

## Daniel Gregory, ONR

At the last SSG meeting I was asked about demographic principles that we take into account when assessing emergency plans, particularly in cases where there are expansions to the local population. I responded that we don't have specific demographic principles as such, and that a number of factors are taken into account. Below is a link to our guidance for the assessment of off-site emergency arrangements, which also includes links to relevant guidance produced by other bodies. It may be of interest (noting that it is currently under review):

[NS-INSP-GD-067 - Off-site emergency arrangements \(non-licensee duty holders\) \(onr.org.uk\)](https://www.onr.org.uk/guidance/NS-INSP-GD-067-Off-site-emergency-arrangements-non-licensee-duty-holders)

I was also asked about the disposability of dry fuel store packages. I believed them to be disposable, but said I would confirm with a specialist. In fact they are *not* disposable in their current form, although the fuel itself is considered in the inventory for the geological disposal facility (GDF). The situation is as follows:

- The storage canisters used in the dry fuel store are not compatible with the generic design of the GDF. The baseline requires a repacking facility to be constructed to transfer spent fuel assemblies from the storage canister into a disposal canister. The transfer will occur immediately prior to emplacement within the GDF. Currently we only have a generic design for the GDF, and the exact spent fuel disposal container material and design will depend upon the geological makeup of the GDF site once selected.
- Storage in the canister is inert and passive, therefore no physical or chemical changes are expected of the fuel during the dry storage. The difference between storage and disposal is the ability to retrieve from a store, whereas a disposal is permanent emplacement. The safety case for dry storage includes consideration of the requirement to retrieve the fuel both throughout and after the intended storage period. This includes the requirement to retrieve the fuel to repackage into a container which meets the criteria for disposal.
- Specifically for Sizewell B, the Sizewell B spent fuel inventory is included in the scope of the GDF to ensure it can be disposed of, once the GDF is available. Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) Radioactive Waste Management Ltd (RWM) are responsible for providing advice to licensees on the compatibility of inventories (fuel and waste) with the GDF.
- The Sizewell B spent fuel is explicitly captured in the relevant GDF inventory  
[RWM REPORT DSSC 403 03 Inventory for Geological Disposal MAIN REPORT.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/403033/RWM_REPORT_DSSC_403_03_Inventory_for_Geological_Disposal_MAIN_REPORT.pdf)