

Background information on the transport of highly radioactive liquid waste

Down-Blending as an Alternative to Transport

From the US Federal Register, February 22, 2016.

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/02/22/2016-03572/proposed-subsequent-arrangement>

“The purpose of the down-blending of the HEU is to achieve permanent threat reduction by eliminating HEU from Indonesia. PT INUKI will down-blend the HEU contained in 514 bottles of irradiated HEU targets in liquid form and 14 containers of un-irradiated liquid HEU used in the plating process for medical isotope production, on-site at the Pusat Penelitian Ilmu Pengetahuan dan Teknologi facility in Serpong. The quantity of uranium will increase from 1.3 kg to 6.72 kg while the U-235 enrichment will decrease from 93 percent to 18 percent. The down-blend operation is scheduled to last for approximately three months.”

Niagara Regional Council resolution of June 11,2015.

“That Regional Council *EXPRESS* opposition in principle to any shipment of radioactive liquid waste over public roads and bridge, or on any navigable waterways, or by air, recognizing that such waste can be, has been and should be solidified so that it is far less accessible to the environment and living things, and,

That Regional Council *URGE* the governments of Canada and the United States to halt the shipment of high-level radioactive liquid waste from Chalk river Laboratories to the Savannah river, pending the outcome of full public consultations on the advisability and the potential adverse impacts of the proposed shipments , as well as the alternative procedures to achieve the stated objectives for such shipments.”

Radioactivity of the Liquid Waste in the FISST Tank

From CNSC’s December 2014 “Technical Assessment Report: NAC-LWT Package Design for Transport of Highly Enriched Uranyl Nitrate Liquid”

**Table 2: Concentration of radionuclides in the solution
(actinides, gamma emitters and their daughter products)**

Isotope	Activity (Bq/L)	Isotope	Activity (Bq/L)	Isotope	Activity (Bq/L)
Nb-95	6.63E9	Ba-137m	70.19E9	Eu-155	1.95E8
Nb-95m	25.35E9	Cs-137	70.19E9	U-234	2.84E7
Zr-95	25.35E9	Ba-140	58.50E9	U-235	5.59E5
Rh-103m	18.13E9	La-140	58.50E9	U-236	3.66E5
Ru-103	18.13E9	Ce-141	42.88E9	U-238	5.59E3
Rh-106	5.46E8	Ce-144	8.19E9	Np-237	4.51E3
Ru-106	5.46E8	Pr-144	8.19E9	Pu-239	1.3E6
I-131	19.50E9	Pr-144m	8.19E9	Pu-240	8.99E4
Xe-131m	19.50E9	Nd-147	15.80E9		
Te-132	10.33E9	Eu-154	8.4E7		

The total radioactivity in this table (which is incomplete) is 17,000 times greater than the radioactivity of all the uranium isotopes combined. It is misleading to call this liquid “Highly Enriched Uranyl Nitrate”.

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- 2016 Law suit filed in US Federal Court by seven plaintiffs on August 12, 2016, calling for an injunction against the proposed shipments.
http://ccnr.org/lawsuit_2016.pdf
- 2016 Recent reports in the media on the proposed shipments compiled by Kevin Kamps of Beyond Nuclear, in Takoma Park Maryland
<http://tinyurl.com/zo2fss8>
- 2016 A map of one of several possible routes for the proposed shipments (courtesy of Beyond Nuclear)
<http://tinyurl.com/zc9lpqm>
- 2015 Comments by CCNR on the CNSC Technical Report of December 2014
http://ccnr.org/CCNR_CNSC_HEUNL_2015.pdf
- 2011 “A FISST Full of Trouble” by Ian McCleod of the Ottawa Citizen with a 2013 background commentary by Gordon Edwards
<http://ccnr.org/FISST.pdf>
- 2013 Background info on proposed shipments by Gordon Edwards and Anna Tilman
http://ccnr.org/backgrounder_CRL_SRS_2013.pdf
- 2013 Resolution opposing the transport of highly radioactive liquid waste
http://ccnr.org/resolution_CRL_SRS_2013.pdf
- 2013 Endorsers of the 2013 resolution opposing the proposed shipments
http://ccnr.org/Endorsing_Groups.pdf
- 2011 Chalk River: Canada’s Nuclear Sacrifice Area, by Gordon Edwards
http://ccnr.org/crl_sacrifice.pdf