

Carbon Capture and Storage: what can be learned from 35 years in radioactive waste disposal

Last Updated Tuesday, 10 August 2010

Preliminary Programme

**** Due to travel problems, Workshop rescheduled : Tuesday, 26th - Friday, 29th October 2010 ****

Carbon Capture and Storage: can anything be learned from 35 years experience in geological disposal of radioactive wastes ?

.. an informal workshop to discuss common issues
October 26th to 29th 2010, Meiringen, Switzerland

Online workshop registration is available here. Updated workshop programme for download here 414 KB .
Objective

Geological disposal of radioactive wastes (GDRW) has taken more than 35 years of concept development and field and laboratory research to reach the point where deep repositories should be operating within the next few years: all of this has taken place on the back of a strategic, societal and political rollercoaster. The CCS field is comparatively in its infancy but is moving forward quickly and has considerable technical, political, societal and energy strategy parallels. Consequently it is likely to be exposed to some of the same issues and to tread some of the same paths as GDRW. While many in the CCS community see GDRW as an entirely unenviable analogue, it would seem unwise to ignore the lessons that might be learned – not only may there be something to be gained practically, but it may be possible to avoid some pitfalls. This workshop is intended to bring together experienced practitioners in the CCS and GDRW sectors in a completely informal, non-institutional environment to discuss their experiences and help identify what might be shared or learned. Discussions will be citable but non-attributable. The organizers will also endeavour to produce a written perspective on key outcomes, for publication.

Hotel Du Sauvage in Meiringen with the Sherlock Holmes museum to the right
Workshop Programme

Tuesday 26th October

Morning

Arrive at Hotel du Sauvage, Meiringen: trains from Zurich airport depart – arrive:

0947 – 1212; 1047 – 1312; 1147 – 1412

1230 – 1400

Informal Buffet LUNCH to suit varied arrival times

1400 – 1430

Registration

1430 – 1515

Introductions

Objectives of the workshop: Neil Chapman (ITC, Switzerland), Jordi Bruno (UPC, Spain) and Julie West (BGS)

Participants introduce themselves (2 minutes each)

1515 – 1600

1600 – 1645

1645 – 1745

Storage and Disposal Objectives: protection and containment aims and time-scales

- The radioactive waste perspective
- The CCS perspective
- Discussion

Chair: Jordi Bruno, UPC, Spain

Neil Chapman, ITC, Switzerland

Ferenc Toth, IAEA, Vienna

Wednesday 27th October

0900 – 0945

0945 – 1030

1030 – 1100

1100 – 1200

Safety Assessment: what are the impacts, when do they occur and how are they regulated?

- The CCS perspective
- The radioactive waste perspective
- Coffee Break
- Discussion

Chair: Philip Maul, Quintessa, UK

Elizabeth Wilson, Uni. Minnesota, USA

Johan Andersson, Streamflow, Sweden

1200 - 1330

LUNCH

1330 – 1415

1415 – 1500

1500 – 1530

1530 – 1630

Strategy: how much material is involved, where and when is a solution really needed?

- The radioactive waste perspective
- The CCS perspective
- Coffee Break
- Discussion

Chair: Ferenc Toth, IAEA, Vienna

Neil Chapman, ITC, Switzerland

Marie Gastine, BRGM, France

1630 - 1730

Syndicate Discussions 1: similarities, differences and lessons

Thursday 28th October

0900 – 0945

0945 – 1030

1030 – 1100

1100 – 1200

Legal and Political: international laws & conventions affecting transport, transfers & disposal/sequestration

- The CCS perspective
- The radioactive waste perspective
- Coffee Break
- Discussion

Chair: Elizabeth Wilson, USA

Nick Riley, BGS, UK

Neil Chapman, ITC, Switzerland

1200 - 1330

LUNCH

1330 – 1415

1415 – 1500

1500 – 1530

1530 – 1630

Technical: long-term fate of materials in the deep underground environment and the role of monitoring

- The radioactive waste perspective
- The CCS perspective
- Coffee Break
- Discussion

Chair: Neil Chapman, Switzerland

Russell Alexander, Bedrock, CH

Mike Stephenson, British Geological Survey, UK

1630 - 1730

Syndicate Discussions 2: similarities, differences and lessons

Friday 29th October

0830 – 0915

0915 – 1000

1000 – 1030

1030 – 1130

Societal: public and community responses to local & national schemes - how are stakeholders involved?

- The CCS perspective
- The radioactive waste perspective
- Coffee Break
- Discussion

Chair: Peter Styles, Uni. Keele, UK

Samuela Vercelli, Uni. Roma la Sapienza, Italy & CO2GeoNet

Jordi Bruno, UPC, Spain

1130 – 1230

Closing Discussion

Lessons, messages and reporting

1230 - 1330

Lunch

1330

Disperse: trains to Zurich airport depart – arrive:

1346 – 1613; 1446 – 1713; 1546 – 1813

1330 - 1630

Visit to the Grimsel underground rock laboratory

Depending on prevailing weather conditions, a visit has been arranged to the Grimsel Test Site, located in granite below the Grimsel pass, about 30 minutes from Meiringen

Participants will be returned to Meiringen by 1630

Application Form

Online workshop registration is available here.
Venue and Registration Fees

The workshop will be held in the tranquil and beautiful surroundings of Meiringen, located in the heart of the Swiss Alps, not far from Interlaken. Meiringen is easily accessible by rail from Zurich or Geneva airports (about a 2.5 hour journey) and is a small town famous, among other things, for its fictional connections with Sherlock Holmes – being overlooked by the Reichenbach Falls. The Hotel du Sauvage, at which the workshop will be held, is extremely comfortable and is centrally located, a few minutes walk from the railway station; the rooms have been completely modernised this year.

Weather permitting, a post-workshop has been arranged to the nearby underground rock laboratory in the Grimsel pass, managed by the Swiss national radioactive waste agency, Nagra. The GTS is about 30 minutes from Meiringen and participants will be brought back to Meiringen station afterwards.

There is a registration fee of 780 CHF, payable in advance, which covers your hotel accommodation (3 nights), all meals, coffee breaks and workshop materials. Your registration is not secured until the fee has been received and you will be invoiced when we receive your on-line application. If you have to cancel before 26th September 2010, your fee is fully refundable.