






STATUS OF REPOSITORY PROGRAMS FOR DISPOSAL OF SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL AND HIGH-LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE*

This table presents the progress of national nuclear waste disposal programs in various countries, summarized at a high level and focusing on when primary milestones were reached

		National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
	FINLAND Site, Location Name: Onkalo, Olkiluoto	1987	1983 ¹	2001	2012	2016	TBD
	SWEDEN Site, Location Name: Forsmark, Osthhammer	1984	1992	2009	2011 ²	2025 ⁷	2035 ⁸
	FRANCE Site, Location Name: Cigéo, Bure	1991	1993 ¹	2005 ³	2023 ³	2027-2028 ¹²	
	SWITZERLAND Site, Location Name: Nördlich Lägern, Stadel	2003	2008	2022	2034 ⁴		
	UNITED STATES Site, Location Name: Yucca Mountain, Nevada	1982	1983	2002	2008**		
	CANADA Site, Location Name: Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation-Ignace, Ontario	2002	2010	2024 ⁶	2031 ⁵		

TBD To Be Determined
 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame
 Suspended/not being funded

FOOTNOTES:

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** The Yucca Mountain repository project is not being funded; the NRC licensing process has been suspended.




REFERENCES:



- https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a815d7ee5274a2e87dbd3c0/Overview_of_international_siting_processes_September_2013.pdf
- <https://www.skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/the-review-process/>
- <https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2023-01/CigeoMag%20UK.pdf>
- Blechsmidt, I. "Swiss Deep Geological Repository Program: Key Activities and Future Directions," Waste Management Symposium 2025, Phoenix, AZ, USA. March 10-13, 2025
- https://www.nwmo.ca/-/media/Reports-MASTER/Corporate-reports/Implementation-plan-2025-29.ashx?rev=d30114f5501c4b0594d317e1f2bd489c&sc_lang=en
- <https://www.nwmo.ca/Site-selection/Wabigoon-Lake-Ojibway-Nation-Ignace-area>
- <https://skb.com/nyhet/construction-begins-on-swedish-spent-fuel-repository/>
- <https://skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/>
- <https://www.andra.fr/cigeo/le-calendrier-et-les-differentes-phases-du-projet#section-1086>



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 CZECH REPUBLIC Site, Location Name: TBD	1997 ⁹	1992 ⁹	2030 ⁹			
 CHINA Site, Location Name: TBD	2003	2013	TBD			
 GERMANY Site, Location Name: TBD	2013	2017	2046-2068 ¹⁰			
 JAPAN Site, Location Name: TBD	2000	2002	2030			
 UNITED KINGDOM Site, Location Name: TBD	2008	2020	2035-2040			
 REPUBLIC OF KOREA Site, Location Name: TBD	UNDECIDED	2016	2028			
 SPAIN Site, Location Name: TBD	2023 ¹¹	2029				
 BELGIUM Site, Location Name: TBD	2022	UNDECIDED				

TBD To Be Determined
 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame


REFERENCES:

- https://sujb.gov.cz/fileadmin/sujb/docs/zpravy/narodni_zpravy/NZ_VP_RAO_8_0A.pdf
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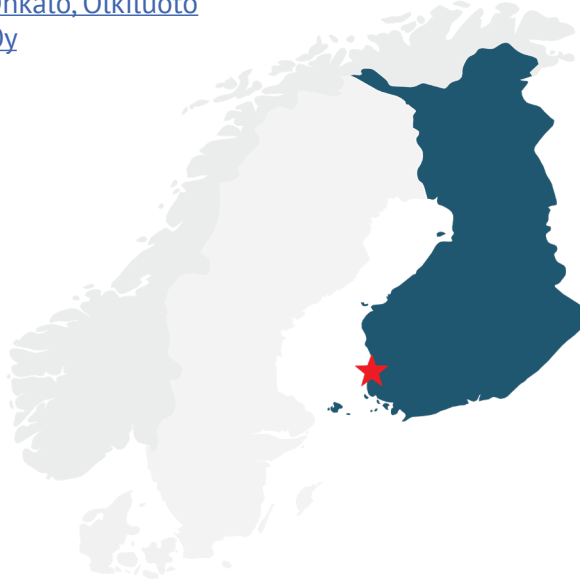




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 FINLAND	1987	1983 ¹	2001	2012	2016	TBD

Site Name, Location: [Onkalo, Olkiluoto](#)
Implementer: [Posiva Oy](#)



