

BNFL Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant

Customer: BNFL
Project: Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant
Location: Sellafield
Date: Completion of commissioning: 1993
Completion of operational support: 1997
Services: Engineering assistance, Operation & Maintenance
Value: £6 million

Scope of Work

The Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (THORP) at BNFL Sellafield reprocesses spent thermal oxide fuel elements to produce re-usable uranium and plutonium. Two per cent of highly active wastes will also be produced for long term storage.

After competitive tendering, and following the successful completion of several other testing and commissioning contracts for BNFL at Sellafield, Aker Kvaerner was awarded three separate contracts for THORP. These were:

- Reagents Area testing
- Chemical Separation Area testing
- Chemical Separation Area process commissioning

The main items of equipment included:

- Pulsed columns
- Mixer settlers
- Pumps (process and double diode)
- Tanks and vessels
- Reverse flow diverters
- Ejectors
- Chillers

Contract

These contracts, worth a total of approximately £6 million, were carried out over a period in excess of 2½ years. During peak manning, over 100 Aker Kvaerner engineers were employed on site.



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