



# Silex Systems Limited

## Investor Presentation

(ASX: SLX) (OTCQX: SILXY)

**Dr Michael Goldsworthy**  
*CEO/Managing Director*

**24 February 2022**

# Forward Looking Statements and Risk Factors

## About Silex Systems Limited (ASX: SLX) (OTCQX: SILXY)

Silex Systems Limited ABN 69 003 372 067 (**Silex** or **Company**) is a research and development company whose primary asset is the SILEX laser enrichment technology, originally developed at the Company's technology facility in Sydney, Australia. The SILEX technology has been under development for uranium enrichment jointly with US-based exclusive licensee Global Laser Enrichment LLC (GLE) for a number of years. Success of the SILEX uranium enrichment technology development program and the proposed Paducah commercial project remain subject to a number of factors including the satisfactory completion of the engineering scale-up program and uranium market conditions and therefore remains subject to associated risks.

Silex is also in the early stages of pursuing additional commercial applications of the SILEX technology, including the production of 'Zero-Spin Silicon' for the emerging technology of silicon-based quantum computing. The 'Zero-Spin Silicon' project remains dependent on the outcomes of the project and the viability of silicon quantum computing and is therefore subject to various risks. The commercial future of the SILEX technology is therefore uncertain and any plans for commercial deployment are speculative.

Additionally, Silex has an interest in a unique semiconductor technology known as 'cREO<sup>®</sup>' through its 100% ownership of subsidiary Translucent Inc. The cREO<sup>®</sup> technology developed by Translucent has been acquired by IQE Plc based in the UK. IQE is developing the cREO<sup>®</sup> technology towards potential commercial deployment for 5G mobile handset filter applications. The outcome of IQE's commercialisation program is also uncertain and remains subject to various technology and market risks.

## Forward Looking Statements

The commercial potential of these technologies is currently unknown. Accordingly, no guarantees as to the future performance of these technologies can be made. The nature of the statements in this Presentation regarding the future of the SILEX technology as applied to uranium enrichment and Zero-Spin Silicon production, the cREO<sup>®</sup> technology and any associated commercial prospects are forward-looking and are subject to a number of variables, including but not limited to, unknown risks, contingencies and assumptions which may be beyond the control of Silex, its directors and management. You are strongly cautioned not to place reliance on any forward-looking statements, particularly in light of the current economic climate and the significant volatility, uncertainty and disruption caused by COVID-19 and other economic risk factors, as actual results could be materially different from those expressed or implied by such forward looking statements as a result of various risk factors. Further, the forward-looking statements contained in this Presentation involve subjective judgement and analysis and are subject to change due to management's analysis of Silex's business, changes in industry trends, government policies and any new or unforeseen circumstances. The Company's management believes that there are reasonable grounds to make such statements as at the date of this Presentation. Actual operations, results, performance, targets or achievement may vary materially from any projections and forward-looking statements and the assumptions on which those statements are based.

Except as required by law or regulation (including the ASX Listing Rules and OTCQX Rules for U.S. Companies), Silex does not intend, and is not obligated, to update the forward-looking statements and Silex disclaims any obligation or undertaking to update forward-looking statements in this Presentation to reflect any changes in expectations.

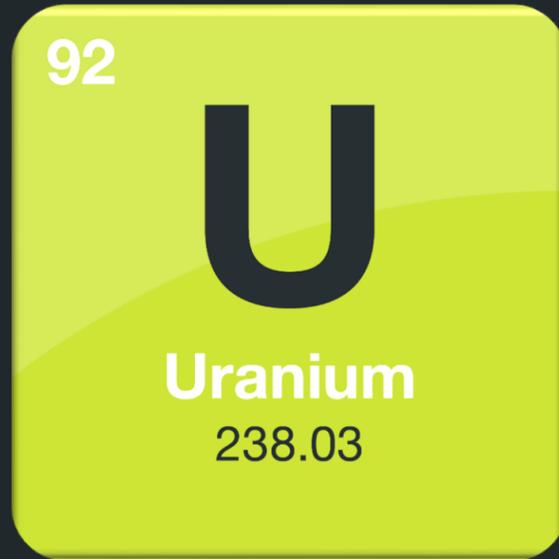
No representation, warranty or assurance (express or implied) is given or made in relation to any forward-looking statement by any person (including the Company or any of its advisers). In particular, no representation, warranty or assurance (express or implied) is given that the occurrence of the events expressed or implied in any forward-looking statements in this Presentation will actually occur.

## Risk Factors

Risk factors that could affect future results and commercial prospects of Silex include, but are not limited to: ongoing economic and social uncertainty, including in relation to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; the results of the SILEX uranium enrichment engineering development program; the market demand for natural uranium and enriched uranium; the outcome of the project for the production of 'Zero-Spin Silicon' for the emerging technology of silicon-based quantum computing; the potential development of, or competition from alternative technologies; the potential for third party claims against the Company's ownership of Intellectual Property; the potential impact of prevailing laws or government regulations or policies in the USA, Australia or elsewhere; results from IQE's commercialisation program and the market demand for cREO<sup>®</sup> products; decisions made or actions taken by the Company's commercialisation partners that could adversely affect the technology development programs; and the outcomes of various strategies and projects undertaken by the Company.



Our Mission: to commercialise the unique SILEX laser enrichment technology for application to:



Uranium production and enrichment (nuclear power)



Silicon enrichment (silicon quantum computing)



Other potential markets (e.g. medical isotopes)

Our strategy is focused on extracting maximum value from our core SILEX technology and expertise

# Highlights of the last 12 months

## ***SILEX Uranium Enrichment Technology / GLE Highlights:***

- GLE acquisition completed January 2021 - resulting in Silex acquiring a 51% interest in GLE (Cameco 49%)
- GLE recruited key executives – CEO and CCO with extensive technical and commercial acumen to lead GLE
- GLE continues to make good progress in the execution of the technology demonstration project and commercialisation strategy
- HALEU fuel opportunity for advanced Small Modular Reactors - emerging as next generation nuclear power reactors

## ***Other highlights:***

- Zero-Spin Silicon (ZS-Si) project Stage 2 completed January 2022 – demonstration of ZS-Si production with prototype facility
- Assessment of other applications of the SILEX technology ongoing (focus currently on medical radioisotopes)
- Capital raising completed October 2021, net Placement proceeds ~\$31.4 million plus Share Purchase Plan ~\$7 million

# Uranium Production and Enrichment for Nuclear Fuel

# Evolution of Enrichment Technology

## 1st Generation Technology

### Gaseous Diffusion

Very low efficiency

High cost

Obsolete



## 2nd Generation Technology

### Centrifuge

Modest efficiency

Lower cost

Current technology



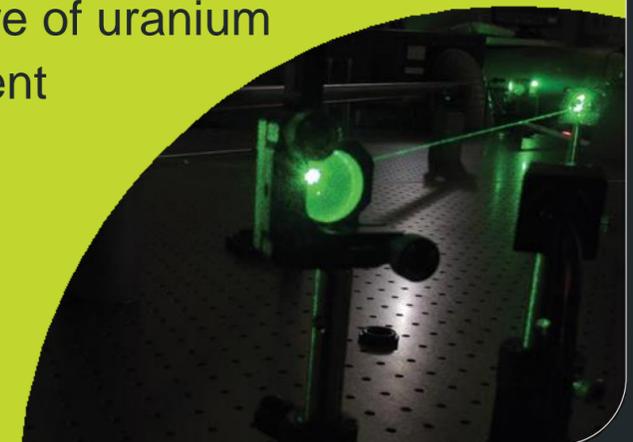
## 3rd Generation Technology

### SILEX Laser

High efficiency

Anticipated to be lowest cost

The future of uranium enrichment



- SILEX laser process → much higher separation efficiencies vs. centrifuge technology

