**The Environmental policy of the Federal State Unitary Enterprise "National Operator for Radioactive Waste Management" (hereinafter NORW) and its branches**

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**1.** **Purpose and** [**scope**](https://www.multitran.com/m.exe?s=scope&l1=1&l2=2)  **of implementation**

This environmental policy of the NORW and its branches (hereinafter referred to as the "Environmental Policy") defines the strategic goal, principles, objectives and mechanisms for implementing the environmental policy of the NORW, taking into account the specifics of its activities and obligations in the field of environmental protection and environmental safety.

1.2 The Environmental Policy was developed on the basis of Unified Industry Ecological Policy of Rosatom State Corporation and its organizations approved by Order of Rosatom No. 1/1232-P.1.3 on 05.12.2017.

1.3 The Environmental Policy is the basis for the development of relevant local regulations on environmental protection and environmental safety.

1.4 Compliance with the Environmental Policy is mandatory for all employees of NORW and its branches.

1.5 Responsibility for updating the environmental policy and monitoring its implementation is the Deputy Director General for Development - Scientific Director of NORW.

**2.** **Terms, abbreviations and acronyms**

2.1 Terms

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| **Term** | **Definition** |
| Environmental impact of NORW branches on the environment  | change of environmental quality in the regions where NORW branches are located as a result of their activities |
| Environmental protection from possible negative impact | Activities of NORW and its branches are aimed at preservation and restoration of the environment, rational use of natural resources, prevention of possible negative impact on the environment and elimination of accumulated damage |
| Implementing the environmental policy | systemic activities, ensuring environmentally orienteddevelopment of NORW and its branches |
| Comprehensive monitoring (environmental monitoring) | comprehensive monitoring of the environment in the regions of NORW branches activities, including the natural environment, environmental systems, radiation conditions, assessment of changes in its condition as a result of the NORW branches activities |

2.2 Abbreviations used for the purposes of this document and their transcripts

|  |  |
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| Acronyms | Transcript |
| Corporation  | Rosatom State Corporation |
| Environmental protection legislation | Russian Federation legislation on environmental protection, nature management and environmental safety |

2.3 Abbreviations used for the purposes of this document and their transcripts

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Abbreviation | Transcript |
| USS RWM | Unified state system for radioactive waste management |
| RWDR | radioactive waste disposal repository |
| RW | radioactive waste |
| RM | radioactive materials |

**3. Introductory provisions**

3.1 The mission of NORW is to ensure environmental safety of the Russian Federation in the field of final isolation of radioactive waste.

3.2 The main activities of NORW are as follows:

- Implementation of final isolation of radioactive waste;

- ensuring safe handling of radioactive waste accepted for final isolation of RW;

- ensuring operation and closure of final isolation radioactive disposals of RW;

- ensuring nuclear, radiation, technical, fire safety, environmental protection;

- ensuring radiation control in the territories of disposal of RWDR, including periodic radiation control after closure of RWDR;

- informing the population, state authorities, other state and local authorities about the safety issues related to the handling of RW and the radiation situation in the territories where the RWDR are located;

- organizing and conducting public hearings, etc.;

3.3 NORW consists of the central office and the following branches: Dimitrovgradsky Branch (Dimitrovgrad city, Ulyanovsk Region); Zheleznogorsky Branch (Zheleznogorsk city, Krasnoyarsk Region); Seversky Branch (Seversk city, Tomsk Region), including the Novouralsk Branch of Seversky (Novouralsk city, Sverdlovsk Region); Ozersky Branch (Ozersk city, Krasnoyarsk Region).

3.4 The strategic goal of the environmental policy of NORW and its branches is to ensure the environmentally-oriented development of NORW and its branches while maintaining a high level of environmental safety and reducing the environmental risks associated with disposal of RW.

3.5. NORW recognizes that RW disposal activities may potentially have a negative impact on the environment and population. Minimizing such impact and ensuring environmental safety is one of the top priorities of the activities of NORW and branches of NORW, therefore, the environmental policy is an essential tool for achieving environmental goals.

3.6. NORW and branches of NORW use a systematic approach to the implementation of the environmental policy, which includes planning, implementation of environmental measures, reporting, assessment of the environmental effectiveness of results, external and internal control, as well as timely implementation of the environmental policy.

**4. Environmental policy realization concept**

The environmental policy is implemented in accordance with the following key principles:

**the principle of compliance** - ensuring that the activities of NORW and its branches comply with legal and other regulatory requirements and standards, including international ones, in the area of environmental safety and environmental protection;

**the principle of presumption of potential environmental hazard of activities** - awareness that any activity may have a negative impact on the environment and priority of mandatory consideration of environmental factors and assessment of possible negative impact on the environment in the planning process.

