



Relations between the Government, the Regulatory Authorities and national organizations for radioactive waste management in France

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8 June 2010

Technical Meeting on the Establishment of a Radioactive
Waste Management Organization

1



Presentation

1. Presentation of the actors in France

2. Their relations on :

- PNGMDR
- existing radioactive waste disposals
- waste disposals under project
- polluted sites and orphan waste

8 June 2010

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2



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The Government

- Represented by Minister of Ecology, Energy, Sustainable Development and the Sea / Directorate for Energy and Climate
- Defines the general French policy regarding nuclear energy and radioactive waste and materials



Planning Act No. 2006-739 of 28 June 2006 on the Sustainable Management of Radioactive Materials and Waste (2006 Planning Act) and its application decrees



The Government (2)

- Has authority over ANDRA
- Issues major authorizations for radioactive waste installations (decrees), especially authorization of creation, after advice from ASN



The Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)

- From 2006 (TSN Act), ASN is an independent authority run by a five-member commission
- On behalf of the State, ASN regulates nuclear safety and radiation protection, in order to protect workers, patients, the public and the environment from the risks related to nuclear activities and contributes to informing the public
- Five missions defined by the TSN-Act :
 1. Regulation
 2. Authorization
 3. Inspection and sanction
 4. Radiological emergencies management
 5. Information



The Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN) (2)

- ASN objectives regarding waste management :
 - to ensure that each radioactive waste has a safe long-term management solution
 - to ensure that radioactive waste are safely managed in all their life stages (treatment, conditioning, transportation, storage, disposal)



ANDRA

- ANDRA is a public institution created in 1991 who is in charge of design and operation of long term management solutions (disposal centres) for all types of waste and who conducts R&D and studies for this purpose
- The mission of general interest of ANDRA is recognised to manage waste and remediate polluted sites contaminated by radioactive sources when their responsible are in default



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National plan for the management of radioactive materials & waste (PNGMDR)

- The law of 28th June 2006 sets principles, objectives and orientations of the PNGMDR which is updated every 3 years and aims at :
 - seeking long-term management solutions for all radioactive waste and materials
 - ensuring consistency of the overall management of radioactive waste
- PNGMDR is elaborated by the Government and ASN in the framework of a multidisciplinary working group with involvement of many stakeholders. A decree issued by the Government after advice of ASN gives main requirements of this PNGMDR
- ANDRA is a major contributor in PNGMDR elaboration and is in charge of implementing most of its major requirements, especially regarding disposal creation



Existing radioactive waste disposals

- ANDRA is in charge of operation of the three existing waste disposals in France :
 - Very low level waste : Morvilliers disposal facility
 - Low level short-lived waste: Aube disposal facility
 - Low level short-lived waste : Manche disposal facility
- The Government issues major authorizations for those installations, especially authorization of creation, major modifications and authorization to move unto the monitoring phase, after advice from ASN
- ASN controls ANDRA by the mean of dedicated inspections and issues the modification authorizations, except the major ones. ASN defines the rules for these sites (categories of waste, waste acceptance criteria,...)
- The Morvilliers disposal site has not the status of Basic Nuclear Installation and is thus controlled by the local State services

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11



Waste disposals under project

- ANDRA is in charge of finding sites for disposal under project and of designing them by conducting R&D and studies :
 - Geological disposal for high level waste
 - Subsurface disposal for graphite and radium-bearing waste
- The Government confirms the sites proposed by ANDRA for the location of disposals, after advice of ASN
- As for others BNI, ASN will review the safety assessment elaborated by ANDRA for those disposals and will give an advice to the Government that will issue the authorization decree

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12



Polluted sites and orphan waste

- Since the 2006 Act., ANDRA has a mission of general interest to manage waste and remediate polluted sites contaminated by radioactive sources when their responsible are in default
- Funding for this activity is allocated to ANDRA by the Government
- The decision of funding allocation is taken by a dedicated commission. The Government and ASN are members of this commission
- ASN ensures that the remediation criteria for the polluted sites are correctly chosen by ANDRA



Conclusions

- The three French actors have their own scope of responsibility :
 - Government : policy decisions regarding radioactive waste
 - ASN : control of waste producers and of ANDRA
 - ANDRA : industrial operator in charge of waste management
- In the framework of PNGMDR, those three actors interact and seek for waste management long-term solutions that ANDRA has to implement



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15

