

The Queen digs nuclear
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Ground was broken yesterday on the UK's Nuclear Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre (NAMRC) by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, who used virtual reality to operate a digger.

The British monarch was accompanied by her husband HRH The Duke of Edinburgh and both wore 3D glasses for the ceremony in which she remotely controlled earth-moving equipment to officially start construction.



(Image: NAMRC)

The new facility is intended to "help UK companies become global leaders in the production of components and systems for the new generation of nuclear power stations" said the University of Sheffield. The other main collaborators in the project are the University of Manchester, the government and Rolls-Royce as lead industrial partner.

Factory-scale research facilities with space totalling 8000 square metres will be available at the NAMRC, as well as laboratories, offices and meeting spaces. In the county of South Yorkshire, it is set for completion in around one year and positioned alongside the existing Advanced Manufacturing Research Centre 'Factory of the Future'.

*Researched and written
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