

Policies

Country: NETHERLANDS

Reporting Year: 2005

National Systems

Policy		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q14	Has your Country implemented a national policy for radioactive waste management?	Yes
<p>Comment # 7380: National waste management policy</p> <p>Since 1984 the government of the Netherlands follows a straightforward policy based on the principle that hazardous materials must be 'isolated, controlled and monitored'. Main elements of this policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - all kinds and categories of radioactive waste will be stored for at least 100 years above ground in engineered structures which allow retrieval at all times; - long-term storage, together with a central treatment facility is seen as a normal industrial activity and will be located on one single site; - research will be performed on final disposal possibilities within the Netherlands or within an international framework; - COVRA will take care of all the wastes produced. <p>Direct disposal is not yet feasible in the Netherlands. A disposal site for this type of waste is not available, the public acceptability for deep geologic disposal is low and the small volumes of waste do not yet require an immediate final solution. Also the financial burden of a direct disposal facility is prohibitive for the small quantities concerned. The money can however be generated when a capital growth fund is allowed to grow over a substantial time period.</p> <p>Long-term storage also allows for the application of future international or regional disposal solutions or even complete new techniques to remove the hazardous constituents.</p> <p>The choice to store for a long time was well considered and was not taken as a 'wait and see' option. This is clearly demonstrated by the fact that integral parts of the policy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the creation of a capital growth fund; - a clear choice to transfer the ownership of the waste fully to COVRA. <p>This policy does not leave the burden of the waste generated today to future generations. Only the execution of the disposal is left as a task for the future, as will be the closing of the disposal site. This is a step-wise approach, where each step can be undone and replaced by another activity if so desired.</p>		
Strategies		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q15	Has your country developed strategies to implement a national policy?	Yes
Requirements		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q17	identified the parties involved in the different steps of radioactive waste management	Yes
Q18	specified a rational set of safety, radiological and environmental protection objectives	Yes
Q19	implemented a mechanism to identify existing and anticipated radioactive wastes	Yes
Q20	implemented controls over radioactive waste generation	Yes
Q21	identified available methods and facilities to process, store and dispose of radioactive waste on an appropriate time-scale	Yes
Q22	taken into account interdependencies among all steps in radioactive waste generation and management	Yes
Q23	implemented appropriate research and development to support the operational and regulatory needs	Yes
Q24	implemented a funding structure and the allocation of resources that are essential for radioactive waste management	Yes
Q25	implemented formal mechanisms for disseminating information to the public and for public consultation	Yes

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Responsibilities		(Complete;Incomplete)
Q28	establish and implement a legal framework for the management of radioactive waste	Complete
Q29	establish or designate a regulatory body that has the responsibility for carrying out the regulatory function with regard to safety and the protection of human health and the environment.	Complete
Q30	define the responsibilities of waste generators and operators of waste management facilities	Complete
Q31	provide for adequate resources	Complete
Q33	enforce compliance with regulatory requirements	Complete
Q34	implement the licensing process	Complete
Q35	advise the government	Complete
Q37	identify an acceptable destination for the radioactive waste	Complete
Q114	comply with legal requirements	Complete

Activities		(Yes;Partially;No)
Q43	perform safety and environmental impact assessments for radioactive waste management facilities	Yes
Q44	ensure adequate radiation protection for workers, the general public and the environment	Yes
Q45	ensure suitable staff, equipment, facilities, training and operating procedures are available to perform the safe radioactive waste management steps	Yes
Q46	establish and implement a quality assurance programme for the radioactive waste generated or its processing, storage and disposal	Yes
Q47	establish and keep records of appropriate information regarding the generation, processing, storage and disposal of radioactive waste, including an inventory of radioactive waste	Yes
Q48	provide surveillance and control of activities involving radioactive waste as required by the regulatory body	Yes
Q49	collect, analyze and, as appropriate, share operational experience to ensure continued safety improvements in radioactive waste management	Yes
Q50	conduct or otherwise ensure appropriate research and development to support operational needs in radioactive waste management	Yes

Clearance		(Yes;No)
Q128	Does your country have "clearly defined clearance levels based on radiological criteria, with policy statements that material below those levels can be recycled or disposed of with non-radioactive wastes"?	Yes
Q129	Has your country ever used a "case-by-case" approach to clearing radioactive wastes (excluding spent/disused sealed radioactive sources)?	No
Q130	Has your country ever used clearance levels to dispose of, reuse or recycle radioactive waste as non-radioactive waste or as a non-radioactive resource (excluding spent/disused sealed radioactive sources)?	Yes

Comment # 9714: Policies National Systems-Clearance

Clearance is regularly used for short lived waste in the medical and research area. Waste can be stored for two years maximum at the generator's site to allow for decay under the clearance level. Then the waste is disposed of as non-radioactive material.

Clearance and exemption levels are the same in the national legislation.

