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**Supplementary information to be published electronically**

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**The heat of formation of gaseous  $\text{PuO}_2^{2+}$  from relativistic density functional calculations**

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**Table S1. Cartesian coordinates (in Å, VWN) of various species used in the model reactions R1–R21**

Species	Symmetry	Atom	X	Y	Z
PuF <sub>6</sub>	O <sub>h</sub>	Pu	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		F	1.960042	0.000000	0.000000
		F	0.000000	1.960042	0.000000
		F	0.000000	-1.960042	0.000000
		F	-1.960042	0.000000	0.000000
		F	0.000000	0.000000	1.943737
		F	0.000000	0.000000	-1.943737
PuF <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>3v</sub>	Pu	0.000000	0.000000	-1.133427
		F	0.000000	0.000000	0.857939
		F	1.946621	0.000000	-1.610118
		F	-0.973311	1.685823	-1.610118
		F	-0.973311	-1.685823	-1.610118
PuO <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	Pu	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		O	0.000000	0.000000	1.760479
		O	0.000000	0.000000	-1.760479
PuO <sub>2</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	Pu	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		O	0.000000	0.000000	1.663157
		O	0.000000	0.000000	-1.663157
HCO <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>∞v</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		H	0.000000	0.000000	1.110392
		O	0.000000	0.000000	-1.109466
HCO	C <sub>s</sub>	C	0.001018	0.380865	0.000000
		H	-0.478169	1.416027	0.000000
		O	1.165666	0.203984	0.000000
CO <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>∞v</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		O	0.000000	0.000000	1.118211
CO	C <sub>∞v</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000

		O	0.000000	0.000000	1.132409
NO <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>∞v</sub>	N	0.000000	0.000000	-0.001076
		O	0.000000	0.000000	1.119287
NO	C <sub>∞v</sub>	N	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		O	0.000000	0.000000	1.184222
CN <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>∞v</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	-0.021360
		N	0.000000	0.000000	1.144916
CN	C <sub>∞v</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	-0.023617
		N	0.000000	0.000000	1.147173
HCN	C <sub>∞v</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		H	0.000000	0.000000	1.078667
		N	0.000000	0.000000	-1.154638
H <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	H	0.000000	0.000000	0.383982
		H	0.000000	0.000000	-0.383982
CH <sub>4</sub>	T <sub>d</sub>	C	0.000000	0.000000	0.000000
		H	0.635080	0.635080	0.635080
		H	0.635080	-0.635080	-0.635080
		H	-0.635080	0.635080	-0.635080
		H	-0.635080	-0.635080	0.635080
F <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	F	0.000000	0.000000	0.700384
		F	0.000000	0.000000	-0.700384
N <sub>2</sub>	D <sub>∞h</sub>	N	0.000000	0.000000	0.550759
		N	0.000000	0.000000	-0.550759
HF	C <sub>∞v</sub>	F	0.000000	0.000000	-0.204553
		H	0.000000	0.000000	0.728439
NF <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>3v</sub>	N	0.000000	0.000000	-0.031510
		F	1.236691	0.000000	0.579409
		F	-0.618346	1.071006	0.579409
		F	-0.618346	-1.071006	0.579409
H <sub>2</sub> O	C <sub>2v</sub>	O	0.000000	0.000000	-0.057858
		H	0.774468	0.000000	0.528929
		H	-0.774468	0.000000	0.528929

**Table S2. Total energies (in au) at the GGA-PBEN level of the various species used in model reactions R1–R21, determined in single-point fashion at the DKnuc-SR and the DKee1 levels of theory. To estimate the effect of spin-orbit interaction ( $\Delta E$ ) for open-shell systems, results of DKnuc-SR calculations are also provided, where the dependence of the exchange-correlation functional on the spin density (SD negl.) has been neglected. Two models for estimating  $\Delta E$  were used. M1: high-spin adiabatic model; M2: closed-shell adiabatic model (see text for details).**

Species	DKnuc-SR	DKnuc-SR (SD negl.)	DKee1
PuF <sub>6</sub>	-30150.987974	-30150.954059 (M1) -30151.006693 (M2)	-30241.235195 (M1) -30241.289937 (M2)
PuF <sub>4</sub>	-29951.073672	-29950.976904 (M1) -29951.026148 (M2)	-30041.246789 (M1) -30041.298283 (M2)
PuO <sub>2</sub>	-29701.673716	-29701.554547 (M1) -29701.623640 (M2)	-29791.800360 (M1) -29791.880775 (M2)
PuO <sub>2</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	-29700.832632	-29700.805103 (M1) -29700.808301 (M2)	-29791.058070 (M1) -29791.067033 (M2)
HCO <sup>+</sup>		-113.665470	-113.674830
HCO	-113.970980	-113.955290	-113.964650
CO <sup>+</sup>	-112.916734	-112.883894	-112.893813
CO		-113.425160	-113.435103
NO <sup>+</sup>		-129.675900	-129.687010
NO	-130.016700	-130.005110	-130.016520
CN <sup>+</sup>		-92.276499	-92.271940
CN	-92.805570	-92.785790	-92.792790
HCN		-93.513220	-93.520190
H <sub>2</sub>		-1.178360	-1.178370
CH <sub>4</sub>		-40.552110	-40.554750
F <sub>2</sub>		-199.749080	-199.768880
N <sub>2</sub>		-109.636151	-109.644890
HF		-100.565980	-100.575910
NF <sub>3</sub>		-354.500020	-354.534090
H <sub>2</sub> O		-76.515050	-76.521800

**Table S3. Spin-contamination in terms of expectation values of  $\hat{S}^2$  of the Kohn-Sham determinant for Pu species studied in this work, calculated at the DKnuc-SR GGA-PBEN level of theory.**

Species	State	$\langle \hat{S}^2 \rangle$
PuF <sub>6</sub>	<sup>3</sup> T <sub>1g</sub>	2.037
PuF <sub>4</sub>	<sup>5</sup> A <sub>1</sub>	6.018
PuO <sub>2</sub>	<sup>5</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub>	6.035
PuO <sub>2</sub> <sup>2+</sup>	<sup>3</sup> H <sub>g</sub>	2.018
	<sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub>	2.023