

Announcement of the 15th NAWG Workshop

(Tuesday, 23rd to Thursday, 25th May, 2017, ÚJV laboratory, Řež, Prague)



The NAWG-15 workshop will be an opportunity to explore recent developments in the use of natural analogues (NA) in supporting safety cases (SC) for the disposal of radioactive wastes. Argumentation by use of analogy is well established in many fields including philosophy, biology, linguistics and law and most scientists are familiar with this approach and will have used it at some point in their career. If you are keen to learn more, why not come along? Currently, the programme looks like this:

Tuesday 23rd May, Session I: Explore the current use of NA in developing and supporting the SC

Morning - examples from the Finnish, UK and German programmes will set the scene

Afternoon - facilitated round table discussions will bring forth any remaining questions and topics from the main presentations for open discussion among all participants. Points to be considered include:

- relative weighting of laboratory/URL/modelling results and NA
- 'ground truthing' of modelling results via NA input – can we do more?
- Why so little NA in SC, does it have an image problem?

Session II: Poster session

Wednesday 24th May, Session III: Explore the current use of NA in communicating both the results of the SC and the wider aspects of radioactive waste disposal

Morning - examples from the Canadian, Japanese and Dutch programmes will set the scene

Afternoon - facilitated round table discussions will bring forth any remaining questions and topics from the main presentations for open discussion among all participants. Points to be considered include:

- can we use the same NA information in different ways for different audiences?
- how do the positions of different audiences affect their reception of different NA information and could this inform how NAs are presented?
- can we agree on what defines those audiences?

Workshop dinner

Thursday 25th May

Session IV: Exploring the potential for using NA in staff training and education

Session V: Presenting an updated view on the use of archaeological analogues in the SC

Session VI: General topics (e.g. long-term behaviour of bentonite, natural glasses, model testing, etc)

Friday, 26th May - Session VII: Field trip to SÚRAO's Bukov URL in the former Rozna uranium mine

These are but a few examples and we are open to any suggestions to broaden the scope of the meeting - please drop Russell Alexander (the NAWG Chairman) a line with your ideas and comments at russell@bedrock-geosciences.com. Full details, including a reservation form, are available on the NAWG web page (www.natural-analogues.com), alternatively, contact Russell Alexander before **14th April, 2017**. *The workshop will be held with the kind support of ÚJV Řež, a.s. and SÚRAO.*