

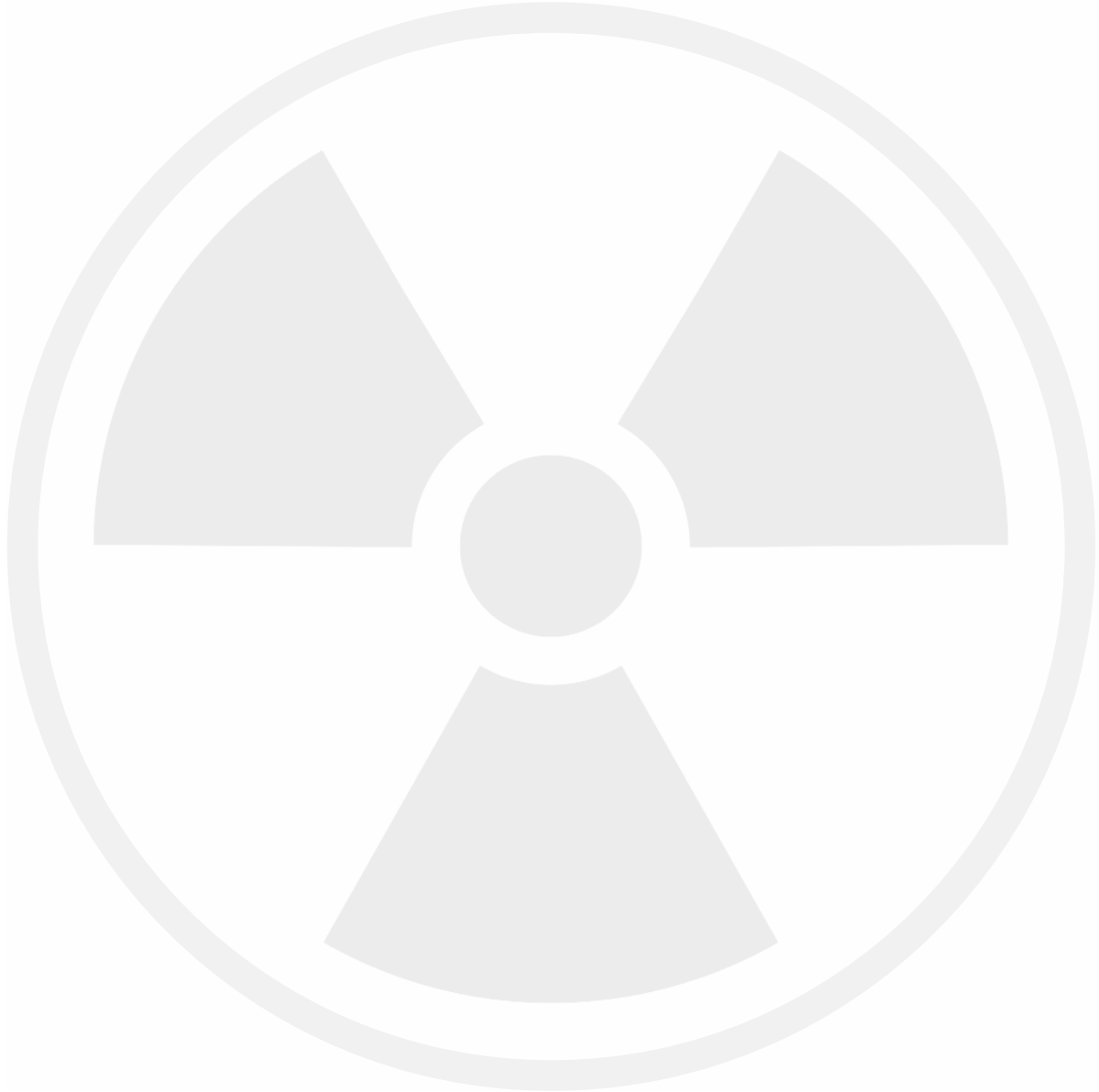


Committee on Radioactive Waste Management

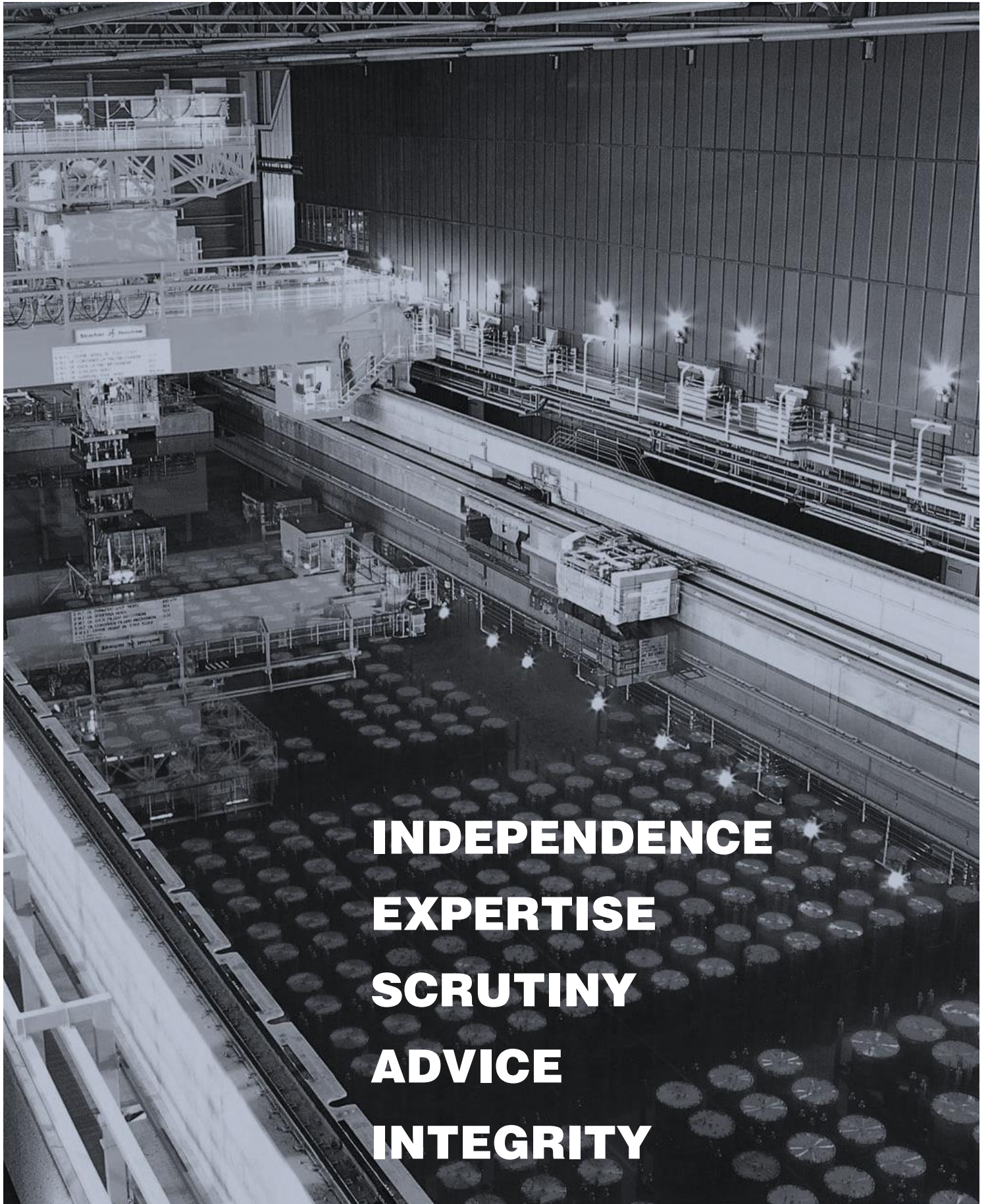
**SEVENTEENTH
ANNUAL
REPORT**

May 2021

Report No 3724



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INDEPENDENCE
EXPERTISE
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ADVICE
INTEGRITY

Table of Contents

06

**Chair's
Statement**

08

**Executive
Summary**

10

Introduction

14

**Work Programme
Delivery 2020-2021**

23

**Forward
Look**

25

**Conclusion &
Recommendations**

27 Annex A: CoRWM Expenditure

29 Annex B: CoRWM Membership

35 Annex C: Sub-Groups

39 Annex D: Meetings Schedule

42 Annex E: List of Acronyms



Trawsfynydd Intermediate
Level Waste Store
Magnox Ltd

Chair's Statement



Sir Nigel Thrift
Chair of the Committee

It is a genuine honour to have been appointed as Chair of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM).

