

CANADA MUST BAN PLUTONIUM REPROCESSING – ACT NOW!

The nuclear industry refers to extracting plutonium or other specific isotopes from nuclear fuel waste as “reprocessing” or “recycling.”

**REPROCESSING =
PLUTONIUM =
NUCLEAR WEAPONS**

In 2020 Canada embarked on a review of its radioactive waste policy. Hundreds of civil society organizations, Indigenous peoples and concerned Canadians engaged with Natural Resources Canada, and thousands of Canadians called for a ban on reprocessing of nuclear waste.

The draft policy, released in February 2022, failed to meet the mark, weakly stating that reprocessing is to be “subject to policy approval by the Government of Canada”. What is absent is an actual policy.

Canada’s radioactive waste policy must include a ban on nuclear waste reprocessing.

Reprocessing nuclear waste creates a proliferation risk. Canada must ban nuclear waste reprocessing to honour our commitment to non-proliferation.

Click on this button to register for our January 19 webinar. See details below.

“Military and civilian technologies for plutonium extraction are the same, creating an inseparable link between nuclear power and nuclear weapons.”

While Canada unequivocally supports the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, the reprocessing of nuclear fuel waste (plutonium extraction) creates a serious weapons proliferation risk and contradicts any non-proliferation policy. Therefore, a ban on the reprocessing of nuclear waste must be a part of Canada’s radioactive waste policy. Military and civilian technologies of plutonium extraction are the same technologies and call into question the distinction between the military and peaceful use of the atom. The consequences which follow from both are those of their extreme and extremely lasting harmfulness.



Rev. Michael Poellet
Inter-Church Uranium Committee, SK

Whatever “balance of peace” or “balance of mutually assured destruction” may currently exist with regard to the use of nuclear weapons, the technologies of plutonium extraction, euphemistically called “reprocessing,” decimate this balance and leave us with geopolitical terror. With the proliferation of the capacity for plutonium extraction, and its product, plutonium, potentially accessible to all--powerful states, less powerful states, rogue states, extremist organizations, terrorist groups--whatever fragile peace there might be decomposes into a constant threat of terror. There is no way to assure us of safety from the horror of an unspeakable devastation. It is on the prospect of this devastation that Canada’s radioactive waste policy must include a ban of the reprocessing of all nuclear fuel waste.

Rev. Michael Poellet, Inter-Church Uranium Committee. Saskatoon

Watch the video [HERE](#)

Send a message to the Hon. Mélanie Joly, Minister of Foreign Affairs:
Honour Canada's commitment to stopping the spread of nuclear
weapons. Include a ban on the reprocessing of nuclear fuel waste in
Canada's radioactive waste policy.

Use our newest [action alert](#), email Minister Joly a personal
message at melanie.joly@parl.gc.ca and call her office at [613-
992-0983](tel:613-992-0983).

Take Action to Ban Plutonium Reprocessing in Canada

- Watch the campaign [launch message](#) by Dr. Gordon Edwards
- Visit the campaign web page at reprocessing.ca
- Share a "Ban Reprocessing" [post on social media](#)
- [Register](#) for the January 19th webinar
- Call or write to [your MP](#) and demand a ban on reprocessing

Ban Plutonium Reprocessing in Canada

Thursday, January 19, 7 pm Eastern

*Join this webinar to learn about the dangerous push for plutonium reprocessing by the nuclear industry in
Canada and why it must be stopped. Speakers Ray Acheson, M.V. Ramana and Joshua Frank*



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN TO BAN REPROCESSING IN CANADA AND REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR AT REPROCESSING.CA

See webinar details [HERE](#) - Register for the webinar [HERE](#)

**Reprocessing nuclear waste is highly contaminating, practiced in only a few
countries, and is linked to nuclear proliferation and nuclear weapons.**

**There has never been commercial reprocessing in Canada. The
limited reprocessing done at the federal government's Chalk
River Nuclear Laboratories has left a legacy of nuclear
contamination.**

Canada is currently reviewing its radioactive waste policy. The revised
policy must include a formal prohibition on nuclear fuel waste
reprocessing in Canada.

Click on this "button" to visit reprocessing.ca to read campaign briefs, key
reports and articles, and learn more about why a ban on processing nuclear
waste to extract plutonium is essential. 2023 is the year to make it happen!

Do you like this e-bulletin? Share it!



This e-bulletin was published January 2023 by Nuclear Waste Watch.

It is the second in a series of six e-bulletins for the Ban Plutonium Reprocessing in Canada campaign. The next issue will be published in late January 2023.

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