



Tennessee Valley Authority, 1101 Market Street, BR4A, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

May 6, 2015

Transmitted via E-mail to: tomclements329@cs.com

Tom Clements
SRS Watch
Columbia, South Carolina

RE: Plutonium Disposition

Dear Mr. Clements:

Thank you for your April 13, 2015 letter about the Department of Energy (DOE) Plutonium Disposition/Mixed Oxide Fuel Report.

The DOE, National Nuclear Security Agency is preparing a Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for Surplus Plutonium Disposition. It considers several alternatives for the disposition of weapons-grade plutonium declared surplus to national defense needs. The alternatives include using surplus plutonium to produce mixed oxide fuel.

In 2010 the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) entered into an Interagency Agreement with DOE to investigate the potential for use of mixed oxide fuel in TVA reactors. TVA is a formal cooperating agency on the SEIS, which evaluates the potential use of mixed oxide fuel in certain TVA reactors as well as generic commercial reactors. However, there is neither a TVA obligation nor a decision at this time to use mixed oxide fuel. TVA will use mixed oxide fuel in its reactors only if it is determined to be operationally and environmentally safe, economically beneficial to TVA customers and licensed for use by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. Prior to TVA's considerations, the DOE must determine which alternative(s) to pursue.

Questions and comments regarding the DOE's evaluation of options for disposition of surplus plutonium should be directed to Ms. Sachiko McAlhany, NEPA Document Manager, SPD Supplemental EIS, U.S. Department of Energy, P.O. Box 2324, Germantown, Maryland, 20874-2324.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Brickhouse', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Brenda E. Brickhouse
Vice President
Environment & Energy Policy