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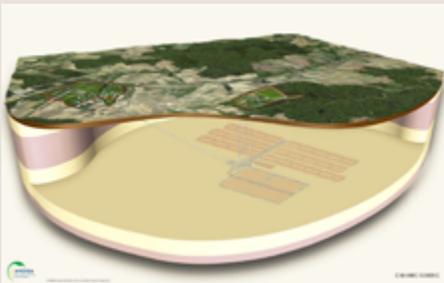
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Cigéo preliminary design review

The Cigéo project has passed a new milestone on June 25, when the preliminary definition review, initiated in March, was concluded with the review synthesis meeting. The review, commissioned by the French authorities, was held in the presence of experts, institutional guests, waste producers and Andra.

Jacques Regaldo, president of the review and chairman of WANO, noted the progress



made by the project and the conditions of transparency in which this review was held. The experts presented their recommendations that prefigure the synthesis report scheduled for mid-July.

These recommendations relate to the organization and the role of different actors of the project, the justification of the requirements, the fit-for-purpose design associated with the current knowledge regarding waste packages, and the flexibility of the facilities for integrating future design optimisations. ANDRA identifies the same priority technical issues.

Other remarks focus on the completeness of the preliminary design dossier and the development of the safety and retrievability options that will be submitted at year-end 2015. Additional information will be provided to clarify, justify and document the inputs to the final draft and detail its progress.

The recommendations are consistent with the work undertaken by the Agency and a start of the detailed design phase at the end of 2015.

For more information on the Cigéo project:
www.cigeo.com



Ecothèque: Preserving the memory of the environment

On 30 June - 1 July 2015, Andra organized the 2015 International Conference for environmental specimen banks (ESBs), in Nancy (France). Previous meetings were held in Shanghai (2013), Berlin (2010), Matsuyama (2009) and Charleston (2005). The scope of the Conference is to present and discuss about prospects and projects related to ESBs. The Andra Ecothèque is one of the most advanced storage facilities of its kind in the world, similar to those of NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) in the US and Fraunhofer in Germany. The Ecothèque is a long-term storage for all samples taken as part of the Permanent Environment Observatory (OPE).



This facility will ensure the traceability and integrity of all samples for at least one hundred years. It will preserve the samples that will help define the initial baseline of the site where Cigéo will be built, the future deep geological disposal facility. The «baseline» is an environmental memory of the site and is made up of environmental sampling projects run over a period of 10 years (2007-2017). While Cigéo is operating and after the site has been closed, other samples will be taken in order to monitor any changes to this initial baseline. The importance of having a long series of environmental samples that has been preserved in excellent condition by high-quality equipment has long been recognised by the scientific community and public figures. Only this type of equipment is able to guarantee long-term environmental monitoring.

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IAEA Director General, Mr. Amano, visits Andra



On Wednesday, May 27, Andra received Mr. Amano, Japanese diplomat and Director General of the IAEA, accompanied by his advisor Conleth Brady and two members of the Permanent Representation of France to the United Nations and international Organizations in Vienna: Marion Paradas, Ambassador of France, and François Bonino, Acting Governor. During this meeting, Pierre-Marie Abadie, Andra CEO, presented the activities of Andra and the progress of its projects. The discussions particularly concerned the territorial inclusion, the policy choices motivating the concept of Cigéo, the principles of reversibility and retrievability and the decision-making process associated.

The Club of Agencies meets in Troyes (France)

The Club of Agencies is an unofficial association of the Waste Management Organizations (WMO) holding meetings twice a year in one of the members' countries. This time, Troyes hosted the event from June 24th to 26th. The programme included meetings and site visits of the Aube facilities and the Underground Research Laboratory. Twenty three participants from twelve countries were present in Troyes.



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