

Question 1: To what extent do you think our proposed approach to providing national-scale existing information about geology relevant to long-term safety is appropriate? Please give your reasons.

It seems appropriate, but is outside my area of expertise.

Question 2: To what extent do you think that the proposed national information sources are appropriate and sufficient for this exercise? Please give your reasons.

They seem appropriate. Section 30A of the Planning Act 2008 declares that boreholes of depth at least 150m and GDF at at least 200m will have to use the Act to obtain consent. The information sources should therefore correspond to these depths.

Question 3: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposed form of the outputs from geological screening? What additional outputs would you find useful?

It would be useful to have a single map for each region showing the suitable/unsuitable land for each of the five factors overlaid, so that land that is suitable (or at least of unknown suitability) under all five factors is easily understandable. Even though the natural processes data is only available at national level, it would be useful if it were shown on regional maps as for the other four factors for consistency.

Question 4: Do you have any other views on the matters presented in the draft Guidance?

If it transpires that a lot of data is unknown for one or more of the factors, I would be interested to know if new surveys will be commissioned to fill in the gaps.

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Do you agree to your responses to this consultation being published? Yes