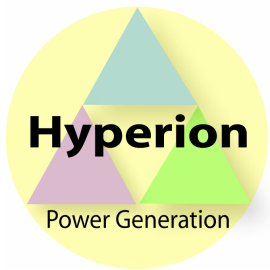


# NRC Pre-application Meeting

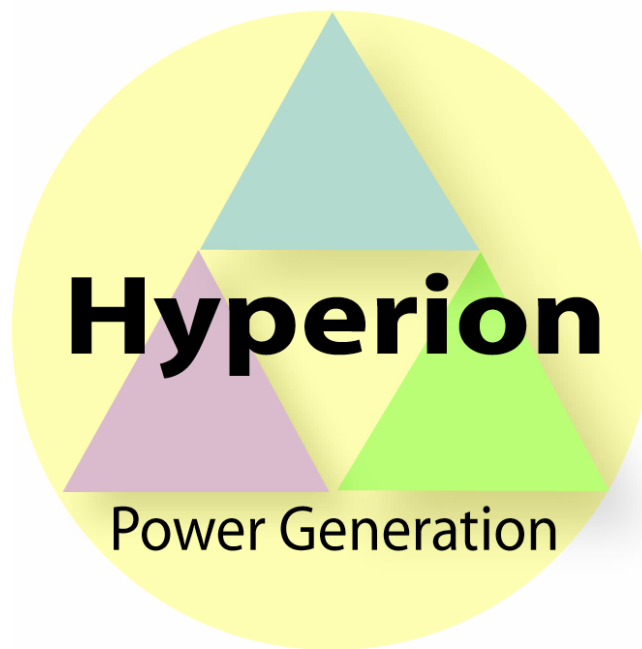
22 August 2007



# Agenda

---

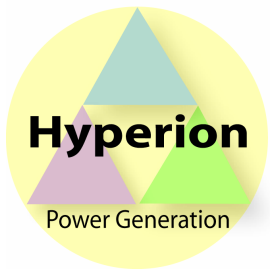
- **Introduction**
- **Applications**
- **Technical Overview**
- **Design & Testing**
- **NRC Licensing & Commercialization**



# Introduction

**John R. Grizz Deal**  
**CEO**

**Hyperion Power Generation, Inc.**

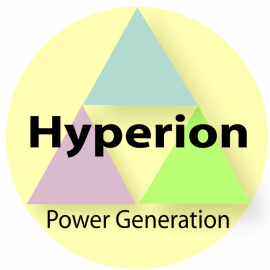


## Hyperion Team

---

- **Purple Mountain Ventures (PMV)**
  - **Commercialization & Management**
- **Altira Group**
  - **Capital**
- **Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL)**
  - **Technology**

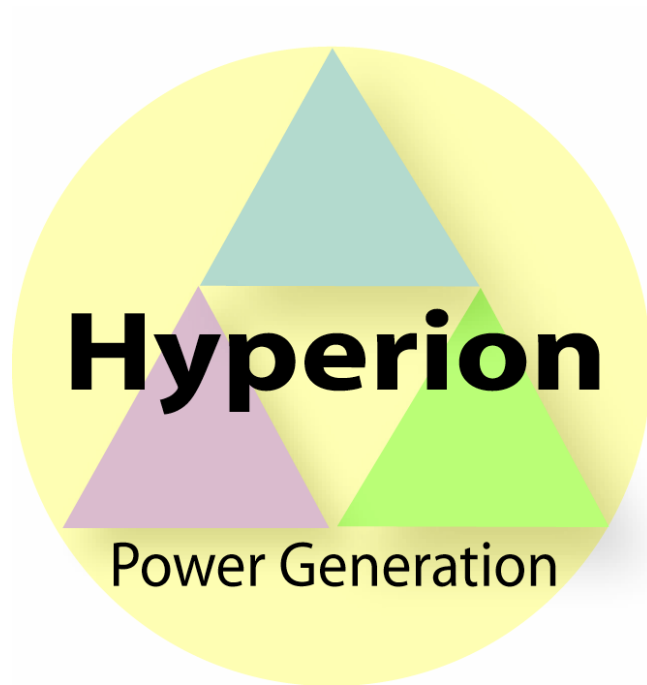




## HPG, Inc. Team

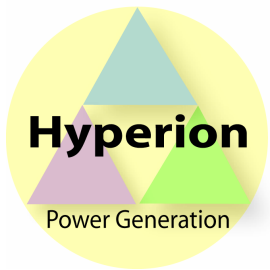
---

- **John R. (Grizz) Deal**
  - CEO HPG, Inc., & PMV Managing Director
- **Deborah A. Blackwell**
  - VP HPG, Inc. & Program Manager, PMV Director
- **L. Robert (Bob) Libutti**
  - VP HPG, Inc. & PMV Director
- **Otis (Pete) Peterson**
  - Hyperion Inventor (LANL Retired)



Motivation

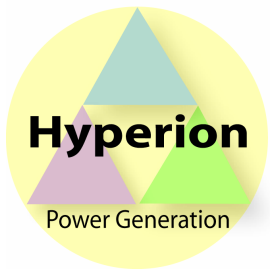
*Why are we here?*



# PMV Motivation

---

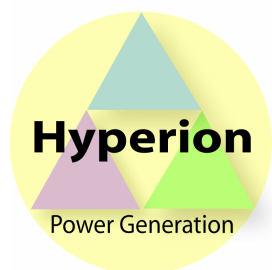
- **Purple Mountain Credo**
  - **Invest our time and money into projects that have a significant positive impact**
  - **Focus on “bleeding” edge, emerging technologies that ordinarily wouldn’t see the light of day**
  - **Acquire that difficult-to-establish first market segment/first customer**



# LANL & Altira Motivation

---

- **LANL**
  - **See taxpayer-funded technologies reach broadest market**
  - **Make positive impact on U.S. economy**
- **Altira**
  - **Generate wealth from alternative energy industries**

