

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Agreement for co-operation on the civil uses of atomic energy.
Signed at Washington, on 15 June 1955**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement rectifying the
above-mentioned Agreement. Washington, 20 October
and 3 November 1955**

Official text : English.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 23
February 1956.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE**

**Accord de coopération concernant l'utilisation de l'énergie
atomique dans le domaine civil. Signé à Washington, le
15 juin 1955**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord portant rectification
de l'Accord susmentionné. Washington, 20 octobre et
3 novembre 1955**

Texte officiel anglais.

*Enregistrés par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 23
février 1956.*

No. 3161. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR CO-OPERATION ON THE CIVIL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY. SIGNED AT WASHINGTON, ON 15 JUNE 1955

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on its own behalf and on behalf of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, and the Government of the United States of America (including the United States Atomic Energy Commission) ;

Considering that they have for several years been engaged in atomic energy programmes within their respective countries and from the inception of these programmes have collaborated closely in certain fields ;

Considering that the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes is a major objective of each of these programmes ;

Believing that mutual benefit would result from further co-operation between them ; and

Recognising that for the present their main efforts in the field of atomic energy will be directed to defence but desiring also to promote the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes ;

Have agreed as follows :

Article I

SCOPE OF AGREEMENT

A.—Subject to the provisions of this agreement, the availability of material and personnel, and the applicable laws, regulations and licence requirements in force in their respective countries, the Parties shall assist each other in the achievement of the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes. It is the intent of the Parties that such assistance shall be rendered on a reciprocal basis.

B.—The disposition and utilisation of atomic weapons and the exchange of restricted data relating to the design or fabrication of atomic weapons shall be outside the scope of this agreement.

¹ Came into force on 21 July 1955, in accordance with article XI.

C.—The exchange of restricted data under this agreement shall be subject to the following limitations :

- (i) It shall extend only to that which is relevant to current or projected programmes.
- (ii) Restricted data which is primarily of military significance shall not be exchanged.
- (iii) The development of submarine, ship, aircraft, and certain package power reactors is presently concerned primarily with their military uses. Accordingly, restricted data pertaining to such reactors will not be exchanged until such time as these types of reactors warrant peacetime application and the exchange of information on these types of reactors may be agreed. Information on the adaptation of these types of reactors to military use will not be exchanged. Likewise, restricted data pertaining primarily to any future reactor-types the development of which is concerned primarily with their military use will not be exchanged until such time as these types of reactors warrant civil application and exchange of information on these types of reactors may be agreed ; and restricted data on the adaptation of these types of reactors to military use will not be exchanged.
- (iv) Restricted data on specific experimental power, demonstration power, or power reactors will not be exchanged unless the reactor is currently in operation in the receiving country or is being considered seriously for construction by the receiving country as a source of power or as an intermediate step in a power production programme. There shall, however, be exchanged such general information, including restricted data, on design and characteristics of various types of reactors as is required to permit evaluation and comparison of their potential use in a power production programme.

D.—This agreement shall not require the exchange of any information which the Parties are not permitted to communicate because the information is privately developed and privately owned or has been received from another government.

E.—The Parties will not transfer or export, or permit the transfer or export, under this agreement of any material, equipment or device which is primarily of a military character.

Article II

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND THE AUTHORITY

Subject to the provisions of Article I, classified information in the specific fields set out below and unclassified information shall be exchanged between

the Commission and the Authority with respect to the application of atomic energy to peaceful uses, including research and development relating to such uses and problems of health and safety connected therewith. The exchange of information provided for in this Article shall be accomplished through the various means available, including reports, conferences and visits to facilities. The following are the fields in which classified information shall be exchanged :

A.—Reactors

1. Fields of exchange :

- (a) Reactor physics, including theory of and pertinent data relating to neutron bombardment reactions, neutron cross sections, criticality calculations, reactor kinetics, and shielding.
- (b) Reactor engineering—theory of and data relating to such problems as reactor stress and heat transfer analysis insofar as these are pertinent to the over-all design and optimisation of the reactor.
- (c) Properties of reactor materials—effects of operating conditions on the properties of reactor materials, including fuel, moderator and coolant.
- (d) Specification for reactor materials—final form specifications including composition, shape, and size, and special handling techniques of reactor materials including source material, special nuclear material, heavy water, reactor grade graphite, and zirconium.
- (e) Reactor components—general performance specifications of reactor components.
- (f) Over-all design and characteristics, and operational techniques and performance, of research, experimental power, demonstration power, and power reactors.

2. Detailed designs, detailed drawings and applied technology of reactors of the types referred to in subparagraph 1 (f) of this paragraph and of related components, equipment and devices in this field shall not be exchanged except as may be agreed.

3. The exchange of information under this paragraph shall include and be limited to information from the following sources and shall be accomplished in such a manner as to maintain a reciprocal basis of exchange :

- (a) Information developed by and for the Commission and information developed by and for the public and private utility groups in the United States with the assistance of the Commission ;

- (b) Information developed by and for the Authority and information developed by and for the United Kingdom Electricity Supply Authorities with the assistance of the Authority.

B.—Uranium and Thorium

Geology, exploration techniques, chemistry and technology of extracting uranium and thorium from their ores and concentrates, the chemistry, production technology and techniques of purification and fabrication of uranium and thorium compounds and metals, including design, construction, and operation of plants.

C.—Properties of Materials

Physical, chemical, and nuclear properties of all elements, compounds, alloys, mixtures, special nuclear material, byproduct material, other radioisotopes, and stable isotopes and their behaviour under all conditions.

D.—Technology of Production and Utilisation of Materials

1. Technology of production and utilisation, from laboratory experimentation up to pilot plant operations but not including design and operation of pilot plants except as may be agreed, of all elements, compounds, alloys, mixtures, special nuclear material, byproduct material, other radioisotopes, and stable isotopes relevant to paragraphs A and E of this Article.

2. This paragraph shall not be construed as including :

- (a) the exchange of restricted data pertaining to design, construction, and operation of production plants for the separation of U-235 from other uranium isotopes ;
- (b) the exchange of restricted data on the design, construction, and operation of specific production plants for the separation of deuterium from the other isotope of hydrogen until such time as the Party wishing to receive the information shall determine that the construction of such plants is required ; the Commission will, however, supply the Authority with heavy water as provided in Article III A and Article IV ;
- (c) the exchange of restricted data pertaining to the design, construction, and operation of production plants for the separation of isotopes of any other element, except as may be agreed ;
- (d) the exchange of restricted data pertaining to the underlying principles, theory, design, construction, and operation of facilities, other than reactors, capable of producing significant quantities of isotopes by means of nuclear reactions, except as may be agreed.

E.—Health and Safety

The entire field of health and safety as related to any of the fields within which information is to be exchanged in accordance with the provisions of this Article ;