
Deep Repository Progress – Germany –

WMS 2015, Phoenix AZ, USA, March 15th – 19th, 2015

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DBE TECHNOLOGY GmbH

- **German Repository Projects**
- **Site Selection Act**

Background – Classification and Disposal Routes

Waste Classification following disposal requirements

Heat Producing Radioactive Waste
not suitable for Konrad

Non-Heat Producing Radioactive Waste
suitable for Konrad

Reprocessing
Exclusive option until 1994

SNF
Exclusive option since 2005

Packaging / Conditioning

Dis-assembling

Direct Disposal

All radioactive waste in Germany to be disposed of in DGR

No site yet
White map incl. Gorleben

Morsleben
preparation for closure

Konrad
under construction

Overview on German Projects

- Operated by Asse GmbH
 - Asse mine used as URL only, currently under decommissioning
- Operated by DBE:
 - Gorleben: Heat-generating waste, underground survey starts 1990's, on hold
 - Konrad: Non heat-generating waste, under construction
 - Morsleben: Operational Waste (1980's until 1998), planning for decommissioning



URL Asse

- 1901 – 1964: Industrial operation of Asse
- 1906: Sinking of Shaft Asse II
- 1908 – 1925: Production of potash
- 1916 – 1964: Production of rock salt
- 1965 – 2009: Helmholtz-Zentrum Munich becomes mine operator
- 1967 – 1978: (Experimental) Radioactive waste disposal
- 1967 – 1992: Research and Development work
- 1988: Brine solution access discovered
- 1995: Proposal for closure
- 1995 – 2004: Backfilling of southern part
- 2007: Licence application for final closure of mine
- 2009: BfS becomes mine operator
- 2010: Decision of BfS to retrieve waste to ensure long term safety
- Since 2010: In-depth inquiry of facts (trial phase)

URL Asse: Current Activities

- **Comparison of different decommissioning options:**
 - **Retrieval of waste:**
 - Recovering of waste and underground re-packaging
 - Off-site interim storage and conditioning of waste
 - **Relocation of waste inside mine:**
 - Mining of new cavities
 - Underground re-packaging and transport to new cavities
 - **Complete backfilling of mine:**
 - Waste remains untouched
- **With view to long term safety of the Asse mine it was decided that the ‘retrieval of waste option’ shall be the preferred one.**
- **Current activities are thus underway:**
 - **Trial phase:** Determine status of selected chambers by trial drills
 - **Emergency planning:** Construction of flow barriers*
 - **Securing operability:** Refurbishment of spiral gallery
Refurbishment of shaft Asse 4*

