

Licensing process for the final repository for spent fuel

Legislation

- The Environmental Code
- The Act on Nuclear Activities
- The Radiation Protection Act



SKB's application in 2011

- To the Land and Environment Court according to the Environmental Code
- To the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority according to the Act on Nuclear Activities (covers the Radiation Protection Act)



Application to the Land and Environment Court

- One application to build a connected system of facilities for the final disposal of spent fuel and nuclear waste
- Including an encapsulation facility for spent fuel connected to CLAB in Oskarshamn, extension of the capacity of CLAB from 8,000 tonnes of spent fuel to 11,000 tonnes, and the final repository for spent fuel in Forsmark.



Application to the Radiation Safety Authority (SSM)

- One application to build an encapsulation facility for spent fuel connected to CLAB in Oskarshamn and extension of the capacity of CLAB from 8,000 tonnes of spent fuel to 11,000 tonnes
- One application to build a final repository for spent fuel in Forsmark



The Swedish Government

- On January 23, 2018, the Land and Environment Court handed over the application to the Government with its opinion
- On the same day the Radiation Safety Authority handed over the two applications to the Government with its opinion



The statement of the Land and Environment Court (1)

- The activities applied for are permissible if SKB can show that the remaining uncertainties about the copper capsule's capacity to protect the environment over the long period of time at hand can be resolved (various forms of copper corrosion)



The statement of the Land and Environment Court (2)

- It should be clarified who is responsible for the final repository in the long run (after closing)
- SKB should give in a concise account of the final repository's activity areas and specify where the two ventilation towers will be placed
- Legal changes should be considered on water works and on SSM's rights under the Environmental Code



The statement of the Radiation Safety Authority

- SSM recommends the Government to approve the applications under the condition that the upcoming safety analyses (PSAR, FSAR and SAR) must be reviewed and approved by SSM
- SSM has identified several uncertainties in various areas. SSM deems they can be resolved in the following process



Process (in the Government Offices)

- The Chemicals Division is responsible for the preparations under the Act on Nuclear Activities
- The Environmental Assessment Division is responsible for the preparations under the Environmental Code
- A project with extra budgetary resources established



Process in the Government and the Court

- Step 1 – the Government adopts “decision-in-principle” under the Environmental Code

If the decision-in-principle is YES –

- Step 2:
 - the Land and Environment Court issues a permit with conditions under the Environmental Code



Process in the Government

- The Government issues a licence under the Act on Nuclear Activities



Current status

- In June 2018 the Ministry of Environment and Energy asked SKB to supplement its application mainly in line with the Court's statement but also with regard to several petitions the Ministry has received.
- SKB shall answer the Ministry no later than 30 April 2019.

