

9 Will any radioactive waste be produced?

There is no radioactive waste while the facility is operated. Furthermore, the annual local dose in all areas of the facility with unrestricted access will not exceed a maximum of 1 millisievert (mSv) per year, which is the upper limit for persons who are not professionally exposed to radiation. The upper limit for persons who are professionally exposed is 20 mSv per year. The natural radiation background in Switzerland averages 3 mSv per year. There is an additional 1 mSv per year caused by medical applications and the fallout from the accident at the Chernobyl reactor and from atmospheric atomic bomb tests.

When the proton therapy facility will be decommissioned and dismantled after 30 years at the earliest, there will be a small amount of slightly radioactive metal components from the facility that will have a total volume of about 15 m³ according to estimates from the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) in Villigen, Canton of Aargau and these will have to be stored until the activity has decayed after a few years.

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