

The Canada-Korea Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC) on Nuclear Energy was established in 1982 pursuant to the Canada-Korea nuclear co-operation agreement. The JCC held its ninth meeting in July of 1991. The JCC is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Canada-Korea Agreement and has also focused on the broad range of cooperative activities under the Agreement. These have included cooperation in research and development taking place between AECL and KAERI, regulatory aspects of nuclear power which involve the AECB and the Korean Ministry of Science and Technology, and bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual interest in the nuclear area. An agreement to allow the programmatic retransfer by Korea of Canadian nuclear items has been concluded. Canada and Korea, in deference to USA reprocessing concerns, narrowed the advanced fuel cycles options to a single category: the direct-use cycle, aimed at utilizing directly spent light water reactor fuel in CANDU reactors. This would more solidly lock CANDU into Korea's nuclear future. A joint Canada-Korea-USA direct use study is currently under consideration.

KOREAN POSITION

By all accounts, Korea values highly its nuclear relationship with Canada, particularly the extensive cooperation and technology transfer that has developed. In part, the Canadian relationship offsets Korea's broader dependence on the USA from which it has purchased most of its power reactors and enrichment services.

CANADIAN POSITION

Canada's extensive cooperation with Korea in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy is one of our most important and successful nuclear relationships. Canada values Korea highly as a nuclear partner. Korea has successfully absorbed and utilized Canadian nuclear technology on a commercial basis. The Canada-Korea Nuclear Cooperation Agreement is working well and the yearly meeting of the JCC has been a very constructive framework for the conduct of bilateral nuclear cooperation. Korea continues to satisfy fully all of Canada's non-proliferation policy requirements. Because of the geo-political situation in the Korean peninsula, the USA continues to be resistant to any independent reprocessing capacity in Korea.