

## Trina Mackie

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**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 8:18 AM  
**To:** Chanda Steinberg; Trina Mackie  
**Subject:** FW: Another one

First of a handful.

Bill

### **Bill Bates | Savannah River National Laboratory**

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

***Environmental and Legacy Management***

Building 773-A, Rm A-233

Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

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**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 11:34 AM  
**To:** Jack Edlow <jedlow@edlow.com>  
**Subject:** Another one

Jack, here is JAEA and NNL. FYI

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Technology/Japan-U.K.-to-agree-on-building-demo-of-next-gen-nuclear-plant>

Bill

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## Trina Mackie

---

**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 8:24 AM  
**To:** Chanda Steinberg; Trina Mackie  
**Subject:** FW: fyi

**Bill Bates | Savannah River National Laboratory**

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

***Environmental and Legacy Management***

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[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

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**From:** Jack Edlow <jedlow@edlow.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:40 PM  
**To:** William Bates <william.bates@srnl.doe.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: fyi

Thanks meeting with Guenter Mank next week in London and will keep you posted.

Jack

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**From:** [william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov) <[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:31 PM  
**To:** Jack Edlow <[jedlow@edlow.com](mailto:jedlow@edlow.com)>  
**Subject:** fyi

<https://www.dw.com/en/german-nuclear-phaseout-leaves-radioactive-waste-problem/a-66661614>

Bill

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## Trina Mackie

---

**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 8:22 AM  
**To:** Chanda Steinberg; Trina Mackie  
**Subject:** FW: German Fuel and SRSWatch

### Bill Bates | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

#### ***Environmental and Legacy Management***

Building 773-A, Rm A-233

Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

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**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 22, 2023 12:16 PM  
**To:** GARDNER, CURTIS W <Curtis.Gardner@srs.gov>; Angela S Watmore <angela.watmore@em.doe.gov>; Jack Edlow <jedlow@edlow.com>; CRAPSE, HERBERT M JR <herbert.crapse@srs.gov>; Rosa R Elmetti <Rosa.Elmetti@em.doe.gov>; Jomaries M Rovira Rivera <jomaries.rovira@em.doe.gov>; POLK, PHILLIP A <tony.polk@srs.gov>; Robert Pierce <robert.pierce@srnl.doe.gov>  
**Subject:** German Fuel and SRSWatch

I am sure you have seen and are familiar, but FYI.

Bill

### Bill Bates | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

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Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

**From:** Tom Clements <[tomclements329@cs.com](mailto:tomclements329@cs.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 21, 2023 9:23 AM  
**To:** Tom Clements <[tomclements329@cs.com](mailto:tomclements329@cs.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Continued violation by EM/SRNL of FONSI on German spent fuel import - SRS Watch news

**Plan to export German spent fuel from Germany to SRS has been terminated but DOE will not provide required updates to public & SRS CAB**

The violation by DOE's EM of the [December 2017 FONSI](#) on the German spent fuel-import issue will possibly be raised with EM director Ike White during a meeting with Alliance for Nuclear Accountability groups on April 25. As this matter is a test of DOE's compliance with its own NEPA determinations, it will be raised in face-to-face meetings with DNFSB and GAO. Compliance by DOE with the FONSI would be simple but DOE is inexplicably chronically in violation of it.

Language in the FONSI but not complied with: "DOE will provide updates at the Savannah River Site Citizens Advisory Board meetings, and to other stakeholders, about the progress of technology development and any decisions on acceptance of the material."

As DOE is well aware, this matter has been raised on several recent occasions with the SRS Citizens Advisory Board - I have stood in for DOE by providing updates - and in communication with DOE, to no effect on DOE. Compliance by DOE/SRNL with the FONSI would be simple but DOE remains inexplicably chronically in violation of it.

The request by SRS Watch to comply with the FONSI stands.

Sincerely,  
Tom Clements  
Savannah River Site Watch  
Columbia, SC

>>> News release on project termination, April 19, 2023:

**Savannah River Site Watch**  
<https://srswatch.org/>  
**Columbia, South Carolina USA**  
**For Immediate Release**  
**April 19, 2023**

News release posted on SRS Watch website: <https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/SRS-Watch-news-on-German-spent-fuel-export-termination-April-19-2023.pdf>

On EIN Newswire: [https://www.einnews.com/pr\\_news/598106937/department-of-energy-official-reveals-more-delays-in-plans-for-new-plutonium-pit-facility-at-doe-s-savannah-river-site](https://www.einnews.com/pr_news/598106937/department-of-energy-official-reveals-more-delays-in-plans-for-new-plutonium-pit-facility-at-doe-s-savannah-river-site)

Contact: Tom Clements, director, SRS Watch, tel. 803-834-3084, [srswatch@gmail.com](mailto:srswatch@gmail.com)

### **German Federal Government Concurs with Termination of Plan to Ship Highly Radioactive Spent Fuel from Germany to U.S. DOE's Savannah River Site in South Carolina**

#### **Decade-long Effort Funded by Germany to Develop Reprocessing Technique at SRS for Irradiated Graphite Fuel has Ended, Thus No Dumping of German Waste in Tanks and Trenches at SRS**

**Columbia, SC** – Documents obtained from Germany make it crystal clear that plans to ship highly radioactive spent fuel from storage in Germany to the Savannah River Site in South Carolina have been terminated with the agreement of key German federal government agencies.

