



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

Community research

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

EURADWASTE '08

Seventh European Commission Conference on the Management
and Disposal of Radioactive Waste

COMMUNITY POLICY & RESEARCH
AND TRAINING ACTIVITIES

20-23 October 2008
Luxembourg

www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7/euratom-fission/events_en.html

> BACKGROUND

The Euratom Treaty celebrated its 50th birthday in March 2007. One of the core tasks of the Treaty is to promote research and ensure dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge for the peaceful use of nuclear energy. Research on radioactive waste has been a principal domain of activity, and remains so within the 7th Euratom Framework Programme (2007-2011).

Safe long-term management of radioactive waste is a key requirement whether or not there is to be continued development of nuclear power. The political importance of the waste issue in the context of future energy supply is clearly evident in the European Commission's Green Paper on "A European Strategy for a Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy" and subsequent Communications in January 2007 on "An Energy Policy for Europe" and "Towards a European Strategic Energy Technology Plan". A number of Eurobarometer public opinion surveys on this and related topics also reflect the level of concern in the general population and the need for clear waste management strategies.

The European dimension to this issue demands an effective and well integrated programme of research at the Community level. The Euratom Framework Programme is leading this effort, and is increasingly focusing on implementation oriented R&D, demonstrating that safe, permanent and publicly acceptable solutions are available for the management and disposal of high-level and long-lived radioactive waste in geological formations.

> OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE

The objective of Euradwaste '08 is to present an overview of all recent European Commission (EC) activities in the field of radioactive waste management, including R&D, policy, strategic and socio-political aspects. The conference will be a showcase to present progress achieved by the research community during the 6th Euratom Framework Programme (2002-2006).

Research in both geological disposal and partitioning and transmutation (P&T) is covered.

Major multi-partner and multi-million euro projects were launched in all aspects of geological disposal and covering the three main types of geological formations (crystalline, salt and argillaceous). Similarly, large integrating projects were launched in the field of P&T as part of the exploration of concepts to minimise waste quantities and toxicity and produce less waste in nuclear energy generation. Funding also continued in the area of governance and local stakeholder involvement.

> CONFERENCE THEMES

Community policy (management of radioactive waste, associated research policy, possible future strategies)

Socio-political aspects (governance and decision-making, public perception and acceptance, stakeholder involvement, sustainability issues)

FP6 research programme (repository near-field processes, Engineered Barrier Systems; radionuclide migration in the far-field; engineering studies and repository technologies; Performance Assessment methodologies for the safety case; cooperation, technology transfer and development of options for shared repositories; co-ordination of national research programmes; status in P&T techniques and technologies).

> PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The conference will feature plenary and poster sessions. Plenary presentations will be made by guest speakers in the form of keynote addresses, with overviews and analyses of EC policy as well as socio-political aspects and summaries of EC-funded research projects. Posters will be arranged for additional contributions and detailed project results.

> ORGANISATION AND REGISTRATION

Venue:

European Commission
Jean Monnet Building
Luxembourg — Kirchberg

Date:

20-23 October 2008, including one day of technical visits.

Simultaneous interpretation from/into English, French, German and Spanish will be provided on the first day (sessions on EC policy and socio-political aspects). Sessions on technical projects will be in English only. The proceedings will be published in English.

Detailed information regarding the programme, accommodation and transport will be made available, together with the registration form, in mid-2008.

To obtain this information, please complete the pre-registration form available at www.cordis.europa.eu/fp7/euratom-fission/events_en.html

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