

# The Political and Public Perspective on Radioactive Waste Management

A Swedish Municipality View

Presentation to

NWTRB

Pahrump Nevada, May 1 2000

by

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# The Swedish Nuclear Waste Management Organisation

## Ministries and regulatory authorities

Ministry of the Environment

National Council for Nuclear Waste KASAM

Swedish Nuclear Power Inspectorate SKI

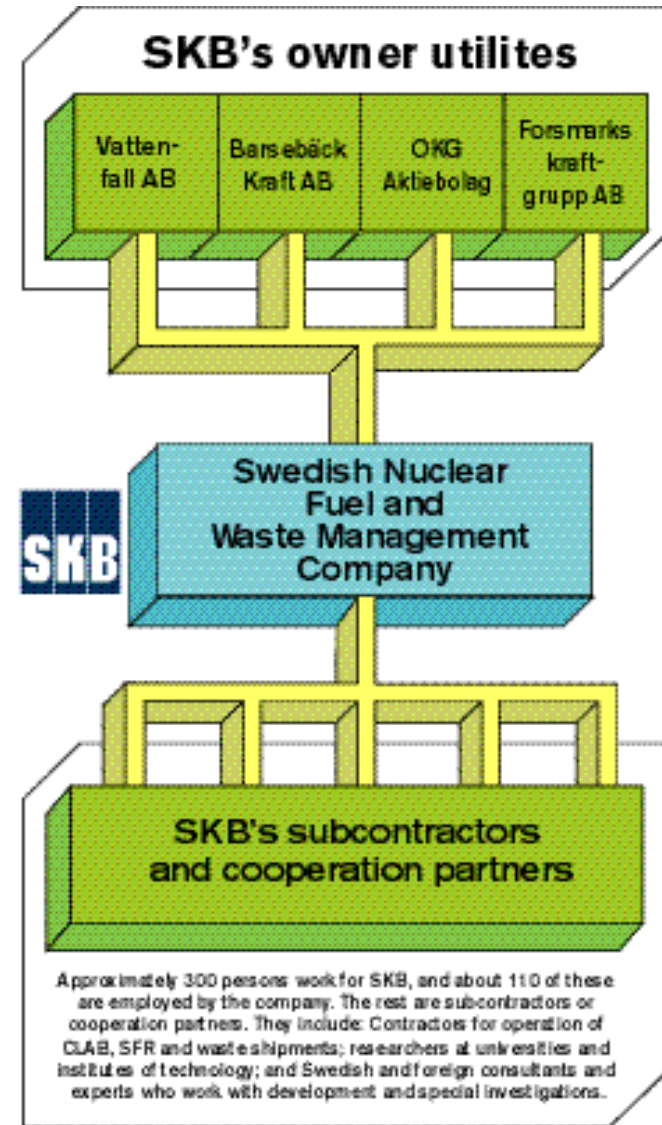
Swedish Radiation Protection Institute SSI

