

UNITED STATES NUCLEAR WASTE TECHNICAL REVIEW BOARD

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NWTRB Publishes Two New Products Regarding the Siting of Radioactive Waste Facilities

On September 11, the U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board (Board) published Proceedings for the Board's international workshop on the siting of radioactive waste facilities. Held on August 29, 2023, in Idaho Falls, Idaho, and online, the workshop brought together Board members, internationally recognized experts, three of whom were from outside of the United States, and officials from the Department of Energy (DOE). The participants examined the processes for developing consent during the siting of new radioactive waste management and disposal facilities (consent-based siting). The newly published proceedings summarize the workshop presentations, discussions, key themes, and takeaways.

The Board has also created and published (online at www.nwtrb.gov) an interactive table summarizing the progress in developing repository programs around the world for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste. For 13 selected countries, the table shows the major milestones reached and estimated dates for future milestones. The table will be updated periodically as new information becomes available.

The Board is an independent federal agency in the Executive Branch. It was established in the Nuclear Waste Policy Amendments Act of 1987 (Public Law 100-203) to perform an ongoing evaluation of the technical and scientific validity of U.S. Department of Energy activities related to developing and implementing a program for the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste, in accordance with the terms of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. Board members serve part-time and are appointed by the President from a list of nominees submitted by the National Academy of Sciences.

The new report and other Board reports, correspondence, congressional testimony, meeting transcripts, and related materials are posted on the Board's website at www.nwtrb.gov.