

International Good Practice on Practical Implementation of Characterisation in Decommissioning

Provided by: The WPDD Task Group on Radiological Characterisation and Decommissioning

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Within the Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), the Working Party on Decommissioning and Dismantling (WPDD) operates under the umbrella of the Radioactive Waste Management Committee (RWMC). The WPDD provides a focus for the analysis of decommissioning policy, strategy and regulation, including the related issues of waste management, release of buildings and sites from regulatory control and associated cost estimation and funding. WPDD also convenes task groups comprised of experts from the NEA member countries to review related topics such as characterisation techniques which support decommissioning and associated waste management.

The Task Group on Radiological Characterisation and Decommissioning was established in 2011 to identify and present characterisation good practice at different stages of decommissioning and to identify areas that could, or should, be developed further through international cooperation and coordination. By the end of 2016 two phases of work will be complete. The first phase developed strategic guidance for decision makers on the selection and tailoring of strategies for radiological characterisation, which gives an overview of good practice for radiological characterisation at different phases of the life cycle of a nuclear installation¹. The second phase has focused on strategies for practical implementation of radiological characterisation from a waste and materials end-state perspective.

This paper provides a summary of the phase 2 findings, covering:

- A major international survey (questionnaire) to elicit the views of characterisation experts regarding good practice
- Learning drawn from recent international case studies
- The collation and analysis of regulations, standards and guidance documents
- Learning distilled from an international conference on characterisation co-organised by the task group

¹ NEA (2013), ["Radiological Characterisation for Decommissioning of Nuclear Installations"](#) NEA/RWM/WPDD (2013)2, OECD, Paris.

- Overall conclusions regarding characterisation good practice, recommendations and identified areas for further international cooperation

The final report on the second phase is expected to be published in first half of 2017.