

Preparation of the report on
*Progress and prospects of research
on the management of radioactive wastes*
PUBLIC HEARINGS OPEN TO THE PRESS
organised by



*Christian BATAILLE,
Member of Parliament,
Rapporteur*



*Claude BIRRAUX,
Member of Parliament,
Rapporteur*

Thursday 20 January 2005 Thursday 27 January 2005
9am – 6pm 9am – 6pm

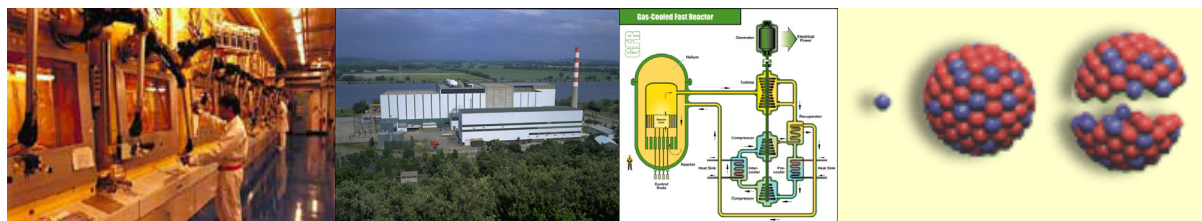
Thursday 3 February 2005
9am – 6pm

*Assemblée nationale - Salle Lamartine
101 rue de l'Université Paris 7^{ème} - France*



I.- Thursday 20 January 2005 – 9am – 6pm Separation and transmutation (Strand 1 of the Act of 30 December 1991)

- **Opening speeches: (subject to change)**
 - Mr Jean-Louis DEBRÉ, President of the National Assembly
 - Mr Henri REVOL, Chairman of the Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology Assessment (OPECST)
 - Mr Claude BIRRAUX, First Vice-Chairman of OPECST, Rapporteur
- **Main debate topics:**
 - Research on separation:
 - * Results in France and in the United States: aqueous separation and pyrometallurgy
 - * Feasibility: pilot workshop, demonstrator, financial estimates
 - * The case of MOX
 - Research on transmutation:
 - * Experiments conducted on the Phenix reactor and arrangements for their continuation
 - * The latest on Generation IV:
 - Progress of international cooperation
 - Expected performances of the 6 types of reactors as regards the reduction of waste
 - Possibilities of existing waste reprocessing
 - * Accelerator driven systems:
 - Critical points regarding theory and engineering
 - Respective advantages and disadvantages of ADS and rapid neutron reactors
 - * Feasibility of transmutation:
 - Start-up dates and costs of pilot reactors and of industrial demonstrators
 - Forecasts in terms of the number of dedicated systems with respect to electricity-generating reactors
 - Cost of transmutation
 - * Separation – transmutation, the only management method of the back end of the cycle or part of a multiple strategy ?
- **National introductory speeches:**
 - AREVA
 - CEA
 - CNRS
 - Commission nationale d'évaluation (CNE – National Assessment Board)
 - DGSNR (Safety Authority)
 - EDF
- **Foreign introductory speeches: (subject to change)**
 - DOE: ANL (Argonne National Laboratory), LANL (Los Alamos National Laboratory), ORNL (Oak Ridge National Laboratory)
 - MYRRHA team (CEN-Mol)
 - TRAD team (Mr Rubbia - Italy)
- **Participants' viewpoints: (subject to change)**
 - Parliamentarians—Deputies and Senators— of the concerned regions
 - The chairmen of General Councils and of Regional Councils
 - Trade Unions
 - Environmental protection associations
 - Consumer associations
- **Speech in conclusions: (subject to change)**



II.- Thursday 27 January 2005 – 9am – 6pm

Reversible or irreversible repository in deep geological formations (Strand 2 of the Act of 30 December 1991)

- **Opening speeches: (subject to change)**
 - Mr Hubert CURIEN, former Minister for Research
- **Main topics of the scientific and technical debate:**
 - Concept of multiple barriers
 - Safety horizon: 10,000 years or 100,000 years
 - Geological data: seismology and circulation of underground water
 - Physico-chemical data: corrosion and dissemination
 - Respective roles of underground laboratories and drillings
 - Advantages, disadvantages and time limits of reversibility with respect to irreversibility
- **Foreign projects and achievements: (subject to change)**
 - Finnish and Swedish concepts
 - The Carlsbad and Yucca Mountain centres
 - German achievements: Gorleben and Konrad
- **National introductory speeches:**
 - ANDRA
 - BRGM
 - CNRS
 - Commission nationale d'évaluation (CNE – National Assessment Board)
 - DGSNR
 - IRSN
- **Foreign introductory speeches: (subject to change)**
 - Posiva (Finland)
 - SKI (Sweden)
 - DOE (United States)
 - LLNL (Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory) – United States
 - NRC (safety aims for Carlsbad and Yucca Mountain)
- **Participants' viewpoints:**
 - Parliamentarians—Deputies and Senators— of the concerned regions
 - The chairmen of General Councils and of Regional Councils
 - The office of the local information and follow-up committee of the underground laboratory of Meuse/Haute Marne
 - Trade Unions
 - Environmental protection associations
 - Consumer associations
- **Speech in conclusions: (subject to change)**
 - Minister Delegate for Industry



III.- Thursday 3 February 2005 — 9am — 6pm

Long-term packaging and storage (Strand 3 of the Act of 30 December 1991)

- **Opening speech: (subject to change)**
 - Mr André-Claude LACOSTE, Director-General of nuclear safety and radioprotection
- **Main topics of the scientific and technical debate:**
 - Present packagings and envisaged improvements
 - Advantages and disadvantages of storage with respect to a repository development
 - The various storage concepts: surface, sub-surface
 - Interest of sub-surface
 - The multiple use canister
 - Life duration of storage facilities
 - Storage of fuels non-reprocessed for the time being, and particularly of MOX
 - Lessons to be learnt from surface repository facilities for low- or medium-activity wastes
- **National introductory speeches:**
 - ANDRA
 - CEA
 - COGEMA (France and United States)
 - Commission nationale d'évaluation (CNE – National Assessment Board)
 - EDF
- **Foreign introductory speeches: (subject to change)**
 - SKI (packaging of irradiated fuels, sub-surface storage)
 - TVO and Fortum (Finland): sub-surface repository of low- or medium-activity wastes
 - Zwiilag (Switzerland: long-term storage)
 - DOE: anticorrosion systems
- **Participants' viewpoints:**
 - Parliamentarians—Deputies and Senators— of the concerned regions
 - The chairmen of General Councils and of Regional Councils
 - Trade unions
 - Environmental protection associations
 - Consumer associations
- **Speech in conclusion: (subject to change)**
 - Minister for Ecology and Sustainable Development
- **Recapitulative speech:**
 - Mr Christian BATAILLE, Rapporteur at the Parliamentary Office for Science and Technology Assessment

