

No. 24065

**SWEDEN
and
FRANCE**

**Exchanges of letters constituting an agreement in connection
with the contracts regarding the processing of used fuel
from Swedish nuclear power plants. Paris, 10 July 1979**

Authentic text: French.

Registered by Sweden on 25 April 1986.

**SUÈDE
et
FRANCE**

**Échanges de lettres constituant un accord relatif aux contrats
en vue du retraitement de combustible irradié en pro-
venance de centrales nucléaires suédoises. Paris, 10 juil-
let 1979**

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la Suède le 25 avril 1986.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGES OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹
BETWEEN SWEDEN AND FRANCE IN CONNECTION WITH
THE CONTRACTS REGARDING THE PROCESSING OF USED
FUEL FROM SWEDISH NUCLEAR-POWER PLANTS

I a

Paris, 10 July 1979

Sir,

With regard to the contracts concluded between the Compagnie générale des matières nucléaires (hereinafter called COGEMA) and the Swedish company SKBF (hereinafter called the Company) for the purpose of the reprocessing by COGEMA, during certain specified periods, of certain quantities of irradiated fuel originating in Sweden, I have the honour to bring the following points to your attention:

(1) The two Governments shall apply the London Guidelines for nuclear transfers, in particular the provisions of paragraphs 3 (physical protection) and 10 (controls on retransfer), to all nuclear material received or supplied by them within the framework of the said contracts.

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of the contracts, the arrangements governing the possession, storage, transfer and use at the time of reshipment out of France of reprocessed plutonium, and the form in which this plutonium is to be reshipped, should, at the appropriate time, be the subject of a specific agreement between the two Governments.

In addition, with respect to the batches of plutonium awaiting reshipment, the Government of France will supply to the Government of Sweden information concerning the dates of reprocessing the quantities, the isotopic composition of the material and storage methods. The Government of France is also prepared to meet with the Government of Sweden whenever it may be deemed useful to provide it with any supplementary information which might prove necessary.

(3) One of the clauses of the said contracts provides that COGEMA will have the option to transfer to the Company the radioactive waste resulting from the reprocessing of the irradiated fuel in question (or the equivalent of such waste) provided that the waste is in a form which would guarantee its safe transport to the storage site and would enable it to be stored in conformity with the applicable regulations. Consequently, the contracts specify elsewhere that the reprocessing operations can begin only after the conclusion of an agreement on the conditions governing the return of waste.

The approval of the said contracts by the authorities of the French Republic is contingent on the insertion of the above-mentioned provisions in the contracts.

¹ Came into force on 10 July 1979, the date of the letter in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

The Government of Sweden gives the Government of France an assurance that it does not intend to take any legislative or regulatory initiative which would prevent COGEMA from exercising its option to transfer the radioactive waste to the Company and that, within the framework of the legal provisions in force, it pledges to facilitate the exercise of this option.

At the appropriate time, reprocessing operations shall begin only if the conditions and practical arrangements connected with the return of waste are deemed satisfactory by the two Parties to this exchange of letters.

The Government of Sweden has taken note of the assurance given by the Government of France that it will not take any legislative or regulatory initiative which might impede the execution of the above-mentioned contracts.

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of France, I have the honour to propose that this letter and your reply should constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which will take effect on the date of your reply.

Accept, Sir, etc.

SVERKER ÅSTRÖM

II a

Paris, 10 July 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10 July which reads as follows:

[See letter I a]

I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of France and that your letter and this reply constitute an agreement between our two Governments which will enter into force on the terms specified in your letter.

Accept, Sir, etc.

BRUNO DE LEUSSE DE SYON

I b

Paris, 10 July 1979

Sir,

With reference to our exchange of letters of today's date, concerning the reprocessing contracts, and in the spirit of the co-operation which has long existed between the technical organizations of our countries, I have the honour to confirm that our two Governments are prepared to agree to organization of consultations,

at the request of either Party, between the Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate and the French authorities responsible for nuclear regulation whose activities are co-ordinated by the General Secretariat of the Interministerial Committee for Nuclear Safety.

The purpose of these consultations will be to permit an exchange of information regarding the practical arrangements for the application of the respective national regulations in the following areas: physical security and safety of transport, control of nuclear materials, civil responsibility, and safety of waste processing.

If the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of France, I have the honour to propose that this letter and your reply should constitute an agreement between our two Governments, which shall take effect on the date of your reply.

Accept, Sir, etc.

SVERKER ÅSTRÖM

II b

Paris, 10 July 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 10 July which reads as follows:

[*See letter I b*]

I have the honour to inform you that the foregoing proposals are acceptable to the Government of France and that your letter and this reply constitute an agreement between our two Governments which shall enter into force on the terms specified in your letter.

Accept, Sir, etc.

BRUNO DE LEUSSE DE SYON