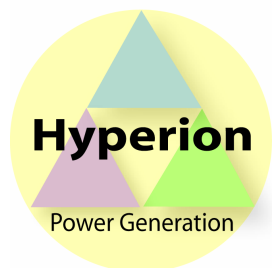


# PMV Motivation Drinking Water & Sanitation



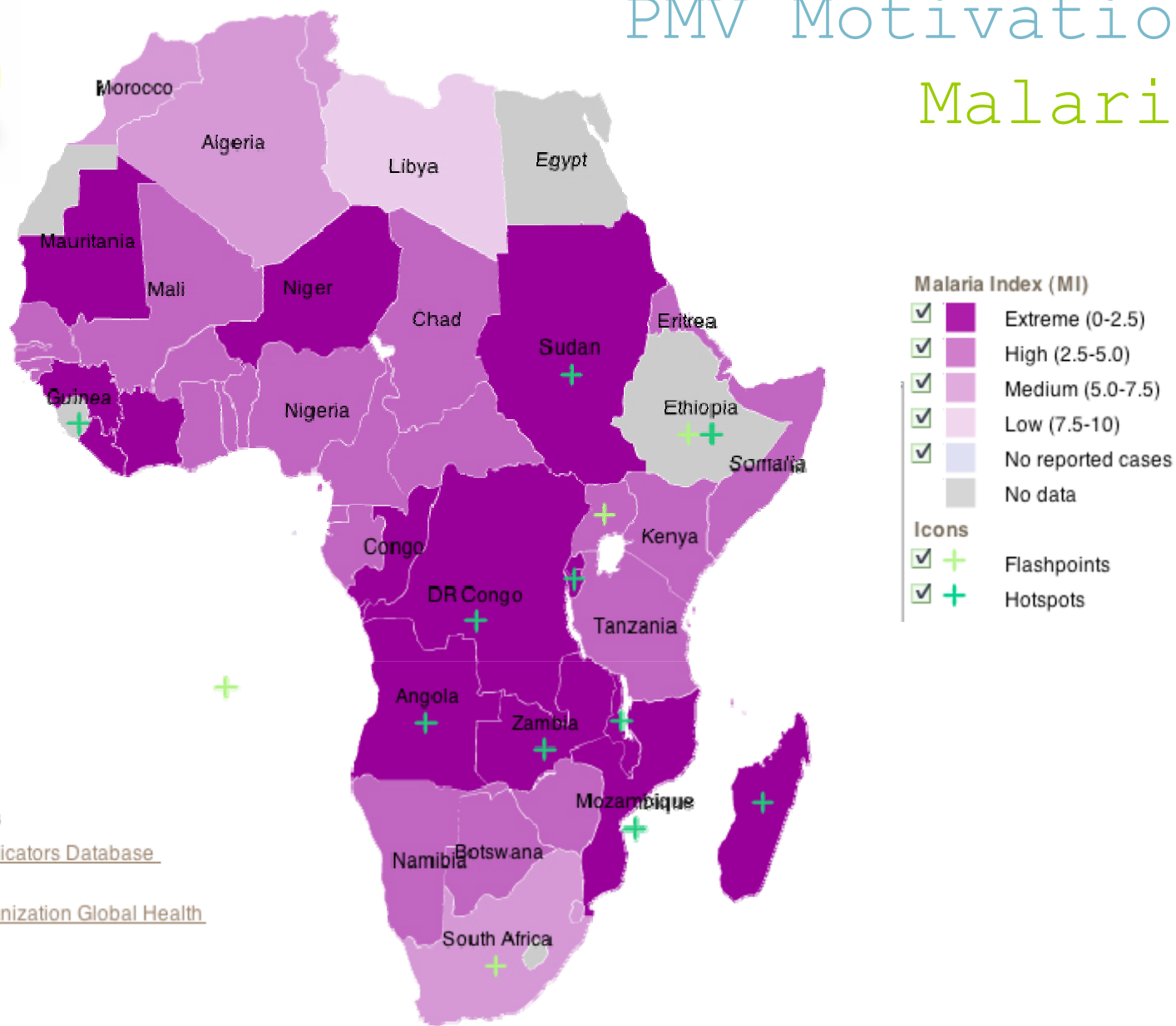
**Key data sources**  
UNICEF/WHO (2004)  
**Last updated**  
January 2007

**Courtesy DATA.org**

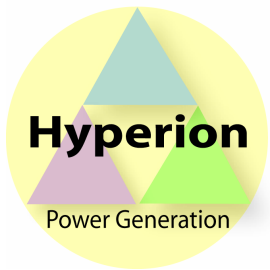


# PMV Motivation

## Malaria



Courtesy DATA.org

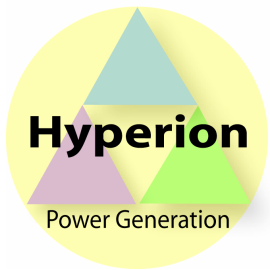


PMV Motivation

## Power for Remote Communities

---

- **Enormous power disparity between developed and developing regions**
- **Disparity exists even between mainland U.S. and its “off-shore” protectorates**
- **Healthcare, economic growth, food supply...all impacted by this power disparity**

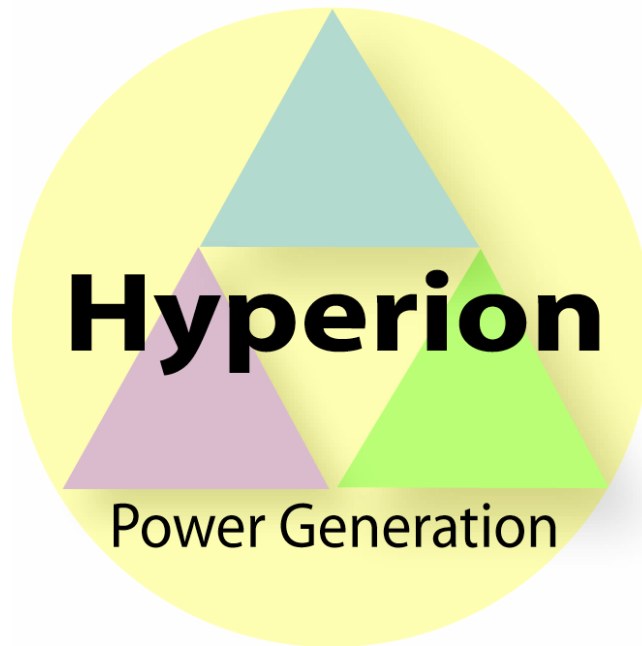


# PMV Motivation Efficient Hydrocarbon Recovery

---

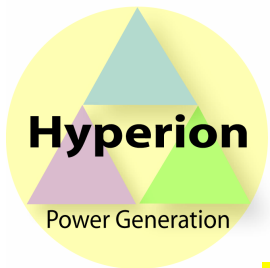
- **Oil sands & shales**
  - **Up to 35% of energy recovered is lost in recovery itself**
  - **Inefficiencies create additional greenhouse gases, waste, and have a destabilizing impact on prices**





# Applications

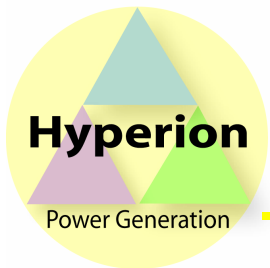
**Deborah A. Blackwell**  
**VP HPG, Inc.**



## Hyperion: a New paradigm for Nuclear Power

---

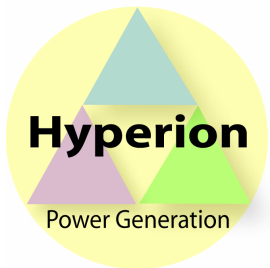
- **Small reactors instead of giants**
  - Distributed production (wave of future)
- **Self regulating**
  - Inherently safe
  - No mechanical moving parts
- **Bury underground**
  - Safe from threats
  - Radiation shielded
  - Out of sight
- **Economy of mass production instead of economy of scale**
- **Standardization of design reduces certification to a single event**



## ...Hyperion continued

---

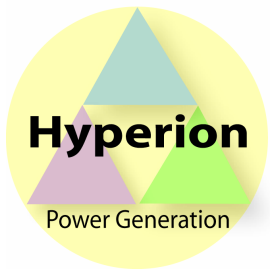
- **25 MW of electrical power each (25,000 homes)**
- **Sealed modules**
  - **Factory refueling greatly hampers proliferation attempts**
- **Replace oxide fuel and aqueous reprocessing**
  - **Minimizing instead of expanding waste**
  - **Recycle actinides**
- **Use all fissile & fertile elements: U, Pu & Th**
- **Reduces investment risk**
- **Reduces time to market**



## The Economics of Hydride Reactors is Very Attractive

---

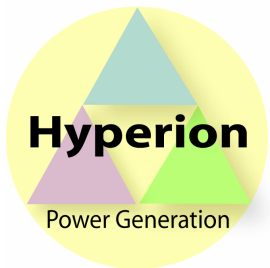
- **Capital costs (estimates provided by a member of the nuclear industry):**
  - Thermal power: 68 MW<sub>th</sub> for \$20,000,000
  - Electrical power: 27 MW<sub>e</sub> for \$37,000,000 (\$1380/kW<sub>e</sub>)
    - Conventional plants estimated \$2000/kW<sub>e</sub> (MIT study )
- **Operating fuel costs:**
  - Fuel for 5 years of operation: \$12.7 million
- **Small size and cost minimizes financial risk**
- **5 year investment for steam generation:**
  - Hydride nuclear: \$3/M BTU - \$33 million per unit
    - Natural gas comparison costs: \$7-\$14 per M BTU.
  - 5 year savings for heavy oil field: approx. **\$2 billion**



## Hyperion is Needed

---

- **By remote communities**
- **To access unconventional hydrocarbons**
- **To meet the growing energy problem**