**the principle of scientific validity of decisions** - a scientifically substantiated approach to making environmentally significant decisions by the management and officials of NORW and its branches with the involvement of the expert community, as well as the mandatory use of modern and promising scientific achievements;

**the principle of consistency** - a combination of environmental, economic and social interests of NORW and the population, public organizations, government and local authorities in the regions where the branches of NORW are located in the interests of sustainable development;

**the principle of environmental efficiency** - ensuring high performance of environmental protection activities, reducing the negative impact on the environment from the activities of NORW branches and the use of natural resources at a reasonable cost level;

**the principle of information transparency** - observance of the public right to receive in accordance with the established procedure reliable information on the state of the environment in the regions where NORW branches are located, transparency and accessibility of environmental information;

**the principle of readiness** - permanent availability of information on the state of the environment in the regions where NORW branches are located.

**the acceptable risk principle** - application of a risk-based approach in order to make environmentally effective management decisions;

**the continuous improvement principle** - continuous improvement of the environmental protection and environmental safety management system through the application of environmental performance targets and indicators;

**the best practice principle** - use of best domestic and foreign experience to improve environmental quality and ensure environmental safety.

**5. Main tasks of the environmental policy and mechanisms for their implementation**

5.1 Improvement of the environmental policy implementation system for NORW and its branches through the application of the following mechanisms:

* improving the efficiency of management in the area of environmental protection and environmental safety;
* improving the planning and reporting environmental policy system of NORW within the implementation framework of the Unified Industry Ecological Policy of Rosatom State Corporation;
* evaluating the efficiency of the environmental policy implementation;
* involvement into the system of environmental policy the Unified Industry Ecological Policy of Rosatom State Corporation in accordance with the hazard category of objects that have a negative impact on the environment and the criteria of classifying organizations as environmentally significant;
* public reporting in the area of environmental protection and ecological safety;
* improving the efficiency of interaction with governmental and local governmental bodies, conducting an open dialogue on issues related to the safe development of the nuclear industry;
* expanding the practice of environmental auditing in the branches of NORW;
* incorporation of an ecological management system with the possibility of integration with quality, health, safety and energy management systems.

5.2 Improvement of the regulatory framework of environmental safety and protection through the application of the following mechanisms:

* analysis and examination of the applicability of draft regulatory legal acts and other documents developed by governmental authorities in the field of environmental protection and environmental safety;
* preparation of proposals on amendments to legislative and other regulatory acts taking into account environmental aspects of the activities of NORW and its branches;
* development of local regulatory acts and regulatory documents, standardization documents adapted to new legislative requirements in the field of environmental protection.

5.3 Reducing the negative impact of NORW branches on the environment through the application of the following mechanisms:

* development and implementation of measures to reduce the flow of harmful (polluting) substances, including radioactive ones, into the environment (discharges of waste water into waterways, emissions into the air, production and consumption of radioactive waste);
* application of environmentally effective technologies that ensure effective resolution of environmental protection issues and environmental safety, reduction of energy and resource intensity.

5.4 Ensuring environmental (including radiation) safety and security of access to RW by applying the following mechanisms:

* design and construction of RWDR taking into account advanced scientific achievements and technologies in the field of radioactive waste disposal;
* improvement of environmental safety during the operation of RWDR;
* development and implementation of environmental protection measures at the closure of RWDR;
* completion of the USS RWM (universal governmental system for radioactive waste management) and compliance with the deadlines for its implementation;
* improvement of radioactive waste accounting and control system;
* implementation of measures provided for in the Federal Target Programme "Ensuring Nuclear and Radiation Safety for 2016-2020 and for the Period until 2030";
* expansion of post-project activities in the field of environmental protection.

5.5 Ensuring environmental (including radiation) safety during final isolation of liquid radioactive waste, termination of liquid radioactive waste pumping in the Russian Federation through the following mechanisms:

* implementation of a programme of calculation and experimental studies on justification and assessment of the long-term safety of liquid RW disposal sites;
* ensuring safe closure of liquid RW disposal sites.

5.6 Expansion of the practice of applying a scientific approach in addressing the issues of justifying the long-term safety of disposal of highly active RW through scientific research in an underground research laboratory in accordance with the Strategic Master Plan for Research.

5.7 Improvement of environmental and radiation monitoring and control through the application of the following mechanisms:

* improvement of environmental and radiation monitoring systems, as well as safety control and management systems;
* application of advanced automatic and technical means in environmental monitoring and industrial environmental control.

5.8 Development of international cooperation in the field of environmental protection, ensuring environmental safety and sustainable development through the application of the following mechanisms:

* improvement of efficiency of international information exchange and participation in international projects on RW disposal;
* use of foreign experience in solving environmental tasks in RW disposal;
* participation in preparation of international norms and regulations on RW disposal issues.

5.9 Improvement of interaction with the public and consideration of public opinion in planning and implementation of NORW activities through application of the following mechanisms:

* ensuring information transparency and availability of information on current and planned activities of NORW and its branches, which may have a negative impact on the environment, environmental situation in the regions where NORW branches are located, including through preparation and publication of non-financial reports and environmental reports of NORW with the involvement of the public;
* posting information on the environmental situation in the regions where NORW and its branches are located on the Internet;
* participation and consideration of stakeholder opinions in the procedure for assessing the environmental impact of the activities of NORW and branches of NORW;
* formation of an expert environmental community with the participation of educational and scientific organizations in the regions where the branches of NORW are located;
* holding and consideration of the results of public discussions, public hearings and other forms of public participation and control.

