

**JOINT STATEMENT
ABOUT PATHS TO THE SOONEST POSSIBLE SHUTDOWN
OF THE CHERNOBYL NUCLEAR POWER PLANT**

Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine Valeriy Shmarov and U.S. Deputy Secretary of Energy William White, as well as representatives of the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, State Committee for Nuclear Power Utilization, and the Ukrainian Ministry of Energy and Electrification met April 7-8, 1994 in Kiev to discuss plans for the future of the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant.

The U.S. side expressed its views that the safety concerns associated with the continued operation of the plant were such that the plant should be shut down at the earliest possible time.

The Ukrainian side stated that it needed the current power output from the Chernobyl plant during the current period of economic transition and agreed to cease operation of the Chernobyl plant once it reached a balance in the energy system and found resources to take the plant out of operation.

The U.S. side pointed out the broad international consensus on the need for shutdown of Chernobyl and noted in particular the conclusions of the safety assessment conducted by the International Atomic Energy Agency (March 7-17, 1994). Given the magnitude of the problem and clear multinational interest in the earliest possible shutdown of Chernobyl, concerted international action will continue to be necessary in the G-7, EBRD, World Bank and other fora.

The sides agreed to undertake a near-term joint analysis of options for earliest possible closure of the Chernobyl power plant. The two sides will consider all issues associated with the closure of the Chernobyl power plant. Both sides expressed their concern regarding the state of the sarcophagus and will do what is possible to ensure its safety.

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

FOR UKRAINE:

Bill White

4/8/94

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8.04.94