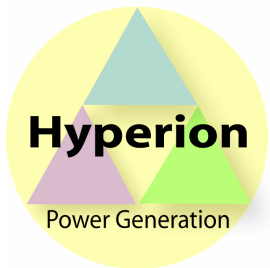


# The Energy Problem

---

- **Global energy demand increased 60% in last 25 years**
- **Forecasts for the next 25 years project same**
  - rapid development in China & other developing countries
- **National Petroleum Council\* recognizes that ALL types of energy sources are needed**
  - not just oil and gas
  - includes nuclear, solar, wind
- **International Energy Association's 2006 World Energy Outlook – predicts massive new investments in large scale projects will be required to develop and deliver energy**
  - \$20 trillion will be required over the next 25 years;
  - \$3,000 per person alive today

*\* National Petroleum Council, Draft Report – “Facing the Hard Truths about Energy” July 18, 2007*



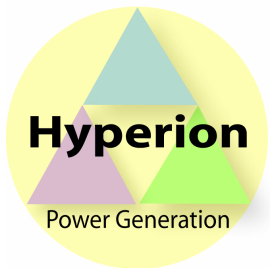
# The Water Problem

Basic Human Rights and Survival affected by the Energy-Water  
Nexus

---

- **\*Remote, independent (off the grid) power and water is needed**
  - hospitals, schools, sanitation, irrigation, industry, drinking, cooking
- **Technologies and abilities sufficient to ensure food supply**
  - ~ 13% of the world's population does not have access to enough food and water to live a healthy and productive life
  - could produce enough food for every man, woman and child in the world do currently exist.
- **Poverty is driven by**
  - lack of health, financial, & natural resources
  - lack of skills to link productive activities with remote markets and ensure employment

\*United Nations

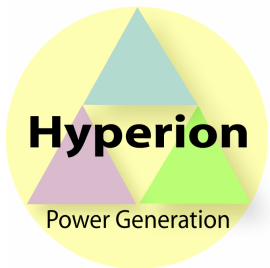


# The Water Problem

Basic Human Rights and Survival affected by the Energy-Water  
Nexus

- **An accessible supply of clean water is essential to improving health, education and overall productivity around the world**
- **Population growth and economic expansion**
  - placing huge demands on coastal and freshwater ecosystems
  - water withdrawals have increased 6X since the 1900s
    - twice the rate of population growth
- **Over one billion people lack access to a basic supply of clean water**
  - ~25% (311 million) in sub-Saharan Africa
  - ~45% of Africa's population lacks access to clean water

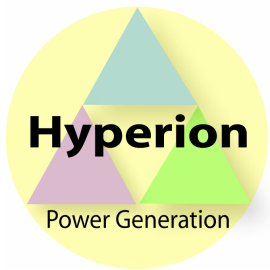




## Access to Clean Water is Essential

---

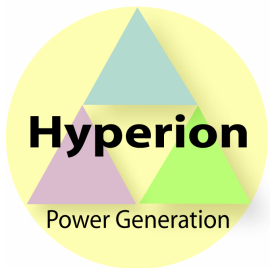
- **Water related illnesses affect more people on earth than any other disease**
- **Sanitation coverage in developing countries (49%) is only half that of the developed world (98%)**
- **Unsafe water and poor sanitation**
  - **cause intestinal worms, cholera, & diarrhea**
    - **diarrhea is the 3rd biggest child killer in Africa (after pneumonia and malaria)**
    - **kills over 700,000 children a year**
- **A baby born in Africa is over 500 times more likely to die from diarrhea than a baby born in a G8 country**
- **A child dies every 15 seconds from water-related diseases**
  - **+5,700 deaths a day**
- **Improving water and sanitation would save \$ millions in patient treatment cost**



## Hyperion is the Solution to the Clean Water Problem

---

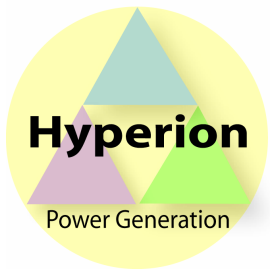
- **No CO<sub>2</sub> emissions**
  - clean power is needed as global warming will only increase human misery
- **Tamper resistant**
  - nonproliferation
- **Effective cost-ratio**
- **No human interface with its chemistry**
- **Portable**
  - Ideal for remote locations



## Hyperion Economically Assists in Heavy Oil Extraction

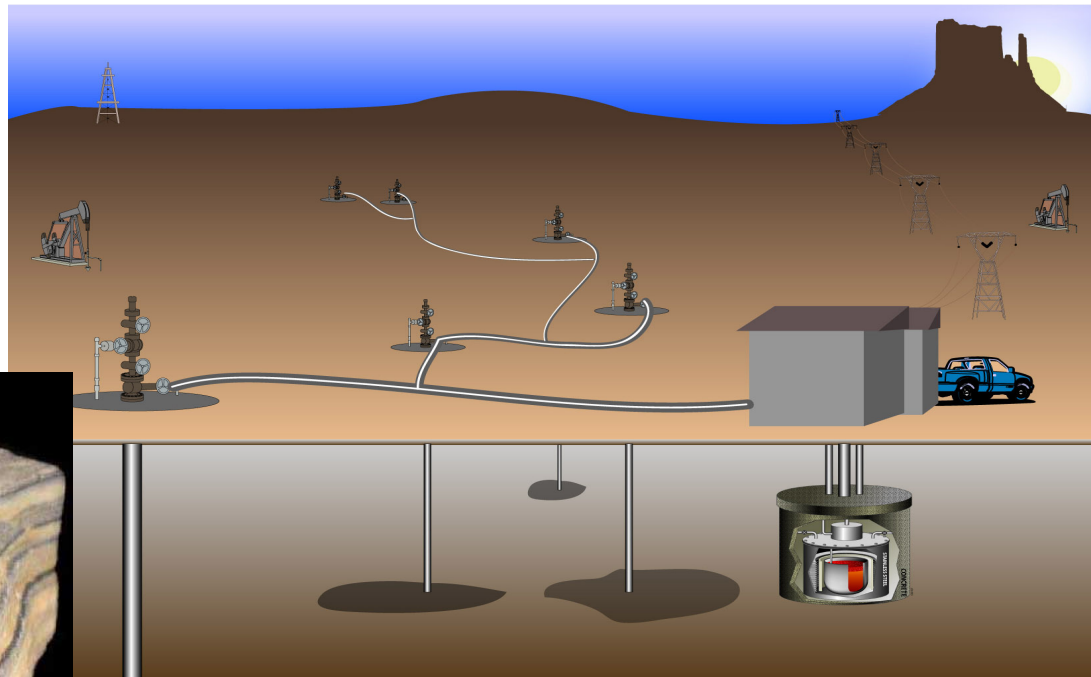
---

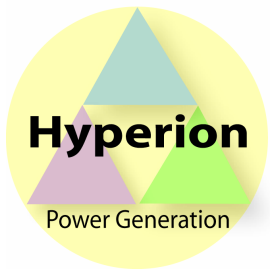
- **Heavy hydrocarbons (oil, shale, sands, etc.) require heat to liberate.**
- **Single oil field can consume over 1000 megawatts of thermal power.**
- **If powered by natural gas, consumption is over 100 million cubic feet per day.**
- **Costs of natural gas range from \$0.5 to 1.5 million per day depending on gas price.**
- **Nuclear power costs approx. \$250k per day.**
- **Cost savings for 5 year life of power sources is between \$1 and 2 billion.**



