

CoRWM e-bulletin 29

February 2009

This bulletin invites comments, by 2 March 2009, on

- a full draft of CoRWM's draft report on interim storage - the first of three reports which the Committee plans to give to Government in 2009;
- a supporting draft report on research & development relevant to interim storage; and
- the Committee's revised proposals for its programme of work in 2009/10.

There is also a summary of our 27 January plenary meeting and a look forward to March 2009.

Your views invited on CoRWM's Interim Storage report

1. We would like your input to our report to Government in March 2009 on our interim storage tasks. The report, ***CoRWM Report to Government on the Interim Storage of Higher Activity Wastes and the Management of Spent Fuels, Plutonium and Uranium***, attached (CoRWM document 2500, dated 2 February 2009) covers the conditioning, packaging, storage and transport of higher activity wastes, and the management of spent fuels, plutonium and uranium. We published an outline on 19 December; and we would like to thank all those who commented. The full draft report takes account of people's views, which we shall publish during February, with a summary showing how they were taken into account. We would like your comments by **Monday 2 March**. There is a response form, to use if you wish.
2. Your comments on any part of the draft report are welcome but we would particularly like your views on our conclusions and proposed recommendations. We are also holding an invitation-only stakeholder workshop on 19 February to discuss the report. At our next plenary meeting on 18 March we shall review a revised draft and agree a final text; this will be sent to Government and published on our website by the end of that month.
3. We would also welcome your comments, by 2 March, on our draft ***Report on Research and Development for Conditioning, Packaging and Interim Storage of Radioactive Wastes and the Management of Spent Fuels, Plutonium and Uranium*** (CoRWM document 2389, dated 2 February 2009). This will be reviewed and published at the same time as our main storage report, to which it provides input. Much of the material in it will then be included in our main report to Government on R&D, due in June 2009, which will also have sections on R&D for geological disposal.

Your views invited on the Committee's work programme for 2009/10

4. We would like your views on our future work programme. We would like your comments by **Monday 2 March**. We published initial proposals in December; and we would like to thank those who commented.

5. These revised proposals (CoRWM document 2515) take account of people's views and now identify priority topics, indicate the level of resource that would be required for each task and show potential outputs (e.g. reports/position papers). All responses are recorded and will be published in a paper that shows how we have taken them into account.. In March we shall review the draft programme and comments from this consultation, agree a final version and submit it to Government for approval.
6. We would welcome your views on any part of our programme, including:
 - Are there any key issues which are not in our draft programme ?
 - Do you agree with the prioritisation given?
 - Do you have any comments on the resource levels and potential outputs?
 - Do you have any suggestions on how the process to develop the work programme could be improved for future years?

Our plenary meeting, 27 January

7. The Committee met in Manchester on 27 January. Papers went on our [website](#) a week in advance, with 3 new papers presented on the day.
8. Main issues and decisions at this meeting included:
 - Interim storage: Marion Hill presented a full draft report taking account of comments received on the outline. We discussed, suggested some changes, and agreed that a further version should be published for comment. (See **Your views invited** above.)
 - Research and development: we discussed our work on R&D in relation to interim storage and agreed to invite comments on a draft report, to which we suggested some changes.
 - Geological disposal: we discussed areas in which we might make recommendations to Government in June, including: wider Government engagement with local communities; joint working between local authorities; community packages; screening out unsuitable areas; Government commitment to volunteerism; and secure long-term funding.
 - Public and stakeholder engagement: we discussed events and activities designed to involve the public and stakeholders in the development of our 3 reports to Government on storage, geological disposal and research & development.
 - Our work programme: Our first year's programme is part of a 3-year rolling programme, and the meeting agreed that we should publish proposals for 2009/10. (See **Your views invited** above.) Starting from our outline proposals and stakeholder comments on them, we identified likely priority areas, likely outcomes including reports to Government, and areas which would need significant effort in order to deliver solid results.
9. Detailed minutes of the meeting will be published in February.

Our next plenary meeting is on 18 March 2009

The next meeting will be at the Cardiff Marriott Hotel, Mill Lane, Cardiff CF10 1EZ - see <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/cwldt-cardiff-marriott-hotel/> Further details will be posted on our website. Discussion will include

- interim storage: considering public and stakeholder views on the draft report and agreeing a final text of the report to Government
- research & development: agreeing an outline or draft report to publish for comment
- geological disposal via the Managing radioactive waste safely programme: agreeing an outline report to publish for comment
- CoRWM's draft work programme for 2009/10: agreeing a proposed programme to send Government.

Further information about our work can be found at <http://www.corwm.org.uk> or from our secretariat at CoRWM, 4C Ergon House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AL, telephone: 0207 238 1721, e-mail: corwm@decc.gsi.gov.uk.

Finally, we would welcome your comments on our e-bulletins. Do you find them useful? Could they be improved and, if so, how?