



April 27, 2015

Mr. David Jones
Senior Vice President
AREVA Back End Division North America
7207 IBM Drive
Charlotte, NC 28262

Request for AREVA's Validated Life-Cycle Cost of US DOE's Plutonium Fuel (MOX) Project at SRS

Dear Mr. Jones,


I once again hereby request that AREVA promptly and publicly release its validated life-cycle cost of the U.S. Department of Energy's plutonium fuel (MOX) program, now being carried out at the Savannah River Site in South Carolina.

AREVA's independently validated life-cycle cost estimate would include such things:

- Total cost of construction of the MOX plant at SRS, including sunk costs;
- Cost of start-up of the MOX plant (estimated by DOE in the Fiscal Year 2016 budget request to be \$1.8 billion);
- Yearly operating cost of the MOX plant (DOE estimated this to be \$340 million/year in the FY2012 request and it jumped to \$543 million/year in FY2015 to \$670 million/year in FY 2016);
- Payment to any utilities to irradiate the experimental MOX fuel (MOX fuel made from weapon-grade plutonium has never been used on a commercial scale);
- Administrative costs over the life of the project;
- Cost of decontamination and decommissioning of the MOX plant;
- Cost of operation of the Waster Solidification Building (WSB), which would receive liquid waste streams from the MOX plant and cost of disposal of those waste streams at DOE sites.

As it will benefit the public and congressional discussion about the fate of the MOX project and allow you speak with authority, thank you for AREVA's prompt release of the validated MOX life-cycle cost estimate. Continued failure to release the life-cycle cost estimate will obviously also inform the discussion about the MOX project and raise doubts about anything you may say about MOX costs.

Sincerely,


Tom Clements
Director, SRS Watch

