# Desafíos de la Fusión para la Seguridad Nuclear y la Protección **Radiológica** Carlos Alejaldre **Director General CIEMAT** Former Deputy Director General ITER Organization





Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas Jornada de I+D "Una actividad estratégica para el CSN" Consejo Seguridad Nuclear 17 diciembre 2021

# Niveles de CO<sub>2</sub> en los últimos 400.000 años



# The energy challenge



World energy consumption is growing continuously and it is predicted to grow at least twice by 2030 with respect to 90's. (International Energy Agency - IEA)

#### **Options for the future**

- Fossil fuels : develop and deploy CO<sub>2</sub> capture and storage
- Renewables: seek breakthroughs in production and storage
- Nuclear fission: acceptability issue
- Fusion: must demonstrate scientific and technological feasibility

We need to produce carbon-free energy on a massive scale !

# **Realidad - Proyección**







# **Combustible Fusion**

La materia prima de una planta de fusion es agua y litio\*



Litio en una bateria de un ordenador portàtil + media bañera de agua (-> un dedal de agua pesada) puede producir 200,000 kW-hora ≈ consumo promedio de un español durante 45 años

**Deuterio**/hydrogeno = 1/6700

+ tritio de: neutron (de fusion) + litio 🗆 tritio + helio



# ¿Ciencia o Ficción?





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A C



### La Fusión en nuestro Planeta"... no es la misma que en el Sol"



+ 20% de Energía (3.5 MeV)

#### + 80% de Energía (14.1 MeV)

• La reacción de fusión más sencilla de conseguir en condiciones terrestres:

 $^{2}D + ^{3}T \Rightarrow ^{4}He (3.5 MeV) + ^{1}n (14.1 MeV)$ 

 Otras dos reacciones importantes para la fusión DT son:

 $^{1}n + ^{6}Li \Rightarrow ^{4}He + ^{3}T + 4.8 MeV$ 

 $^{1}n + ^{7}Li \Rightarrow ^{3}He + ^{3}T + ^{1}n - 2.5 MeV$ 

 Estas reacciones permitirán a un reactor de fusión generar tritio







# Las Botellas: Tokamak y Stellarator

"тороидальная камера в магнитных катушках" (*toroidal'naya kamera v magnitnykh katushkakh*) toroidal chamber in magnetic coils (Tochamac)).







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#### TJ-II CIEMAT

LHD Japón





### La "botella" de Fusión Nuclear mayor del mundo: JET





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# **Plasma fusion performance**

Temperatura -  $T_i$ : $1-2 \times 10^8 \text{ K}$  (10-20 keV)<br/>(~10 × temperatura del centro del Sol)Densidad -  $n_i$ : $1 \times 10^{20} \text{ m}^{-3}$ <br/>(~10<sup>-6</sup> densidad atmosférica)

Tiempo confinamento energía-  $\tau_E$ : unos segundos ( $\propto$  corriente × radio<sup>2</sup>) (duración pulso plasma ~1000s)



## The Way to Fusion Power – The ITER Story





The idea for ITER originated from the Geneva Superpower Summit on November 21,1985, when the Russian Premier Mikhail Gorbachev and the US-President Ronald Reagan proposed that an international Project be set up to develop fusion energy "as an essentially inexhaustible source of energy for the benefit of mankind".





Late Edition Weather: Rain likely today, strong eas erly winds; rain ending late tonight. Partly cloudy and warmer tomorrow. Temperatures: today 43:47, tonight 40. 45; yesterday 38:52. Details, page C30.

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NEW YORK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1985

Mounts Seyond 18 miles from New York City. 30 CENTS

global task - through inint an

**Exchange Initiatives** 

The two leaders agreed on the util

and secondary school instruction; measures to promote Rossian lan-guage studies in the United States and

English language studies in the U.S.S.R.; the annual exchange of prolessors to conduct special courses in

history, culture and economics at the relevant departments of Soviet and

American institutions of higher education; mutual allocation of schol-arships for the best students in the

regular meets in various sports an

The relevant agencies in each of the

#### Text of the Joint U.S.-Soviet Statement: 'Greater Understanding' Achieved'

GENEVA, Nov. 21 - Fallowing is the text of the joint Soviet American statement at the end of the summit meeting today, as made public by the

