U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board to Hold Workshop on Recent Advances in Repository Science and Operations from International Underground Research Laboratory Collaborations

The U.S. Nuclear Waste Technical Review Board will hold a workshop on Wednesday, April 24, and Thursday, April 25, 2019, on recent advances in repository science and operations from international underground research laboratory (URL) collaborations. Several countries, including Belgium, Canada, Finland, France, Germany, Japan, Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States, have operated URLs to support the development of deep geologic repositories for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste (HLW) and spent nuclear fuel (SNF). URLs enable research and technology development activities to be conducted under conditions prototypical of specific repository environments. The workshop objectives are to review DOE research and development activities that are underway or planned and to elicit information that will be useful to the Board in its review of these activities and to DOE in its implementation of these activities. The discussions of international experiences will focus on unique learning opportunities and recent advances in the scientific understanding of the long-term performance, as well as in the technology and operation, of geologic repositories for HLW and SNF based on studies that have been performed in URLs.

The workshop will be held at the Embassy Suites San Francisco Airport – Waterfront, 150 Anza Blvd., Burlingame, CA 94010. The hotel telephone number is (650) 342-4600. The workshop is open to the public.

A detailed meeting agenda will be available on the Board's website at www.nwtrb.gov approximately one week before the meeting. The meeting will be webcast and the link to the webcast will be provided on the Board's website a few days before the meeting. To request additional information on the workshop, please send an email to URLWorkshop@nwtrb.gov.