

Track 4 - Integrating the views of society into decision-making considering technical, environmental, social, and economic factors

Wider society's viewpoint is an important consideration to ensure the continued support of peaceful nuclear power generation (PNPG). History shows that lack of support and understanding has influenced decision-making and impeded projects. With that in mind the paper focuses on how the views of society could influence, and be implicated in, the decision-making process within the field of radioactive waste management (RWM). A recently published study on radioactive waste classification schemes in the European Union, that partly involved a public survey, found that 82% of respondents thought all radioactive waste was dangerous. It is significant considering many stakeholders are seeking public consultations as they aim to develop projects such as deep geological disposal facilities. Opposition to such projects could impact important decisions such as siting etc. This leading example provides a view on how interested parties interact with an array of factors that influence the implementation RWM solutions.