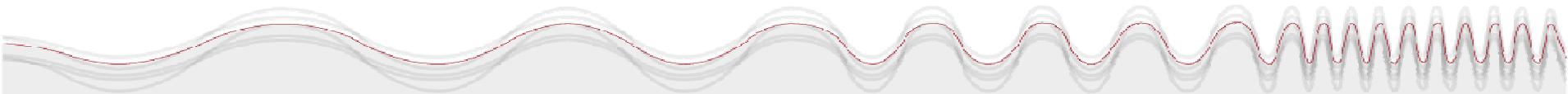


# Communication Interfaces in Legacy Management

**Malgorzata K Sneve**

Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority



**Session 80: Panel on Worldwide Regulatory Challenges of  
Legacy Sites**

Waste Management 2012, 26 February – 1 March 2012

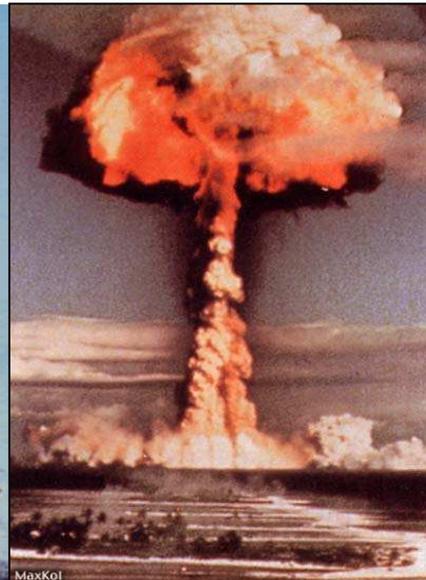
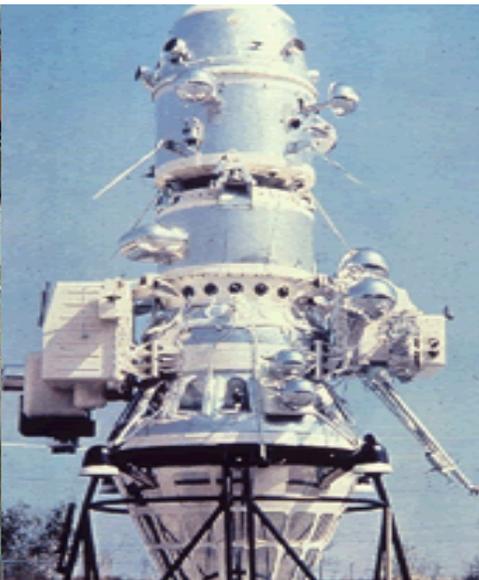
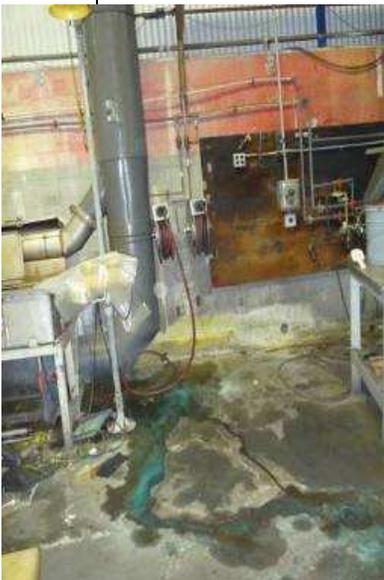
[www.nrpa.no](http://www.nrpa.no)



Statens strålevern  
Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority

# Types of Nuclear Legacy

- Sites affected by major accidents
- Inadequate storage and disposal sites and facilities
- Uranium mining and milling facilities
- Nuclear power technology development centres
- Nuclear peaceful and weapons testing sites
- Nuclear weapons development centres



MaxKol

# Regulatory challenges - Optimisation

Optimization is a major feature of radiation protection, and includes consideration of economic and social factors.

- How should regulators include economic and social factors in its decision making process, without getting involved in political issues?
- By what mechanisms should the regulator be involved in resolving economic and social, and how practically can you separate the scientific and the social value judgments?
- How should a regulator balance short and long term risks to different groups of people, especially when ICRP suggest not to assess radiation health effects?

# Regulatory challenges - Uncertainties in assessments

Prospective radiological assessments are used to assess outcomes of alternative management options for legacies. Through what process does a regulator evaluate the adequacy of the following?

- Waste and contamination characterization,
- Site and environmental characterization,
- Model selection: conceptual and mathematical abstractions,
- Data for use in models, and
- Relevance of assessment endpoints to making a decision.

# Regulatory challenges - Developments of Regulatory Decision Processes

- Development of consistent protection objectives and regulatory approaches for radioactive and other contaminants, for humans, non-human biota and in special areas such as groundwater protection
- Development and application of transparent methods to support decisions on choices between options, and maintain a balanced and proportionate response potential risks
- Improved communication of uncertainties so that a informed decisions are taken on a risk informed basis

# Clarification of legacy responsibilities

## Many stakeholders

- Site owners and managers
- Waste producers
- Waste managers
- Neighbors and others
- Regulatory authorities
  - Radiation protection
  - Nuclear safety and security
  - Environmental protection and general pollution control
  - Military and Civilian

***Each has to understand own responsibilities and to address them, but cannot work in isolation***



# Organisational interfaces

- National strategy and programs
- IAEA with member states
- Bi-lateral national arrangements, nation with nation
- Military with civilian
- Radwaste producers (legacy site managers) with radwaste managers (national strategy implementers)
- Operators with regulators
- Safety with security regulators
- Nuclear safety with radiation protection regulators
- Radiation protection with other human health protection regulators
- Human health protection with environmental protection regulators
- All the above with a wide range of other stakeholders



# Important to get the interfaces right

## **Many issues require consideration:**

- from more than one perspective, and
- by more than one organisation.

## **Important to remind each organisation must know:**

- what its responsibilities are, and
- be able to clearly communicate them to others

## **Operation of the interfaces should ensure that:**

- all issues are addressed properly,
- without unnecessary duplication, and
- leaving no gaps and no issues unconsidered.

# Improving the interfaces....

## **What can be done to improve interfaces:**

- at international level, and
- with respect to particular types of legacies?

*Thank you for your attention.*

*I would be delighted to hear your positive and maybe not so positive experiences, and your suggestions for how to improve matters.*

