

NAAREA reaches a new milestone

17 October 2024 – NAAREA recently achieved a key milestone in the development of its XAMR® microreactor. From 14 to 16 October, a technical seminar was held with the participation of the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN), the Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (IRSN) and the Advisory Committee for Advanced Reactors (GT-RI). This seminar marked a pivotal step, advancing NAAREA’s project from the preparatory phase to the pre-licensing phase.

NAAREA is developing the XAMR®, an innovative nuclear microreactor capable of producing both electricity and high-temperature heat. By using very long-lived nuclear waste recovered from spent fuel from nuclear power plants, the XAMR® offers a sustainable solution to re-use this material. Designed for industrial mass-production, the XAMR® is intended to be installed locally close to consumers, whether in the mobility sector, electro-intensive industries or remote areas.

For the development of the XAMR®, NAAREA initiated exchanges with the French Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) to proceed with its application for authorization to create a nuclear installation. This dialogue began in 2022, and was stepped up in 2024 with the launch of a round of preparatory review meetings.

Following this preparatory review phase, a seminar was held from 14 to 16 October, bringing together ASN, IRSN and the Advisory Committee for Advanced Reactors (GT-RI). Over these three days, the design and safety approach of the XAMR® prototype were presented. This event marked the transition from the preparatory phase to the pre-licensing stage for NAAREA’s prototype design.

“The progress made during this pivotal week represents a key step for NAAREA. I would like to express my appreciation for the quality of these discussions with the safety authorities. The conclusion of the preparatory review process, combined with the organization of a seminar with ASN, IRSN and the Advisory Committee for Advanced Reactors (GT-RI), attests to the strides we have made. We are now entering into the pre-licensing phase with a commitment to pursuing this constructive and transparent dialogue to ensure the continued development of our fourth-generation microreactor in compliance with safety requirements”, stated Jean-Luc Alexandre, Founder and CEO of NAAREA.

About NAAREA:

NAAREA (Nuclear Abundant Affordable Resourceful Energy for All) was founded in 2020 by Jean-Luc Alexandre and Ivan Gavriloff to help meet the objectives of energy sovereignty, decarbonization and improving the energy mix. NAAREA is developing the XAMR®, a nuclear microreactor capable of producing electricity (40 megawatts electric) and high-temperature heat (80 megawatts thermal) by burning long-lived nuclear waste recovered from spent fuel from traditional nuclear power plants. The XAMR® is designed to be industrially mass-produced and installed in close proximity to consumers, namely in the mobility sector, electro-intensive industries and remote areas. NAAREA benefits from the support of the French Alternative Energies and Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) and French National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), as well as industry players such as Assystem, Dassault Systèmes, Orano and Jacobs. A carbon-free and non-intermittent energy source planned to be on the market by 2030, NAAREA’s XAMR® is opening the way for sustainable and innovative nuclear energy that supports energy independence, increased resilience and the circular economy. NAAREA is a winner of the “Innovative Nuclear Reactors” call for proposals under the France 2030 investment plan and a beneficiary of the French Tech 2030 support programme.

Learn more at: www.naarea.fr

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