

PRESS RELEASE

Media contact

Frédéric PIQUET
Media Relations
Telephone (+33) 1 46 11 83 01
Cellular (+33) 6 07 76 36 08
frederic.piquet@andra.fr

About Andra

The French National Radioactive Waste Management Agency (*Agence nationale pour la gestion des déchets radioactifs* - Andra) is a public industrial and commercial establishment instituted by the *Law of 30 December 1991*. Its missions were enhanced by the *Planning Act of 28 June 2006 Concerning the Sustainable Management of Radioactive Materials and Waste*.

Andra is independent from radioactive-waste producers and placed under the supervision of the Ministries for Energy, the Environment and Research.

Andra is in charge of ensuring the sustainable management of all French radioactive waste. It provides the French government with its expertise and know-how in order to design management solutions and to operate and to monitor disposal facilities for radioactive waste by protecting human beings and the environment against their effects over the short and long terms.

Lithuania Adopts Andra's Radioactive Waste Disposal Concept

On 23 October 2009, Andra signed a commercial contract with Lithuania in the framework of a consortium led by Areva TA. The Agency's mission will be to accompany the new customer in the design of a disposal facility for low- and intermediate-level (LIL) radioactive waste on the model of the CSFMA, a similar French facility located at Soulaines-Dhuys, Aube district. The Agency will provide its expertise, notably for the design and safety assessment of the future facility.

Within an industrial pool led by Areva TA and associating the French Radioactive Waste Management Agency (*Agence nationale pour la gestion des déchets radioactifs* - Andra) and three Lithuanian partners, the Agency signed a commercial contract with Lithuania on 23 October 2009 concerning the design of a new disposal facility for low- and intermediate-level (LIL) radioactive waste. By responding to such international call for tenders, **Andra is gradually positioning itself on the foreign consulting and client-support market for the disposal of radioactive waste.**

Drawing on their 40-year lessons-learned, Andra teams has demonstrated their know-how and experience in the management of French waste-disposal facilities: general design, construction supervision, operation (waste-acceptance procedure, waste-stream management), safety studies, as well as operational and post-closure monitoring of facilities and their environment.

Pursuant to the contract with Lithuania, Andra will be responsible for providing its expertise in order to orient the choices and decisions to be made at every stage of the project: selection of the final site, disposal concept, waste package characterisation, implementation of control measures, long-term safety studies.

The future facility will accommodate the LIL waste resulting from the dismantling of Lithuania's Ignalina nuclear-power plant and will be built according to the same concept as the French disposal facility for LIL waste (CSFMA), located at Soulaines-Dhuys, Aube District, and operated by Andra since 1992.