# SILEX Uranium Production Opportunity

## Global demand for Uranium is set to rise:

### A significant potential uranium supply shortage is forecast<sup>1</sup>

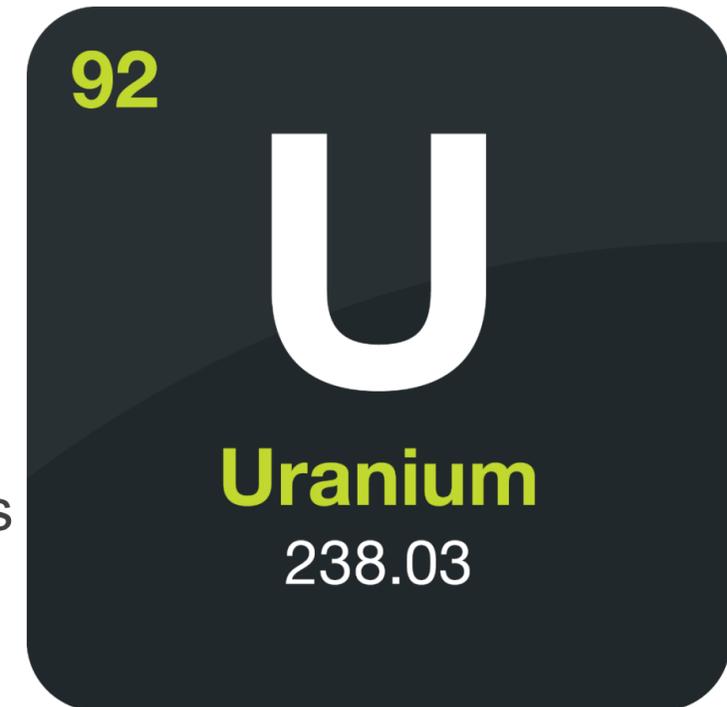
- Structural supply deficit could occur without a timely increase in production
- Demand could increase significantly if zero-emissions nuclear is embraced further
- Relatively few low cost resources available to supply increasing demand from mid 2020's
- Uranium prices need to keep increasing to provide stimulus for increased production

### The Flagship Paducah uranium project planned by Global Laser Enrichment (GLE)

- GLE is a jointly controlled JV between Silex (51%) and Cameco Corporation (49%)
- GLE has an agreement with US DOE<sup>2</sup> to purchase tails inventories owned by the US Government
- GLE's Paducah project aims to enrich tails using the SILEX technology to produce natural grade uranium

1. UxC Uranium Market Outlook, Q4 2021; WNA Nuclear Fuel Report 2021

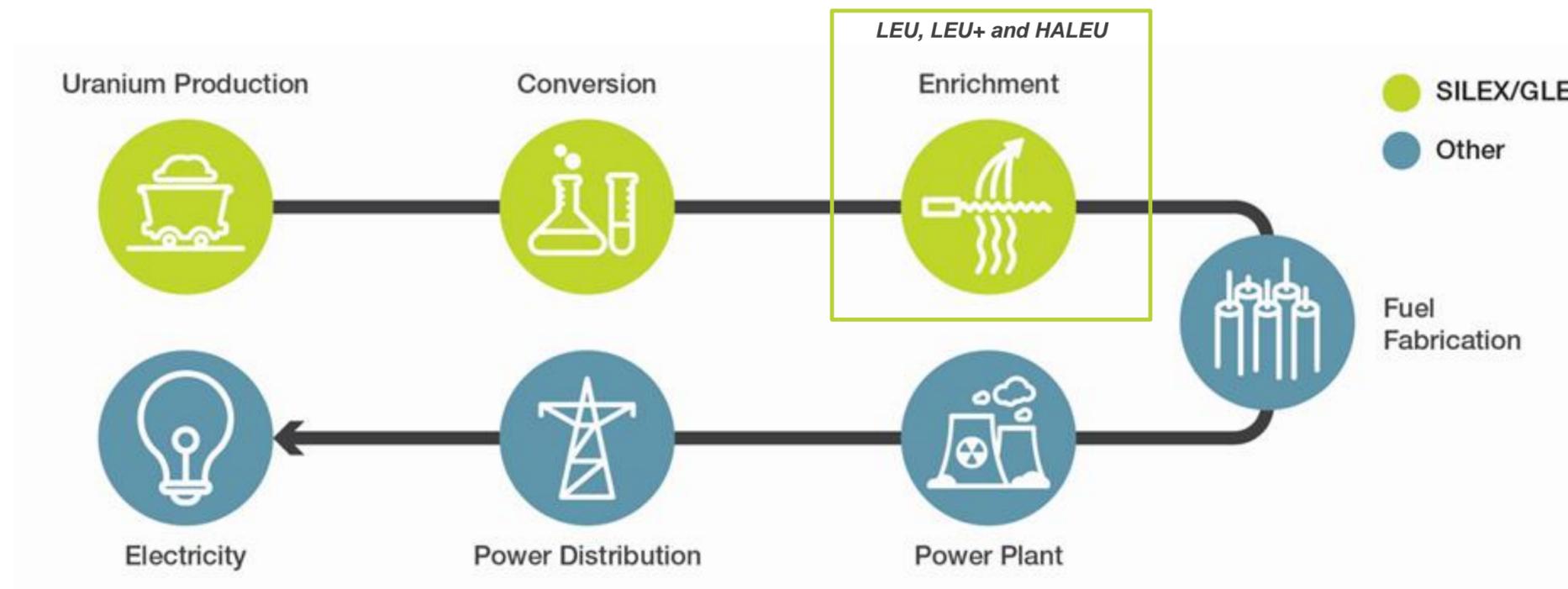
2. US Department of Energy



# SILEX Technology and Nuclear Fuel Production

The SILEX technology provides GLE with multiple opportunities in the production of nuclear fuel:

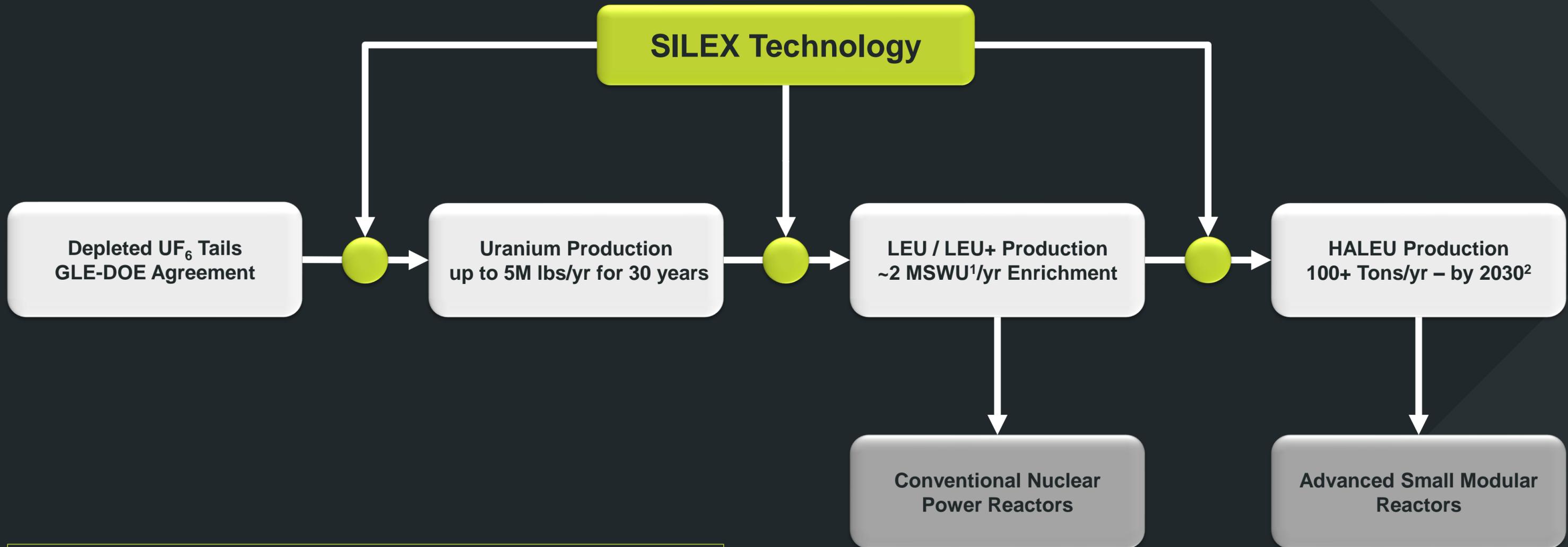
- produce natural grade uranium via enrichment of depleted tails inventories (Paducah project)
- capture the value of conversion contained in the depleted  $UF_6$  tails material (Paducah project)
- enrich natural uranium to produce LEU -  $^{235}UF_6$  assay increased up to 5%, or LEU+ up to 10% enriched
- enrich uranium up to 20% - HALEU to fuel advanced Small Modular Reactors (SMRs)



