Role of Storage in Radioactive Waste Management

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Why Store Waste?

- Protect people and the environment
- Maintain waste in a safe condition pending disposal or if necessary, further treatment
- Allow decay of relatively short half life radionuclides
- Step on a planned disposal scheme
Stages in Radioactive Waste Management
Store Requirements

- Isolation of waste – prevent inadvertent contact
- Shielding to meet dose constraint
- Security – control access
- Controlled environment to provide benign conditions
- Monitoring arrangements
- Provide adequate export facilities
- Siting/store location
Interim Surface Storage
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Store Operations Forum

- NDA initiated Store Operations Forum – all UK waste producers are members
- Group meets annually to exchange information and good practice
- Supplemented by telephone conferences through the year
- Dedicated Knowledge Hub area
- Bilateral meetings, audit support and site visits encouraged
Providing Guidance to Store Operators

• Industry Guidance document published in November 2012
• Designed to meet Radioactive Waste Management Ltd (RWM) requirements
• Reviewed by IAEA with recommendations for development
• Revisions and updates driven by user store operators experience and issues
Key Issues for SOF

- Store environment – preserve packages / manage evolution
- Baseline of package condition – entry to storage
- Monitoring – evolution of condition with time
- Records – comprehensive and complete
- Asset Management – long term maintenance and life extension of store
Summary

• Design store to provide a benign environment
• Plan for lifetime extension / asset management
• Design in package monitoring facilities
• Ensure package condition is defined on entry to store
• Ensure package records are complete on entry to store
Thank you