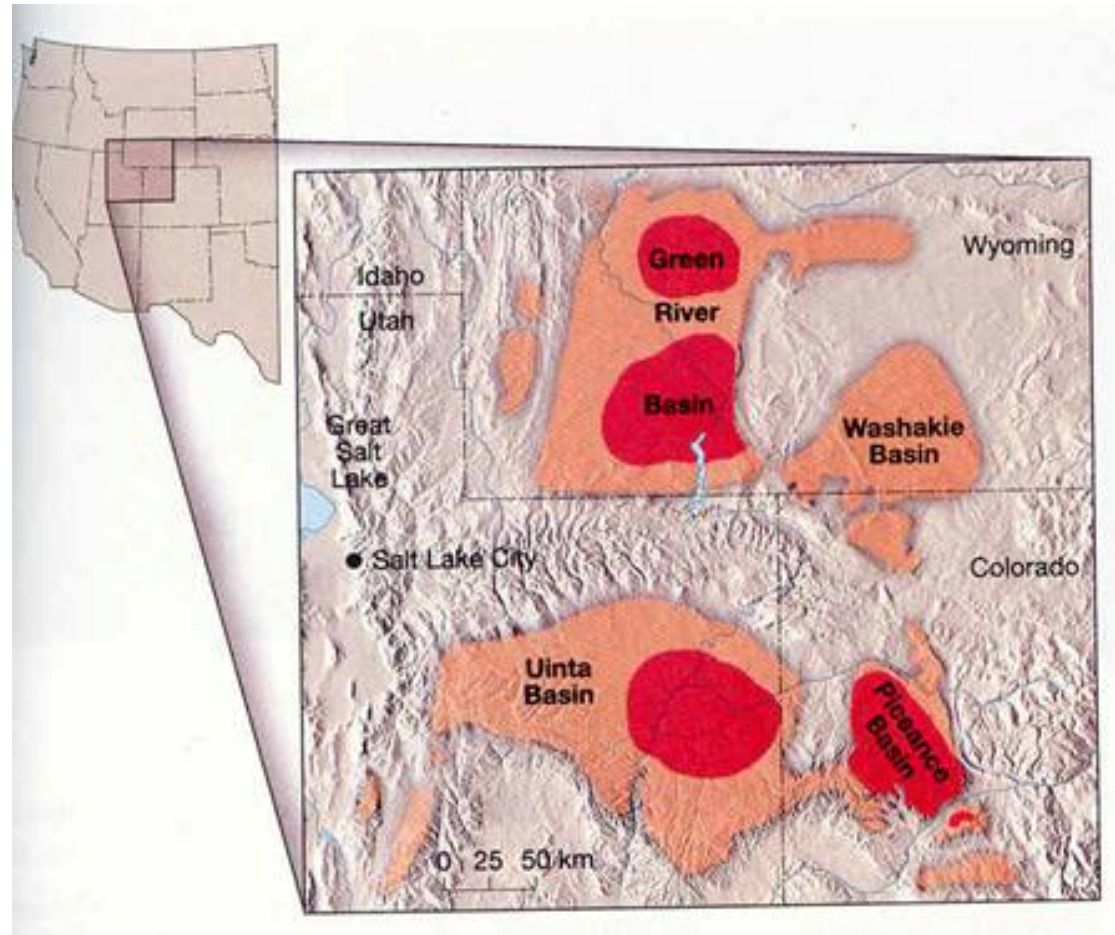
# Hyperion Will Dramatically Reduce the Cost of Recovering Oil from Shale & Sand

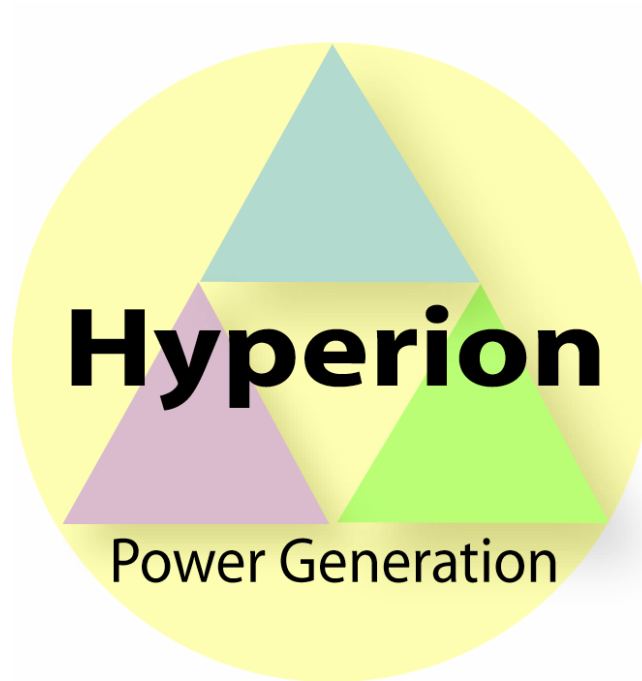
---





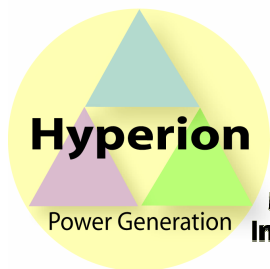
# The Western U.S. has Trillions of Barrels of Oil Trapped in Shales & Sands



