









STATUS OF REPOSITORY PROGRAMS FOR DISPOSAL OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL AND HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE*

This table presents the progress of national nuclear waste disposal programs in various countries, summarized at a high level and focusing on when primary milestones were reached

	National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted / Approved	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
 FINLAND Site Name, Location: Onkalo, Olkiluoto	1987	1983 ¹	2001	2012 / 2015	2016	2025
 SWEDEN Site Name, Location: Forsmark, Osthhammer	1984	1992 ⁴	2009	2011 / 2022 ²	2025 ⁷	2035 ⁸
 FRANCE Site Name, Location: Cigéo, Bure	1991	1993 ¹	2005 ³	2023 / 2027 ³		
 SWITZERLAND Site Name, Location: Nördlich Lägern, Stadel	2003	2008	2022	2024 ⁴ / 2031 ⁵		
 UNITED STATES Site Name, Location: Yucca Mountain, Nevada	1982	1983	2002	2008**		
 CANADA Site Name, Location: Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation-Ignace, Ontario	2002	2010	2024 ⁶			

 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame
 Suspended/not being funded

FOOTNOTES:

*Information in this table is derived from the NWTRB Report titled 'Survey of National Programs for Managing High-Level Radioactive Waste and Spent Nuclear Fuel: 2022 Update' unless otherwise noted.

**The Yucca Mountain repository project is not being funded; the NRC licensing process has been suspended.

REFERENCES:



- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a815d7ee5274a2e87dbd3c0/Overview_of_international_siting_processes_September_2013.pdf
- <https://www.skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/the-review-process/>
- <https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2023-01/CigeoMag%20UK.pdf>
- <https://nagra.ch/en/repository-decision-requires-broad-societal-debate/>
- <https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/switzerland-7rm.pdf>
- <https://www.nwmo.ca/Site-selection/Wabigoon-Lake-Ojibway-Nation-Ignace-area>
- <https://skb.com/nyhet/construction-begins-on-swedish-spent-fuel-repository/>
- <https://skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/>



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 CHINA Site Name, Location: TBD	2003	2013	TBD			
 GERMANY Site Name, Location: TBD	2013	2017	2046-2068 ⁹			
 JAPAN Site Name, Location: TBD	2000	2002	2030			
 UNITED KINGDOM Site Name, Location: TBD	2008	2020	2035-2040			
 REPUBLIC OF KOREA Site Name, Location: TBD	UNDECIDED	2016	2028			
 SPAIN Site Name, Location: TBD	2023 ¹⁰	2029				
 BELGIUM Site Name, Location: TBD	2022	UNDECIDED				

 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame

REFERENCES:


9. <https://www.sandia.gov/app/uploads/sites/137/2024/03/13th-US-German-Workshop-Proceedings-SAND2024-02255R.pdf>

10. https://www.enresa.es/documentos/EN_7-plan-general-residuos-radiactivos.pdf





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 FINLAND	1987	1983 ¹	2001	2012 / 2015	2016	2025

Site Name, Location: [Onkalo, Olkiluoto](#)
 Implementer: [Posiva Oy](#)



 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:

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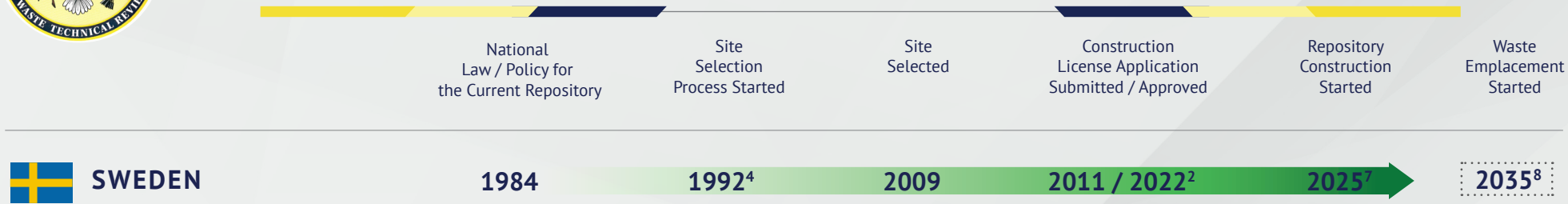
REFERENCES:

1. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a815d7ee5274a2e87dbd3c0/Overview_of_international_siting_processes_September_2013.pdf

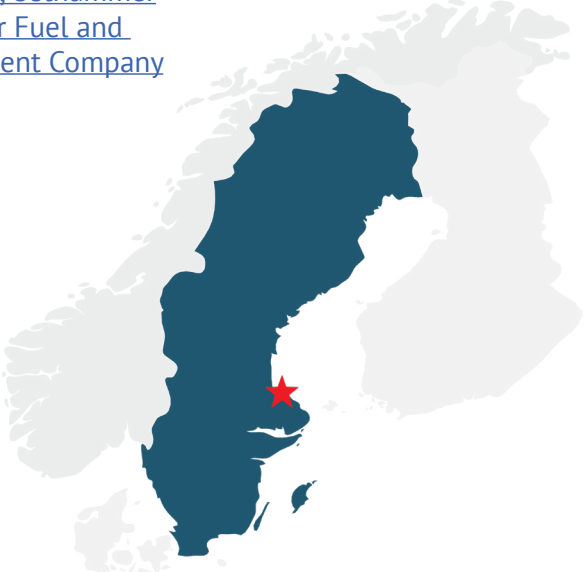




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Site Name, Location: [Forsmark, Osthhammer](#)
Implementer: [Swedish Nuclear Fuel and Waste Management Company](#)



 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:
 *Information in this table is derived from the [NWTRB Report](#) titled 'Survey of National Programs for Managing High-Level Radioactive Waste and Spent Nuclear Fuel: 2022 Update' unless otherwise noted.

