

# **Extending Safety Culture through Improved Communication: Lessons from Russian – Norwegian Regulatory Cooperation**

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# Nuclear legacy sites and facilities

- Spent fuel and radwaste stored in vessels (e.g. Lepse), and at
- Sites of Temporary Storage (e.g. Andreeva Bay)
- Radio Thermoelectric Generators
- Submarine dismantling



# Remediation => waste management needs



Waste  
treatment  
and reactor  
compartment  
storage  
facility:

Saida Bay

# Out of normal conditions at legacy sites → regulatory complexity

- Nuclear safety
- Nuclear security
- Radiation protection of workers and public
- Radioactive waste: treatment, storage, transport and disposal
- Environmental protection
- Contaminated land management
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Non-radiological physical and pollution hazards

***Requires integrated regulatory basis for legacy supervision, BUT:***

*These regulatory functions not found in just one authority!*

*We work with civilian and military sectors; and*

*Federal and Regional administrations*

# Key regulatory challenges

- Radiation and nuclear safety is not the only issue
- Making balanced and proportionate decisions: workers and public; in short and long term; addressing social, cultural and economic factors
- Flexibility to address surprises at legacy sites, new information and latest science
- Effective engagement of stakeholders
  - To be fully informed, and
  - Promote acceptance and cooperation in implementation
- Providing strong, transparent, independent regulatory supervision:
- Role in planning: options assessment and selection



# We recognise need to facilitate improved communication

All our cooperation projects promote joint technical meetings:

- between managers and shop workers
- between different operators – e.g. waste producers and waste disposal organisations
- between operators and regulators
- between nuclear safety regulators, radiation protection regulators and other pollution and safety regulators
- between scientists, policy makers and wider stakeholders, and
- between all of those mentioned above.

# Key message on communication

**Effective and efficient communication strategies** contribute tremendously to effective and efficient regulatory supervision

**Flexibility and preparedness to link responsibilities** necessary, but this requires an open and long term approach to problem solving, **not always common in government departments**

**Both are vital to sustained safety culture enhancement**



# IAEA's International Working Forum on Regulatory Supervision of Legacy Sites

- To address specific situations at real sites and hence lend support to the regulatory authorities at those sites
- To assist in deriving practical interpretation of generic radiation protection guidance on nuclear legacy sites
- To identify good practices in stakeholder engagement with regulatory supervision and enhancement of safety culture as it applies to legacy sites
- Better understanding and application of different types of risks in the regulatory supervision process

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[www-ns.iaea.org/projects/rsls/default.asp?s=8&l=99](http://www-ns.iaea.org/projects/rsls/default.asp?s=8&l=99)





# IAEA RSLs - Scope and Activities

Scope covers development of effective and efficient regulatory processes:

- regulatory requirements and guidance development
  - licensing and authorisation,
  - inspection, compliance monitoring and enforcement.
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- Compilation of existing national policies for regulatory supervision and strategies employed for the conduct of safety and environmental assessments
  - Training requirements to ensure that regulatory staff can effectively carry out their responsibilities
  - Compilation of lessons learned from past experience with legacy site remediation and provide recommendations for good practice for regulatory supervision of legacy sites