By mutual agreement, the Presi-dent of the United States, Ronald Rengan, and the General Secretary of the Central, Committee of the Con-munited Party of the Saviet Union, Mi-Muall S. Gorbachev, met In Geneva Nov. 19-21. Attending the meeting on the U.S. side were Secretary of State the U.S. side were Secretary of State George P. Shultz; chief of siaff, Don-ald T. Regna; Assistant to the Presi-dent, Robert C. McFarlane; Ambassador to the U.S.S.R., 3 mina; special adviser t and the Secretary of Control, Paul H. Nitze, retary of State of Eur Rozanne L. Ridgway; ant to the President to

urity Affairs, Jack F

Attending on the So nember of the Polith

tral Committee of Minister of Foreign / A. Shevardnadze; Fin. cign Minister Georgi N

Ambassador to the

Anatoly F. Dobrynin;

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partment of internat tion of the Central Cor C.P.S.U., Leonid M

assistant to the Genera the Central Commi C.P.S.U , Andrei M. A

These comprehension overed the basic que

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While acknowledge

In this counection the two sides ple of 50 percent reductions in the ma-have confirmed the importance of an clear arms of the U.S. and the ongoing disalogue, reflecting their U.S.S.R. appropriately applied, we strong desire to seek common ground well as the idea of an interim L.N.F.

strong desire to seek common ground on existing problems. They agreed to meet again in the major to future. The General Secto-tion and the sector of the sector of the President of the United States no visit the United States of America, and the President of the United States no cepted an invitation by the General of the C.P.S.U. to while the Soviet of the C.P.S.U. to while the Soviet union. Arrangements for the United of the sists will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels. In their meetings, agreement was reached on a smonther of specific surveyment. During the negotiation of these agreements, effective missaures for verification of compliance with obigations assumed will be agreed upon. **Risk Reduction Centers** 

#### The sides agreed to study the ques-

tion at the expert level of centers to tion at the expert seven or centers to reduce muchan risk taking into ac-count the issues and developments in the Geneva negotiations. They took satisfactions in such recent steps in this direction as the modernization of

**Fusion Research** 

The two leaders emphasized the potential importance of the work aimed at utilizing controlled thermonuclear fusion for peaceful purposes and, in this connection, advocated the widest practicable development of international cooperation in obtaining this source of energy, which is essentialy inexhaustible, for the benefit for all mankind.

firmed that they are in favor of a gen-eral and complete prohibition of chemical weapons and the destruction of existing stockpiles of such tion of existing stockpues of such weapons. They agreed to accelerate efforts to conclude an effective and verifiable international convention on

this matter The two sides agreed to intensify bilateral discussions on the level of experts on all aspects of such a chem-

ical weapons ban, including the ques-tion of verification. They agreed to initiate a dialogue on preventing the proliferation of chemical weapons.

**Mutual Basic Force Reduction**  fields as agaiculture, bossing and prosearch and practical measures. In artection of the environment have been cordance with the existing U.S. worful. Recognizing that exchanges of

Serviet agreement in this area, consul-tations will be held next year in Monviews on regional issues on the expert level have proven useful, they agreed to continue such exchanges on a regucow and Washington on specific pro grams of cooperation

lar basis, The sides intend to expand the pro-grams of bifateral cultural, educational and scientific-technical ex-changes, and also to develop trade and economic ties. The President of the United States and the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. attended the signing

The two leaders agreed on the util ity of broadening exchanges and coa-tacts including some of their new forms in a number of scientific, educational, medical and sports fields (inter alia, cooperation in the development of educational ex-changes and software for elementary and servinghary school instructions of the Agreement on Contacts and Ex-changes in Scientific, Educational and Cultural Fields. and Collural Pields. They agreed on the Importance of resolving humanitarian cases in the spirit of cooperation. Thry believe that there should be greater understanding among our peoples and that to this end they will encourage greater travel and people-to, neurole contact.

to-people contact.