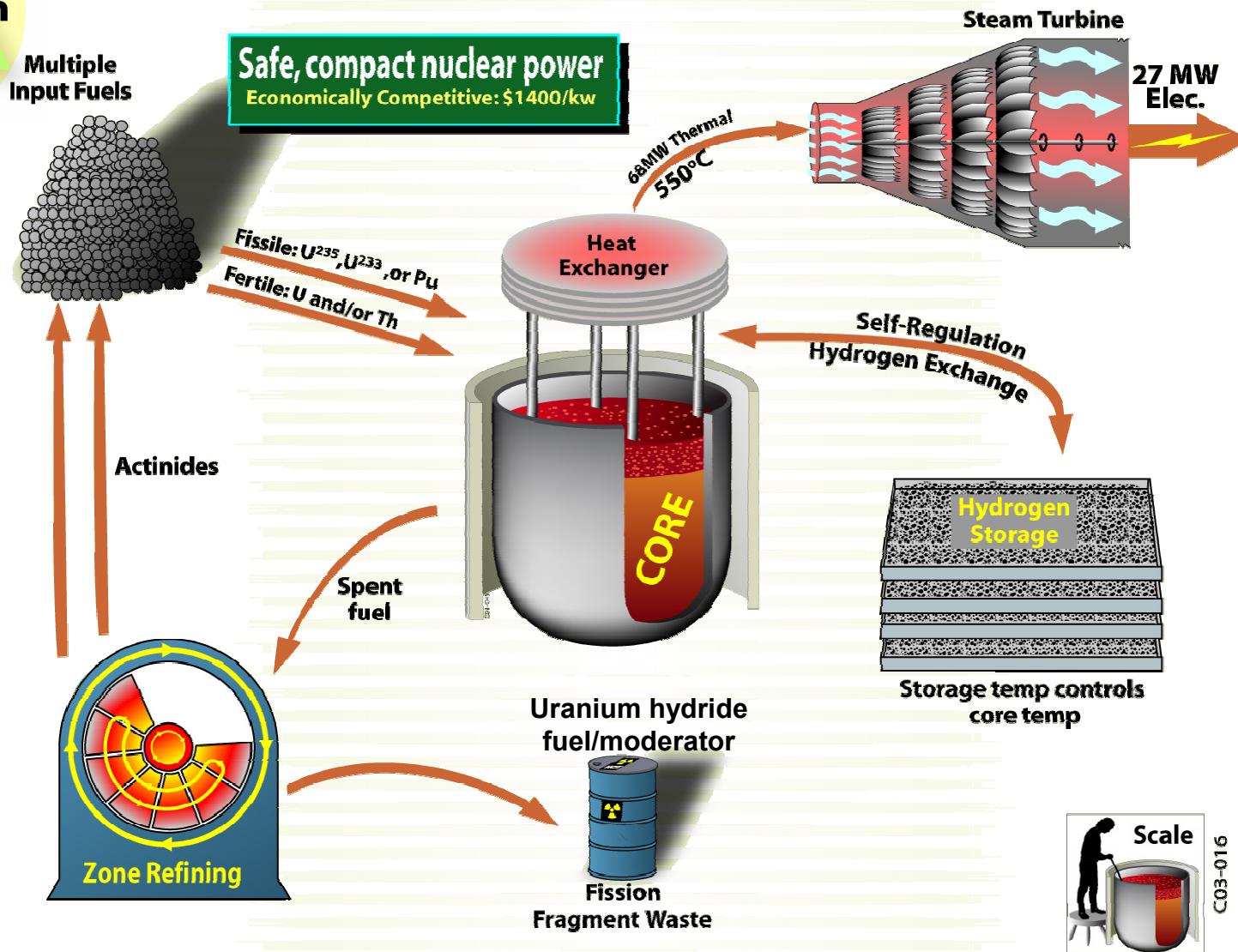


# Technical Overview

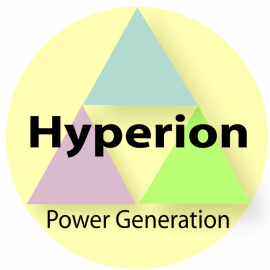
**Otis (Pete) Peterson**



# Hyperion Overview





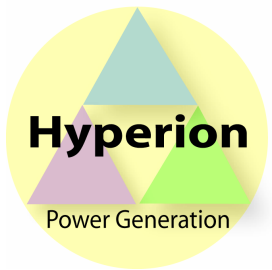


Hydride reactor  
safely stored  
underground in  
sealed vault

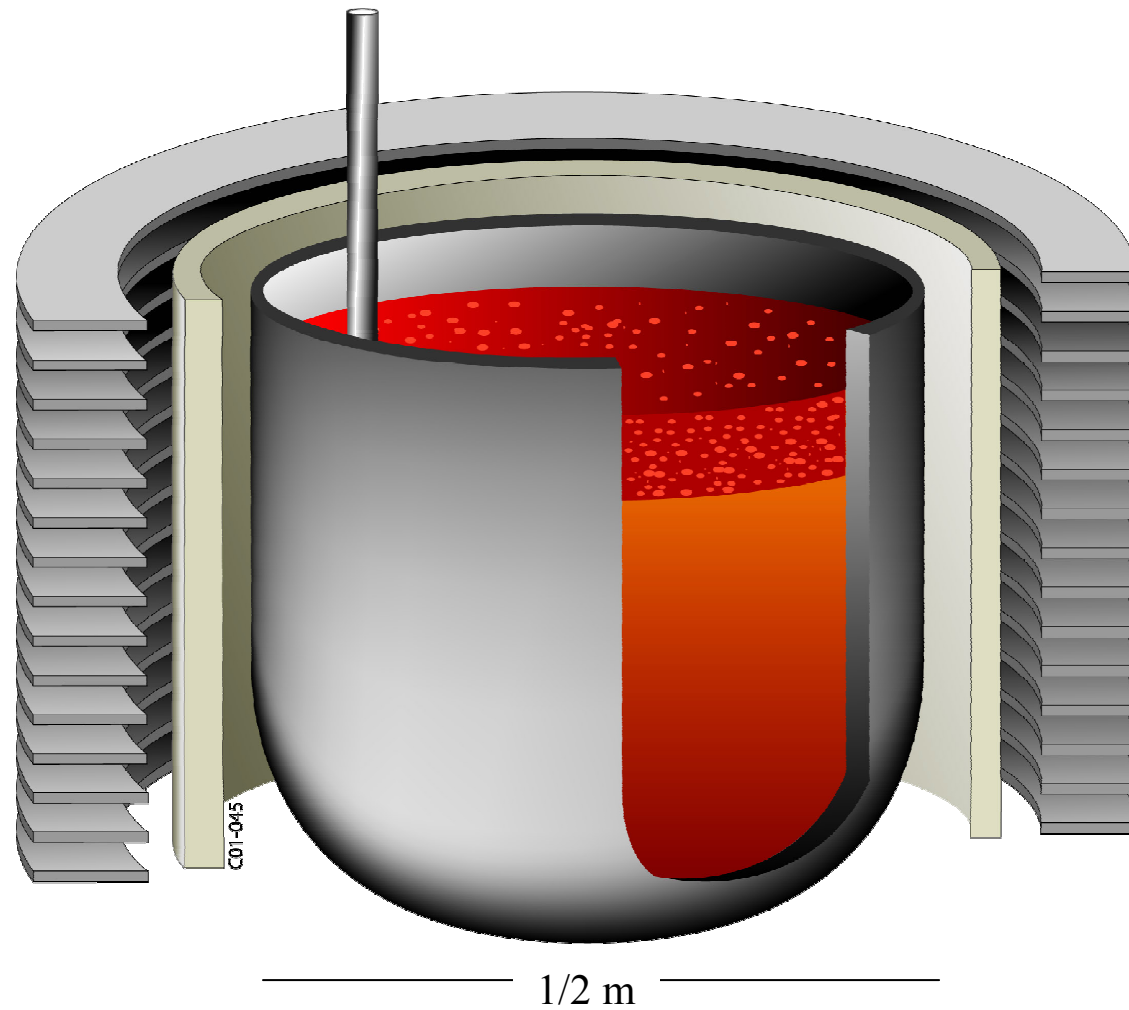


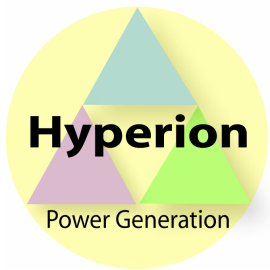
C02-037



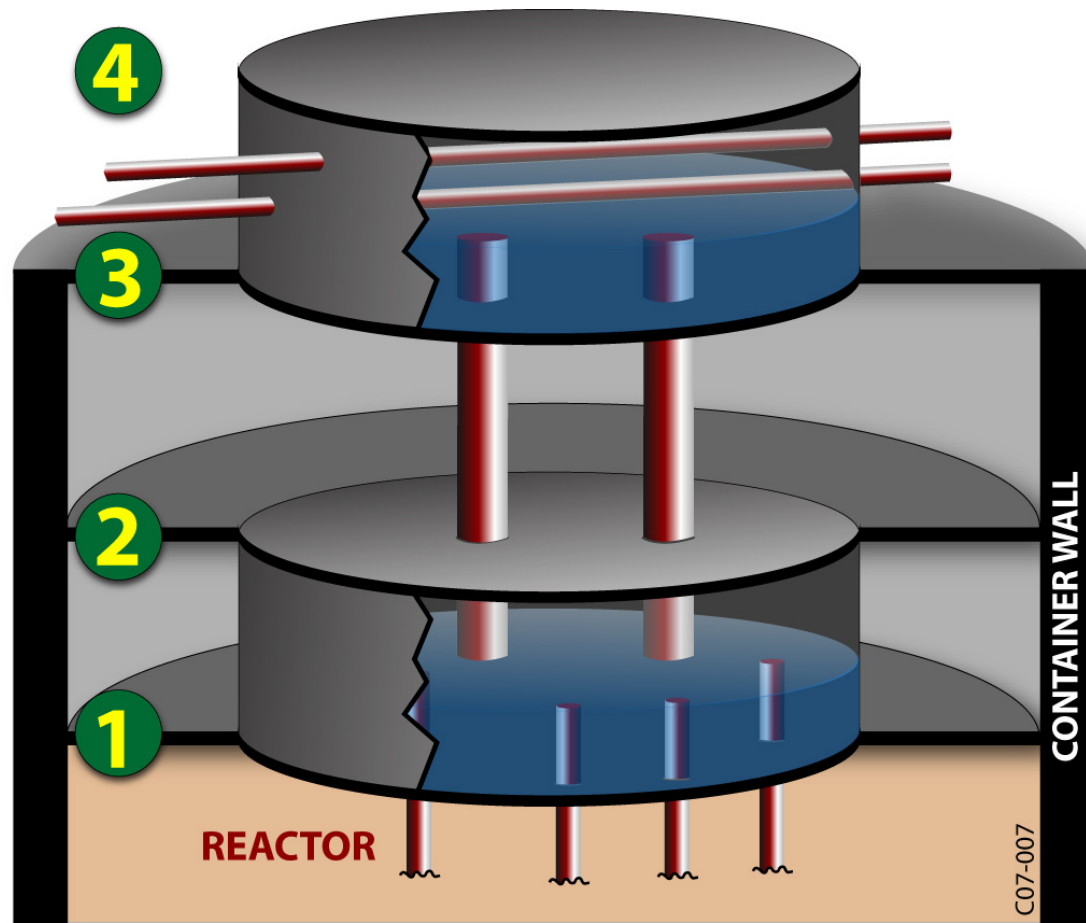


## Hydride Reactor Size

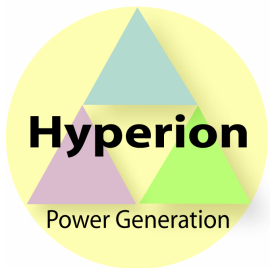




## Heat Extraction Includes Multiple Containment

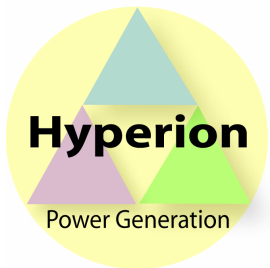


C07-007



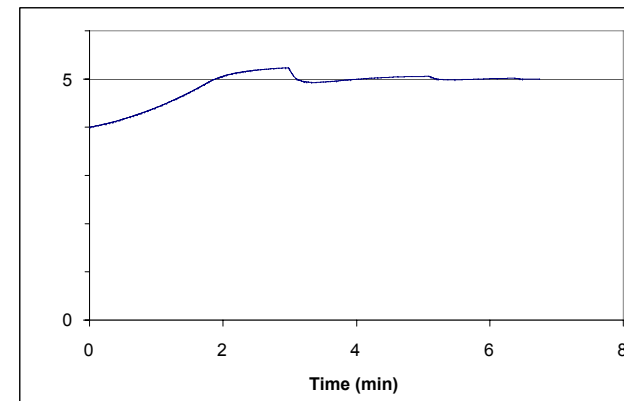
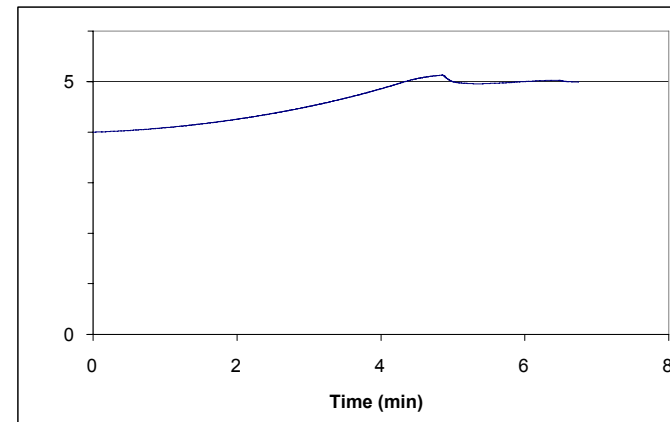
## Hyperion Breaks the Paradigm

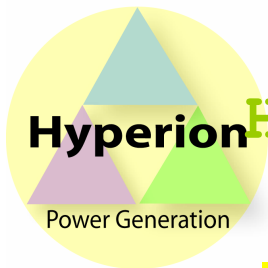
Characteristic	IRIS	PBMR	4S	ENHS	Hyperion
<b>Fuel</b>	<b>UO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>UO<sub>2</sub>/U<sub>2</sub>C<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>U</b>	<b>U</b>	<b>UH<sub>3</sub></b>
<b>Coolant</b>	<b>H<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>He</b>	<b>Na</b>	<b>Pb-Bi</b>	<b>K</b>
<b>Volume (m<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>760</b>	<b>1500</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Power (MW<sub>e</sub>/MW<sub>th</sub>)</b>	<b>100/300</b>	<b>100/260</b>	<b>50/120</b>	<b>50/120</b>	<b>30/75</b>