The documents, from a formal community meeting near the spent fuel storage site in Juelich, Germany, bring the ultimate blow to a decade-long plan to bring highly radioactive graphite spent fuel to SRS:

**“Rückführung in die USA (im Einvernehmen mit der Bundesregierung BEENDET)”**

**“Return shipment to the USA (terminated in agreement with the federal government)”**

The documents include a [presentation by the company managing the spent fuel](#), Jülicher Entsorgungsgesellschaft für Nuklearanlagen (JEN), and [the minutes of the meeting](#) held on March 6, 2023 in Juelich (in western Germany, near Aachen). The highly radioactive waste in question consists 152 casks of around 300,000 irradiated graphite balls impregnated with uranium, used as fuel in the long-closed gas-cooled AVR reactor at Juelich.

The presentation by JEN states that German federal agencies have agreed with the decision by JEN not to export the spent fuel to SRS:

“Atomaufsicht sowie Bundesministerien BMUV, BMBF, BMF schließen sich den Ausführungen der JEN an,  
die USA-Optionen zu beenden.”

“The nuclear supervisory authority and the federal ministries BMUV, BMBF, BMF agree with JEN's statements  
to end the US options.”

The nuclear licensing authority is the Federal Office for the Safety of Nuclear Waste Management (BfE). The BMUV is the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection, the BMBF is the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and BMF is the Federal Ministry of Finance. All agree with JEN's decision not to export the spent fuel, a step not known until the mentioned meeting.

“The project to import and dump German spent fuel at SRS is now fully confirmed to be dead, due to diligence of activists and concerned officials in Germany in the face of DOE efforts to keep the scheme alive,” said Tom Clements, director of Savannah River Site Watch. “The termination of this misguided project is not only an environmental victory but is also significant from a nuclear non-proliferation perspective as funding by Germany of a reprocessing technique to remove uranium from graphite fuel has also been terminated,” added Clements.

Additionally, in the Q&A period at the March 6 meeting, a JEN official stated that the research agreement between JEN and SRNL would not be renewed after the [last modification \(number 9\) ended on February 28, 2023](#). SRS Watch has an [outstanding Freedom of Information Act request](#), dated March 1, 2023, for any new agreement but an embarrassed DOE has yet to admit that no renewed agreement exists. SRS Watch has stepped in to update the public about that as DOE has so far been silent.

JEN reports three reasons for the decision not to continue with plans to export the spent fuel: 1) security for the transport on land and by sea (to Charleston, South Carolina) would be extremely costly, 2) development of the reprocessing technique (by the Savannah River National Lab) is not technologically developed and 3) issuance of an export license would not be permitted as storage in Germany is possible.

The proposal to export the spent fuel from Germany to the US emerged in 2012 and the project has faced public opposition in Germany and the US since then. In 2017, the [SRS Citizens Advisory Board \(CAB\) opposed the export](#). Also in 2017, [DOE made a commitment under the National Environmental Policy Act \(NEPA\)](#) to give updates to the public and the CAB about the status of the project but has repeatedly failed to do so, calling into question DOE's commitment to honoring NEPA.

“Given DOE's abdication of its responsibility to tell us about the status of the nuclear waste import plan, Savannah River Site Watch has assumed the role of updating the public and CAB about the project,” said Clements. “As DOE refuses to do so, we hereby once again provide the update to the public that the German-spent-fuel-import project has reached a good conclusion,” added Clements.

More project-termination details were outlined in a [SRS Watch news release of January 10, 2023](#) - SRS Watch had been told by JEN the plan was terminated by them. The twists and turns of the project were outlined in a report released by SRS Watch in January 2023 and entitled [Auf Wiedersehen to DOE Nuclear Waste Dumping Scheme](#).

According to SRS Watch and colleagues in Germany, the spent fuel in question must now be stored in a newly licensed facility to be constructed at the same storage site, the Forschungszentrum Jülich (Jülich Research Center, FZJ) and not transported to an interim storage facility in Ahaus, Germany.

