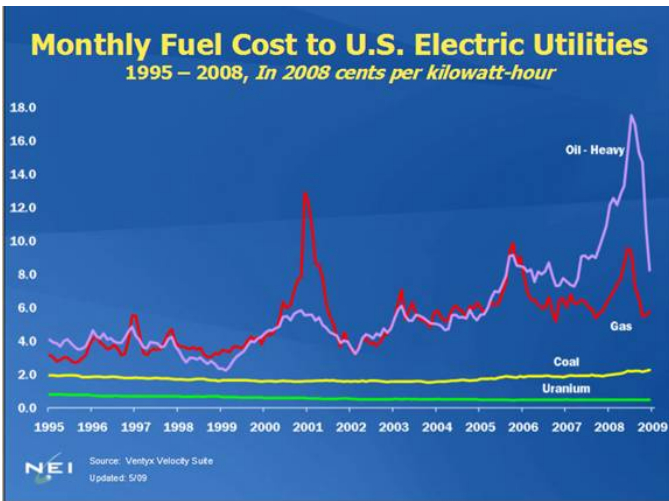


A Secure, Stable Power Fuel

When it comes to energy, increased diversity means increased security. California's energy supply is more secure and its energy costs more stable because of nuclear power plants such as Southern California Edison's (SCE) San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station.

North America and other stable parts of the world have abundant supplies of secure, domestic uranium. As a result, nuclear generation makes our essential electricity supply less dependent on unpredictable markets. And an abundant, assured fuel supply means steadier customer rates.



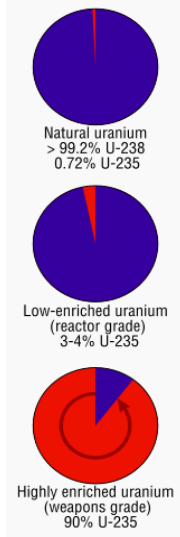
A Common Ore, An Abundant Energy Source

Step 1. Uranium is mined much like any mineral. Solvents are injected into an area that remove the uranium without displacing large amounts of earth. The resulting "yellowcake" then undergoes filtering and drying.

Step 2. A chemical process converts the yellowcake to uranium hexafluoride which contains one of earth's naturally occurring elements called U-235, the source of the controlled reaction in a nuclear reactor.

Step 3. An enrichment process increases the U-235 content from less than 1 percent to between 3 and 4 percent. This low level of enrichment for nuclear fuel is not explosive and well below the 90 percent enrichment needed to be weapons-grade.

Step 4. Then the uranium hexafluoride is converted into uranium dioxide powder, pressed into fuel pellets, loaded into long tubes and grouped in tube bundles for use by nuclear plants.



Nuclear Fuel Facts

- One uranium fuel pellet the size of a fingertip contains as much energy as 149 gallons of oil, 1,780 pounds of coal and 17,000 cubic feet of natural gas.



- All the used nuclear fuel produced by the U.S. nuclear energy industry during four decades of operation could be stacked 10 yards high on one football field.

- If all the electricity you use in your lifetime were supplied by nuclear power, the waste leftover from meeting your energy needs would weigh two pounds and fit inside one soft drink can.

- A nuclear power plant occupying a third of a square mile can generate one billion watts of power, or enough electricity to serve 650,000 average homes at a point in time. A solar installation generating the same amount of power would require 50 square miles and a wind farm 200 square miles.

Used Fuel Storage Facts

Used fuel storage technologies used by the U.S. nuclear power industry and San Onofre are backed by solid science and provide reliable public safeguards.

- Used fuel is stored at U.S. nuclear plants in steel-lined concrete pools or in sealed, reinforced, robust concrete containers with steel inner canisters. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has determined this storage technology is safe for at least 100 years.

- Fuel storage facilities are continuously monitored by site personnel and expert independent inspectors.



San Onofre's dry cask storage facility

- Today's used nuclear fuel might someday generate more electricity. Currently, nuclear plants use only five percent of the fuel's energy before it is placed in storage.

A number of developed nations reprocess nuclear fuel, a step that reduces the amount of nuclear waste as well as its radioactivity.

- The best location for a central U.S. nuclear waste depository is a matter of continuing political debate. But there is settled science supporting the long-term safety of deep geologic disposal.