

Current and emerging challenges for Nordic nuclear/radiological emergency preparedness: cooperation through the NKS-B programme

Kasper G. Andersson^{1,2}, Karin Andgren^{1,3}, Sigurður M. Magnússon^{1,4} & Finn Physant^{1,5}

¹ NKS, Roskilde, Denmark

² DTU Nutech, Roskilde, Denmark

³ Vattenfall, Solna, Sweden

⁴ Icelandic Radiation Safety Authority, Reykjavik, Iceland

⁵ FRIT, Roskilde, Denmark

The Nordic countries share a sociocultural heritage, which has historically facilitated cooperation on a wide range of societal themes. Specifically on nuclear and radiological preparedness topics, cooperation over many decades in what has evolved into the core of the NKS-B programme has provided a common understanding of important issues while maintaining close links between organisations with an interest in the field. Following up on a number of preparedness related learning points after the Fukushima accident in 2011 a suite of new dedicated NKS-B activities were launched already in January 2012. The scope and requirements in cooperative Nordic preparedness were illustrated and discussed at the NKS seminar in Stockholm in January 2013 on the Fukushima Accident and Perspectives for Nordic Reactor Safety and Emergency Preparedness, which had 140 participants. For instance the needs for well exercised monitoring strategies and the important role of detailed and operational information pathways and strategies were highlighted. The results of tens of activities have now been published on the NKS website, which are directly aimed at extending and upgrading Nordic capabilities to respond to an emergency in the light of the Fukushima experience. On this background NKS invites all interested persons and organisations to participate in a follow-up workshop on 13-14th of January 2016 on lessons learned and the way to proceed in both Nordic emergency management and nuclear risk assessment, which are strongly interrelated disciplines. Over the years, the NKS-B programme has also produced numerous valuable results in areas as diverse as improvement of routine measurement technologies for the nuclear industry and waste management relating to decommissioning and NORM generating processes.