## Statutes

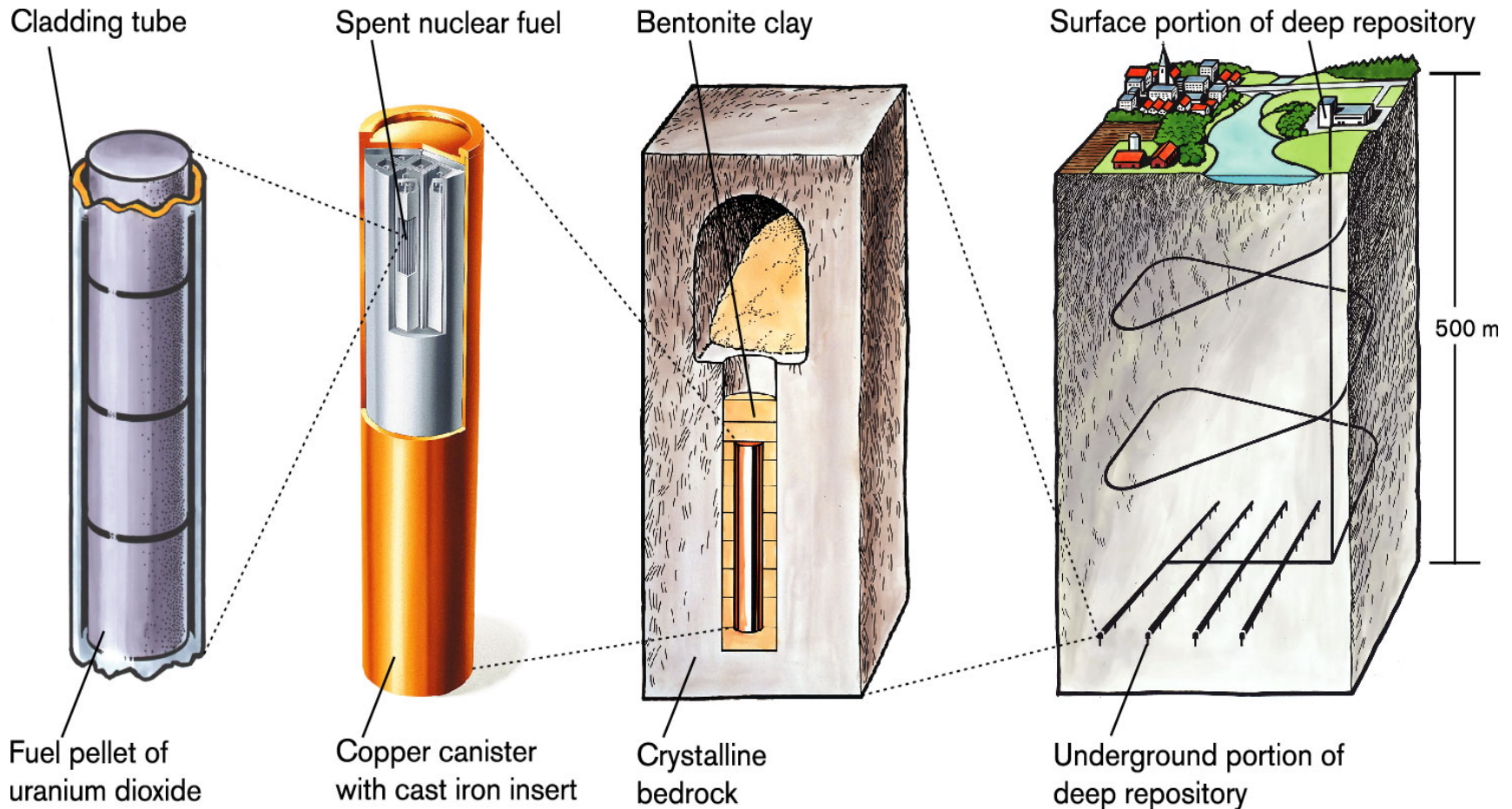
Act on Nuclear Activities

Radiation Protection Act

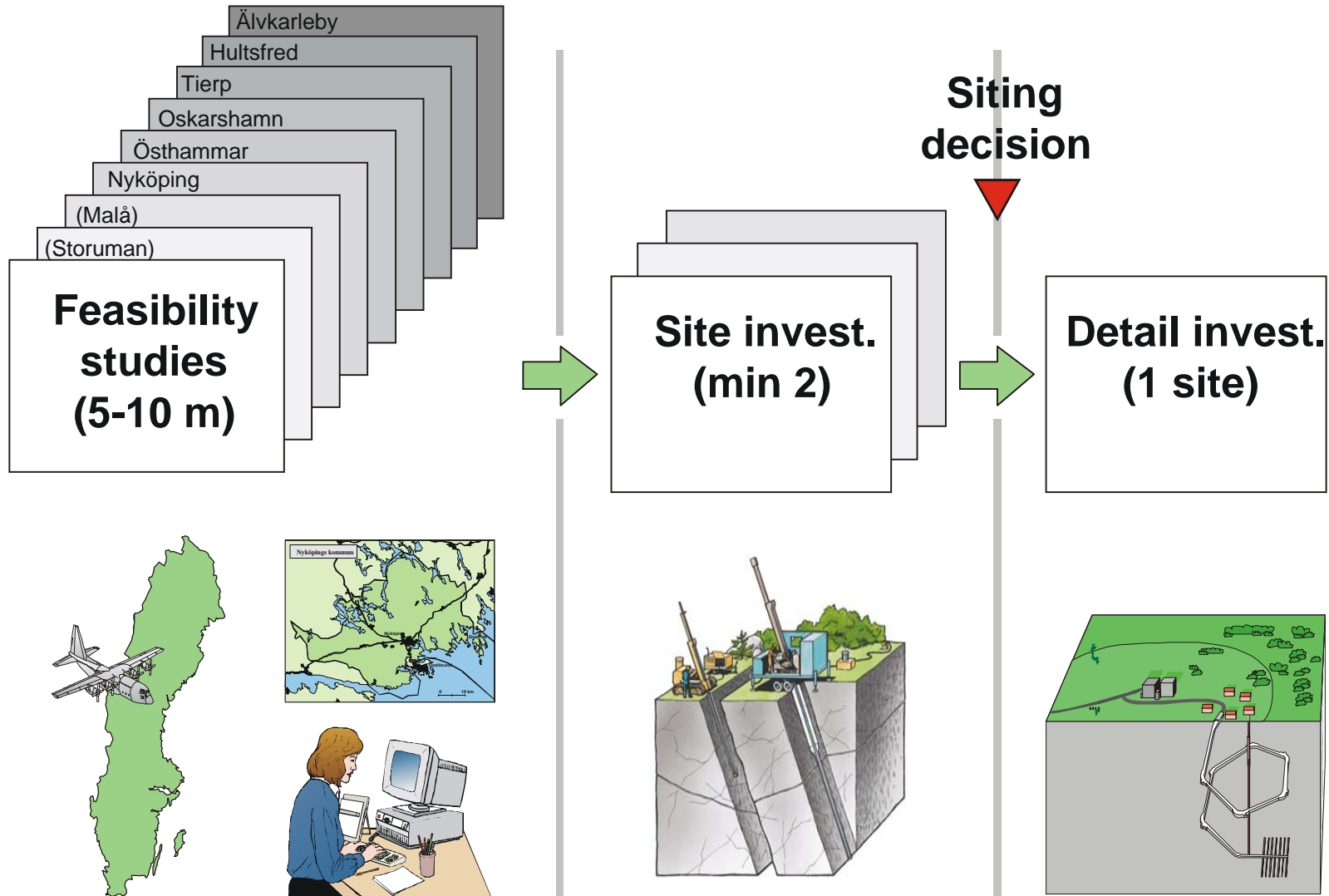
Financing Act



# The Swedish KBS-3 Concept



# The Swedish Site Selection Process

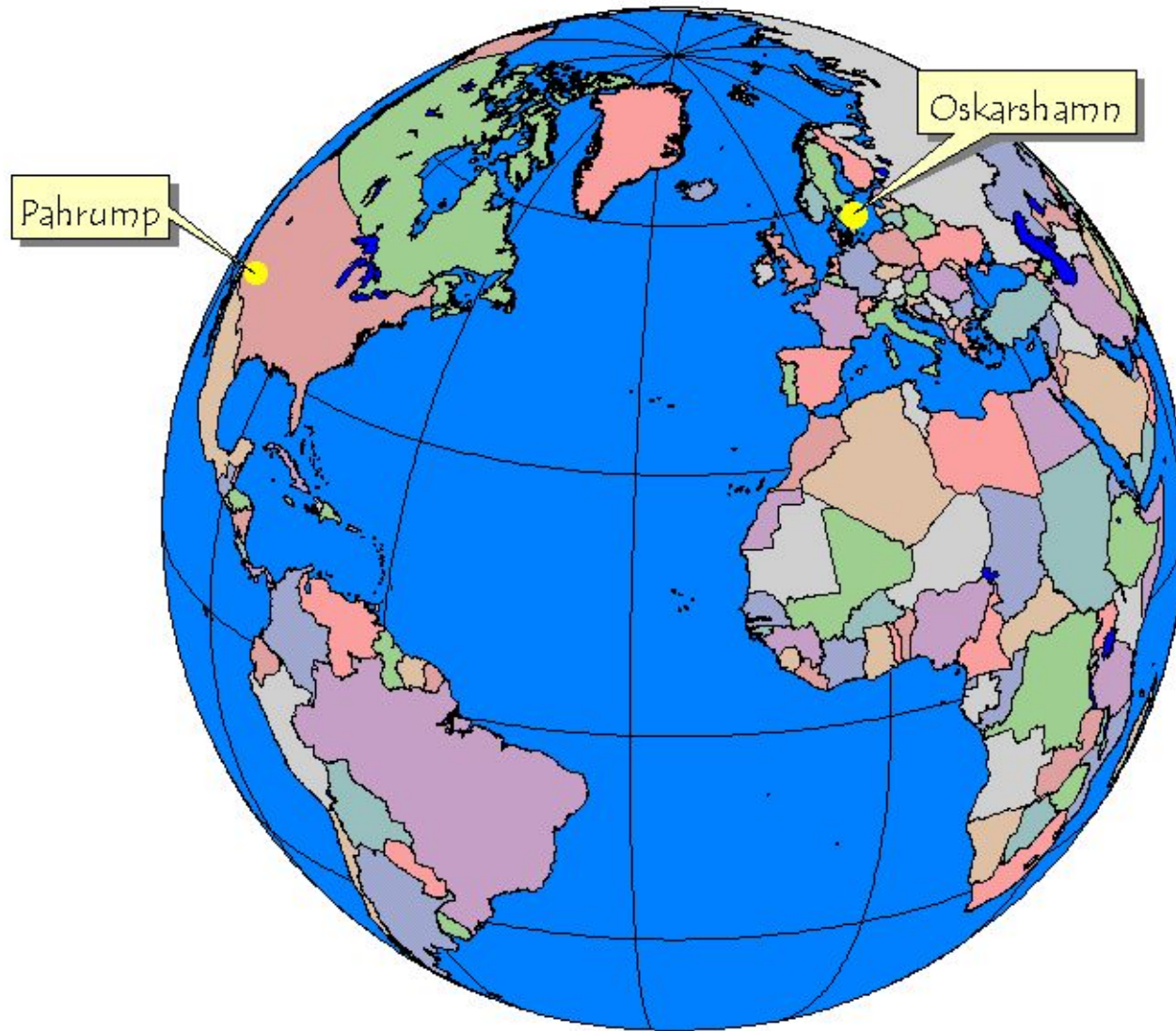


# Geological disposal the right choice

**KBS-3 is the main alternative**

**Supplementing information before starting site investigations**

- Safety assessment of KBS-3
- Revised analysis of the disposal system and alternative methods
- Programme for site characterisation
- Integrated review of feasibility studies etc.



# The Simpevarp Peninsula, Oskarshamn Sweden



# Decision making and controversial facilities

**From**

**Prosperous future - no opposition**

**Decisions behind closed doors**

**Decide Announce Defend - DAD**

**To**

**Complete openness**

**Participation by the public, our modell**



# A System for National Dialogue

**R&D-plan every third year - Positive**

**SKB's R&D-plan 1992 proposed siting  
of an encapsulation plant to CLAB**

