

RESEARCH WORK DURING AND AFTER THE FLOODING OF AN ABANDONED POTASH MINE IN NORTHERN GERMANY

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KEYWORDS

Radioactive waste, repository, salt formations, safety analyses, mine flooding

ABSTRACT

The abandoned potash mine of HOPE in northern Germany is flooded with an NaCl-brine. A scientific research programme running concurrently is to register and evaluate data on the geochemical, geomechanical and geophysical processes occurring before, during and after the flooding. In addition, a bulkhead was built using new materials and seals for testing under a liquid pressure of approx. 2.4 MPa. The work is part of a comprehensive research programme investigating the processes occurring in a hypothetical water or brine inflow into a repository for radioactive waste in salt formations.

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