

Information of geological environment needed for repository safety assessment

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The purpose of safety assessment is to support the decisions that must be made with respect to planning, designing and assuring the safe disposal of radioactive waste in a deep geological repository. The timescale for demonstration of safety is far beyond the normal horizon of social and technical planning and thus treatment of uncertainties is a key issue. This paper outlines the methodology used in the safety assessment for geological disposal in Japan, and illustrates its application in evaluating the safety of relevant HLW disposal systems. The role of the geological environment in the safety case is also illustrated through the assessment to discuss a framework for closer relationship of safety assessment and site investigation program.