

Did you know ?



Sellafield is home to the worlds first commercial nuclear power station Calder Hall. Calder Hall generated electricity for over 47 years.



The Sellafield site covers an area of approximately 4 square kilometres.



Approximately 10,000 people are employed on the Sellafield site.



During the Second World War Sellafield was a vital part of the war effort. In the early 1940's two Royal Ordnance factories were commissioned at Sellafield and Drigg to produce explosives.



Nuclear fuel has been reprocessed at the Sellafield site for over 50 years.



Sellafield contains the world's most modern systems for reprocessing used nuclear fuel and managing nuclear waste.



Nuclear fission is the splitting of an atomic nucleus into smaller parts which results in the release of energy.



We are exposed to radiation from many sources rocks, the air, our food, medical X-rays etc. Many people receive natural doses much higher than those received by a nuclear power worker.



Nuclear power uses the fission of uranium atoms to generate electricity.



The three types of radiation that nuclear waste gives off are called alpha radiation, beta radiation and gamma radiation. Each one has different penetrating powers.



Nuclear fuel has an effective four to five year life inside the reactor.



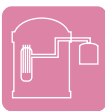
In 1831, Michael Faraday discovered that when he rotated a coil of wire inside a magnetic field, he created the world's first electric generator.



1kg of uranium provides enough energy to boil over 2 million kettles of water.



Our average annual radiation dose is 2.6 units. We get 85.5% of it from natural sources.



The core of a reactor is almost 10m high and weighs over 2000 tonnes. The concrete surrounding it is over 4m thick.