

# Waste & Decommissioning

**The UK has an historical legacy of radioactive materials on its nuclear sites; the government is establishing the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to clear the sites, a process which will take several decades.**

**This new project at NPL aims to start the development of the measurement infrastructure that will be needed to support the nuclear industry in its efforts to decommission nuclear sites safely.**

The government has set up the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to take responsibility for driving forward the decommissioning and clean-up of the UK's nuclear legacy sites. This process will take several decades and will involve the sentencing and disposal of large quantities of radioactive waste.

NPL's role is to provide the reference materials and support needed to ensure that measurements of the radioactivity content of waste materials are accurate, consistent and demonstrably independent of the nuclear industry. The first stage in establishing the metrological infrastructure has three components:

- Contributing to the development of relevant Codes of Practice for measurement.
- Organising a national 'metrology for decommissioning' workshop, involving all the stakeholders including the nuclear industry and regulatory bodies, to determine the priorities for the new infrastructure.
- Developing the reference materials identified as priorities.



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