



**LLW Repository Ltd**



# WCSSG LLW Sub-group

## *Progress on the Environmental Safety Case*

Date: 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009, Drigg Village Hall

*Dr Richard Cummings (LLWR)*

*Michael Egan (Quintessa Ltd)*



LLW Repository Ltd

# Why are we here today?

- Summarise recent progress and programme
- Update on progress on trench inventory studies
- Describe and ask for input on two optimisation studies we are doing:
  - Trench remediation
  - Engineering design for closure

## Role of the ESC

- Demonstrates how safe environmentally is the LLWR
- Developed against requirements set out in environment regulators' '*Guidance on Requirements for Authorisation*', the '*GRA*'
- Required to:
  - Consult stakeholders
  - Show management and design optimal
- Next revision ESC by 1<sup>st</sup> May 2011

# Importance of the ESC

- Last presented in 2002
- Only allowed storage in Vault 9
- Successful ESC vital to future of LLWR

# Recent progress and programme

- Important interim submission against 'Requirement 2' in May 2008
- Accepted by EA
- Provided many comments want addressed in 2011 ESC
  
- Project currently in final development phase – optimisation studies important component
- Data freeze in April 2010
- May 2010 – April 2011: final assessment calculations and preparation of documentation

## Trench inventory update

- Current knowledge of wastes in trenches based on extensive studies of disposal and other records
- Local people expressed scepticism that all disposals recorded
- Initiated activity to address concerns: 'Recall' exercise

## Recall exercise

- Started Autumn 2008
- Interviews with staff and ex-staff of LLWR and Sellafield:
  - Invited people we were already aware of
  - Advertised in local press
  - ~30 people
- Aim was to identify and understand issues

## Recall exercise

- Analysed results and identified 45 'issues'
- Examples:
  - 'ILW' being disposed, e.g. waste being put into centre of skips, 'painters handbags', 'lead sandwiches'
  - Chernobyl waste
  - Known events: e.g. waste uncovered in Trench 3, trim phones, Greenpeace and ILW
  - Plutonium and americium salts in Winchesters
  - Large items
  - Non-active wastes

## Recall exercise

- Just completed initial analysis of impact on ESC
- Further work on some issues still to do
- Hope to report back some time in New Year