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The 6th International Workshop on Rock Mechanics in Nuclear Waste Disposal

10 October 2023, Salzburg, Austria

As our commission has successfully held a series of workshops on radioactive disposal during the ISRM Congress in Lisbon in 2007, in Beijing in 2011, in Montreal in 2015, and in Iguassu in 2019, we plan to organize the 6th International Workshop on Rock Mechanics in Nuclear Waste Disposal in Salzburg, Austria on **10 October 2023**, just before the 15th ISRM Congress.

Organizer: ISRM Commission on Radioactive Waste Disposal

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Theme: Rock Mechanics in Nuclear Waste Disposal

Topics:

- Site selection and site characterization of deep geological repositories (DGRs)
- Progress of underground research laboratories (URLs) for geological disposal of high-level radioactive waste
- Construction technologies of URLs and DGRs
- Coupled thermal-hydro-mechanical behavior of host rocks for DGRs

- Performance assessment of DGRs
- Rock mechanics challenges facing radioactive waste disposal

Description:

Safe disposal of high-level radioactive waste (HLW) is a challenging rock engineering task for the sustainable development of nuclear energy and environmental protection. Geological disposal is a feasible and safe option for the long-term management of HLW worldwide, and many countries have considered building deep geological repositories (DGRs) in which to dispose of spent fuel or vitrified HLW. This workshop aims at introducing key rock mechanics topics for the development of DGRs. Meanwhile, the planning and the latest progress of nuclear waste disposal programs in different countries will be shared. Experience and lessons gained from nuclear waste disposal programs will also be summarized. Potential speakers are being invited. Attendees from rock mechanics, geology, and hydrogeology or other related fields would benefit from this workshop.

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