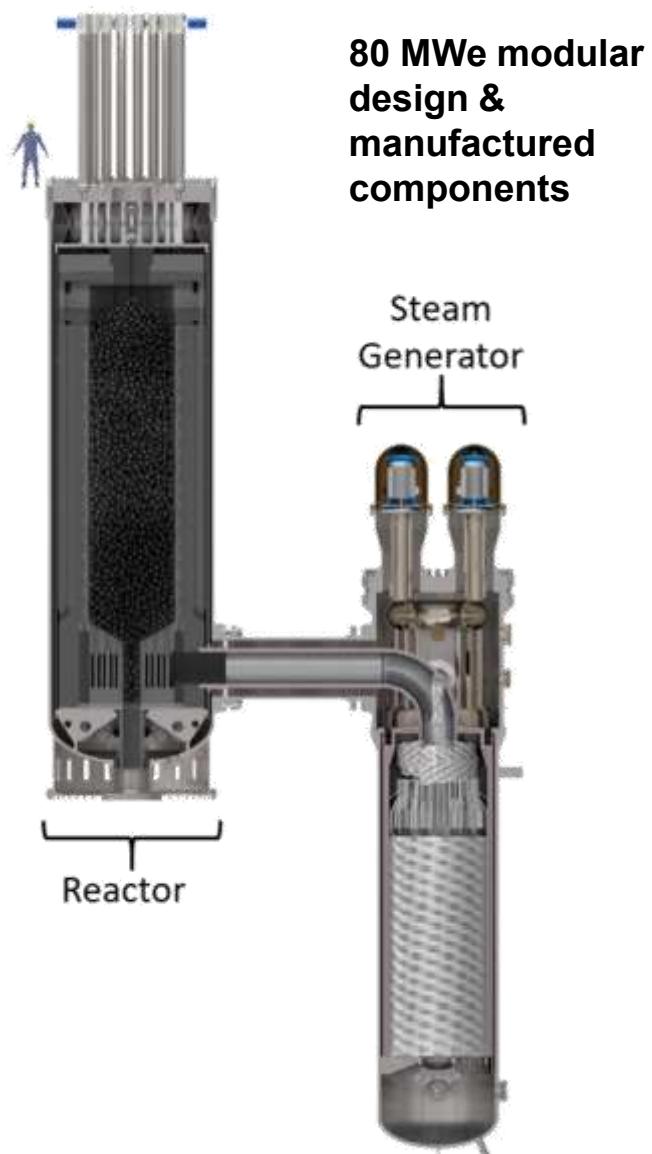
Gary L. Bell, Ph.D.  
Vice President



**June 12, 2025**



# Intrinsic Safety: Simple Design



**Xe-100 does not require active systems or operator actions to ensure safety. All safety functions are intrinsic to the design.**

Current-generation LWR reactors require many active safety systems—operator action, water pumps, back-up electric power, etc.—to prevent the reactor from melting down.

## The Xe-100 Advantage

- Uncomplicated layout utilizing natural features to ensure safety. No need for complex safety systems.
- More automated operations and fewer personnel.
- Turbine generator can be air- or water-cooled—affording geographic siting flexibility.
- 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.’
- Much smaller site footprint and operational impact to surrounding area.
- Allows us to revolutionize the way turnkey nuclear reactor solutions are delivered.
- Reduced cost of upfront engineering and licensing 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.

