# Status of Vattenfall's initiative for new nuclear

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New nuclear

## **Growing interest in new nuclear**



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**Existing nuclear** 

## Operating time of Vattenfall's five existing reactors can be extended



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## New nuclear



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## What is a feasibility study?

- A feasibility study investigates and evaluates the preconditions to carry out a specific project.
- It is an internal working material since it includes business critical and confidential information from vendor that falls under non-disclosure agreements.
- Vattenfall continuously conducts feasibility studies in all areas of our operation. In addition to the SMR study, a recent example is the feasibility study on the possibility to convert Juktan hydropower plant into a pumped storage power plant, which follows the same procedure as the SMR feasibility study.





The purpose of the SMR feasibility study was to investigate commercial, legal and technical preconditions for Vattenfall to build at least two new SMRs adjactent to the Ringhals nuclear power plant



## New nuclear: International experiences

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## **Experiences of completed projects**

Lessons learned from recent nuclear power projects showcase some common success factors and risk factors

### **Success factors**

- Strong government involvement
- Well thought-through and focused
  program
- Take advantage of learning effects Reuse same design and build several units at same site
- Experienced supply chain incl. construction contractors

### **Cost drivers**

- Nationally adapted reactor design
- Start of construction prior the design is licensed and/or the detailed design is completed
- Government intervention during construction
- Limited client oversight and control







Starting the construction before the detailed design is completed, and the supply chains are developed entails very high risks of cost increases and delayed projects. Projects need to be front-loaded



## A nuclear program must include more than one reactor

The development of a nuclear power programme can be divided into three phases



### Construction of the first reactors 1 -2 reactors

Developing a viable fleet ~3-4 GW Developing according to the needs of society > 4 GW

Phase 1 is characterized by high risks and costs – similar to other unique infrastructure projects and technology development

To benefit from the experience and development that has taken place in phase 1, several reactors need to be built in close succession so as not to lose expertise and experience





New nuclear: International experiences

## Must include more than one reactor

Major risk developments during a nuclear program



Illustration of relative risk and development over time

The risks will evolve as the program proceeds and risk sharing can be adapted accordingly

Credit guarantees will not be efficient for Vattenfall to manage these risks



## The first reactors will come with special risks – similar to other major infrastructure projects

In order for the financial costs to be manageable risks need to be shared

Order of magnitude of the components of electricity price for new nuclear

Higher costs and risks for the first reactors in a program create a large gap between expected revenue and cost







## International experience

Today nuclear is not built anywhere in the world on purely commercial terms (without the risk being shared with a state)



## Sweden needs a risk-sharing model adapted to Swedish conditions



International examples of risk-sharing models – each one with its advantages and drawbacks





## The site is suitable for new nuclear and today it can accommodate 3 to 5 SMRs

The feasibility study concludes that the site is well-suited for new nuclear and may accommodate 3 to 5 SMRs, corresponding to 1 500 MW. There is good opportunities to use existing infrastructure at Ringhals, such as grid connection, cooling water tunnels and harbour facilities.

However available space on the site is limited by:

- Existing Ringhals facilities (in green)
- Biskopshagen nature preserve (in yellow)
- A Natura-2000 area (in red)

To add additional capacity/more reactors would infringe the natural preserve which may affect schedule



## Existing Swedish legislation can be applied for SMR technology



### **Nuclear Act**

The permit process according to the Nuclear Act involves a stepwise approach which means that requirements on information increases as the project evolves

### **Environmental Code**

The environmental permit process is frontloaded and requires a lot of information at an early stage

### A number of authorities will be involved in our continued work



## Used SMR nuclear fuel can be handled with existing technology

The conclusion is that Swedish used nuclear fuel and radioactive waste from new SMRs may be handled and stored using the same repository technology as for existing reactors



New facilities will likely be needed due to capacity limitations and the age of existing facilities. A site needs to be investigated and new permits secured



Regarding interim storage of used nuclear fuel we recommend that a new nuclear program will use dry cask storage as this improve both safety and economy



At least 3-4 GW of new nuclear is needed for reasonable cost for new repositories

### **Financing solution**

The financing of a new final repository and the state's role in this need to be clarified.



### New licensing process

Regardless of new or existing facilities, a new licensing process is needed.



## Six suppliers have been evaluated according to four categories of criteria





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## There are good conditions for SMRs on the Värö Peninsula

The feasibility study has given us valuable insights



The site is suitable, but has space limitations



There are good opportunities to share existing assets at the site



The permitting process works for SMRs but needs to become more efficient 83

Nuclear waste can be handled with existing technology, but new final repositories requires a programme



SMR technology remains promising



Risk-sharing with the state is a prerequisite for a profitable investment, also for SMRs





## New nuclear: Comparing SMRs and LSRs (independent of site)





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## Same timeframe to for both SMRs and LSRs (large-scale reactors) to come online

A first reactor may be expected to come online in the same timeframe – but LSRs will provide more capacity faster



**Similar timeframe for licensing can is expected** ~3 years. High uncertainty on the time required for environmental permit



Construction work expected to start later with SMRs due to somewhat later commercialisation



Shorter construction time is expected with SMRs (~4 years) compared to LSRs (6-7 years)

It is estimated that it will require between 9-11 years from today to have the first SMR or LSR reactor go into operation The technologies come with different risks – leadtime for commercialisation for SMRs but high project risk with LSRs



### Timing of commercialisation is main uncertainty with SMRs

Modularisation and supply chain are expected to mature rapidly provided that potential clients are willing to take an active part in technology developments



Project complexity due to how large projects will be is the main risk with LSRs

Delays and cost increases lead to considerably higher costs in absolute terms



New nuclear: Comparing SMRs and LSRs

## **Comparing SMRs and LSRs**



## New nuclear: Next steps



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# We will continue to plan for new nuclear on the Värö peninsula

Preparatory work for new nuclear on the Värö peninsula continue, including both LSRs and SMRs in order to create the most favorable preconditions for a successful project



## Next steps on the Värö peninsula

We continue our work with the objective to have a first reactor in operation during the first half of the 2030s. We will enhance our insights with the following work streams relevant for both LSRs and SMRs





## **Proceed with LSR evaluation**

LSR evaluation involves supplier dialogue to update learnings from previous projects. Results can be expected during the spring



### **Building-phase evaluation**

Analys how personnel and materials can be handled on the peninsula during construction



### Cost

Extended supplier dialogue on costs and delivery models



Time plan

Timeplan based on recent or on-going supplier projects



### **Geographical footprint**

Updates based on most recent supplier project at our construction site





## Vattenfall can make investment decision when:





**Demand growth** 

## Projected demand from industry and transport





