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The 2018 Shutdown of the NRU reactor

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The Canadian federal government recently announced its decision to shut down the NRU reactor in 2018. The National Research Universal (NRU) reactor commenced operation in 1957, to provide neutrons for several missions simultaneously, including the production of neutron beams to support fundamental experimental research on solids and liquids. Today, the Canadian Neutron Beam Centre manages six thermal neutron beam lines at the NRU reactor, and sustains a team of scientific and technical experts who enable collaborative research projects to be performed effectively by students and scientists from over 30 Canadian universities, as well as over 100 foreign institutions from about 20 countries. This presentation will provide key details of the current situation, to inform CAP Science Policy, in case some response is considered about the imminent loss of a major Canadian resource for research in condensed matter physics.

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