<b>Factory fueled</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Safety + control elements</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>zero</b>
<b>Internal pumps</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>zero</b>	<b>zero</b>



## The Hyperion Reactor Is Stable

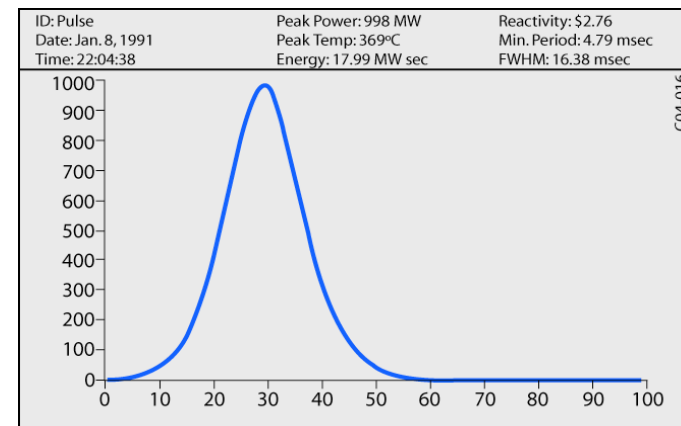
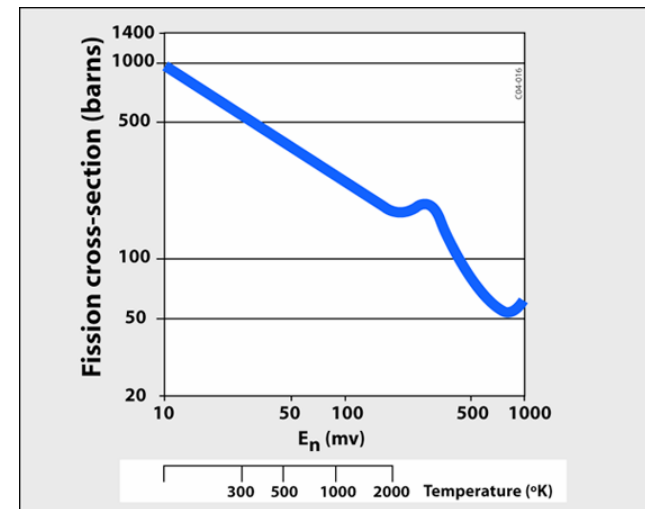
- Transients damp out in a few minutes
- Rapid changes in power generate transients
  - $5^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min.}$ : top figure
  - $50^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{min.}$ : bottom figure
- Order of magnitude rate changes do not affect stability

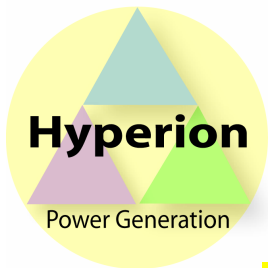




# Hydride Fuels Have a Half Century of Demonstrated Safety

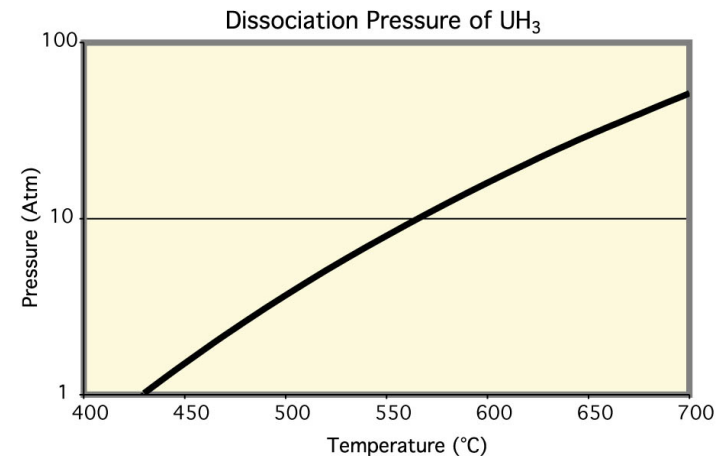
- **Hydride fuels are safe from temperature over-excursions**
  - **Common fuel/moderator yields warm neutrons**
  - **Fission cross-sections decrease as 1/velocity**
  - **Safe above prompt critical**
  - **Self-terminated pulses from 1 MW to 20 GW in 10 to 20 ms**
  - **Temperature rise up to 200 °C**
- **Safety demonstrated at over 60 installations**
  - **Safety proven by TRIGA and SNAP reactors**
  - **TRIGA certified for unattended operation**



