

Dear Andrey, hello!

You sent a request for the Akkuyu nuclear power plant. Before returning to this issue, we want to report the following.

Turkish media Cumhuriyet published an article on May 2, 2017 on the issue of nuclear waste, which will be produced during operation of the Akkuyu nuclear power plant. The author of the material, Abidin Yagmur, quotes and refers to your speech at the panel discussion organized in the Mersin House of Physicians, where you came by the invitation of the Antinuclear Platform. To our great regret, we are forced to pay attention to your **erroneous** statements, which are **baseless** and **contain inaccurate information** on this issue. Rosatom State Corporation has always respected the discussions with Bellona International Environmental Association and responded to any requests from this organization. Before taking the speech on this topic, you did not apply to competent experts of SC Rosatom for up-to-date information, you preferred to make **false public statements** in the Republic of Turkey and thereby to misled its public.

The media quotes: "Russia, referring to the fact that this issue is not settled in a bilateral agreement, will not import these wastes to its territory. Usually a long-term waste management plan is drawn up before obtaining a license, but this did not happen with the Akkuyu nuclear power plant. Turkey from the very beginning was simply puffed. Those who represent the nuclear lobby are engaged in this constantly" and also gives your statement that "the nuclear waste that will be generated during the operation of the Akkuyu nuclear power plant can cause a crisis in relations between Turkey and Russia."

According to the published article, your speech contains **insulting remarks** addressed to professionals of the Russian nuclear industry, which celebrated its 70th anniversary last year. We consider such statements **unethical and unacceptable**. Rosatom State Corporation, which always stands for the development of an open dialogue based on reliable and relevant information, has the right to draw a conclusion about **your unwillingness to constructive dialogue** and interest in **loud statements that do not correspond to reality**. However, due to respect for the Bellona and many of your colleagues who honestly work with information, we report the following.

The Republic of Turkey has embarked on the development of nuclear energy and is creating a "road map". The Russian Federation has extensive experience in the construction and operation of nuclear reactors for electricity generation in Russia, Ukraine, Armenia, Finland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Germany, Lithuania, Kazakhstan, Czech Republic, Slovakia, China, India and Iran. Some of the Russian reactors built up today are decommissioned in a number of countries, and the most of them are operational. At the same time, none of the above countries had a crisis in relationship, caused by nuclear waste issue.

Within the framework of long-term contracts, the Russian Federation imports spent nuclear fuel (SNF) from nuclear power plants in Ukraine and Bulgaria on a regular basis in accordance with the national strategies for SNF management adopted by these countries. Currently, the preparation of a contract for the export of SNF from Bushehr NPP (Iran) to Russia for reprocessing is being finalized. Other countries at the legislative level have adopted a deferred decision on the management of spent nuclear fuel or plan to reprocess SNF at their own regeneration plants (India and China). At the sites of the NPPs in Armenia, Slovakia, Finland, Hungary, the Czech Republic there are long-term SNF storage facilities designed for the entire lifetime of the NPPs.

At present, the Turkish Atomic Energy Agency (TAEK) is in the process of considering an application filed by ACKUYU NUKLEAR JSC, the owner of the nuclear power plant, to obtain a license for the construction of the Akkuyu nuclear power plant No. 1 in accordance with the Law of the Turkish Republic On Licensing. The application includes, design documents for handling radioactive waste for the entire period of operation of four power units of the Akkuyu nuclear power plant. The application with amendments was filed in full compliance with the requirements of the Turkish regulator - TAEK. Akkuyu Nuclear JSC fulfills all the provisions of the Russian-Turkish intergovernmental agreement on the construction of the nuclear power plant on the Akkuyu site in Turkey. **By the end of the year, it is planned to sign a separate agreement for the export of spent nuclear fuel of Russian origin, which will be generated as a result of the operation of four power units of the nuclear power plant in Russia for reprocessing.** In addition, the Republic of Turkey is a subject of international nuclear law, a member of the United Nations (UNO), the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and the member of the Committee of Nuclear Exporters (Zangger Committee, ZC). It is known that all issues related to the use of nuclear energy are regulated by international conventions and are under the control of international organizations.

**Thus, the statement about the absence of a long-term waste management plan for the Akkuyu nuclear power plant is erroneous and has no basis.**

Regarding your request for characteristics of the containment, **we have confidence that any information provided to you will be interpreted as false information about Rosatom's stability of the protective enclosure of the power unit.** The thickness of the walls of dome of the Akkuyu nuclear power plant is much larger than at the existing reference nuclear power plants. The results of the design calculations carried out by the designers, taking into account the characteristics of the materials, the design features of the project (the form of the protective structure, tension, resistance, etc.), allow us to state that for all natural and man-made impacts taken into account in the project, the Akkuyu nuclear power plant provides the necessary level of safety and meets all the criteria established by regulatory documents for these elements of nuclear power plants.

**Sorry, we are not ready to discuss with you on this subject,** despite your unconditional knowledge in the design of special objects and the possibility of computer modeling.

Yours faithfully,

Department of Communications

State Corporation Rosatom