FOIA-2009-000371
5/26/2009

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From: FOIA-Central@hq.doe.gov
Sent: Sunday, May 24, 2009 1:55 AM
To: FOIA-Central
Subject: DOE Headquarters FOIA Request

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MAY 2 8 2009 02

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Record Description:

FOIA Officer
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Subject :- Bases of flouting the norms of the NPT while offering India on 14/04/09 by Russia for participation at IUEC - request under FOIA - regarding.

Sir,

The International Uranium Enrichment Centre, Angarsk, Siberia is being set up by Russia for supply of uranium to countries with Nuclear energy programmes under the IAEA safeguards. Russia is establishing the project in collaborations with countries such as Kazakhstan under the supervision of the Nuclear watchdog at the Angarsk Electrolysis Chemical Plant, in Estern Siberia. The Indian delegation recently visited the plant and made a first-hand assessment of the development. The Angarsk facility has traditionally been associated with Russian civilian Nuclear programme and had been kept completely out of erstwhile Soviet Union's atomic weapon plan, thus making it easier for the plant to be put under the IAEA control.

The Russia on April 14, 2009 formally offered India the option to participating in its IUEC, as a means of securing guaranteed life-time fuel supply. The offer, which Russia made in Moscow, includes investment possibilities for India in the IUEC, which is being set up under the supervision of the IAEA. The investments could be considered in lieu of India paying for Nuclear fuel to be supplied by Rusia.

Earlier, at talks held during the 2007 Moscow visit by Prime Minister Dr.Manmohan Singh, Russia indicated at the possibility of India investing at the proposed centre. However, subsequently there emerged reports of a rethink within Russian government on Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty membership being considered as a mandatory for IUEC participation. Uranium enriched to low levels can be used as fuel for nulcear power plants, but higher levels of enrichment make it possible to divert the fuel for the construction of the core of a nuclear bomb.

Indian participation in IUEC has opened the doors of the international nuclear market to India following the completion of the 123 agreement between India and the USA last year. As a norms at IUEC every participating country must be a member of NPT. But, Russia could not rethink the Indian participation this time at IUEC because of 123 agreement with USA. Hence, I would like to seek information under FOIA regarding the bases of flouting the norms of the NPT while offering India on 14/04/09 for participation at IUEC from DOE at

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an early date.

FOIA fee will be sent after receiving the above information.

Thanks & Regards,

Preferred Form or Format:

Type of Requester (if provided):

An individual seeking information for personal use and not for commercial use.

Fees and Fee Waivers:

I agree to pay all applicable fees.

Expedited Processing:

I believe a compelling need exists to warrant expedited processing because there is:

an urgency to inform the public concerning actual or alleged Federal Government activity exists (this option available ONLY for requesters primarily engaged in disseminating information)

Specific Justification for Expedited Processing:

The Angarsk facility has traditionally been associated with Russian civilian Nuclear programme and had been kept completely out of erstwhile Soviet Union's atomic weapon plan, thus making it easier for the plant to be put under the IAEA control.