REFERENCES:
 2. <https://www.skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/the-review-process/>
 4. <https://nagra.ch/en/repository-decision-requires-broad-societal-debate/>
 7. <https://skb.com/nyhet/construction-begins-on-swedish-spent-fuel-repository/>
 8. <https://skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/>



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National Law / Policy for the Current Repository

Site Selection Process Started

Site Selected

Construction License Application Submitted / Approved

Repository Construction Started

Waste Emplacement Started



FRANCE

1991

1993¹

2005³

2023 / 2027³

Site Name, Location: [Cigéo, Bure](#)
 Implementer: [National Agency for Radioactive Waste Management](#)



■ Progress of the country program
 □ Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:

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- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a815d7ee5274a2e87dbd3c0/Overview_of_international_siting_processes_September_2013.pdf
- <https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2023-01/CigeoMag%20UK.pdf>



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Site Selection Process Started

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Repository Construction Started

Waste Emplacement Started



SWITZERLAND

2003

2008

2022

2024⁴ / 2031⁵

Site Name, Location: [Nördlich Lägern, Stadel](#)
 Implementer: [National Cooperative for the Disposal of Radioactive Waste](#)



■ Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:

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REFERENCES:

4. <https://nagra.ch/en/repository-decision-requires-broad-societal-debate/>
5. <https://www.iaea.org/sites/default/files/switzerland-7rm.pdf>



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UNITED STATES

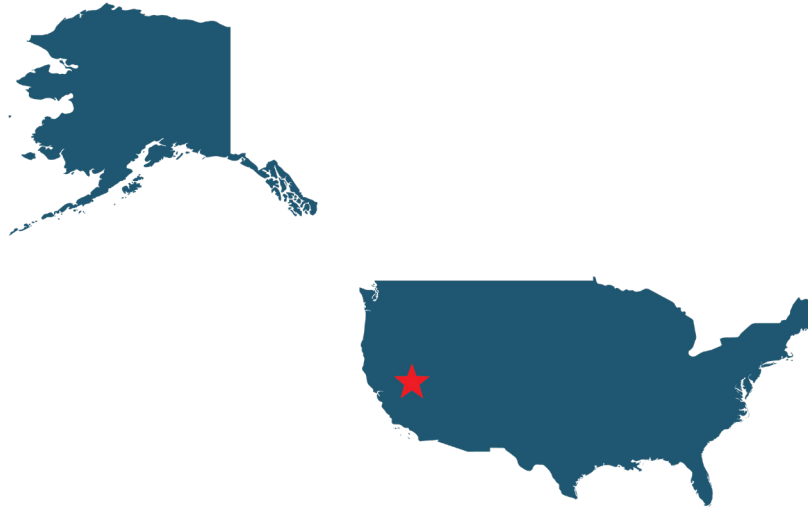
1982

1983

2002

2008**

Site Name, Location: [Yucca Mountain, Nevada](#)
 Implementer: [U.S. Department of Energy](#)



- Progress of the country program
- Estimated time frame
- Suspended/not being funded

FOOTNOTES:

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Site Selection Process Started

Site Selected

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Repository Construction Started

Waste Emplacement Started



CANADA

2002

2010

2024⁶

Site Name, Location: [Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation-Ignace, Ontario](#)
Implementer: [Nuclear Waste Management Organization](#)



- Progress of the country program
- Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:

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REFERENCES:

6. <https://www.nwmo.ca/Site-selection/Wabigoon-Lake-Ojibway-Nation-Ignace-area>



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Repository Construction Started

Waste Emplacement Started



CHINA

2003

2013

TBD

Site Name, Location: TBD

Implementer: [China Atomic Energy Authority](#) and [China National Nuclear Corporation](#)



■ Progress of the country program

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GERMANY

2013

2017

2046-2068⁹

Site Name, Location: TBD

Implementer: [Federal Company for Radioactive Waste Disposal](#)



■ Progress of the country program

□ Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:

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9. <https://www.sandia.gov/app/uploads/sites/137/2024/03/13th-US-German-Workshop-Proceedings-SAND2024-02255R.pdf>



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JAPAN

2000

2002

2030

Site Name, Location: TBD

Implementer: [Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan](#)