5.10 Increasing the level of environmental education and environmental awareness employees of NORW and branches of NORW and environmental education of the population in the regions where NORW and branches of NORW are located through the following mechanisms:

* improving the system of training, certification and admission of personnel to work in NORW and its branches;
* supporting social and environmental measures and projects implemented in the territories where NORW and its branches operate;
* improving the system of training managers and specialists in the field of environmental protection and environmental safety of NORW and its branches;
* holding meetings, seminars, conferences and other events on environmental protection, environmental and radiation safety;
* implementation of environmental education and awareness measures, formation of an environmental culture and objective attitude of the population towards the activities of NORW.

**6. Obligations of NORW and its branches**

6.1 To carry out predictive assessment of the impact of RW disposal activities on the environment in order to reduce environmental risks and prevent accidents.

6.2 Ensure the reduction of specific emissions and discharges of pollutants into the environment, the reduction of waste generations, including radioactive waste, and the reduction of environmental impact.

6.3 Implement and maintain best practices in environmental protection and environmental safety management in accordance with national and international environmental management standards.

6.4 Provide the necessary resources, including human resources, financial, technological, environmental protection and environmental safety activities.

6.5 Improve the industrial environmental control and monitoring system, apply modern methods and measurement tools, and develop automated environmental control and monitoring systems.

6.6 Involve interested citizens, public and other non-profit organizations into the established procedure of participation in the discussion of planned activities in the field of RW on environmental protection and environmental safety issues.

6.7 Ensure interaction and coordination of activities in the field of environmental protection and environmental safety with the state authorities of the Russian Federation, state authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation and local authorities.

6.8 To ensure reliability, openness, accessibility and objectivity of information on the environmental impact of NORW branches in the regions of their location, as well as measures taken to protect the environment and ensure environmental safety.

6.9 Promote the formation of an environmental culture, development of environmental education for all employees of NORW and NORW branches and environmental education of the population in the regions of NORW branches location.

**7. Normative references**

1.Constitution of the Russian Federation.

2. Land Code of the Russian Federation.

3. Water Code of the Russian Federation.

4. Federal Law dated 21 November 1995 No. 170-FZ "On the Use of Atomic Energy".

5. Federal Law dated 23 November 1995 No. 174-FZ "On Environmental Expertise".

6. Federal Law dated 9 January 1996 No. Z-FZ "On Radiation Safety of the Population".

7. Federal Law dated 24 June 1998 No. 89-FZ "On Production and Consumption Waste".

8. Federal Law "On Air Protection" dated 4-th of May 1999 No. 96-FZ.

9. Federal Law dated 10-th of January 2002 No. 7-FZ "On Environmental Protection".

10. Federal Law dated 27-th of December 2002 No. 184-FZ "On Technical Regulation". 11. Federal Law dated 1-st of December 2007 No. 317-FZ "On the Rosatom State Corporation".

12. Federal Law dated 11 of July 2011. No 190-FZ "On Management of Radioactive Waste and on Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation". 13. Federal Law dated 21 of July 2014 No 212-FZ "On the Fundamentals of Public Control in the Russian Federation".

14. Strategy of Environmental Security of the Russian Federation for the Period until 2025, approved by the Presidential Decree dated 19 of April 2017. No 176.

15. The basics of state policy in the field of ensuring nuclear and radiation safety of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2025 and beyond, approved by Presidential Decree dated 13 of October, 2018 No 585.

16. The basics of state policy in the field of environmental development of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2030, approved by the President of the Russian Federation dated April 30, 2012.

17. Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 15 of April, 2014 No 326 "On approval of the state program of the Russian Federation". Finance "Environmental Protection" for 2012-2020".

18. Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 17 of August 2016. No. 806 "On the application of risk-based approach in the organization of certain types of state control (supervision) and introduction of amendments to certain acts of the Government of the Russian Federation".

19.Federal Target Programme "Ensuring Nuclear and Radiation Safety for 2016-2020 and for the Period until 2030" approved by Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation dated 19 of November 2015 No. 1248.

20. Climatic Doctrine of the Russian Federation approved by Resolution of the President of the Russian Federation dated 17 of December 2009 No. 861-rp.

21. GOST R ISO 14001-2016 System Requirements and Guidelines for Application" approved and put into effect by Order of Rosstandart dated 29 of April 2016. No 285-st.

22. Unified industry environmental policy of Rosatom and its organizations, approved by order of Rosatom dated 05 of December 2017. No 1/1232-P.

23. Unified industry policy of Rosatom State Corporation in the field of public reporting, approved by Order of Rosatom State Corporation dated 13 of May 2011 No 1/403-P.