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Presentation in German: *ZUKÜNFTIGER VERBLEIB DER AVR-BRENNELEMENTEAKTUELLER STAND DER OPTIONEN – (FUTURE RETENTION OF AVR FUEL ELEMENTS - CURRENT STATUS OF OPTIONS)*, by JEN on March 6, 2023 to the “Jülicher Nachbarschaftsdialog”: [https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-03-29\\_JND\\_Kallenbach\\_Optionen-AVR-BE-final.pdf](https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-03-29_JND_Kallenbach_Optionen-AVR-BE-final.pdf)

Minutes of March 6, 2023 meeting (Protokoll, 20. Sitzung des Jülicher Nachbarschaftsdialogs am 06.03.2023) – also confirm termination of the project: [https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/20230306\\_Protokoll-JND\\_Sitzung-20.-Sitzung\\_ENTWURF.pdf](https://srswatch.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/20230306_Protokoll-JND_Sitzung-20.-Sitzung_ENTWURF.pdf)

## Trina Mackie

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**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 8:21 AM  
**To:** Chanda Steinberg; Trina Mackie  
**Subject:** FW: German New Elections

I did not include each individual reply to this original query but they are all in the earlier email string and only involved timing setting up a call.

### **Bill Bates** | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

#### ***Environmental and Legacy Management***

Building 773-A, Rm A-233

Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

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**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 20, 2023 1:59 PM  
**To:** Jack Edlow <jedlow@edlow.com>  
**Cc:** Russell Neely <rneely@edlow.com>; Angela S Watmore <angela.watmore@em.doe.gov>  
**Subject:** German New Elections

Jack, I heard that there are some elections being redone in Germany. No clue but thought I would ask you if you see that as having any impact on the AVR/THTR pendulum?

Bill

### **Bill Bates** | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

#### ***Environmental and Legacy Management***

Building 773-A, Rm A-233

Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

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## Trina Mackie

---

**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 8:24 AM  
**To:** Chanda Steinberg; Trina Mackie  
**Subject:** FW: JAEA

### Bill Bates | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

**Environmental and Legacy Management**

Building 773-A, Rm A-233

Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

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**From:** Jack Edlow <jedlow@edlow.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 8:12 AM  
**To:** William Bates <william.bates@srnl.doe.gov>  
**Cc:** Russell Neely <rneely@edlow.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: JAEA

Bill

Thanks for the email and good to see you too.. I thought I was going to share the panel with you last week at the Atlantic Council but you seemed to have dropped off.

No follow up on my part as per below. Do you want to talk about it some more? We can have a call this week.

By the way, did you or Angela ever receive an official communication from the German Ministry on the graphite project. I have not seen any message yet.

Thanks and best

Jack

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**From:** [william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov) <[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 27, 2023 7:53 AM  
**To:** Jack Edlow <[jedlow@edlow.com](mailto:jedlow@edlow.com)>  
**Subject:** JAEA

Jack, it was good seeing you the other week at the half day meeting. I was just checking in to ask if you have had any initial dialog with them on the need for technology support for graphite TRISO fuel processing technology.

Thanks.

Bill

**Bill Bates** | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

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Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

## Trina Mackie

---

**From:** William Bates  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2023 8:25 AM  
**To:** Chanda Steinberg; Trina Mackie  
**Subject:** FW: Status?

### Bill Bates | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

#### **Environmental and Legacy Management**

Building 773-A, Rm A-233

Aiken, South Carolina 29808

Office: 803.725.1341

Mobile: 803.507.5050

[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)

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**From:** Jack Edlow <jedlow@edlow.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2022 7:46 AM  
**To:** William Bates <william.bates@srnl.doe.gov>  
**Cc:** Angela S Watmore <angela.watmore@em.doe.gov>; Russell Neely <rneely@edlow.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: Status?

Bill

I have heard nothing despite several emails. Will try again and let you know in a day or two. I am glad that Katy Huff was intrigued. She should be as she is funding the construction of one graphite fueled reactor and thus the fuel. She should be also supporting disposition.

Thanks for checking in

Best

Jack

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**From:** [william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov) <[william.bates@srnl.doe.gov](mailto:william.bates@srnl.doe.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2022 6:09 PM  
**To:** Jack Edlow <[jedlow@edlow.com](mailto:jedlow@edlow.com)>  
**Cc:** [angela.watmore@em.doe.gov](mailto:angela.watmore@em.doe.gov)  
**Subject:** Status?

Jack, any news or letter from the federal government regarding their position on the graphite fuel? I have heard nothing. Our small contract with JEN expires in February. We toured Katy Huff in SRNL back on 11/1 and showed her the demonstration unit that we have for the experiments. She was intrigued.

Thanks.

Bill

**Bill Bates** | Savannah River National Laboratory

Deputy Associate Laboratory Director

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