

No. 30308

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**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
and  
SWITZERLAND**

**Arrangement for the exchange of technical information and cooperation in nuclear safety matters (with patent addendum). Signed at Bethesda on 20 July 1982 and at Berne on 10 August 1982**

*Authentic text: English.*

*Registered by the United States of America on 28 September 1993.*

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**ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
et  
SUISSE**

**Arrangement portant sur l'échange de renseignements techniques et la coopération en matière de sûreté nucléaire (avec additif relatif aux brevets). Signé à Bethesda le 20 juillet 1982 et à Berne le 10 août 1982**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par les États-Unis d'Amérique le 28 septembre 1993.*

## ARRANGEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (U.S.N.R.C.) AND THE SWISS FEDERAL OFFICE OF ENERGY (F.O.E.) FOR THE EXCHANGE OF TECHNICAL INFORMATION AND COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR SAFETY MATTERS

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (hereinafter called the U.S.N.R.C.) and the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (hereinafter called the F.O.E.);

Having a mutual interest in a continuing exchange of information pertaining to regulatory matters and of standards required or recommended by their organizations for the regulation of safety and environmental impact of nuclear facilities;

Having similarly cooperated under the terms of a five-year Arrangement for the exchange of technical information in regulatory matters and cooperation in development of safety standards, originally signed on December 9, 1974,<sup>2</sup> between the United States Atomic Energy Commission and the Swiss Federal Office of Energy, but continued after January 19, 1975, as between the U.S.N.R.C. and the F.O.E., such Arrangement including provision for its extension as mutually agreed upon by the parties;

Having indicated their mutual desire to continue the cooperation established under the aforementioned Arrangement;

Have agreed as follows:

### I. SCOPE OF THE ARRANGEMENT

#### 1. *Technical Information Exchange*

To the extent that the U.S.N.R.C. and the F.O.E. are permitted to do so under the laws and regulations of their respective countries, the parties agree to exchange the following types of technical information relating to the regulation of safety and environmental impact of designated nuclear energy facilities:

*a.* Topical reports concerning technical safety and environmental effects written by or for one of the parties as a basis for, or in support of, regulatory decisions and policies.

*b.* Documents relating to significant licensing actions and safety and environmental decisions affecting nuclear facilities.

*c.* Detailed documents describing the U.S.N.R.C. process for licensing and regulating certain U.S. facilities designated by the F.O.E. as similar to certain facilities being built or planned in Switzerland and equivalent documents on such Swiss facilities.

*d.* Information in the field of nuclear safety research that requires early attention in the interest of public safety, along with an indication of significant implications.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 10 August 1982 by signature, in accordance with section IV (1).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1068, p. 213.

*e.* Reports and operating experience, such as reports on nuclear incidents, accidents and shutdowns, and compilations of historical reliability data or components and systems.

*f.* Regulatory procedures for the safety, safeguards, and environmental impact evaluation of nuclear facilities.

*g.* Early advice of important events, such as serious operating incidents and government-directed reactor shutdowns, that are of immediate interest to the parties.

*h.* Copies of regulatory standards required to be used, or proposed for use, by the regulatory organizations of the parties.

## II. ADMINISTRATION

1. The exchange of information under this Arrangement will be accomplished through letters, reports, and other documents, and by visits and meetings arranged in advance. A meeting will be held annually, or at such other times as mutually agreed, to review the exchange of information, to recommend revisions to the provisions of the Arrangement, and to discuss topics with the scope of the exchange. The time, place, and agenda for such meetings shall be agreed upon in advance. Visits which take place under the Arrangement, including their schedules, shall have the prior approval of the administrators.

2. An administrator will be designated by each party to coordinate its participation in the overall exchange. The administrators shall be the recipients of all documents transmitted under the exchange, including copies of all letters unless otherwise agreed. Within the terms of the exchange, the administrators shall be responsible for developing the scope of the exchange, including agreement on the designation of the nuclear energy facilities subject to the exchange, and on specific documents and standards to be exchanged. One or more technical coordinators may be appointed as direct contacts for specific disciplinary areas. These technical coordinators will assure that both administrators receive copies of all transmittals. These detailed arrangements are intended to assure, among other things, that a reasonably balanced exchange providing access to equivalent available information from both sides is achieved and maintained.

3. The administrators shall determine the number of copies to be provided of the documents exchanged. Each document will be accompanied by an abstract in English, 250 words or less, describing its scope and content.

4. The application or use of any information exchanged or transferred between the parties under this Arrangement shall be the responsibility of the receiving party, and the transmitting party does not warrant the suitability of such information for any particular use or application.

5. Recognizing that some information of the type covered in this Arrangement is not available within the agencies which are parties to this Arrangement, but is available from other agencies of the governments of the parties, each party will assist the other to the maximum extent possible by organizing visits and directing inquiries concerning such information to appropriate agencies of the government concerned. The foregoing shall not constitute a commitment of other agencies to furnish such information or to receive such visitors.