



Strål
säkerhets
myndigheten

Swedish Radiation Safety Authority

Review of LOT experiment at the Äspö laboratory phases A3 and S2: Meeting with SKB, SSM and Galson Sciences 18/09/2020

Bo Strömberg

Analyst, Section for disposal of radioactive waste



SSM objectives with LOT review

- Formally part of RD&D program reviews
 - Completed LOT experimental results addressed in licence application review
- The main purpose of the review is to ensure that SKB's quality assurance and quality work in general meet SSM's expectations
 - Previously identified weaknesses will be followed up to ensure that SKB works with continuous improvements. Any remaining areas for improvement need to be identified and analyzed as a basis for planning future field experiments
- The second purpose of the review is to support SSM's analysis of the experimental results in the light of concerns raised by MKG, as part of SSM's service obligation to decision-makers involved in the final repository program (mainly Östhammar and Oskarshamn municipalities and the Government)
 - New objective not in previous similar reviews



- SSM regulations specify need for sufficient QA, primary and independent safety review – but no detailed requirements and they strictly apply only to nuclear licensed facilities

Objective with this meetings

- Clarify aims, plans, scope and present status of LOT reviews
- Priority is to discuss availability of necessary SKB documentation (in English)



Two SSM projects

- External review carried out by Galson Sciences Ltd.
 - Focus on quality assurance issues
 - Separate SSM report with disclaimer
 - Draft report ready 30th of November
 - Option in contract for extension of project
- SSM's internal review
 - Summarising QA status using Galson report as a basis
 - Subject oriented review: Implication of results for treatment of copper corrosion in SKB's safety assessment
 - Goal for memorandum to be ready before end of the year



MKG's requests to SSM:

- Provide an early opportunity for the environmental organizations, mainly MKG, and researchers from KTH, for example, Peter Szakálos and Christofer Leygraf, to present views on what can be important to take into account in a review; and
- That SKB gives the authority (SSM) an opportunity to arrange for independent analyses of essential copper samples



Way forward

- Meeting with SSM, MKG and Galson
- Review of available material from SKB
- Preparation of questions to SKB
- One or two additional Skype meetings with SKB and its suppliers
 - Written questions will be sent to SKB in advance
- Report writing
 - Option of asking SKB for additional minor clarifications
 - SSM review of draft Galson report
- Visits at SKB facilities were originally considered but most likely cannot take place due to Covid19 situation