➡ **Allows Xe-100 to be co-located with Industrial user**

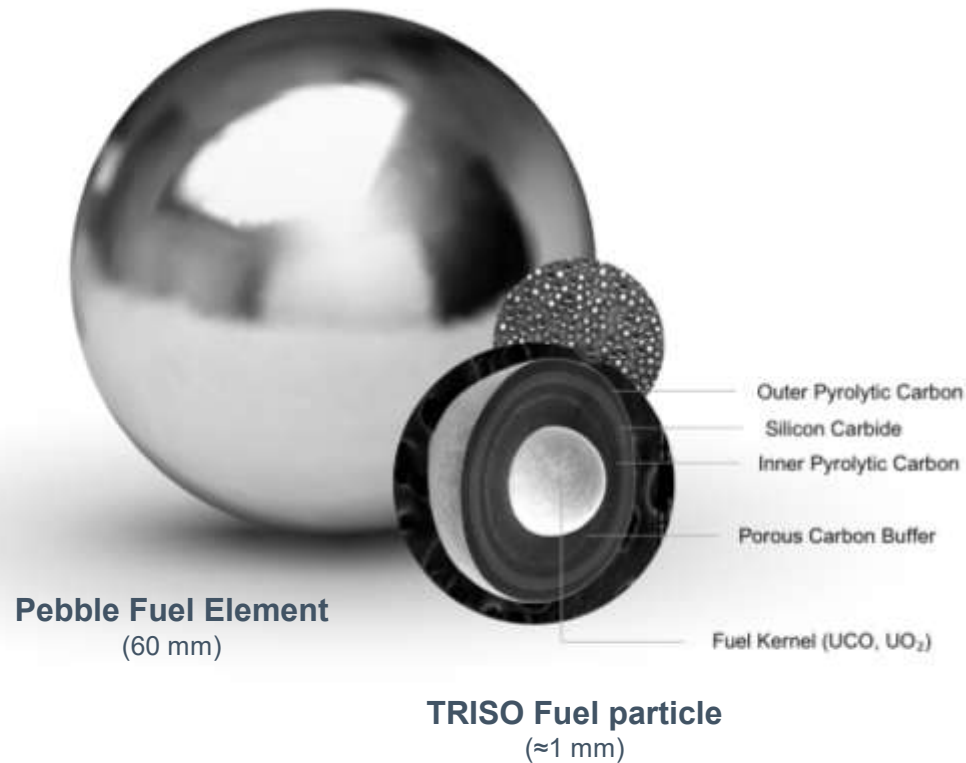


# North America's First Nuclear-Powered Industrial Site

The Dow Chemical Company, UCC Seadrift Operations, Seadrift, Texas



# Intrinsic Safety: Tri-structural Isotropic (TRISO) Fuel



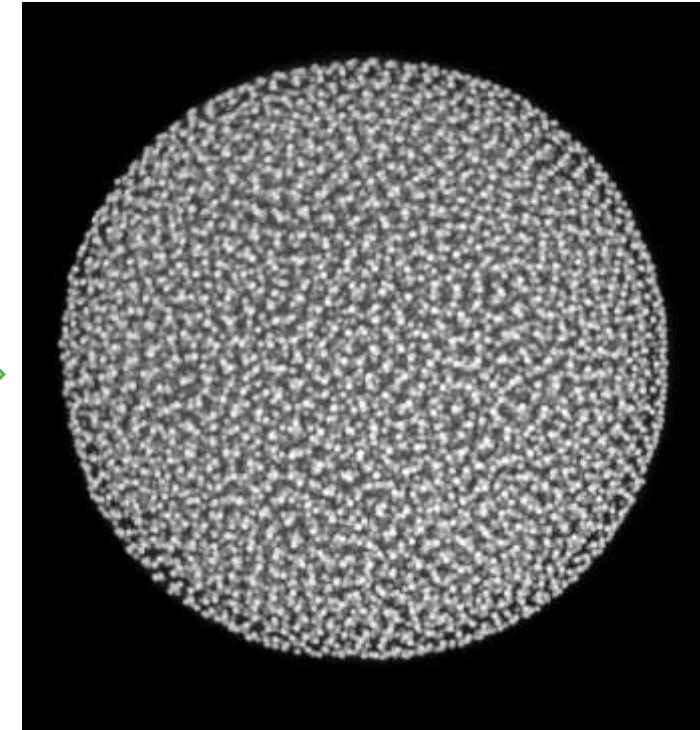
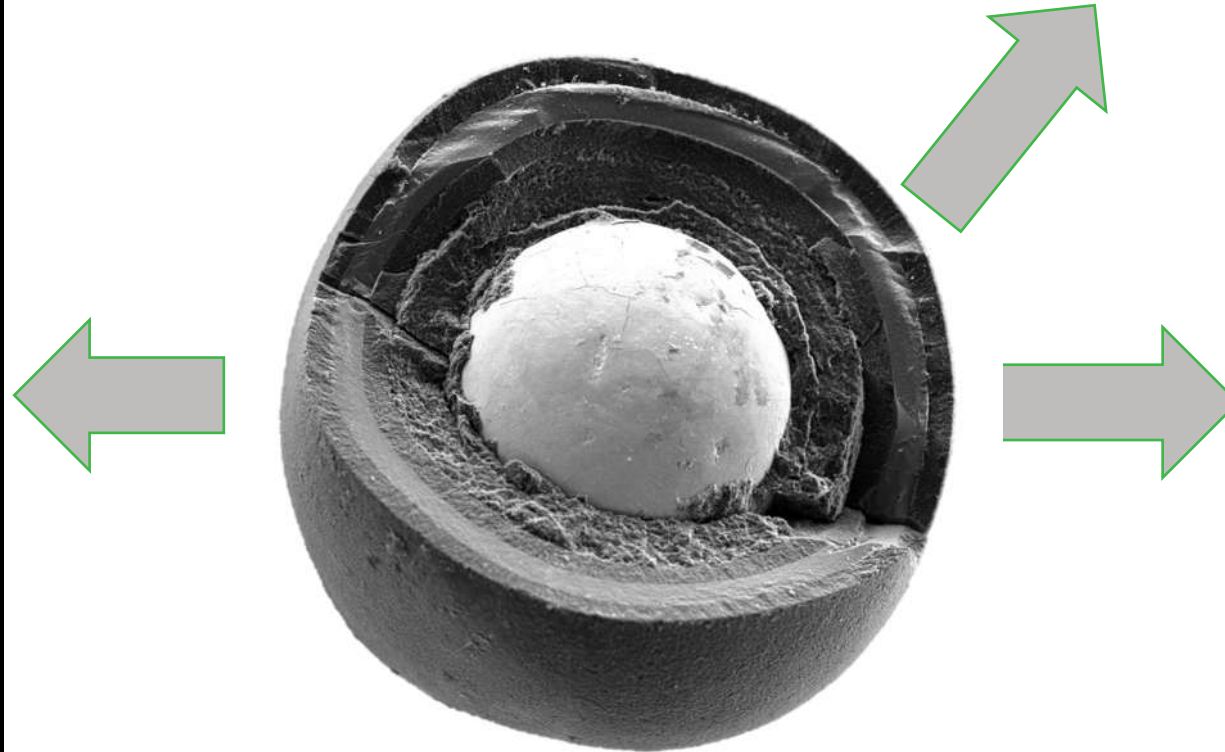
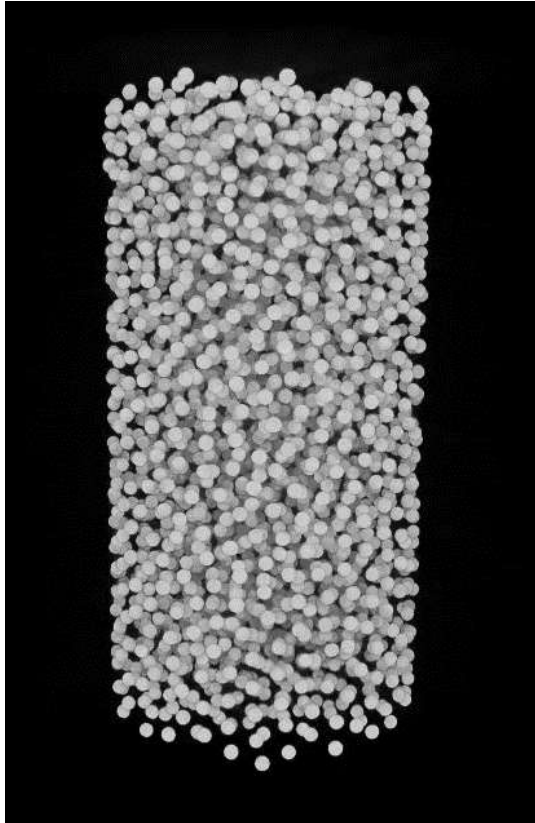
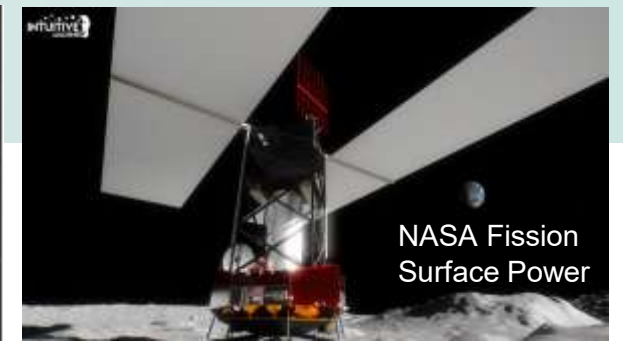
- **TRISO-X manufactures TRISO encapsulated fuel** to ensure supply of high-quality advanced reactor fuel. TRISO fuel has a 60+ year demonstrated track record through prototype and full-scale reactors
- HALEU-based fuel like TRISO increases burnup and efficiency, which decreases costs
- Because **TRISO Fuel IS a containment vessel and is designed not to melt**, the Xe-100 does not require large, expensive concrete & steel containment structures
- The low reactor power density and self-regulating core design means that if cooling stops, the core naturally shuts down. This **prevents the reactor from melting under foreseeable adverse conditions and requires no operator actions under such adverse conditions**
- **Physics, not mechanical systems, ensures safety**

