

# **NUCLEAR WASTE WATCH** **ACTION DÉCHETS NUCLÉAIRES**

**No more public funds for private companies pursuing dirty, dangerous reprocessing technologies.  
Canada must ban reprocessing nuclear waste.**

**The nuclear industry refers to extracting plutonium 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. Natural Resources Canada released a draft policy in February 2022, which weakly stated that reprocessing is to be “subject to policy approval by the Government of Canada”. Meanwhile the federal government is giving money to companies to develop experimental reprocessing technologies as a side operation to prototype small modular reactors.



## **Plutonium: How Nuclear Power's Dream Fuel Became a Nightmare**

**Join us for our next webinar**

**Tuesday, February 28, 7 pm Eastern.**

**Register [HERE](#)**

**Canada must stop giving public funds to private companies to develop dirty, dangerous and experimental reprocessing technologies.**

The nuclear industry is aggressively promoting what they call small modular nuclear reactors, or SMRs. Two SMR designs involve plutonium reprocessing, each promoted by a start-up company from outside the country that came to Canada seeking public funding.

The SMR projects are planned to be sited in New Brunswick at the Point Lepreau nuclear plant on the Bay of Fundy. The Moltex company claims that its technology can use up the high-level radioactive waste at Point Lepreau. Experts have found these claims have no merit because the long-lived harmful products cannot be neatly removed from the used fuel.

To date, Moltex got \$10M from New Brunswick and \$50.5 million from Ottawa, and now they are asking for \$250 million more. Let's stop these funds flowing now! Watch Susan O'Donnell's message [HERE](#)

**“The nuclear industry is aggressively promoting SMRs. Two SMR designs involve plutonium reprocessing, each promoted by a start-up company from outside the country that came to Canada seeking public funding.”**

Dr. Susan O'Donnell, Coalition for Responsible Energy Development in New Brunswick, (CRED-NB)

**Send a message to the Honourable François-Philippe Champagne, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry:**

Canada's radioactive waste policy must include a ban on reprocessing, including experimental pyroprocessing. Handing out public funds to private companies to develop reprocessing technology must stop. Reprocessing won't solve Canada's radioactive waste problems.

Use our newest [action alert](#), email Minister Champagne a personal message at [francois-philippe.champagne@parl.gc.ca](mailto:francois-philippe.champagne@parl.gc.ca) and call his Ottawa office at [613-995-4895](tel:613-995-4895).

## Take Action to Ban Plutonium Reprocessing in Canada

- Watch the campaign [launch message](#) by Dr. Gordon Edwards
- Watch the short video on [weapons proliferation](#) with Rev. Michael Poellet
- Watch the message from Dr. Ole Hendrickson about environmental contamination [HERE](#)
- Watch Brennain Lloyd's message about waste centralization [HERE](#)
- Visit the campaign web page at [reprocessing.ca](http://reprocessing.ca)
- Share "[Ban Reprocessing](#)" posts on social media, including new graphics
- View [the recording](#) of the January 19th webinar
- [Register](#) for the February 28th webinar
- Call or write to [your MP](#) and demand a ban on reprocessing

## Plutonium: How Nuclear Power's Dream Fuel Became a Nightmare

Discussion with authors Frank N. von Hippel, [Jungmin Kang](#), and [Masafumi Takubo](#)

Session Moderator: M.V. Ramana



Join us for our next webinar **Tuesday, February 28, 7 pm Eastern**

Go to [reprocessing.ca](http://reprocessing.ca) to register.

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

Click [HERE](#) to view January 19 webinar on reprocessing and proliferation risk.

Click on this "button" to visit [reprocessing.ca](http://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 February 27th, 2023 by Nuclear Waste Watch.

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

### **Nuclear Waste Watch**

nuclearwastewatch@gmail.com

www.nuclearwastewatch.ca

Tel 1 855 225 8055 (toll free)

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