

Information Circular

INFCIRC/549/Add.4/26

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General Distribution

Original: English

Communication Received from Switzerland Concerning its Policies Regarding the Management of Plutonium

1. The Secretariat has received a note verbale dated 1 February 2022 from the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the IAEA in the enclosures of which the Government of Switzerland, in keeping with its commitment under the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (contained in INFCIRC/549¹ of 16 March 1998 and hereinafter referred to as the “Guidelines”) and in accordance with Annexes B and C of the Guidelines, has made available annual figures for its holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and the estimated amounts of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel as of 31 December 2021.

2. In light of the request expressed by the Government of Switzerland in its note verbale of 1 December 1997 concerning its policies regarding the management of plutonium (INFCIRC/549 of 16 March 1998), the note verbale of 1 February 2022 and the enclosures therewith are attached for the information of all Member States.

¹ A modification to this document was issued on 17 August 2009 (INFCIRC/549/Mod.1).



Note 08/2022-UN/IO

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE, the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the International Atomic Energy Agency and has the honour to send in the enclosure, in accordance with paragraph 14 of the Guidelines for the Management of Plutonium (INFCIRC/549), the annual figures for holdings of civil unirradiated plutonium and the estimated amounts of plutonium contained in spent civil reactor fuel as of 31 December 2021.

The Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the OSCE, the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the International Atomic Energy Agency the assurances of its highest consideration.

Encl. mentioned

Vienna, 1 February 2022



To the International Atomic Energy Agency

Switzerland**ANNUAL FIGURES FOR HOLDINGS OF CIVIL UNIRRADIATED PLUTONIUM****National Totals**

as of 31 Dec 2021

(Previous year's figures in brackets)
Rounded to 100 kg plutonium with
quantities less than 50 kg reported
as such

1.	Unirradiated separated plutonium in product stores at reprocessing plants	--	(--)
2.	Unirradiated separated plutonium in the course of manufacture or fabrication and plutonium contained in Unirradiated semi-fabricated or unfinished products at fuel or other fabricating plants or elsewhere.	--	(--)
3.	Plutonium contained in Unirradiated MOX fuel or other fabricated products at reactor sites or elsewhere	--	(--)
4.	Unirradiated separated plutonium held elsewhere	< 2 kg	(< 2 kg)

Note:

(i)	Plutonium included in lines 1 – 4 above belonging to foreign bodies.	--	(--)
(ii)	Plutonium in any of the forms in lines 1 – 4 above held in locations in other countries and therefore not included above.	--	(--)
(iii)	Plutonium included in lines 1 – 4 above which is in international shipment prior to its arrival in the recipient State.	--	(--)

Switzerland**ESTIMATED AMOUNTS OF PLUTONIUM CONTAINED IN SPENT CIVIL REACTOR FUEL****National Totals**

as of 31 Dec 2021

(Previous year's figures in brackets)
Rounded to 1000 kg plutonium with
quantities less than 500 kg reported
as such

1.	Plutonium contained in spent fuel at civil reactor sites.	15'000 kg	(15'000 kg)
2.	Plutonium contained in spent fuel at reprocessing plants.	--	(--)
3.	Plutonium contained in spent fuel held elsewhere.	7'000 kg	(7'000 kg)

Note:

- i) The treatment of material sent for direct disposal will need further consideration when specific plans for direct disposal have taken concrete form.
- ii) Definitions:
- Line 1: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel discharged from civil reactors;
 - Line 2: covers estimated amounts of plutonium contained in fuel received at reprocessing plants but not yet reprocessed.
- iii) Plutonium contained in spent fuel sent for reprocessing and held in locations in other countries. 0 kg (0 kg)
(This plutonium may be in the form of line 2 above or in any of the forms of lines 1 – 3 of Annex B.)