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Programme

GENIORS

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GENIORS

Clustering Events 4

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Summary

Preparatory work done towards clustering event 4. Unfortunately the event was cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Approval

Date	By
2021-05-19 09:18:16	Dr. Thomas CARDINAELS (SCK-CEN)
2021-05-28 13:48:29	Mr. Chris RHODES (NNL)
2021-05-31 11:27:50	Mr. Stéphane BOURG (CEA)

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D10.4: FOURTH CLUSTERING EVENT “PARTITIONING MEETS CONDITIONING”

In the GENIORS work package 10 (WP10), a series of four clustering events, and two stakeholders events were to be organized. In this deliverable 10.4, the fourth clustering event is described. Unfortunately, the physical event could not take place due to the ongoing covid-19 pandemic situation.

The fourth and last clustering event was scheduled for autumn 2020 in the UK and was entitled “Partitioning meets conditioning”. It was envisaged to bring the Partitioning (P) and Conditioning (P) communities together, which are both working towards a better, more optimal treatment and management of spent nuclear fuel.

Here, a summary of the preparatory work done is described.

SCOPE OF THE EVENT

The concept of the event will be analogous to the previously held “Partitioning meets transmutation” clustering event. The event will be divided in four major blocks. A preliminary subdivision is proposed:

Opening of the event: general presentation to describe P and C: why is it important and give an overview on how the topic evolved over the last 40 y.

- Strategy
 - FANC – Geert Volckaert
 - NNL?
 - Presentation on direct disposal (supercontainer concept) – NIRAS?
- Partitioning
 - To be delegated to S. Bourg + WP leaders GENIORS
- Conditioning
 - Ceramics (Uni Sheffield)
 - Glass (CEA)
 - Geopolymers (SCK CEN)
- Final disposal
 - Degradation of glass in clay
 - Fuel degradation in granite
 - General overview of which type of waste could be disposed in which type of soil

Closure of the event: summary of newest insights gained in the field.

AIM OF THE EVENT

Bringing together the partitioning and conditioning communities and inform each other on the « what », « how », and « why » of P and C, respectively. In addition, the latest state of the art in these domains together with the main challenges for the future are to be addressed. The goal is get input on important aspects and boundary conditions for a P&C scenario and create awareness towards each other.

ORGANIZATION

- The exact date and venue were not known at the start of the covid-19 pandemic, the aim was autumn 2020 in the UK.
- The communication, advertisement, administration and registration of participants would be organized along with LGI
- The outline of the program and the contact with speakers will be SCK CEN's responsibility.

COVID-19

As covid cases increased rapidly from March 2020 on, Belgium and the majority of other countries in the world went in local lockdowns. Travelling was prohibited and upcoming events were reprogrammed or cancelled. The organization of P&C became suddenly unsure. Do we need to postpone the event? Cancel it? Can we have speakers/participants travelling to the venue... In addition, it became unsure if a postponed event could still be organized in the UK due to the BREXIT.

An alternative was raised to couple the P&C event with the EC "PREDIS" project. This project relates to nuclear waste conditioning and has the advantage that a broader "C" community is addressed, next to the broad "P" community which is found in GENIORS.

However, because the pandemic lasted longer than the GENIORS project, the project leader was contacted. After several iterations, it was decided to cancel this partitioning meets conditioning event.