

## OPERATING EXPERIENCE AND LESSONS LEARNED ON MANAGING NON-STANDARD LEGACY SPENT FUEL FROM POWER AND RESEARCH REACTORS IN RUSSIA

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#### **Unusual characteristics**

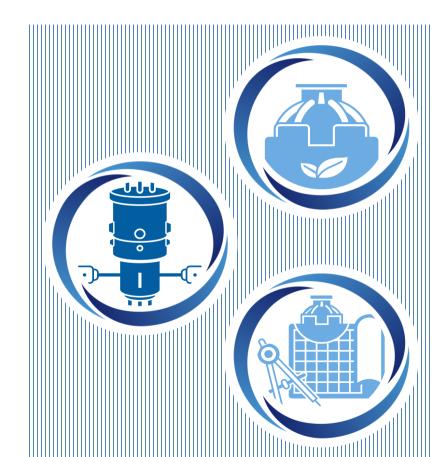


**Dimensions** 

Fuel composition

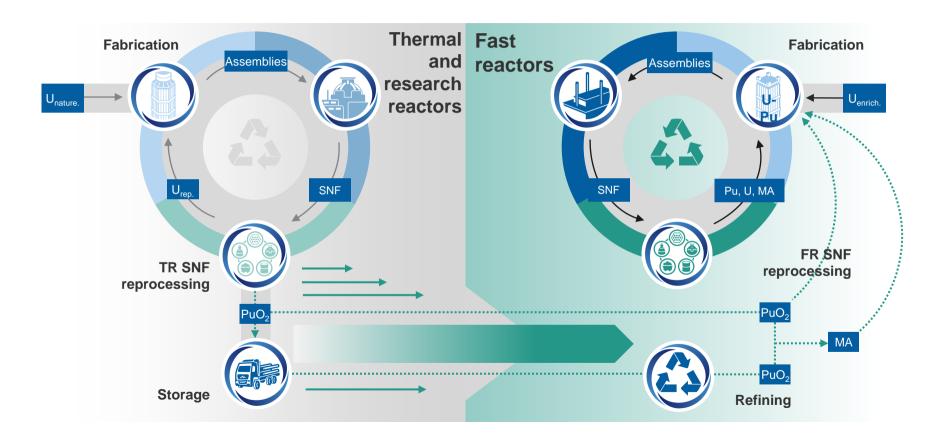
Fuel assembly construction

Defects of FA and fuel composition



## **Closed nuclear fuel cycle**





#### **Preparation stages**



The evaluation of the SFAs intended for management (transportation, storage, reprocessing).

Inspection of baskets, casks and storage cells.

For new routes or new types of SNF development of transport and technological scheme.

Development of radiochemical technology for reprocessing.

Equipment development and manufacture.

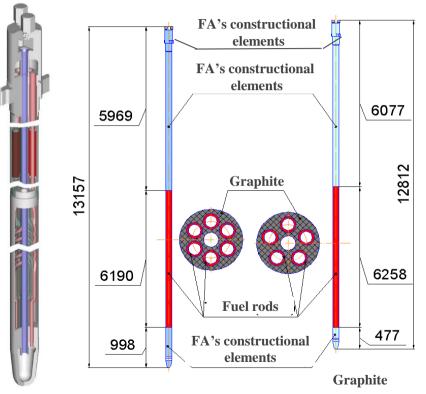
Registration of permits for the transportation, storage, reprocessing etc.

Pilot, experimental operations of transportation and reprocessing.



#### **SNF AMB Characteristics**









**Container without lid** 

Fuel assembly

5

## **Fuel types**



Uranium dioxide;

Uranium dioxide in magnesium matrix;

Uranium dioxide in copper-magnesium matrix;

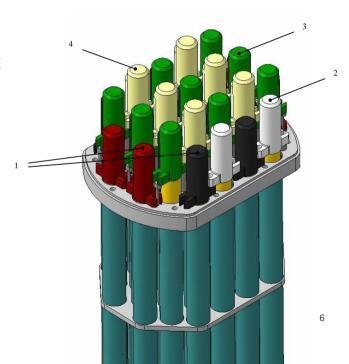
Uranium-molybdenum alloy in magnesium matrix;

Uranium-molybdenum alloy in calcium matrix;

Uranium carbide in calcium matrix.

