



UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20555

March 4, 1994

CHAIRMAN

Mr. Philippe Rouvillois  
Administrateur Général  
Commissariat à l'Énergie Atomique  
31-33 rue de la Fédération  
75752 Paris Cedex  
France

Dear Mr. Rouvillois:

In December 1993, the U.S.-Russian Joint Commission on Technology Cooperation held its second meeting under the co-chairmanship of U.S. Vice President Al Gore and Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin in Moscow. I had the honor to participate in the activities of the Joint Commission's Energy Committee, which is co-chaired by U.S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary and Russian Minister of Fuels and Energy Yuri Shafranik. Several significant accomplishments were achieved in the nuclear safety area.

A Nuclear Safety Assistance Agreement was completed that will enable concrete projects to be implemented by Russian and U.S. government agencies. Perhaps most importantly, the agreement contains liability provisions that could be significant in facilitating the participation by U.S. private companies in major nuclear projects in the Russian Federation. I have enclosed a copy of this agreement for your information.

Secondly, agreement was reached to conduct a joint U.S.-Russian study on alternative electricity sources, including nuclear power, which will enable the Russian Federation to make informed choices about its future national energy planning, including the shut-down of their less safe reactors. The final terms of reference for this study are in the final stages of approval by the two sides.

Finally, Vice President Gore and Prime Minister Chernomyrdin signed a set of Joint Principles of Nuclear Reactor Safety. One of the most important of these principles commits the Russian regulatory organization (Gosatomnadzor) to review the safety of operating reactors, especially those built to earlier standards. I am also enclosing a copy of these principles, which I hope will assist Western nations and international financial institutions to continue to press for rigorous safety measures as a basis for meaningful safety assistance to the Russian Federation.

I look forward to our continuing exchange of information and views on this important international safety issue.

Sincerely

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CORRESPONDENCE PDR

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Ivan Selin

Enclosures:

1. U.S.-Russia Nuclear Safety Agreement
2. Joint Principles

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AGREEMENT BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION  
CONCERNING OPERATIONAL SAFETY ENHANCEMENTS, RISK REDUCTION  
MEASURES AND NUCLEAR SAFETY REGULATION FOR  
CIVIL NUCLEAR FACILITIES IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties":

Desiring to support the implementation of the Multilateral Nuclear Safety Initiative announced at the May 23, 1992, Lisbon meeting for the coordination of assistance to the states that were formerly a part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Taking into account the Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Russian Federation Regarding Cooperation to Facilitate the Provision of Assistance of April 4, 1992, hereinafter referred to as the Assistance Agreement;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

1. The Parties shall cooperate to facilitate the achievement of the following objectives:

(a) providing further operational safety enhancements by expediting development of emergency operating procedures, performance based training, as well as administrative and operational controls for VVER-440, VVER-1000 and RBMK nuclear power reactors in the Russian Federation;

(b) reducing the risks associated with the operation of VVER-440, VVER-1000 and RBMK nuclear power reactors in the Russian Federation; and

(c) consistently and effectively improving nuclear and radiation safety standards and regulations for use in the Russian Federation.

2. Cooperation may include, but is not limited to:

(a) improving equipment servicing and maintenance for nuclear power plants with VVER-440, VVER-1000 and RBMK nuclear power reactors;

(b) improving the equipment of management and control systems, diagnostic methods and hardware and training for technical personnel;

(c) implementing safety analysis methodologies;

(d) improving the characteristics of confinements in case of severe accidents;

(e) developing methods to prevent uncontrolled hydrogen explosions in confinements;

(f) installing dedicated emergency diesels and feedwater pumps in protected areas;

(g) performing technical and fire safety assessments;

(h) improving basic fire prevention, detection, and response capabilities;

(i) designing reactor scram mechanisms for high-risk failure modes;

(j) training in regulatory methods and procedures, inspection techniques and analysis, regulatory laws, and the use of radioactivity monitoring equipment; and

(k) improving regulatory effectiveness by developing appropriate regulatory standards, requirements and procedures, as well as by procuring equipment.