TBD To Be Determined
 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame

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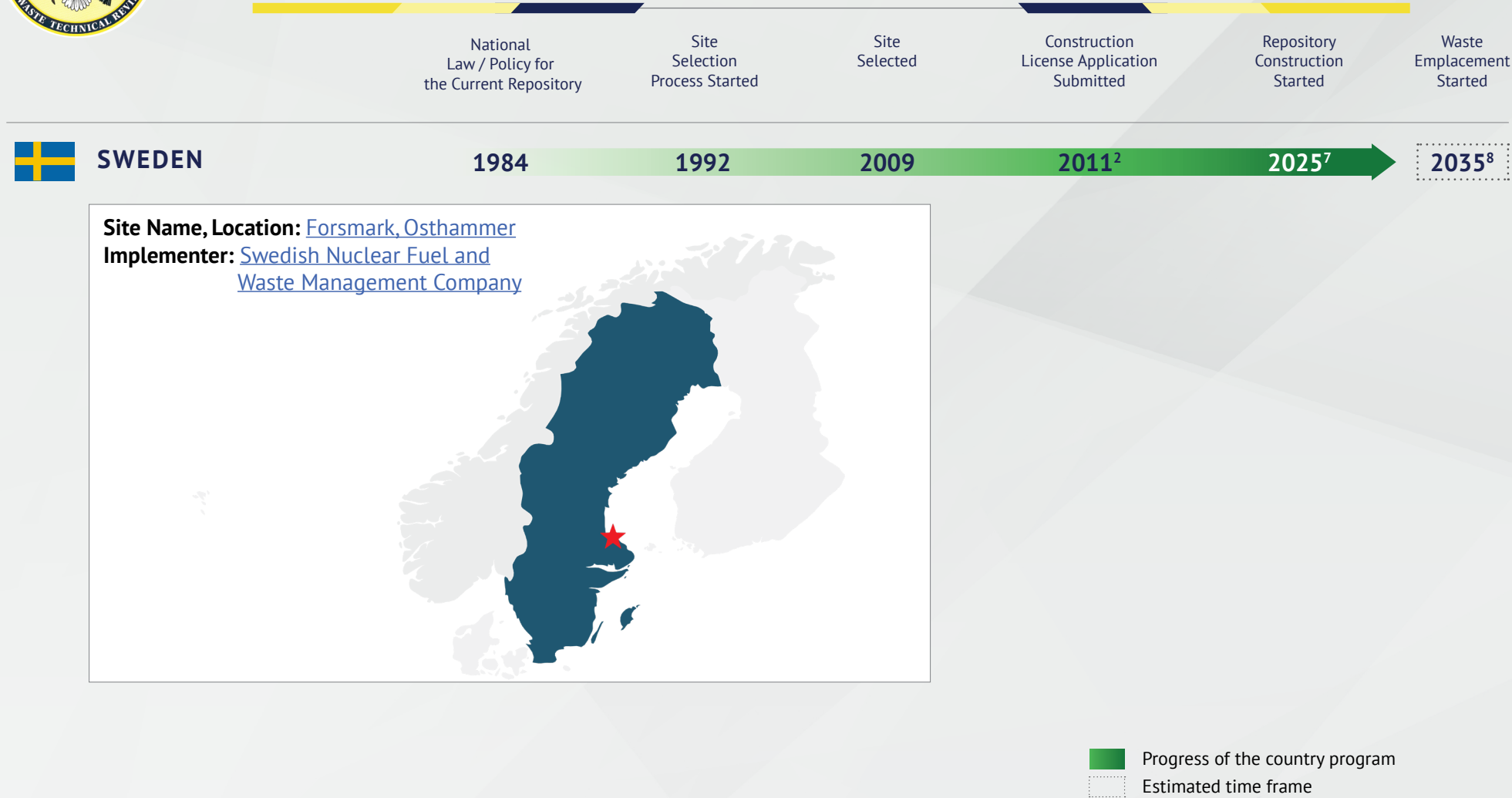
REFERENCES:

1. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a815d7ee5274a2e87dbd3c0/Overview_of_international_siting_processes_September_2013.pdf