The Nuclear Fuel Supply Chain

# The Paducah Opportunity Potential Value Chain

## 'Full Service' Nuclear Fuel Materials Concept



1. 2 MSWU is the estimated enrichment capacity to process ~5M lbs U<sub>nat</sub> into LEU;  
SWU – Separative Work Unit - is the unit of enrichment traded in the market;
2. US Nuclear Energy Institute estimates demand of 137 tons/yr by 2030 (2020 Letter to US DOE)

# Paducah Uranium Production Opportunity

## Target Commercial Operation Date

Anticipated to be late 2020's

## Akin to a 'Tier 1' Uranium Resource\*

Based on low cost and longevity of production  
(Silex estimate of all-in cost currently < US\$25/lb)

## Equivalent $U_3O_8$ Production

Planning for up to 5 million lbs p.a. for approximately 30 years

## Potential capture of Conversion Value

Feed and Product is  $UF_6$   
(current conversion value ~US\$18/kg)

## Potential to enrich further

From natural grade (0.7%)  
to LEU (up to 5%)  
to LEU+ (up to 10%)  
& HALEU (up to 19.9%)

\* All production estimates are based on preliminary modelling by Silex of project economics and longevity. Actual production output will depend on prevailing uranium market prices and other factors.

# SILEX Commercialisation and Royalty Agreement

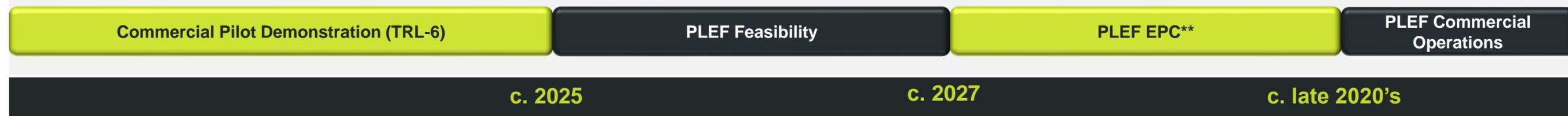
- GLE holds exclusive worldwide license for use of SILEX laser technology for uranium enrichment
- License agreement includes US\$20 million in payments to Silex triggered by commercial development milestones:
  - US\$5 million: Commercial pilot demonstration (TRL-6)<sup>1</sup> (c.2025)
  - US\$5 million: Commencement of PLEF<sup>2</sup> EPC (c. 2027)
  - US\$10 million: PLEF commercial operations (c. late 2020's)
- Perpetual royalty of 7% (min.) on GLE's enrichment SWU revenues from use of SILEX for production of natural and enriched uranium
- Royalty and milestone payments are in addition to any equity-based distribution of profits payable from GLE's commercial operations (currently Silex holds 51% ownership)
- Cameco holds an option to purchase an additional 26% of GLE equity from Silex at fair market value

1. Technology Readiness Level 6 (TRL-6) as defined by DOE Technology Readiness Assessment Guide (G 413.3-4A)

2. PLEF: Paducah Laser Enrichment Facility



## SILEX Uranium Technology Target Commercialisation Timeline\*:

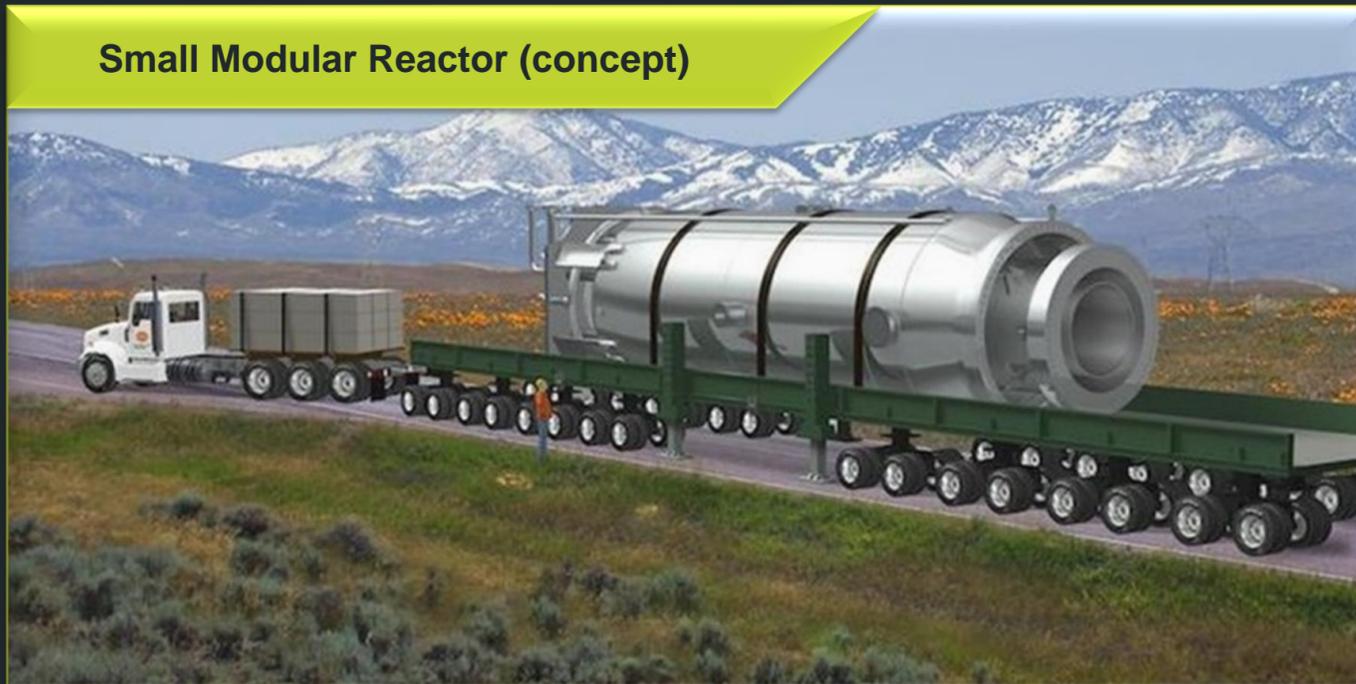


\* Subject to technology development program outcomes, market conditions and other factors \*\* Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC)

# Emerging Opportunity – Small Modular Reactors\* (SMRs)

- Several next generation advanced SMR designs will use High Assay Low Enriched Uranium (HALEU)
- SILEX technology may provide a flexible low cost alternative to produce HALEU for advanced SMRs
- SMRs are modular, smaller size (50 MWe to 300 MWe) reactors allowing greater flexibility in deployment
- SMRs are designed for production-line manufacturing rather than conventional custom built capital projects
- SMRs are anticipated to provide significant reductions in capital costs (per MWe installed) and shorter construction times
- Leading SMR contenders are anticipated to be introduced commercially from the early 2030's in the US and Canada

Small Modular Reactor (concept)



