Small and Modular Nuclear Reactors: The Hyperion Power Module 2010 Advanced Energy Conference

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8 November 2010



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Reactor Sizes

Large Traditional Light Water Reactors: • AP1000, EPR

Medium-Sized Reactors: <700 MWe • CANDU, NGNP

Small & Modular Reactors (SMR): <300 MWePRISM, NuScale, mPower

Mini Power Reactors (MPR): <50 MWe • HPM, 4S



HPM Applications

Niche Markets

- Remote off-grid community power
- Dedicated power
 - hospitals, factories, foundries, government centers, water treatment, irrigation, universities
- Baseload for renewable energy
- Remote mining, oil production & refining
- Military facilities

Operations subject to regulatory authority of host country

Market Goal: generate electricity for < US\$0.10 per kWh anywhere in the world



Initial Market Pull



HPM Key Characteristics

1. Transportable

• 1.5 x 2.5 meter unit fits into standard fuel transport container

2. Safety

- All credible accident scenarios resolved within the design
- Underground siting safe from natural & manmade events
- Lead bismuth (LBE) is non-reactive in air and water, and provides shielding during transport

3. Minimal In-core Components

- Operational reliability is enhanced by the reduction of moving mechanical parts
- Market Goal: Generate electricity for < US \$0.10 per kwh
- Each unit will generate approximately 70MWt and 25MWe
- Overnight costs at \$2,000 \$4,000 per KW capacity

4. Sealed Core – Safe and Secure

- Factory sealed
- No in-field refueling
- Operates at ambient pressure; no pressure vessel
- 5. Operational Simplicity
- Operation limited to reactivity adjustments to maintain constant temperature output

6. Isolated Power Production

- Steam and electric components separated from reactor for maintenance & safety
- Allows existing generation facilities to be retrofitted (HPM replaces heat source)



Hyperion Power Module Conceptual Plant Configuration



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HPM Technical Overview

Reactor Power	70MW thermal
Electrical Output	25MW electric
Lifetime	7 – 10 years
Size (meters)	1.5w x 2.5h
Weight (tonnes)	Less than 50 (Incl. vessel, fuel and
	primary coolant LBE)
Structural Material	HT-9 or T-91
Coolant	LBE (45% Pb, 55% Bi wt%)
Fuel	HT-9 or T-91 clad, uranium nitride
Enrichment (% U-235)	<20%
Refuel on Site	No
Sealed Core	Yes
Passive Shutdown	Yes
Active Shutdown	Yes
Transportable	Yes – intact core
Factory Fueled	Yes
Safety & Control Elements	Two redundant shutdown systems



HPM NSSS Simplified Diagram



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Reactor Vessel Plan View

Radial Reflector (SiO or Al_2O_3)

UN Fuel

Coolant Down-flow

Internal Core Structure

Downcomer

External vessel





NRC Licensed Shipping Cask

- Vessel and core designed for transport in licensed cask envelope
- Working with cask designer on differences in:
 - Weight
 - Volume
 - Decay Heat
 - Crit Safety





Summary

- HPM design will:
 - Demonstrate a high level of safety (e.g., underground containment)
 - Demonstrate security (e.g., sealed vessel, no onsite refueling)
 - Demonstrate safeguards (non-proliferation) goals by burning TRU and generating comparable Pu to LWRs (wt %) w/ higher burnup
 - Meet customer requirements
 - Optimized for operational life & reliability

