

Stakeholder involvement in the siting process for the Deep Geological Repository-Experience
Transfer to Decommissioning.

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2009 the Nuclear waste management company, SKB, chose Forsmark in the municipality of Östhammar as the best place for a repository for spent nuclear fuel. As a natural follower to that, SKB brought two license applications forward 2011 to the authorities in Sweden, the Land- and environmental court (MMD) and the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM).

Last year SKB also brought two similar applications to the authorities concerning the extension of the already existing and operating (since 1988) repository for low- and intermediate radioactive waste, SFR, located in Forsmark.

Parallel to this SKB also want to expand and prolong the operation of the central storage of nuclear waste, CLAB, in Oskarshamn, due to the need that Swedish Waste management program has to face concerning decommissioning of nuclear reactors and power plants.

The pressure from the owners of nuclear power plants and municipalities, with nuclear power plant sites that will be decommissioned, is clearly on the agenda since a couple of years as well as the question if there are enough money in the Swedish Nuclear fund to deal with the Swedish nuclear waste management program.

Both municipalities, Östhammar and Oskarshamn, dealt with the issues of permissions of SFR as well as CLAB for themselves in the early 80's. But when the site selection process started concerning a final repository for spent nuclear fuel, both municipalities have been cooperating and been an active part in the process since 1994. One of the main conditions for the participation was the possibility to be financed by the fund.

There are three leading themes that form the basis for our participation – voluntarism, complete openness of plans and results and participation with the possibility to influence. The main goal for the organisations is to build up knowledge skills and prepare both the existing as well as the future municipality assemblies for the decisions of whether or not the municipality of Östhammar and Oskarshamn will accept the facilities that SKB has applied for, a final repository for spent nuclear fuel in Östhammar and an encapsulation plant in Oskarshamn (the so called veto-decisions).

The absolutely most important issue for the municipalities has all along been long term safety and as the process progress, the municipalities work with dialogue with the inhabitants, stretch the implementer and leave several statements to the authorities. The municipalities are through their selfgovernance an asset and active parts in the process of finding a solution for long term safe waste management of radioactive waste in Sweden.

I will talk about how the municipality have worked with this complex issue towards inhabitants, local politicians, the implementer and authorities over time, when SFR was located to Östhammar in 1985, the process around repository for spent nuclear fuel and how important it is to think future in your decisionmaking. And the initiatives to a network for municipalities and regions who are site selected or already have a repository for nuclear waste in any form within Europe.