

WRITTEN QUESTION E-1373/04
by Hiltrud Breyer (Verts/ALE)
to the Commission

Subject: Support for high-temperature reactors (HTR)

In the July/August 2001 edition of 'Nuclear Worldscan' magazine, Joel Guidez reported from the European Commission on support for the sub-project on high-temperature reactors in the budget of the 5th Framework Programme, to the tune of 17 million euros.

1. If such support has been granted, who were the applications for support filed by and which body approved them? What were the decisive grounds for its approval?
2. Was this support a single payment from 2001 or were there other incentive measures before or since? If there were, how much was the funding?
3. For which projects was the money approved and which research institutions were entrusted with this responsibility?
4. What are the motives for supporting further development and research on high-temperature reactors in Europe? What is the aim of this research?
5. Were the negative experiences of the Hamm-Uentrop THTR (for example the 1986 incident, which took place at the same time as Chernobyl) taken into consideration when evaluating the suitability of the project?
6. Were the German Federal Government and the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia asked about their experiences with this line of reactors during the process of approving the development funds?
7. Are there plans for any more research or support for high-temperature reactors? If there are, on what grounds?