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18 November, France

General requirements for operation of radioactive waste Near Surface Repository (NSR)

- To ensure the safety of both workers and the public (both in the short term and the long term), the operator is required to design a comprehensive waste management system for the safe operation and closure of a near surface disposal facility.
- Part of such a safety system is to establish criteria for accepting waste for disposal at the facility.
- The purpose of the criteria is to limit the consequences of events which could lead to radiation exposures.
- In addition, it is necessary to prevent or limit hazards, which could arise from non-radiological causes.

Assessment of radionuclide limiting activity concentrations in RW

- The general WAC developed by taking into account typical environmental characteristics of Estonia: geological, hydrological, geo- and hydro- chemical, tectonic and seismic, climate and meteorological conditions.
- According to the IAEA recommendations for the WAC development "Derivation of activity limits for the disposal of radioactive waste in near surface disposal facilities, IAEA Tecdoc 1380" the study provides waste activity limits for relevant radionuclides and considers:
 - repository normal evolution scenario and
 - human intrusion scenarios after repository operational period.
- In particular, the radionuclide off-site migration pathways is modelled taking into account general Estonian conditions, relevant for normal evolution scenario. The radionuclide offsite migration assessment was done by using RESRAD-OFFSITE computer code.

Assessment of radionuclide limiting activity concentrations

- The list of relevant radionuclides to be considered in the derivation of general WAC has been taken on the basis of the recommendations of IAEA Tecdoc 1380.
- It covers all relevant radionuclides for radioactive waste generated in nuclear power plants, as well as coming from industry applications.
- Additionally, taking into account the information about the Paldiski site waste, the Mo-93 isotope was included.

Radionuclide	Half Life (y)	Radionuclide	Half Life (y)
H-3	1.24E+01	Cs-137	3.00E+01
Be-10	1.60E+06	Ce-144	7.79E-01
C-14	5.73E+03	Pm-147	2.62E+00
Na-22	2.60E+00	Sm-151	9.00E+01
Ca-41	1.40E+05	Eu-152	1.33E+01
Mn-54	8.56E-01	Eu-154	8.80E+00
Fe-55	2.70E+00	TI-204	3.78E+00
Ni-59	7.54E+04	Pb-210	2.23E+01
Ni-63	9.60E+01	Ra-226	1.60E+03
Co-60	5.27E+00	Ac-227	2.18E+01
Zn-65	6.68E-01	Ra-228	5.75E+00
Sr-90	2.91E+01	Th-232	1.40E+10
Zr-93	1.53E+06	U-234	2.45E+05
Nb-94	2.03E+04	U-235	7.04E+08
Tc-99	2.13E+05	U-238	4.47E+09
Ru-106	1.01E+00	Np-237	2.14E+06
Ag-110m	6.84E-01	Pu-238	8.77E+01
Sn-121m	5.50E+01	Pu-239	2.41E+04
Sb-125	2.77E+00	Pu-240	6.54E+03
Sn-126	1.00E+05	Pu-241	1.44E+01
I-129	1.57E+07	Am-241	4.32E+02
Cs-134	2.06E+00	Mo-93	3.50E+03





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Assumptions in WAC assessment

Time frames:

The following time frames of the facility functioning periods were considered during assessment:

- a repository operational period of 30 years;
- optionally, institutional control periods of 30, 50, 100 and 300 years; and
- a time period for post-institutional control calculations that allows the demonstration that the peak dose has been reached for each scenario assessed (within approximately 10000 years).

