

DISPOSAL OF NON-RADIOACTIVE CHEMICAL WASTES IN A DRY SALT MINE SOME TECHNICAL ASPECTS

by

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ABSTRACT

A feasibility study on the disposal of non-radioactive wastes in a dry salt mine in the Netherlands was performed by order of the Ministers of Economic Affairs and of Zoning and Environmental Protection.

It may be assumed that about half a million tons of not reworkable chemical wastes will still be available for disposal in the period after the year 2000. In the densely populated Netherlands an underground disposal, the so-called geological disposal, is considered a real opportunity. The isolation of wastes from biosphere in general and from activities of man in particular is regarded to be the main advantage of this kind of disposal. The limitation in the study to non-radioactive wastes means, that for instance issues such as heat production and radiation of the wastes have not been taken into account. Some technical aspects of the construction of a disposal mine in the Netherlands are described and a general layout is given.