3. Any assistance provided under this Agreement shall be subject to the provisions of the Assistance Agreement, unless provided otherwise in this Agreement. Both Parties shall take all necessary measures under the laws and regulations of their respective countries to implement their obligations under this Agreement.

## Article II

1. The Parties shall coordinate and review implementation of this Agreement through the Joint Coordinating Committee for Civilian Nuclear Reactor Safety (the "JCCNRS"), reporting to the Joint Committee on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy (the "JCC"), established under the Agreement between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on Technical Cooperation in the Field of the Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy of June 1, 1990 (the "Peaceful Uses Agreement") and the Memorandum of Cooperation in the Field of Civilian Nuclear Reactor Safety between the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of April 26, 1988 (the "CNRS-MOC").

2. If the Peaceful Uses Agreement or the CNRS-MOC expires or otherwise terminates before the expiration or termination of this Agreement, the JCCNRS and JCC shall remain in effect during the period this Agreement is in force for the purposes set forth in paragraph 1 of this Article.

## Article III

1. The Parties may enter into implementing agreements as appropriate to accomplish the objectives set forth in Article I of this Agreement.

2. In case of any inconsistency between this Agreement and any implementing agreement, the provisions of this Agreement shall prevail.

Article IV

1. With the exception of claims for damage or injury against individuals arising from their premeditated actions, the Government of the Russian Federation shall bring no claims or other legal proceedings arising from activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement against the Government of the United States of America and its personnel or its contractors, subcontractors, consultants, suppliers or subsuppliers of equipment or services at any tier and their personnel, for indirect, direct or consequential damage to property owned by the Russian Federation. This paragraph shall not apply to legal actions brought by the Government of the Russian Federation to enforce the provisions of contracts to which it or a Russian national is a party.

2. With the exception of claims for damage or injury against individuals arising from their premeditated actions, the Government of the Russian Federation shall provide for the adequate defense of, indemnify, and shall bring no claims against, the Government of the United States of America and its personnel and its contractors, subcontractors, consultants, suppliers or subsuppliers of equipment or services at any tier and their personnel in connection with third-party claims in any court or forum arising from activities undertaken pursuant to this Agreement for injury or damage occurring within or outside the territory of the Russian Federation that results from a nuclear incident occurring within the territory of the Russian Federation. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed as acknowledging the jurisdiction of any court or forum over third-party claims to which this paragraph applies, nor shall it be construed as waiving the sovereign immunity of either Party with respect to third-party claims that may be brought against it.

3. The Parties may, as necessary, conduct consultations regarding claims and legal proceedings concerning this Article.

4. The provisions of this Article shall not prevent the Parties from providing compensation in accordance with their national laws.

5. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to prevent legal proceedings or claims against nationals of the Russian Federation or permanent residents of the Russian Federation.

6. The Government of the United States of America shall strive to ensure delivery of equipment and services of high quality and their performance in accordance with mutually acceptable specifications. The Government of the Russian Federation shall accept final delivery after determining conformity with mutually acceptable specifications.

7. The obligations undertaken by the Government of the Russian Federation pursuant to this Article relating to nuclear power reactors it owns at the time this Agreement enters into force shall remain in effect regardless of any subsequent transfer of ownership of those reactors, and, pursuant to Article VI, shall remain in effect notwithstanding the termination or expiration of this Agreement.

#### Article V

Assistance of the Government of the United States of America in accordance with this Agreement shall be provided subject to the availability of appropriated funds and the mutual agreement of the Parties.

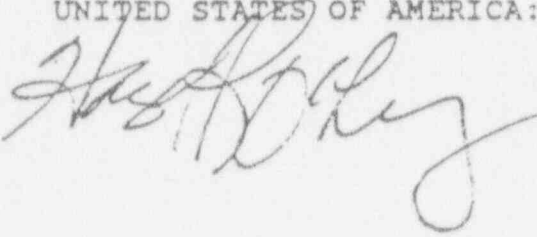
#### Article VI

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall remain in force for a period of five years. This Agreement may be terminated prior to its expiration by either Party upon six months written notice to the other Party of its intention to do so. In either event, the provisions of this Agreement shall continue to apply with respect to assistance furnished before the date of expiration or termination, unless the Parties otherwise agree in writing.

