

Swedish National Council for Nuclear Waste

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Mission

- Independent committee attached to the Ministry of Environment (advise the government)
- Studies issues relating to nuclear waste and the decommissioning of nuclear installations
- Members - independent experts within technology and natural sciences as well as ethics and social sciences

Activities

- Report on the state of knowledge in the nuclear waste area every third year
- Independent review of SKB's RD&D programme for the disposal of spent nuclear fuel (every third year)
- Hearings & seminars (transparency programme) and other knowledge building activities

Why a transparency programme?

- Discussions with stakeholders 2005 and 2006 on their views about the future work of the Nuclear Waste Council
- Discussions showed a need for activities by the Council in which controversial issues can be discussed and clarified in an open dialogue – possible since the Council has no formal role in the licensing process
- Decision (2006) on a transparency programme

Aim

- Knowledge building for the Council
- Host dialogues, discussions and hearings on important and controversial issues (e.g., deep bore holes and copper corrosion)
- Be a resource for all stakeholders

Structure

- Dialogue with stakeholders on a yearly basis to get feedback on the programme & suggestions on issues for dialogue
- Decision in the Council on issues to deal with & format for the activity (hearing/seminar etc)
- Define a working group for each activity, mainly members of the Council
- In case of a hearing – members of the Council in a panel asking questions to clarify arguments etc.
- Dialogue with stakeholders as preparation for hearings/seminars
- The activities are documented, but the Council do not draw any conclusions in the report - this is done in other contexts.

Activities in the past & upcoming events

- ✓ Deep Boreholes (March 2007)
- ✓ Decommissioning of nuclear installations (December 2007)
- ✓ Analysis of the system for final disposal (April 2008)
- ✓ Site selection – on what grounds? (June 2008)
- ✓ Participation & Democracy (December, 2008)
 - Argumentation in the NWM issue (April 2009)
 - Copper corrosion (autumn 2009)
 - Authorities regulations and guidance (spring 2010)

Way forward

We will do an evaluation of the programme in the near future and that will indicate our way forward.