The Committee has a long and extraordinary history of giving independent and impartial scientific and technical advice on the character and disposition of radioactive waste, advice which has had real impacts on government policy. For example, the search for a suitable location for a geological disposal facility (GDF) is now in full swing and two working groups have already been set up. The GDF is a policy which was originally proposed by CoRWM.

Most countries with a nuclear industry have a body like CoRWM which provides government with independent advice on how to deal safely with radioactive waste using the most up-to-date thinking. The Committee is an essential element in building public trust that policy on managing radioactive waste will not be skewed by ideology or faction. I am proud to be a member of a Committee which is such an indispensable public body.

Through the course of this last year, I have seen Committee members working long and hard to advise the UK Government and the devolved administrations on the development and implementation of radioactive waste policy and to both advise Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) and Radioactive Waste Management (RWM) and scrutinise their work as nuclear decommissioning progresses.

Members have given out independent advice on many difficult issues, been prominent in public forums, and taken the initiative where that seemed appropriate.

For example, this year, we have provided scrutiny and advice to BEIS, the Welsh Government and RWM on activities related to the GDF siting process, including appropriate ways of working with communities.

We have provided scrutiny and advice to BEIS and NDA on the storage of radioactive waste, spent fuel and nuclear materials that may be destined for disposal in a GDF, including topics such as GDF costs and the viability of an inshore GDF.

We have advised the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government on the management of radioactive waste.

We have provided responsive advice on proposals to look at the radioactive waste aspects in relation to a proposed review of the UK's Nuclear Decommissioning and Management of Radioactive Substances Policy.

We have regularly interacted with the four main regulators, Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), Environment Agency (EA), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW), as we have worked up a position paper on regulation.

Finally, we have engaged in various outreach activities, including community advice and public talks.

Not only has CoRWM been responsible for giving many different pieces of advice, but it has also had a busy schedule of plenary meetings - ten in all - as well as another 86 virtual meetings.

Chairing a committee like CoRWM means that I have incurred many debts. I should begin by acknowledging the help and guidance of the former Deputy Chair, Professor Campbell Gemmell, over part of the year, and the two new Deputy Chairs, Professor Penny Harvey and Derek Lacey, over the remainder.

I want to thank all of the other Committee members for their energy, enthusiasm, and genuine dedication which has so often been over and above the call of duty. In particular, I would like to thank the members of CoRWM who have stepped down from the Committee during the course of this year, namely Professor Campbell Gemmell and Professor Richard Shaw. They have both given service of the very highest order.

I should also thank the CoRWM Secretariat for their hard work and exceptional dedication over a year in which the Covid-19 epidemic has meant that all Committee working has had to be remote. That said, the Committee has still been able to make a variety of administrative and process improvements as a result of an enhanced Secretariat which now includes a permanent Technical Secretary.

I end by restating how firmly convinced I am that the Committee's work is of national importance for building and maintaining public trust in a clear and coherent radioactive waste strategy, through the timely provision of impartial scientific and technical expert advice on the full range of relevant issues.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nigel Thrift". Below the signature is a long, horizontal blue line that tapers to a point on the right side.

Sir Nigel Thrift
Chair, Committee on Radioactive
Waste Management

Executive Summary

This Annual Report (CoRWM doc. 3724) covers the full range of CoRWM Committee activities in 2020-2021 and the associated documents resulting from them.

Through numerous Committee meetings and events, we have interacted continuously with our sponsors, partners, and the public.

In all, we contributed 280 working days providing advice to the UK Government and the devolved administrations and scrutinising the activities of the NDA and RWM.

Our advice and counsel were sought on many different issues, far too many to list in detail here. However, the highlights included:

- an active programme of outreach which included a series of open plenaries with invited speakers, the publication of a report on the potential for accelerating implementation of a GDF, advice to communities as requested, and public talks;
- advice and support to the NDA and RWM on a variety of issues including community engagement, site evaluation, the transformation of RWM into a delivery body, the storage of radioactive waste, near surface disposal, GDF costs, an inshore GDF, radioactive materials not currently designated as waste, and forging a single radioactive waste strategy for the whole inventory with appropriate measures of progress, as well as responding in detail to the NDA Strategy Consultation and a number of other consultations;
- advice and support to the Scottish and Welsh Governments on a range of different issues;
- advice on the radioactive waste aspects of the proposed review of UK Nuclear Decommissioning and Managing Radioactive Substances Policy;
- regular interaction with the four regulators, ONR, EA, SEPA and NRW, in order to produce a position paper on Policy, Legal and Regulatory Issues for a GDF and Associated Radioactive Waste Management Issues; and
- working up three new position papers for publication in 2021-22.

Our work programme for 2021-22 (CoRWM doc. 3543) shows another year of concentrated activity ahead.

FED DRUM NO.

0012

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7/3/12



Fuel Element Debris (FED) waste from
Bradwell - ILW

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This is the seventeenth Annual Report of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM). It describes the Committee's work in the financial year from April 2020 to March 2021 and outlines CoRWM's current views on the status of UK Government and devolved administrations' plans and arrangements for the long-term management of radioactive wastes.

Scope of CoRWM's Work

- 1.2 CoRWM's sponsors are the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) of the UK Government, the Scottish Government, the Welsh Government and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) in Northern Ireland. The Committee's work programme for 2019-21 (CoRWM doc. 3397) was agreed with its sponsors and carried out within CoRWM's agreed budget (Annex A).
- 1.3 The purpose of the Committee is to give independent advice, based upon its remit and utilising the skills and expertise of its members to provide informed scrutiny of the available evidence to UK Government and devolved administration Ministers, on the management of radioactive waste arising from civil, and where relevant defence, nuclear programmes, including storage and disposal.
- 1.4 CoRWM's objectives are to provide independent evidence-based advice:
- a) To Ministers of the UK Government and devolved administrations, NDA and RWM on proposals, plans and programmes to deliver geological disposal, together with robust interim storage, for the UK's higher activity radioactive waste; and
 - b) On other radioactive waste management issues as requested by sponsor Ministers, including advice requested by the Scottish Government in relation to its policy for the management of radioactive wastes.

- 1.5 CoRWM's Framework Document can be found on its website¹.
- 1.6 In fulfilling its remit to provide independent and evidence-based advice, CoRWM is expected to maintain an independent overview of issues relevant to the delivery of UK Government and devolved administrations' radioactive waste management programmes. It should bring to the attention of sponsor Ministers issues that it considers to be either:
- a) positive and worthy of note; or
 - b) concerns that, in the Committee's opinion, need to be addressed.
- 1.7 During its work in the past year, CoRWM has primarily engaged with officials within BEIS, Scottish Government, Welsh Government, the NDA and RWM. RWM is the public sector developer for any geological disposal facility infrastructure. The Committee has also engaged with officials in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland and the nuclear safety, security, and environmental regulators.
- 1.8 The latest work programme for 2021-2022 will be published on the CoRWM website once it has been formally approved.

CoRWM Membership

- 1.9 Membership of the Committee has changed during the year with two members leaving. Andrew Walters's membership has been extended for another nine months (until September 2021).
- 1.10 Accordingly, three new members are being sought through an open and transparent recruitment process.
- 1.11 The new members appointed in late 2019 and early 2020 have integrated exceptionally well. They are all proving to be a substantial asset, adding their talents to those of the existing members and producing a real and palpable hum of activity.

