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Best Practice in the Management of Site Investigations for Geological Disposal Facilities

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The disposal of intermediate- and high-level radioactive waste requires emplacement in suitably engineered underground facilities in order to ensure an adequate level of isolation and containment for safety and security. We now have several examples of radioactive waste management organisations who have designed and undertaken extensive multi-disciplinary site investigation projects to characterise environments for waste disposal in geological formations. However, many countries requiring such facilities are still to initiate their own investigations. It is therefore timely to compile lessons learnt on the management of site investigations for geological disposal facilities in order to support the sharing of knowledge and provide a platform for well-planned investigations to be undertaken in the future. Consequently, this presentation identifies important considerations associated with the planning and implementation of requirements-driven site investigation projects for geological radioactive waste disposal facilities.

Primary author: Dr DEGNAN, Paul (Catalystra)

Presenter: Dr DEGNAN, Paul (Catalystra)

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