



Impact of withdrawal from Euratom

LEAVING THE EUROPEAN UNION:

Supply of LWR Fuel to EU

“The UK supplies LWR fuel and intermediate products to EU member states to support their domestic and overseas nuclear markets and bring diversity of supply”.

Background information and context

Westinghouse own and operate the Springfields nuclear licensed site near Preston, from where Westinghouse exports LWR fuel and intermediate products to support around 20 European nuclear reactors in at least 3 EU countries.

In order to support the export of LWR fuel, Springfields receives components from Sweden and the United States.

The benefits derived by UK and EU from the existing arrangements for the supply of LWR fuels and intermediate products are

- Safeguard Accountancy System provided by Euratom to support compliance with international obligations at Springfields.

- No export licence requirement for the movement of uranic materials between Euratom Member States.

- Tariff free supply of components and feed material from the EU to the UK.

- Tariff free supply of nuclear fuel from the UK to the EU.

- Tariff free supply of intermediate uranic products from the UK to the EU.

- Competitive tariff arrangements from the United States to the UK.

Impact of withdrawal from Euratom

Although it is unclear what new or transitional arrangements are in place when the UK withdraws from the EU, there is the potential for disruption in the supply of LWR fuel and intermediate products in the event that export and import licenses are required, or other trade barriers are imposed that restrict the movement of uranic materials and components between the UK and the EU.

The impacts are

- the ability of the UK to provide diversity of supply for European nuclear reactors and manufacturing facilities.
- the UK is less competitive on the global LWR fuel supply market

KEY MESSAGES

The UK exit from Euratom potentially disrupts UK LWR fuel and intermediate product exports to the EU, if effective new or transitional arrangements are not put in place. Tariff free trade on nuclear fuel and components is important to ensure the UK remains competitive on the global LWR market.