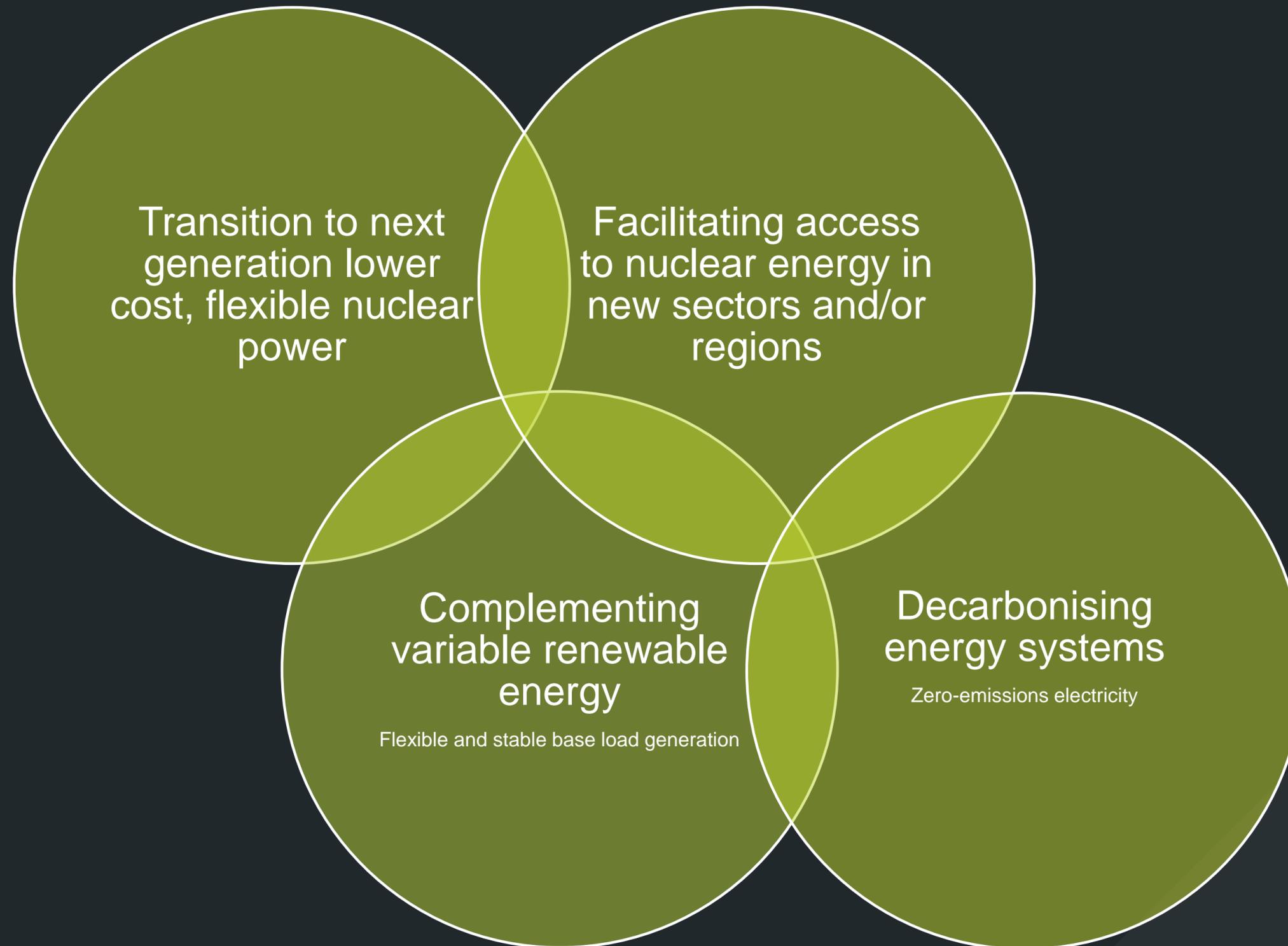
VS

Conventional Large Scale Reactor

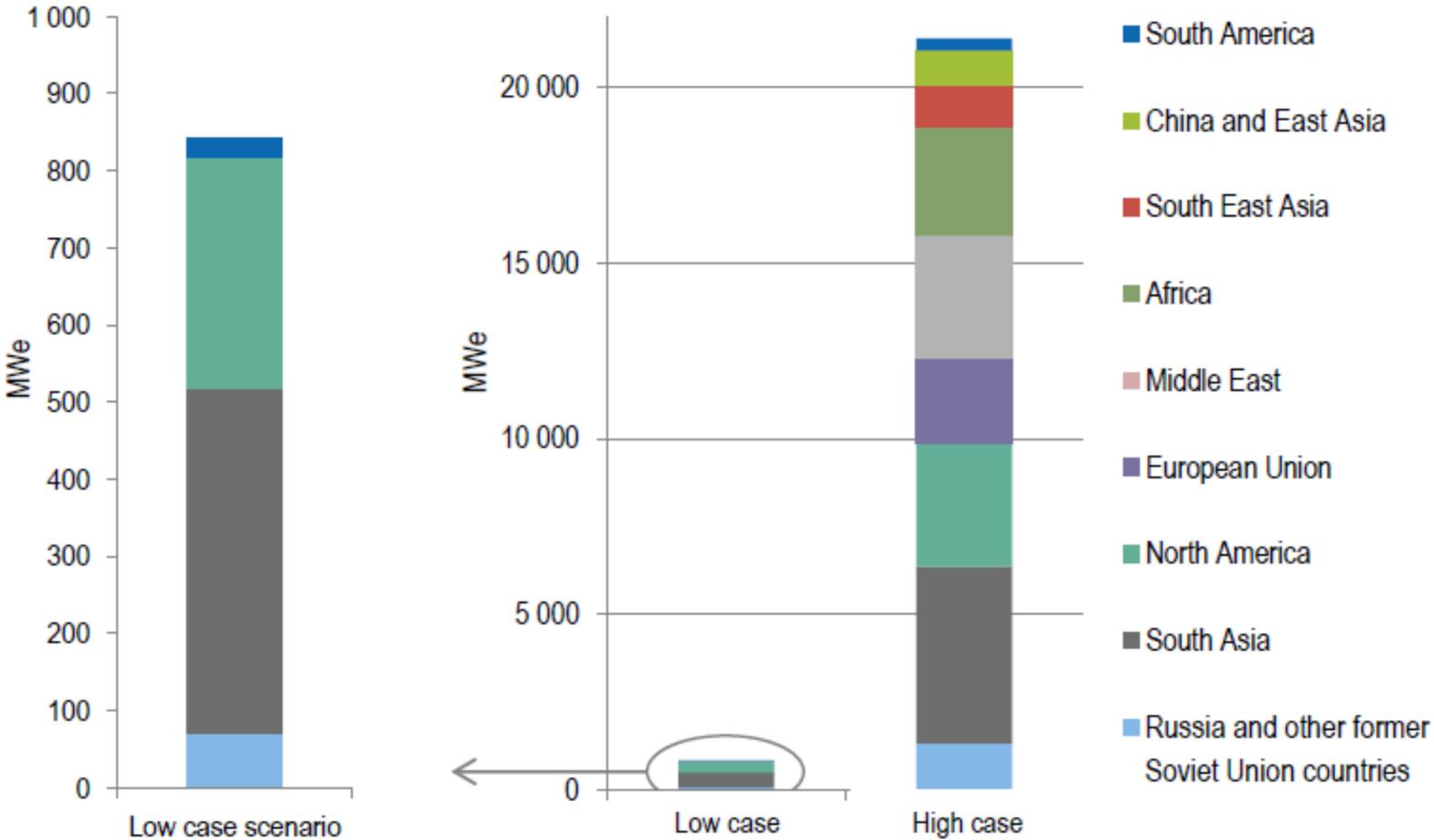


\* SMRs include conventional water-cooled small modular reactors which will consume LEU and LEU+ fuels, and 'advanced' small modular reactors which will consume HALEU or other non-LEU fuels