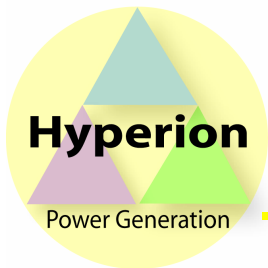


# Uranium Hydride Was Created for Nuclear Reactor Applications

- Hydrogen is most effective moderator
- High storage density for hydrogen moderator: comparable to water and liquid hydrogen
- High dissociation pressure (8 atm) at high temperature (550°C)
  - Enhances gas and thermal transport
  - Improves power conversion (40%) using supercritical water (superheated steam)
- $\text{UH}_3$  inherently forms as a powder
  - Particle size is very small (<75 microns)
  - Does not fuse under 900°C
  - Enhances diffusion escape rate (<30 ms)
- High mobility of hydrogen enhances diffusion and gas flow

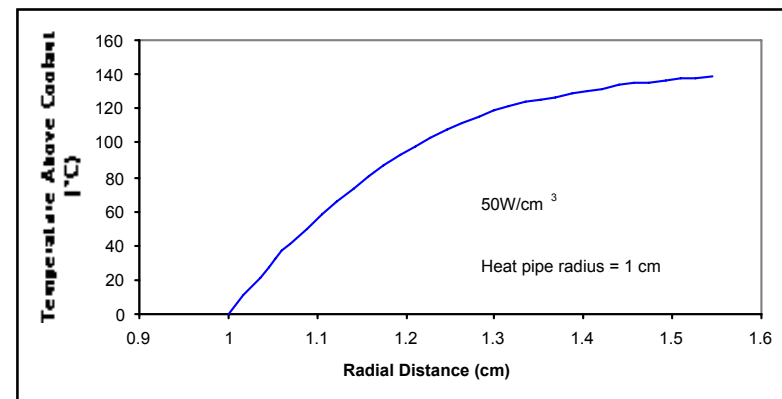
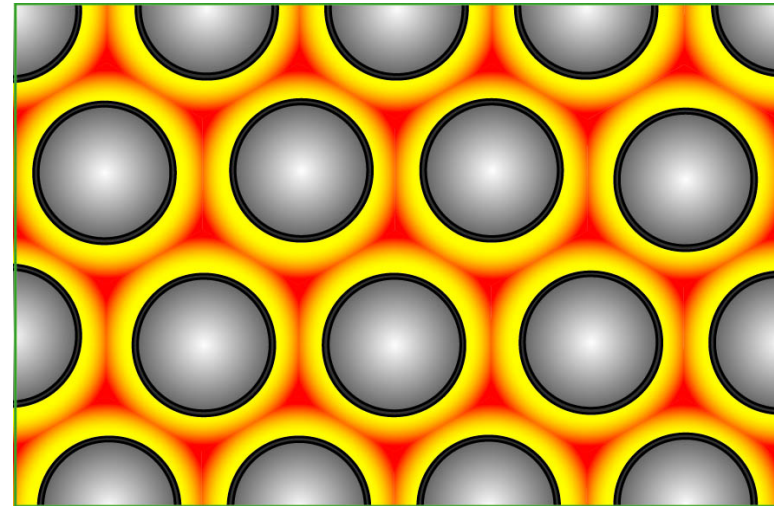


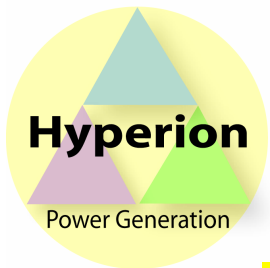
Core Property	Bare Core	Half Heat Pipes
$\text{U}^{235}$ enrichment	4.94%	5 %
Final enrichment	4.94%	3.5%
$\text{UH}_3$ powder density	7.5 g/cm <sup>3</sup>	7.5 g/cm <sup>3</sup>
Void fraction	0.32	0.32
$\text{U}^{235}$ critical mass	30 kg	440 kg
Total critical mass	0.61 MT	8.8 MT
Critical volume	83 liters	2400 liters
Critical diameter	0.54 m	1.44 m
Energy content	Zero	340 MW yrs
Electrical power	Zero	27 MW
Number of heat pipes	Zero	1600



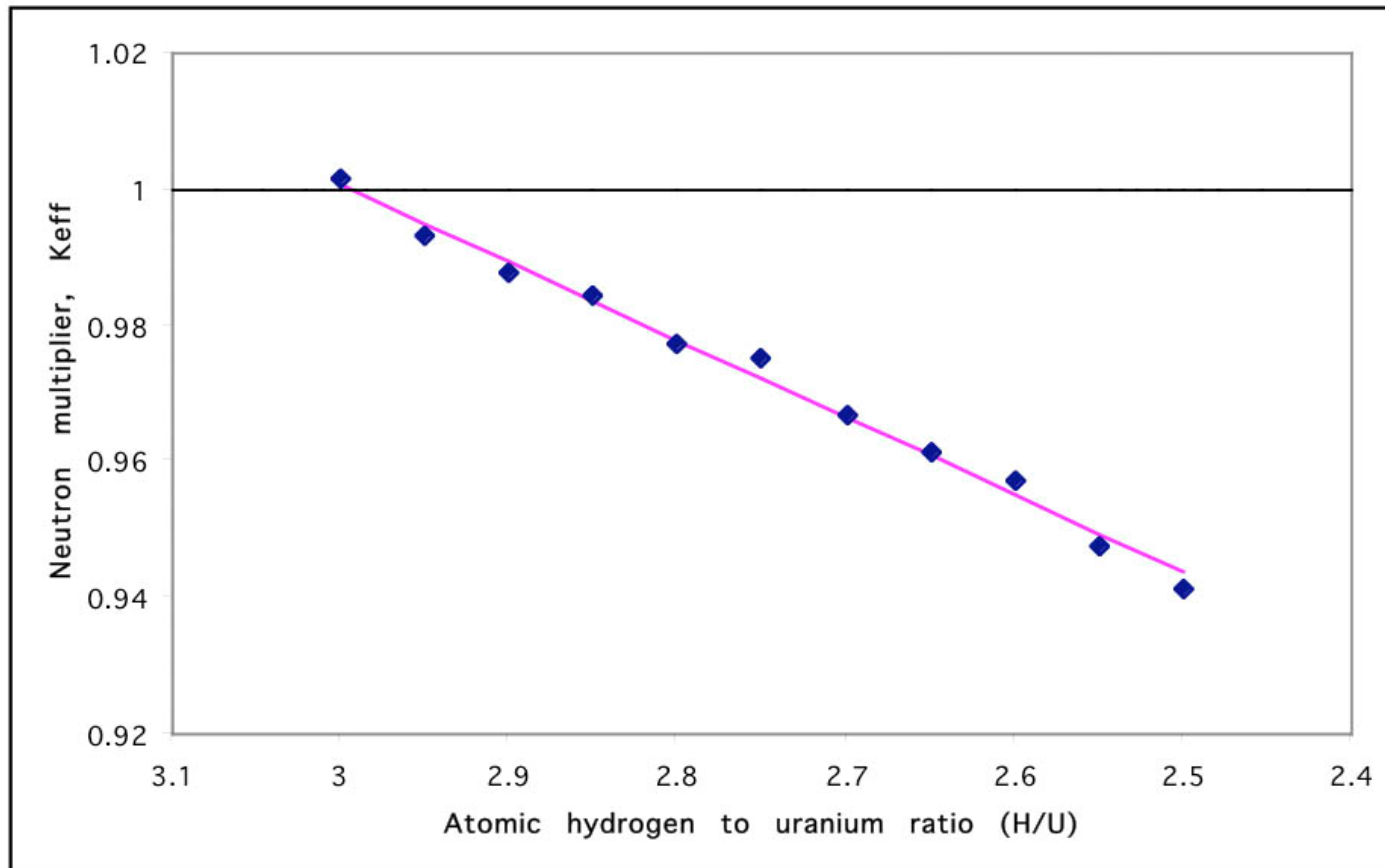
# Practical Deployment Requires Power Extraction

- **Coolant must be non-moderating:**
  - Potassium heat pipes
- **Reserve half of volume for cooling**
  - 1600 heat pipes (1 inch) in 1.4 m OD core
  - Pipe diameter = 3/4 of spacing
- **Temperature gradient extracts power**
  - Five year operation permits  $50 \text{ W/cm}^3$
  - Powdered fuel has low conductivity:  $0.04 \text{ W/cm/}^\circ\text{C}$
- **Effective temperature is above coolant**
  - Mass averaged  $\Delta T = 90^\circ\text{C}$
  - $\text{H}_2$  reservoir temperature equals highest of fuel -- safer operation

