

CANFLEX Economics

To facilitate discussion and to provide an economic basis for a decision to implement the use of CANFLEX NU fuel, a detailed economic model has been prepared to include all investments, effects on annual utility revenues, and annual operating costs. The assessment fully demonstrates that the returns from CANFLEX are significant.

Flexibility = Future Fuel Cycle Options

One of CANFLEX's distinct advantages is that it is designed to serve as the fuel carrier for a variety of fuel cycle options for CANDU reactors. While significant benefits can be achieved using CANFLEX NU, it is expected that further benefits will be achieved with alternate fuel cycles such as slightly enriched



AECL and KAERI have developed a new generation of fuel bundle—CANFLEX—to increase fuel performance and cost efficiency, and to allow for fuel cycle options. Here officials from AECL, KAERI, New Brunswick Power, and Zircotec Precision Industries—manufacturers of the first CANFLEX fuel bundles—celebrate the start of the demonstration irradiation at Point Lepreau NGS.

uranium (SEU), or recycled uranium (RU) from the conventional reprocessing of Light Water Reactor (LWR) spent fuel. In the long term, thorium and DUPIC (Direct Use of Spent PWR Fuel In CANDU) are also options. CANFLEX SEU and CANFLEX RU will be available as options in the near future.

A key element in AECL's plant life management strategies, CANFLEX NU assists stations in recovering the loss of thermalhydraulic margins that can occur because of various ageing phenomena. Current projections show substantial benefits can be realized by changing to CANFLEX NU fuel.