

Respondent Details	
Name:	Richard Strange

Please select the category below which best describes who you are responding on behalf of.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Business representative organisation/trade body
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charity or social enterprise
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Individual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large business (over 250 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal representative
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium business (50 to 250 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Micro business (up to 9 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small business (10 to 49 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade union or staff association
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please describe):

The consultation document sets out the Government's proposed approach to the longer term management of the UK's plutonium stocks for public scrutiny and consultation. Comments on any aspect of this issue are welcome, but the key questions posed in this consultation are:

No	Question
Q1	Do you agree that it is not realistic for the Government to wait until fast breeder reactor technology is commercially available before taking a decision on how to manage plutonium stocks?
Response	Yes, as research appears to have been virtually halted
Q2	Do you agree that the Government has got to the point where a strategic sift of the options can be taken?
Response	Yes. The problem must be faced at some point, and, as there are problems with the plutonium decaying into americium, which may be more volatile, the situation would be better looked at sooner rather than later.
Q3	Are the conditions that a preferred option must in due course meet, the right ones?
Response	Yes, at this present level of scientific and engineering knowledge and understanding
Q4	Is the Government doing the right thing by taking a preliminary policy view and setting out a strategic direction in this area now?
Response	Yes, for the same reason as my answer to Q2
Q5	Is there any other evidence government should consider in coming to a preliminary view?
Response	I'm not aware of any.
Q6	Has the Government selected the right preliminary view?
Response	As there may be problems with the decay of plutonium into americium, reuse as MOX fuel may be the best option at this time. There will still be waste to deal with at some point.

Q7	Are there any other high level options that the Government should consider for long-term management of plutonium?
Response	<p>Instead of building costly MOX facilities, please consider selling or even giving the viable plutonium away to existing MOX facilities in France and other countries. There would still be a need for storage and containment of the unprocessable plutonium (a small percentage), and any MOX fuel waste that may be incurred as part of any future negotiation with overseas MOX processing facilities in relation to this UK plutonium management consultation.</p>