

# The Vital Role of Nuclear Energy in the Global Climate Agenda

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# The vital role of nuclear in the Global Climate Agenda

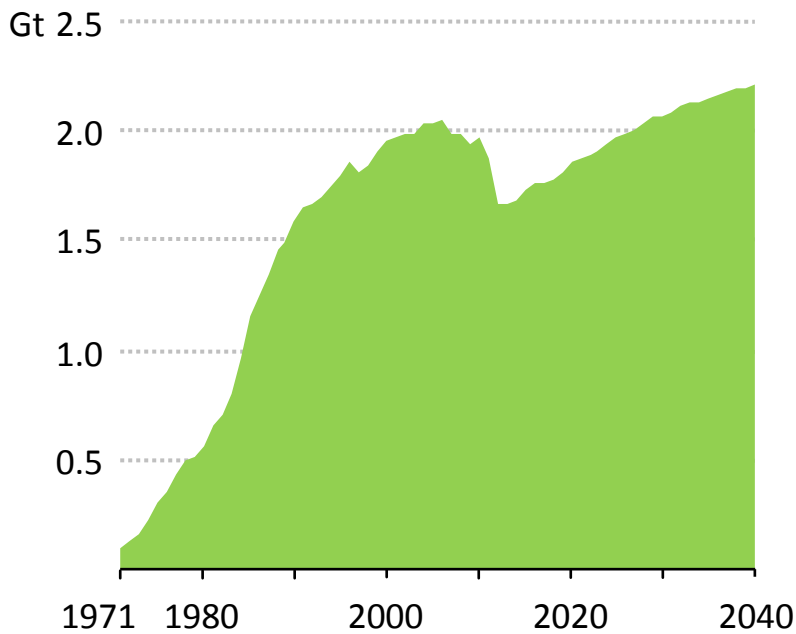


- **Maintaining momentum after Paris COP 21 agreement**
- **Tapping the full potential of nuclear**
- **Aligning the market framework for decarbonisation**
- **Outline:**
  - **Existing nuclear contribution**
  - **A key role in decarbonisation scenarios**
  - **Nuclear competitiveness**
  - **Nuclear in competitive electricity markets**
  - **Lifetime extension**
  - **RD&D**

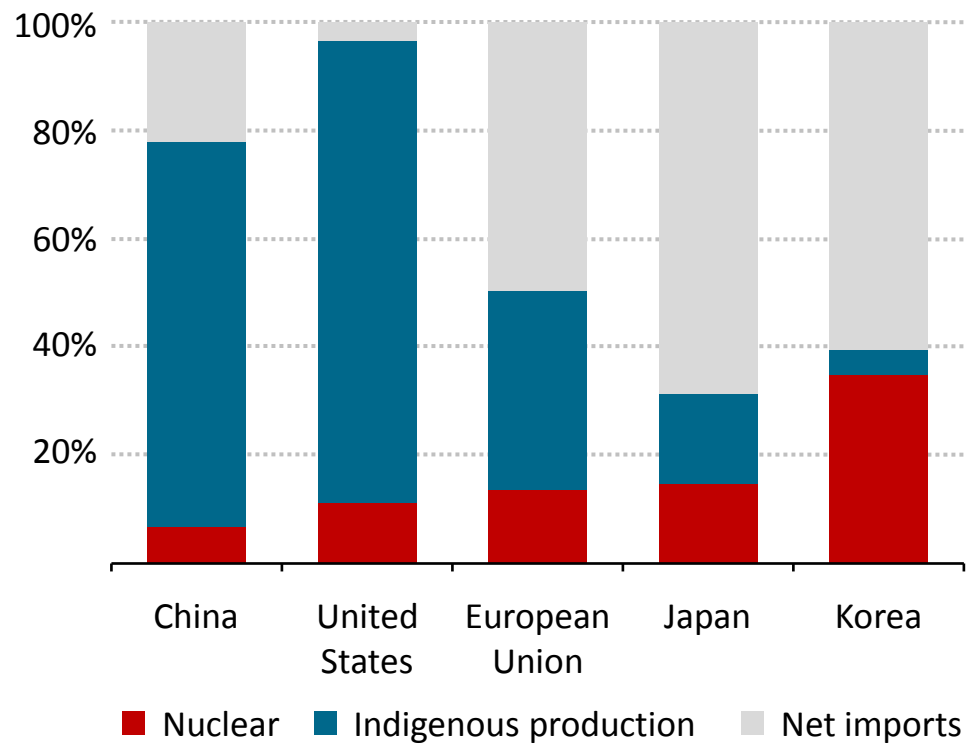
# Nuclear power can play a role in CO<sub>2</sub> abatement & energy security