**The Department of Energy describes TRISO fuel as “the most robust nuclear fuel on Earth”**  
*It retains waste and fission products within the fuel during all foreseeable adverse conditions, even worst-case accidents, and it is designed not to melt*





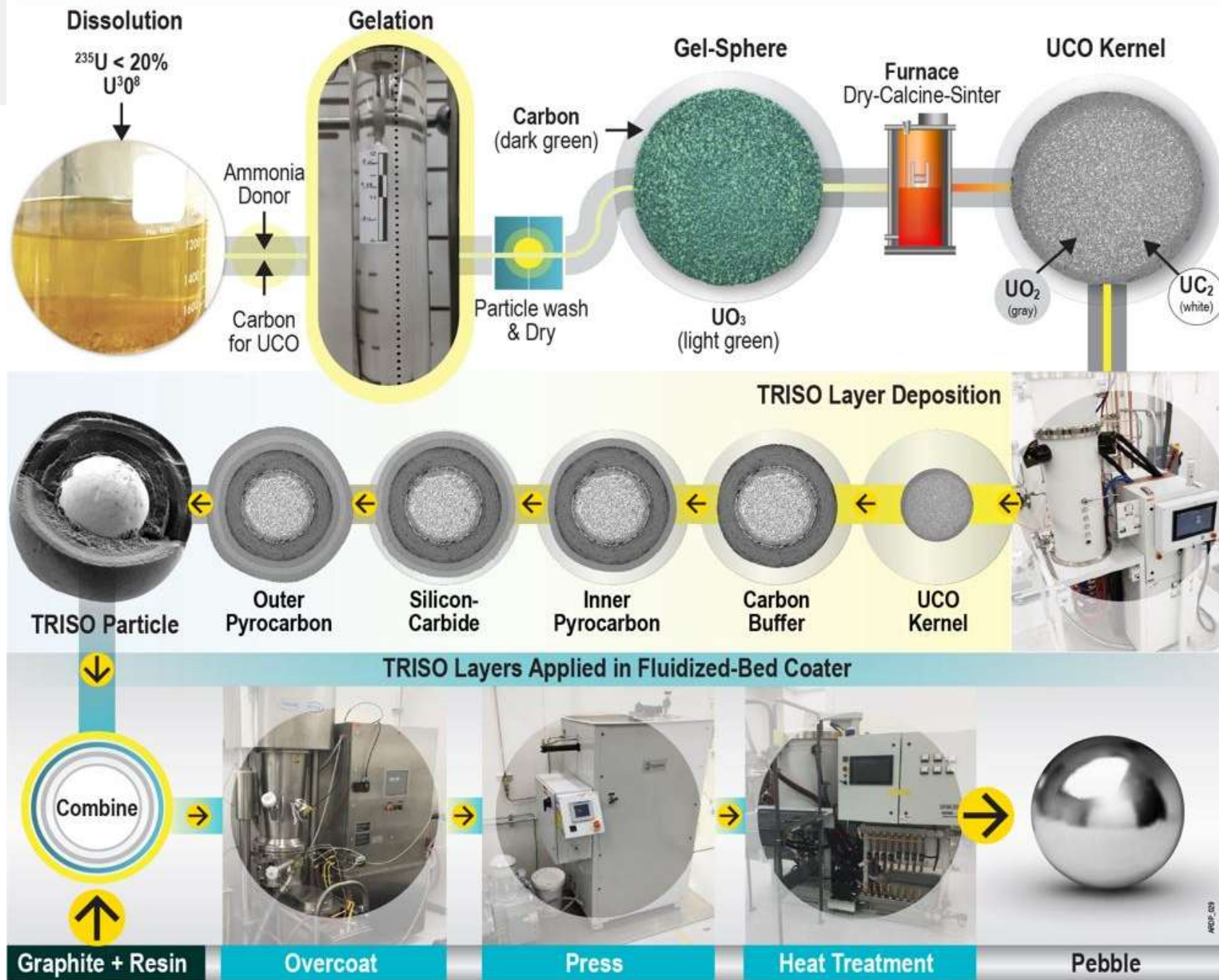
## Cross-cutting Nature of Encapsulated Fuel



