Safe solutions for radioactive waste

Newsletter

Issue #14
July 2025

Message from the IGD-TP Chair

Markéta Dohnálková,
IGD-TP Chair

Dear Reader,

The year 2025 represents a new phase in the leadership of the Implementing Geological Disposal Technology Platform (IGD-TP), as the Czech Radioactive Waste Repository Authority (SÚRAO) has assumed the role of Chair for the period 2025–2026. It is a privilege to follow the work of our Finnish colleagues at Posiva, whose leadership has supported the platform in a period of increased strategic focus and European cooperation, particularly through active involvement in joint initiatives such as the EURAD programme.

As the new Chairing organisation, SÚRAO brings to the platform the perspective of a waste management programme in the intermediate phase of development. The Czech deep geological repository programme is currently in the process of site selection, with a final and a backup site to be designated by 2030. We therefore represent not only our own national context, but also the broader group of programmes across Europe that are advancing steadily yet still face significant challenges on the path toward implementation.

We remain committed to the IGD-TP's mission – fostering collaboration, sharing experience, and supporting implementers across Europe. The platform continues to meet regularly twice a year, and it was a pleasure to reconnect with Executive group members at our spring meeting in Stockholm. We now look forward to welcoming you to Prague this autumn for the IGD-TP Exchange Forum 2025, which will offer a valuable opportunity to exchange knowledge, build partnerships, and discuss future R&D priorities.

This year is also important as preparations for the second phase of the European Joint Programme on Radioactive Waste Management (EURAD-2) are well underway. The IGD-TP, representing the Waste Management Organisation (WMO) College, is actively involved in shaping the programme's strategic direction and supporting the selection of new Work Packages for the second wave.

By contributing to this effort, the IGD-TP helps ensure that the voices of implementers – both advanced and evolving – are well reflected in the future European RD&D priorities and activities. The second wave of EURAD-2 represents an important opportunity to strengthen collaboration and deliver focused research that supports safe and effective geological disposal.

We appreciate your continued engagement in this shared journey.

Contents

Editorial team of the IGD-TP Secretariat and project co-ordinators

IGD-TP Exchange Forum

RD&D challenges from siting to industrialisation

We are delighted to announce that the IGD-TP will hold its 10th international Exchange Forum on research, development and demonstration (RD&D) challenges in geological disposal programmes for radioactive waste. Hosted by SÚRAO in November 2025, the event is open to all IGD-TP members and stakeholders interested in geological disposal of radioactive waste.

Geological disposal projects are first-of-a-kind projects, span several decades, and are multi-billion endeavours. National waste management organisations (WMOs) are at different stages on the path to implementing geological disposal and each stage (site identification and investigation, licensing, construction and operation) has particular challenges. The national WMOs will share RD&D challenges that each is facing in their current activities and how these are being approached. The Exchange Forum is an opportunity to share lessons learnt and to discuss future research plans.

Prague Castle, located with walking of the event hotel.

Exchange Forum Programme

25–27th November 2025

Day 1: WMO updates on R&D priorities for site identification and panel sessions

Day 1 evening: Conference dinner

Day 2 morning: WMO updates on R&D priorities after site selection and panel session

Day 2 afternoon: EURAD-2 Wave 2 proposal meeting

Day 3: Optional excursions

Our 10th Exchange Forum provides an excellent opportunity to:

- Discuss new issues and the status of WMO programmes.
- Learn about WMO emerging and ongoing RD&D priorities.
- Explore the potential for collaborative research with IGD-TP members and the broader radioactive waste community.
- Present a poster on your work in the field of geological disposal and take advantage of great networking opportunities.
- Visit research and disposal facilities in the Czech Republic.
- Experience the wonderful city of Prague.

Poster sessions will be held to showcase radioactive waste management RD&D that aligns to the IGD-TP's Strategic Research Agenda. Exchange Forum participants are strongly encouraged to submit poster applications that are consistent with this goal.

Talks and posters presented at the Exchange Forum will be made available online after the event where possible.

IGD-TP Exchange Forum

Day 3 tour Options

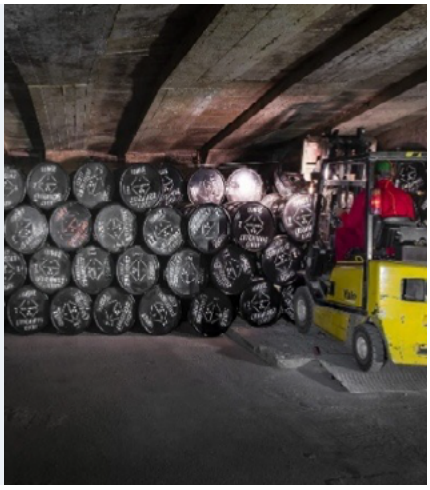
Access gallery BZ-XIIJ of Bukov URF I

Bukov Underground Research Laboratory pvpbukov.cz

The Bukov underground research facility (URF) is located 550 metres below the surface in the former Rožná uranium mine, which was the last uranium mine in operation in Central and Western Europe before its closure in 2017. Experiments are conducted at the Bukov URF aimed at obtaining data on the behaviour of the rock environment at the expected depth of the future deep geological repository. It is also used for in-situ testing of the materials being considered for the construction of the engineered barriers. The first section of the Bukov URF was put into operation in 2017 and the second section of the underground complex, which includes 13 test chambers, opened earlier this year. This will be a full-day tour including lunch. There are 20 places available.

Richard Repository surao.gov.cz

The Richard Repository has been in operation for over 60 years. Formerly a limestone mine, a secret Nazi factory and currently the oldest waste disposal facility in the Czech Republic, the Richard facility has been used for the disposal of intermediate and low-level radioactive waste since 1964. The facility is located near to the historic town of Litoměřice and is used for the disposal of so-called institutional waste (i.e. materials from the industry, healthcare and research sectors). Some of the waste is accepted for storage (rather than disposal) pending its final disposal in the planned Czech deep geological repository. The Richard disposal facility also includes a certified testing facility for waste packages and special form radioactive substances. This will be a half-day tour and will include lunch. There are 20 places available.



Richard Repository

Research Centre Řež Hot Cell

Research Centre Řež cvrez.cz

Building on the experience of its parent company ÚJV Řež, the Research Centre Řež (CVŘ) was established in 2002 to undertake research and development in the energy sector, with a relatively broad scope, especially in the nuclear field. A modern research base with expert teams, CVŘ also has a unique experimental infrastructure including the LVR 15 and LR-0 research reactors, process loops, hot cells and a full range of state-of-the-art laboratories. This will be a half-day tour (finishing mid-afternoon) and will include lunch. There are 32 places available.

IGD-TP Exchange Forum

Practical Details

Registration: Registration for the Exchange Forum is now open via the IGD-TP website. The total number of participants is limited. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis with a final decision by the Organising Committee.

Registration fee: The costs of the Forum are subsidised by the IGD-TP. However, a small fee is required to support the event:

- The Exchange Forum registration fee (€150). Includes participation, refreshments and lunch on both days, and the conference dinner on 25 November. A reduced fee of €50 is available for students.
- The optional technical tour on 27 November is €50. This includes return transport from Prague, refreshments and lunch.

For those attending only the EURAD Wave 2 meeting there is no registration fee. This meeting starts after lunch on 26 November.

Exchange Forum venue: The Forum will be held at the OREA Hotel Pyramida Praha, Bělohorská 24, 169 00 Praha 6, Česká Republika https://www.orea.cz/en/hotel-pyramida. Travel directions and advice are provided on the IGD-TP website.

Accessibility: We would like to make this event as accessible as possible. We strongly encourage you to contact us if you need further information or have any queries.

Please note that for the optional tours on day 3, participants should be in good physical condition as there are some steps to take and a certain distance to walk. There are also some participant exclusions for tours involving radiation-controlled eras; please see https://igdtp.eu/event/igd-tp-exchange-forum-10/ for further details.

Accommodation: The cost of accommodation is not included in the registration fee and must be booked and paid directly by the participant. However, a discount on the room rate at the event hotel is available to registered participants (the code will be provided during registration).

You will find more accommodation and travel options, as well as Prague attractions and events information, at the official tourism website: https://prague.eu/en/

IGD-TP Exchange Forum

Key Dates

14 March 2025	First announcement
1 June 2025	Registration opened
2 June 2025	Second announcement and call for posters
29 August 2025	Poster abstract submission deadline
30 September 2025	Selected poster presenters informed
1 October 2025	Registration closes
31 October 2025	Final programme published
15 November 2025	Deadline to supply presentation files
25–27 November 2025	IGD-TP Exchange Forum
23 December 2025	Event summary, presentations and posters published on www.igdtp.eu

Further information will be added to the IGD-TP website as it becomes available https://igdtp.eu/event/igd-tp-exchange-forum-10/.

For any other questions please contact secretariat@igdtp.eu

OREA Hotel Pyramida, Praha

Update from France

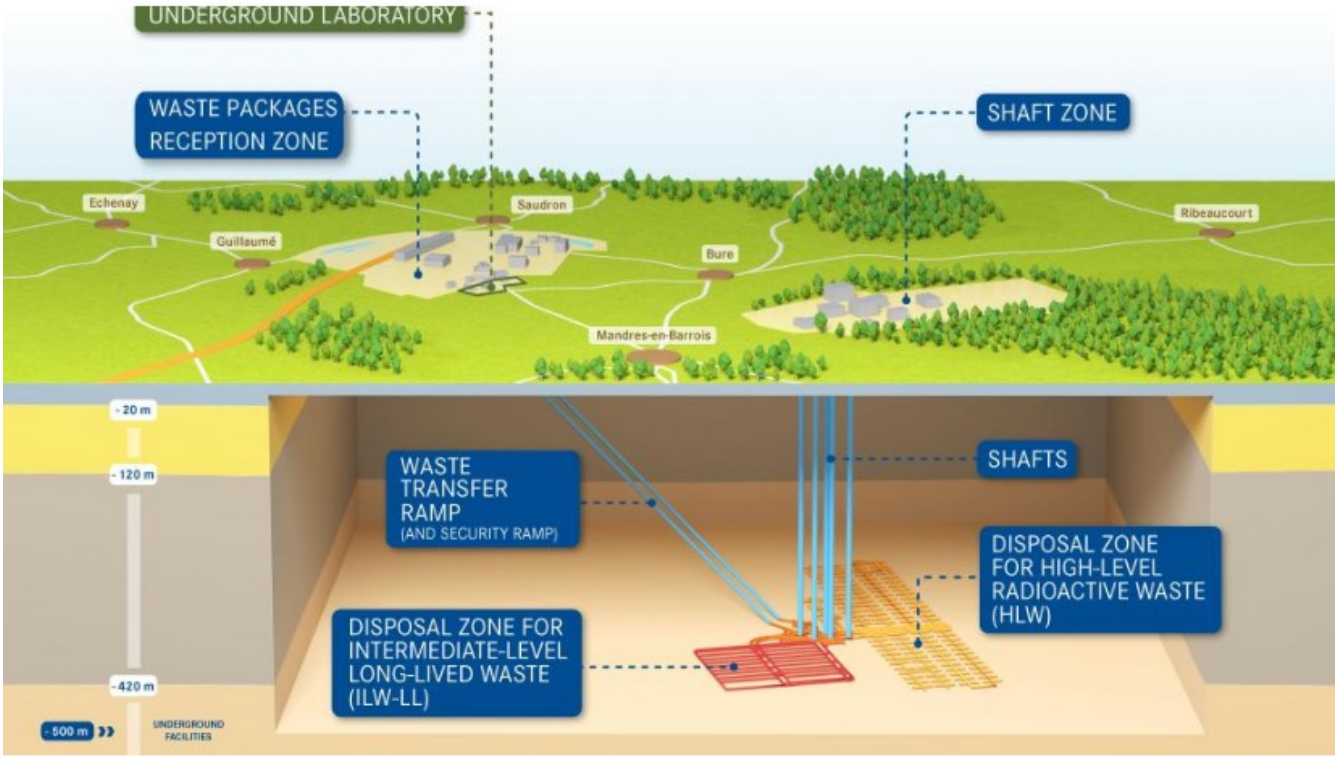
Cigéo Costing

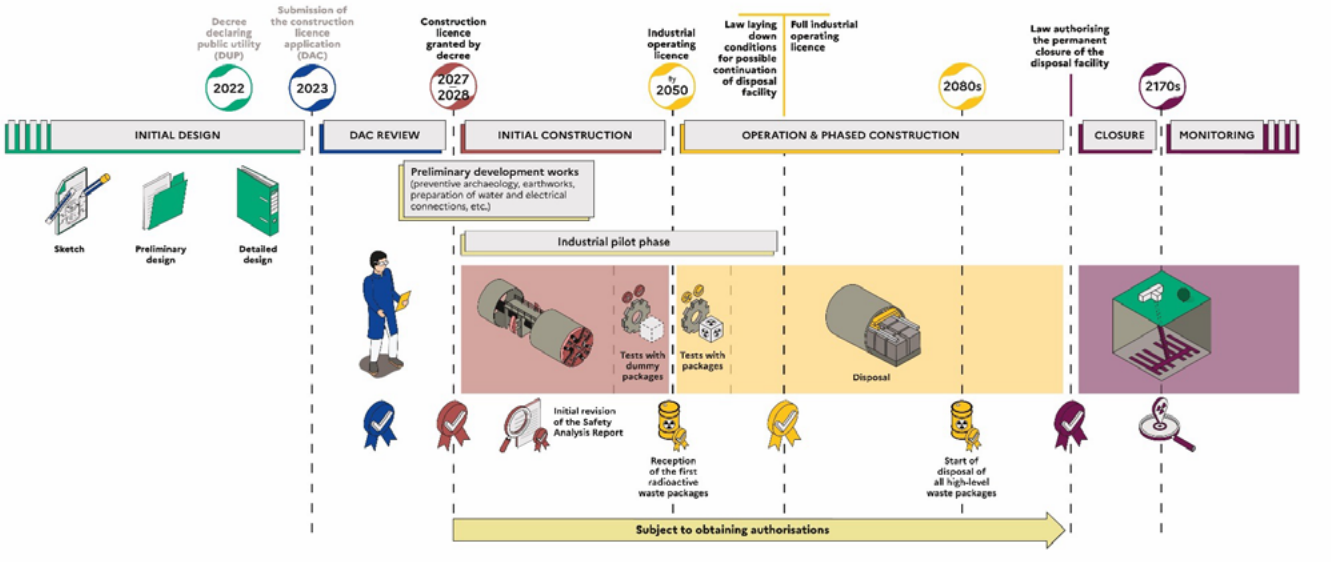
In France, while Andra is responsible for the operation, monitoring and safety of the repositories, radioactive waste producers remain responsible for their own radioactive waste and must have the financial capacity to ensure its long-term management, in accordance with the "polluter pays" principle enshrined in the Environmental Code. Establishing the cost of Cigéo by regulation provides waste producers with a benchmark against which they can establish the provisions they are obliged to set aside to finance the project.

In May 2025, Andra submitted a report to the French Minister for Industry and Energy, updating the costing assessment for Cigéo. The costing file is one of the main inputs for setting the cost of Cigéo, which will be decided by the Minister by the end of 2025, after receiving comments from the main waste producers (EDF, Orano and CEA) and the opinion of the French Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection Authority (ASNR). This decree provides waste producers with a reference enabling them to establish the provisions they are obliged to set aside for the management of their waste.

Andra's costing is an estimate of all costs over the entire lifetime of Cigéo for the disposal of its reference inventory. It covers a period of more than 150 years, from January 2016 to the planned closure of the site by 2170, and includes the costs of the initial construction of the repository, its operation, progressive development, maintenance, security and closure, as well as the costs of additional studies and research identified at this stage of the project, not forgetting the costs of insurance, taxes and duties associated with the entire project. Assessing the cost of Cigéo is a complex and unprecedented exercise, based on assumptions about the cost of labour, materials, energy and taxation.

This dossier presents an assessment based on the project design at the stage of construction licence application (DAC) currently under examination, as well as on three optimised configurations. Throughout the design of Cigéo, Andra has carried out, and continues to carry out, a process of technical optimisation aimed in particular at controlling the long-term costs of Cigéo. This approach consists of listing various optimisations that could be implemented during construction of the repository or during its gradual development. These optimisations must meet the same safety and security requirements as those retained in the design presented in the DAC file. These optimisations may involve the integration of new, higher-performance materials, changes in the length of disposal cells, or the architecture of surface buildings. The optimisations envisaged at this stage of the project have been grouped into three configurations on





the basis of various criteria: maturity of development, technical relevance, safety, economic interest and compatibility with other optimisations. These three configurations have been costed by adapting quantities or unit prices according to the nature of the optimisations considered (choice of alternative materials, lengthening of disposal cells, etc.). If these optimisations are selected, they will have to be the subject of further studies and an authorisation process with a view to their integration into the Cigéo configuration.

In view of the extraordinary duration of the project and the absence of any comparable example, the costing of Cigéo cannot be summed up in a single figure: it is given in the form of high, intermediate and low estimates, based on different assumptions, to inform the decision to draw up the decree setting the cost of Cigéo.

According to Andra's estimate, the overall cost of Cigéo over the entire lifetime of the facility (construction, operation, closure, R&D), i.e. more than 150 years, is between €26.1 and €37.5 billion (2012) depending on the various assumptions. The cost of the initial construction is in the order of €7.9 to €9.6 billion (2012).

The 2025 costing file has also been drawn up in line with an updated provisional schedule for Cigéo (see figure below). The timetable has been updated to take into account the additional time required to carry out the preliminary design studies (including the optimisations identified in 2016 in the previous cost estimate), to prepare the construction licence application, and to review the application. It also takes into account feedback from the construction of major projects, in particular underground works. Subject to the issue of the decree authorising the creation of Cigéo in late 2027/early 2028, the first waste packages are currently scheduled for delivery in 2050. The forecast delivery schedule for the waste packages, drawn up by the producers in conjunction with Andra, suggests that Cigéo will operate for around a century. The dismantling and closure phase will last around 20 years.

The decree setting the cost of Cigéo, expected by the end of 2025, will serve as a reference for the continuation of the project until its next evaluation. It provides Andra with a target for steering the project, and waste producers with a reference enabling them to establish the provisions they are obliged to set aside for the management of the radioactive waste they produce, and to top up the dedicated funds they set up under the supervision of the State and the ASNR, to secure their financing.

For more information on the Cigeo programme see: **https://international.andra.fr/solutions-long-lived-waste/cigeo**

Update from Czechia

SÚRAO

Selecting the Final Site for the Czech Deep Geological Repository

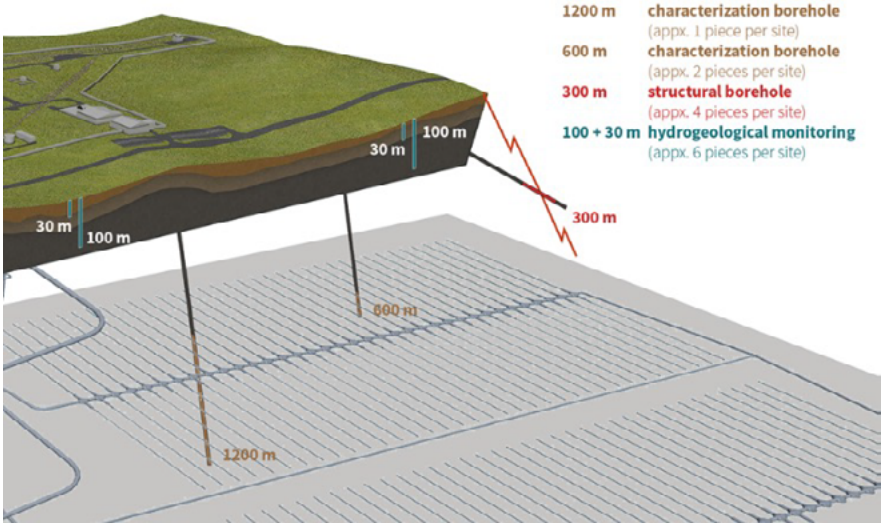
The Czech Republic is on track to select the final and backup site for its deep geological repository (DGR), in accordance with national strategy and government resolution. This repository will ensure the safe, long-term isolation of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and other high-level and intermediate-level radioactive waste that cannot be disposed of in near-surface facilities.

In line with the Czech national programme, the selection of both the final and backup sites is expected by 2030. The backup site will remain part of the programme throughout the subsequent phases as a contingency in case the primary site proves unsuitable during licensing or construction. The planned timeline includes submission of the siting licence application in 2032, start of construction in 2037, facility operation in 2050, and anticipated closure of the repository around the year 2167.

Methodological Framework and Criteria for Site Selection

In 2024, the Radioactive Waste Repository Authority (SÚRAO) published a methodology for the site selection process, which defines the framework for comparing the four candidate sites. This methodology sets out a stepwise process in which exclusionary criteria, conceptual compatibility, and a detailed evaluation using six groups of key criteria and indicators are used to assess technical feasibility and long-term safety.

Each site will be subject to individual feasibility studies, including surface and underground geological data from the depth of the planned disposal horizon. The evaluation is based on a structured identification of advantages and disadvantages in each criterion area. This qualitative comparison ensures a transparent and consistent evaluation across sites, while taking into account differences in data availability and specific geological conditions.



The selection of the final and backup sites for the deep geological repository in the Czech Republic is supported by a comprehensive geological research programme conducted at all four candidate sites. This programme includes deep boreholes reaching to the depth of the future repository, geophysical investigations, hydrogeological and seismic monitoring, as well as detailed engineering-geological surveys. The collected data represent a critical input to the site evaluation process and are essential for assessing long-term safety, technical feasibility, and the environmental characteristics of each site. These investigations are already underway and will continue over the next five years, providing robust scientific evidence for the final decision-making process.

Independent Oversight by the Expert Advisory Panel II

To ensure transparency and challenge by independent experts, SÚRAO established the Expert Advisory Panel II. The panel is composed of Czech experts and regional representatives. The Panel plays a supervisory and advisory role throughout the selection process. It reviews technical reports, evaluates the proposed indicators, and comments on the methodological steps. The Panel's input significantly influences SÚRAO's decisions and contributes to the robustness and public credibility of the process.

The final decision on the selection of the repository site will be made by the Government of the Czech Republic by 2030, based on the outcomes of the site evaluation process coordinated by SÚRAO.

For more information see:
https://surao.gov.cz/

Update from Finland

Posiva

Trial Run of Final Disposal

Commissioning of disposal facility for spent nuclear fuel

Site investigations for spent nuclear fuel repository in Olkiluoto crystalline host rock in Finland were initiated almost 40 years ago. Today two nuclear facilities, the encapsulation plant and the underground disposal facility are nearly ready for the operating phase. This is a major achievement which has required extensive amount of R&D work, demonstrations, tests, construction work underground and above ground, system design, system construction and system commissioning whilst complying with all licencing steps.

Posiva submitted the Operating licence application in the end of 2021 to the Ministry of Economy and Employment. Simultaneously, whilst the Finnish Safety Authority STUK is evaluating the safety case and inspecting the commissioning phases Posiva is preparing for the operational phase. One important part of that is the Trial Run of Disposal Facility. The Trial Run consists of demonstrating the whole encapsulation process and underground disposal process utilising production machinery, qualified operators and guidance. The Trial Run of encapsulation plant process was successfully completed in the end of April 2025. The next phase is to continue with the underground trials when the installations systems for Engineered Barrier System components are ready for production.

After the Trial Run the production can be initiated and the spent fuel elements will be safely disposed to the underground repository at the depth of 420 meters during the next ~100 years.

The change from an R&D organisation towards an implementor and licensee is a unique process for whole organisation of Posiva. This transformation takes time but now that it is nearly completed it is a good example for all other WMOs, who needs to do it in future.

The fuel handling chamber in Posiva's encapsulation plant used in Trial Run.

Trial Run of Final Disposal

The Trial Run is carried out considering the operating phase methods, procedures, equipment and personnel in Encapsulation Plant and in Final Disposal Facility. It includes:

- Fuel transports
- Encapsulation
- Final disposal
- Retrieval of a "damaged" canister

4 canisters and about 70 m of the deposition tunnel as well as the deposition tunnel plug are used in the Trial Run.

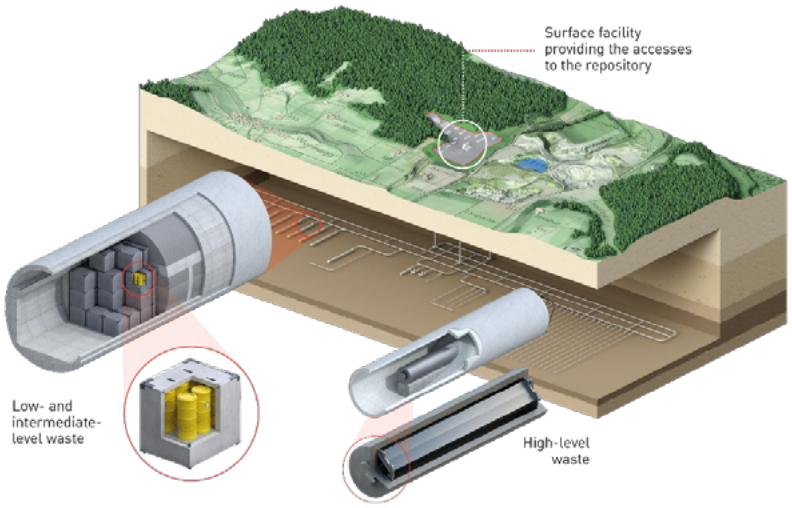
For more information see:
https://www.posiva.fi/

Update from Switzerland

nagra.

Submission of the General Licence Application

Nagra submitted the general licence application for a deep geological repository in Nördlich Lägern in November 2024. In a first step, the authorities checked the application documentation for completeness. Nagra was then asked to revise and clarify a number of points (see box) and has now (June 2025) submitted the revised application to the authorities. At the same time, the entire documentation has been published on a specially developed digital platform.



The digital licence application

On www.drbg.ch, any interested readers can study the entire documentation for both the general licence application for the deep geological repository and that for the encapsulation plant for spent fuel assemblies.

The search function allows readers to browse through the actual applications, the so-called application documentation and all relevant reference reports.

nagra. dRBG v2.0

In line with legal requirements, Nagra would not have to make the application publicly available until 2027, when a three-month public consultation period is foreseen.

"It is important to us that all interested parties can study the application today and without time pressure," explains Nagra CEO Matthias Braun, "which is why we are publishing the documentation now." According to Braun, a project of the century such as the deep geological repository requires not only the review of the supervisory authorities, but also a broad societal debate. The early publication is intended to support and facilitate this debate.

In its application, Nagra demonstrates why it considers Nördlich Lägern the most suitable site and why a repository constructed there can meet the highest safety standards in the long term. In addition, the application includes an outline of the basic features of the project. It also shows that a repository can be constructed and operated safely – even if the task remains challenging. Nagra must also demonstrate in the application how this can be done in a manner that is compatible with environmental protection.

It is now up to the authorities to review the technical content of the documents, says Braun. The Federal Council, Parliament and probably the electorate will then decide on the application.

According to current planning, the Federal Council will decide on the application in 2029 and Parliament in 2030. A national referendum is expected to take place in 2031.

Nagra had to further clarify these points

Among other things, the authorities requested that references to associated technical reports be more clearly labelled in the application documentation. The Environmental Impact Report and the associated specifications had to be supplemented: for example, more details were requested on how construction sites can be designed to be environmentally friendly or which specialists need to be involved during the construction process. Nagra also had to clarify to what extent the protection of thermal water can be assured. The authorities further requested information on what would happen if the disposal reserve that Nagra had applied for were used in full.

Nagra has supplemented and improved the information and submitted the revised application. The authorities will now begin to review the content of the application documentation.

IGD-TP Projects

IGD-TP R&D Activities

The waste management organisations (WMOs) undertake many bilateral and multilateral research activities, some of which are organised through the IGD-TP. The ongoing activities, their objectives and current status are summarised here.

Activity	Objective	WMOs Involved	Status
PCCS – Post-closure criticality safety	Criticality safety over long, post-closure, timescales is unique to geological disposal. This project aims to benefit WMOs by sharing knowledge and approaches to demonstrating criticality safety, including discussion of applied methodologies, knowledge gaps and results.	NWS, ANDRA, Nagra, ENRESA, SKB, PURAM, BGE, ONDRAF/ NIRAS NWMO	16 technical workshops have been held to date on specific topics, with annual physical meetings – the second in-person meeting was hosted by Andra in France in April 2024 and the 3rd will be hosted by PURAM in Budapest in August 2025.
LOMIR - Long-term monitoring of ^{14}C compounds released during corrosion of irradiated metal	This project continues an ongoing corrosion experiment with irradiated stainless steel. Additional sampling will be carried out to i) verify an increase in the 14C content in the gaseous phase with time, ii) verify constant concentration of aqueous 14C-carrying species, and iii) quantify the retention of 60Co by corroding irradiated steel.	Nagra, SKB, BGE	The original end date was December 2024. However, it was agreed to extend the project to December 2026, which will give 10 years of experimental data.
iCHANCE – Chemotoxic and nonradioactive contaminants evaluation	Understanding the non-radiological and chemotoxic properties of radioactive wastes is essential. This project involves sharing knowledge and approaches in evaluation of the transport of chemotoxic and other non-radiological contaminants.	PURAM, Nagra, NWS, COVRA, ONDRAF/ NIRAS, ENRESA, BGE	The final project report is to be submitted for internal review in summer 2025.
Site Characterisation Activity	The project will result in a common understanding of current knowledge, legal requirements, methodologies and technical solutions to site characterisation and uncertainty management in different countries, as well as the transferability of data and information from one site/environment to another. The project will identify possible future activities developed jointly by IGD TP members on 1) advanced site characterisation technologies and/ or 2) limits and possibilities of data and geo-information transferability.	BGE, SÚRAO, ANDRA, ENRESA, Nagra, NWS, ONDRAF/ NIRAS, Posiva, PURAM	An online workshop was held in March 2023. It is proposed that there is an annual exchange workshop held each year. The scope of the 2025 EF considers siting and site characterisation, so a separate meeting is not needed this year; a one-day online workshop in autumn 2026 is planned.

Activity	Objective	WMOs Involved	Status
Research Reactor Fuel Activity	This project considers issues with research reactor fuel including criticality before disposal, disposal canister development, corrosion and gas formation.	COVRA, BGE, Nagra, ONDRAF/ NIRAS, ENRESA	This group does not meet regularly, but the activity is kept open for future information exchange as needed.
NuSalSus: Nuclear Waste Disposal and Sustainability	This project aims to exchange knowledge regarding the sustainable design, construction and operation of nuclear facilities.	ANDRA, BGE, NAGRA, POSIVA, SKB	A workshop was held in June 2024 and a questionnaire circulated. The identified main topics of interest are material development and selection (low-CO2 concrete and low-CO2 steel) and extending life-cycles (re-use of excavated materials and recycling processes). These findings have been sent to participants for review and input on next steps.
RELABEN: Stress relaxation of bentonite at high temperatures	The aim of the project is to share information and results from experiments considering the heating-stimulated time-dependent swelling pressure relaxation of bentonite and its irreversibility.	SURAO, Posiva, SKB, NWMO and NWS	Three meetings have been held to discuss the proposal with potentially interested WMOs. The project is expected to start in September 2025.
Automation and remote control of operational processes in the disposal of radioactive waste	The aim of the project is to (i) gain a common understanding of legal requirements and conditions in the different countries for the use of automated or remote controlled machines in the disposal of radioactive waste, (ii) get an overview of the technologies for radioactive waste management already used or planned at the various WMOs, and (iii) identify opportunities for joint development or knowledge exchange on future projects in the context of automated or remote controlled machines	BGE, Nagra, NWS, SKB, NWMO	Two meetings have been held to discuss the proposal with potentially interested WMOs. The project is expected to start in September 2025.

Secretariat News and Meeting Announcements

Secretariat News

New IGD-TP Members

Since our last newsletter we have welcomed three new organisations to the IGD-TP:

- Hydrobiology WA (Australia) is an environmental consultancy offering services in the physical, biological and chemical processes of environmental systems with a particular emphasis on the aquatic environment. Further information is available at hydrobiology.com
- Jacobs (UK) has experience of working on UK and European geological disposal facility studies, particularly in the field of site characterisation. They are currently completing engineering feasibility studies for NWS. Further information is available at www.jacobs.com
- Nesol – Numerical Engineering Solutions (Switzerland) offer numerical modelling and design optimisation of repository systems, analysis of coupled processes, characterisation of geomaterials for repositories, and laboratory testing of buffer and host-rock materials. Further information is available at www.nesol.net

The IGD-TP now has 137 member organisations from 27 countries active in geological disposal. All our member organisations and their contact points are listed at: igdtp.eu/members

Transfer of IGD-TP chairperson and secretariat roles from Posiva (Tiina Jalonen and Johanna Hansen) to SÚRAO (Markéta Dohnálková and Lucie Hausmannová)

IGD-TP Website

We have continued to develop the activities pages on the IGD-TP website by adding ongoing and collaborative research projects. You can now find project summaries, key reports and links to further information for 91 projects. We also announce events and news relevant to geological disposal research on our website. Please contact the IGD-TP Secretariat **secretariat@igdtp.eu** if you would like to highlight something of interest to our community.

IGD-TP Chair and secretariat handover from Posiva to SURAO

SURAO is chairing the IGD-TP during 2025 and 2026 and the hand-over from Posiva took place at the start of November 2024. The IGD-TP Chair is Markéta Dohnálková and the Secretary General is Lucie Hausmannová. They are supported by Tamara Baldwin and Liz Howett from Galson Sciences Ltd.

The new Chair and Secretary General express sincere thanks to Posiva´s Tiina Jalonen and Johanna Hansen for expert and excellent co-ordination of the European Waste Management Organisations' joint effort for the IGD-TP.

Secretariat News and Meeting Announcements

Other News

43rd IGD-TP Executive Group Meeting

The 43rd IGD-TP EG meeting was held in Stockholm on the 23rd and 24th April 2025.

— We further developed our programme for the IGD-TP Exchange Forum in November – we look forward to seeing you there!

— We discussed plans for WMO College contributions to the upcoming EURAD-2 2nd wave call, as well as proposed and ongoing IGD-TP RD&D activities.

— We also shared news and learning between our WMO members.

IGD-TP Booth at FISA-EURADWASTE 2025

The IGD-TP had a booth at FISA-EURADWASTE, which was a four-day event held in Warsaw 12th- 16th May 2025.

What resonated the most:

— Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) as a part of the energy mix (e.g. BWRX-300 was licensed in April 2025 and is planned to be constructed by 2029 in Ontario, Canada).

— Artificial Intelligence (AI), digitalisation, new technologies and digital twins - bringing new opportunities but also challenges in data security, quality and reliability.

— Young generation and Youth Vision - nuclear engineering is on the rise again and with it a rising need for an educated and high-quality work force. The main focus now should be to make nuclear power and engineering more attractive for young people.

— Trust – the nuclear field is fragile (as seen in the past) and trust is a crucial part of any nuclear project to make them a reality.

Thanks to everyone who stopped by the IGD-TP booth!

Secretariat News and Meeting Announcements

Upcoming Events

EURAD-2 Annual Event No 1
Date: 9th–11th September 2025
Location: Bologna, Italy

safeND 2025
Date: 17th–19th September 2025
Location: Berlin, Germany

Symposium on Information, Data and Knowledge Management for Radioactive Waste: Challenges Across All Timescales
Date: 7th–10th October 2025
Location: Yokohama, Japan

A number of training courses to be held at Grimsel Training Centre
Dates: Various dates between 13th and 29th October 2025
Location: Grimsel Test Site near Guttannen, Switzerland

9th International Workshop on Long Term Prediction of Corrosion in Nuclear Waste Systems
Date: 3rd–7th November 2025
Location: Vienna, Austria

International High Level Radioactive Waste Management (IHLRWM 2025)
Date: 9th–12th November 2025
Location: Washington DC, USA

IAEA: Technical Meeting on Establishing Site Selection Criteria and their Application in the Siting Process for a Deep Geological Disposal Facility
Date: 10th–14th November 2025
Location: Vienna, Austria

IAEA: Technical Meeting on the Decision-making Process and Roles of Licence Holders and Regulators during Geological Disposal Development
Date: 24th–28th November 2025
Location: Madrid, Spain

The 10th IGD-TP Exchange Forum: RD&D challenges from siting to industrialization
Date: 25th–27th November 2025
Location: Prague, Czechia

IAEA: Technical Meeting on the Research and Development Programme Supporting the Development of Geological Disposal
Date: 10th–12th December 2025
Location: Vienna, Austria

Waste Management Symposium 2026
Date: 8th–12th March 2026
Location: Phoenix, USA

Safe solutions
for radioactive waste

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