

Friends of the Earth Scotland

Question	Agree	Response
1 – Geology	No	The Partnership says “further investigation” is needed. West Cumbria is one of the most investigated geological areas in the country with a long history of mining. Mines were abandoned not because they were mined out, but because of the energy needed to dewater them. Areas of “high rainfall, permeable rocks and hills and mountains to drive the water flow” would guarantee leakage to the surface (1999 Government sponsored video – Pangea).
2 – Safety, security, environment and planning	No	This Government aims to put “first wastes into the repository by 2029.” A Public Inquiry and Appeal agreed with Cumbria County Council’s view 15 years ago that the risk was too great for geological disposal of intermediate level wastes. Today’s plan includes high level wastes – a world first.
3 – Impacts	No	A nuclear dump would blight both agriculture and tourism- Cumbria’s largest industries. Even before the emplacement of wastes’ the mining operation would rival the biggest mines in the world adding to the earthquake risk and disrupting West Cumbria’s water table.
4 – Community benefits	Not Sure/ Partly	West Cumbria should be assured of essential infrastructure such as schools, roads and hospitals without being bribed.
5 – Design and engineering	No	The Partnership says that “ A facility will not be built unless it will be safe during its operations and for future generations.” Their own advice contradicts this: “Geological disposal safety plans do not assume that total containment by engineered barrier systems for ever is possible.” Dr Adrian Bath.
6 – Inventory	No	The inventory is meaningless as this plan includes existing wastes (which are already outside of the scope of any inventory) and new build wastes from untried “high burn” nuclear power plants.
7 – Siting process	No	Longlands Farm and the surrounding area was ruled out by the Nirex Inquiry. New criteria have been written to rule Longlands Farm back in.
9 – Overall views on participation		This is part of a plan to keep the process and the nuclear agenda on track. The government is sinking tax payer £millions into a timetabled ‘process’ “too big to fail.” There would be a geological nuclear dump NOW in the Eskdale area if CCC had not opposed the plan 15 years ago. The Councils must say NO to the geological dumping of nuclear wastes.