**Forced the political leadership to define  
their role and participation**

# The Political Foundation

**An early start of the EIA-process**

**A defined and clear decision making process**

**A systems approach**

**Openness and clarity from all parties**

**Economical resources to cover the  
municipality participation**

# Development of the Oskarshamn model

**We initiated the EIA-forum 1994 with:  
SKB, SKI, SSI, Kalmar County and the  
Municipality**

**31 meetings since August -94:**

- extension of the CLAB facility**
- encapsulation plant**
- final repository system in Oskarshamn**

Cont.

## Development of the Oskarshamn model

**1995 May, SKB's request to Oskarshamn**

**1996 Oct., Municipality Council approve -  
with conditions**

**1997 June, our Organisation decided**

**1997 Aug., The Feasibility study starts**

**1999 june, The Draft Final Report ready**

**1999 autumn, extensive review**

**2000 autumn, Final Report**

# Active Municipality Participation

**Object - Be passive - Be active**

**Oskarshamn has decided to be active !**

**We already have all the spent fuel**

**Active participation - better programme**

**Active participation for future decisions**

**A passive approach is not an alternative !**

# Forcing clear roles of the Key Parties in the Decision Making Process

- Clear Government Policy = legal status**
- SKB propose disposal methods and siting**
- The Authorities - "our experts"- approve or disapprove SKB's proposal**
- The Authorities available throughout the process**
- The Public - experts on local conditions**

# EIA as a Tool for Local Participation and Real Influence

**All Parties working together for the best possible basis for the decisions to come**

**Each Party decide independently**

# Complete Openness and Broad Participation - Democracy in Practice !

**The Public has no opinion, no time, no interest, no trust, can't influence ?**

**We argue, the Public has very clear opinions**

**but**

**They demand a clear decision making process**



cont.