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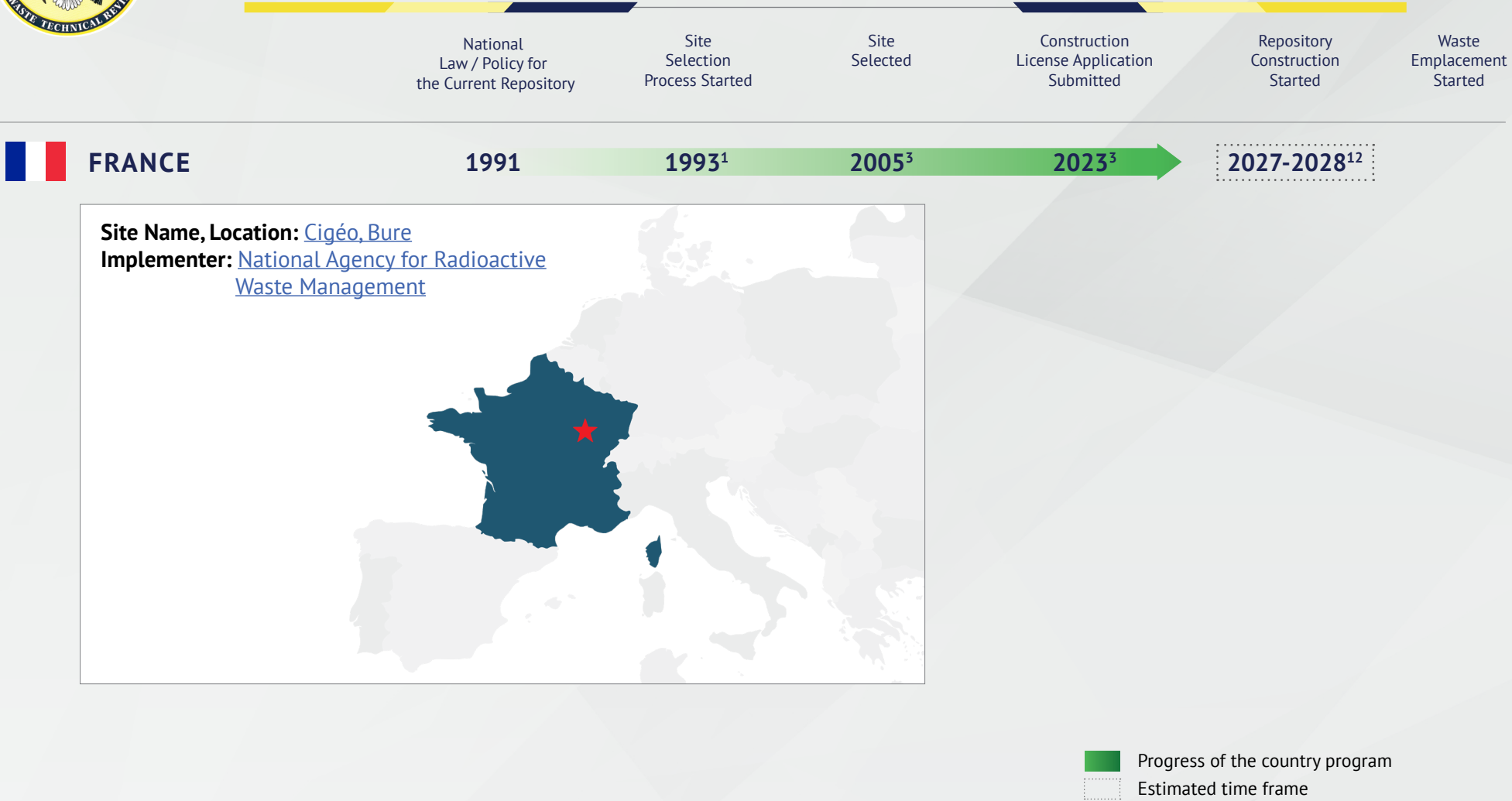
REFERENCES:

- 2. <https://www.skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/the-review-process/>
- 7. <https://skb.com/nyhet/construction-begins-on-swedish-spent-fuel-repository/>
- 8. <https://skb.com/future-projects/the-spent-fuel-repository/>



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- 1. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a815d7ee5274a2e87dbd3c0/Overview_of_international_siting_processes_September_2013.pdf
- 3. <https://international.andra.fr/sites/international/files/2023-01/CigeoMag%20UK.pdf>
- 12. <https://www.andra.fr/cigeo/le-calendrier-et-les-differentes-phases-du-projet#section-1086>