CO<sub>2</sub> emissions avoided annually by nuclear power 1971-2040



Share of energy demand met by domestic sources and nuclear power in 2040

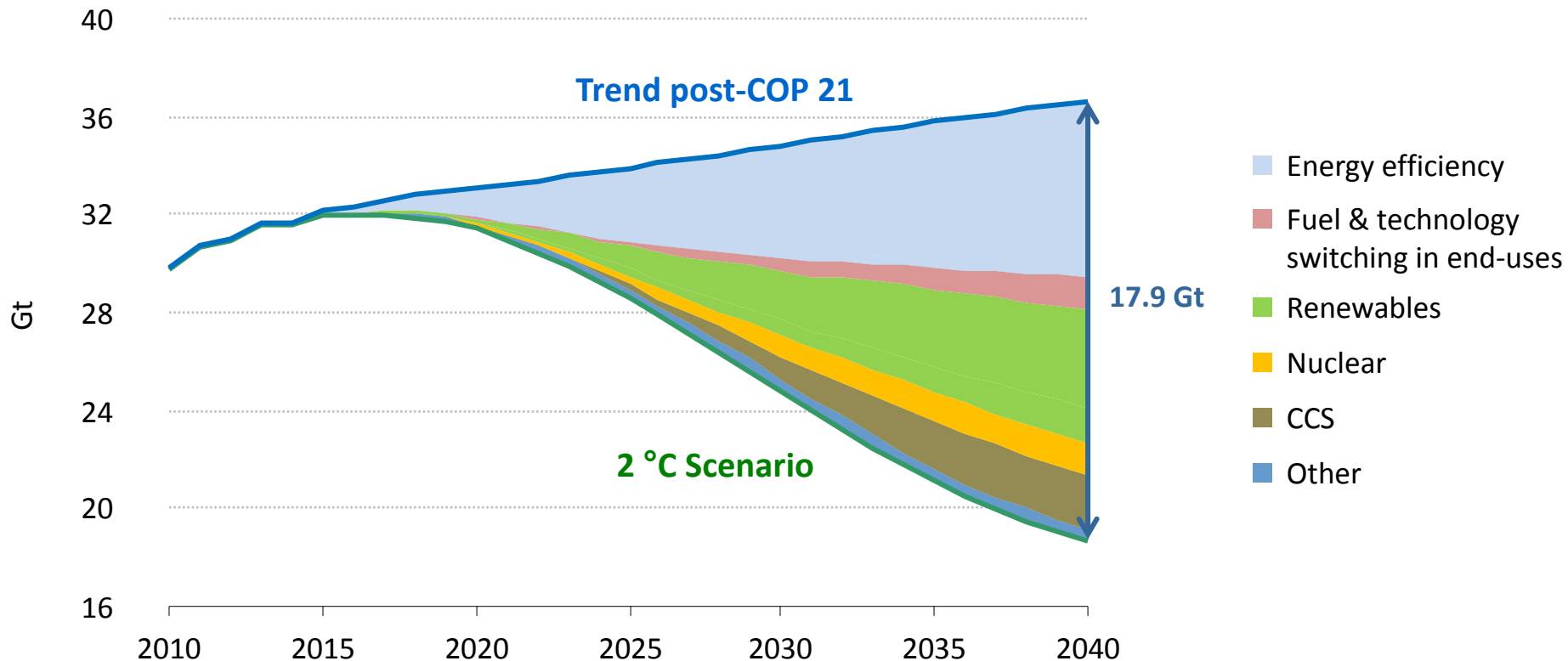


***By 2040, almost 4 years of current emissions have been avoided by nuclear power; it cuts dependence on foreign fuel supplies & lowers import bills for some countries***