¹ Available on CoRWM webpage:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/committee-on-radioactive-waste-management/about/terms-of-reference>

CoRWM's Outreach Activities

- 1.12 The Committee has remained committed to holding plenary meetings in public despite the challenges of the current year.
- 1.13 CoRWM held three plenary meetings in September, November and March of the Financial Year 2020-2021, with presentations by Geraldine Thomas, Neil Hyatt, and Claes Thegerström respectively, all of which were open to members of the public. The minutes are issued via the CoRWM website².
- 1.14 Members have presented at a large number of events run by other organisations, including NDA and Nuleaf. CoRWM considers it important for the Committee to engage fully with a range of stakeholders to gain an understanding of their views and concerns on radioactive waste management in the UK and to present CoRWM's conclusions on a number of issues.
- 1.15 Members also presented to the Allerdale GDF Working Group.
- 1.16 Over the coming year the Committee will be experimenting with different kinds of events that it is hoped will engage the public more deeply in the work of the Committee.
- 1.17 The last year has seen the reorganisation and redesign of CoRWM's website. It is now less formal and much more accessible. A new CoRWM video has also been produced which provides a brief introduction to the Committee's work.
- 1.18 All of the 1,500 plus open documents which comprise CoRWM's long history are now available on the National Archives website, named by document number. Also available on the website is a searchable Excel spreadsheet to make it easier to see what content is available and to find documents of interest.
- 1.19 A position paper entitled "Policy, legal and regulatory issues for a geological disposal facility (GDF) and associated radioactive waste management issues" was published and is available at the link³.

² Available on CoRWM webpage:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corwm-meeting-minutes-24-november-2020>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/corwm-meeting-minutes-15-september-2020>

³ Available on CoRWM webpage:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/policy-legal-and-regulatory-issues-for-a-geological-disposal-facility-gdf-and-associated-radioactive-waste-management-issues-corwm-position-paper>

1.20 A report was commissioned and authored by Dr Charlotta E. Sanders (University of Nevada) entitled 'Acceleration of the Implementation of a GDF in the UK'⁴.

1.21 The Secretariat has worked well this year and has proved vital to the Committee's functioning.

Summary of Year

1.22 In summary, in the financial year 2020-21, CoRWM has provided advice and undertaken scrutiny in the following areas:

- advice to BEIS and RWM on the GDF siting issues arising from the 'Implementing Geological Disposal' Policy Paper, including National Geological Screening, Working with Communities, the National Policy Statement, developer-led communications, public and stakeholder engagement, and the regulatory framework;
- scrutiny of BEIS's, NDA's and RWM's activities relating to the management of higher activity waste (HAW);
- advice to BEIS and RWM on the role of the safety case in the GDF siting process, especially in relation to the need for high-level descriptions of GDF designs and safety cases for the three appropriate geological settings namely: hard rock, soft/medium sedimentary rock and evaporite;
- advice to the Welsh Government on the implementation of Welsh policy on geological disposal including community engagement, and scrutiny of the Welsh Government approach to the management of HAW;
- advice to the Scottish Government on progress with its HAW Implementation Strategy; and

1.23 Progress on each of these areas is reported in later sections.

⁴ Available on CoRWM webpage:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/accelerating-implementation-of-a-geological-disposal-facility-in-the-united-kingdom>

2 Delivery of 2020 to 2021 Work Programme

2.1 Communications and Working with Communities

Scrutiny of and advice to BEIS, Welsh Government, NDA and RWM on communication strategy and activities related to the implementation of Working with Communities policy, and related GDF and Near Surface Disposal siting and engagement documents.

Task: To scrutinise and advise on the integrated communication strategy of BEIS, NDA and RWM.

CoRWM stress the importance of a cohesive messaging strategy to support effective stakeholder engagement around the management and disposal of radioactive waste. CoRWM has actively supported initiatives by RWM, NDA and BEIS to integrate their communication plans, particularly with respect to the ways in which strategic positions on NSD and GDF need to be presented without a mutual undermining. Several joint meetings were held over the course of the year with the communications teams from RWM and NDA (3646; 3648 and 3685).

We note that the NDA communications team have further integrated communications strategy across the group over the past year. CoRWM members attended several meetings with NDA in preparation for the Integrated Waste Management Stakeholder event, on 20th November 2020 (3666, 3673). CoRWM ran a session at the event - alongside the regulators (ONR and EA) and Nuleaf.

CoRWM members also attended on-line NGO engagement events run by BEIS and took note of the questions raised. CoRWM welcomed the publication of responses to all questions on the BEIS website, and the distribution of the responses to all participants.

CoRWM is current preparing a new position paper on Principles for Community Engagement Strategies we expect to publish in summer 2021 (3695).

Task: To scrutinise implementation of the Working with Communities policy in England and Wales.

Since the arrival of the new Communications Director, Guy Esnouf, at RWM in June 2020, CoRWM has established regular meetings with the RWM communications and stakeholder engagement team. These meetings are now held at least four times a year, prior to each of CoRWM's four annual plenary events. Further meetings with the RWM communications team were also held in advance of the public launches of the Copeland and Allerdale Working Groups. (3668 and 3673).

In August 2020 CoRWM also reviewed engaged with an RWM on the 'Test of Public Support' (ToPS) within the Working with Communities process, - with agreement to follow up in February/March 2021.

In November 2020 we produced a document outlining anticipated topics or FAQs to support consistent responses to media from CoRWM (3670).

In January 2021 CoRWM made a presentation to Allerdale Borough Council (3691; 3693).

Task: To act as a source of independent information to communities in the geological disposal facility siting process if approached, and to ensure that the work of the Committee (including key position papers) is visible and accessible to communities.

In response to concerns over low levels of public attendance at the Open Plenaries, CoRWM has worked to improve the visibility and accessibility of the work of the Committee in three key ways:

i. CoRWM website: Possibilities for improving the website are limited by GOV.UK. restrictions, but some simple rearrangement of materials has made access to the many resources of the website somewhat easier.

ii. CoRWM video: CoRWM has consulted with RWM and NDA (3699) and subsequently contracted an external specialist (Glasgows) to produce a short video.

Our aim is to introduce CoRWM to members of the public, and to stress that we are an independent body with a wide range of expertise in the field of radioactive waste management. We are seeking to increase CoRWM's visibility, to stress that we are available to give an independent perspective on specific issues, and more generally to draw attention to our official website, and the many materials available there.

The video makes use of a set of infographics that students at the University of Sheffield produced for us in 2020. The film was delivered by 31st March 2021 and will be offered to Working Groups for inclusion on their websites and/or virtual exhibitions.

- iii. Re-design of CoRWM Open Plenaries: We intend to run two open events every year, with a focus on a specific theme related to CoRWM's current expertise, such as Regulation, Retrievability of waste from a GDF, or an inshore GDF. We will use a panel format to offer diverse perspectives on the chosen topics, and we will use the events to direct attendees to CoRWM position papers and/or key archival documents.
We hope to be able to hold the first of these meetings as a combined on-line and in-person event, following the closed plenary in Cardiff in September 2021.

We will continue to post sub-group updates on the CoRWM website following each closed plenary meeting, with links to relevant position papers and/or archival documents.

Task: To report to the main CoRWM Committee to enable the development of advice to Ministers, NDA and RWM.

Subgroup 1 continued to lead on this task with close co-ordination with other sub-groups to ensure a consistent approach is taken by the Committee.

2.2 GDF Geology and Delivery

2A Scrutiny of and advice to BEIS and RWM on the application of the technical site evaluation process, in particular in relation to working group activities.

Mark Kirkbride (MK) has taken over from Richard Shaw as chair of SG2.

SG2 held a series of meetings in 2020 and 2021 with RWM, including Tue 9th March 2021, where RWM introduced Simon Hughes (Community Engagement and Siting Director) and Samantha King (Head of Community Engagement and Site Evaluation).

