

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **EU SELECTS WESTINGHOUSE-LED CONSORTIUM TO SUPPORT LICENSING OF NUCLEAR FUEL FOR RUSSIAN-DESIGNED REACTORS**

**BRUSSELS, June xx, 2015** – [Westinghouse Electric Company](#) and its eight European consortium partners today announced that it has received funding from the European Union's (EU) Euratom Research and Training Programme (2014-18) complimenting Horizon 2020 (H2020), the EU's Research and Innovation program. The Research and Innovation Action (RIA) will focus on supporting the licensing of alternative nuclear fuel supplies for Russian-designed pressurized water reactors (VVER) operating in the EU. Westinghouse's consortium partners include [VUJE](#), [ÚJV Řež](#), [Lappeenranta University of Technology \(LUT\)](#), [National Nuclear Laboratory \(NNL\)](#), [NucleoCon](#), [National Science Center Kharkov Institute of Physics and Technology \(NSC KIPT\)](#), [Institute for Transuranium Elements of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission \(JRC-ITU\)](#) and [Enusa Industrias Avanzadas \(ENUSA\)](#).

Westinghouse will act as the coordinator for this project known as ESSANUF (European Supply of Safe Nuclear Fuel). Its overall aim is to create greater security of energy supply and contribute to the security of supply of nuclear fuel for Russian-designed pressurized water reactors (VVER) operating in the EU. The project calls for diversification of fuel sources in the short- to medium-term and in full compliance with international nuclear safety standards. The project primarily will focus on an updated proven VVER-440 fuel design successfully licensed and safely operated previously in the EU.

Each partner brings leading expertise in their chosen fields: Westinghouse (Sweden and United Kingdom), ENUSA (Spain) and NNL (United Kingdom) have considerable experience developing, licensing and manufacturing the current Westinghouse VVER-440 design in combination with the operating experience from seven reloads in the Loviisa Nuclear Power Plant in Finland. VUJE (Slovakia), ÚJV Řež (Czech Republic), LUT (Finland) and NSC KIPT (Ukraine) have extensive knowledge with regards to safety analysis, licensing and experience working with the local authorities in their respective countries. The JRC-ITU (EU) and NucleoCon (Slovakia) are experts on the development and adaption of the TRANS-URANUS code which is widely used and commonly available for fault analysis during the licensing process of pressurized water reactors.

"Today all VVER-440 utilities rely on a single source of nuclear fuel supply. The ESSANUF project has the potential to create a multi-national network of expertise and experience, which will develop the necessary methods and methodology to position a European supplier for future fuel deliveries," said José Emeterio Gutiérrez, senior vice president, Westinghouse Nuclear Fuel and Components Manufacturing.

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There are currently 131 operating nuclear power plants in the EU, over 60 percent of which are based on Westinghouse technology (North American or European in design). Five Member States (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Hungary and Slovakia) are operating Russian VVER-type reactors (four VVER-1000 and 14 VVER-440 type reactors) and are currently 100-percent dependent on supply from Russian fuel manufacturers (contributing up to 52 percent of electricity in the various Member States concerned).

Westinghouse has previously supplied VVER-440 fuel through its fuel fabrication facility in Springfields, U.K. and together with ENUSA to Loviisa (Finland) from 2001 to 2007 in annual fuel load quantities following a successful fuel design and Lead Test Assembly (LTA) program. The fuel operated flawlessly, meeting all regulatory requirements at the highest safety levels. Since 2008, all fuel for the Loviisa nuclear power plant has been supplied by Russia.

Westinghouse is a global nuclear fuel provider for pressurized water reactors (PWRs), including Russian-designed VVER reactors, as well as boiling water reactors (BWRs) and advanced gas-cooled reactors (AGRs). Westinghouse today provides nuclear fuel to 144 plants globally, 65 of which are in Europe, and has 10 nuclear fuel manufacturing locations around the world, including two sites in Europe: Springfields Fuels Limited in Preston, Lancashire, U.K. and Westinghouse Electric Sweden in Västerås. Westinghouse is the largest supplier of nuclear fuel in Europe and also is the only other fuel manufacturer for VVER-type reactors. In December 2014, Westinghouse and Energoatom, Ukraine's nuclear power plant operator completed a [significant contract extension](#) for the supply of fuel to the utility's VVER-1000 reactors which will be delivered from its fuel facility in Västerås, Sweden.

Westinghouse Electric Company, a group company of [Toshiba Corporation](#) (TKY:6502), is the world's pioneering nuclear energy company and is a leading supplier of nuclear plant products and technologies to utilities throughout the world. Westinghouse supplied the world's first pressurized water reactor in 1957 in Shippingport, Pa., U.S. Today, Westinghouse technology is the basis for approximately one-half of the world's operating nuclear plants, including more than 50 percent of those in Europe.

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