# Complete Openness and Broad Participation - Democracy in practice

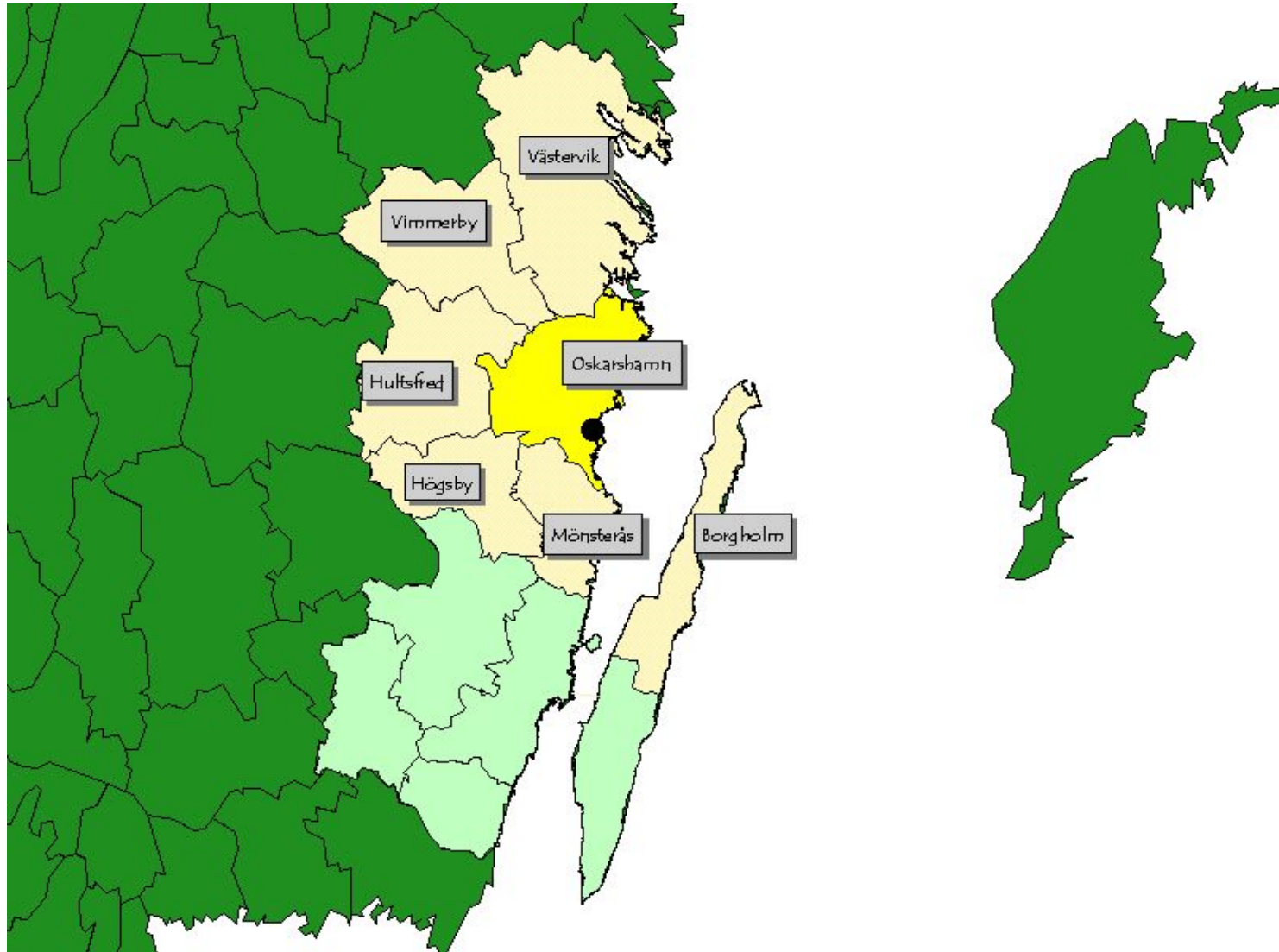
**If You want to communicate with the Public -**

**You must come to them !**

**Meet the public with clear information and  
clear questions**

**Seriously address their questions and concerns**

# Engagement of neighbours in the dialogue



# The Oskarshamn model in summary

## **Openness and participation**

everything on the table, real influence

## **The EIA process**

development of basis together - decisions independently

## **The Council as reference group**

competent elected officials responsible towards the voters

## **The Public - a resource**

concrete plans and clear study results a pre-requisite for public engagement and influence

cont.

## The Oskarshamn model in summary

### **The Environmental groups - a resource**

their members and experts give us valuable contributions

### **Stretching of SKB to clear answers**

we build competence so we can ask the difficult questions

we ask until we get clear answers

### **The competent Authorities our experts**

the authorities visible throughout the process

our decision after statement by the competent authorities

# Summery of experience and conclusions

**The Oskarshamn model has worked well.**

**We have influenced the program,  
ensured the local perspective,  
increased the local competence and  
We know what the public wants.**

**We are well prepared !**