

CANDU PLUTONIUM MOX FUEL PROJECT

"...both Russia and the USA have to dismantle their nuclear weapons and have to dispose of the plutonium. What is worrying, is that it could still be used in unwanted or undesirable ways. The best solution is to destroy it by transforming it into MOX fuel. But if we are to use it, we should make sure that we do it safely. CANDU is the reactor that could use it the most efficient and safest way. We should assume our responsibility. Nuclear energy is a non-polluting source of energy compared to other sources. In Canada we have been involved for a long time in nuclear energy and never had any problem. I am not a specialist, but I understand that our system is better than any other."

Prime Minister Jean Chretien

At the press conference following the Nuclear Safety and Security Summit in Moscow on April 20, 1996 after stressing the decision on disposition of surplus weapons-grade materials as one of the Summit's achievements.