Summary of a	assumptions for	assessed	operational	period scenarios	
Scenario	Contaminant Release Mechanisms	Contaminant Release Media	Contaminant Transport Media	Contaminant Transport Mechanisms	Human Exposure Mechanisms
SCE1A: Gas release (vault)	Volatilization Degradation Radioactive Decay	Gas	Atmosphere (gas)	Diffusion Dispersion	Inhalation of gas and vapour
SCE2A Off-site residence	Leaching	Leachate	Ground water Soil Crops Animals Atmosphere (dust) Water (irrigation, drinking)	Repository waste; Soil unsaturated water zone; Aquifer; Well water; Sea water; Water abstraction for irrigation and drinking water; Foliar interception; Root uptake; Adsorption; Ingestion of water; pasture and soil by cows; Leaching; Erosion.	Ingestion of water, crops, fish and animal products Inhalation of dust External irradiation from soil
SCE3A: Drop and Crush (vault)	1				External irradiation from waste

Scenario	Contaminant Release Mechanisms	Contaminant Release Media	Contaminant Transport Media	Contaminant Transport Mechanisms	Human Exposure Mechanisms
SCE1B: Bathtubbing	Leaching	Leachate	Overflow leachate Soil Atmosphere (dust) Crops	Overflow of leachate; Suspension; Root uptake; Adsorption.	Ingestion of crops; Inadvertent ingestion of soil; Inhalation of dust; External irradiation from soil.
SCE2B: Off-site residence (the same as SCE2A)	Leaching	Leachate	Ground water Soil Crops Animals Atmosphere (dust) Water (irrigation, drinking)	Repository waste; Soil unsaturated water zone; Aquifer; Well water; Sea water; Water abstraction for irrigation and drinking water; Foliar interception; Root uptake; Adsorption; Ingestion of water; pasture and soil by cows; Leaching; Erosion.	Ingestion of water, crops, fish and animal products; Inhalation of dust; External irradiation from soil.

Scenario	Contaminant Release Mechanisms	Contaminant Release Media	Contaminant Transport Media	Contaminant Transport Mechanisms	Human Exposure Mechanisms
SCE3B: Road construction	Excavation	Dust	Atmosphere (dust)	Suspension	Inadvertent ingestion of contaminated material and waste; Inhalation of dust; External irradiation from contaminated material and waste.
SCE4B: Drilling (oil shale excavation)	Excavation	Dust	Atmosphere (dust)	Suspension	Inadvertent ingestion of contaminated material and waste; Inhalation of dust; External irradiation from contaminated material and waste.
SCE5B: On-site Residence adult	Excavation Gas generation	Excavated waste Gas	House Gas Soil Atmosphere (dust) Crops	Gas advection Root uptake Adsorption Suspension	Ingestion of crops; Inadvertent ingestion of soil; Inhalation of dust and gas; External irradiation from soil.
SCE6B: On-site Residence children play ground	Excavation Gas generation	Excavated waste Gas	House Gas Soil Atmosphere (dust)	Gas advection Root uptake Adsorption Suspension	Ingestion of crops; Inadvertent ingestion of soil; Inhalation of dust and gas; External irradiation from soil.

Assumptions in WAC calculations (operational period)

Scenario	Type of	Limiting	Exposure	Fraction of activity,	Assumed duration,	Assumed duration
	scenario	dose criteria,	Pathways	associated with the	spent in the gas	of external
		mSv/year		release (1- total, 0 -	plume, hours/year	exposure,
				nothing)		hours/year
			Operati	onal period		
Gas release	Normal	Worker – 20	Inhalation	H-3 - 0.039	Work1760	-
		Popul. – 0.3		C-14 - 0.2	Popul4383	
Liquid release (100 m off-site residence; surface water body- 1200 m)	Normal	Popul. – 0.3	External exp.; Inhalation; Ingestion of water, vegetables and fish	Calculated from: precipitation infiltration rate- 3 mm/year; Hydraulic conductivity of waste- 1·10 ⁻⁹ m/s (typical for concrete/clay)	8767	8767
Drop and crush	Accidental	Worker – 20 mSv/y	External exp.; Inhalation	1 waste package – 500 kg.	-	in the cab- 0.0167 h; on the ladder, and on the walkway- 0.0167 h; on the ground level- 0.0333 h
						0.0333 11