***TRISO Coated Particles Support Multiple Reactor or Propulsion Designs***



# TRISO Fuel Fabrication







# TRISO-X, Oak Ridge, Tennessee



TRISO-X Corporate  
Office  
151 Lafayette Dr



TRISO-X Fuel Fabrication  
Campus  
Horizon Center



TRISO-X Pilot Facility at  
Oak Ridge National  
Laboratory







# TX-1 Facility Overview

- 5 MTU/yr, 715,000 pebbles/yr (~1957 pebbles/day)
- 80% equipment utilization
- Footprint: 350 ft x 560 ft
- 214,812 sq. ft. total
- 110 Acres at the Horizon Center Industrial Park in Oak Ridge, Tennessee
- 1.6M pebble storage capacity
- Supports ~11 Xe-100s operating at steady state
- Projected staff count: 463
- Power In: 12.5 MW
- Baseline 1<sup>st</sup> pebble: 12/6/27

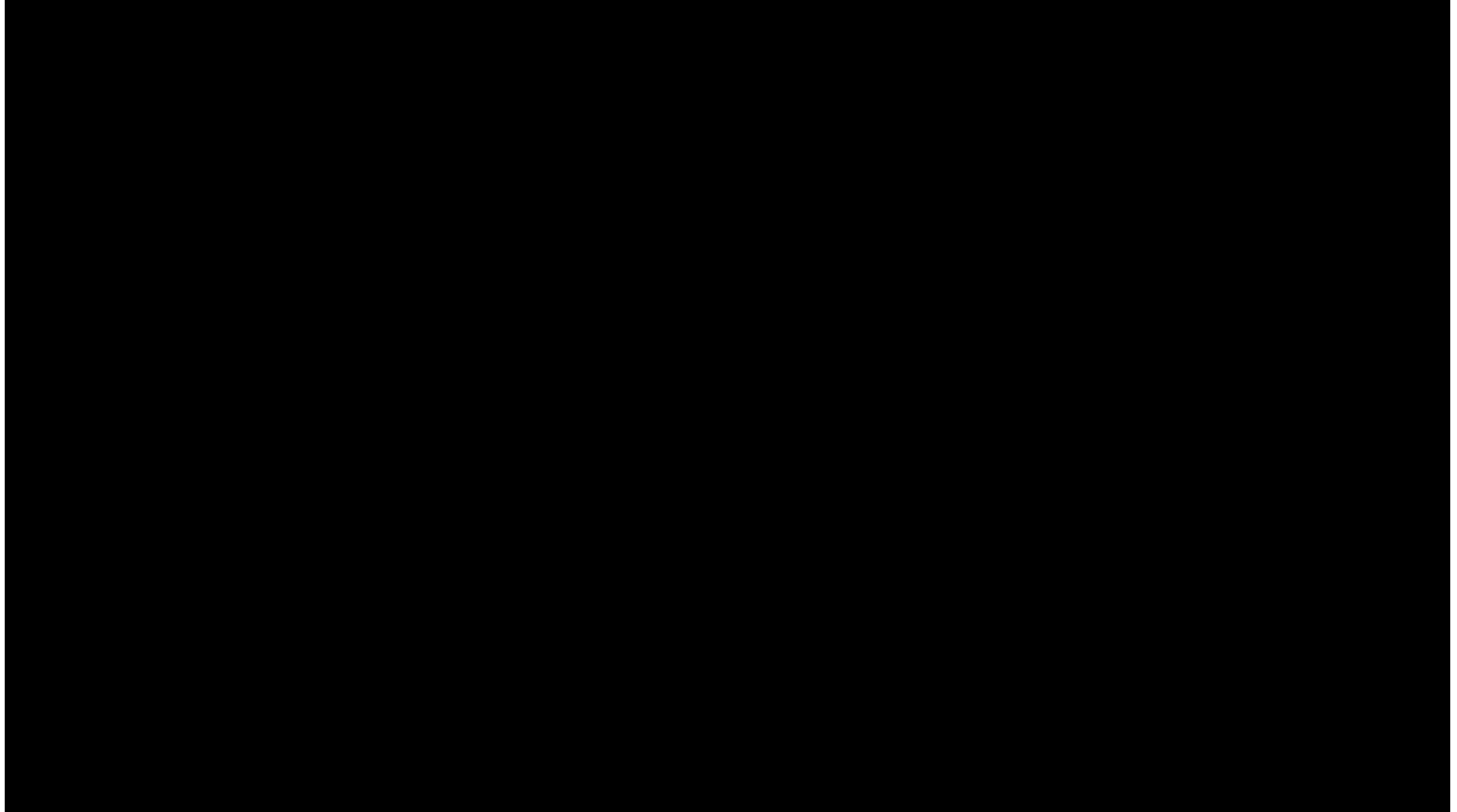


**TX-1 is being developed in partnership with the DOE Office of Nuclear Energy under it's Advanced Reactor Demonstration Program**





## TRISO-X, Oak Ridge, Tennessee





# TRISO-X License Application Review

## NRC Review Project Status Summary



## 19 Technical Focus Areas



Meetings (Jan 2023 – May 2025)	Documents Submitted to NRC	Requests for Additional Information (RAIs)	Pages of RAI responses
107	7 (1640 pages)	145	450+

<https://www.nrc.gov/info-finder/fc/triso-x/project-status.html>



- We aim to Reduce and Recycle to the maximum extent economically feasible.
- All waste generated in the Radiologically Controlled Area will be disposed of as either mixed waste or low-level radioactive waste.
