

Nuclear Waste

A Technological and Political Challenge

Foreword Over the past decades, Piero Risoluti has built up an intimate knowledge of the nuclear industry - in particular of nuclear waste management. In this book, his scientific understanding is apparent - for example in his comprehensive but readily understandable descriptions of waste conditioning and disposal. Moreover, he has also been directly involved in the wider societal and political debates in the nuclear area - especially in his Italian homeland. What shines through in these pages is his frustration at the lack of progress in implementing disposal concepts that are judged by many to be very safe and his unfaltering drive to improve this situation. To provoke debate, the book is very deliberately written in a polarising, black and white style that can easily be labelled as "politically incorrect" - a characterisation that Piero will probably agree with and be amused by. Criticism is directed equally at "loud mouthed and incompetent anti-nuclear environmentalists", the "nuclear Byzantium" of the international nuclear establishment, the "intellectual narcissism" of those nuclear experts that dare to admit the importance of societal issues, and the tendency of politicians to "indefinite procrastination". These are not words chosen to avoid open confrontation of opposing views.

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