

# NEA INTEGRATION GROUP FOR THE SAFETY CASE (IGSC) SAFETY CASE SYMPOSIUM 2024

## *MOVING TOWARDS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SAFE DGR – GETTING REAL*

8-10 October 2024 (optional site tour: 11 October 2024), Budapest, Hungary

### ANNOUNCEMENT

#### Background

Over the past two decades, the safety case has become a powerful and essential tool to support decision making for every stage of a geological disposal programme. Now an increasing number of national programmes are advancing towards licencing and the realisation of their deep geological repository (DGR) for high-level radioactive waste. Licensing is a milestone achievement in the evolution and periodic updating of the safety case following an iterative process of research, site characterization, design development and demonstration, safety assessment and integration, generally spanning over multiple decades. This is accompanied by regulatory reviews and ongoing communication with involved stakeholders. Throughout this process the entire lifecycle of the waste, from its generation to its ultimate disposal is duly considered. Of particular importance is the embedding of optimisation within the process, so as to achieve the best outcomes for safety, technical feasibility, sustainability, costs and to fulfil stakeholder expectations and requirements.

This stepwise process follows the holistic approach to waste management and entails, amongst others, the transfer of information between the different stages of waste generation and management, in the form of data, criteria, liabilities, decisions and requirements. The safety case provides the framework for integrating all information relevant to the DGR to support the decisions taken at each stage of this process. The IGSC has developed the structure and essential elements of the safety case, such that a conceptual safety case, first developed at the early stages of a programme, can be progressively developed and deployed at later stages of the programme. Safety case digitalisation as well as knowledge preservation and transfer through expert generations are now being recognised as key for the successful iteration and development of the safety case towards DGR implementation.

#### Aims

In view of this, the objectives of the forthcoming IGSC symposium are to:

- Identify the key success factors from safety cases that have supported successful licensing steps, examining the lessons learned and the challenges faced in this regard by advanced DGR programmes
- Understand how a safety case evolves through the different initial stages of a disposal programme, from the generic through to the site-specific stage, and then through the construction stages
- Explore the role of specific features, such as requirements management systems and information, data and knowledge management (IDKM) in building a safety case and in supporting its evolution throughout successive key milestones in a disposal programme
- Practically apply knowledge sharing by involving early career scientists in the symposium, enabling them to exchange knowledge and discuss their views, ideas and expectations, with the aim of building an enduring network to support the next generation
- Exchange experience with other non-DGR disposal facilities, especially concerning the application of holistic approaches to waste management

#### Attendees

The symposium will be of interest to individuals and organisations concerned with the safety case of disposal of radioactive waste including implementers, regulators, technical and social science researchers, and interested stakeholders. The focus is on geological disposal programmes and the lessons learned from other types of (disposal) facilities to geological disposal.

#### Registration

A registration fee of 350 euros will be payable by each participant. The special registration fee for students is 200 euros. Registration fees include coffee during the breaks, lunches and the conference dinner. Enquiries about the conference should be sent to [Safety-Case-Symposium-2024@oecd-nea.org](mailto:Safety-Case-Symposium-2024@oecd-nea.org) For additional information, please visit

[https://www.oecd-nea.org/jcms/pl\\_79848/safety-case-symposium-2024-movingtowards-the-construction-of-a-safe-dgr-getting-real](https://www.oecd-nea.org/jcms/pl_79848/safety-case-symposium-2024-movingtowards-the-construction-of-a-safe-dgr-getting-real)

#### Venue and site tour

The IGSC Symposium 2024 will take place in Budapest, Hungary. Information for the site tour is available on the event web page.

#### Programme Committee

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BEN HADJ HASSINE Seif	EC/EURAD	MEKKI Soufiane	NEA
BERNIER Frederic	FANC (BE)	MIBUS Jens	BASE (DE)
BROWN Julie	CNSC (CA)	MOLNAR Peter	PURAM (HU)
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CAPOUET Manuel	ONDRAF (BE)	PEAKE Tom	EPA (USA)
ILETT Doug	EA (UK)	STEIN John	NEA
KAEMPFER Thomas	OST/NAGRA(SWT)	TADESSE Rebecca	NEA
LEUZ Ann-Kathrin	ENSI (SWT)	VOINIS Sylvie	ANDRA (FR)

#### Programme, Sessions and Activities

- [Keynote lectures \(invited talks\) on](#)
- Radioactive waste management and safety case in Hungary
- Requirement management systems
- Learning from nuclear facilities & mining industry
- Information, data and knowledge management
- [Plenary sessions and invited talks on](#)
- Role & evolution of the safety case when moving to implementation
- Information, data and knowledge management (IDKM)
- Derivation and management of criteria and requirements
- Learning from nuclear facilities
- [Avant-Garde sessions](#)
- Disposal of unconventional & legacy waste
- Waste from next generation reactors
- [Oral and poster presentations on](#)
- Derivation and implementation of criteria and requirements
- Disposal of unconventional & legacy waste
- Waste from next generation reactors
- Regulator, implementer and stakeholder dialogue
- Safety assessment and research, development & demonstration
- Safety case: Moving forward in the face of uncertainty
- Information, data and knowledge management (IDKM)
- Learning from operating disposal facilities (optimisation, operation...)
- [Young professionals' network](#)
- [Expert panels](#)
- [Interactions and scientific cooperation with EC/EURAD programmes](#)

#### Call for abstracts

Abstracts (300-500 words) are solicited for both the oral presentations and the poster session. The programme committee will notify the authors of the acceptance of the abstracts for oral presentation or poster session. Abstracts must be submitted through the conference website; please visit the site for full instructions.

#### Key dates

<b>07 November 2023</b>	<b>Registration &amp; call for abstracts open</b>
<b>29 February 2024</b>	<b>Deadline for abstract submission (300-500 words)</b>
<b>15 April 2024</b>	<b>Notification to authors of abstract acceptance for oral presentation or poster session</b>
<b>30 April 2024</b>	<b>Final symposium programme publication</b>
<b>30 June 2024</b>	<b>Registration closure</b>
<b>31 August 2024</b>	<b>Final full paper submission (3-7 pages)</b>
<b>08-11 October 2024</b>	<b>Symposium 2024</b>