
Request for advice of the BMU: Karlsruhe vitrification plant (VEK), second partial operating licence

The BMU requested the ESK for advice and assessment on the safety-related aspects of the nuclear licensing procedure for granting of the second partial operating licence for VEK.

The assessment shall be based on the international state of the art in science and technology. Since the first partial operating licence has already been granted and RSK and SSK delivered a joint recommendation on the concept and the first partial operating licence in 1998, general concept-related aspects shall no more be taken into consideration.

The consultations shall concentrate on the assessment of the cold combined operation, in particular the safety-related aspects of this combined operation shall be dealt with. The consultations on the second partial operating licence shall concentrate, in particular, on verifying the compliance with the radiation protection objectives and the protection objectives which can be derived from it during operation of the VEK.

Further topics of consultations shall be:

- precautions against incidents according to the state of the art in science and technology,
- suitability of the products produced (vitrified waste canisters) for interim storage in appropriate transport and storage casks (TLB CASTOR HAW 20/28 CG) and for final disposal,
- safe management of the radioactive secondary waste from vitrification, and
- fulfilment of the safety requirements on the storage of high-level radioactive waste during transport preparation of the TLB CASTOR HAW 20/28 CG.

For this request for advice, see [ESK statement](#) [51 KB] (in German) of 17.09.2008.