CNF Design

The source of neutrons for the CNF is a 40 MW_t pool-type reactor based on AECL's well-established MAPLE (Multipurpose Applied Physics Lattice Experiment) technology. MAPLE reactors are among the most advanced multipurpose research reactors available today. The first demonstration of MAPLE technology is Korea's HANARO research reactor, which started up in 1995.

Two MAPLE reactors, dedicated to the production of medical isotopes, are now under construction at AECL's

Chalk River site, for MDS Nordion. This project is on schedule and on budget. As well, MAPLE research reactor technology is offered in a proposal currently being developed for the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organization (ANSTO). The MAPLE reactors benefit from AECL's extensive experience in the design, construction and safe operation of both research reactors and CANDU power reactors worldwide.



MAPLE's breakthrough design technology was incorporated into the Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute's HANARO multipurpose research reactor, which began operation in February 1995.