

Job Description for Professional Posts

Reference: NE2025/18

Position and Grade: Associate Project Officer-Predisposal, P2

Organizational Unit: Waste Technology Section

Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology

Duty Station: Vienna, Austria

Type/Duration of Appointment: FT – JPO, 1 year

Organizational Setting

The Division of Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Waste Technology (NEFW) comprises the Nuclear Fuel Cycle and Materials Section, the Waste Technology Section, the Decommissioning & Environmental Remediation Section, and the Research Reactor Section. The Division seeks to support Member States in building their capacity to access technologies, to share good practices and to develop safe and effective approaches across all aspects of research reactors, nuclear fuel cycle, decommissioning, radioactive waste management and environmental remediation.

The Waste Technology Section (WTS) assists Member States with radioactive waste management. It covers a broad spectrum of activities and is organized into teams responsible for radioactive waste management (pre-disposal and disposal), and the management of disused sealed radioactive sources (DSRS). Efforts are focused mainly on the elaboration and implementation of comprehensive and integrated radioactive waste management (RWM) policies and strategies, the development of RWM infrastructure, the promotion of good practices for sustainable, safe and cost-effective RWM, enabling access to current scientific and technological developments. Given the widespread nature of RWM challenges, the Section cooperates with a wide range of sections within the IAEA and international organizations.

Main Purpose

Under the direct supervision of the Predisposal Team Leader, the Associate Project Officer-Predisposal will solicit, compile, and synthesize information from the Member States and existing IAEA resources on SMRs and advanced nuclear reactors, will work with agency subject matter experts to assess the potential impact of various SMR or advanced reactor designs on radioactive waste management in states with emphasis on disposability and conditioning of probable waste forms. The gathered materials, information, and analysis will be disseminated to Member States though the different IAEA tools such as Webinars, publications, e-Learnings, etc.

Role

The Associate Project Officer-Predisposal works in the areas of radioactive waste management as: (i) a team member, contributing to the drafting of publications on waste from new reactor designs and supporting the development good practice considerations for waste management in advanced reactor

designs, specifically on incorporation of considerations from all waste stakeholders; (ii) a collaborator, contributing to the preparation and implementation of IAEA meetings on the topics mentioned above in the Predisposal Team.

This position will work with other Sections within the Department of Nuclear Energy to understand the designs and expected wastes from advanced reactors (via the ARIS database or SMR Platform) and as necessary, work with states or designers to obtain general (non-proprietary) information on waste streams and forms from these reactor systems. A close working relationship with not only the Department of Nuclear Energy, but the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security and the Department of Safeguards will be required to examine all potential impacts of various reactor designs on waste processes, conditioned volumes and disposability.

Partnerships

The Associate Project Officer-Predisposal will cooperate with relevant staff in the Department of Nuclear Safety and Security, the Department of Safeguards and the Department of Nuclear Energy.

Functions / Key Results Expected

Under the direct guidance of the Predisposal Team Leader, the Associate Project Officer-Predisposal will assist the team in:

- Compiling a list of advanced reactors in active development (from ARIS and SMR platform).
- Conducting a review of potential waste streams from reactors.
- Determining possible waste forms and/or disposal pathways for waste streams and note technical gaps.
- Evaluating regulatory hurdles to disposal of wastes from advanced reactors.
- Estimating waste volumes for disposal.

Competencies and Expertise (do not revise or edit)

Core Competencies			
Competence	Occupational Role	Behavioural Indicator	
Communication	Individual Contributor	Communicates orally and in writing in a clear, concise and impartial manner. Takes time to listen and understand the perspective of others and proposes solutions.	
Achieving Results	Individual Contributor	Takes initiative in defining realistic outputs and clarifying roles, responsibilities and expected results in the context of the Department/Division's programme. Evaluates his/her results realistically, drawing conclusions from lessons learned.	
Teamwork	Individual Contributor	Actively contributes to achieving team results. Supports team decisions.	

Planning and Organizing	Individual Contributor	Plans and organizes his/her own work in
		support of achieving the team or Section's
		priorities. Takes into account potential changes
		and proposes contingency plans.

Functional Competencies			
Competence	Occupational Role	Behavioural Indicator	
Analytical thinking	Associate	Gathers and analyses information, identifying critical relationships and patterns among data and proposes workable solutions	
Partnership Building	Associate	Develops and maintains partnerships needed for his/her work. Establishes and nurtures positive relations with partners and stakeholders.	
Persuasion and influencing	Associate	Expresses ideas and suggestions in a clear manner and demonstrates the ability to successfully persuade and influence others.	

Expertise		
Expertise	Description	
Project Management	Ability to develop, promote, coordinate and evaluate related research and technical projects.	
Radioactive Waste Management Pre-disposal Processing	Knowledge and/or experience in radioactive waste management processing techniques and technology.	
Radioactive Waste Management Pre-disposal - Storage and Transport	Knowledge and/or experience in radioactive waste management storage techniques and technology.	

Education, Experience and Language Skills

- University Degree in Nuclear Engineering, Physics, Chemistry, or another related field.
- Minimum of two years of related experience in nuclear science in research, regulatory, or industrial setting.
- Familiarity with generation and/or management radioactive waste streams.
- Experience with other components of nuclear science (safety, security, safeguards, regulation).
- Experience in the use of electronic tools for information management and presentation such as Microsoft Office and Share Point.
- Excellent oral and written command of English. Knowledge of other official IAEA languages

(Arabic, Chinese, French, Russian and Spanish) is an asset.