Preparation for Site Characterisation

Radioactive Waste Management, UK

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03/12/2018
Current Status of the UK Programme

• Initial actions based on 2014 Government Policy
  – national geological screening
  – clarity on how to work with communities
  – amendments to national land-use planning

• Based on communities willingness to participate

• Following completion of these initial actions the siting process will begin
Site Characterisation – project stages

Preparation
- National engagement
- National Geological Screening
- Preparation for site characterisation
- Generic safety and design work

Down-selection
- Desk & feasibility studies
- Community Engagement

Site investigations
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- Site-specific Safety Case & Engineering Design work
National Geological Screening
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Site Characterisation – project stages

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- Preparation for site characterisation
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Site Characterisation Objectives

1. Provide the necessary geoscientific data at up to two sites, to satisfy the requirements of the design, safety case and environmental assessment teams

2. Make a recommendation on which sites to take forward into the construction phase

3. Ensure communities remain engaged in the process and demonstrate a positive test of public support
Needs-driven Site Characterisation Requirements

• RWM uses requirements management to develop a needs driven site characterisation programme

• Information requirements are set out for:
  ▪ Safety Case
  ▪ Design
  ▪ Environmental Assessment

• Aim is to ensure that the information gathered is focused in relation to its end use
Disposal System Specification

- Design Information Requirements
- Safety Case Information Requirements
- Environmental Assessment Information Requirements

Parameters to be measured

- Desk Study
- Non-Intrusive Surface-based investigations
- Intrusive Surface-based investigations
- Underground Investigations

Interpretation and Modelling of Data
Planning for different scenarios

High Strength Rocks

Clay-rich Rocks

Halite
Planning for different scenarios

**Onshore**
- Large area investigated within community
- Small area investigated within community

**Coastal / Inshore**
- Investigation for facility is close to the shore
- Investigation for facility is between 10 & 20km from the coast
Next steps

• Develop costs and schedules for different geological and geographical scenarios to understand the implications on the site characterisation programme

• Raise awareness of the National Geological Screening outputs to provide the public with information about geology in their area

• Engage with communities following launch of the siting process and evaluate potential sites