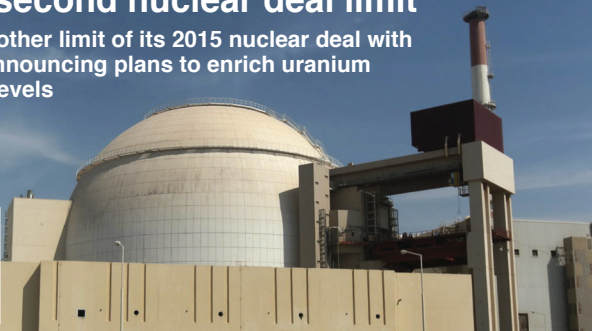


# Iran breaks second nuclear deal limit

Iran has broken another limit of its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers by announcing plans to enrich uranium beyond permitted levels

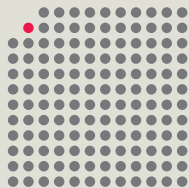


■ **Jul 7, 2019:** Iran says it will begin enriching uranium to 5 percent – level required to fuel Bushehr nuclear power plant (above). **Nuclear deal sets cap for uranium enrichment at 3.67 percent purity**

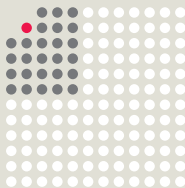
■ **Jul 1:** Iran says it has exceeded limit for its stockpile of 3.67 percent-enriched uranium. **Nuclear deal limits Iran's stockpile to 300kg of uranium hexafluoride, equal to 202.8kg of enriched uranium**

## HOW URANIUM ENRICHMENT WORKS

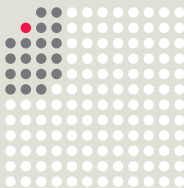
Before uranium can be used to make nuclear fuel or weapons, it must be enriched by boosting its concentration of uranium isotope 235 (U-235)



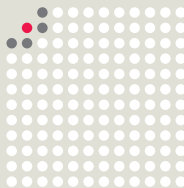
**Mined uranium**  
Typically has about 140 atoms of unwanted uranium isotope 238 (U-238) for every one atom of U-235



**3.67% purity**  
Iran allowed to enrich uranium to this level – by removing 114 U-238 atoms for every atom of U-235



**5% purity**  
Iran says it will enrich uranium to this level – requiring seven more atoms of U-238 to be removed



**20% purity**  
15 more U-238 atoms removed. Only four more atoms then need removing for “weapons grade” (90% purity)