

# Radioactive Waste Management Limited

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## ***The current position of the GDF siting process in the UK***

*Dean Gentles*

# Map of notional zones in the UK

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"Four countries  
within a country"

# Managing Higher Activity Radioactive Waste - England

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- Unsuccessful in Cumbria in January 2013:
  - The councils believed that there was a need to strengthen the right of withdrawal, to make it legally binding;
  - Clarification of the community benefits;
  - Suitability of the geology in West Cumbria.
- DECC launched a call for evidence, followed by a public consultation to review the siting process for a GDF in the UK, which covered:
  - Decision making and roles in the siting process, including a proposal for there to be a direct test of public support before proceeding with construction of a GDF;
  - Technical delivery of the GDF, including information about geology, inventory of waste and planning issues;
  - Involvement of Communities, including benefits and socio-economic impacts and assessments.

# Siting process review

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- Reconsider the Siting Process as set out in 2008
- NOT a change to MRWS policy
  - Still geological disposal through voluntarism
- **New white paper published in June 2014**
- An optimisation of the process for finding a site for a GDF
- A DECC to lead with significant Radioactive Waste Management Limited role

# GDF Siting Process Launch

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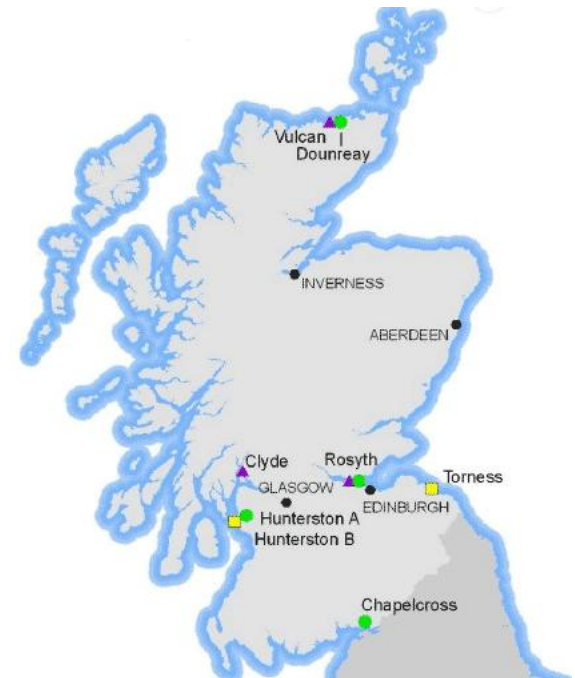
Aim: To successfully implement the revised siting process nationwide, such that a community or communities request to enter the process. This will be achieved by:

- Identifying and securing long-lead items and resources;
- Developing engagement approaches and materials;
- Carrying out awareness raising activities;
- Promoting advocacy for GDF;
- Engaging with potential host communities.

# Managing Higher Activity Radioactive Waste - Scotland

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- Scotland has its own HAW Policy.
- Long term management of HAW should be in near-surface facilities.
- Facilities should be located as near to the site where the waste is produced as possible.
- Developer will need to demonstrate how the facilities will be monitored and how waste packages, or waste, could be retrieved.

