

Media Release

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KKB 1: Back on the grid after refueling

Following successful refueling, Axpo brought Unit 1 of the Beznau nuclear power plant (KKB) back online during the course of Monday. With the new loading of the reactor core, KKB 1 will start the next operating cycle and will again produce electricity around the clock for more than 600,000 four-person households.

KKB unit 1 had gone offline on May 11, 2021, as scheduled for annual refueling. Over the past two weeks, specialists at KKB have replaced 20 of the total 121 fuel assemblies in the reactor core in compliance with the pandemic protection concept. In addition, inspection work, system tests and planned maintenance work were carried out on individual components.

Following clearance by the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate ENSI, KKB 1 has gradually resumed normal operation. The plant will reach full load in about two days - equivalent to a net electrical output of 365 megawatts.

During restart, water vapor is visible above the non-nuclear part of the plant (machine house) at times. There is no danger to people or the environment.

Additional information

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About Axpo: Axpo is Switzerland's largest producer of renewable energy and an international leader in energy trading and the marketing of solar and wind power. 5000 employees combine experience and expertise with a passion for innovation. Axpo develops innovative energy solutions based on state-of-the-art technologies for its customers in over 30 countries in Europe and the USA.