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Disposal Facilities

Licensing		(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)
Q53	Environmental Assessment (EA)	Yes - All
Q54	Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	Yes - All
Q55	Performance Assessment (PA)	Yes - All
Q56	Quality Assurance (QA)	Yes - All
Q57	Safety Assessment (SA)	Yes - All
Q59	If Quality Assurance is part of your Country's current, waste disposal facility licensing policy, does the QA Program conform to international standards (such as the ISO9000 series)?	Yes - All

Operation		(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)
Q60	Does your Country have formal, documented waste acceptance criteria for its operating or proposed disposal facilities?	Yes - Some

Comment # 351: Acceptance criteria for disposal

There is no operating disposal facility, however waste has to be conditioned according to approved schemes and then it will be suitable for final disposal (reference disposal facility is a deep disposal facility in salt). For LILW and for HLW conditioning schemes are present, not yet for SF.

Post-Closure		(Yes;No)
Q61	Does your Country have any written policies to address the maintenance of records that describe the design, location and inventory of waste disposal facilities?	No
Q63	Does your Country have any written policies to address active institutional controls or passive institutional controls, such as monitoring or access restrictions?	No

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Processing/Storage

Policies/Procedures		(Yes;No)
Q73	waste sorting/segregation	Yes
Q74	waste minimization	Yes
Q75	waste storage	Yes
Q76	processing and/or storing and/or disposing of nuclear fuel cycle waste separately from non-nuclear fuel cycle waste (also known as nuclear applications waste)	No
Q78	Does your country have any legislation, regulation, or policy that waste processing must take place prior to storage (see following note)	Yes
Implementation		(Yes;No)
Q80	In your Country are there any waste processing facilities at the same location where the waste is generated?	Yes
Q81	In your Country are there any centralized waste processing facilities?	Yes
Q82	In your Country are there any mobile waste processing facilities?	Yes
Foreign		(Yes;No)
Q121	Has your country sent any wastes or spent fuel to another country for processing (reprocessing for fuel)?	Yes
Q122	Will some or all of the product(s) of processing/reprocessing be returned to your country?	Yes
Q123	Currently, are any of your country's wastes (processed or unprocessed, including the products of reprocessing) or spent fuel being stored in another country?	Yes
Q124	Has your country accepted any wastes or spent fuel from another country for processing (reprocessing for fuel)?	No

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Spent/Disused SRS

Registration		(Yes;No)
Q84	Is there a national level registry?	Yes
Q85	If answer was yes, is the registry used only for disused/spent SRS?	No
Q87	Are there regional-level registries (one or more)?	No
Q90	Are there local-level registries (one or more)?	No
Procedures		(Yes;No)
Q91	Does your Country have documented procedures in place to ensure that sealed radioactive sources (SRS) are transferred to secure facilities in a timely manner after their user declares them to be spent?	Yes
Agreements		(Yes;No)
Q93	Government to Government agreements	No
Q94	Government - Supplier agreements	No
Q95	Supplier-User agreements	Yes
Q97	Do any agreements include suppliers that are outside of your Country?	Yes
Release / Disposal		(Yes;No)
Q99	Does your Country have any regulations to free-release spent sealed radioactive sources (SRS)?	No
Q100	Has your Country disposed of spent SRS in existing disposal facilities for LILW or HLW waste?	No
Q101	Does your Country plan to dispose of spent SRS in existing or planned disposal facilities for LILW or HLW waste?	Yes
Q102	Has your Country implemented dedicated disposal facilities for spent SRS?	No
Q103	Does your Country have plans to implement dedicated disposal facilities for spent SRS?	No
Import-Export		
Radioactive Waste		(Yes;No)
Q104	Does your Country have laws or Regulations restricting either the import or export of radioactive waste (excluding spent fuel)?	Yes
Spent Fuel		(Yes;No)
Q105	Does your Country have laws or Regulations restricting either the import or export of spent fuel?	Yes

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Liquid HLW**Storage****(Yes;No)**

Q106 Does your Country have high-level liquid wastes in storage? No

UMMT**Responsibility****(Yes;No)**

Q110 Does your Country have any Uranium Mine and Mill Tailings sites that do not have a designated authority to manage them? No

Decommissioning**Funding****(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)**

Q111 Does your Country require that funds should be set aside in support of future waste management activities, such as decommissioning activities? Yes - All

Facilities**(Yes;No)**

Q119 Does Your Country have any nuclear fuel cycle facilities? Yes

Q120 Does Your Country have any nuclear applications facilities (non fuel cycle facilities)? Yes

Timeframe**(Yes - All;Yes - Some;No)**

Q112 Does your Country require a time frame for the decommissioning of nuclear fuel cycle facilities once these facilities cease operation? Yes - All

Q113 Does your Country require a time frame for the decommissioning of non-nuclear fuel cycle facilities once these facilities cease operation? No