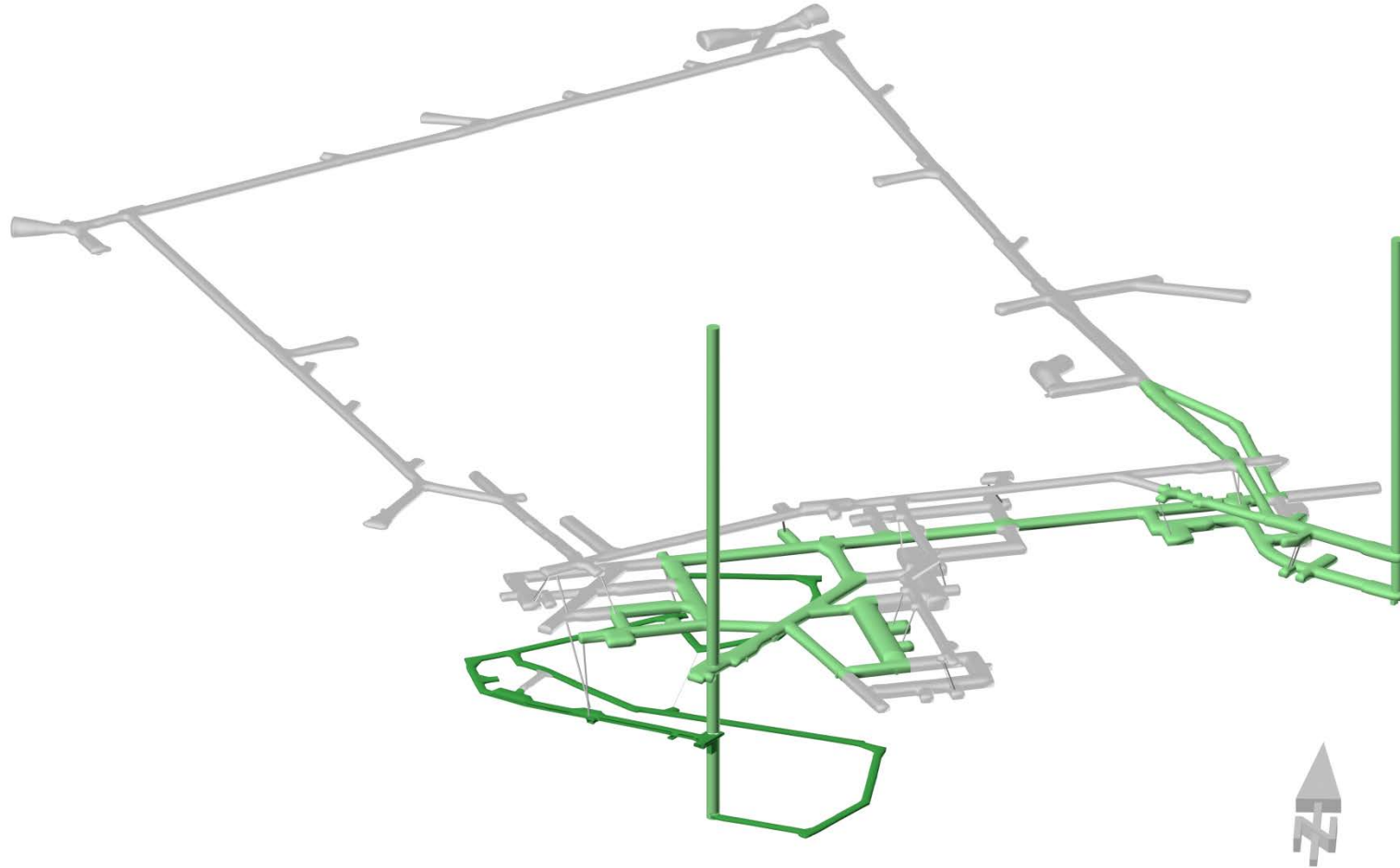
BfS

* With substantial support from DBE TECHNOLOGY GmbH

Heat Producing Waste: Gorleben

- 1970ies: Site selection process on Federal and Laender level
- 1977: Site designation Gorleben
- 1979: Start of Surface designation
- 1980/81: Four deep boreholes
- 1983: Comprehensive suitability statement (PTB)
- 1986: Ground braking shaft 1
- 1996: Communication between Shaft 1 and 2 (840-m-level) established
- since 1996: Excavation of infrastructure area
- since 1996: Characterisation of Exploration Area 1
- 2000: 1st Gorleben moratorium (stand-by operation only)
- 2010: Continuation of site exploration
- 2012: 2nd Gorleben moratorium
- 2013: Site selection act
- 2013: Presentation of VSG results
- 2014: 'Putting Chain before Gorleben'

== Heat Producing Waste: Gorleben – Maintaining Current State



Non-Heat Producing Waste: Konrad

- 1965 – 1976: Production of iron ore
- 1975: Following staff's initiative preliminary survey as candidate site
- 1982: Site Suitability statement
- 1982: License Application submitted
- 1992 – 1993: Public hearing (75 hearing days)
- 2000: Consensus Agreement (i. a. Finalisation of licensing process)
- 2001: Radiation protection ordinance amendment
- 2002: Licence granted
- 2002 – 2008: Litigation
- 2008 – 2010: Start of repository construction
- 2013/14: First planned commencement of operation date
- 2014: Complaints of BfS about imprecise planning of DBE
- 2019: Current formal commencement of operation date
- ≥ 2022 : Current officially announced commencement of operation date

== Non-Heat Producing Waste: Konrad – Main Activities ==

- **Underground facilities**
 - Refurbishments of shaft 1 (for conventional transport / ventilation inflow)
 - Refurbishment of shaft 2 (for waste transport / ventilation outlet)
 - Refurbishment and upgrade of infrastructure facilities
 - Erection of new repository
- **Aboveground facilities**
 - Refurbishment of shaft tower of shaft 1 (industrial monument)
 - Replacement of buildings and equipment at shaft 1
 - New build of buildings and equipment at shaft 1
- **Infrastructural measures**
 - Construction of connections to public infrastructure
 - Security fence
 - Precaution measures (eg. water pollution control, World-war 2 remnants)

== Non-Heat Producing Waste: Konrad – Current Status ==

- **Ongoing progress of repository construction, e. g.:**
 - **3rd Emplacement Chamber finished**
 - **Penetration of two drifts to later control area realised**
 - **Connection to public transport infrastructure progressed**
- **New formal estimation of begin of operation**
 - **DBE estimates the construction schedule on the basis of boundary conditions defined and approved by BfS**
 - **New formal estimate for begin of operation is 2022**
 - **BfS: Estimate of DBE is associated with high uncertainties and the BfS is bound to DBE by so-called ‘Kooperationsvertrag‘ between Germany and DBE**

German Projects – Morsleben: History

- 1897 – 1912: Production of potash
- 1912 – 1969: Production of rock salt
- 1937 – 1945: Military usage (fabrication of ammunition)
- 1959 – 1984: Hen fattening
- 1971: Approval for experimental LILW disposal
- 1981: Temporary licence for LILW disposal
- 1986: Permanent licence for LILW disposal
- 1990: Federal Facility under BfS, operated by DBE
- 1990 – 1991: Disposal stopped by court decision after reunification
- 1994: Restart of waste acceptance
- 1997: BfS applies for mine closure as ordered by Federal Government
- 1998: Disposal stopped by court decision
- 2001: Final decision of BfS to definitely not restart waste acceptance
- 2011: Public hearing

