

News Release

13 March 2026

Beznau nuclear power plant: Unit 1 begins overhaul

Today, the overhaul of Unit 1 at the Beznau nuclear power plant (KKB) begins. The main focus of the overhaul includes axpo maintenance work, recurring tests and inspections. The revision will last approximately ten weeks.

Since the start of the current operating cycle on April 24, 2025, Unit 1 has produced approximately 3 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity – equivalent to the average annual consumption of around 650,000 four-person households.

During the shutdown of the reactor, steam may be visible above the machine house (non-nuclear part). This steam is harmless and poses no risk to people or the environment. The overhaul is supervised by the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI).

The KKB reliably and safely generates around 6 terawatt-hours of electricity per year, covering approximately one-tenth of Switzerland's electricity demand. Both reactor units are taken offline in the spring/summer for fuel element replacement or revision. Afterward, they again provide their important contribution to Switzerland's energy security for around one year – particularly during the winter months.

About Axpo

Axpo is driven by a single purpose – to enable a sustainable future through innovative energy solutions. Axpo is Switzerland's largest energy producer and an international leader in energy trading and the marketing of solar and wind power. Axpo combines the experience and expertise of about 7,500 employees who are driven by a passion for innovation, collaboration and impactful change. Using cutting-edge technologies, Axpo innovates to meet the evolving needs of its customers in more than 30 countries across Europe, North America and Asia.

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