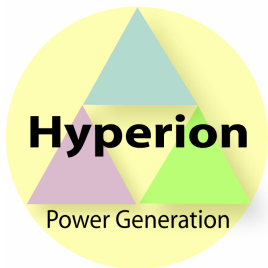




## Moderator Depletion Reduces Neutron Multiplication

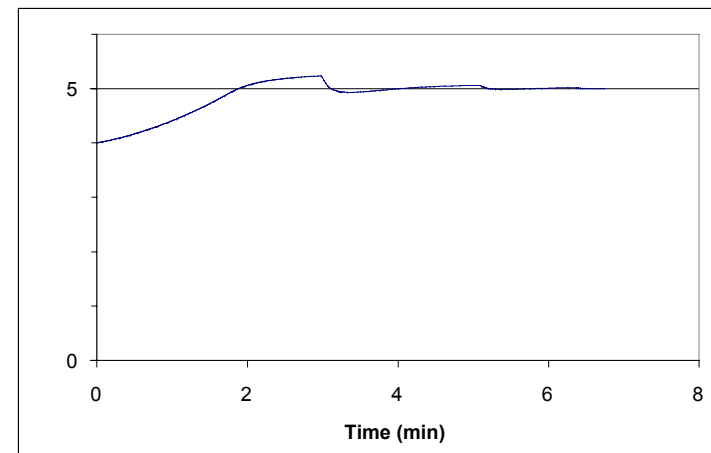
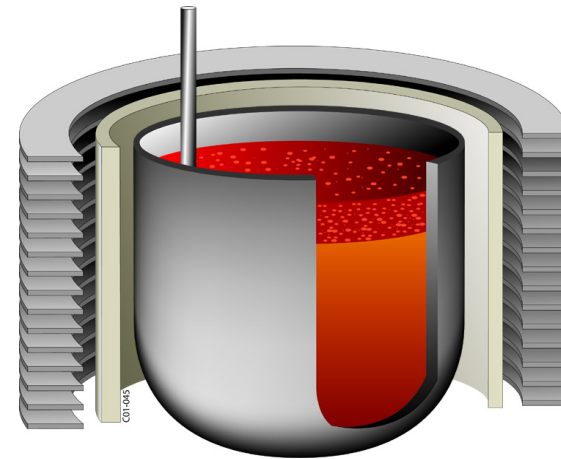


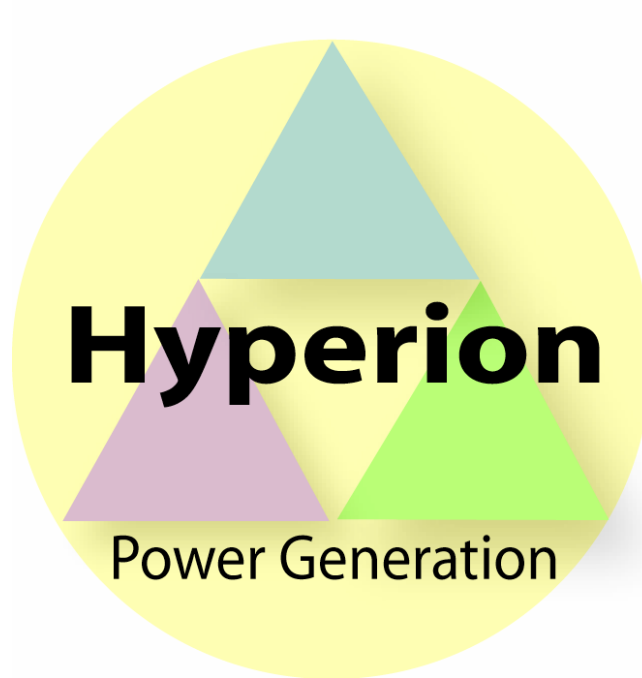




# Compact, Self-Stabilizing Nuclear Power Source

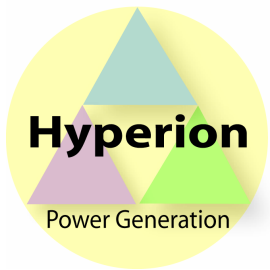
- Based on uranium hydride
  - Both fuel & moderator
  - Hydrogen volatility stabilizes reactor
  - Power transients damped by H transport
- Change power production paradigm
  - Many dispersed & redundant sources
  - Source sited and controlled locally
- Economically competitive (\$1400/kw) from inherent safety and stability
  - Power transients damped out
  - Mass produced
  - No mechanical moving parts
  - Minimum human oversight
  - High (550°C) operating temperature
  - Constant temperature: load following
- Minimize investment risk
  - Compact 1 to 2 m diameter core
  - Multi-10s of megawatt production
  - Multi-year use from factory sealed unit
- Spent fuel easily processed
  - Zone refining separations
  - Only power added to spent fuel





Design & Testing

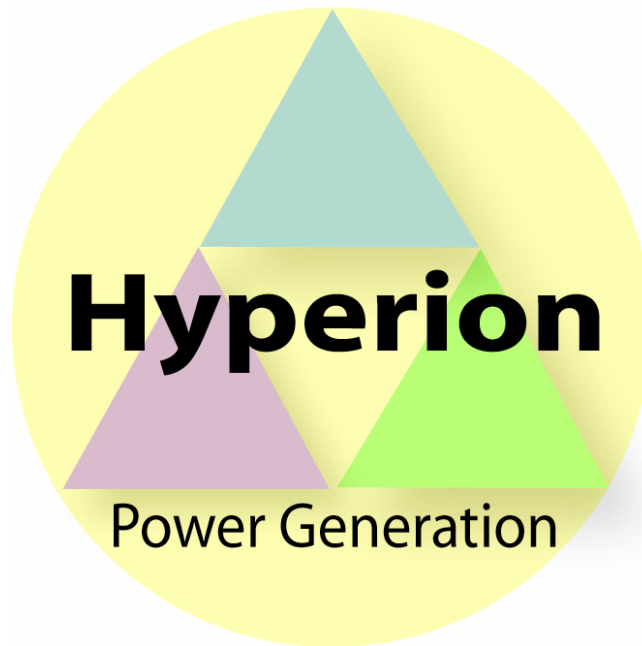
**Otis (Pete) Peterson**



# Hyperion Testing

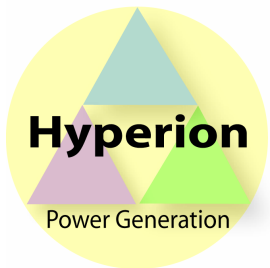
---

- **Gas Flow Dynamics Modeling**
- **Experimental Demonstration**
- **Material Capability**



# NRC Licensing & Commercialization

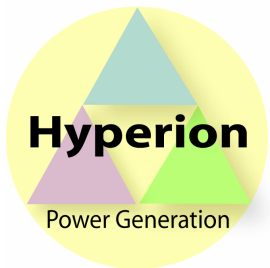
**Deborah A. Blackwell**  
**VP HPG, Inc.**



# Draft License Schedule

---

- **Now – Summer 2009: Validation**
- **October 2009: Turn over documentation of tests to NRC for pre-application review**
- **October 2011: Pre-app review completed, application for manufacturing license completed and submitted**
- **March 2015: Manufacturing license issued**
- **March 2016: Hyperion online**
  - **Assuming User/Operator has requested ESP or COL**



## Contacts

---

- **Deborah Blackwell**  
**(703) 722-2821**  
[deborah@purplemountainventures.com](mailto:deborah@purplemountainventures.com)
- **Otis (Pete) Peterson,**  
**(505) 667-5619**  
[otisp@lanl.gov](mailto:otisp@lanl.gov)
- **John R (Grizz) Deal**  
**(505) 984-3224**  
[grizz@purplemountainventures.com.com](mailto:grizz@purplemountainventures.com.com)