



REGERINGSKANSLIET

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Ministry of the Environment Sweden

Dr Luis Echavarri

Director General

Division for Environmental Quality

OECD/NEA

**Swedish request for a NEA international peer review**

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Dear Dr Echavarri,

The Swedish nuclear industry is expected to file an application, in March 2011, for constructing a spent nuclear fuel repository in the municipality of Östhammar. The national review of the application may take several years.

To support the national review of the application, we kindly ask the OECD Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA) to organize an intermediate peer review by international specialists, according to the framework for such peer reviews as laid out in the NEA brochure "International Peer Reviews for Radioactive Waste Management" (NEA 2005). The international review report would provide input to the national review and would also provide an important mid-course reference point to the involved municipalities and other stakeholders.

The NEA Steering Committee has been informed about this request at its meeting in April 2010.

The responsible Swedish party for establishing the Terms of Reference and to support the NEA in the conduct for the international peer review is the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority. The efforts of the NEA in organizing the international peer review will be financed by the Swedish national radioactive waste fund through the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority, in form of a voluntary contribution in support of the corresponding NEA output result. On condition that the application for the repository is presented in March 2011 the review would preferably start in April 2011 and be finalised in the Summer 2012. The budget is estimated to 2,1 million Swedish Crowns.

Yours sincerely

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Deputy Director-General

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