# SMRs have potential to provide next-generation zero-emissions base load electricity



# Estimated SMR Capacity in 2035 by Region



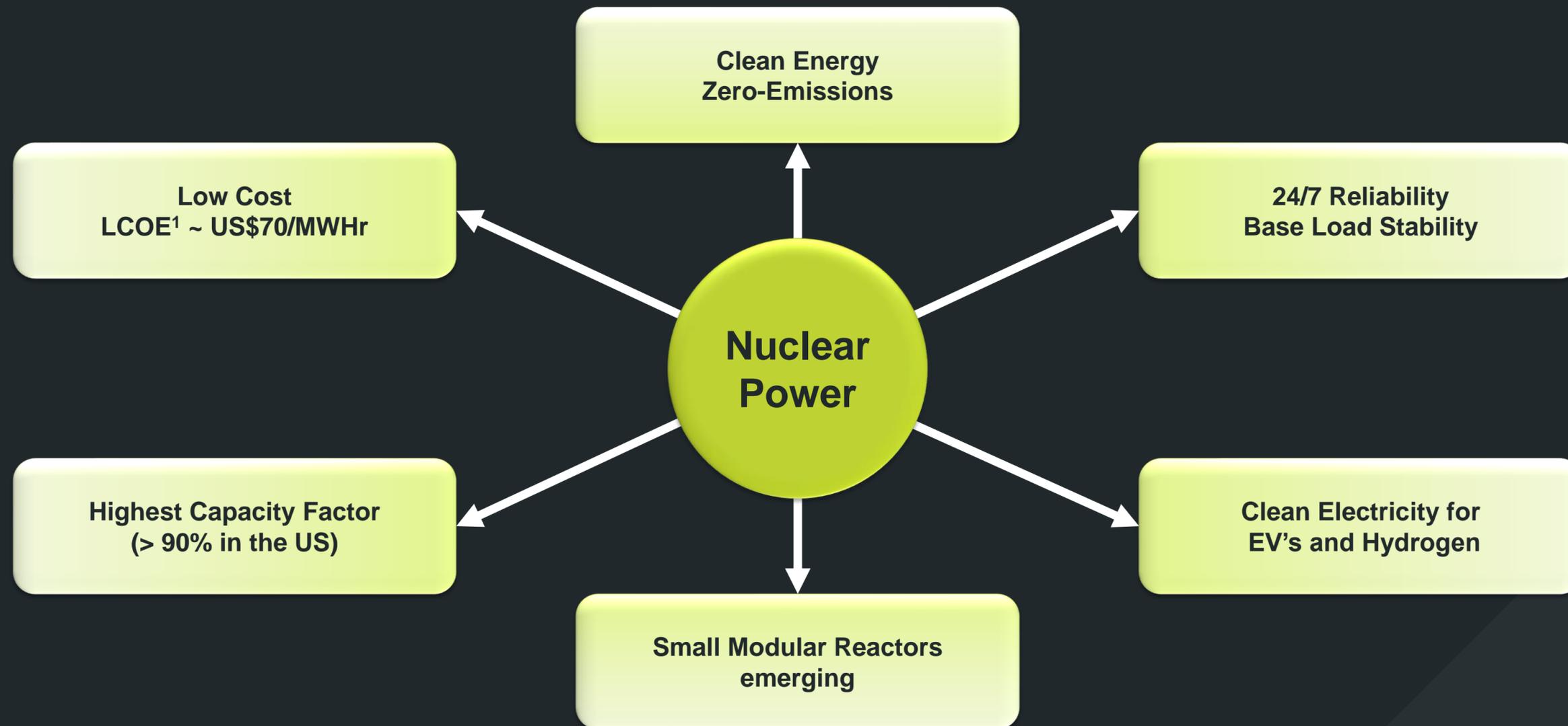
Source: *Small Modular Reactors: Challenges and Opportunities*, NEA No. 7560, © OECD 2021

- High case scenario forecasts over 20,000 MWe installed by 2035

# **Nuclear Power and the Nuclear Fuel Market Opportunity**

# Why Nuclear Power is important to achieving Net-Zero

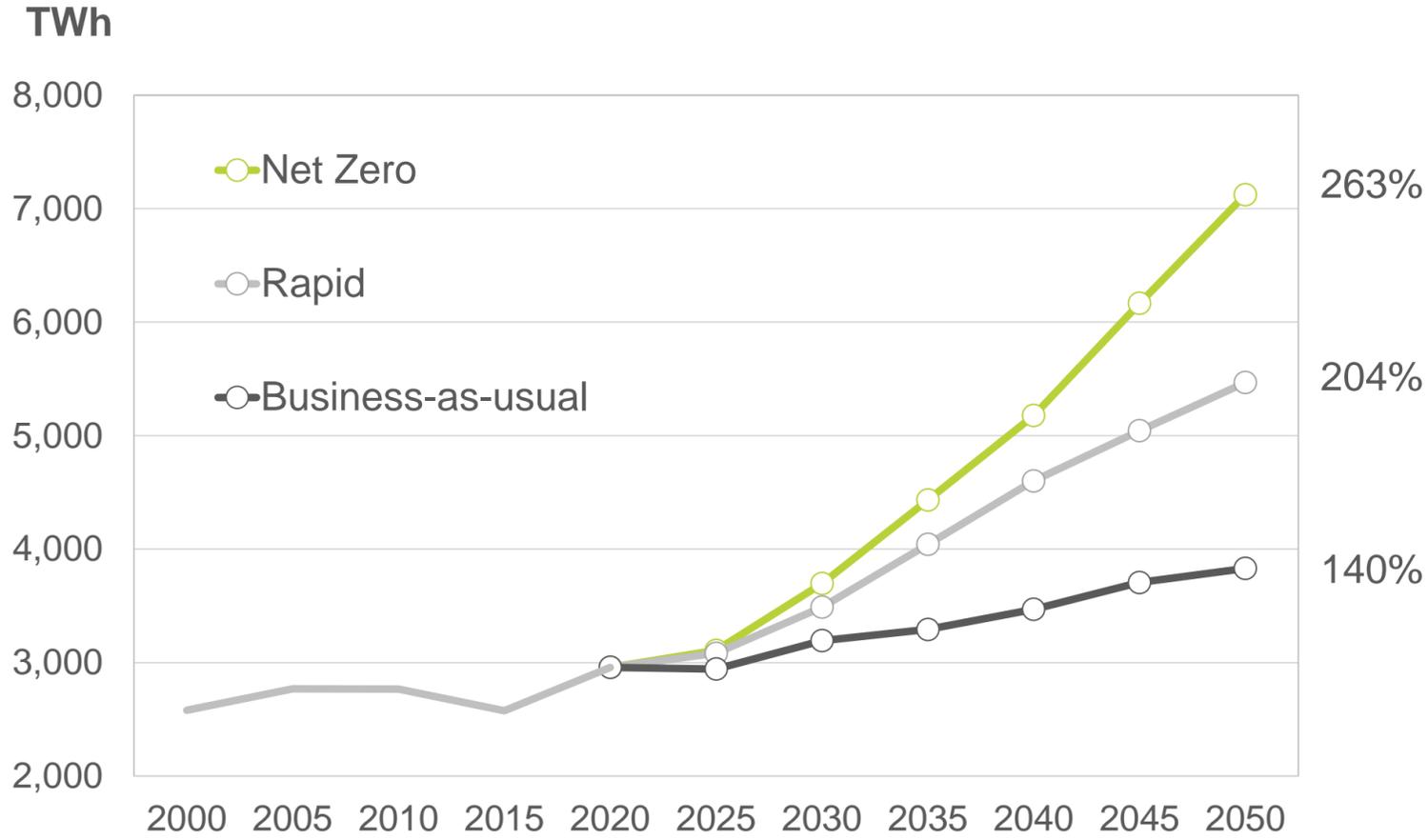
**Nuclear power is currently the only economic source of zero-emissions base load electricity**



1. LCOE ~US\$70/MWHR, IEA Projected Costs of Generating Electricity 2020 (LCOE = Levelised Cost Of Energy – all-in costs basis)

