

## Radioactive Waste Management in Emergencies: The UK Approach

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The second meeting of the NEA’s Expert Group for Recovery Management (EGRM) held in the UK in October 2019 was focused on waste management in emergencies. In preparation for the meeting, members were asked to assess how their nation had addressed the international safety standards for the management of wastes in emergencies, notably Requirement 15 of the International Atomic Energy Agency’s (IAEA) Generic Safety Requirements – Part 7[1]. The findings showed that good progress had been made in a number of areas, however, more work was needed to ensure member states are fully prepared. This is particularly notable for member states that have yet to make the distinction between the arrangements for managing wastes from routine operations and those required in emergencies.

Following the EGRM meeting, and assessments carried out for an IAEA Integrated Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) mission to the UK in October 2019, the UK’s Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies Recovery Working Group (NRE-RWG) has commissioned a project to develop a national plan for the management of wastes in emergencies, based on IAEA TecDoc 1826[2]. Developing the plan will involve a review of guidance and lessons learned from previous incidents, updates to policy, strategy and legislation, and build upon the UK’s current operational arrangements, such as those captured within the UK Recovery Handbooks for Radiation Incidents [3] and the Defra CBRN Recovery Framework. The outputs of the project, along with best practice taken from other member states, will be shared with the EGRM to inform the waste management section of the forthcoming NEA Recovery Framework.

**Keywords:** *Waste, GSR7, Emergency, NRE-RWG*

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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### REFERENCES

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