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## Nuclear waste from Chalk River could pass through Durham Region on way to U.S.



Trucking route to move 6,000 gallons of enriched uranium waste could travel on Hwy. 401

Keith Gilligan  
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DURHAM — Its initials are HEUNL, although that can be shortened to HEU.

That stands for highly enriched uranium nitrate liquid and trucks carrying some of the material may be passing through Durham Region on the way to the United States.

Following a recent ruling by U.S. District Judge Tanya Chutkan dismissing a request by American environmental groups opposed to the shipments, the trucks could be rolling.

The material, about 6,000 gallons (23,000 litres) of HEU in a liquid form, is being transported from the Chalk River nuclear facility north of Ottawa to the Savannah River Site nuclear facility in South Carolina.

The material was brought into Canada and used in research activities and to make medical isotopes used in nuclear medicine and in medical imaging.

Under an agreement between Canada and the U.S., once the HEU wasn't needed in Canada, it had to be returned to the states. Once in South Carolina, the material will be converted for use in U.S. reactors.

Between 100 and 150 shipments over four years are needed to transport the material.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) and the Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL), the operator of the Chalk Lake facility, are responsible for the shipments before they reach the U.S.

See NUCLEAR, page 7

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29	05	11	01
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
25	14	08	21
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
02	13	27	07

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