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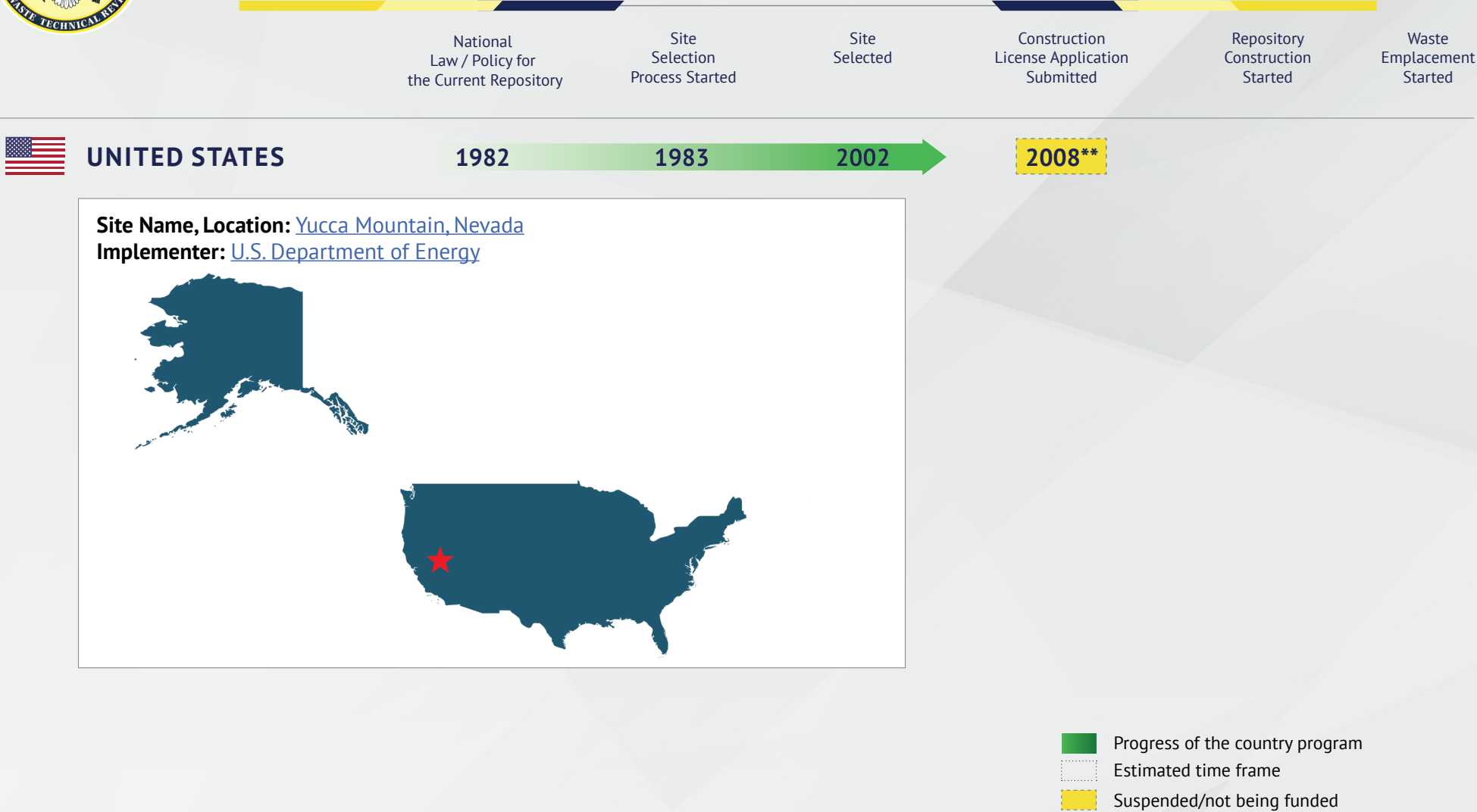
FOOTNOTES:
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REFERENCES:
4. Blechschmidt, I. "Swiss Deep Geological Repository Program: Key Activities and Future Directions," Waste Management Symposium 2025, Phoenix, AZ, USA. March 10-13, 2025



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	National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
<div> CANADA</div>	2002	2010	2024 ⁶	2031 ⁵		
<div><div>Site Name, Location: Wabigoon Lake Obijway Nation-Ignace, Ontario</div><div>Implementer: Nuclear Waste Management Organization</div><div></div></div>						

Progress of the country program

Estimated time frame

FOOTNOTES:

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REFERENCES:

5. https://www.nwmo.ca/-/media/Reports-MASTER/Corporate-reports/Implementation-plan-2025-29.ashx?rev=d30114f5501c4b0594d317e1f2bd489c&sc_lang=en
6. <https://www.nwmo.ca/Site-selection>



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REFERENCES:

9. https://sujb.gov.cz/fileadmin/sujb/docs/zpravy/narodni_zpravy/NZ_VP_RAO_8_0A.pdf



