

Mr P Stybelski
Chief Executive
Cumbria County Council
The Courts
Carlisle
CA3 8NA

8 October 2008

Dear Peter

MANAGING RADIOACTIVE WASTE SAFELY –A FRAMEWORK FOR IMPLEMENTING GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL

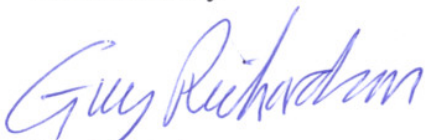
I refer to your letter of 31 July 2008 concerning the above which was discussed at the meeting of the CALC Executive Committee on 27 September 2008. The Committee discussed the matter with the benefit of the views of the CALC Copeland Association which had met a few days earlier.

The Committee welcomes the Government's approach of working closely with local communities in the repository siting process and takes the view that Cumbria County Council should make a without commitment 'expression of interest' to the Government.

However, the Committee does have one caveat. In the Government's approach there is some ambiguity about what constitutes the 'local' or 'host' community when it comes to repository siting. The Committee agrees that there is a real Cumbrian interest in this matter, but takes the view that the community interests that must be *paramount* are the very local communities within a few miles of a potential repository site. It follows from this that the local communities in closest proximity to a site must be fully engaged from the start in consultations and discussions with Government. I trust this can be built into the County Council's approach.

I am copying this letter to Copeland Borough Council

Yours sincerely



Guy Richardson
Chief Officer

