

The BIGRAD consortium - Bright Light and Deep Geological Disposal

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Many nations have now decided that higher activity nuclear wastes will be disposed of in deep geological disposal facilities yet implementation of geological disposal remains challenging. Underpinning any long-term strategy for management of these nuclear wastes will be an understanding of the speciation and fate of radionuclides in the heterogeneous waste and environmental materials from their point of contamination through evolution in any disposal facility. I will discuss the geodisposal concept and highlight recent work from the BIGRAD Consortium on microbe, mineral, radionuclide interactions at the high pH conditions relevant to geological disposal. The implications of this work for geodisposal will also be discussed.

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