

# Fuel Cycle Area



## Fuel Cycle Area (FCA)

Manager: **Steve Beckett**

Completion date: **2024**

Cost: **£550M**

Supported by: **Doosan Babcock, NDSL, J Gunn, Nuvia Ltd**

Completion date and cost are current estimates, subject to NDA approval

The Fuel Cycle Area is the high security area of the Dounreay licensed site. The complex houses the facilities that have historically handled and stored the site's nuclear material and waste.

The majority of the facilities are some of the earlier facilities to be constructed on the Dounreay site. The buildings are a broad spectrum of nuclear facilities and include:

- nuclear fuel fabrication plants
- nuclear fuel reprocessing and treatment plants
- post irradiation examination facilities
- analytical and research laboratories
- waste treatment and storage facilities
- criticality research facilities (adjacent to FCA)
- nuclear fuel pond storage
- active laundry facilities
- administration and support infrastructure.



The facilities are being systematically decommissioned. This involves the initial post operational clean out, decontamination and dismantling of the facilities followed by final demolition and environmental restoration.

Some facilities are operated in support of the facility decommissioning. These include the cementation plant, and waste supercompaction plant. These in turn, will also be decommissioned.

The decommissioning work is managed by the DSRL and its implementation is by a flexible and skilled mix of DSRL and contractor team of workers. Specialist contractors are used for activities such as asbestos removal and non-nuclear demolition.

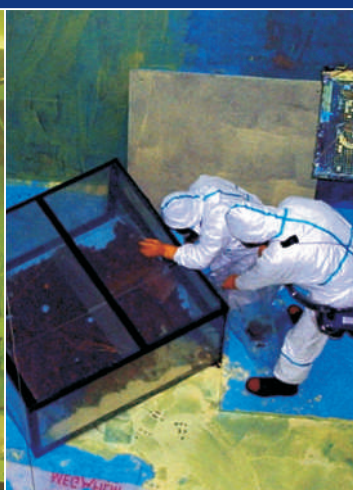
Decommissioning success to date includes:

**Complete decommissioning and demolition of:**

- fuel fabrication plant
- HEU waste store
- analytical laboratories and cells
- uranium criticality research facility
- active workshops
- inactive laundry
- sodium experimental facility
- silo cover building
- 25 inactive infrastructure facilities.

**Partial decommissioning of:**

- nuclear fuel reprocessing plants
- nuclear fuel ponds
- nuclear fuel PIE facilities
- plutonium criticality research facility
- pulse column laboratory
- uranium recovery plant
- low level waste handling facility
- redundant RHILW store
- analytical laboratories and cells
- Dounreay Materials Test Reactor
- redundant ventilation plant.



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[dounreay.com](http://dounreay.com)

at Traill House, 7 Orlig Street, Thurso, Caithness KW14 7LA or via website: [www.dounreay.com](http://www.dounreay.com)

Telephone: 01847 806080 or email: [communications@dounreay.com](mailto:communications@dounreay.com)

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