A regular schedule of dates has now been agreed for update meetings with RWM throughout 2021, in relation to the site evaluation process and GDF working group developments.

2B Scrutiny and provision of advice to BEIS and RWM on activities relating to the continued development of a GDF safety case.

The sub-group has continued its monitoring of RWM activities but has nothing substantive to report this year, other than the R&D project in relation to borehole abandonment methodology which has been part of the watching brief by the SG.

2C Scrutiny and provision of advice to BEIS and RWM on GDF siting activities, including selection criteria, methods of investigation, and the timescale for carrying out site selection in different rock types.

The sub-group has been involved in various meetings and discussions in relation to the siting activities for the GDF, in particular the progress being made with the formation of working groups over 2020 and 2021.

2D Provision of SG2 related advice to working group stakeholders as required.

Two areas of discussion and advice in the last year have been in relation to the concept of Near Surface Disposal (NSD) for intermediate level waste which is being explored by NDA as a potential solution for the disposal of specific intermediate level waste materials, reducing the volume of certain elements of the inventory into a GDF.

Summary internal information notes and reviews have been prepared as part of the evaluation of where and how NSD would fit within the wider disposal concepts. SG2 continue to review progress in relation to NSD and will consider a position paper on the subject.

SG2 has also started to consider in further detail the aspects of inventory which directly relate to the existing and future radioactive wastes to be disposed of within any GDF.

2E Issue a GDF construction cost estimate paper Q1 2021.

SG 2 have prepared a GDF Costs Estimate Position Paper. This paper is in its final form; the intention is that it will be issued within the next few months.

The paper provides a high-level overview of modern underground construction techniques and how these would translate to the construction costs and operational performance of a GDF.

2F Production of an Inshore GDF position paper by April 2021.

SG 2 have prepared a new position paper in relation to an inshore GDF (e.g. one accessed from onshore but located beneath the sea-bed). The SG reviewed the first draft of the inshore GDF Position Paper in March 2021 and have subsequently met and reviewed further iterations of the report. It is progressing to final form for issue in the next few months. CoRWM will set-out key recommendations to be considered by BEIS, NDA and RWM.

2.3 GDF Process, Policy Implementation, Planning and Regulation

The main activity of SG3 has been the preparation of a comprehensive Position Paper on Regulation of a GDF and regulation of radioactive waste more generally.

This has involved a number of meetings with the regulatory bodies – the Office for Nuclear Regulation, the Environment Agency, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Natural Resources Wales. An initial round of discussion meetings was followed by meetings to discuss points arising from the draft which was shared with the regulators. The input and comments from these regulatory bodies has been extremely helpful and has been carefully considered and addressed in drafts of the Position Paper. SG3 was uniformly impressed by the depth of engagement shown by the regulators and the exercise has established what SG3 hopes will be a good and sound framework for future engagement.

By way of example, discussions with ONR ranged over topics such as the recent Joint Convention Review Meeting and IAEA Peer Review, the role of ONR as a trusted regulator, decommissioning and clean up (including liaison with NDA), delicensing of nuclear sites and the regulatory requirements (inspections and compliance status) on radioactive waste management. Discussions with the Environment Agency explored in particular the emergent terminology of ‘risk-informed regulation’ and the implications of this.

At the time of writing this report, the Position Paper is at an advanced stage of drafting and publication is imminent. Its timing may be helpful in the context of consideration by the UK Government and devolved administrations of a possible review of policy under Cm 2919, as variously amended.

SG3 has also continued to liaise with BEIS and to monitor the implementation of the policy NPS on geological disposal infrastructure, and the implications of exit from Euratom.

Regulation is an important component of other work streams of CoRWM and SG3 members have participated with members of other Subgroups in work on exploring Near-Surface Disposal of ILW, and inshore GDF, and Community Engagement.

2.4 Scottish Government Activities

The principal focus for the year for SG4 and the Scottish Government (SG) Radioactive Waste Management Policy team was progressing the Scottish HAW Policy Review.

SG4 and the SG had a teleconference meeting on 17 December 2020 on which SG noted SG4 main point of concern around programme and their consideration of inputs to the BEIS and NDA review processes.

There are no other substantive developments to report beyond this review.

2.5 Welsh Government Activities

All meetings have been held virtually this year.

Geraldine Thomas met with representatives of the Welsh Government (WG) on two occasions this year – on 29th October 2020 (CoRWM document 3725) and 25th February 2021 (CoRWM document 3076).

Updates have been provided by WG on the progress of policies that will replace regulation previously covered under the Euratom treaty.

GT has provided updates on the progress of various CoRWM position papers being produced by other subgroups.

2.6 Storage of Waste, Spent Fuel and Nuclear Materials

Task 1 Ongoing scrutiny of end of the Magnox reprocessing programme, and of storage and potential disposal of spent fuel, uranics and plutonium

During the year CoRWM maintained a watching brief on the end of the Magnox reprocessing programme. Immediately before the start of this reporting period Sellafield Ltd had temporarily shut down its Magnox reprocessing plant due to an increase in self-isolation by staff as a result of Covid-19.

CoRWM has also maintained, throughout the year, an interest in efforts by the NDA and Sellafield Ltd to return the plant to operations and minimise the quantity of Magnox fuel that will remain after the completion of reprocessing. CoRWM will continue to consider the implications of these actions for waste management and disposal during the 2021/22 period.

Sub-group 6 engaged regularly with NDA on storage and potential disposal of spent fuel, uranics and plutonium. This work included provision of comments to the NDA on their draft strategy, published in August 2020. CoRWM has recently proposed a specific task on disposal of uranics to be carried out during the next financial year.

Task 2 Monitoring and providing advice on NDA Integrated waste management developments

Sub-group 6 engaged regularly with NDA on integrated waste management (IWM) and contributed to the NDA's IWM launch event in November 2020.

As part of its activity on IWM CoRWM has considered the role played by research and development and innovation in the optimisation of safe interim storage.

CoRWM has also reviewed the information available to the public on the radioactive waste management inventory and has recognised the need for improved information on the inventory that may be disposed of in a GDF.

CoRWM has maintained an interest in NDA work on exploration of a near surface disposal concept for ILW. CoRWM recognises the potential benefits that might be realised by adoption of this additional waste management option but understands that at this point the work is at an early exploratory stage.

CoRWM understands that policy development is necessary for this option and believes that stakeholder engagement is essential if the option is to be publicly acceptable. CoRWM has provide specific comments on near surface disposal of ILW in its position paper “Legal and Regulatory Issues for a GDF and Associated Radioactive Waste Management Issues”.



Berkeley Pile Cap
Magnox Ltd

2.7 Position Papers

The position papers issued to date by CoRWM are set out in table 1 below.

| Name | Content | Date Updated |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| Policy, legal and regulatory issues for a geological disposal facility (GDF) and associated radioactive waste management issues | The position paper sets out how a geological disposal facility (GDF) would be regulated and by whom, so that the public and host communities have confidence in the regulatory system | 10 th May 2021 |
| Deep borehole disposal | CoRWM's position on the potential use of deep boreholes for the disposal of solid radioactive waste | 8 th August 2019 |
| Geological Disposal Facility site evaluation | This document sets out CoRWM's response to Radioactive Waste Management's consultation on site evaluation | 4 th June 2019 |
| Euratom and the dimensions of interest to Scotland upon the UK's withdrawal from the EU | An approach to waste management issues likely to face the Scottish Government following exit from the Euratom Treaty | 26 th February 2019 |
| Why geological disposal? | The current CoRWM view on why geological disposal is the best option for long term management of higher activity radioactive waste | 25 th January 2019 |
| Retrievability considerations for geological disposal | CoRWM's current position on retrievability considerations for geological disposal of radioactive waste | 25 th January 2019 |
| Geological disposal of radioactive waste - safety requirements | The current position of CoRWM on safety concerns regarding a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) | 7 th November 2018 |

| Name | Content | Date Updated |
|---|--|---|
| Transport considerations for radioactive materials | The current position of CoRWM on the safety, security and environmental protection aspects of the transport of radioactive materials | 7 th November 2018 |
| Selecting a geological disposal facility (GDF) site based on the best geology | The current position of CoRWM on selecting a site based on the 'best geology' for a geological disposal facility | 7 th November 2018 |
| Radioactive waste: support for disposal rather than indefinite storage | The current position of CoRWM on the indefinite storage of radioactive waste | 7 th November 2018 |
| Statement on geological disposal | CoRWM's recommendations on geological waste disposal | 25 th July 2013 ⁵ |

