IAEA Special Event

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Technical Issues

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Nuclear Fuel Cycle



Uranic industry players

NC&S













(1/3 Urenco)





BNFL

34, twenty tonne dump trucks full of uranium ore are required to make 4 fuel assemblies



1x 30B Cylinder



1.5tonne U as UF₆ @ 4.95%



LEU - One ASTM spec. for UF₆



Fuel Supply Schedule



LWR Fuel Fabrication



PWR Fuel Assembly



BWR Fuel Assembly



VVER-1000 Fuel Assembly



LWR Fuel Design Requirements

- Mechanical Compatibility
- Thermal Hydraulic Compatibility
- Cycle Specific Requirements
- Reactor Core Design
- Materials
- Licensing Requirements

All fuel bundles must be tailor-made!

BWR Enrichment Distribution





3.40 wt% U-235, 3.50 wt% Gd₂O₃

Conclusion

- UF6 can be "banked" (ASTM Spec, Blending)
- Finished Fuel Assemblies difficult to bank (Reactor and cycle specific designs, Licensing issues)