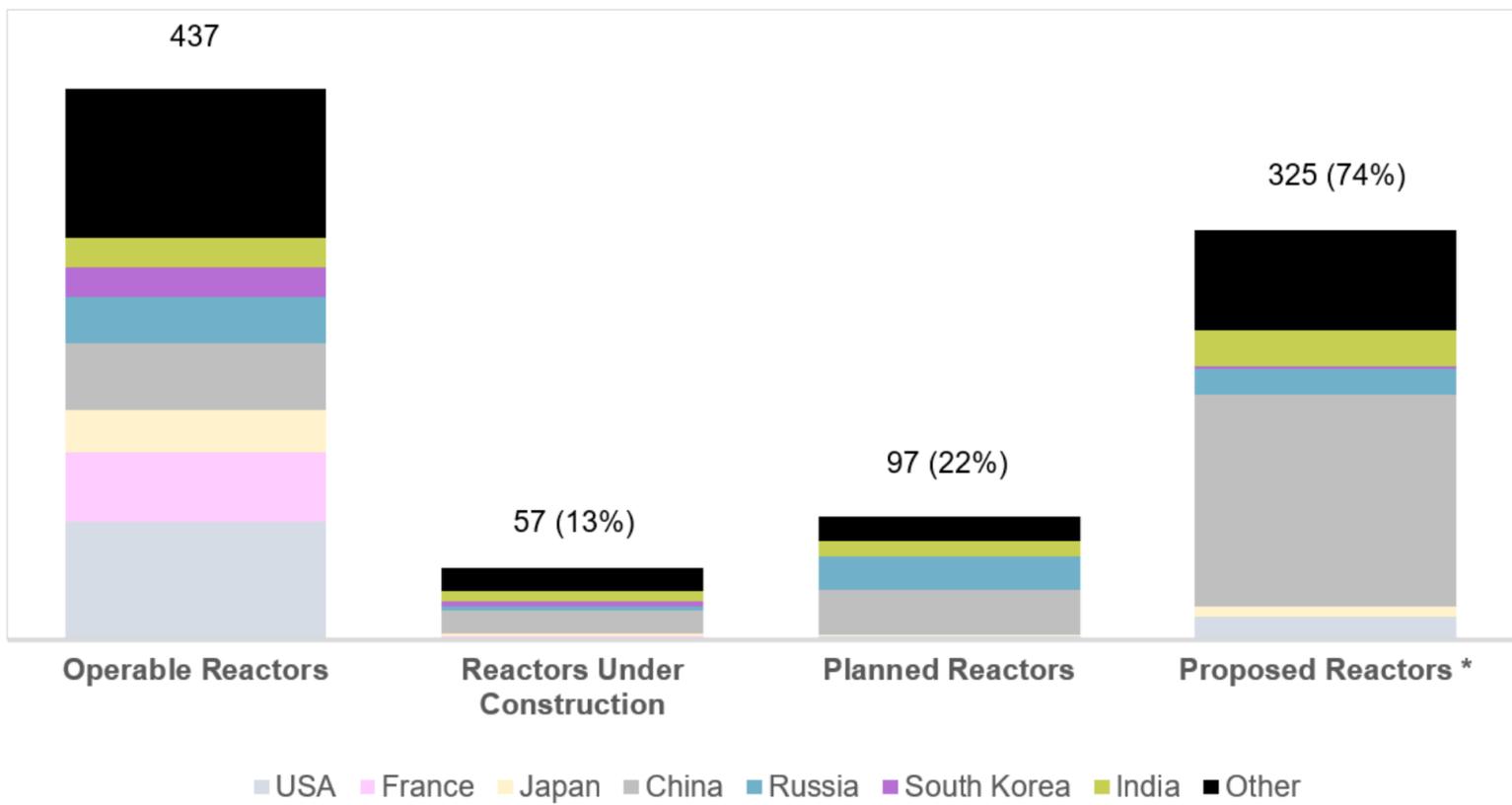
# Significant Nuclear Power Growth for Net Zero 2050

## Nuclear Generation Scenarios



Source: BP Energy Outlook 2020 Edition

## World Nuclear Reactor Population

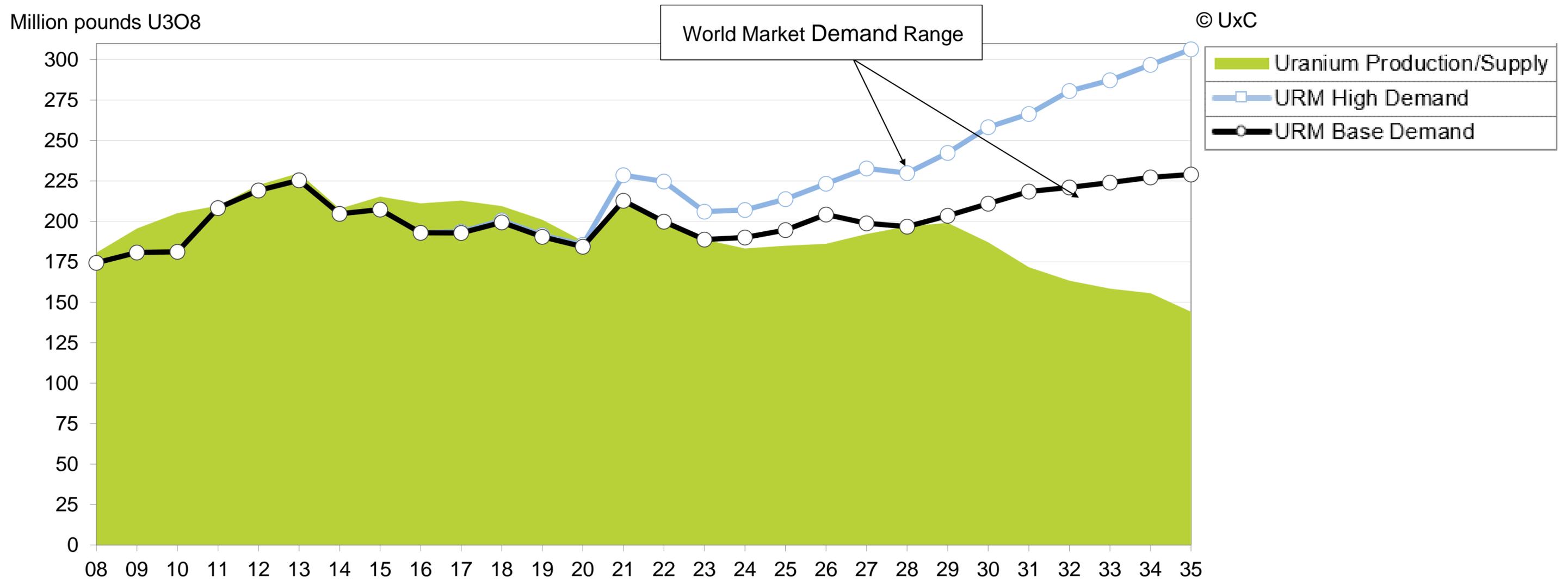


\* Other Proposed Reactors include 16 proposed in Saudi Arabia, 8 in Turkey and 8 in South Africa

