

## **NPS Consultation Questions and Proposed Responses**

- 1. Does the draft NPS provide suitable direction to the Planning Inspectorate and Secretary of State on the need for geological disposal infrastructure?**

### **Proposed Response**

The draft NPS is clear on the need, noting as it does:

- The recommendations of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM)
- The fact that geological disposal is agreed to be the best way forward by all UK countries with the exception of Scotland, and
- The support for this policy provided by the EU Spent Fuel and Radioactive Waste Directive.

- 2. Do the assessment criteria adequately address the principles that the developer, the Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State should take into account in an application for development consent? If not, what further information on the assessment criteria is required?**

### **Proposed Response**

Yes

- 3. Does the draft NPS appropriately cover the impacts of geological disposal infrastructure and potential options to mitigate those impacts? Please provide reasons to support your answer.**

### **Proposed Response**

Many of the likely impacts of geological disposal infrastructure are addressed along with reasonable options to mitigate against them. One area that is not addressed is the management of material (soil, overburden, rock) generated from construction of the surface facilities and the underground vaults and where the construction materials and in particular the large amounts of aggregate needed in construction will be sourced from. This is likely to be significant and the NPS should refer to the need to address the management of construction spoil.

- 4. Do you agree with the findings (of 'likely significant effects') from the Appraisal of Sustainability Report and the recommendations for enhancing the positive effects of the draft NPS? Please provide reasons to support your answer.**

### **Proposed Response**

No comments to make.

- 5. Do you agree with the conclusions of the Appraisal of Sustainability Report? If not, please explain why.**

**Proposed Response**

No comments to make.

6. Do you agree with the findings from the Habitats Regulations Assessment Report for the draft NPS? Please provide reasons to support your answer.

**Proposed Response**

No comments to make.

7. Do you have any other comments on the draft NPS and the accompanying documents (Appraisal of Sustainability, Habitats Regulations Assessment)?

**Proposed Response**

No