

# Long-term safety approach for the Cigéo disposal

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## The safety case is a masterpiece of the license application files

Collection of arguments and evidence to demonstrate the safety of a disposal facility

# It covers the whole lifecycle of the planned facility (from conception to post closure)

It presents assessment of radiological and non radiological risks.

# It's periodically reviewed during the operation of the facility to :

- Update the information about the facility and its operational conditions
- Check its conformance to regulation requirements and to the safety demonstration
- Compare the safety level to more recent facilities

# (ANDRA Cigéo

- 1- To isolate the waste from human actions and surface phenomena
- The site and the depth of implementation of the disposal
- Design measures
  - example
- Without to depend onto an institutional control on which it cannot be relied on after a period of time
  - Preservation of the memory, as long as possible after closure of the disposal





# 2- To limit the transfer of radionuclides and chemical toxics from the waste to the biosphere

- To limit the circulation of water
- To limit the release of radionuclide and chemical toxics from the waste and immobilise them (in the disposal structures)
- To delay and attenuate the migration of radionuclides and chemical toxics which are potentially released from the waste

## 3- To limit physico and chemical interactions in the disposal

- Use as much as possible well known material
- Simplification of processes (thermal, mechanical, hydraulic, chemical, radiological) and their coupling to account for

## 4- To manage criticality



# Design, Knowledge and Safety Analyses



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# Quantification of safety scenarios

An iterative process combining knowledge from science / design / safety





#### Development of scenarios constitutes the fundamental basis

- » for the quantitative assessment
- » as well as the choice of data and models to assess the scenarios

#### **Types of Scenarios**

- » Normal Evolution Scenario
- » Altered Evolution Scenario
- » What if scenarios
- » Human intrusion scenarios

# ANDRA Cigéo

## Quantification of safety scenarios From phenomenological assessment to safety assessment



### Preliminary assessment supporting safety calculations Hydraulic and solute transfer in geological media

#### Components of safety model to be taken into account



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### Preliminary assessment supporting safety calculations Hydraulic and solute transfer in geological media





# The post-closure quantitative assessment of Cigeo is based on the values of a set of indicators used:

- to check the individual operation of each component as regards transfers and to assess its performance as regards the post-closure safety functions assigned to it, as well as overall operation
- to judge the robustness of the repository;
- to eliminate certain uncertainties. For example, unlike the dose rate, the "radionuclide flow on exit from the host formation" is independent of the uncertainties associated with the surrounding formations and the biosphere.

**Examples:** 

Quantity of radionuclides (and toxic element) releases by the waste over time

The percentage breakdowns between the water flows and the radionuclide (and toxic element) flows by advection and diffusion within the repository and in the Callovo-Oxfordian

The molar flow rates and activity of the radionuclides (and toxic elements) at the exit from each of the components (package, cell, seals, host formation) over time





### Quantitative Evaluation : Example of Radiological Impact Evaluations (Dose) and Indicator Molar flux for Cigéo

#### Normal Evolution Scenario

#### **Reference situation**

#### Altered Evolution Scenario Malfunctions of seals

#### What-if Scenario Malfunctions of all seals





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 $10^{4}$ 

Time (years)

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