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The responsible management of used fuel by the nuclear industry

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Used fuel is generated from the operation of nuclear reactors of all types. The nuclear industry is currently implementing strategies to ensure the safe and cost-effective management of this used fuel. Currently, there exist two strategies for managing used fuel: the "open cycle"and "closed cycle". Depending on a number of drivers, countries will engage in one of these alternatives, but may also examine the use of interim storage.

The paper presents used fuel management strategies which ensure used fuel is safely managed by the nuclear operators. The paper also discusses long-term management solutions of used fuel, implementing integrated system approaches in stages to mitigate risks and uncertainties. Additionally, described are innovative solutions that could be implemented in the mid-term, as well as potential constraints to their development.

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Country or International Organization

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

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