

CoRWM e-bulletin 37 November 2009

Welcome to this e-bulletin. We invite your comments on our ideas for our work programme for 2010-13, and report on our 19 November plenary and plans for our next one on 16-17 December. Please note the deadline of 7 January for any information on new-build wastes.

Your comments invited on our work programme for 2010-13

We would welcome your comments on the initial outline of our work programme for 2010-13. This is the first stage in the process of development and **your views are sought by 5 January 2010**. CoRWM will then review and produce a draft of a proposed programme for comment in February 2010.

The programme is set out in three tables:

Table 1: 2009-10 programme topics which will continue into 2010-11.

Table 2: potential new items for 2010-11.

Table 3: potential future items for the 2010-13 work programme.

We should be grateful for your general comments, and also in particular whether you have any views on the priority of topics.

Report of our plenary, York, 19 November 2009

We held an initial discussion of options for the long term management of plutonium. We discussed geological disposal, including progress in the West Cumbria MRWS Partnership, and draft advice to them on a peer review process for BGS screening. We discussed initial proposals for our 2010-13 work programme.

Long-term management of plutonium

We discussed recent Government work on options for the long term management of plutonium and its plans for a public consultation (document 2723). We considered a range of issues including when a decision was needed, how options should be assessed, and the technical and other, including ethical, issues involved.

Geological disposal

We discussed the progress of the West Cumbria *Managing radioactive waste safely* Partnership and its work programme (document 2724). We discussed the relationship that we should have with it: mainly to observe, though also to answer questions if appropriate. We considered proposals for CoRWM's role in relation to the proposed peer review of the screening process to be undertaken by the British Geological Survey (document 2711) including the need for public confidence in the process and outcome.

Our outline 2010-13 work programme

We are required to agree our forward plans with sponsor Governments and we shall be putting proposals to them in March 2010. We considered outline plans (document 2721) and agreed that, with some modifications, these should be published for comment. They include a proposed Status Report to Government in October 2010 which will report – and possibly make further recommendations – on developments in the UK since our three 2009 Reports

on interim storage, geological disposal and R&D. Much of the programme involves tasks or issues continuing from 2009/10 and the scope for new work is limited.

Further details of the meeting

Papers for this and other plenary meetings can be found at <http://www.corwm.org.uk/Pages/Plenary%20Meetings/Forms/Meetings.aspx> Draft minutes of the meeting will be published in December.

Our next plenary, London, 16-17 December 2009

Our next plenary meeting will be on 16-17 December at MWB Business Exchange, 10 Greycoat Place, London SW1P 1SB, telephone 020 7960 6000, fax 020 7960 6100. [Click here for venue details](#)

Discussion is expected to include:

- initial plenary discussion on new build wastes - that is, the conditioning, packaging, interim storage and geological disposal of intermediate level wastes and spent fuel from new build power stations - focused on the preparation of a formal CoRWM response to the UK Government's consultation on the draft nuclear National Policy Statement, and
- updates on the progress of geological disposal, and discussion of the Government response to the Committee's July report and recommendations.

A detailed agenda, including start and finish times, will be published around 2 December.

New-build wastes

We shall also discuss new build wastes at our 27-28 January plenary meeting which will be held at the same address. We shall consider a draft of our response to the current Government consultation: the draft will be published in advance of the meeting.

In our October e-bulletin we invited you to send us any information on the management and disposal of new build intermediate level wastes and spent fuel that you wanted to draw to our attention. We do not wish to impose extra burdens on our stakeholders and are willing to accept information that has already been published or prepared for other purposes. **It would be helpful if you could send it to us, at the address below, by 7 January 2010.**

Further information about our work can be found at <http://www.corwm.org.uk> or from our secretariat at CoRWM, Area D, 3rd floor, 3 Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2AW , telephone: 0300 068 6117, e-mail: corwm@decc.gsi.gov.uk. Our phone numbers are:

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