■ Progress of the country program

□ Estimated time frame

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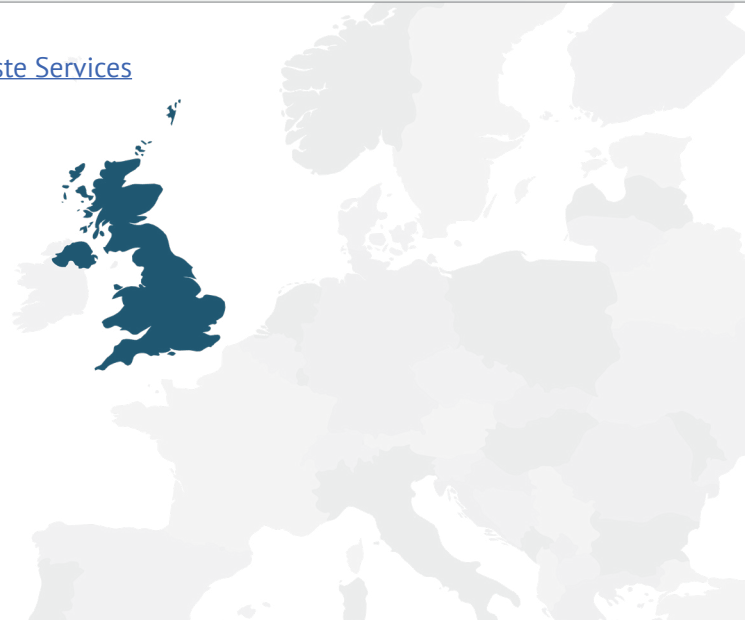
UNITED KINGDOM



2008

2020

2035-2040

Site Name, Location: TBD
Implementer: [Nuclear Waste Services](#)



-  Progress of the country program
-  Estimated time frame

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REPUBLIC OF KOREA

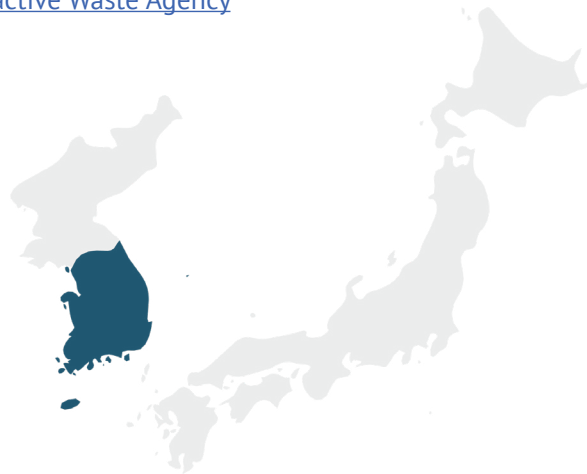
UNDECIDED

2016

2028

Site Name, Location: TBD

Implementer: [Korea Radioactive Waste Agency](#)



■ Progress of the country program

□ Estimated time frame

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SPAIN

2023¹⁰ →

2029

Site Name, Location: TBD
Implementer: [Spanish Radioactive Waste Management Agency](#)



- Progress of the country program
- Estimated time frame

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REFERENCES:

10. https://www.enresa.es/documentos/EN_7-plan-general-residuos-radiactivos.pdf



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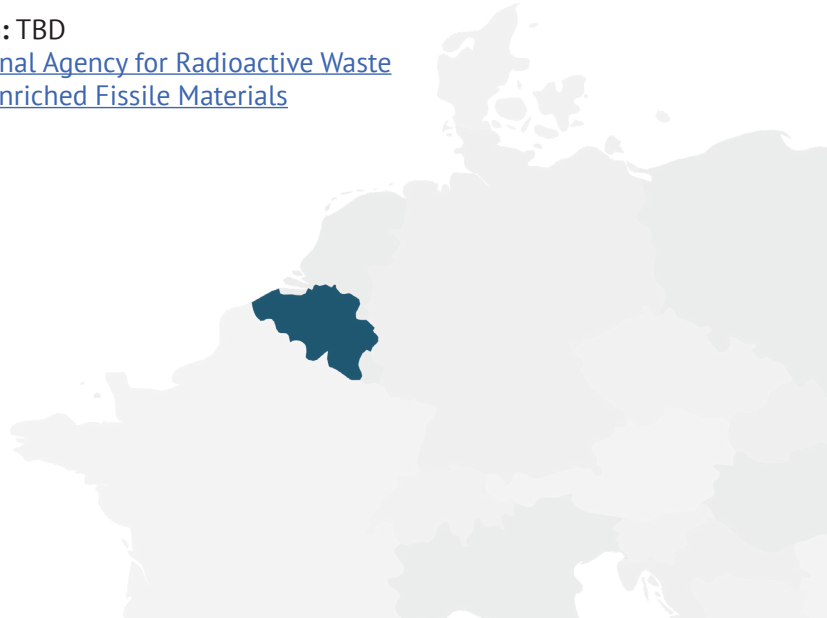
Repository Construction Started


Waste Emplacement Started

BELGIUM

2022  UNDECIDED

Site Name, Location: TBD
Implementer: [National Agency for Radioactive Waste and Enriched Fissile Materials](#)



 Progress of the country program

FOOTNOTES:

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