



Dounreay

Dounreay is Scotland's largest decommissioning project and is widely recognised as one of the most complex ongoing nuclear closure programmes. Located in Caithness, since the 1950s it has been known for being at the centre of the UK's fast reactor research programme. Today the team aims to be recognised globally for decommissioning excellence, while supporting the creation of sustainable alternative employment in the area. Up to 2,000 staff and contractors can be working on the programme at a time.

The site is owned by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. It is managed by Dounreay Site Restoration Limited, a Cavendish Dounreay Partnership company (Cavendish Nuclear, Jacobs and Amentum). It won a contract in 2012 to deliver an interim end state - expected during the 2030s. The site is regulated by the Office for Nuclear Regulation and Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

Nuclear material removal, waste management, construction and demolition are all seen at Dounreay. It is home to plants including 3 reactors – Dounreay Fast Reactor (DFR), Prototype Fast Reactor and Dounreay Materials Test Reactor (DMTR). A fuel cycle area features redundant fuel handling and reprocessing plants, while decommissioning of unique historical underground waste storage facilities – the shaft and silo – also form part of the programme. Waste will be recovered, repackaged and stored in modern facilities. Adjacent to the site are 2 underground low level waste disposal vaults, with plans to construct additional capacity.

Current decommissioning projects include the removal of breeder fuel, which has been inside DFR for decades, construction of a new higher activity waste store and demolition of DMTR.

For more information please contact nuclear.enquiry@trade.gov.uk