# A 2 °C pathway requires more technological innovation, investment & policy ambition



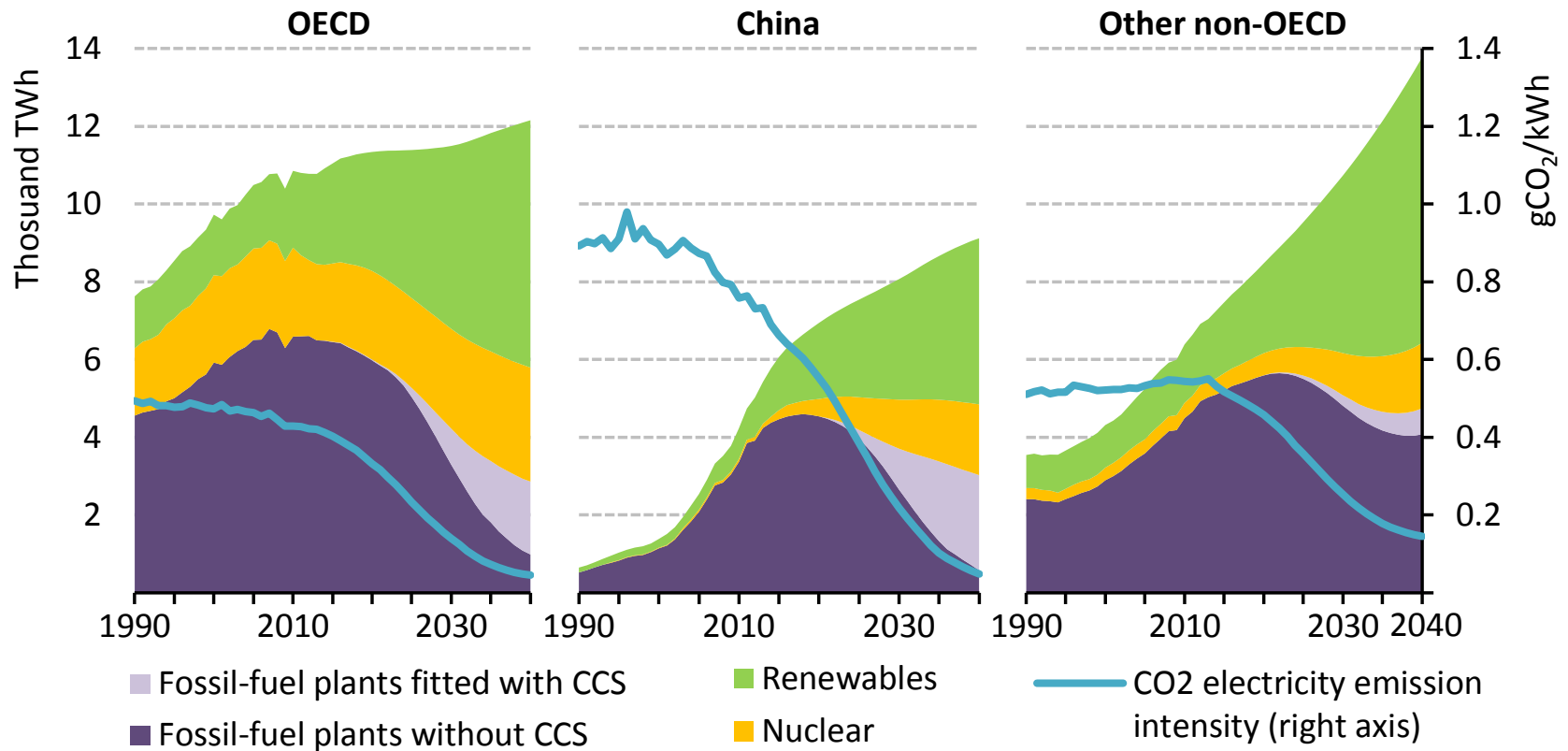
## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in a post COP 21 world