#### Northern Pacific Air Safety

The two leaders also noted with satisfaction that, in cooperation with saturaction than, in conjectual with the Government of Japan, the United States and the Saviet Union have agreed to a set of measures to promote safety on air routes in the North Pacific and have worked out steps to

ates general in New York and K

Environmental Protect

Both sides agreed to contrib he preservation of the env

They acknowledged that delega-ions from the United States and the aviet Union have bigan negotiation Inton neve tegon to previe a resonation of air servic sectors, expressed their reach a sectorally benefi-reach a sectorally benefisire to reach a stringly pard, an agreement was read ultaneous opening of c

potential importance of the work aimed at utilizing controlled thermio nuclear furion for penceful purposes and, in this connection, advocated the widest practicable detectopment of international cooperation in ubtaining this source of energy, which is even tially inexhaustifile, for the benefit i

natural sciences, technology, social sciences and humanities for the period of an academic year, holding increased television coverage or sports events). The two sides agrees to resume cooperation in combiling cancer diseases. countries are being instructed to de **Civil Aviation Consulates** 

velop specific programs for these ex-changes. The resulting programs will **Fusion Research** The two leaders emphanized th

# **Collaboration is our greatest asset**



#### Ceremony ITER Agreement Signature, Elysee Palace, 21 November 2006





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The ITER tokamak\* is an experimental nuclear fusion reactor

ITER plasma will generate 10 times more energy than it receives.

Input 50 MW – Output 500 MW

It is a necessary step on the way to commercial nuclear fusion energy.

Will demonstrate the availability and integration of technologies essential for a nuclear fusion reactor

\* Toroidal Chamber, Magnetic Coils







Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas El tamaño de ITER es el doble del mayor experimento existente











830 m<sup>3</sup> ~500 MW, ~400 s ~700 s

# **ITER Tokamak – Mass Comparison**



**ITER Machine mass:** ~23000 t

28 m diameter x 29 m tall

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#### Charles de Gaulle mass: ~38000 t (empty) 856 ft (261 m) long (Commissioned 2001)

# EU, KO, IN & RF

# Vacuum Vessel

#### Facts

- SS 316 L(N)-IG
- ~5300 tons (VV, ports, shielding only)
- 19.4 m (63 ft) torus outer diameter
- 11.3 m (37 ft) torus height

### Status

- VV sector and port Procurement Arrangements signed (EU, KO, IN, & RF)
- KO VV & port contract awarded to Hyundai Heavy Industries
- EU VV contract awarded







# **Vacuum Vessel Mass Comparison**



**VV & In-vessel components mass:** ~8000 t **19.4 m outside diameter x 11.3 m tall** 



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**Eiffel Tower mass: ~7300 t 324 m tall** (Completed 1889)









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**TF Coils** 





• TF conductors

400t of Nb3Sn superconductor, assembled into 90km of high current 70kA conductor cooled by supercritical He, Shared by Europe, Russia, Japan, Korea, China and USA

• TF structures

4500t of high precision stainless steel forgings and plates, assembled by welding in Japan

• TF windings and coils

19 coils, 12T peak field, 20kV maximum voltage shared between Europe and Japan.



# **TF Coil – Mass Comparison**



# Mass of (1) TF Coil: ~360 t

### 16 m Tall x 9 m Wide





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D8 Caterpillar Bulldozer ~35 t









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# **Cryostat Size Comparison**





## Jefferson Memorial (Washington DC) ~29 m Tall (floor to top of dome)







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# **Parte superior Criostato**



# ITER site







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#### **Impressive Progress with ITER Assembly**







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# Nuevos Experimentos en marcha

# JT60SA (Japón)



### Nuevas iniciativas privadas











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#### Nuevas iniciativas privadas



It's no secret that our Skunk Works® team often finds itself on the cutting edge of technology. As they work to develop a source nuclear fusion reactors to serve the world's ever-growing energy needs.







# **Nuclear Fusion Nuclear Safety** Issues





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# Physics


# **Plasma physics**

### Maxwell's equations Electromagnetic Physics









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# **Fusion in ITER Plasma**



# Fuel

#### Fission Reactor Vessel



#### Fusion Vacuum Vessel



### ≈ **Tons** of solid Uranium isotopes





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### grams of gas Hydrogen isotopes

### Schematic of ITER in-vessel component cooling system







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# Can anything like Fukushima happen in ITER (Fusion)?