Table 1: CoRWM Position Papers

⁵ First published during the 2010 to 2015 Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition government

3 Forward Look

- 3.1 The Committee's focus for 2021-2022 has shifted to the actual mechanics of the delivery of geological disposal, and especially providing scrutiny and constructive feedback on RWM's implementation of the UK Government's Working with Communities policy.
- 3.2 Particular note is being taken of site evaluation, site selection and early-stage, non-invasive characterisation, and, of course, community engagement.
- 3.3 The Committee will also work with NDA to better communicate the classification of waste and the opportunity for improved waste classification to contribute to a more effective assignment of waste streams to appropriate disposal paths and programmes, possibly including near surface disposal for specific wastes. It will also work with NDA on issues connected with materials not currently designated as waste.
- 3.4 The Committee will keep abreast of, and advise on, the efficacy of new technological developments such as horizontal borehole technology, potential near surface disposal for ILW, new underground construction and excavation methods applicable to the construction of a GDF, including the inshore variety, materials not classified as waste, and the nature and extent of waste arising from fusion and other new technologies. It will also consider the role of technological innovation more widely.
- 3.5 More generally, the Committee will continue to provide advice to BEIS and the Scottish and Welsh Governments and liaise with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) in Northern Ireland on numerous aspects of radioactive waste policy and its implementation.
- 3.6 The Committee will continue to remain current with respect to the UK nuclear industry. It aims to restart a programme of site visits again so as to observe and report on a range of activities.
- 3.7 The Committee will publish three position papers on the costs of a GDF, an inshore GDF, and the radioactive waste inventory.



Bradwell Care and Maintenance
Magnox Ltd

4 Conclusions & Recommendations

- 4.1 The Committee continues to hold to its conclusion, as found in the 2006 assessment, that deep geological disposal is the best long-term solution for safely dealing with the inventory of higher activity radioactive waste. It cannot currently foresee a scenario in which a GDF would not be a key part of any solution. A GDF must form a vital part of the management of the radioactive waste legacy.
- 4.2 The Committee has amassed an enormous fund of expertise and experience on the whole range of radioactive waste management concerns over many years. As a result, we believe that the Committee has played a pivotal role not only in the development of the GDF but of radioactive waste management policy and strategy more generally, not least because its advice is demonstrably independent and therefore provides public reassurance and inspires trust.
- 4.3 CoRWM is uniquely placed to give expert and independent advice and scrutiny on all parts of the radioactive waste management regime. In so doing, it provides an essential and objective counterbalance to the influence of organisations having a direct interest in particular outcomes. That is why the Committee's existence as a public body and its independent evidenced-based advice are so important.
- 4.4 2020-21 was a year full of positive activity and outcomes and there is every expectation that 2021-22 will present similar demands and yield substantial results.
- 4.5 The integration of the new Committee members has proceeded apace, and the Committee has shown an exceptionally strong level of energy and commitment providing advice and scrutiny on the management of radioactive waste.
- 4.6 It remains the intention of CoRWM to produce and publish position papers on a range of relevant topics over the coming year, including on regulation, GDF costs, an inshore GDF and the waste inventory.
- 4.7 The attention that BEIS and NDA are giving to appropriately classifying the waste inventory, and the consideration being given to alternative means of disposal in a limited number of cases, plus the continuing

review of Nuclear Decommissioning and Radioactive Substances Policy, also provide specific opportunities to provide further scrutiny and advice.

4.8 Additionally, we would be keen to see strong connectivity between the main policy initiatives above and Scottish Government's review of its 2011 Higher Activity Waste Policy

4.9 The Committee has made a series of successful attempts to build on and further strengthen its links with the various regulatory organisations and these will continue.

4.10 During the year, CoRWM has had to put some of its outreach activities on hold, although many have still been able to be held successfully using teleconference facilities. In the year ahead, we hope to be able to hold more face-to-face meetings.

4.11 The transformation of RWM into an organisation focusing on delivery preparations, programme management, capability building and community engagement appears to provide excellent opportunities for continuation and deepening of partnership working, ensuring that CoRWM is constructively and closely engaged in providing scrutiny and advice on further programme development as progress is made towards the identification of a suitable site for a GDF.

4.12 We therefore look forward to a further year of progress.



5 References

Annex A: CoRWM Expenditure 2020-2021

CoRWM's budget and actual expenditure for the year is set out in table 2, split into the main spending areas. The budget was set at £320k.

| Budget Items | Budget (£k) | Actual (£k) |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Members' Fees ¹ | 275.0 | £130.0 |
| Members' Expenses ² | | |
| Incidental Expenses ³ | 45.0 | 35.6 |
| Recruitment and secretariat administration | | |
| Total | 320.0 | 165.6 |

Table 2: CoRWM's Budget Out-Turn 2020/21

Notes:

¹ Members' fees include Employer National Insurance Contributions.

² Members' expenses include transport costs and incidental expenses when travelling to meetings, visits or other venues.

³ Meetings and visits include venue and members' accommodation costs for Plenary Meeting, visits and other meetings.

The standard fees are those paid at the rates specified in Members' terms of appointment. These state that:

1. the Chair can claim £450 a day for up to 78 days per year;
2. the Deputy Chair can claim £380 for up to 49 days per year; and
3. members can each claim £350 a day for up to 49 day in a year.

CoRWM is not required to report the fees that individual members received, but this information is published in the interests of transparency, with table 3 summarising the days worked by each of the CoRWM members in the year period.

| Name | Days Worked | Status |
|------------------|---------------|------------------------------------|
| Sir Nigel Thrift | 58.07 | Chair since July 2018 |
| Penny Harvey | 26.21 | Member from Nov 2019, Deputy Chair |
| Derek Lacey | 39.72 | Member from Nov 2019, Deputy Chair |
| Andrew Walters | 24.0 | Member since Dec 2016 |
| Stephen Tromans | 37.74 | Member since Nov 2018 |
| Neil Hyatt | 19.29 | Member from Nov 2019 |
| Ray Kemp | 38 | Member from Nov 2019 |
| Mark Kirkbride | 45.8 | Member from Nov 2019 |
| Gerry Thomas | 13.2 | Member from Nov 2019 |
| Claire Corkhill | 24 | Member from Jan 2020 |
| Campbell Gemmell | 9.42 | Retired in 2020 |
| Richard Shaw | 17.14 | Retired in 2020 |
| Total | 352.59 | |

Table 3: Days Worked by CoRWM Members

Annex B: CoRWM Membership

Chair
Sir Nigel Thrift



Sir Nigel Thrift was appointed Chair of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management on 2nd July 2018.

Until 2017, Sir Nigel was the Executive Director of Schwarzman Scholars.

Sir Nigel previously served as Vice-Chancellor and President of the University of Warwick and as Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research at the University of Oxford.

He is one of the world's leading human geographers and social scientists. He is a Fellow of the British Academy and a Visiting Professor at Oxford University and Tsinghua University. He is a Deputy Lord Lieutenant of the West Midlands.

Current term of office ends:
July 2022

Deputy Chair
Penny Harvey



Penny Harvey is Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Manchester.

Penny has an extensive history of research on the social transformations of large-scale infrastructure projects, with a particular focus on the relationship between local communities, government agencies and corporate bodies.

She is a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences (UK), and an elected member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters.

