Record of Meeting
Between the Delegations of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Russian Federation Ministry of Atomic Energy (MINATOM) Regarding the Joint Coordinating Committee for Environmental Restoration and Waste Management, November 4-5, 1992

The second meeting of the U.S. DOE - MINATOM Joint Coordinating Committee on Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (JCCEM) was held in Moscow at the Ministry of Atomic Energy of the Russian Federation (MINATOM) on November 4-5, 1992. The purpose of the meeting was to review progress during 1992 and identify areas of continued cooperation in the four areas of interest as outlined by the JCCEM.

The U.S. delegation, led by Dr. Clyde W. Frank, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Environmental Restoration and Waste Management (EM), U.S. DOE, met with Mr. Evgeny Mikerin, Head of Department, MINATOM.


Discussions were held on the following specific areas of the JCCEM Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC):

Vitrification:

A technical exchange workshop was completed in Chelyabinsk Russia, in October 1991. As agreed to in the October 1991 workshop, samples have been sent by the Russian side. The U.S. side will respond by sending glass samples and providing information on the Russian sample.

It was agreed that cooperation in vitrification should continue as stated in the October 1991 technical exchange workshop, but that a more specific set of goals and possible interactions should be identified.
Separations Technologies:

Initial studies project which evaluated the feasibility of chlorinated cobalt-dicarbollide for application to U.S. radioactive wastes was completed by the Khlopin Radium Institute in September 1992 and the initial feasibility looks promising for treating high-level radioactive liquid wastes. Separations technologies technical exchange meeting, primarily on cobalt dicarbollide based technology, was held in St. Petersburg on November 2-3, 1992. The record of the meeting is attached. (Attachment 1)

Several technical papers were presented by the Russian Institutes at the Waste Management '92 conference in Tuscon, Arizona in March 1992.

A basis for scope of work was established for further cooperative work using Russian cobalt dicarbollide based technology.

The U.S. side summarized the Khlopin Radium Institute agreement and emphasized the need to establish a formal contract between U.S./Russian organizations. The U.S. side suggested that project work for continued cooperation with the Khlopin Radium Institute should look beyond the Hanford tank waste.

Student Scientist Exchange

Several student/scientist exchanges have occurred to date including: Dr. Smirnoff, University of California, Berkeley; Mr. Kamennov, University of Minnesota; Mr. Gamjanac, University of Minnesota; Dr. Khodakovsky, University of Michigan/University of California, Berkeley; and Dr. Semenov, University of Michigan.

It was agreed that these activities should continue, but that the scope, objectives and benefits of this program be redefined to address non-technical areas that may impact the progress of the JCCEM, for example, the protection of intellectual property rights, radwaste management and methods to define and perform projects. The individual, organization, and duration of the exchanges will determined by the need of the specific project.

Contaminant Transport Modeling:

Activities completed in this area have included a technical exchange workshop completed in Chelyabinsk Russia, in October 1991, and Russian participation in the Waste Management '92 meeting and the George Mason University conference on the health
effects data associated with the Chelyabinsk nuclear accidents.

Representatives from the Mayak Production Association presented a list of proposals (Attachment 2) for U.S. review aimed at addressing environmental concerns in Chelyabinsk. Many of these proposals addressed contaminant transport of radionuclides in the Mayak facility.

The U.S. side clarified the role of the U.S. interagency Southern Urals Radiation Exposure (SURE) program, initiated as a result of the George Mason conference, and the role that DOE plays within this group. It was suggested that while Dr. Frank would review the Mayak proposals, that the Russian side should also send the program through the Embassy to Dr. Terry Thomas in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, U.S. DOE, since that office has lead responsibility for the DOE involvement in the SURE program.

It was agreed that cooperation should continue as planned in the October 1991 technical exchange workshop. These studies should focus on activities within the scope of the JCCEM agreement and emphasize modeling and data exchange on contaminant transport.

Additional Topics of Discussion:

Both sides emphasized the importance of protecting Russian intellectual property rights and assured the Russian side that DOE would investigate the legal means of protecting these rights in accordance with the Annex "Intellectual Property" of the Agreement on scientific and technical cooperation in the field of peaceful uses atomic energy.

Discussions were held on the role of the MINATOM with respect to other institutes in approving and performing projects. It was agreed that the U.S. should pursue direct interactions on a laboratory to laboratory basis as long as MINATOM is fully informed on all of the activities.

The general process for identifying and supporting projects was discussed. The U.S. side will identify a specific point of contact for proposals and information transfer. Dr. Thomas Hunter will be the contact until further notification is provided. U.S. approach will be to emphasize smaller initial projects that can later be modified into more extensive project if appropriate. U.S. support of Russian projects must be based on specific contracts between appropriate organizations in the U.S. and Russian and must be based on clear understanding of efforts and associated costs.

In addition to the specific topics discussed it is understood that discussions should
both sides agreed to hold its second meeting in the autumn of 1993.

For the Ministry of the Russian Federation for Atomic Energy

For the U.S. Department of Energy

11/5/92

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