- NO chain reaction to be stopped.
- NO fuel to melt:
  - Vacuum Vessel essentially empty
- Low after heat

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- NO from fuel.
- Only in structures
- Very large structures
- Large cryogenic exchange surfaces



# CATEGORICALLY NO!! COOLING IS NOT SAFETY FUNCTION



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## Is ITER a nuclear installation?

• The nuclear classification of ITER is due to:



- Tritium inventory
  - 4 Kg (nuclear fuel for ITER)

# Radioactive waste

Very low (52%), low (39%) and medium activity/long life (9%)

# 41.688 Tons

(operation+dismantling)

The radioactive inventory classifies ITER in France as a

BASIC NUCLEAR INSTALLATION







ITER has two safety functions:

Confinement radioactive materials
 Limitation of radiation exposure

- There is no safety function associated to:
  - Control of the fusion reactions.
  - Power dissipation (cooling systems)



# ITER General Safety Objectives

	Normal Operation comprising events and plant conditions planned —			
	and required for ITER operation, including some faults or conditions			
	which occur as result of ITER experimental nature			
Situations in design basis				
Normal	As low as reasonably achievable, and in Releases less than the limits authorised for			
situations	any creations from normal operation, comprising event Maxin Incidents, or deviations from normal operation, comprising event Avera sequences or plant conditions not planned but likely to occur one or more times during the life of the plant			
Incidental situations	Accidents, comprising postulated event sequences or conditions not likely to occur during the life of the plant			
Accidental situations	Take into account the constraints related to the management of the accident and post- accident situationNo immediate or deferred counter-measures (confinement, evacuation) <hr/> < 10 mSv			
Situations beyond design basis				
Hypothetical accidents	No cliff-edge effect; possible counter-measures limited in time and space			
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# **Confinement of radioactive inventory**

- Confinement is the most important safety function
  - Basic targets of confinement
  - Prevent spreading of radioactive material in normal operation
    - Keep radiological consequences in off-normal conditions within levels below the safety objectives
  - Confinement function is achieved by a coherent set of physical barriers and / or auxiliary techniques
    - First confinement system designed to prevent releases of radioactive materials into the accessible working areas
    - Second confinement system prevents releases to general public and the environment





### Vacuum Vessel and associated components



#### • mass 5000 tonnes

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#### PLASMA AND SAFETY ITER - DESIGN OF VV V.S ELECTROMAGNETIC LOADS





A "progressive start-up" of the nuclear facility during the hydrogen/helium plasma phase linked to a statistical accounting of the operating situations that will occur will be used for verifying the present definition of the electromagnetic strengths.
 Plasma operation: Because of its link with the safety demonstration, this typical activity of the plasma physics researchers and operators will become a safety related activity under defined requirements to be clearly recorded, tracked and supervised and integrated in the general rules of operation of the Nuclear Facility.

The VV and its function as first barrier, submitted to e-m forces is the main feature of fusion based on a tokamak





## Safety Analysis

### **Internal Risks**

- Internal fire,
- Internal explosion,
- Thermal deviations
- Plasma transients,
- Internal inundation,
- Missile effects,
- Whipping pipe,
- Mechanical risks,
- risques chimiques
- Magnetic and electromagnetic perturbations

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# • Seismic,

- Extreme climatic conditions, like hot weather, extreme cold, rain, snow, wind and lightening,
- External inundation,

**External Risks** 

- External fire,
- Plane crash,
- Accidents associated to the industrial environment and transport routes, mainly external explosions,
- Accidents in a nearby installation at the site of CEA Cadarache.

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### Site characteristics

# Taking into account the full characteristics of the site

- Meteorological conditions : similar to those of Cadarache
- Hydrological Parameters : works designed for a hundred-year flood with margin
- Hydrogeological Parameters Many studies on piezometric aquifers (Cretaceous Miocene / Pliocene) year flood level centennial with confidence interval 95%: 305 m NGF, platform level: 315 m NGF => no risk of external inundation,
- Geological Parameters : Many studies on the characterization of the site (Cretaceous and Miocene), no specific tectonic detected
- Seismic parameters : consideration of the SMS to the rock (5.8) and a low frequencies paleoseismic plus margin (7)
- Point zero chemical and radiological : no anomalies detected



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What are the effects of an earthquake followed by flooding?