**Massive additional investments in efficiency, renewables, nuclear power and other low carbon technologies are required to reach a 2 °C pathway**

# The power sector is central to a low-carbon world

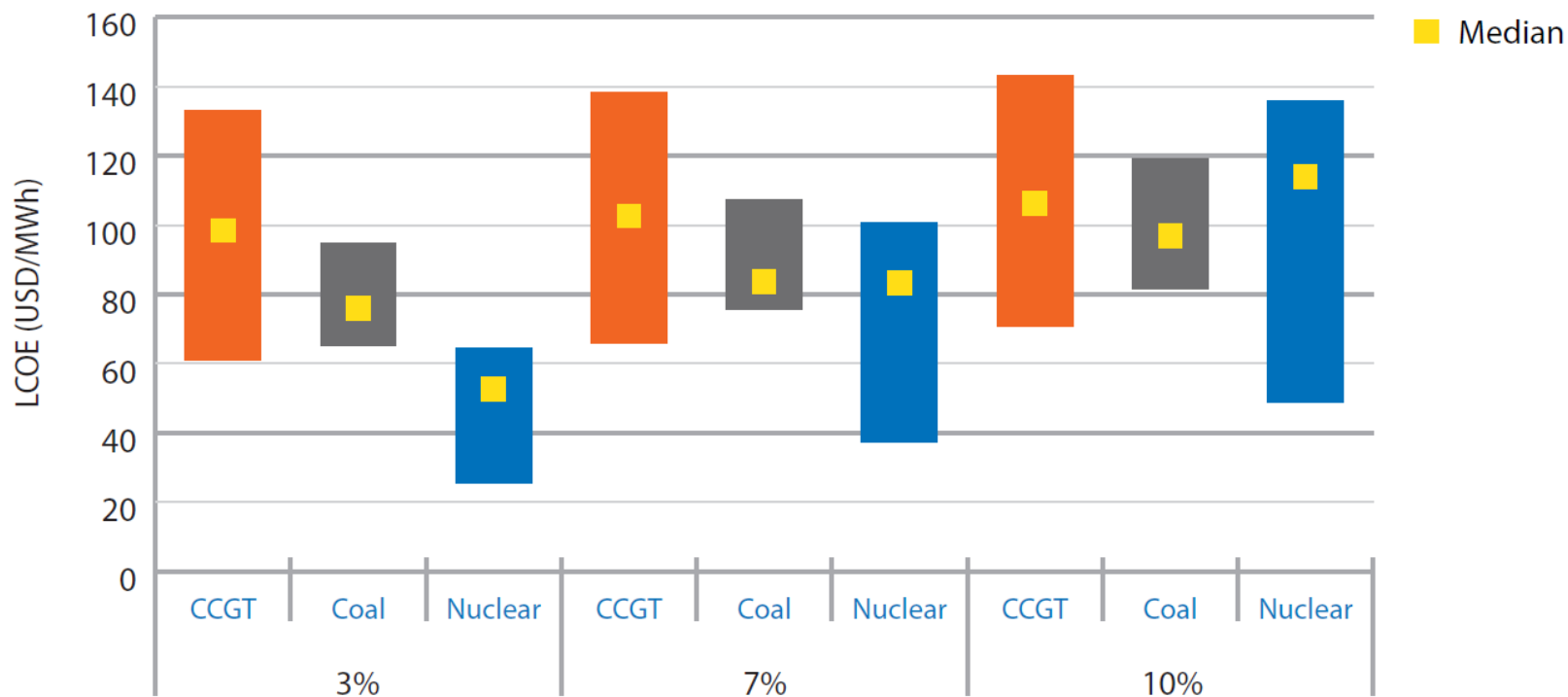
## Electricity generation by technology and CO<sub>2</sub> intensity in the 450 Scenario



**Low-carbon power generation needs to quadruple with respect to today, with renewables reaching half of the global power mix in 2040**

