

## Economic Impact

The CNF project will yield significant benefits for companies that are vendors and subcontractors for components and services. The CNF will include advanced electronics, computing hardware and software, custom design and engineering and heavy equipment. Canadian companies will be contracted to supply, assemble and commission 90 per cent of the components for the reactor, CANDU development facilities, and the neutron beam laboratory. The stringent demands of the project will require firms to develop new skills and technologies that will improve their subsequent competitiveness. The new expertise will encourage the marketing of new products, business expansion and creation of new jobs. The tax revenues from direct contracts and expanded capabilities will be a significant return to Canada. After project completion, suppliers can look forward to 40 years of revenue from maintenance, upgrades and new equipment over the lifetime of the facility.

In addition to the direct stimulus of economic activity, the research and development conducted at the CNF will help ensure Canada's global competitiveness. In the CANDU business, for example, the Wolsong Project in the Republic of Korea—CANDU Units 2, 3, 4—benefitted from nuclear technology largely developed

through research reactor proof-testing. The project returned about \$1 billion to the Canadian economy. The Qinshan Project in China—two CANDU 6 reactors—is providing 27 000 person-years of high-tech and industrial jobs for Canada. This economic stimulus is ongoing, with 10-12 additional off-shore CANDU sales projected over the next 10 years.

The neutron beam laboratory will provide powerful insights to help Canadian companies solve materials problems and efficiently develop new products. The economic returns from advanced materials applications are equally impressive. Building Canadian materials expertise over the lifetime of the CNF will return to Canada 10-35 per cent annually on the investment, based on experience in other industrialized countries.

*As with the project to build two MAPLE reactors for MDS Nordion, the CNF project will yield significant benefits for Canadian suppliers.*

