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U. S. Department of Energy
Office of Fissile Materials Disposition
P.O. Box 23786
Washington, DC 20026-3786

Storage and Disposition of Weapons Usable Fissile Materials: MOX Proposal:

We are unalterably opposed to the Department of Energy plan to allow commercial nuclear reactors to use MOX, mixed oxide, which as we all know is largely a blend of plutonium and uranium.

1. The initial cost of one or more new plants which would cost at least $1 billion.

2. The use of MOX would greatly increase both the volume and radioactivity of the commercial nuclear power plant waste.

3. There are extremely dangerous proliferation problems posed by commercial power plant use of MOX: 1/08.03.01

a. It is relatively easy to separate the plutonium from the other components of MOX.

b. The transportation of the unused fuel would require military escorts. There would be long trips throughout the U. S. A. and Canada. We assume fuel storage would also require military protection.

c. Terrorism, national and international, is increasing. With so many private "militia" and others, there would be a ready market for MOX.

4. There are at least two options already identified for plutonium: continued storage and vitrification. We favor the latter.

Please do not make what is likely to become a catastrophic mistake. The world is lucky to have had but one Chernobyl so far, but there have been so many near disasters. Don't facilitate another unnecessary holocaust. 2/08.03.01

Sincerely yours,

D. K. & F. L. Cinquemani

Dr. D. K. & F. L. Cinquemani

M-261

08 03 01 Comment Number 1

The Department of Energy acknowledges the commentor's opposition to the Reactor Alternative using MOX fuel. Decisions on disposition of weapons-usable fissile materials will be made based upon environmental analyses, technical and economic studies, national policy considerations, and public input.

08 03 01 Comment Number 2

The Department of Energy acknowledges the commentor's support for the Immobilization Alternative. Decisions on disposition of weapons-usable fissile materials will be based upon environmental analyses, technical and economic studies, national policy considerations, and public input.