Current term of office ends:
November 2023

Deputy Chair
Derek Lacey



Derek has recently completed a term as a Director at the International Atomic Energy Agency.

He previously held senior roles as Deputy Chief Inspector in the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and Head of Nuclear and Radioactive Waste Management Policy at the UK Department for Energy and Climate Change.

Current term of office ends:
November 2023

Member
Claire Corkhill



Claire Corkhill is currently a Reader and EPSRC Early Career Research Fellow at the University of Sheffield.

With an academic background in both geology and materials science, she has over 10 years of experience in researching nuclear waste material corrosion in geological environments. She has held research fellowships in both the UK and Japan and leads a team of 12 researchers focused on determining the long-term behaviour of radioactive materials.

Claire is an enthusiastic science communicator and has made numerous media appearances in relation to nuclear waste disposal and nuclear decommissioning.

Current term of office ends:
January 2024

Member
Neil Hyatt



Neil Hyatt is a Professor of Nuclear Materials Chemistry at the University of Sheffield and Head of Department of Materials Science & Engineering at the University of Sheffield.

Neil has more than 15 years of professional and academic research in radioactive waste management and disposal.

Neil was made a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry in 2015.

Current term of office ends:
November 2023

Member
Ray Kemp



Ray Kemp has been a Member of the Advisory Committee on Carcinogenicity of Chemicals in Foods, Consumer Products and the Environment (COC) Public Interest Representative at the UK Department of Health and Social Care from 2013.

In the past, he has worked as an adviser to the Independent Advisory Panel (IAP) for the Australian National Radioactive Waste Management Facility Project.

He has also worked as a Member, then Chair of the Radiation Health and Safety Advisory Council of the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) between 2012 and 2015.

Current term of office ends:
November 2023

Member
Mark Kirkbride



Mark Kirkbride has more than 28 years' experience of underground construction techniques and project delivery.

He has been the Chief Executive Officer of West Cumbria Mining since 2014, having previously worked in a wide range of senior roles in the mining, engineering, construction and tunnelling industries.

Mark has relevant experience in the design, planning and construction of complex underground projects, together with extensive stakeholder engagement and community relations.

Mark is a Fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining, a Chartered Engineer and holds a degree in mining engineering and a research masters in geomechanics (underground machine rock cutting).

Current term of office ends:
November 2023

Member
Stephen Tromans



Stephen Tromans QC is a barrister practising at 39 Essex Chambers, London.

He was Joint Head of Chambers from 2011-2015. He has worked as an academic at Cambridge (1981-1987) and as a solicitor (1987-1999). He became a barrister in 1999 and was appointed Queen's Counsel in 2009.

His area of specialism is environmental, energy natural resources and planning law. He has extensive experience of advising companies and government and representing them in court and at public inquiries. He has a particular focus on nuclear law and is the author of the leading text, "Nuclear Law". He is also the author of leading works on environmental impact assessment and contaminated land and has spoken and written widely on these topics.

He has been a member of the UK Environmental Law Association (UKELA) since its formation in 1986 and has been Chair and a Council member of UKELA. He is also a member of the International Nuclear Law Association (INLA) and a director of INLA UK. From 1994-2002 he was a Council Member of English Nature, the predecessor of Natural England and from 2010-2014 was the Chair of the Environmental Law Foundation (ELF).

Current term of office ends:
November 2022

Member
Andrew Walters



Andrew Walters is an Environmental Lawyer and Chartered Town Planner.

He has worked on an extensive range of project and policy work in the public and private sectors with a career stretching across 20 years in the UK and overseas.

He has developed a reputation for delivery of complex environmental consents on a diverse range of infrastructure projects from the construction of deep-water ports and harbours, nationally significant rail, highways, bridges, energy, waste and commercial development projects.

Andrew regularly leads consenting campaigns bringing a deep understanding of the challenges of consenting development projects in multiple legislative environments, often with complex engineering considerations in highly sensitive sites of significant environmental importance.

Current term of office ends
September 2021

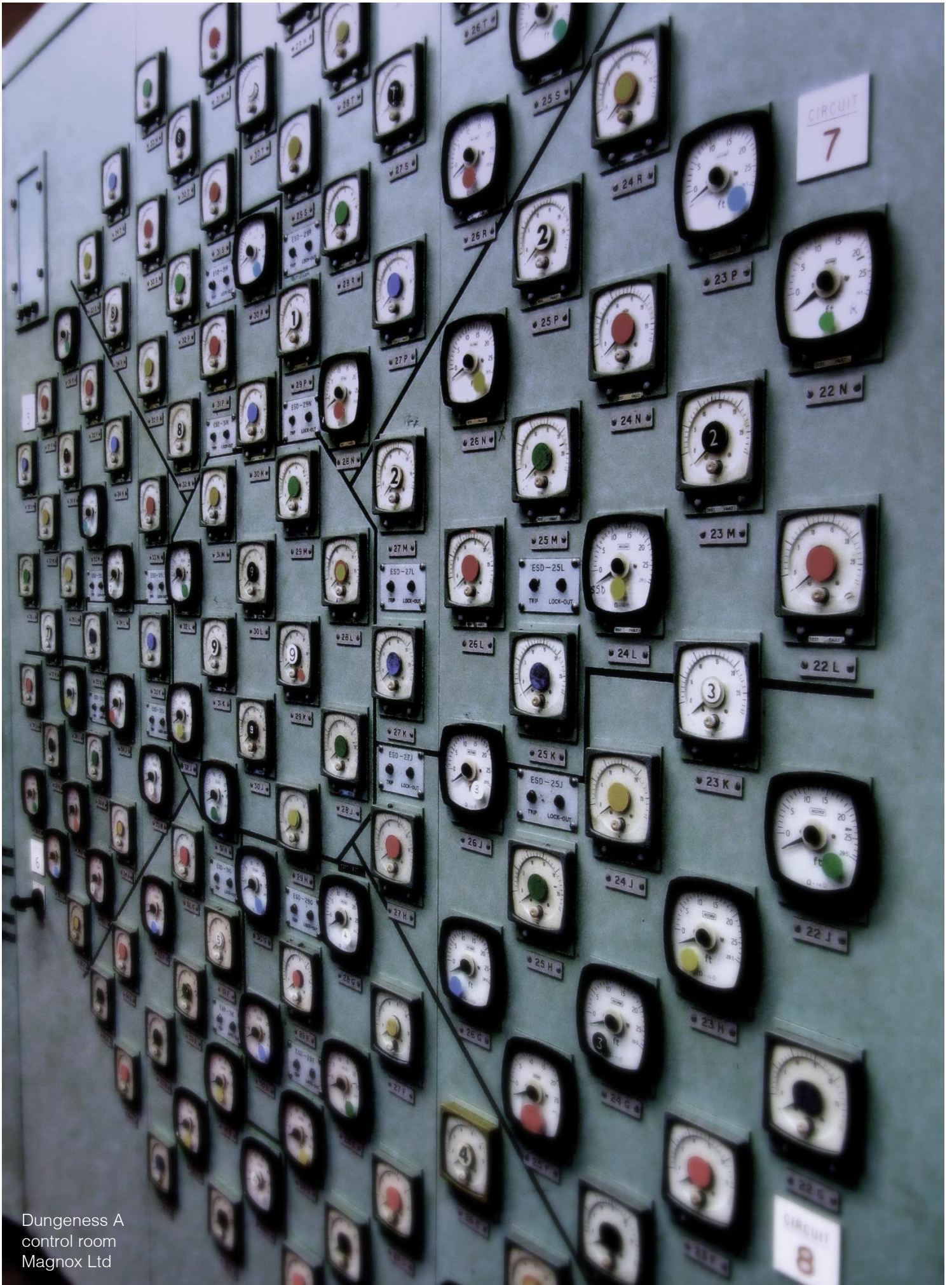
Member
Geraldine Thomas



Geraldine Thomas is currently a Professor of Molecular Pathology at Imperial College and Director of Chernobyl Tissue Bank.