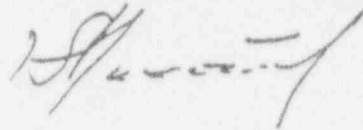
2. This Agreement may be extended for additional five-year terms by written agreement of the Parties.

DONE at Moscow, this sixteenth day of December, 1993, in duplicate, in the English and Russian languages, each text being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
RUSSIAN FEDERATION:



## JOINT PRINCIPLES OF NUCLEAR REACTOR SAFETY

The Governments of the United States of America and the Russian Federation:

NOTING that nuclear power facilities in the United States and in the Russian Federation will continue to provide an important source of electrical energy for the foreseeable future;

RECOGNIZING that some of the nuclear power reactors currently in operation were built a number of years ago to safety and design standards that were in effect at that time but that have evolved;

RECOGNIZING that the highest levels of nuclear safety and environmental protection must be achieved in the use of nuclear power to meet energy needs;

REALIZING that the safe use of nuclear energy depends upon 1) the establishment of a vigorous safety culture among users of nuclear energy, based on a legal foundation which defines the activities of a strong and independent regulatory authority; 2) legal recognition of the need for adherence to agreed nuclear safety principles; and 3) an internationally-recognized system of legal liability and financial protection



for providing adequate compensation for damage from nuclear accidents and appropriate limitations on third party liability;

RECOGNIZING further that international cooperation in nuclear safety, on both the bilateral and multilateral level, is important to achieving the highest levels of safety, and offers significant opportunities to enhance the benefits of nuclear energy through freer trade, investment and technology transfer and non-discriminatory access to resources, technology and markets, with appropriate protection for investments and intellectual property;

CALLING attention to the fact that the United States and the Russian Federation (and its predecessor the Soviet Union) have been cooperating on a broad range of activities to promote nuclear and radiation safety since 1988 under the Joint Coordinating Committee for Civilian Nuclear Reactor Safety;

NOTING FURTHER that the United States and the Russian Federation have entered into an Agreement concerning operational safety enhancements, risk reduction measures, and nuclear safety regulation for civil nuclear facilities in the Russian Federation;

NOTING ALSO that the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Gosatomnadzor of the Russian Federation have just signed an extension of their broad-based assistance program to enhance nuclear safety regulation in Russia;

Therefore, express their commitment:

To continue their expanded bilateral cooperation in improving the safety of nuclear reactor operations to reduce the risk of accidents;

To enhance the safety of their nuclear reactors to the extent possible;

To have their authoritative national regulatory organizations review the safety of nuclear reactors operating in their respective countries, especially those built to earlier standards;

To conduct joint research in the field of radiological contamination under an Agreement on the Health Effects of Radiation;

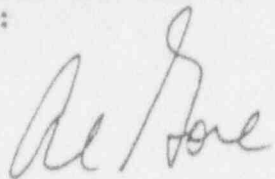
To expand alternatives to electric power generation in order to meet existing and projected demand safely and economically, including undertaking a joint study of alternative electrical energy measures that takes nuclear power into consideration;

To support the nuclear safety activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency; and

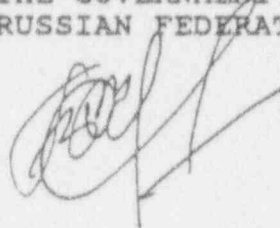
To work toward prompt negotiation of an International Nuclear Safety Convention which would establish binding safety principles and a peer review process for its implementation.

DONE this sixteenth day of December, 1993, in Moscow, in the English and Russian languages.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA:

Handwritten signature of Al Gore in cursive script.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION:

Handwritten signature in cursive script, likely representing a Russian official.