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	National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
 CHINA	2003	2013	TBD			
<div>Site Name, Location: TBD</div> <div>Implementer: China Atomic Energy Authority and China National Nuclear Corporation</div> <div></div>						

TBD

 To Be Determined

Progress of the country program

Estimated time frame

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	National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
 GERMANY	2013	2017	2046-2068 ¹⁰			
<div>Site Name, Location: TBD</div> <div>Implementer: Federal Company for Radioactive Waste Disposal</div> <div></div>						
<div>TBD To Be Determined</div> <div>Progress of the country program</div> <div>Estimated time frame</div>						



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REFERENCES:
10. <https://www.sandia.gov/app/uploads/sites/137/2024/03/13th-US-German-Workshop-Proceedings-SAND2024-02255R.pdf>



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	National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
<div> JAPAN</div> <div>2000→2002→<div>2030</div></div> <div><div>Site Name, Location: TBD</div><div>Implementer: Nuclear Waste Management Organization of Japan</div><div></div></div>						

TBD

 To Be Determined

Progress of the country program

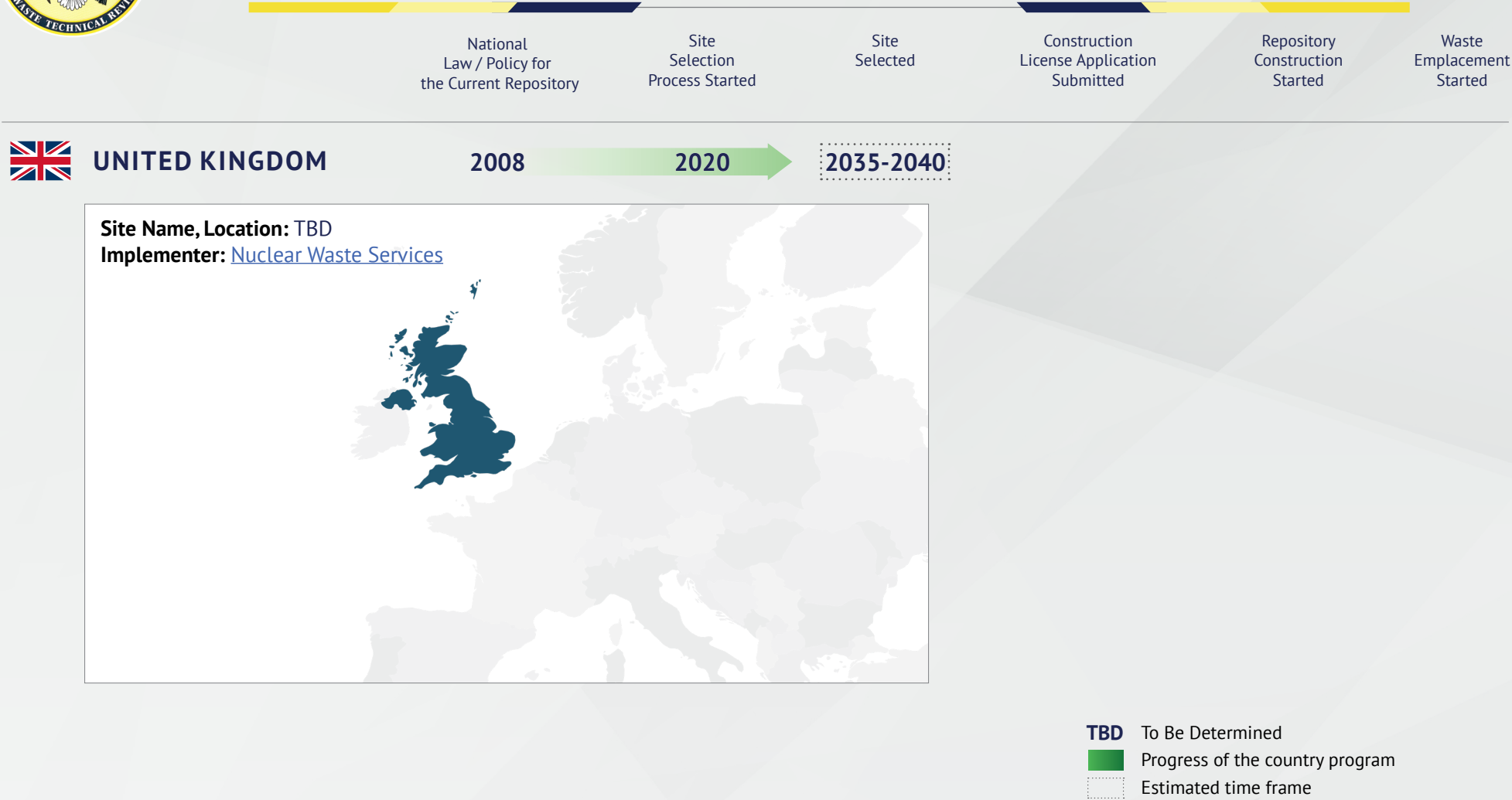
Estimated time frame

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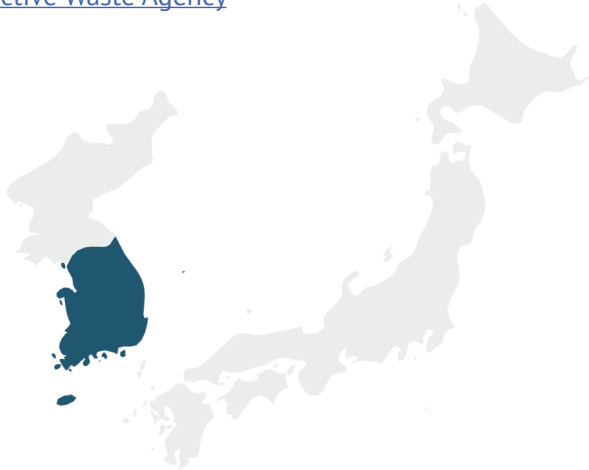


