



**Department of Energy**  
Savannah River Operations Office  
P.O. Box A  
Aiken, South Carolina 29802

JAN 13 2014

CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Tom Clements  
Friends of the Earth  
1112 Florence Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Mr. Clements:

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Headquarters HQ-2014-00169-F/  
Savannah River Operations Office SRO-2014-00316-F

This is our first partial response to your October 30, 2013 FOIA request to Department of Energy Headquarters (DOE-HQ). DOE-HQ transferred your FOIA request to this office for action. You asked for copies of:

1. Any documents, assessments or reports (and attachments) prepared by DOE's Office of Environmental Management, Savannah River Site or Savannah River National Laboratory concerning management and disposal of the AVR fuel.
2. Any documents, assessments or reports (and attachments) prepared by the above entities concerning the ability of the H-Canyon, including via modifications, to process the graphite AVR fuel. This request covers documents on the handling of any HEU removed from the fuel and management of resultant waste streams, including impacts to the SRS high-level waste system.
3. Any "trip reports" filed by DOE employees or contractors who traveled to the Juelich site.

The documents shown on the enclosed Index List are partially responsive to your request. Since DOE Headquarters (HQ) originated Documents 001 through 002 and 004 through 006, we are transferring these documents to DOE-HQ for a release determination. If you have any questions regarding the documents, please contact Mr. Alexander Morris, FOIA Officer, DOE Headquarters, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20505. You may also contact Mr. Morris at (202) 586-5955.

JAN 13 2014

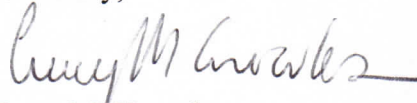
Mr. Tom Clements

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Based on your justification for a fee waiver, DOE-SR is waiving all allowable fees associated with the processing of your request.

As Chief Counsel, DOE-SR, I am the authorizing official for documents responsive to this request. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Pauline Conner at (803) 952-8134. The facsimile number for this office is (803) 952-8571.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Lucy M. Knowles", written in a cursive style.

Lucy M. Knowles  
Authorizing Official

Enclosures  
Index List and Requested Documents

# 1<sup>st</sup> Responsive Document 003



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

POSTANSCHRIFT Der Staatssekretär im Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, 53176 Bonn

Mr Thomas P. D'Agostino  
Under Secretary for Nuclear Security  
NA-1  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20585  
USA

Dr. Georg Schütte  
State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Education  
and Research

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DATUM Bonn, February 27, 2012

*Copy to*

Mr David Huizenga  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management  
EM-1  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Ms Anne Harrington  
Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation  
NA-20  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dr. William F. Brinkman  
Director of the Office of Science  
U.S. Department of Energy  
SC-1/Forrestal Building  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Translation

Dear Mr D'Agostino,

A number of research reactors and pilot and experimental facilities were built and operated in previous years under the German Federal Government's research and development projects for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is responsible for the decommissioning and dismantling of these facilities. One example is the AVR experimental reactor at Research Centre Jülich (FZJ), a formerly graphite-moderated pebble bed reactor which is currently

being dismantled. In this project, the BMBF is representing the Federal Government as the majority partner within FZJ.

In this context, officials from German reactors met with Ms Anne Harrington (NNSA) and Mr David Huizenga (DOE-BM) in Washington, D.C. on December 6, 2011 to discuss the possible return of graphite-based nuclear fuels of U.S. origin.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany supports the reactor operators' approach. We therefore welcome that the U.S. Department of Energy offered to consider the option of acceptance of nuclear fuel that originally contained approximately 900kg of highly enriched uranium from the U.S.

~~Should it be possible to reach a decision before the forthcoming nuclear security summit in Seoul, this~~  
would certainly benefit the debate at the meeting.

Thank you for your support. We will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely yours,

signed: Dr. Georg Schütte