

# Swiss nuclear safety watchdog gives stations the all-clear

July 9 2012

---



Switzerland's oldest nuclear power plant Beznau is seen in 2011 near Doettingen, northern Switzerland. Switzerland's four nuclear power stations are fit to withstand a major earthquake and pose no threat to the population and the environment, inspectors said on Monday.

Switzerland's four nuclear power stations are fit to withstand a major earthquake and pose no threat to the population and the environment, inspectors said on Monday.

"The [nuclear power stations](#) can withstand an earthquake of the kind that occurs a maximum of every 10,000 years," said Georg Schwarz from the Federal Inspectorate for [Nuclear Safety](#) (IFSN) in a statement.

The central cooling system and the cooling of combustible element stocks would be guaranteed in the event of a [quake](#), the body said, who assessed demonstrations carried out by station operators.

Operators have come under pressure from Swiss authorities to check their ability to cope with quakes following the Japanese Fukushima disaster.

A meltdown at the core of three of the plant's six reactors occurred after the March 11, 2011 earthquake and ensuing massive tsunami shut off the power supply and cooling system.

The Swiss parliament approved a phased exit from nuclear energy six months after what was the world's worst [nuclear accident](#) since Chernobyl in 1986.

Under current plans the country's five reactors will be put out of action by 2034.

(c) 2012 AFP

Citation: Swiss nuclear safety watchdog gives stations the all-clear (2012, July 9) retrieved 29 June 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2012-07-swiss-nuclear-safety-watchdog-stations.html>

This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.