

**CANADIAN NUCLEAR LABORATORIES SITING OF THE NEAR SURFACE
DISPOSAL FACILITY FOR THE LOW-LEVEL WASTE
AT THE CHALK RIVER SITE**

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Abstract

Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) is proposing a Near Surface Disposal Facility (NSDF) to establish a safe, on-site, and permanent means for the disposal of solid low-level radioactive waste at its Chalk River Laboratories (CRL) site. The NSDF will be a disposal facility for historic wastes currently in interim storage as well as wastes arising from building decommissioning, environmental remediation activities, and enduring laboratory operations. The design capacity of the disposal facility is approximately 1,000,000 m³ to meet CNL current waste volumes as well as forecasts of waste to be generated. The proposed facility will significantly reduce the Government of Canada's nuclear liabilities including the acceleration of the environmental cleanup mission at the CRL site which will facilitate the site revitalization mission as well. The proposed disposal facility is currently undergoing an environmental assessment as a designated project under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012) as well as a regulatory review as a proposed Class 1B nuclear facility under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act.