
From:
Sent: 13 May 2013 14:54
To: radioactivewaste (DECC)
Subject: MRWS

Dear Sir,

I presume that the present approach to managing radioactive waste is to store such waste until the radioactivity has decayed to an acceptable level. Is that correct?

Radioactive waste originating from nuclear power stations contains a multiplicity of radioactive waste products. That being so, is there a reference available that describes the waste products, their relative amounts, and for how long they need to be stored before being deemed safe?

The present radioactive waste products arise from nuclear fission of certain Uranium and Plutonium isotopes. The waste products therefore contain, inter alia, sources of neutrons which would be useful for 'burning' in a reactor that uses Thorium as its fuel. The resultant waste from such a Thorium reactor is far lower and of overall much shorter half life than that produced by Uranium-based or Plutonium-based reactors.

Thus, does the approach to managing radioactive waste make any reference to the use of Thorium-based reactors to burn the radioactive waste produced by nuclear reactors that are Uranium-based or Plutonium-based?

Yours faithfully