- We will not perform waste processing activities. We will:
  - Employ waste compaction of dry active waste.
  - Solidify liquid waste with an absorbent material.
  - Use a waste broker to coordinate waste shipments to off-site disposal facilities.
- TX-1 is to be a Zero Liquid Discharge facility.
  - Liquid waste will be solidified with absorbent material for off-site burial.
  - The one exception is for mixed waste generated in the Quality Control Lab (e.g., mercury porosimeter, density columns, and materialographic mounts) that will require off-site processing.
- The expectation is that our waste will leave the facility in either 55-gallon drums or B-25 boxes.
- When we have sufficient operational data, we plan to get our waste classified under the Tennessee Bulk Survey for Release (BSFR) Program. We expect to secure operational data for 6 – 24 months to provide objective evidence to enable disposal under the BSFR Program.

## TX-1 & Future TX-2







## Additional information

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# X-energy: at a glance

## Background

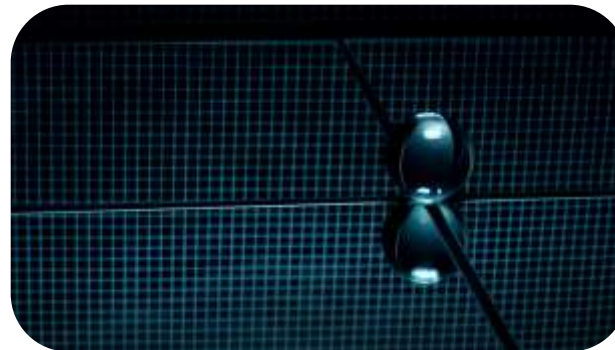
- Advanced modular reactor and fuel designer/ manufacturer
- Founded in 2009 by space + energy industrialist Kam Ghaffarian
- 15 years of investment and development in pebble-bed, high temperature gas reactor technology
- >400 Employees Including 40+ PhDs and 40+ Masters in Engineering / Science. Up to 1000 people working on first project