Non-Heat Producing Waste: Morsleben

- **New planning assumptions on the basis of the assessment of the statement and recommendations of the Commission on Waste Management (end of January 2013)**
- **Successive work on requirements will last until 2019**
- **Especially requirements on backfill and sealing have tightened**
 - **Water access to the entire mine has to be mitigated (not only to relevant parts)**
 - **Currently, 1 water access to mine (12 m³/a)**
 - **Construction measures to prepare sealing won't start before 2016**
- **Plan Approval Process**
 - **Start in mid 2017**
 - **Execution at least 8 years**

Site Selection Act – Main Rulings

Article 1: Site Selection Act (StandAG)

- Disposal Commission
- Involved organisations
- Public involvement
- Timeline
- Exploration activities
- Site comparison and site selection
- Financing

Article 2: Change of Atomic Law

- Site Approval for HLW repository
- Regulation for BfE
- Securing consistence of StandAG

Article 3: Establishment of Federal Office for Nuclear Disposal

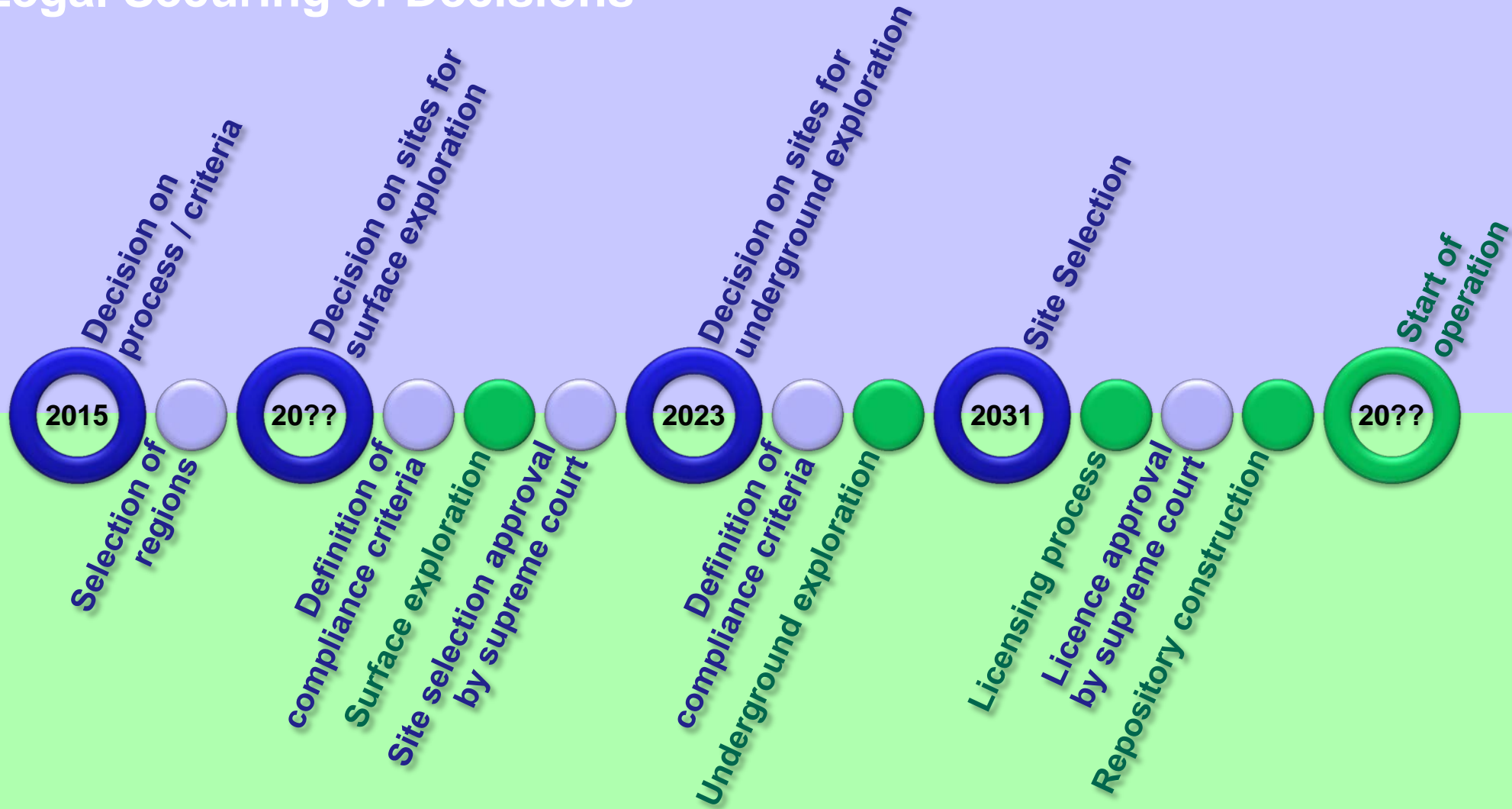
- Establishment
- Tasks
- Supervision

Article 4: Change of financial rulings

Article 5: Consequen- tial changes of various laws

Site Selection Act – HLW Disposal Programme Timeline

Legal Securing of Decisions



Intermediate Process Steps

== Vielen Dank für Ihre Aufmerksamkeit! ==

