

# Status Report for MAPLE Reactors & New Processing Facility



2006 December 13



**AECL**  
Atomic Energy  
of Canada Limited

**EACL**  
Énergie atomique  
du Canada limitée



# Presentation Outline

- **Ownership and project schedule**
- **Operating improvements**
- **Technical progress and path forward**
- **Communications with the CNSC**
- **Summary**



# Ownership and Project Schedule

- **AECL owns the Dedicated Isotope Facilities, i.e., the MAPLE reactors and the New Processing Facility**
  - **Contractual agreement finalized with MDS Nordion 2006 February**
- **AECL committed to isotope production from the Dedicated Isotope Facilities by 2008 October**
- **In order to achieve this, AECL is working to a challenging schedule**



# Operating Improvements

**AECL has:**

- **made organizational changes in DIF Operations and MMIR Project**
- **implemented a comprehensive System Performance Monitoring Program**
- **implemented an Operations owned, utility based Corrective Action Program**
- **implemented the DIF Continuous Improvement Plan (CIP) and MMIR Project Improvement Plan (PIP)**



## **Operating Improvements (Cont'd)**

**AECL has:**

- **increased QA presence in the field**
- **introduced the use of event free tools – Observation & Coaching, Three-Way Communications, etc.**
- **implemented Operational Readiness Review process to declare each facility ready for operation at each stage**
- **completed the maintenance outage in preparation for 5 MW tests without an event free day reset**



# Technical Progress and Path Forward

## MAPLE:

- **Completed inspection and remediation to the installed systems to comply with Design requirements**
- **Reviewed field work, preventive maintenance program completeness, non-conformances to ensure the MAPLE 1 is ready to operate**
- **PCR issue poised for resolution following significant work by AECL and independent organizations**
- **Testing of the MAPLE 1 Reactor at 5 MW will allow AECL to confirm cause of PCR and develop engineered solution(s) to mitigate the problem**



# **Technical Progress and Path Forward (Cont'd)**

## **New Processing Facility:**

- **Significant amount of work to complete in order to ensure successful commissioning of NPF**
- **NPF ready to start active commissioning by 2007 October**



# **Communications With the CNSC**

**Open communication with CNSC staff has enabled emerging issues to be tabled and efficiently resolved through:**

- **regular verbal updates with the CNSC staff**
- **monthly Senior Executives meetings**
- **monthly Licensing meetings**
- **Commissioning and Technical meetings as required e.g., walkthrough of key licensing submission (5 MW Safety Case)**

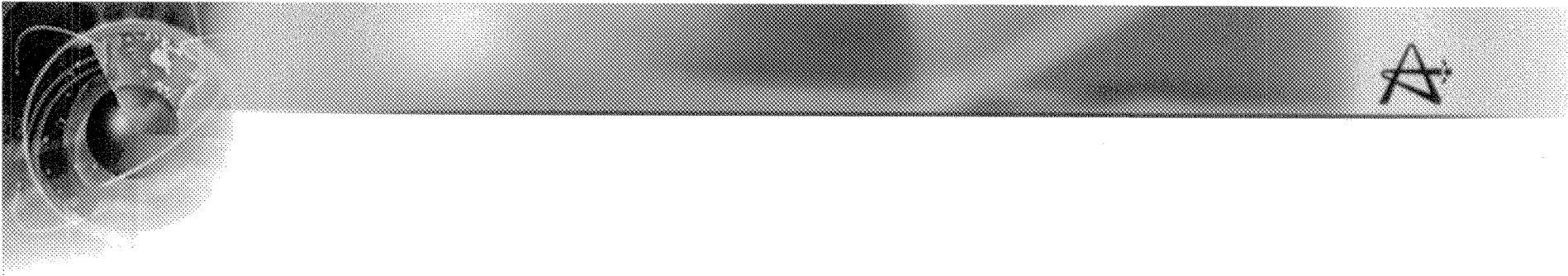




# Summary

**At the midpoint of the current licensing term, AECL is making steady progress against all commitments and requirements and will continue to:**

- **safely operate the Dedicated Isotope Facilities as a capable, competent organization, with the sufficient number of qualified and CNSC-certified staff and programs in place**
- **resolve technical issues, complete nuclear commissioning and meet its obligations for continued isotope production and supply**
- **Continue to implement improvement programs that support safe, high-quality operation, and draw on the lessons learned by others in the industry**
- **meet all regulatory criteria on health, safety, security, the environment, and Canada's international obligations**



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