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Dear colleagues!

You have got the first issue of the new journal "Radioactive Waste" in front of you. Release of a new journal is always a moment to celebrate both in science and in industrial practice. For us, this is a special day due to many reasons.

First, RW plays a special role in the triad of the nuclear lifecycle back ends (SNF, RW, and decommissioning). Difficult questions have to be answered throughout the RW lifecycle, starting from generation of RW, going through further stages of its lifecycle, including the various types of processing and conditioning, and even more so, at the final stages of the lifecycle, which is waste placement to a disposal facility. Do these materials really have no future use? Do the processes used reduce the overall cost of RW management? Do the conditions at the disposal facilities match those required by RW? All these questions cannot be resolved in line operations. Scientific analysis and justification are required. In this sense, the new journal will be of great value for practical specialists. The journal should not only be a communication tool for scientists, but also a tutor for all the industrial specialists.

Second, the State Corporation "Rosatom," being the only legally designated body in the Russian Federation in the field of RW management, will have an opportunity to transmit its official documents and the views of the leading specialists to the target audience both inside Russia and abroad. This would be possible, if the results of all research and practical activities run by the State Corporation in the field of RW management are required to be published in a peer reviewed scientific journal.

Third, the Russian Federation has specific international obligations in the field of RW management, and we report on these every three years. A suggestion for the launch of such a journal has been formulated by our partners for the Joint Convention. They would like to see a reputable English-language Russian journal, which would reflect all the events in the field of RW management. The membership of the editorial staff gives confidence in the high quality of peer reviews.

Fourth, the State Corporation "Rosatom", being an innovation-oriented business corporation, is directly interested in enhancing the level and quality of scientific research. Publication and discussion of research results by professional community is a powerful tool to achieve this.

Based upon all the above, as well as upon the tasks assigned to the State Corporation “Rosatom” as the state body in the field of RW management, including the task of arranging research in this field, informing the public in Russia on the activities aiming at establishment of the system of radioactive waste management, the State Corporation has rendered its support to our academic partner – the Nuclear Safety Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences on establishment of the scientific and technical journal “Radioactive Waste”.

To conclude, I would like to wish the editorial board to reach the goals of every scientific journal, or, to be specific: to provide the wide audience of specialists in different fields, both scientists and technologists working in the field of radioactive waste management, with a possibility to publish the results of their works, exchange experience in operation of equipment, installations and systems of radioactive waste management, in assurance of nuclear and radiation safety. The journal is to accumulate all publications covering information on the problem of radioactive waste management.

Also, it is important to establish a discussion forum in the pages of this journal to discuss the issues of highest priority, which, we hope, would help to draw the specialists from neighboring fields to take part in these discussions. I hope the journal would be helpful to a wide audience of scientists and technical specialists, who are interested in this problem.

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