
Request for advice of 20.01.2010: Return of medium-level vitrified waste from the reprocessing of irradiated fuel elements in France to Germany

Statement of the ESK

Early 2010, the **Gesellschaft für Nuklear-Service mbH** (GNS) requested the Federal Ministry for the Environment for approval of the specifications of the vitrified medium-level waste produced at the La Hague reprocessing plant. A decision of the Federal Ministry for the Environment on the approval of this specification has to be taken within two years according to the relevant exchange of notes with France being binding under international law.

With letter of 20.01.2010, the BMU requested the ESK to verify whether the specifications submitted meet the requirements to be placed on the radioactive waste according to the state of the art in science and technology to ensure safe transport, interim storage over a longer period and the possibility of waste disposal. In particular, the following issues have to be considered:

- Specified characteristics of the packages
- Measures of quality assurance and product control
- Transport and cask concept
- Interim storage facility concept and requirements resulting from it
- Repository-relevant characteristics

For this request for advice, see [ESK statement](#) [116 KB] (in German) of 09.12.2010.