



New Acts in the Nuclear Field in France

The role of the Nuclear Safety Authority (ASN)

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Summary

1. Act on Transparency and Security in the Nuclear Field (13 june 2006)
2. The Programme Act on the Sustainable Management of Radioactive Materials and Wastes (28 june 2006)





1. Act on Transparency and Security in the Nuclear Field (13 june 2006)





Act on Transparency and Security

- 1. Establishes the Nuclear Safety Authority
 - Independent administrative Authority;
Commission of 5
 - Sets the regulations for nuclear activities,
 - Prepares or grants licenses,
 - Supervises nuclear activities,
 - In charge of public information





Act on transparency and security

- 2. Information of the public
- 3. Procedures for nuclear installations and radioactive waste transports
 - Initial authorization, prepared by ASN, takes into account the technical and financial capacities of the licensee for decommissioning and for managing wastes. A decommissioning plan is required
 - Final shutdown and decommissioning are subject to prior authorization prepared by ASN.





2. The Programme Act on the Sustainable Management of Radioactive Materials and Wastes (28 june 2006)





The National Plan for the Management of Radioactive Materials and Wastes

- Article 6 establishes a National Plan for the Management of Radioactive Materials and Wastes (PNGMDR) that aims at :
 - Reviewing existing management routes for radioactive materials and wastes;
 - Identifying foreseeable need for storage or disposal installations;
 - Organising research and studies on the management of radioactive materials and wastes to be performed by scheduling the implementation of new management routes.
- The PNGMDR is established every 3 years, the first at the end of 2006.





The National Plan for the Management of Radioactive Materials and Wastes

- The PNGMDR has been prepared since 2003 within a working group of stakeholders (operators, associations, administrations) managed by ASN
- A draft was established in 2005 and made public on ASN website for comments
- The draft was complemented (high level wastes)
- The PNGMDR was transmitted to the Government in December 2006.





The PNGMDR Decree (1)

- A Decree setting the stipulations of the PNGMDR has to be established (article 6 of the Act).
- The PNGMDR working group was consulted on the draft Decree (10/13/2006 and 0/19/2007).
- The draft Decree was submitted to the ASN Commission.
- The Decree defines main waste categories and existing or planned management routes.
- The Decree is an action plan for the Government and nuclear operators for the years to come.





The PNGMDR Decree (2)

- Actions mentioned in the Decree :
 - ANDRA to give, by 2009, a study on the development of disposal routes for graphite waste and radium-containing waste, so that a specific disposal centre can start operation by 2013;
 - ANDRA to finalize, by 2008, processes allowing the disposal of spent sealed sources;
 - CEA to submit, by 2008, a study proposing storage routes for tritium-containing waste;
 - Operators concerned to submit, by 2008, a study on impacts on health and the environment of wastes from old uranium mines;
 - ASN to provide, by 2009, a study related to short and long term management routes for waste with enhanced natural radioactivity.





Conclusion : PNGMDR

- The Plan is finalized;
- The draft PNGMDR has been established; ASN advice is awaited;
- The PNGMDR working group will convene (3 to 4 times each year) to review how the Plan is being implemented and to prepare the next Plan (due in 2009). The WG will be chaired jointly by ASN and the ministry of industry.





Operators' reserves for Decommissioning and Waste Management costs (article 20)

The Decree and Ministerial Order

- Positive advice of ASN on the 1st of February 2007;
- ASN will be consulted on the safety aspects of operators' strategies for decommissioning and waste management.





Foreign waste return (article 8)

The Decree

- Positive advice of ASN on the 1st of February 2007
- ASN will be consulted on the calculations establishing the waste quantities to be returned after treatment in France.

