Title (en)
PROCESS FOR DECONTAMINATION OF CONTAMINATED GRAPHITE

Title (de)
VERFAHREN ZUR DEKONTAMINATION VON KONTAMINIERTEM GRAPHIT

Title (fr)
PROCÉDÉ POUR LA DÉCONTAMINATION DE GRAPHITE CONTAMINÉ

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Application
EP 15732683 A 20150629

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Abstract (en)
[origin: WO2016008712A1] The present invention relates to the decontamination of contaminated graphite, in particular of irradiated graphite. According to the invention, this is understood as meaning a method for separating volatile radionuclides from contaminated graphite and transforming the graphite together with non-volatile radionuclides into a form appropriate for ultimate storage. The method according to the invention comprises heating up the contaminated graphite to obtain treated graphite, compacting the treated graphite to obtain a formed piece and optionally embedding the treated graphite in a matrix material to obtain an encapsulated formed piece. Depending on the requirements specific to the country concerned, disposal and storage of the formed piece comprising the treated graphite is possible with less demanding safety requirements. As a result, the volume of such material that requires particularly sophisticated and consequently particularly cost-intensive disposal and storage, particularly storage deep underground, can be reduced significantly. This also leads to significantly reduced costs for the disposal of contaminated graphite, large quantities of which occur on an annual basis.

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