Enrichment: from 1.5 to 21 %

Average burnout 15 GW\*day/tU

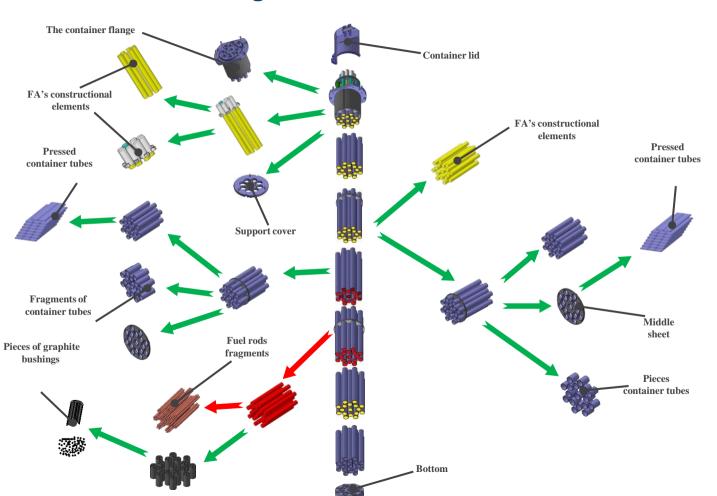


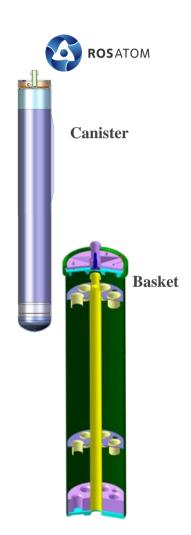
## **Transportation of AMB SNF**





## **Container and FA fragmentation**



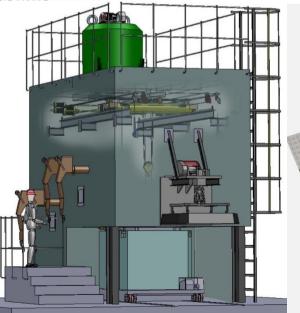


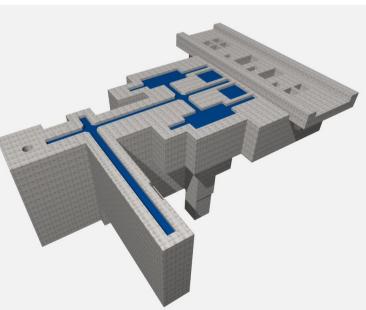






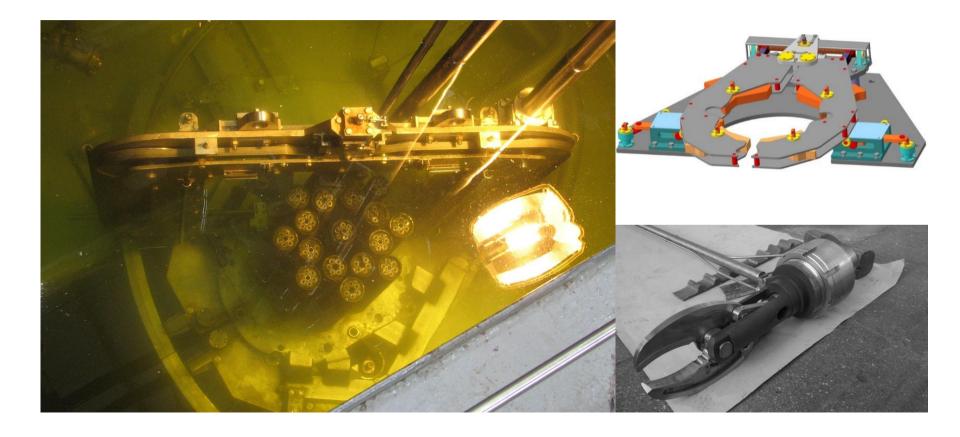
Hot cell for defining RAW characteristics





## **Testing underwater cutting of FAs**





## **Nuclear icebreakers uranium-zirconium SNF**





#### Scheme of development an electrochemical dissolver unit



development

Construction

Chemical research

Research of the electrochemical process



Development and production of laboratory installation



Development and production of installation prototype



- Research work.
- Dissolution process development.
- Development of source data on pilot industrial design