Basic assumption of unlikely event:

seismic event followed by failure of Serre-Ponçon Dam

Response to seismic event

> safe state

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- plasma shut down
- inventory placed in safe storage
- plant systems isolated
- inventory placed in safe storage
- > all within minutes of initiating event
- residual heat removal by natural convection

Centenial flood of Durance - failure of the Serre-Ponçon dam

- maximum flood level: 265 meter above sea level
- First raft of nuclear buildings: 298 m ASL
- exceptional rain flood level: 305 m ASL
- nuclear building constructed on a second raft at 315 m ASL

Earthquake followed by exceptional flooding is neither probable nor problematic.







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#### Overall Tokamak Complex Dimensions: 118m x 81m x 74m



# Robustness of the 2nd confinement

- In any case it has been demonstrated that the safety challenge in case of a full failure of the Vacuum Vessel is very limited taking into account the robustness of
  - ✓ the second confinement system comprising the concrete external walls of the buildings
  - $\checkmark\,$  the associated filtering and detritiating systems



### **Design Basis Accidents**

V1	In-vessel FW pipe leakage		
X6	Heat exchanger leakage		
X1	Loss of divertor heat sink		
X2	Pump trip in divertor HTS		
T1	Tritium process line leakage		
L1	Loss of off-site power for 32 hours blackout for 1 h in Hot cell		
V2	Multiple FW pipe break Multiple FW pipe break + 10 DV pipes break		
V3	Loss of vacuum through one VV/cryostat penetration line (500 MW) Loss of vacuum through one VV/cryostat penetration line (700 MW)		
X3	Pump seizure in divertor		
X7	Heat exchanger tube rupture		
X4	Large VV coolant pipe break (ACP mass is reduced 100 times: it is lower than in FW/BLK loop by factor 100) baking		

	Large DV ex-vessel coolant pipe break baking (controlled releases	
X5	means through the stack and	
	releases shall be multiplied	
	by filtering factor)	
	Coolant pipe break inside	
X8	Port Cell (normal operation)	
	baking, valves close	
	Stuck divertor cassette and	
E1	failure of cask	
T2	Failure of transport hydride bed	
	Isotope separation system	
Т3	failure	
T4	Failure of fueling line	
	Leak of tritiated water from	
T5	W05	
M1	Toroidal field coil short	
M2	finement parrier	
C1	Cryostat air ingress	
C2	Cryostat water ingress	
C3	Cryostat helium ingress	
	Loss of confinement in hot	
H1	cell	





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# **Magnets Safety**





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# Magnets - Unprecedented Size and Performance





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#### WHAT COULD BE THE SAFETY ISSUES AND DESIGN IMPLICATIONS?

- □ Is there an impact on the 1 st confinement barrier credited in ITER safety analysis?
  - the first confinement is the vacuum vessel and contains 1 ton of activated dusts and 1 kg of tritium

□ Is there an impact on the last confinement barrier credited in ITER safety analysis through the anchorage of the coils to the civil work?

On major part of the last confinement barrier is the basemate where anchorage ensured the support of the magnets systems, the VV and the cryostat



✓ A postulated event (DBA) is a full terminal short of a TF coil (TF coil short):

two ground faults in the coil busbar circuit : one on side of the TF coil, while undergoing a fast discharge, plus the failure of the monitoring systems to detect these faults.

 Substantial local plastic deformation can be expected to occur in the TF case (in the shorted coil and the adjacent coils) and intercoil structures.

- There may be a loss of cryostat vacuum due to thermal shield damage.

