



Fact sheet: Conditioning

The Swiss Federal Nuclear Energy Act stipulates that the use of radioactive matter must result in as little waste material as possible. All waste material that is produced despite this minimisation requirement first has to be conditioned (i.e. brought into a stable state) and packed in suitable receptacles. The conditioning of radioactive waste is supervised by the Swiss Federal Nuclear Safety Inspectorate (ENSI).



Plasma facility in the incineration hall at the central interim storage facility. Some of the low and intermediate level waste is vitrified in this incineration plant. Source: ZWILAG

High-level waste is packed into steel containers at the nuclear power plant, and is then transferred to the interim storage facility. High-level waste resulting from reprocessing is vitrified and subsequently transferred to the interim storage facility.

Low and intermediate level waste from nuclear power plants is collected and conditioned before it is transferred for interim storage. During conditioning, untreated radioactive waste is solidified, compacted and packaged in a suitable form for transport, interim storage and end storage.



The Swiss Federal Office of Public Health supervises the collection of low and intermediate level waste from healthcare, industry and research. Source: Swiss Federal Office of Public Health

Conditioning facilities and an incineration and fusion plant are available at the central interim storage facility (ZWILAG). In the conditioning plant, low and intermediate level waste from nuclear power plants is decontaminated, crushed, solidified and packed into suitable receptacles.