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SÚRAO/RAWRA completed the analysis of military areas, next in-depth research envisaged for Boletice and Hradiště

By the end of May the Radioactive Waste Repository Authority (RAWRA) has to organize opponency of the geologic analysis of military areas in the Czech Republic. Preliminary results indicate that suitable geologic conditions for potential location of a deep repository of used nuclear fuel and other radioactive substances could be found in the military areas in Boletice and Hradiště. In these two military areas SÚRAO/RAWRA intends to carry-out an in-depth research that could approve this expectation.

Already by the end of last year SÚRAO/RAWRA started the analysis of geologic data on military areas (MA) in Hradiště, Brdy, Boletice, Březina and Libavá on request of the government. The exploration of facts showed potentially suitable geologic conditions in the middle and northern part of the MA Boletice (Region of South Bohemia) and at the eastern outskirts of the MA Hradiště (Region of Karlovy Vary). Now it is necessary to accomplish a more detailed exploration by means of satellite and by aircraft taken views along with additional geo-physical and geo-chemical measurements organized in the sites terrain.

„Incorporation of any military area in the set of suitable locations for a deep repository as well as its further analysis comes in question in the year 2010 or 2011, that is after all explorations have been finished, in conformity to the work already completed in previously examined localities,“ says Vítězslav Duda, the managing director of SÚRAO. According to his opinion it is too early to speculate now on the most suitable area. *„Prior to selection of the final locality for repository it is necessary to carry-out not only very detailed geologic surveys but also transparent evaluations based on predefined technical, economic and social criteria, also with respect to the environment,“* added Duda.

In the past years more areas had been incorporated into process of selection for realization of deep repository of radioactive waste. From these, 6 localities remained for continuation in exploration works (Božejovice, Budišov, Lodhéřov, Lubenec, Pačejov and Rohozná). With regard to adverse position of their inhabitants, in 2004 exploration works had been suspended in all sites, but this year the moratorium comes to its end. Before re-introduction of the exploration works SÚRAO tries to acquire consent of respective communities.

Mgr. Lucie Steinerová, Manager of the Communication Department of SÚRAO

For further information:

RNDr. Jiří Slovák, Manager of the Deep Repository Preparation Department

Tel: 606 672 755

E-mail: slovak@rawra.cz

The Radioactive Waste Repository Authority (RAWRA) is an organizational body of the state established on the basis of the § 26 of the Act No. 18/1997 Coll., on peaceful utilisation of nuclear energy and ionising radiation (Atomic Act). Based on this act, the government of the Czech Republic authorized the SÚRAO/RAWRA to negotiate on future site of the Deep Repository and on the realization of research activities in suitable locations.