# Nuclear remains competitive

## Comparison of LCOEs of different generation technologies



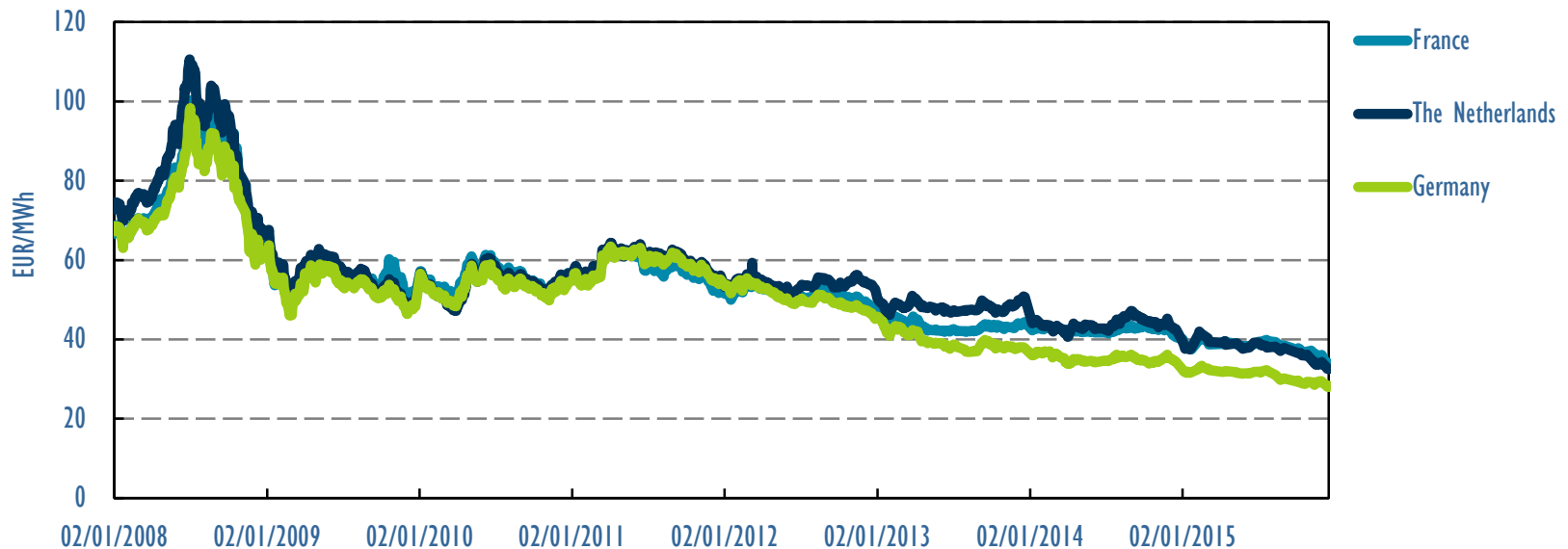
Note: Assumes region-specific fuel prices for US, Europe, Asia; 85% load factor; CO<sub>2</sub> price of 30 USD/tonne. (Source: Projected Costs of Generating Electricity 2015 Edition NEA&IEA)

**Despite declining costs of renewables, the IEA NEA projected cost study found that nuclear can remain in the competitive range**