Source: World Nuclear Association January 2022

# Uranium Market Outlook – Supply Shortage Forecast

## Mid-Case Uranium Supply and Demand Forecast

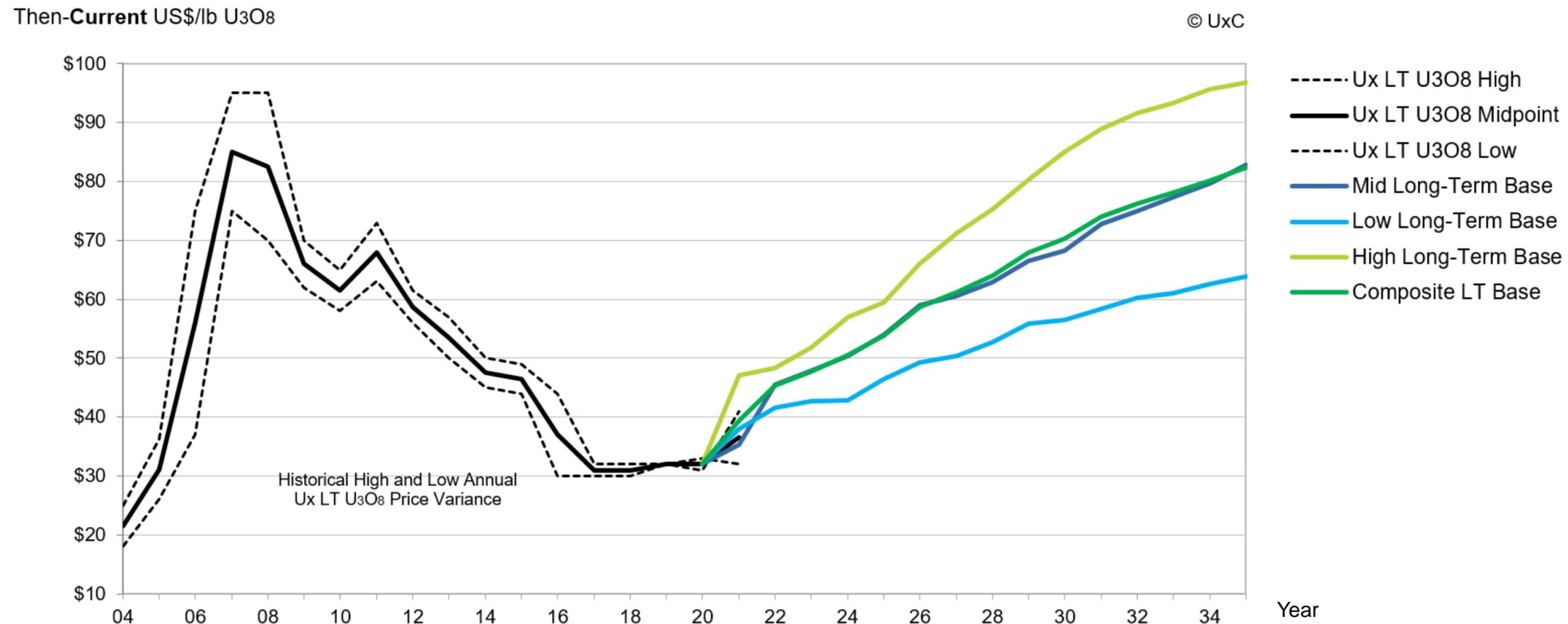


Source: UxC Uranium Market Outlook, Q4 2021

- Uranium supply forecasted to be insufficient to meet demand from mid-2020's

# Uranium Price – Price Recovery Underway

## Uranium Long-Term Base Price Forecast



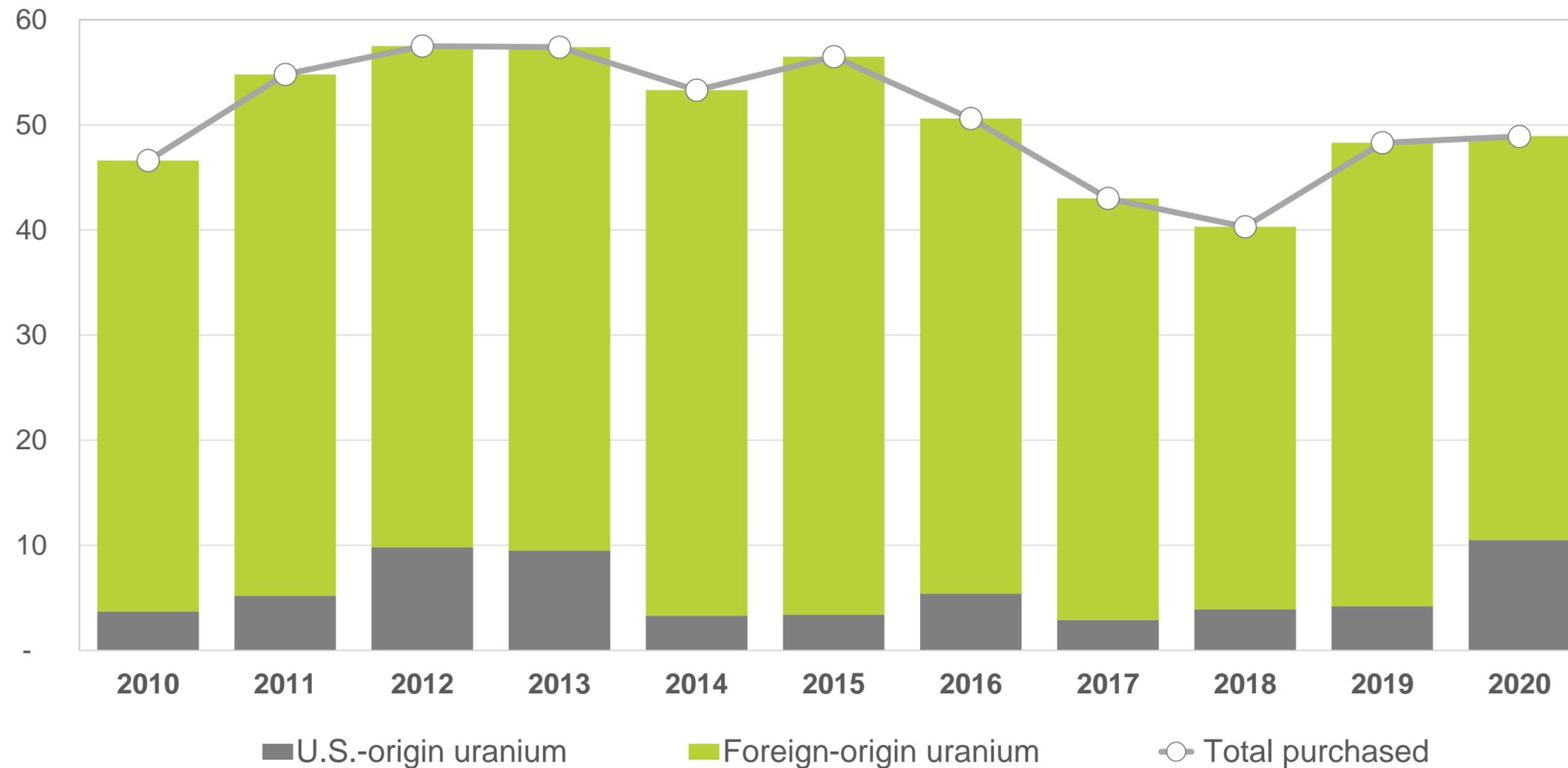
Source: UxC Uranium Market Outlook, Q4 2021

- UxC forecasts mid-case term uranium price ~\$55/lb by 2025 and ~\$70/lb by 2030
- Spot price now around \$43/lb – up from a low of ~\$18/lb in 2016
- Sprott Physical Uranium Trust (SPUT) purchasing 2021 accelerated spot price rise

# Paducah Opportunity may help address US Uranium Vulnerability

## Uranium purchased for U.S. nuclear power reactors, 2010 - 2020

Million pounds U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> equivalent



US Imports ~90% (avg.)  
of Uranium purchased

Source: 2020 EIA Uranium Marketing Annual Report  
(Released May 2021)

# Zero-Spin Silicon for Quantum Computing

# SILEX Zero-Spin Silicon Opportunity

## Global race to develop world's first Quantum Computers

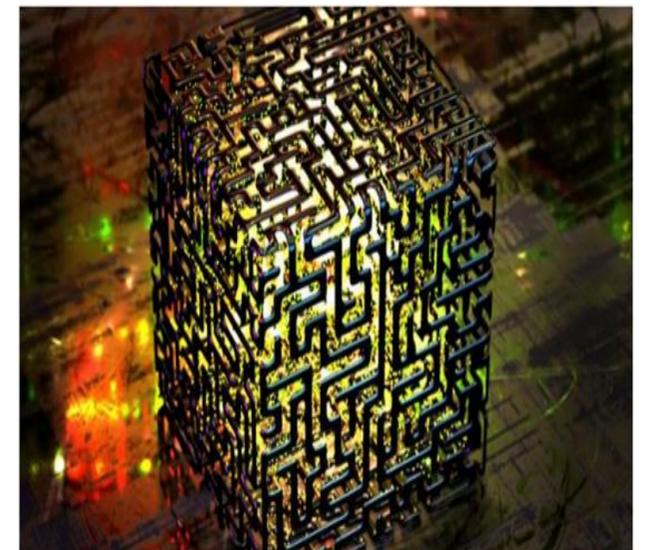
- QC's expected to be 1000's of times more powerful than today's conventional computers
- QC anticipated to create new opportunities in medicine, AI, cybersecurity, finance, logistics etc
- Governments around the world and corporates such as Intel, Google, IBM, Microsoft are vying for leadership in QC development

## Silicon Quantum Computing (QC) is a leading contender for QC technology

- Silicon QC is well placed to leverage off the existing global silicon semiconductor industry
- Silicon QC requires highly enriched silicon, currently in limited supply and high cost
- A reliable enriched silicon supply chain needs to be established to support commercial path
- With timely commercialisation of stable supply chain - silicon may potentially lead global QC efforts

## The SILEX Zero-Spin Silicon (ZS-Si) production opportunity

- SILEX technology already proven capable of producing enriched silicon in the form of ZS-Si
- Current ZS-Si project aims to scale-up to pilot commercial production by end of 2022
- Project partners Silicon Quantum Computing (SQC) and UNSW Sydney are initial customers
- Silex aims to engage with other potential customers, including major semiconductor companies