In the past, she has been a Clinical Director of the West London Genome Medicine Centre and Professor of Molecular Oncology at the South Wales Cancer Institute.

Current term of office ends:
November 2023



Dungeness A
control room
Magnox Ltd

Annex C: CoRWM Sub-Groups 2020-2021

Sub-group 1: Working with Communities Implementation

Primary tasks:

1. To scrutinise and advise on the integrated communication strategy of BEIS, NDA and RWM
2. To scrutinise and advise BEIS, NDA and RWM on communication of activities related to the GDF siting process and implementation of policy
3. To scrutinise and advise BEIS, NDA and RWM on the implementation of the Working with Communities Policy
4. To scrutinise and advise the Welsh Government on the implementation of the Welsh Working with Communities Policy
5. To engage and provide advice and information as requested to interested parties, Working Groups and Community Partnerships

Membership:

Professor Penny Harvey (Sub-group Chair)

Claire Corkhill

Ray Kemp

Geraldine Thomas

Sub-group 2: GDF Geology and Delivery

Primary tasks:

1. Scrutiny and provision of advice to BEIS and RWM on activities relating to the continued development of a GDF safety case
2. Scrutiny and provision of advice to BEIS and RWM on GDF siting activities, including selection criteria, methods of investigation, and the timescale for carrying out site selection in the three rock types
3. Advise on new technologies that could be applicable to the development of a GDF including those in the mining and construction sectors and their potential impacts on a GDF programme

Membership:

Mark Kirkbride (Sub-group Chair)

Claire Corkhill

Neil Hyatt

Sub-group 3: Planning and Regulation

Primary tasks:

1. Work towards publication of a comprehensive and definitive CoRWM Position Paper on regulation of a GDF during 2020
2. Review and advise on “Sector Guidance” on in-situ disposal of low-level waste through the planning system
3. Keep under review any further implications of the UK’s exit from the EU as this develops and provide advice to BEIS and DAs

Membership:

Stephen Tromans QC (Sub-group Chair)
Ray Kemp
Derek Lacey
Andrew Walters

Sub-group 4: Scottish Government Activities

Primary tasks:

1. To scrutinise the Scottish Government’s activities in relation to the management of higher activity radioactive waste (HAW) in Scotland
2. To report to the main CoRWM Committee to enable the development of advice to Ministers, NDA and RWM

Membership:

Andrew Walters (Sub-group Chair)
Derek Lacey

Sub-group 5: Welsh Government Activities

Primary tasks:

1. To scrutinise the Welsh Government’s activities in relation to the delivery of the Implementing Geological Disposal policy in Wales
2. To report to the main CoRWM Committee to enable the development of advice to Ministers, NDA and RWM

Membership:

Geraldine Thomas (Sub-group Chair)

Sub-group 6: Waste, Spent Fuel & Nuclear Materials Inventory Management

Primary tasks:

1. Ongoing scrutiny of end of the Magnox reprocessing programme, and of storage and potential disposal of spent fuel, uranium and plutonium
2. Monitoring and providing advice on NDA Integrated waste management developments including boundary, difficult wastes in Scotland and strategic direction

Membership:

Derek Lacey (Sub-group Chair)

Claire Corkhill

Neil Hyatt





Annex D: Meetings held during 2020-2021

| Date | Meeting | Attending Capacity |
|-------------------|--|---|
| 31/03 - 1/04/2020 | Transcend Annual Meeting | Nigel Thrift |
| 02/04/2020 | BEIS Covid-19 meeting | Nigel Thrift |
| 08/04/2020 | Meeting with Arienne Kelbie (ONR) | Nigel Thrift |
| 14/04/2020 | Meeting with Corhyn Parr (NDA) | Nigel Thrift |
| 14/04/2020 | GDPB meeting | |
| 17/04/2020 | SG1 meeting | SG1 |
| 24/04/2020 | Meeting with Karen Wheeler (RWM) | Nigel Thrift |
| 29/04/2020 | Meeting with Malcolm Morley (RWM) | Nigel Thrift |
| 30/04/2020 | BEIS COVID-19 meeting | Nigel Thrift |
| 11/05/2020 | SG3 ONR meeting | SG3 |
| 18/05/2020 | SG6 Quarterly meeting with NDA | SG6 |
| 19/05/2020 | Closed Plenary | CoRWM |
| 28/05/2020 | SG2 Meeting with RWM | SG2 |
| 01/06/2020 | Meeting with Jay Bhart (Nuclear Sector Deal PMO Director) | Derek Lacey, Nigel Thrift |
| 08/06/2020 | OG Meeting 3 - Evaluation Report / Project Review | Andrew Walters |
| 08/06/2020 | SG1 & SG6 meeting on hazard and risk communication for the NDA estate | SG1 and SG6 |
| 09/06/2020 | GDPB meeting | Nigel Thrift |
| 16/06/2020 | SG1 meeting | SG1 |
| 24/06/2020 | BEIS Corporate Governance and Finance workshops | Nigel Thrift |
| 29/06/2020 | CoRWM Innovation meeting | SG6 |
| 07/07/2020 | Teleconference | SG4 |
| 08/07/2020 | BEIS Partner Organizations meeting | Nigel Thrift |
| 14/07/2020 | Interim CoRWM meeting before September Plenary | CoRWM |
| 15/07/2020 | NSD meeting with NDA | Mark Kirkbride |
| 20/07/2020 | Teleconference between Sir Nigel and Tim Ridge as part of the NDA Tailored Review. | Nigel Thrift |
| 20/07/2020 | Presentation to the Science Discovery Group (>80 attendees) | Mark Kirkbride |
| 30/07/2020 | SG4 meeting | SG4 |
| 03/08/2020 | Meeting with RWM to discuss the Test of Public Support within the Working with Communities process | CoRWM |
| 27/08/2020 | Meeting SG1 and RWM | SG1 |
| 27/08/2020 | SG6/NDA meeting (TBC) | SG6 |
| 08/09/2020 | Meeting with Minister Zahawi | Nigel Thrift |
| 09/09/2020 | Meeting with Nuleaf | Ray Kemp, Nigel Thrift, Stephen Tromans, Andrew Walters |
| 14/09/2020 | Closed Plenary | CoRWM |

| Date | Meeting | Attending Capacity |
|------------|--|---|
| 15/09/2020 | Open Plenary | CoRWM |
| 29/09/2020 | CoRWM participation in the NDA IWM launch | CoRWM |
| 09/10/2020 | SG6-NDA strategy, Uranium, meeting on research, development and innovation | SG6 |
| 12/10/2020 | Discussion with RWM response to John Corderoy on GDF costs | SG2 |
| 13/10/2020 | CoRWM mini plenary to discuss the comments on the NDA strategy and Policy consultation | CoRWM |
| 16/10/2020 | Meeting with Debbie Huston, James McKinney and Corhyn Parr (RWM) | Penny Harvey |
| 19/10/2020 | NDA Strategy 4 consultation event | CoRWM |
| 19/10/2020 | Meeting with Adrian Simper (NDA) on NSD issues | Derek Lacey, Mark Kirkbride |
| | Meeting with Nigel, Karen Wheeler and Eileen McKeever (RWM) | Nigel Thrift |
| 23/10/2020 | SG1 meeting with RWM | SG1 |
| 26/10/2020 | Debrief on 16-Oct meeting, plan of action for NDA IWM strategy launch presentation | Penny Harvey, Derek Lacey and Claire Corkhill |
| 29/10/2020 | SG5 Welsh Government Update | SG5 |
| 02/11/2020 | SG1 meeting | SG1 |
| 05/11/2020 | Finalising presentation for NDA IWM launch | SG1 |
| 10/11/2020 | GDPB meeting | Nigel Thrift |
| 13/11/2020 | SG3 meeting with ONR | SG3 |
| 16/11/2020 | SG3 meeting with EA | SG3 |
| 17/11/2020 | SG2 meeting on inshore GDF | SG2 |
| 23/11/2020 | Closed Plenary | CoRWM |
| 24/11/2020 | Open Plenary | CoRWM |
| 01/12/2020 | SG3 meeting with SEPA | SG3 |
| 07/12/2020 | SG3 meeting with NRW | SG3 |
| 07/12/2020 | SG1 meeting | SG1 |
| 07/12/2020 | Meeting on integrated communication strategy with NDA/RWM | Penny Harvey, Derek Lacey |
| 07/12/2020 | Scottish Sites Stakeholder Meeting: Potential Dates | SG4 |
| 11/12/2020 | Meeting on Community engagement with Gregg Butler, Penny Harvey and Derek Lacey | Penny Harvey, Derek Lacey |
| 16/12/2020 | Meeting on Community engagement with Penny Harvey, Derek Lacey and Brian Clark | Penny Harvey, Derek Lacey |
| 16/12/2020 | Meeting with SG1 -preparation for Allerdale | SG1 |
| 04/01/2021 | SG1 preparation for Allerdale talk | SG1 |
| 08/01/2021 | SG1 meeting with RWM | SG1 |
| 11/01/2021 | ANT Meeting | Andrew Walters |
| 13/01/2021 | ANT Meeting | Andrew Walters |
| 22/01/2021 | GDPB | Nigel Thrift |
| 27/01/2021 | SG6 meeting with NDA | SG6 |
| 28/01/2021 | SG1 meeting | SG1 |
| 01/02/2021 | CoRWM Interim Meeting | CoRWM |

