



# **Work Package 6 in the Beacon Project**

## **Civil Society Interaction**

**Johan Swahn, MKG  
Kaunas, June 19, 2017**

This project receives funding from the Euratom research and training programme 2014-2018 under grant agreement No 745942.

# Objective of WP 6 on Civil Society Interaction

- The aim of WP6 is to give civil society the opportunity to follow, discuss and give feedback on the research conducted in the project by the development, using previous experience, of a relevant interaction framework
- The work package will facilitate the translation of scientific results and other output from WP1-5 to the public and creating the conditions for civil society local and national representatives to interpret, discuss and give feedback on the research result and other information made available by the project.
- This will enhance the possibilities of civil society participation in future situations where there are consultation processes as a part of safety case review.

# Work description of WP 6 on Civil Society Interaction (I)

- The work package will be built around working group with 4 representatives of different environmental NGOs, a majority with a technical / scientific training (Johan Swahn, MKG, Nadja Železnik, REC, József Kóbor, Green Circle of Pécs , Yves Marignac, WISE Paris)
- To the group will be tied 1 scientific expert (Prof. em. Roland Pusch) chosen by the NGOs, with expertise in this particular field.

# Work description of WP 6 on Civil Society Interaction (II)

- The work will be carried out in the following tasks:
  - **Task 1.** During an introductory scoping period work will be done by the working group with the support of the scientific expert to understand the project's background, work and objectives. A part of this work will be to analyse the project in a larger context - how is it related to on-going disposal projects and the challenges they are facing. As part of this task there will be a workshop with the working group and the scientific expert, where also participation of representatives from other WP 1-5 is foreseen.
  - **Task 2.** The WP working group with the support of the scientific expert will then continuously follow the project and its results. At each annual meeting WP 6 will presents the progress of the work.
  - **Task 3.** Towards the end of the project, the working group will summarise the conducted work and documentation will be done of the interaction framework developed in the work package.
- A workshop will be held towards the end of the project where the larger network(s) of environmental NGOs (and possibly local communities) are given access to the results of the work in the project.

# Civil Society Interaction in a wider perspective

- A considerable experience of civil society interaction with experts has already been gained within the SITEX-II project within Horizon 2020. In SITEX-II technical support organisation (TSOs) and regulatory bodies are developing a strategic research agenda for radioactive waste management. The experience from the SITEX-II project will be used in developing the civil society interaction framework in the proposed project.
- The civil society interaction Work Package 6 in the Beacon project can also be seen as a model for the more comprehensive civil society interaction approach that is being discussed as a part future European Joint Programming in Radioactive Waste Management.
- More generally, civil society interaction in research and development issues will enhance the possibilities of civil society participation in situations where there will be consultations in the future as a part of safety case reviews.

# General expectations

- Openness and transparency within the project
- High scientific integrity including in the publication of results
- High ceiling for the discussions

# Some early scientific interests

- Rate of hydration and maturation of the clay to reach the “ideal state” from the “initial state”
- Interactions of clay at bedrock and canister interfaces, especially mechanisms controlling transport of porewater in slowly wetted clay (very tight rock!)
- Mechanical characteristics and connection with chemical and microbiological changes (reversible and irreversible) in the clay, especially at high temperatures
- (Oxygen consumption in clay)



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