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STUK to review the safety of Posiva's final disposal facility

28/12/2012

Posiva Oy submitted on 28 December 2012 to the Ministry of Employment and the Economy an application for a licence to construct a facility for encapsulation and final disposal of spent nuclear fuel. The Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority (STUK) is to review the safety of Posiva's project.

STUK makes a safety assessment of the licence application for the Ministry of Employment and the Economy. STUK's safety assessment is based on examining Posiva's organisation and operations as well as observations from the long-term monitoring of Posiva's project.

The goal is that STUK's assessment work will be completed in one and a half years. During that time, STUK evaluates whether the documents Posiva has provided are comprehensive and, if necessary, asks for further clarifications, and will make a detailed assessment of how well the safety requirements are satisfied.

In addition to using its own resources STUK consults independent outside experts for the assessment.

In its safety assessment, STUK pays special attention to the long-term safety and technical feasibility of the facility and the operational safety of the encapsulation plant. It is important to also examine the plans for nuclear material safeguards and the arrangements for physical protection.

Posiva Oy is a company owned by Teollisuuden Voima Oyj and Fortum Power and Heat Oy. Posiva is responsible for the final disposal of spent nuclear fuel from its owner companies. Posiva is applying for a construction licence for a final disposal solution, where spent fuel bundles will be encapsulated in cast iron and copper. The capsules will then be surrounded by bentonite clay, and placed in the repository space to be built approximately four hundred meters deep in the Olkiluoto bedrock.

For more information:

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The press release of the Ministry of Employment and the Economy: <u>Posiva submits construction licence application for final disposal facility</u>

The press release of Posiva: Posiva submits Construction Licence Application For Final Repository to the Government

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