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	National Law / Policy for the Current Repository	Site Selection Process Started	Site Selected	Construction License Application Submitted	Repository Construction Started	Waste Emplacement Started
 REPUBLIC OF KOREA	UNDECIDED	2016	2028			
<div>Site Name, Location: TBD</div> <div>Implementer: Korea Radioactive Waste Agency</div> <div></div>						

TBD

 To Be Determined

Progress of the country program

Estimated time frame

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 SPAIN		2023 ¹¹	2029			
<div><div>Site Name, Location: TBD</div><div>Implementer: Spanish Radioactive Waste Management Agency</div><div></div></div>						
<div>TBD To Be Determined</div> <div>Progress of the country program</div> <div>Estimated time frame</div>						

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REFERENCES:

11. https://www.enresa.es/documentos/EN_7-plan-general-residuos-radiactivos.pdf



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National
Law / Policy for
the Current Repository

Site
Selection
Process Started

Site
Selected

Construction
License Application
Submitted

Repository
Construction
Started

Waste
Emplacement
Started



BELGIUM

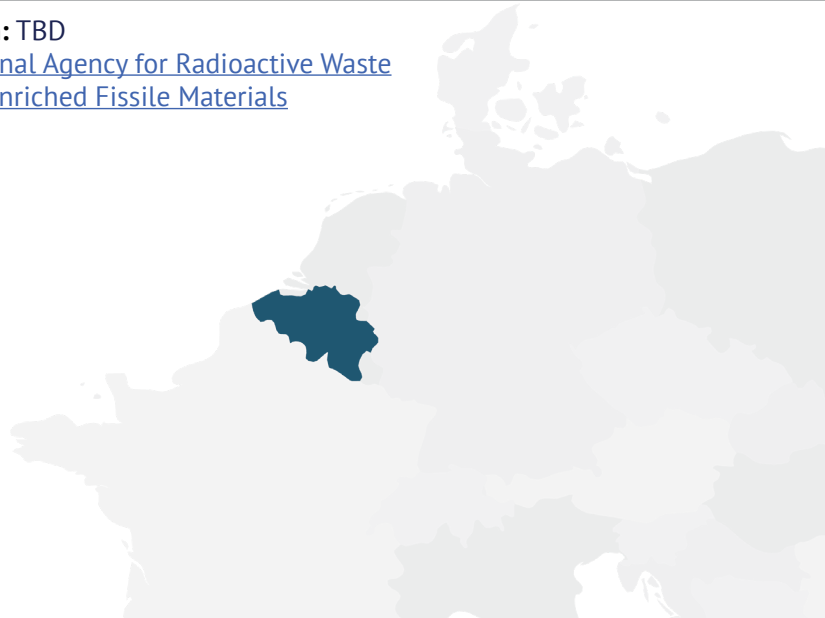
2022





UNDECIDED

Site Name, Location: TBD

Implementer: [National Agency for Radioactive Waste
and Enriched Fissile Materials](#)



TBD To Be Determined
 Progress of the country program
 Estimated time frame

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