



IAEA

International Atomic Energy Agency
Atoms for Peace and Development

Technical Meeting on Benchmarking of Waste from Water Cooled, Water Moderated Power Reactor Operations

IAEA Headquarters, Vienna, Austria
and virtual participation via Cisco Webex

3–5 April 2023

Ref. No.: EVT2103947

Information Sheet

Introduction

The web-based International WWER Radioactive Waste Operations Benchmarking System (BMS) is an important toolbox for establishing industry-wide standards and guidelines for radioactive waste minimization, including source reduction, reuse, and volume reduction. Benchmarking leverages the natural tendency of all plant operators to pursue being ranked among the top performers and, similarly, to avoid being a low performer. Application of benchmarking principles to radioactive waste management activities tends to drive down volumes of generated waste and the size and number of contaminated areas industry-wide. In addition, benchmarking among similar plants promotes inter-plant communication and cooperation, thereby transferring good practices for waste minimization and enhanced waste safety measures related to waste management, including generation, handling, storage, transport and disposal.

The web-based BMS is used to collect, analyse, and report on waste management information from WWER-type nuclear power plants and enables member organisations to share their data and to determine how they rank amongst all participants in terms of commonly agreed and accepted waste management parameters. Data collection is conducted annually, but benchmarking reports and analyses can be accessed throughout the year. Currently the information in BMS system (<https://nucleus.iaea.org/wwer/>) is available only to the member organizations.

Objectives

The purpose of the event is to share and discuss insights and good practices for improving the management of radioactive waste arising from nuclear power plant operations. The event will focus and build on the progress made in water cooled, water moderated power reactor operations.

The meeting will provide the forum for sharing the progress achieved in utilising the web-based International WWER Radioactive Waste Operations Benchmarking System and identifying further activities aiming to improve waste management practices is of interest to Members States involved. This also includes countries that plan construction and operation of power stations with WWER-type reactors. During the meeting the national reports will be discussed in order to get the better understanding of the information provided. The possibilities will be discussed to wider the scope of the BMS system.

Target Audience

Current and future users of WWER Radioactive Waste Operations Benchmarking System.

Working Language(s)

The working language of the meeting will be English with no interpretation provided.

Expected Outputs

The Technical Meeting is expected to provide current and future users of web-based BMS in Member States with the knowledge and information needed to understand and effectively use the BMS as well as to share the experience of usage of International WWER Radioactive Waste Operations Benchmarking System.

Scope

It is envisaged that the Technical Meeting will address:

- Presentation of the national (plant) reports uploaded to BMS system and discussion of the data provided;
- Discussion of the waste optimization procedures used in nuclear power plants;
- Identification of the waste streams from WWER power plants, determining status and trends in the generation of specific wastes;

- Discussion on the waste management procedures;
- Discussion on the usage and benefits of benchmarking reports and widening the scope of BMS.

Prior to the Technical Meeting, members of the International WWER Radioactive Waste Operations Benchmarking System are expected to have prepared and updated the information on the <https://nucleus.iaea.org/wwer/>, and generate relevant reports to be then used at the Technical Meeting. All participants are expected to prepare in advance examples of the optimization in radioactive waste management.

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **10 February 2023**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative and financial matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate.

Expenditures and Grants

No registration fee is charged to participants.

The IAEA is generally not in a position to bear the travel and other costs of participants in the event. The IAEA has, however, limited funds at its disposal to help meet the cost of attendance of certain participants. Upon specific request, such assistance may be offered to normally one participant per country, provided that, in the IAEA's view, the participant will make an important contribution to the event.

The application for financial support should be made using the **Grant Application Form (Form C)**, which has to be stamped, signed and submitted by the competent national authority to the IAEA together with the **Participation Form (Form A)** by **10 February 2023**.

Venue

The event will be held at the Vienna International Centre (VIC), where the IAEA's Headquarters are located. Participants must make their own travel and accommodation arrangements.

General information on the VIC and other practical details, such as a list of hotels offering a reduced rate for IAEA participants, are listed on the following IAEA web page:

www.iaea.org/events.

Participants are advised to arrive at Checkpoint 1/Gate 1 of the VIC one hour before the start of the event on the first day in order to allow for timely registration. Participants will need to present an official photo identification document in order to be admitted to the VIC premises.

Visas

Participants who require a visa to enter Austria should submit the necessary application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative of Austria at least four weeks before they travel to Austria. Since Austria is a Schengen State, persons requiring a visa will have to apply for a Schengen visa. In States where Austria has no diplomatic mission, visas can be obtained from the consular authority of a Schengen Partner State representing Austria in the country in question.

IAEA Contacts

Scientific Secretary:

Ms Merle Lust

Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology
Department of Nuclear Energy
International Atomic Energy Agency
Vienna International Centre
PO Box 100
1400 VIENNA
AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 22749

Fax: +43 1 26007

Email: M.Lust@iaea.org

Administrative Secretary:

Ms Marina Tolstenkova

Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology

Department of Nuclear Energy

International Atomic Energy Agency

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 100

1400 VIENNA

AUSTRIA

Tel.: +43 1 2600 21968

Fax: +43 1 26007

Email: M.Tolstenkova@iaea.org

Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary/Secretaries and correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.