➔ However, gross structural failure is not predicted. There is no impact of magnets on the vacuum vessel and no radiological consequences are predicted

#### **IS THERE AN IMPACT ON THE FIRST CONFINEMENT BARRIER?**

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→ However, gross structural failure is not predicted. There is no impact of magnets on the vacuum vessel and no radiological consequences are predicted

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 CORRECT CERCAR

#### **IS THERE AN IMPACT ON THE FIRST CONFINEMENT BARRIER?**

- ✓ Another postulated event is an arc inside a PF/CS coil (Arc near confinement barrier).
  - The arc develops as a result of a failure (or inability) to discharge the coil when a quench occurs.
  - The quench will propagate slowly and local conductor melting followed by the development of arcs, is likely.
  - The melted material produced by the coil internal arcs may not be contained by the thin coil casing and would probably be spread over components in the cryostat in the vicinity of the shorted coil. It is possible that external arc energy associated with the coil short is sufficient to melt the conductor of the superconducting busbars

→ cause local melting around the cryostat feed-throughs.
→ However, no radiological consequences are predicted.





#### THINK ON THE NON-IMAGINABLE ACCIDENT TO CHECK OUR MARGIN?

✓ FUKUSHIMA event pushes us to check for this non plausible accident what could the remaining safety margin

✓ A BDBA scenario is postulated and it is not derived from any identified mechanism by which a magnet failure could initiate

**Damage to vacuum vessel and cryostat resulting in large holes** large holes, 1 m<sup>2</sup> created simultaneously in VV and cryostat

Radiological consequences very limited (0.14 mSv, 2.5 km)
 No countermeasure for the public





# Minimizing the potential for damage

- The potential for a magnet fault to lead to damage to confinement has been minimized by their design.
- Magnet systems incorporate multiple monitoring and protection systems in the design.
- Two of these detection and protection systems are designated Safety Important Class (SIC) as they provide the following safety functions:
  - TF coil quench detection
  - Fast discharge of TF coil stored energy



#### IS THERE AN IMPACT ON THE LAST CONFINEMENT BARRIER CREDITED IN ITER SAFETY ANALYSIS THROUGH THE ANCHORAGE OF THE COILS TO THE CIVIL WORK?

- The two main tokamak components (VV and magnetic coils) rest on the cryostat pedestal ring. The pedestal ring is supported by the building basemat.
- The magnets gravity support system consists of columns made up of flexible compression plates resting on the pedestal ring and resisting vertical and toroidal movements.
- Each PF coils are connected directly to the TF magnet assembly.
- The VV thermal shield is attached to the TF coil system.
- The in-vessel systems (blanket modules, divertor) are directly supported by the vessel.
- The cryostat is supported by the basemat.
- The tokamak building is supported by the basemat.





### The support hierarchy is schematically shown







- A fast discharge of the PF and CS coils (MFDI) is defined as a category I event
- A fast discharge of all coils (MFDII) is defined as a category II event

Load Case	Load Combination	Combination Category	
1	$DL + SL1 + VDE_{TM}$	Category III	
2	DL + SMHV + Cr ICE II	Category III	
3	DL + SMHV + Cr ICE III	Category III	
4	DL + SL2 + Cr ICE II	Category IV	
5	DL + SL2 + Cr ICE III	Category IV	
6	$DL + VDE_{wc}$	Category IV	
7	DL + VDE <sub>wc-D</sub>	Category IV	
8	DL + Cr ICE II	Category II	
Table 1 – Load Cases			

→ MFDI and MFDII are not designing loads for the anchorage on basemat

#### → No impact on civil work





## CONCLUSIONS

- The coils are not SIC (not credited in safety analysis)
- The Instrumentation of the coils is SIC (TF quench detection)
- The fast discharge units are SIC
- TF coils : gross structural failure is not predicted. There is no impact of magnets on the vacuum vessel and no radiological consequences are predicted
- PF/CS coils : cause local melting around the cryostat feed-throughs. However, no radiological consequences are predicted
- MFDI and MFDII are not designing loads for the anchorage on basemate, no impact on civil work



# **Disruption related safety issues**

- 1. Vertical force due to halo current
- 2. Heat load
- 3. Runaway electrons
- 4. Rotation of asymmetric halo and plasma current



### 1. Vertical force due to halo current



- Severity of vertical force  $f_{h} \equiv TPF \times I_{halo} / I_{P}$
- From database of halo current, upper boundary is  $f_h \approx 0.75$ , no VDEs beyond 0.75
- Actual design is performed with lower value of f<sub>h</sub> (presently 0.42) assuming that event with  $0.42 < f_h < 0.75$  will occur only rarely (classified as Cat. III event)
- When Cat. III event occurs, detailed time consuming inspection is necessary ==> operation efficiency is degraded ==> such event should be 1-2 during device lifetime





