

Iran switches on Bushehr nuclear plant

Iran has connected the country's first nuclear power plant to the national grid after years of delays. The Bushehr reactor, begun before the 1979 Islamic revolution and built with Russian help, is the first of a planned network of facilities which Iran says is aimed at cutting its reliance on fossil fuels

BUSHEHR PLANT



1 Reactor building

Reactor is Russian VVER light water design, with maximum generating capacity of 1,000MW

2 Auxiliary building

3 Solid waste building

4 Electrical building

5 Turbine building

6 Emergency feedwater building

7 Ventilation chimney

Bushehr will initially operate at 40 percent capacity before achieving full output within months. Spent fuel from the plant will be returned to Russia, alleviating western concerns that it could help Iran to build nuclear weapons