Ass	Assumptions in WAC calculations (post-closure period)								
Scenario	Type of scenario	Limiting dose criteria, mSv/year	Exposure Pathways	Activity dilution factor (1- not diluted, 0- totally diluted)	Assumed duration, spent outdoors, hours/year	Assumed duration, spent indoors, hours/year			
			Post clos	ure period	inour o, your				
Bathtubbing	Abnormal	Popul. – 0.3	External exp.; Dust inhalation; Ingestion of soil and veget.	1	2191	6575			
Liquid release (100 m off-site residence; surface water body- 1200 m)	Normal	Popul. – 0.3	External exp.; Inhalation; Ingestion of water, vegetables and fish	Calculated from: precipitation infiltration rate- 420 mm/year; Hydraulic conductivity of waste- 1·10 ⁻⁵ m/s (typical for sand/ limestone)	8767	8767			
Road construction	Intrusion	Popul 1	External exp.; Dust inhalation; Ingestion of soil	0.5	23.7	-			
Drilling on site	Intrusion	Popul 1	External exp.; Dust inhalation; Ingestion of soil	0.35	160	-			
On-site residence adult	Intrusion	Popul 1	External exp.; Dust inhalation; Ingestion of soil and veget.	0.35	2192	6575			
On-site residence children play ground	Intrusion	10 year old children - 1	External exp.; Dust inhalation; Ingestion of soil and veget.	0.35	2192 +365 h playing above waste	6575			

Potentially possible exposure scenarios during the operational period

Scenario code	Scenario name	
SCE1A	Gas release	
SCE2A	Liquid release (Off-site residence)	
SCE3A	Drop and crush	
SCE4A	Explosion	
SCE5A	Crash of flying object	
SCE6A	Criticality incident	
SCE7A	Flooding	
SCE8A	Bathtubbing	
SCE9A	Direct irradiation	
SCE10A	Solid release	
SCE11A	Fire	

Potentially possible exposure scenarios during the post-closure period

Scenario code	Scenario name
SCE1B	Bathtubbing
SCE2B	Off-site residence
SCE3B	Human intrusion- On-site road construction (inhalation and external exposure).
SCE4B	Human intrusion- On-site drilling (Investigation and sampling in the waste; inhalation and external exposure).
SCE5B	Human intrusion- On-site residence adult (water independent)
SCE6B	Human intrusion- On-site residence children play ground (water independent)

Limiting scenarios and activity limits

	Operational Period, Bq/kg Radio- /Limiting nuclide scenario		Post-closure period, Bq/kg / Limiting scenario							
					End o	of institution	nal control,	years		
Radio- nuclide			30		5	50		100		300
H-3	1.4E+0 9	Gas	4.4E+0 5	Off-site	1.4E+0 6	Off-site	2.6E+0 6	Bath.	1.4E+0 9	Off-site
Be-10	N/L	-	1.8E+0 6	Off-site	1.8E+0 6	Off-site	1.8E+0 6	Off-site	1.8E+0 6	Off-site
C-14	2.2E+0 8	Gas	3.1E+0 6	Off-site	3.1E+0 6	Off-site	3.3E+0 5	On-site	3.4E+0 5	On- site
Na-22	4.0E+1 1	Drop	1.1E+0 8	Drilling	2.3E+1 0	Drilling	4.0E+1 1	Bath.	N/L	-
Ca-41	8.3E+0 9	Drop	7.9E+0 7	Off-site	7.9E+0 7	Off-site	2.0E+0 5	On-site	2.0E+0 5	On-site
Mn-54	1.0E+1 2	Drop	1.0E+1 2	Drilling	N/L		N/L		N/L	-
Fe-55	1.0E+1 2	Drop	1.0E+1 2	Off-site	1.0E+1 2	Off-site	1.0E+1 2	On-site	N/L	-
Ni-59	N/L	-	7.7E+0 6	Off-site	7.7E+0 6	Off-site	7.7E+0 6	Off-site	7.7E+0 6	Off-site
Ni-63	N/L	-	3.3E+0 9	Drilling	3.8E+0 9	Drilling	8.7E+0 6	On-site	3.7E+0 7	On-site
Co-60	4.0E+1 1	Drop	1.7E+0 6	Drilling	2.4E+0 7	Drilling	9.8E+0 8	On-site	N/L	-

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