## Locations

- HQ in Rockville, Maryland, USA
- Offices in Birchwood Park, Warrington, UK and Toronto, Canada
- Commercial fuel fabrication plant under construction in Oak Ridge, Tennessee
- Xe-100 projects in Texas and Washington State

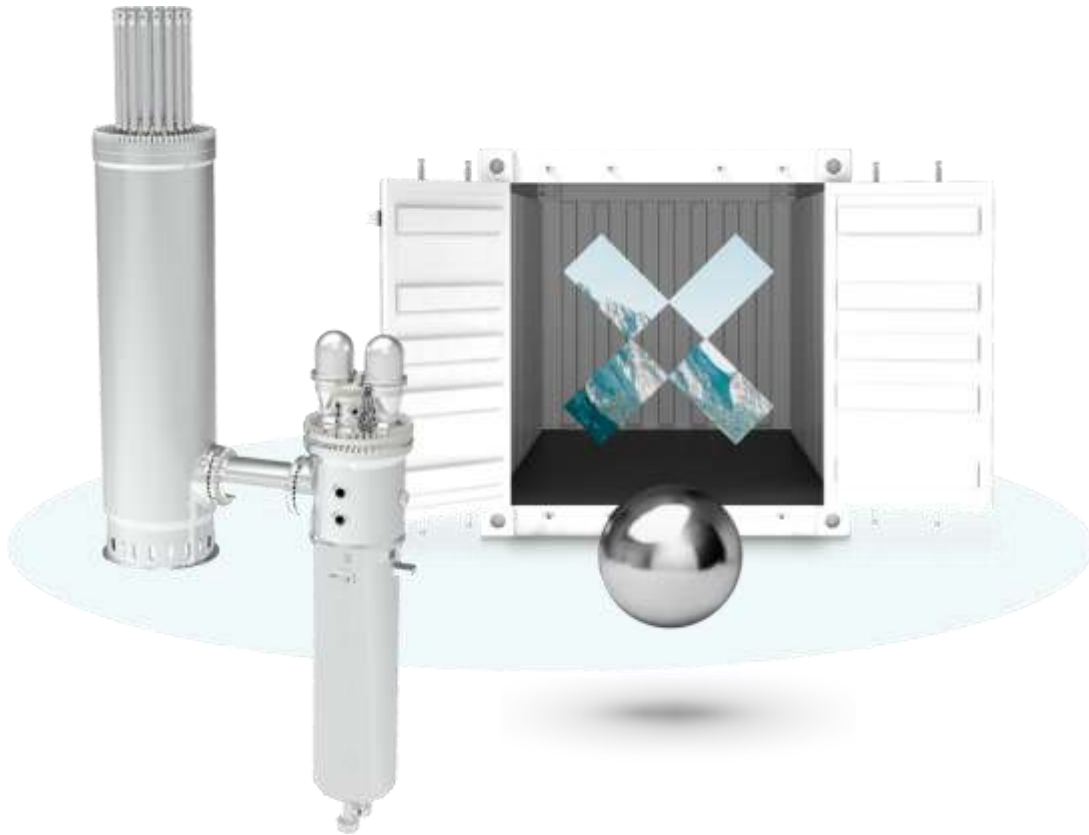
## Funding

- \$1.2bn Federal Funding (Advanced Reactor Development Program, including fuel)
- \$1.1bn private investment to date
- Plus \$150m additional tax credit funding for fuel manufacture