# SILEX Project for ZS-Si production gathering momentum

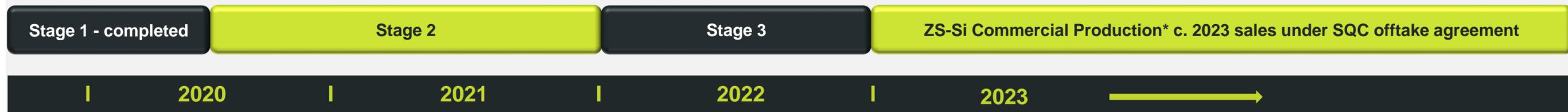
- Project partners SQC and UNSW part of the Federally funded 'CQC2T Centre of Excellence' – a world leader in silicon-based QC technology development
- 3-year project cost ~\$8m (includes pilot plant capex) supported by \$3m Federal CRC-P funding grant and \$1.8m from SQC (including \$0.9m in advanced ZS-Si purchases)
- Project objective is to establish reliable and cost effective production of ZS-Si for potential sale to domestic and offshore consumers in the emerging global QC industry

## 3-stage project aims to produce ZS-Si in increasing purity and quantity:

- **Stage 1** – Completed June 2020  
Established lab-scale 'proof-of-concept' for the SILEX process
- **Stage 2** – Completed January 2022  
Prototype validation of SILEX technology and scalability for ZS-Si production
- **Stage 3** – Underway  
Full technology demonstration for ZS-Si production at commercial pilot scale



## ZS-Si Production Commercialisation Timeline\*:



# SILEX Zero-Spin Silicon Production Opportunity

## Aim

establish a reliable and economic supply of high purity ZS-Si

## Target Commercial Operation Date

2023

## Production

Commercial pilot scale production of up to 5 kgs per year, anticipated to increase over the next decade

## ZS-Si Target Purity

99.995% or higher

## Commercial Offtake Agreement with SQC

Other potential customers to be engaged



# cREO<sup>®</sup> Advanced Semiconductor Technology

(Nb. Not related to the SILEX laser enrichment technology)

# cREO<sup>®</sup> Advanced Semiconductor Opportunity

## IQE's 5G Filter Solution – IQepiMo<sup>™</sup> based on cREO<sup>®</sup>

### Silex's cREO<sup>®</sup> Advanced Semiconductor materials

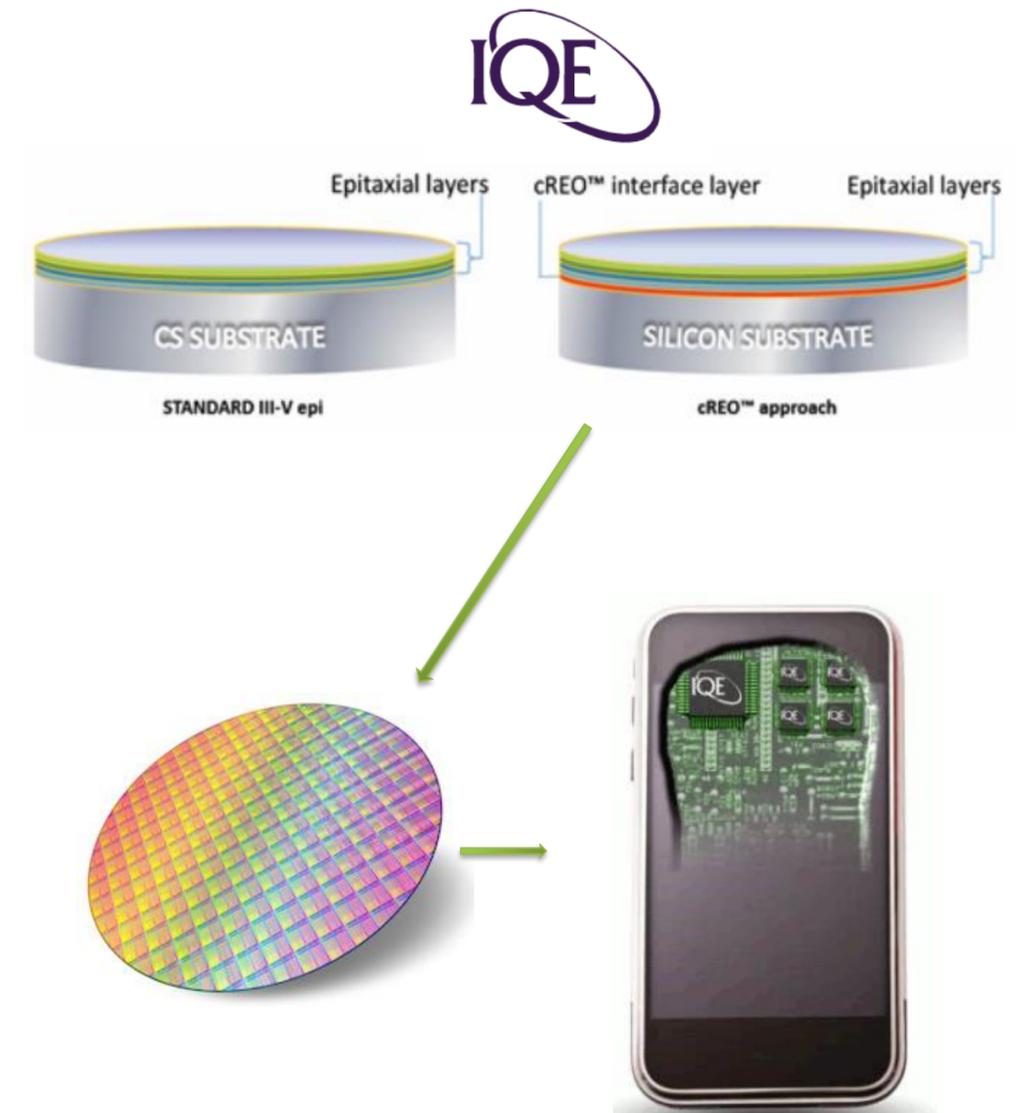
- cREO<sup>®</sup> technology purchased by IQE (AIM: IQE) in 2018 with US\$5m payment
- IQE is a global leader in supply of advanced wafer products for wireless devices
- Purchase includes a perpetual royalty of at least 3% on revenues derived from use of cREO<sup>®</sup>
- Minimum annual royalties – third annual payment (US\$0.5m) due late February 2022

### 5G Handset Filter Technology Experiencing High-end Frequency Challenges

- Initial application of cREO<sup>®</sup> being developed for new bulk acoustic wave (BAW) filters
- Conventional BAW filter devices experience problems at higher 5G frequencies
- 5G industry is looking for solutions compatible with 5G infrastructure and processes

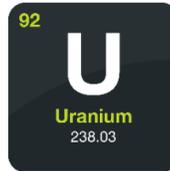
### IQepiMo<sup>™</sup> based on cREO<sup>®</sup> Template Technology

- IQE's BAW filter device using proprietary IQepiMo<sup>™</sup> technology helps mitigate this issue
- IQE's IQepiMo<sup>™</sup> device is enabled by use of the cREO<sup>®</sup> template technology
- cREO<sup>®</sup> may also apply to other opportunities beyond 5G filters including Power Electronics

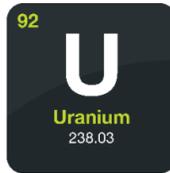


# Summary

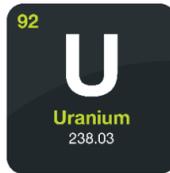
# Summary



GLE JV (Silex 51% and Cameco 49%) aiming to demonstrate SILEX uranium enrichment technology at commercial pilot scale (TRL-6) by the mid 2020's



GLE's path to market focused on the Paducah opportunity - large, cost effective uranium production project with additional scope for uranium enrichment to produce LEU, LEU+ and HALEU nuclear fuels



Long-term fundamentals for global growth in nuclear power remain positive, however a significant uranium supply deficit may occur in the absence of a timely increase in production



SILEX silicon enrichment technology being developed to produce Zero-Spin Silicon (ZS-Si) in support of global efforts to commercialise silicon quantum computing



Silex assessing other applications of SILEX technology, potentially in the field of medical radioisotopes

***As at 31 December 2021, the Company had net assets of ~\$55m, including ~\$49.2m in cash and term deposits and approximately ~\$4.2m in IQE shares***



**Thank you**