



**Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung**

POSTANSCHRIFT Der Staatssekretär im Bundesministerium für Bildung und Forschung, 53170 Bonn

Mr Thomas P. D'Agostino  
Under Secretary for Nuclear Security  
NA-1  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20585  
USA

**Dr. Georg Schütte**

State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Education  
and Research

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DATUM Bonn, February 27, 2012

*Copy to*

Mr David Huizenga  
Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management  
EM-1  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Ms Anne Harrington  
Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation  
NA-20  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Dr. William F. Brinkman  
Director of the Office of Science  
U.S. Department of Energy  
SC-1/Forrestal Building  
1000 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20585

Translation

Dear Mr D'Agostino,

A number of research reactors and pilot and experimental facilities were built and operated in previous years under the German Federal Government's research and development projects for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) is responsible for the decommissioning and dismantling of these facilities. One example is the AVR experimental reactor at Research Centre Jülich (FZJ), a formerly graphite-moderated pebble bed reactor which is currently

SEITE 2 being dismantled. In this project, the BMBF is representing the Federal Government as the majority partner within FZJ.

In this context, officials from German reactors met with Ms Anne Harrington (NNSA) and Mr David Huizenga (DOE-BM) in Washington, D.C. on December 6, 2011 to discuss the possible return of graphite-based nuclear fuels of U.S. origin.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany supports the reactor operators' approach. We therefore welcome that the U.S. Department of Energy offered to consider the option of acceptance of nuclear fuel that originally contained approximately 900kg of highly enriched uranium from the U.S.

~~Should it be possible to reach a decision before the forthcoming nuclear security summit in Seoul, this would certainly benefit the debate at the meeting.~~

Thank you for your support. We will be pleased to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely yours,

signed: Dr. Georg Schütte