# 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

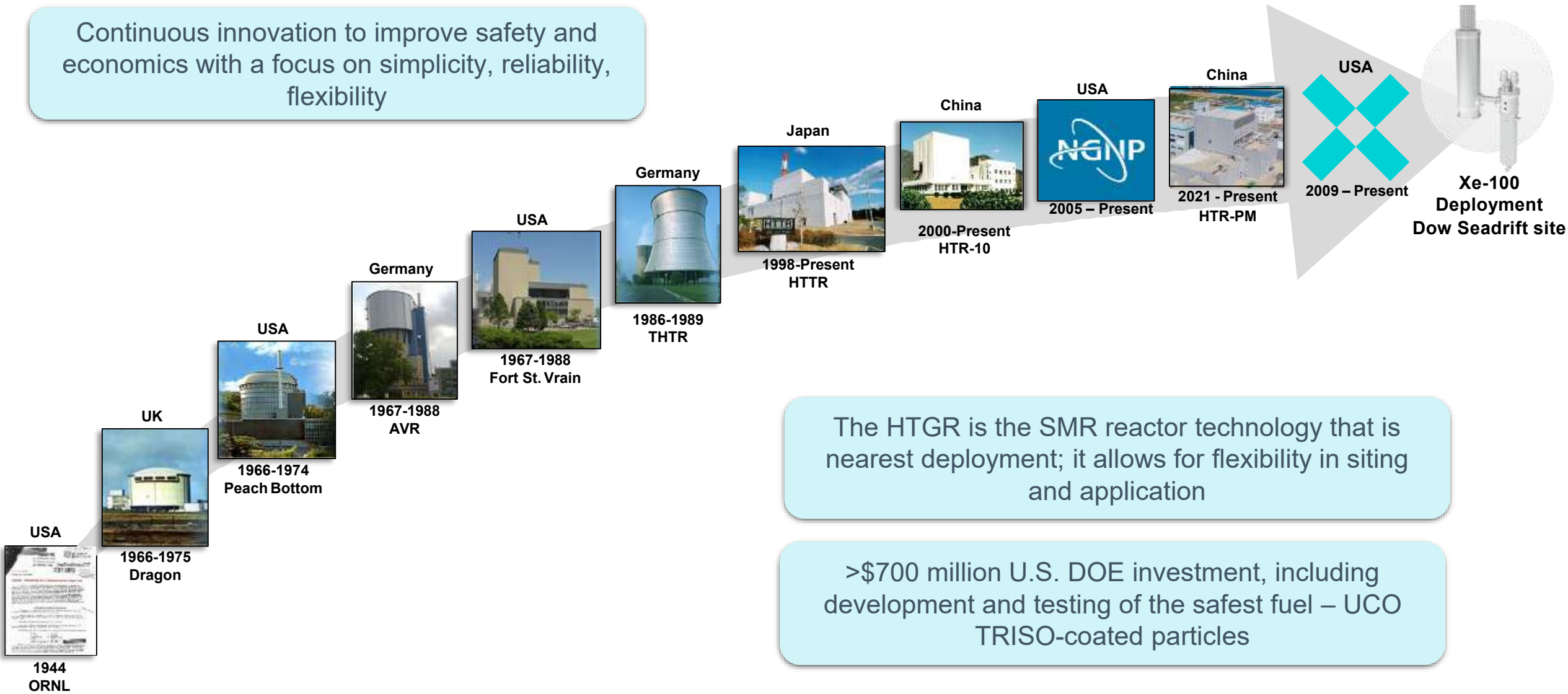
Our reactors use tri-structural isotropic (TRISO) particle fuel, developed and improved over 60 years. TRISO-X is a wholly owned subsidiary of X-energy. The mission of TRISO-X is to ensure supply of high-quality fuel to meet advanced reactor needs.



## Space Applications

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

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







# Construction Progress

May 20, 2025







# Construction Progress



*November 11, 2025*



*May 6, 2025*



DOE's Advanced Reactor Development Program ("ARDP") is a critical advantage for U.S. Nuclear Leadership

## ARDP Overview

1. Construct and Operate the First of a Kind commercial scale 4-unit nuclear power plant at a Dow Chemical site at Seadrift, Texas
2. Construct a commercial scale, NRC Category 2 TRISO Fuel Fabrication Facility to support the newly constructed NPP and to validate a First-of-a-Kind market-ready supply chain

*The program provides 50% cost share on all costs to deliver the first plant*

## Our ARDP Project With Dow

### Dow Seadrift Operations Project

4-reactor Xe-100 Plant (320MWe)



## What ARDP Selection Means to X-energy

- ✓ DOE recognition as an advanced reactor technology of choice
  - Selected out of ~50 applicants
- ✓ Secures first customer deployment
  - Partnered with Dow Chemical to deploy the first advanced small modular nuclear reactor at an industrial site
    - Will use steam and electricity
  - Customer also benefits from 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, including overnight CAPEX
  - Funds the completion of the first TRISO-X fuel fabrication facility
- ✓ Strengthens DOE's support of the advancement of TRISO fuel
  - ARDP funds the first TRISO fuel commercial manufacturing facility
  - Exemplifies the DOE's commitment to scaling TRISO fuel production in the U.S.