

Research and analysis: The early stages of implementing geological disposal: regulatory use of geoscientific information

This study reviewed how regulatory bodies in 5 countries have used geological information to make decisions on proposals for the geological disposal of higher activity radioactive waste. The report's findings on the use of generic site safety assessments, site-specific investigations and pre-permitting discussions will inform the Environment Agency's preparations for any geological disposal facility that might be proposed or developed in England.

The review considers lessons learnt from radioactive waste disposal programmes in France, Finland, Sweden, Switzerland and the USA, all of which are at different stages of development. These countries have similar regulatory regimes to the UK and represent a range of geological environments.