

International Conference on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, Decommissioning, Environmental Protection and Remediation: Ensuring Safety and Enabling Sustainability



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ASN's experience on regional and international cooperation concerning deep geological repository

In accordance with its commitments towards developing the sustainable and responsible use of nuclear energy, France is one of the most advanced programs for deep geological disposal of radioactive wastes. This project, Cigéo, is the outcome of more than 25 years of R&D, 3 laws passed in 1991, 2006 and 2016, and 2 nationwide public debates held in 2005 and 2013.

The French radioactive waste management agency, Andra, submitted Cigéo's construction permit application in January 2023, thereby achieving a major step in the project development.

Because of their unique nature, DGR is the subject of much international discussion and shared experience around the world. ASN has participated in several discussions including AIEA WGs, WENRA, DGRRF and bilateral exchanges.

In 2016, the ASN requested a review of Cigéo Safety Options Report by the IAEA, with a view to benefiting from the expertise and feedback of international experts with experience on similar programs.

The proposed document includes details of the shared international feedback acquired by ASN and focuses on the implementation of this review, the main conclusions of the expert team and shows how this review will provide additional information for the review of construction permit applications.

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