

EU3 may provide Iran with a nuclear reactor

The EU's three biggest powers – Britain, France and Germany – plan to offer Iran a light-water nuclear reactor as part of a package of incentives to persuade Tehran to give up its uranium enrichment programme.

The uranium fuel for this type of reactor – enriched to 2.5-3.5% – will not make a bomb; enrichment to over 90% is needed for weapons applications

1 Reactor vessel:

Pressurized water is heated by reactor core. High pressure ensures water does not turn to steam

2 Coolant loop:

Superheated water carries heat to steam generator

3 Steam generator:

Vaporizes water in secondary loop to drive turbine which produces electricity. Steam never comes into contact with reactor