## ОБЩИЕ ПРИНЦИПЫ ОБЕСПЕЧЕНИЯ БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ ЯДЕРНЫХ РЕАКТОРОВ

Правительства Соединенных Штатов Америки и Российской Федерации,

ОТМЕЧАЯ, что в обозримом будущем как в Соединенных Штатах Америки, так и в Российской Федерации атомные электростанции будут оставаться важным источником электрической энергии;

ПРИЗНАВАЯ, что ряд ныне действующих ядерных реакторов были построены в прошлом в соответствии со стандартами безопасности и конструкций, действовавшими в то время, и впоследствии претерпевшими изменения;

ПРИЗНАВАЯ, что при использовании атомной энергии для удовлетворения энергетических потребностей должны быть достигнуты наивысшие уровни ядерной безопасности и охраны окружающей среды;

СОЗНАВАЯ, что безопасность использования атомной энергии зависит от:

1) внедрения эффективной системы безопасности среди пользователей атомной энергии, базирующейся на организационных мероприятиях в целях обеспечения деятельности сильного и независимого органа регулирования;

2) юридического признания необходимости придерживаться согласованных принципов ядерной безопасности; и

3) международно признанной системы юридической ответственности и финансовой защиты для обеспечения адекватной компенсации за ущерб в результате ядерных аварий и соответствующих ограничений ответственности третьих сторон;

ПРИЗНАВАЯ далее, что международное сотрудничество в области ядерной безопасности как на двустороннем, так и на многостороннем уровнях является важным для достижения наивысших уровней безопасности, а также предоставляет значительные возможности для увеличения выгод от атомной энергетики за счет более свободных торговли, инвестиций и передачи технологии, а также за счет

обеспечения недискриминационного доступа к использованию ресурсов, технологий и рынков при соответствующей защите инвестиций и интеллектуальной собственности;

ПРИВЛЕКАЯ внимание к тому, что Соединенные Штаты Америки и Российская Федерация (и ее предшественник - Советский Союз), начиная с 1988 года сотрудничают по широкому диапазону направлений с целью развития радиационной безопасности в рамках Совместной координационной комиссии по безопасности гражданских ядерных реакторов;

ОТМЕЧАЯ далее, что Соединенные Штаты Америки и Российская Федерация заключили соглашение о повышении эксплуатационной безопасности, мерах по снижению риска и нормах ядерной безопасности гражданских ядерных установок в Российской Федерации;

ОТМЕЧАЯ также, что Комиссия по ядерному регулированию Соединенных Штатов Америки и Федеральный надзор Российской Федерации по ядерной и радиационной безопасности недавно подписали документ о продлении действия широкой программы помощи в целях совершенствования ядерной безопасности в России;

Выражают свою приверженность:

Продолжению расширенного двустороннего сотрудничества в деле повышения безопасности эксплуатации ядерных реакторов с целью уменьшения риска аварий;

Повышению безопасности своих ядерных реакторов до максимально возможного уровня;

Проведению своими полномочными национальными контролирующими организациями проверки безопасности ядерных реакторов, эксплуатируемых в своих странах, в особенности тех, которые были построены в соответствии с более ранними стандартами;

Проведению совместных исследований по радиоактивному загрязнению в рамках соглашения по изучению воздействия радиации на здоровье;

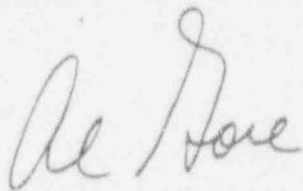
Расширению изучения альтернативных путей производства электрической энергии для безопасного и экономичного удовлетворения настоящих и ожидаемых потребностей, которое включает проведение совместного анализа альтернативных мер, связанных с производством электрической энергии, которые принимают во внимание ядерную энергетику;

Поддержке деятельности Международного агентства по атомной энергии в области ядерной безопасности; и

Работе по скорой выработке Международной конвенции по ядерной безопасности, которая определила бы обязательные принципы безопасности и процесс тщательного рассмотрения ее осуществления.

Совершено 16 декабря 1993 года на английском и русском языках.

ЗА ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО  
СОЕДИНЕННЫХ ШТАТОВ АМЕРИКИ



ЗА ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО  
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ

