

ANNONS

ANNONS



livsstil
Livet från den ljusa sidan
 Premiär för Aftonbladets nya livsstilssatsning.

LÄS MER

My finances / Waterfall

Government on the verge of lifting uranium ban

Johanna Ekström/TT

Updated 09.55 | Published 05.30

Share this story! Save the article



With the government's investment in nuclear power, the uranium ban has also ended up on the table. Stock photography. Photo: Christine Olsson/TT

After a five-year ban, preparations are now underway in the Government Offices to lift the uranium ban.

But despite the fact that there is plenty of uranium in Swedish bedrock, it has not been mined since the 1960s.

The question is whether anyone wants to start now.

ANNONS

ANNONS



plick
 Sälj dina kläder tryggt utan avgifter.
 Ladda ner appen
 Available on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

MOST READ: MY FINANCES

Fishermen on the Baltic Sea sound the alarm – now the EU wants to introduce a total ban



Article contains ad links

6 banks that have raised the savings rate



Article contains ad links

What you should NOT do with your savings



Industrial fishermen on EU fishing ban: "Sick proposal"



The method that gives you a significantly higher pension



Aldi mer dåligt köp

Jämför och spara över





Five years ago, the Riksdag banned uranium mining, following a proposal from the government of the day, which consisted of the Social Democrats and [the Green Party](#). The [Centre Party](#) and the [Left Party](#) also voted in favour of the decision.

The ban caused many around Storsjön in Jämtland and Billingen in Västergötland, where deposits are located, to breathe a sigh of relief.

But now the Tidö parties are in the process of loosening the ban again. All four voted against it back in 2018 and preparations for appointing an inquiry are underway in the Ministry of Climate and Enterprise, according to information provided to TT.

Minister for Energy and Business Ebba Busch writes in a comment that the government is "open to and sees the need for uranium mining in Sweden", and that they will return to the issue.

No break since the 60's

There has been no uranium mine in Sweden since the 1960s. All uranium used in nuclear reactors is imported.

According to Peter Åkerhammar, uranium expert at the Geological Survey of Sweden (SGU), there are "relatively good deposits" of uranium in Sweden.

ANNONS



Sweden's assets account for about 27 percent of Europe's uranium reserves, according to what is known today, according to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

According to Åkerhammar, the fact that it was not broken before the ban is mainly due to profitability.

"The large volume deposits in alum shale cannot be extracted economically. But if they also contain lots of other metals that can be extracted, you might be able to get economics out of it," he says.

For example, it could also be a matter of making use of uranium in a mine where mainly rare earth elements are mined. Today, the uranium would have to be left in the mine instead.

Pär Olsson, Professor of Nuclear Energy Engineering at KTH, is on the same track. It is simply cheaper for Sweden to buy uranium from countries where there is already built-up mining capacity," he says.

buy somewhere else, we'll do it," he says.

mainly from Canada and Australia.

So the question is, how worried do those who don't want mines in their neighborhood need to be? Pär Olsson finds it difficult to see that any company would start mining uranium in Sweden.

"In that case, it could be like an extra income in another type of mine, but I find it difficult to see any dedicated uranium mining as the world situation looks now," he says.

No more dangerous than anything else

According to both Peter Åkerhammar and Pär Olsson, however, uranium mining is no more dangerous than many other metals.

"Uranium has perhaps gotten a bit of a bad reputation because it is used for nuclear power and in atomic bombs. That is perhaps what has made it so politically sensitive, but there are other substances that are mined that are more dangerous," says Peter Åkerhammar.

In its original format, uranium is "moderately radioactive, but not that dangerous," he says. It is only when, in processed form, it goes through a nuclear reactor that it is irradiated.

ANNONS



Regardless, a new mine is far away.

"First, it has to be legal again. Then you have to find a good uranium deposit, and a permit is required under the Minerals Act, the Nuclear Activities Act and the Environmental Code. That's at least decades away," says Peter Åkerhammar.

Correction: An earlier version of this story misstated the name of the Geological Survey of Sweden.

FACTS

This is uranium

Uranium is used as a nuclear fuel in most of the world's nuclear reactors.

In total, there are around 1,050 tonnes of uranium at Swedish nuclear power plants.












Uranium is classified as a metallic element and is mined in a similar way to other metals. The ore is crushed and then chemical processes are used until a yellow-brown powder, yellowcake, is formed.

After that, the uranium is further purified and then the so-called enrichment begins. All uranium used in Sweden is enriched outside Sweden.

[READ MORE](#)

ANNONS



STADT	Q	D	M	C	M	O
SBAB!	3,65	-	-			
VOLVOFINANS BANK	3,65	-	-			
 Landshypotek Bank	3,75	-	-			
 ERIK PENSER BANK	2,30	4,10		4,15		
BROCC	3,80	4,20		4,25		
collector	3,75 - 3,85	4,10		4,15		
MARGINAL BANK 	3,45	4,20		4,25		
AVIDA	3,85	-	-			

[Visa fler](#)

Presenteras av:  **compricer**

ADVERTISEMENT

Want to see what your car is worth? At Riddermark Bil you can value and sell your car quickly and easily.

[CLICK HERE](#) External link from Riddermark Bil

My finances

Subscribe to Cervenka's Newsletter

Predictions about the turbulent economy we live in now

Yes, please!



Follow topics in the article

- [Waterfall](#)
- [Green Party](#)
- [Left](#)
- [Centre Party](#)
- [The Swedish Radiation Safety Authority](#)