# Is nuclear investable in competitive markets?



Year-ahead forward market prices (Real price 2015), 2008-15



***Under current market circumstance and without a carbon price, market-based nuclear investments are unlikely***

# Keeping existing low-carbon capacity



## ■ Several nuclear reactors have been or will close:

- Germany
- Japan

## ■ Risk of closure for economic reasons

- 14 reactors in the USA
- Sweden



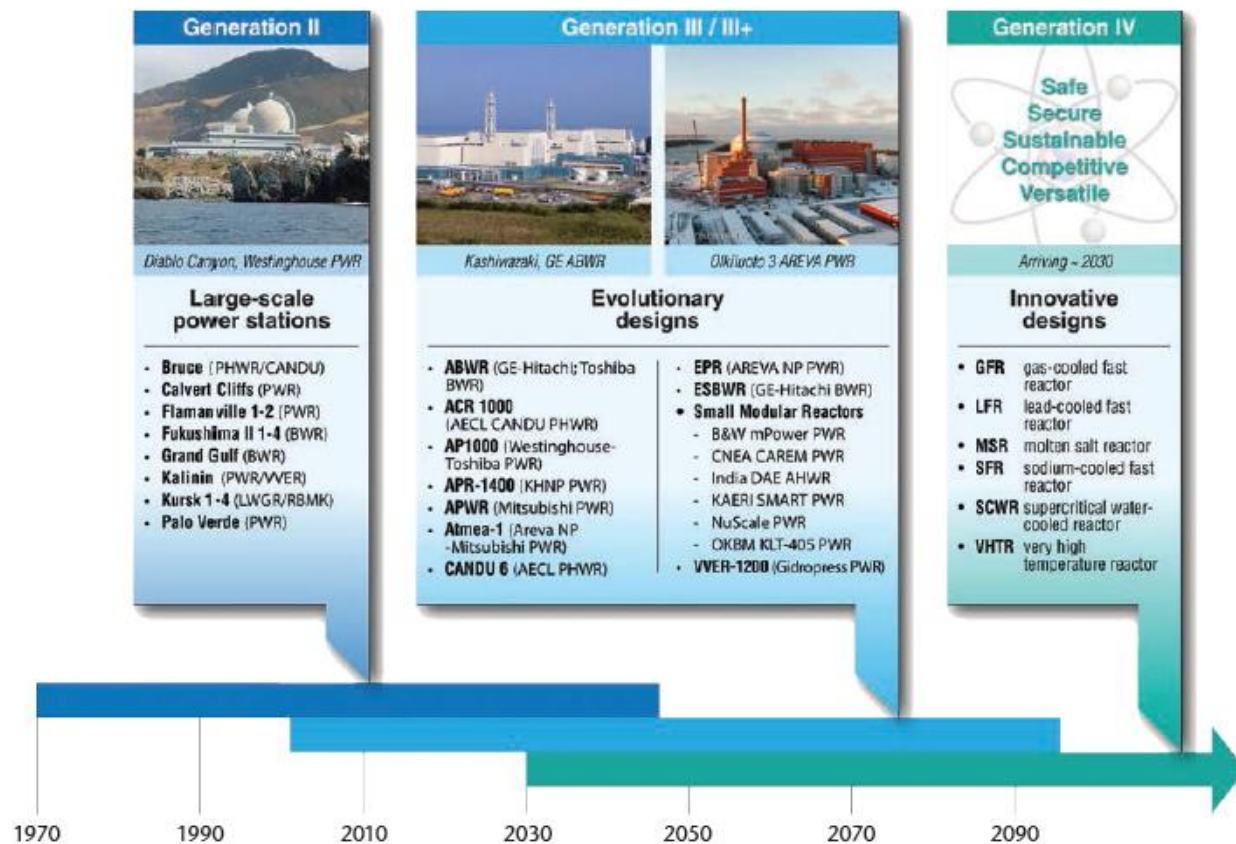
Pilgrim Nuclear Generating Station, Entergy Corporation

*Extending the operating lifetime of reactors to enable them to operate safely is essential to maintaining low-carbon generation capacity.*



# The future of nuclear

## Evolution of fission reactor technologies



Source: in GEN IV international forum IEA and NEA (2015), Technology roadmap, Nuclear energy

**Financing RD&D will be needed to develop new technologies in order for nuclear to be able to compete with renewables technologies**

# Conclusion: nuclear at the cross road



- **Decarbonisation of the power sector relies on a portfolio of low-carbon generation technologies, including nuclear**
- **Nuclear has to compete with other low-carbon technologies on a level playing field**
- **When technically and politically possible, keeping existing nuclear capacity is a low-cost low carbon option**
- **Future competitiveness of nuclear will depend on the capability to increase safety while decreasing costs**
- **Long term support schemes are necessary to secure financing for nuclear projects**



Thank you