

Switzerland

1. Location and Capability of Nuclear Facilities

Nuclear Electricity Generation 2002- 25692 GWh(e)

Uranium required in 2003 for nuclear power reactors- 598 tons

Research Reactors:

Operational – 3 (AGN 211 P, Crocus, Proteus)

Shut Down – 2 (Diorit and Saphir)

Decommissioned – 1 (AGN 201 P)

Under Construction – 0

Planned - 0

<http://www.iaea.or.at/worldatom/rrdb/>

Nuclear Power Reactors

Operational –5 (Beznau 1 and 2, Goesgen, Leibstadt, and Muehleberg)

<http://www.iaea.org/programmes/a2/index.html>

2. Fissile Material Holdings

Cumulative Plutonium Discharges From Civilian Power Reactors: 17 tons

<http://www.isis-online.org>

Waste Disposal

There is a spent fuel and HLW interim storage facility in Wurenlingen operated by ZWILAG. The facility started operating in 2001 when it received the first shipment containing 97 BWR spent fuel assemblies from Leibstadt nuclear power plant.

In 2002, the voters in the Nidwalden canton rejected the planned construction of a test facility at the Wellenberg site for the final disposal of low and medium-level waste, which resulted in the abandonment of the project. Later that year, the National Cooperative for the Disposal of Radioactive Waste (NAGRA) submitted to the Swiss authorities reports concerning possible locations for the disposal of spent fuel, HLW and ILW. The federal government is expected to take a decision around 2006 on the further procedure for the management of these wastes.

<http://www.foratom.org/Content/Default.asp?PageID=716>

<http://www.world-nuclear.org/waste/report2002/chapter2.htm#lowwaste>

3. Nuclear Activities

Nuclear Research Centers

ARAMIS - Swiss Research Information System

CERN - European Laboratory for Particle Physics

CH-Forschung

CUEPE - Centre Universitaire d'Étude des Problèmes de l'Énergie

EAWAG - Eidgenössische Anstalt für Wasserversorgung Abwasserreinigung und Gewässerschutz
EMPA - Eidgenössische Materialprüfungs und Forschungsanstalt
Environmental Radioactivity Centre
Grimsel Test Site
IGA - Institut de Génie Atomique
KBF - Coordination Office for Swiss Participation in International Research Projects
LES Waste Management Laboratory
PSI - Paul Scherrer Institute
RQF - Institut für Raum-Quanten-Forschung
SNF - Swiss National Science Foundation
Vision - Science & Innovation Made in Switzerland.

Nuclear Cooperation

Switzerland has well established bilateral relations with French and German authorities in the nuclear field. Within this framework, French and Swiss regulatory authorities have been collaborating in common inspections of their nuclear installations.

The Swiss authorities have been following the evolution of the international nuclear projects, in particular the MEGAPIE project, within the Fifth European Framework program, and have interest in joining the Generation IV NPP Initiative.

<http://www.pub.iaea.org/MTCD/publications/PDF/cnpp2002/Documents/Documents/Switzerland%202002.pdf>

4. International Non-Proliferation Efforts

Treaties Signed and Ratified, date of deposit

APM Convention, 24 March 1998
Biological Weapons Convention, 4 May 1976
Certain Conventional Weapons Convention, 20 August 1982
Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, 1 October 1999
Chemical Weapons Convention, 10 March 1995
Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, 9 March 1977
Outer Space Treaty, 18 December 1969
Partial Test Ban Treaty, 16 August 1964
Sea Bed Treaty, 4 May 1976

Switzerland signed the Additional Protocol, 16 June 2000.

Multilateral Groups

Conference on Disarmament
Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation
Missile Technology Control Regime
Nuclear Suppliers Group
Wassenaar Arrangement
Zangger Committee

5. Positions Taken in International Fora on Various Issues of Nuclear Disarmament

Multilateralism and disarmament: “The case of Iraq in particular has not only underline the importance of multilateral institutions and instruments for maintaining international peace and security but it has also exposed the limitations of these mechanisms. As a result, we are compelled to reflect on the possibility of revising these mechanisms or of complementing them with other instruments, which are capable of tacking into account the new challenges such as those posed by international terrorism. [...] In the matter of nuclear disarmament, the commitments by the nuclear weapons states are also indispensable. The lack of progress in this area at the multilateral level, continuing research efforts with a view to the development of new nuclear weapons and the mержence of new military doctrines are causes of great concern to my country. [...] Switzerland also attaches great importance to the implementation of the Programme for Action and the “Thirteen Steps” adopted at the 2000 NPT Review Conference.”

- Ambassador Christian Faessler, Permanent representative of Switzerland to the Conference on Disarmament to the First Committee of the 58th session of the GA, 6 October 2003.

Non-proliferation and disarmament: “The NPT and the decisions and resolutions adopted at the Review Conference are the only binding obligations for nuclear-weapon States to eliminate their nuclear arsenals. Although the NPT is not a disarmament agreement in the normal sense, it is the main instrument for eliminating the disparities between the nuclear haves and have-nots, and for removing the danger of horizontal and vertical proliferation. [...] [W]e therefore note in particular the persistent imbalance between the lack of progress in achieving nuclear disarmament, as set forth in Article VI of the Treaty, and the implementation of other provisions of the Treaty, in particular Articles II and III. [...] Furthermore, Switzerland continues to insist on the fact that the decision to extend the NPT in 1995 cannot mean the indefinite prolongation of the status quo, in particular concerning the situation with respect to the status of the nuclear-weapon States.”

- Ambassador Christian Faessler, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the NPT, 29 April 2003.