

Savannah River Site Watch

September 24, 2020

Freedom of Information Officer NNSA Service Center Office of Public Affairs P.O. Box 5400 Albuquerque, NM 87185-5400

FOIA Request for Information by NNSA's Planned Disposal in WIPP of Fresh, Unirradiated MOX Stored at Los Alamos: Environmental Analysis and Non-Proliferation Assessment?

To Whom it Concerns:

This is a request filed under the Freedom of Information Act, as amended. Per applicable law and Department of Energy regulations, I anticipate a response to this request within 20 days. If the requested documents are not provided within 20 days please provide the reason why and give a date by which they will be provided to me.

This request is being filed on behalf of Savannah River Site Watch (SRS Watch), a corporation duly registered with the State of South Carolina and a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In addition to many FOIAs filed on behalf of SRS Watch, I have filed many FOIA requests with DOE on behalf of other non-profit organizations, including Friends of the Earth, the Alliance for Nuclear Accountability, Greenpeace and the Nuclear Control Institute.

I request that any fees that may be associated with this request be waived. The information obtained in response to this request will be used solely for non-profit purposes in South Carolina and the United States. The information will contribute to the public's understanding of the manner in which DOE conducts its business and will specifically be used to inform the public about plans for plutonium management and disposition. The information obtained via this request will be provided to not only the public but also the media, Congress, DOE advisory boards and elected officials. Over the years, I have demonstrated an ability to use information gathered via FOIA requests in a manner so as to educate the public about DOE and issues it is

addressing. I request that the fee-waiver standard that has been applied to my requests in the past be applied to this request.

If any claim is made that any portion of any located documents are sensitive in nature or meet FOIA exclusions, I request that redacted copies of such documents be provided to me and that a full explanation be provided as to the reasons for any redactions. I request that documents be provided to me as they become available to DOE staff and that the documents not be withheld until all pertinent documents are obtained.

The issue of disposal of the fresh MOX at LANL is briefly raised in the NNSA's August 2020 Final Supplement Analysis of the 2008 Site-Wide Environmental Impact Statement for the Continued Operation of Los Alamos National Laboratory for Plutonium Operations (https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2020/09/f78/final-supplement-analysis-eis-0380-sa-06-lanl-pit-production-2020-08.pdf). In addition, disposition of the fresh MOX is discussed in a 2015 LANL document - ARIES Oxide Production Program Legacy Risk Reduction Project, FS65 Disposition Option Report, https://permalink.lanl.gov/object/tr?what=info:lanl-repo/lareport/LA-UR-15-26533. Neither document contains an environmental analysis or non-proliferation/security analysis of disposing of the fresh MOX in the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant. I understand that once taken to WIPP that "safeguards" on the MOX would likely be terminated.

I hereby request:

- Any environmental analysis, including an Environmental Assessment or Environmental Impact Statement, concerning the disposal of fresh MOX fuel at LANL in WIPP;
- Any non-proliferation impact assessment and security assessment prepared about disposal in WIPP of fresh MOX stored at LANL and containing weapon-grade plutonium.

Please get in touch if you have questions about this request. Given the urgency of the matter at hand, I thank you for your timely response.

Sincerely,

Tom Clements

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