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U.S. 'Hinders' Fuel Deal

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A senior government official said Monday that the United States was hindering the resumption of talks with Iran on a fuel-swap deal aimed at easing concern over the Islamic Republic's nuclear ambitions.

The comments, made to a discussion group of Russia experts, appeared aimed at nudging Washington toward restarting stalled UN-backed talks to provide Iran with nuclear fuel for a Tehran research reactor.

"I am concerned by the fact that the United States slowed down the process," the official told the Valdai group when asked about the fuel deal.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the issue.

(Reuters)

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