



European observatory for long-term governance on radioactive waste management

Facilitating Local Community Involvement in Repository Siting Programmes

A 3-day workshop to trial the OBRA Community Information Package, Meiringen, Switzerland, 7-9 April 2008
(to be confirmed)

Objective

The aim of the workshop is to bring together representatives of communities who are becoming involved in the siting of geological repositories with those who already have experience of what is involved in order to explore:

- information needs to help with decision-making;
- how information can be accessed;
- how the various parties in the process become involved and interact;
- the expectations on community representatives and how these can be met.

In addition to community representatives, technical experts will attend to answer questions about geological repository projects and to relate international experience of how siting programmes have developed and managed problems.

Information Package

The OBRA project has produced a trial information pack to assist community representatives in entering the siting process. It contains information on:

- stakeholder roles, interactions, constraints and expectations;
- technical background to geological disposal;
- sources of reliable, independent information to assist community representatives.

A further objective of the workshop is to test this information package to see how it could be developed and improved so as to form a central source of data and advice to assist communities in current and future European repository projects. Eventually, it is anticipated that this package will cover all aspects of radioactive management facilities, including surface repositories and storage facilities.

Structure of workshop

The main sections of the workshop will consist of:

- Panel Session 1: international experiences in siting and in stakeholder involvement
- Panel Session 2: the technical basis and impacts of a geological repository
- Informal Discussion: community involvement experiences and lessons learned
- Role Play Exercise: siting a repository: the impact of different stakeholder views
- How to access and use reliable, independent information.

Who should attend? The workshop is intended principally for local community representatives and their advisers who are becoming involved in siting projects or who have recently been involved in siting projects that are close to completion.

Expressions of interest: please contact Gabi Vonlanthen at gabi.vonlanthen@itc-school.org as soon as possible, as places will be limited in this small workshop.

Registration deadline: 10th March 2008

Workshop cost: a workshop fee, payable in advance, will cover accommodation for three nights, all meals, coffee breaks and workshop material and is estimated to be 400 EUR (to be confirmed).

Further information: Contact Meritxell Martell (mmartell@enviros.biz)

This workshop is held within the framework of the EC 6th FP Co-ordinated Action OBRA.

