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JUST PUBLISHED

EXPERT REVIEW GIVES HIGH MARKS TO A SWISS SAFETY STUDY ON A RADIOACTIVE WASTE DISPOSAL CONCEPT

The OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) has just released a report entitled *Safety of Disposal of Spent Fuel, High-level Waste and Long-lived Intermediate Level Waste in Switzerland*. This document brings together the results of an international, independent peer review that examined the post-closure radiological safety assessment for disposal in the Opalinus Clay of the Zürcher Weinland. The original safety report was prepared by the Swiss National Co-operative for the Disposal of Radioactive Waste (Nagra).

The main appraisal of the experts was that the Nagra safety report:

- shows strength and quality, and is based on sound methodology;
- is a remarkably mature document considering the current stage of development of the Swiss programme. In particular, Nagra presented a sound and practical disposal project based on a specific realisation of the multi-barrier concept. A substantial body of research results and site-specific information has been established, and clear evidence exists that carefully thought-out procedures have been applied for the management of uncertainties. Additional research to further characterise and reduce uncertainties is also well thought-out and ongoing;
- will provide important support to current discussions in Switzerland on future directions of the high-activity and long-lived waste programme.

The review was carried out at the request of the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (BFE).

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SAFETY OF DISPOSAL OF SPENT FUEL, HLW AND LONG-LIVED ILW IN SWITZERLAND
ISBN 92-64-02063-2, 124 pages.

Please quote the title and reference in any review.

Safety of Disposal of Spent Fuel, HLW and Long-lived ILW in Switzerland is available free online at www.nea.fr or in paper format on request from the OECD/NEA Publications Office, Le Seine St. Germain, 12 boulevard des Isles, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux, France (nea@nea.fr).
The same document is also available in German.