43rd Meeting of the Waste Safety Standards Committee

12 – 15 June 2017

Agenda item W7.7
New IAEA Initiatives/Projects within the Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Management Unit

Alena Zavazanova / Gerard Bruno
Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Management Unit
Department of Nuclear Safety and Security
New projects managed by the NSRW


• Working Group on Liabilities & Responsibilities for All Phases of Geological Disposal

Contact:
Ms. Alena Zavazanova, NSRW-WES, email: A.Zavazanova@iaea.org, T : (+43-1) 2600-22710
Background information

• How regulator can make a decision at different points in the licensing process, on the basis of remaining identified uncertainties, but anticipating that these uncertainties will probably be appropriately managed in the continuation of the development of the disposal facility?

• This was identified during the International Conference on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management, held 21-25 November 2016, in Vienna, Austria, as a major point to further study.
Background information

- Regulators should develop processes to ensure mutual understanding between regulators and applicant, while rigorously maintaining their independence, drawing on the fundamental Safety Principles and on the Safety Requirements outlined in GSR Part 1.

- Regulators should continue to collaborate internationally on regulatory matters, including a consistent approach to licensing of initial steps of the establishment of a disposal facility while uncertainties remain around its final performance, and in the licensing approach to shared (between countries) facilities, should plans for the establishment of such facilities go ahead.
“Each of the licensing decisions will have to be taken under some level of uncertainty as the safety case for the disposal concept is still evolving through the early stages. Regulator visibility and engagements help building confidence in the decision making process under such circumstances.”
Aim of the CS:
- further brainstorm about the scope of the project, specify the different topics to address, the working process and the duration of the project. The overall objective of the consultancy is to draft preliminary Terms of reference for the project that will be shared to the participants of a technical meeting that will take place from 6 to 10 November 2017, at IAEA HQ in Vienna, to launch the project.

1st plenary TM: 6 -10 November 2017 (IAEA HQ)
Working Group on Liabilities & Responsibilities for All Phases of Geological Disposal

Contact:
Ms. Alena Zavazanova, NSRW-WES, email: A.Zavazanova@iaea.org, T : (+43-1) 2600-22710
As a consequence of the iterative approach to the development of the safety case, the relative importance of the arguments that are included in the safety case, and the level of scrutiny to which they are subjected by the regulatory body and other interested parties (which may change overtime), should commensurate with the potential hazard.

Experts will discuss together Liabilities & Responsibilities for all phases of development of Geological Disposal.

CS and TM are planned to be held in 2017, final dates are not yet fixed.
Thank you!