- Development of installation transportation scheme.
- Development of source data on pilot industrial design

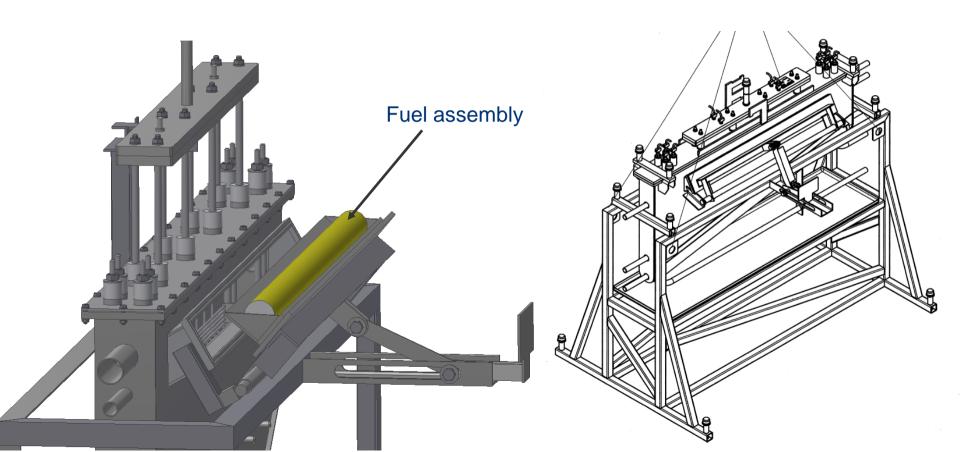




Development and production of pilot industrial design

## **Dissolver unit prototype**





### **Specifications of liquid SNF**



SNF type – an aqueous solution of uranyl sulfate (UO<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>)

Density – about 1,2 - 1,3 g/cm<sup>3</sup>

Volume - 20-24 I

Burnout - 0,02 %

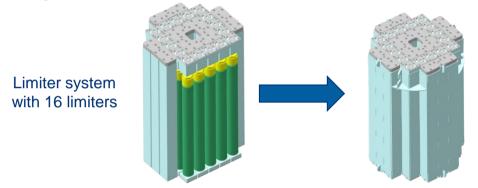
Uranium enrichment – 19,75 %

Mass U-235 – 1,8 kg



#### **Transportation of liquid SNF**

Internal basket of the ŠKODA VPVR/M container TUK-145/C (type C package)



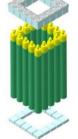
Limiter system consists of 4 types of limiters.

Main construction material for limiter system is low-pressure polyethylene



Limiters type 4

Canisters



Limiters type 3



Limiters type 2

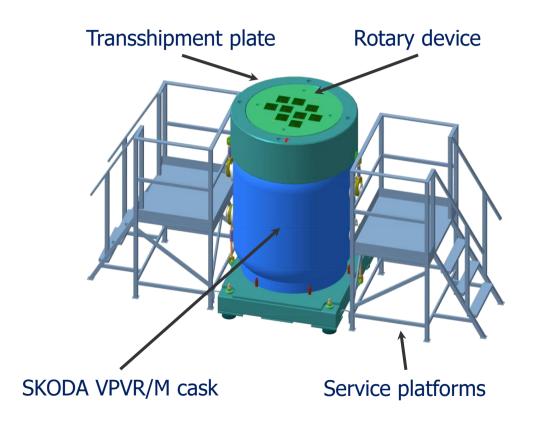


Limiter type 1

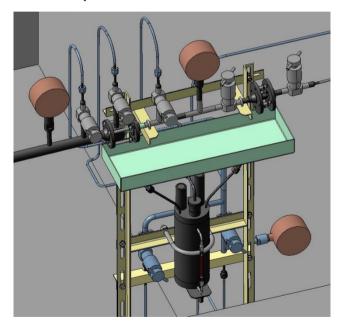


#### Loading and unloading equipment for liquid SNF





#### Liquid SNF transfer unit



#### Conclusion





- Russia has accumulated extensive experience in handling non-standard legacy SNF at reactor sites, in transportation, reprocessing, and RAW management.
- 99% of such nuclear fuel accumulated in Russia has already been recycled, is being recycled, or there are technologies for handling it, including reprocessing.
- It is planned that all types of atypical SNF will be recycled in the medium term.

# Thank you for your attention

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