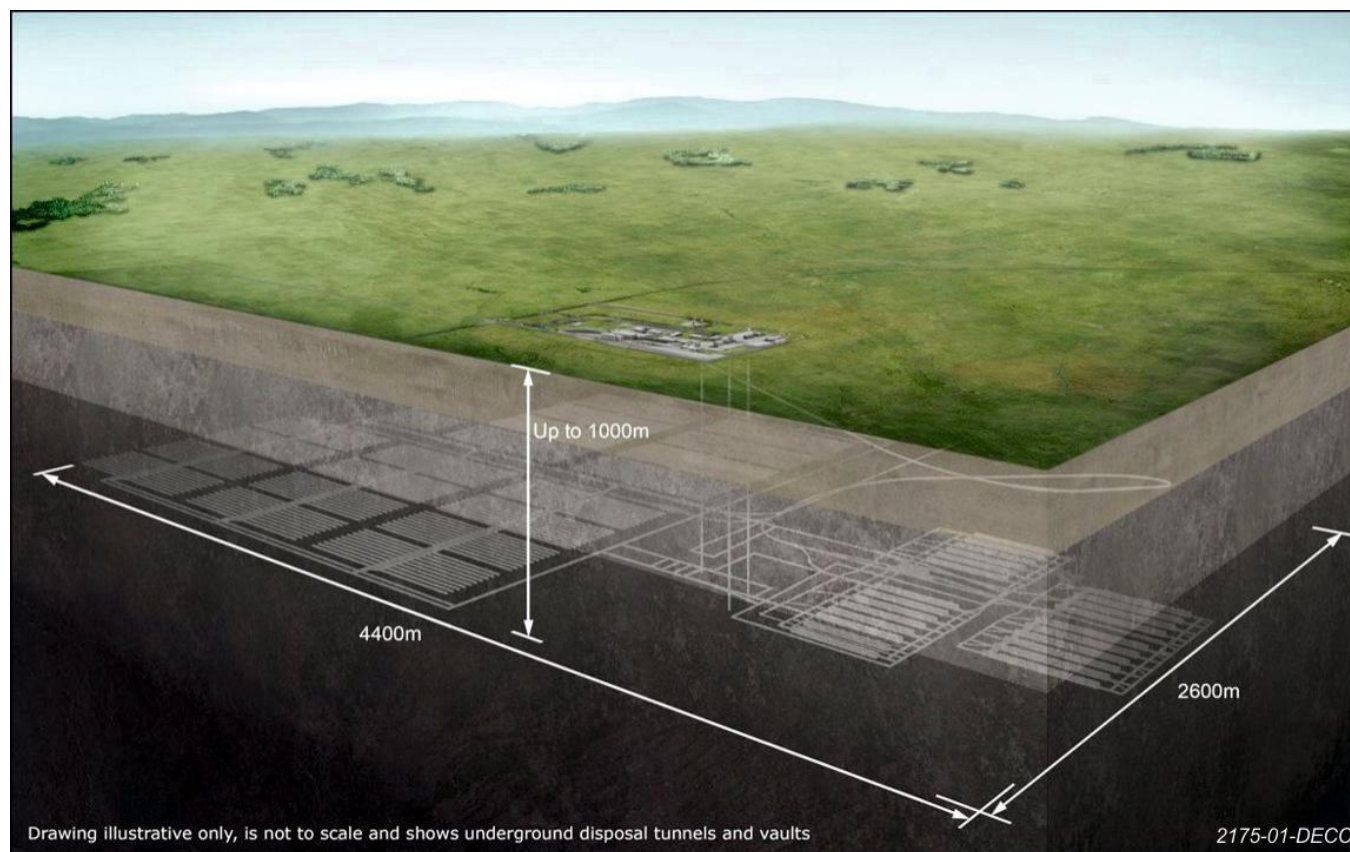


# Managing Higher Activity Radioactive Waste - Wales

- ~~Neither to suppose nor oppose UK Government policy of geological disposal for HAW.~~
- Call for Evidence - Review of current policy on the disposal of HAW - April 2014:
  - Welsh Government changed policy on Nuclear New Build;
  - Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive (2011);
  - DECC restarting the siting process for a GDF in England;
  - CoRWM recommendation;
  - Welsh Government policy was set down in 2008.
- Call for evidence responses by 24th June 2014 - May lead to a future public consultation.

# Current illustrative designs - gDSSC update

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# Formation of Radioactive Waste Management Limited

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- Radioactive Waste Management Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NDA established on 1st April 2014
- Operating as a 'Prospective SLC' since December 2009
- Top down review of roles and structure in 2011
  - Reviewed again in 2013
- Approximately 100 members of staff

# Why?

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- Commitment to Regulators;
- Increased separation between NDA and LoC process;
- Ability to hold licences/permits;
- Momentum in programme;
- Credible programme to support disposal of legacy and New Build wastes;
- Avoid local community decisions;
- A new organisation to deliver the new siting process.

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Any Questions?