| Date | Meeting | Attending Capacity |
|------------|---|---|
| 04/02/2021 | NGO Meeting | Penny Harvey |
| 05/02/2021 | SG2 inshore siting meeting | SG2 |
| 10/02/2021 | SG3 meeting with BEIS | SG3 |
| 10/02/2021 | SG1 Meeting with RWM communications | Penny Harvey |
| 18/02/2021 | CoRWM Film Project | Penny Harvey, Nigel Thrift, Claire Corkhill |
| 23/02/2021 | Radioactive Waste Inventory for Geological Disposal | Neil Hyatt |
| 25/02/2021 | SG5 Welsh Government Update | SG5 |
| 25/02/2021 | Talk to Allerdale Borough Council | CoRWM |
| 02/03/2021 | SG3 Position Paper Meeting | SG3 |
| 02/03/2021 | CoRWM Film Discussion with Hilary Bowen (RWM) | Nigel Thrift, Claire Corkhill, Neil Hyatt, Penny Harvey |
| 08/03/2021 | CoRWM Film Discussion with Hilary Bowen (RWM) | Nigel Thrift, Claire Corkhill, Neil Hyatt, Penny Harvey |
| 09/03/2021 | SG2 Meeting with RWM | SG2 |
| 11/03/2021 | Meeting on Questions posed to CoRWM | Nigel Thrift, Derek Lacey, Neil Hyatt, Penny Harvey |
| 12/03/2021 | CoRWM Uranics Proposal Meeting | Derek Lacey, Neil Hyatt, Claire Corkhill |
| 15/03/2021 | Allerdale Follow-Up Meeting | Stephen Tromans |
| 16/03/2021 | Closed Plenary | CoRWM |
| 17/03/2021 | Open Plenary | CoRWM |
| 25/03/2021 | SG2 Nearshore Meeting | SG2, Stephen Tromans, Derek Lacey, Nigel Thrift |
| 25/03/2021 | CoRWM and the Media Meeting | Nigel Thrift, Penny Harvey, Derek Lacey |
| 29/03/2021 | Nuclear Sector Deal Refresh Meeting | CoRWM |

Annex E: List of Acronyms

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|--|
| AGR | Advanced gas cooled reactor (a type of reactor with a graphite core and Uranium oxide fuel in steel cladding with a graphite sleeve) |
| ANT | Advanced Nuclear Technologies |
| AoS | Appraisal of Sustainability |
| BEIS | Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy |
| CEO | Chief Executive Officer |
| CNS | Capenhurst Nuclear Services |
| CoRWM | Committee on Radioactive Waste Management |
| CRWG | Community Representation Working Group |
| DECC | Department of Energy and Climate Change |
| DESY | Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron |
| DFR | Dounreay Fast Reactor |
| DNLEU | Depleted Natural and Low Enriched Uranium (found in nuclear fuel cycle) |
| DRP | Direct Research Portfolio |
| EA | Environment Agency (England's Environmental Regulator) |
| EIA | Environmental Impact Assessment |
| FHP | Fuel Handling Plant |
| GDF | Geological Disposal Facility |
| GDPB | Geological Disposal Programme Board |
| GDS | Government Decontamination Service |
| gDSSC | generic Disposal System Safety Case |
| GRR | Guidance on Requirements for release of nuclear sites from radioactive substances regulation |
| HAW | Higher Activity Waste |
| HAW-IS | HAW Implementation Strategy |
| HEU | Highly Enriched Uranium |
| HM | Heavy Metals |
| HRA | Habitats Regulations Assessment |
| IAEA | International Atomic Energy Agency |
| IEA | Institute of Environmental Assessment |
| IEMA | Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment |
| IGD | Implementing Geological Disposal |
| ILW | Intermediate Level Waste |
| INLA | International Nuclear Law Association |
| JAEA | Japan Atomic Energy Agency |
| LoC | Letter of Compliance (previously Letter of Comfort) |
| LLW | Low Level Waste |
| LTP | Life Time Plan |
| LWR | Light Water Reactor |
| MOD | Ministry of Defence |
| MOP | Magnox Operating Programme |
| MOX | Mixed Oxide Fuel |

| Acronym | Description |
|---------|---|
| NDA | Nuclear Decommissioning Authority |
| NDARB | NDA Research Board |
| NEA | Nuclear Energy Agency of OECD |
| NERC | Natural Environment Research Council |
| NGS | National Geological Screening |
| NIEA | Northern Ireland Environment Agency |
| NPS | National Policy Statement |
| NSD | Near Surface Disposal |
| NSNS | Near Site Near Surface Storage policy in Scotland |
| NRW | Natural Resources Wales (Welsh Environmental Regulator) |
| NWDRF | Nuclear Waste and Decommissioning Research Forum (a group convened by the NDA) |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development |
| ONR | Office for Nuclear Regulation (the regulator of safety, security and safeguards at nuclear facilities and transport of radioactive materials) |
| ORR | Organisational Readiness Review |
| PBC | Programme Business Case |
| PCM | Plutonium Contaminated Material |
| PSE | Public and stakeholder engagement |
| Pu | Plutonium |
| RATE | Radioactivity and the Environment (a NERC research programme) |
| R&D | Research and Development |
| RRP | Readiness Review Panel |
| RW | Radioactive Waste |
| RWM | Radioactive Waste Management Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the NDA charged with delivering Geological Disposal, created on 1 st April 2014 |
| SE | Scottish Enterprise |
| SEPA | Scottish Environment Protection Agency |
| SG | Scottish Government |
| SG1-7 | Sub-group (number) |
| SKB | Svensk Kärnbränslehantering AB (Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Company) |
| SLC | Site licence company (a company that runs an NDA site, under contract to the NDA, and holds the nuclear site licence) |
| SNS | Scottish Nuclear Sites meetings, hosted and chaired by Scottish Government |
| SNSC | Scottish Nuclear Supply Chain |
| SRO | Senior Responsible Owner or Officer |
| TAP | Technical Advisory Panel |
| THORP | Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant |
| TR&S | THORP Receipt and Storage |
| U | Uranium |
| WIPP | Waste Isolation Pilot Project |
| WNA | World Nuclear Association |

Feedback

We welcome feedback on the content, clarity and presentation of the 2020 Annual Report.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to provide feedback or if you would like further information about radioactive waste management issues.

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Committee on Radioactive Waste Management



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy