IAEA Technical Meeting Codes and Standards, Design Engineering and Manufacturing of Components for Small Modular Reactors May 10-13, 2022

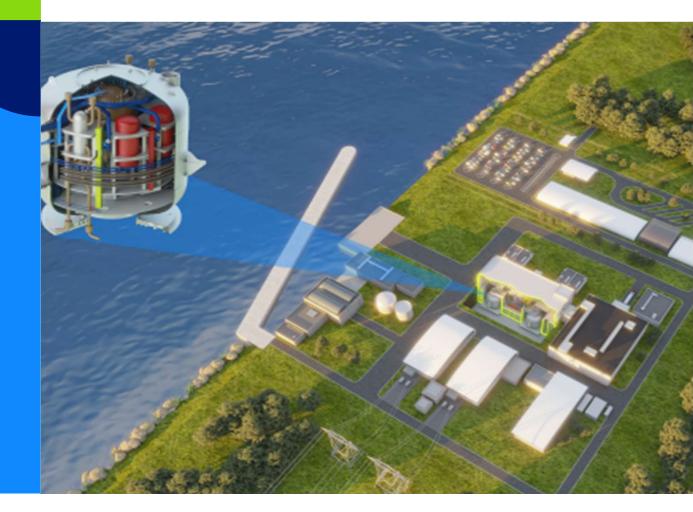




### nuward

Establishment of Codes & Standards for NUWARD<sup>™</sup> SMR design

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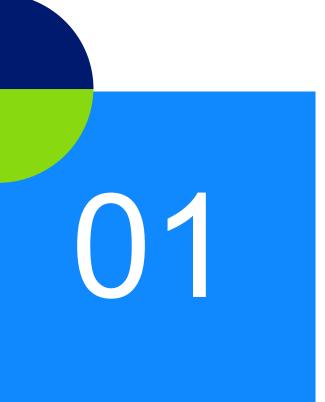
#### Content

- ♦ NUWARD™ SMR project and design
- ♦ Codes & Standards for NUWARD<sup>™</sup> project
- Messages on harmonisation of C&S



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# NUWARD<sup>™</sup> SMR project and design

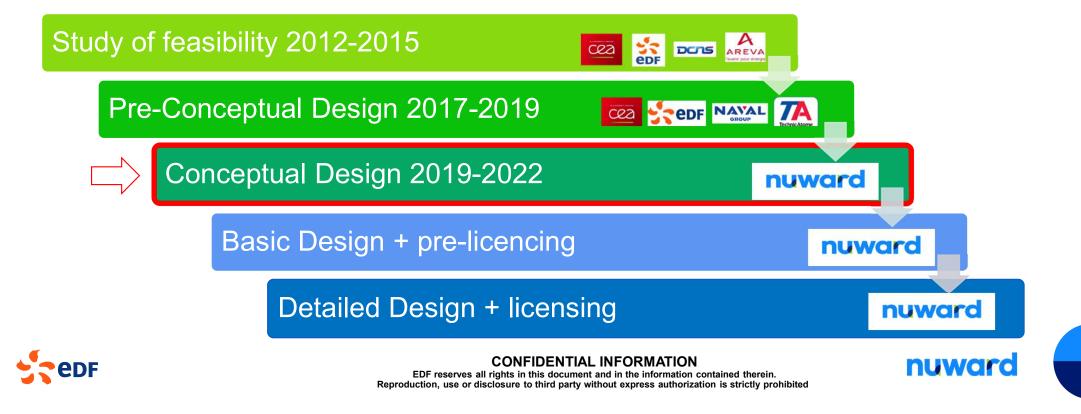




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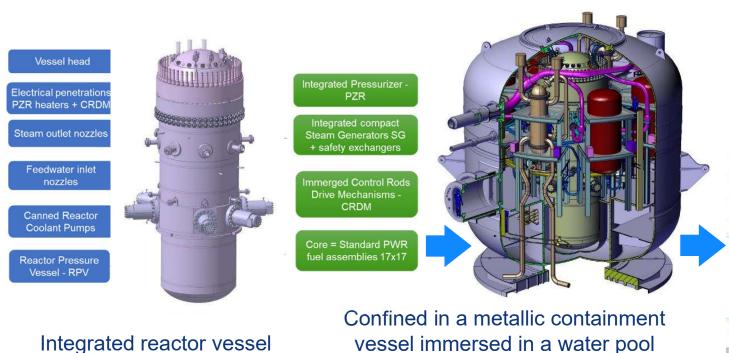
#### NUWARD<sup>™</sup> SMR project

NUWARD<sup>™</sup> is a **340 MWe SMR project** led by **EDF**, with major contributions by **CEA**, **Technicatome**, **Naval Group and Framatome**. The project will complete its conceptual design phase in 2022 and is targeting a first operation towards the early 2030's. NUWARD<sup>™</sup> integrates proven **PWR technology** into a **compact modular configuration**, benefiting from the long-standing experience of the project stakeholders but also including **some innovative features and components**.

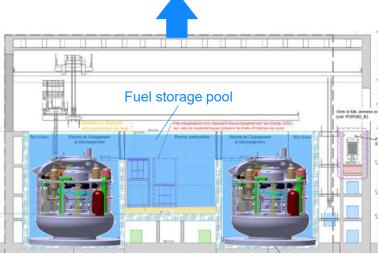


#### Brief description of NUWARD<sup>™</sup> design

2 units of 170MWe each, and a common fuel storage pool, housed in a semi-buried nuclear building









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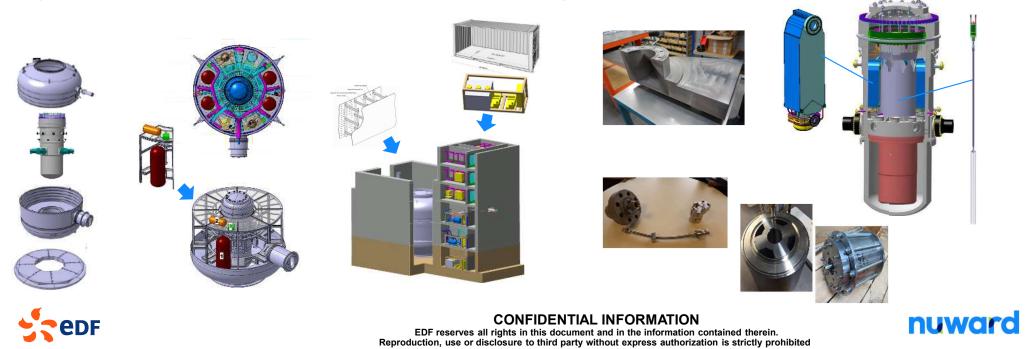
#### Example of innovative features and components for NUWARD™

- Compact Steam Generators (CSG): plate type heat exchangers, Titanium alloy, two-step welding process
- Passive emergency heat removal system with safety CSG
- Immersed electrical Control Rod Drive Mechanisms, control and power in-vessel wiring and vessel penetrations
- Steel containment immersed in a water pool (passive cooling of containment in accidental conditions)
- Steel frame structures equipped with pre-assembled NSSS components (inside containment and building rooms)

CSG

CRDM

- Steel Concrete building walls and slabs
- Single control room for both reactors, shared reactor building





## Codes & Standards for NUWARD™ project

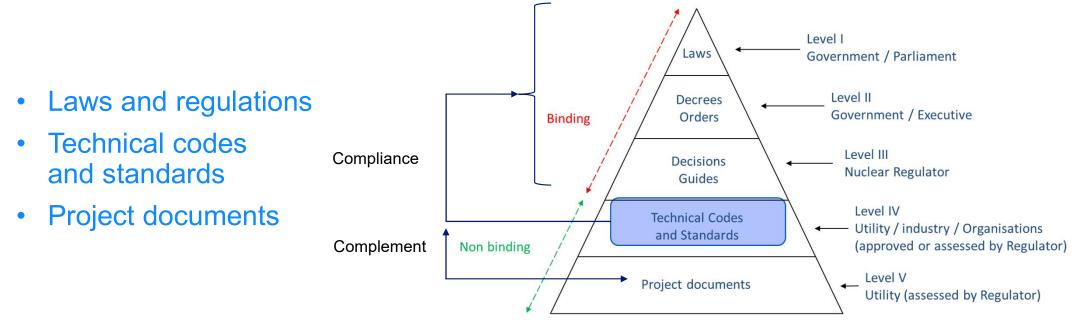




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#### Codes & Standards

Set of requirements and rules for the design, construction and operation of Structures, Systems and Components (SSC) of a Nuclear Power Plant (NPP)



Technical Codes and Standards issued by industrial or nuclear Standards Developing Organisations (SDO), for conventional and nuclear SSC



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#### **Technical Codes & Standards**

Requirements for Technical Codes & Standards (C&S) set out in standards

- IAEA SSR-2/1 (Safety of Nuclear Power Plants: Design)
- EUR Revision E (European Utility Requirements)
- Main characteristics expected for C&S
  - Adequate, complete and consistent
  - Proven engineering practices, reflecting industrial up-to-date practices
  - Recognised by regulators, complying with laws and regulations in force
  - Applicable by the supply chain for specifying, designing, building and operating





#### Technical Codes & Standards for NUWARD<sup>™</sup> project

- Project strategy for the establishment of C&S
  - C&S mainly derived from those known and used by NUWARD<sup>™</sup> partners, particularly adapted to a European context: ISO/IEC/EN Standards, AFCEN Codes (for nuclear SSC)
  - Identification of complementary needs to cover NUWARD<sup>™</sup> specific SSC (CSG, immersed CRDM, steel containment…): establishment of roadmaps for the development of dedicated design and construction rules
  - Comparative studies with alternative C&S
    - ✓ Acceptability of C&S strategy for export markets
    - ✓ Adaptability of design to other C&S



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#### Technical Codes & Standards for NUWARD™ project

- Acceptability of C&S in France (for FOAK)
  - C&S strategy particularly adapted to a French and European context
    - ✓ Mainly based on ISO, IEC and EN/Eurocodes (also used as references in AFCEN Codes)
    - ✓ Compliance of EN Standards (EN 13445, EN 13480) with PED (Pressure Equipment Directive)
    - ✓ Compliance of Eurocodes with code of practice for civil structures
    - ✓ Appendices in AFCEN Codes to meet European Directives (PED...) and country specific legislation (ESPN, FR/UK Fire regulations...)
    - ✓ AFCEN Codes accepted by 3 European Regulators (ONR, STUK, ASN) and referenced in several nuclear projects in Europe
  - C&S correspond to the practice of the industry involved in NUWARD™ project
- Adaptations of C&S for NUWARD™ product ongoing



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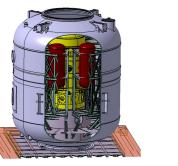


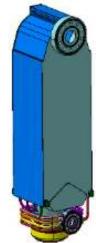
### Technical Codes & Standards for NUWARD<sup>™</sup> design

- ♦ Examples of adaptation to NUWARD<sup>™</sup> product
  - Compact Steam Generators (CSG): development of a dedicated set of requirements and rules compatible with the design of the component
    - ✓ Based on AFCEN RCC-M / MRx Code structure for safety class 1 components
    - Accounting for the specific material (Titanium), fabrication (welding, HIP) and mechanical behaviour of the heat exchanger
    - $\checkmark\,$  Supported by a significant programme of tests and analyses
  - Steel containment
    - ✓ Rules not available in AFCEN codes
    - ✓ Consideration of ASME III Subsection NE
  - Steel Concrete
    - ✓ Development of dedicated rules underway in AFCEN RCC-CW Code for civil structures
    - $\checkmark$  Supported by a significant programme of tests and analyses



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#### Technical Codes & Standards for NUWARD™ project

- Issues of acceptability of C&S in other national contexts (for NOAK)
  - Specific regulations to be complied with (domestic fire regulations...)
  - Competing international standards (e.g., IEC vs. IEEE)
  - Different practices across the industry
  - C&S enforced by law (e.g., ASME Code in the USA)
  - Limited possibility to enter an assessment process of foreign C&S
  - Technical rules share a same basis, but may not be deemed acceptable anywhere
  - Processes for Quality Control and Assurance may differ





#### Technical Codes & Standards for NUWARD<sup>™</sup> project

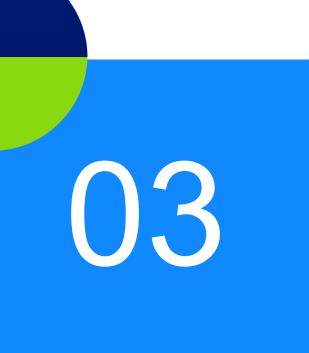
#### Adaptability to other C&S

- Industry players involved in NUWARD<sup>™</sup> project may not be familiar with other C&S
- Change of C&S may require modifications in the design
- Impacts of C&S are difficult to assess
  - ✓ Generic comparisons of C&S exist (e.g., ASME III vs. RCC-M)
  - ✓ Further comparative studies are needed to identify the major differences, develop arguments and provide evidence to claim conformity of a design or product with other C&S (e.g., IEEE)
  - ✓ Such analyses are contemplated for NUWARD<sup>™</sup> design, with the support of experienced engineering companies



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## Messages on harmonisation of C&S





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#### Messages on harmonisation of Codes & Standards

- Stability of design and standardisation of components are needed for SMR projects
- A unique set of Codes & Standards is out of reach in the short term
- Difficult and expensive for projects to satisfy multiple Codes & Standards
- Harmonisation takes time, acceptance of equivalence is more achievable
- International collaboration is required at all levels (from regulators, industry and SDO)
- Need to facilitate licensing of designs based on variable C&S by regulators



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# Thank you for your attention



