



# History

the graphite and carbon-steel PCRV components. Throughout the history of operation of the reactor, both the helium purification system and the PCRV evacuation systems were used for moisture removal.

On August 18, 1989, the plant was taken off line to address an issue with stuck control rods. During shutdown, an inspection revealed several hairline cracks in the main ring header that routed steam from 12 steam generators. It proved too costly to repair and sealed the fate of the plant—the reactor was never restarted.

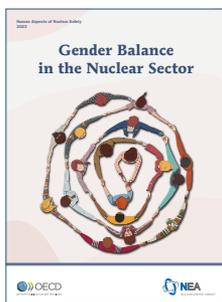
Decommissioning activities were started in 1989 with the final radiological survey process taking place between 1994 and 1996. It was reported that more than 400,000 physical measurements were used in this survey, which took more than 900 person-months over one and a half years. After the fuel was removed, the concrete reactor vessel was removed. To protect workers from radiation exposure, the PCRV was flooded with water.

Fuel unloaded from Fort St. Vrain was placed in a passively cooled independent spent fuel storage installation. Decommissioning activities concluded with low radiological exposures and within schedule and original cost goals. On Tuesday, August 5, 1997, the NRC released a memo stating, “The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has terminated the operating license of the decommissioned Fort St. Vrain Nuclear Generating Station near Platteville, Colorado, and released the site for unrestricted use, as requested by the licensee, Public Service Company of Colorado.”

After decommissioning activities were complete, the site was converted to produce electricity using a combined-cycle natural gas combustion. ✕

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## New from the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA)

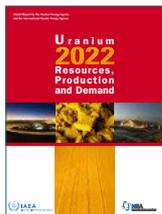


### **Gender Balance in the Nuclear Sector**

[oecd-nea.org/gender-balance](http://oecd-nea.org/gender-balance)

Female scientists and engineers pioneered the nuclear and radiological fields, with leaders and innovators such as Marie Skłodowska-Curie and Lise Meitner, among many others, establishing the foundation of modern nuclear science and technology. Women continue to make vital contributions to the sector, but their visibility and overall numbers in the sector remain limited, especially in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and leadership roles. The lack of diversity in the sector represents a loss of potential innovation and growth and a critical threat to the viability of the field. This report features the first publicly available international data on gender balance in the nuclear sector. The data was collected from over 8 000 women in the nuclear workforce in 32 countries, as well as human resources data from 96 nuclear organisations in 17 countries. Based on the findings, a comprehensive, evidence-driven policy framework is proposed with practical recommendations.

#### Also available:



### **Uranium 2022: Resources, Production and Demand**

[oecd-nea.org/uranium-22](http://oecd-nea.org/uranium-22)



### **Reactivity-Initiated Accident Fuel Rod Codes Benchmark Phases I-III: Synthesis Report**

[oe.cd/4ld](http://oe.cd/4ld)



### **Consensus Position on the Impact of Cyber Security Features on Digital Instrumentation and Control Systems Important to Safety at Nuclear Power Plants**

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