 When based on present database, number of Cat.III events is expected to be 300×0.065 ≈ 20 during life

With mitigation performance;
 Reduction of EM load: 1/2
 Success rate: 90 %
 number of Cat.III events is
 expected to be
 300×0.006 ≈ 2 during life



• If without mitigation much higher value of  $f_h \approx 0.64$  needs to be specified to reduce Cat.III events to  $\approx 2$  during life



### Accident study

Design basis accident generating the most significant doses to the closest people



Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas Guillotine rupture of the largest pipe of the divertor cooling system during its phase of drying

opens ✓ Releases come from the pressurization of while P >the chamber containing a portion of the 0,2 MPa cooling loops and from the opening the discharge valve for a few seconds

The accident "envelope" leads to 18 µSv to the most nearby person Small (Chateau de Cadarache), taking into leakageaccount inhalation and ingestion of contaminated.

The dose is mainly due to the discharge through the chimney of activated corrosion products (over 90% of dose)

#### **Beyond Design Basis Accidents**

Loss of vacuum through one vacuum vessel penetration line plus 2 hours blackout and invessel FW coolant leak

Multiple failure of first wall cooling loops inside vacuum vessel together with failure of both windows in an RF heating line ("wet bypass")

Multiple failure of the first wall cooling loops inside vacuum vessel together with a failure of Fusion Power Termination System

FW Ex-Vessel Loss of Coolant with Failure of Fusion Power Termination System

Hydrogen and dust explosion in the vacuum vessel

Damage to VV and cryostat resulting in large holes of 1 m2

Large VV ex-vessel coolant pipe break plus loss of flow in all intact PHTS loops

Cryostat water and helium ingress (2600 kg of He)

Confinement Failures in the Tritium Plant Fire in the T-plant

Hydrogen Deflagration and Detonation in the Tritium Plant

Fire in the waste processing area plus propagation to buffer storage room in the hot cell





Centro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas

# "Wet By-pass Scenario"



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ESPAÑA

**DE CIENCIA E INNOVACIÓN** 

- ANNUAL DOSE IN NORMAL CONDITIONS < 10 μSv at 200 Long term < 3μSv</li>
- MAXIMUM DOSE IN DESIGN BASIS ACCIDENT < 100  $\mu Sv$  at 200 m Long term < 17.6  $\mu Sv$
- DUST EXPLOSION IN VACUUM VESSEL
   33
   BEYOND DESIGN ACCIDENT

332 μSv at 200 m Long term < 200 μSv

- OTHER BEYOND BASIS ACCIDENTS ALSO SHOW LOW IMPACT AND NO "CLIFF EDGE" EFFECT:
  - ✓ Fire in tritium plant following failure of fire protection provisions: Maximum public dose 1.1 mSv (short term, 200m).

Long term: 200 µSv

 ✓ Worst event ("wet bypass"): max dose 4 mSv (short term, 200m), Long term: 130 µSv



# Licensing milestones



Cientro de Investigaciones Energéticas, Medioambientales y Tecnológicas

GOBIERNO

DE ESPAÑA

MINISTERIO

DE CIENCIA E INNOVACIÓN The 26<sup>th</sup> of July 2012, after the start of ITER Council, the Minister sent the letter informing:

- Authorizing  $\bullet$ the for process creation decree of INB ITFR sending the draft.
- Listing the recommendations to be satisfied in due time.

#### What are the implications?

- Full nuclear operator : application of Quality order of 1984 will be strictly imposed by ASN.
- Binding contract between IO and ASN: SQS duty to support the DG to check that any modification to the RPrS must be tracked, justified and can be refused if the safety impact is significant (DR, NCR).



