Statement of Intent

between

the Department of Energy of the United States of America

and

the Institute of Radio Elements (IRE) of Belgium

for the Proposed Use of Savannah River Site Facilities for Disposition of Molybdenum-99 Highly Enriched Uranium Target Material

I. Background

- 1. The Department of Energy (DOE) of the United States of America, in cooperation with the Institute of Radio Elements (IRE) of Belgium (hereinafter collectively "the Participants"), is considering the feasibility of DOE acceptance of the entire inventory of Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99) highly enriched uranium (HEU) target material that are of United States-origin (U.S.-origin) HEU and has been determined to have been irradiated in a reactor for the production of Mo-99 for nuclear medicine, and processing and disposition of the material using DOE facilities at the Savannah River Site (SRS), near Aiken, South Carolina. The production of this HEU target material will cease following planned conversion to low enriched uranium (LEU) target material in accordance with the IRE conversion plan.
- 2. DOE's acceptance of the U.S.-origin HEU would support the United States' HEU minimization and non-proliferation policy objectives of seeking to reduce, and eventually to eliminate, HEU from civil commerce by removing U.S.-origin HEU from IRE and returning it to the United States for safe storage, processing and disposition, and converting it into a form no longer usable for a nuclear weapon or an improvised nuclear material dispersal device.
- 3. The Mo-99 HEU target material under consideration is collected on glass filters and placed in stainless steel cans for storage. There are approximately 500 stainless steel cans stored at the IRE facility and approximately 60 stainless steel cans stored at the Dounreay facility in the United Kingdom, waiting for a disposition path.
- 4. DOE has evaluated several options to disposition the HEU target material. Based on the analysis of these alternatives, DOE is considering utilizing SRS facilities to dissolve the target material and extract the HEU for processing and down-blending to LEU for reuse.

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5. In consideration of the foregoing, the Participants express their willingness to cooperate with the aim of obtaining the necessary prerequisites and appropriate legal framework for the shipment of the target material to the United States by the end of 2016.

II. Planned Cooperation

The Participants intend to take the following actions as soon as possible.

- 1. DOE (and its contractor) will conduct any reviews and work required by United States law for processing of the HEU target material and disposition. This includes compliance with all applicable requirements of the United States National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- The Amended Record of Decision (AROD) pursuant to the Savannah River Site Spent Nuclear Fuel Management Final Environmental Impact Statement was signed in March 2013. This AROD includes the return of target material to the SRS for processing and down-blending to LEU for reuse.
- 3. DOE intends to undertake other activities mutually decided by the Participants, including additional technical and engineering work, and project management, in order for DOE to reach a decision on the proposed acceptance, processing, and disposition of the IRE HEU target material.
- 4. The Participants mutually decided to proceed with preparatory work with the aim of signing a Work for Others (WFO) with the Savannah River National Laboratory by October 31, 2014 to cover the activities identified in Item 3 above.
- 5. IRE will be charged by DOE and its contractor, as specified in the WFO, for the costs of the preparatory phase work and, if there is a decision to proceed with the project, the costs associated with the acceptance, processing, and disposition of the IRE HEU. If there is a decision to proceed with the project, the terms and conditions for acceptance, processing and disposition of the target material should be set forth in a contract.

III. General Considerations

- 1. Cooperative activities under this Statement of Intent are to commence immediately after signature by the Participants.
- 2. Each Participant is to conduct the activities contemplated by this Statement of Intent in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations and any international agreements to which its government is a party.
- 3. Cooperative activities under this Statement of Intent are subject to the availability of funds, personnel, and other resources.

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- 4. This Statement of Intent does not create any legally binding obligations between the Participants.
- 5. This Statement of Intent may be revised at any time by the Participants' mutual consent in writing.
- 6. The Participants may discontinue this Statement of Intent at any time. A Participant that decides to discontinue its participation in the activities under this Statement of Intent should provide prompt advance notice in writing to the other Participant.
- 7. Any decision by the Participants to proceed with the transportation of the HEU target material for storage or disposition depends upon compliance with all applicable requirements of United States law and DOE requirements, including NEPA, and resolution by the Participants of any technical, financial, and legal issues that may be identified during consideration of the feasibility of the project and development of an appropriate legal framework.

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Signed, in two originals, at Aiken, South Carolina on September 24, 2014 and at Washington, DC on October 7, 2014

For the Institute of Radio Elements
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