



International Atomic Energy Agency

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COMMUNICATION RECEIVED FROM CERTAIN MEMBER STATES CONCERNING THEIR POLICIES REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF PLUTONIUM

1. The Director General has received a note verbale, dated 21 June 1999, from the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the IAEA. In keeping with the United Kingdom's commitment under the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (contained in INFCIRC/549 of 16 March 1998 and hereinafter referred to as the "Guidelines"), the Government of the United Kingdom, in the enclosure of the note verbale of 21 June 1999, in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines, makes available information on its national holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel, as of 31 December 1998 and a statement of the United Kingdom's national holdings of civil high enriched uranium as of 31 December 1998.
2. In the light of the request expressed by the United Kingdom in the aforementioned note verbale of 21 June 1999, the text of the note verbale and of its enclosures are attached for the information of all Member States.



United Kingdom Mission
To the International Atomic Energy Agency,
the United Nations Industrial Development
Organisation and the United Nations (Vienna)

Note No: 025/99

The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations and the International Organisations in Vienna presents its compliments to the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to refer to its Note Verbale No 001/97 of 1 December 1997, enclosing Guidelines specifying the policies that the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has decided to apply to the management of plutonium.

In addition, that communication recognised the sensitivity of high enriched uranium and the need to manage stocks of such material with the same sense of responsibility as the plutonium covered by the Guidelines; it also referred to the United Kingdom Government's belief that the management of high enriched uranium should be subject to similar guidelines.

In keeping with the United Kingdom's commitment under the Guidelines on Plutonium to make available annually, information on its national holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel, the Government of the United Kingdom encloses with this Note, the figures for the United Kingdom's holdings as at 31 December 1998. These are set out in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines. The Government of the United Kingdom also encloses with this Note a statement of the United Kingdom's national holdings of civil high enriched uranium as at 31 December 1998.



The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland requests the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency to circulate this Note and its attachment to all Member States for their information.

The Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Director-General of the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

UNITED KINGDOM MISSION

VIENNA

21 June 1999

**UNITED KINGDOM ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS OF
CIVIL UNIRRADIATED PLUTONIUM**

National Totals	as of 31 Dec 1998	
	(Previous year's figures in brackets)	
	Rounded to 100 kg Plutonium with quantities less than 50 kg reported as such	
	(Tonnes)	
1. Unirradiated separated plutonium in product stores at reprocessing plants.	66.1	(57.4)
2. Unirradiated separated plutonium in the course of manufacture or fabrication and plutonium contained in unirradiated semi-fabricated or unfinished products at fuel or other fabricating plants or elsewhere.	0.8	(0.5)
3. Plutonium contained in unirradiated MOX fuel or other fabricated products at reactor sites or elsewhere.	2.2	(2.2)
4. Unirradiated separated plutonium held elsewhere.	0	(0)
 <i>Note:</i>		
(i) Plutonium included in lines 1-4 above belonging to foreign bodies.	10.2	(6.1)
(ii) Plutonium in any of the forms in lines 1-4 above held in locations in other countries and therefore not included above.	0.9	(0.9)
(iii) Plutonium included in lines 1-4 above which is in international shipment prior to its arrival in the recipient State.	0	(0)

**UNITED KINGDOM ESTIMATED AMOUNTS OF PLUTONIUM CONTAINED
IN SPENT CIVIL REACTOR FUEL**

National Totals	as of 31 Dec 1998	
	(Previous year's figures in brackets)	
	Rounded to 1000 kg Plutonium with quantities less than 500 kg reported as such	
	(Tonnes)	
1. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites.	5.6	(5)
2. Plutonium contained in spent fuel at reprocessing plants.	40.2	(42.1)
3. Plutonium contained in spent fuel held elsewhere.	0.1	(0.1)

Note:

(i) The treatment of material sent for direct disposal will need further consideration when specific plans for direct disposal have taken concrete form.

(ii) Definitions:

Line 1: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel discharged from civil reactors;

Line 2: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel received at reprocessing plants but not yet reprocessed.

**UNITED KINGDOM ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS OF
CIVIL HIGH ENRICHED URANIUM (HEU)**

National Totals

as of 31 Dec 1998

(Previous year's
figures in brackets)

1. HEU stored at enrichment plants. sites.	0kg	(0kg)
2. HEU at fuel fabricating plants or at other processing facilities.	599kg	(538kg)
3. HEU at civil reactor sites.	0kg	(0kg)
4. HEU at locations other than civil reactor sites, enrichment, fabricating and processing plants (ie laboratories, research centres...)	773kg	(792kg)
5. Irradiated HEU at civil reactor sites.	14kg	(14kg)
6. Irradiated HEU at locations other than civil reactor sites.	274kg	(266kg)

The definition of high enrichment uranium (HEU) is uranium enriched to 20% more in uranium₂₃₅.

Annual figure for holdings of civil depleted, natural and low enriched uranium (DNLEU) in the civil nuclear fuel cycle.

91200 tonnes