La ministre de l'écologie, du développement durable et de l'énergie, Pour la ministre et par délégation,

> L'adjoint au directeur général de la prévention des risques

Jean-Marie DURAND

Pièce jointe : Projet de décret autorisant l'Organisation internationale ITER à créer une installation nucléaire de base dénommée « ITER » sur la commune de Saint-Paul-Lez-Durance (Bouches-du-Rhône)

Copie : Monsieur le Directeur général de l'Autorité de sûreté nucléaire

Monsieur le Directeur général **ITER** Organization Route de Vinon sur Verdon 13115 Saint-Paul-lez-Durance

ARCHE NORD

Ministère de l'écologie, du développement durable et de l'énergie



MINISTERIO

**DE CIENCIA** 



y Tecnológicas

# How safe is ITER? A Fukushima-like accident is impossible in ITER

#### The fusion reaction is intrinsically safe - Any disturbance will stop the plasma

- Runaway reactions and core-meltdown impossible
- Cooling is not a safety function: if power is lost, heat evacuation happens naturally
- Fuel inventory is very small: less than one gram of fuel is reacting at any given moment in the reactor core.
- No long-lived/high activity radioactivity.
  - Induced, not intrinsic.
  - No materials with proliferation concerns.
    - No climate-changing emissions.
  - Important safety margins for external risks (earthquake, flooding...)



the environment









# Scientific and technical returns

- 15 Univ/Centers of R+D y 5 companies participated in "Eurofusion- H2020", coordinated by CIEMAT
- TJ-II (45% financed by UE), 60% was built by spanish companies
- The Agency "European Fusion for Energy" is in Spain (working budget 45 M€/year, 350 personas, Barcelona)

Ciemat

• Industrial european contracts for ITER at F4E:



### nature energy

ORIFRNO

MINISTERIO

DE CIENCIA E INNOVACIÓN PUBLISHED: 31 OCT

Centro de Investigaciones

Energéticas, Medioambientales

# Identification of safety ga demonstration reactors

Y. Wu<sup>1\*</sup>, Z. Chen<sup>1</sup>, L. Hu<sup>1</sup>, M. Jin<sup>1</sup>, Y. Li<sup>1</sup>, J. Jiang<sup>1</sup>, J. Y D. Maisonnier<sup>5</sup>, A. Kalashnikov<sup>6</sup>, K. Tobita<sup>7</sup>, D. Jack

To assist in the development of nuclear fusion as a viable cor demonstration reactor (DEMO), which will build on the work o advanced nuclear energy systems, DEMO must satisfy several ronmental impact, high reactor availability, a closed fuel cycle still large scientific and technological safety gaps between the Here we review international fusion safety research and devel from ITER. We identify the main scientific and technological s sion energy, in particular Generation IV (Gen-IV) fission reactor for the design and operation of DEMO.

Ciema



#### Accidents

- Large gaps in component failure rate data needed for evaluating accident probabilities must be filled.
- Hydrogen/dust explosions need to be fully addressed to protect confinement barriers such as the vacuum vessel and building walls.
- Electromagnetic loads due to plasma disruptions need to be better understood.
- Decay heat removal may need to be developed as a safety function.
- Comprehensive consideration of design extension conditions and enhanced confinement is required to meet the 'no off-site emergency response' criterion.

#### Radioactive material for potential release

- Tritium operational release limits in ITER have never been verified, leaving this limit in DEMO unknown.
- R&D on the fraction of tritium burned in the plasma needs to be further enhanced to reduce the tritium inventory.

#### Occupational radiation exposure

• Remote handling technology required for maintenance operations must be developed and the design choices of DEMO must be optimized, to minimize occupational radiation exposure to workers.

#### Radioactive waste

- Low-activation materials must be ready for use in DEMO.
- Improved understanding of tritium retention in materials is needed, as is the development of detritiation systems (for example thermal furnace, fusion furnace).

# **Ultimos comentarios**



- No hay una solución sencilla, ni probablemente única al problema energético de la Humanidad. Intensificar la investigación en Energía es una necesidad.
- Viabilidad científica de la fusión ha sido demostrada (16 MW en JET).
  - El Laboratorio mundial ITER, la demostración tecnológica, se está instalando en Europa (Cadarache). Barcelona acoge la Agencia Europea del proyecto.

La investigación en Fusion Nuclear esta en un momento muy positivo tanto con las iniciativas publicas como las privadas

Fusión nuclear es una realidad y puede ser la fuente de energía inagotable, barata y medioambientalmente aceptable del Futuro si resolvemos todos sus retos (incluidos los nucleares)