

15.9.2010

**FINNISH RESEARCH PROGRAMME ON NUCLEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT
KYT2014 – GUIDELINES FOR 2011 RESEARCH PROJECT SEARCH**

In 2011, the Ministry of Employment and the Economy will launch a national four-year nuclear waste management research programme, the KYT2014 programme (Finnish Research Programme on Nuclear Waste Management). This is a continuation of the KYT2010 research programme. The aim of the programme is to ensure the preservation and further development in Finland of the nuclear engineering expertise required for comparing various methods of performing nuclear waste management.

The main themes of the research programme are new and alternative technologies in nuclear waste management, research on the safety of nuclear waste management, and sociological studies related to nuclear waste management. Research programme contents and the nature and topics of funded projects are described in more detail in the framework programme (<http://www.ydinjatetutkimus.fi/>). The Ministry of Employment and the Economy will appoint a Steering Group for the programme by the beginning of November.

A new feature of the research programme being launched is the intention to produce extensive and coordinated sets of results in the following safety studies: the capacity of buffer and filling materials, the long-term integrity of the final disposal canister, and the safety case. Those submitting project proposals are encouraged to establish a multi-year programme in these areas, based on the participation of several parties. Such a programme will coordinate activities with the help of a project coordinator. Traditional one-year or multi-year projects are also included in the research programme.

Criteria for assessing the suitability of proposed projects for the programme include the project's significance and usability. Features such as networking with actors in the field, combined joint projects, integral entities and education effects will also be valued. The education effects of projects will be assessed, both in terms of training new experts and generating new expertise. In addition to these, assessment of suitability will emphasise scientific merit and profitability, as proven in KYT projects or other contexts.