

Cumbrian MPs Fact Finding Evidence Session regarding Geological Disposal Facility

Terms of Reference

The Cross-Party Committee of six Cumbrian MPs will hold a fact-finding session into a potential Geological Disposal Facility in West Cumbria.

The Committee will give consideration to the following questions:

- 1. The nature of the decision being taken in January 2013 by Allerdale and Copeland Borough Councils and Cumbria County Council.** What is the nature of the decision being taken by Allerdale Borough Council, Copeland Borough Council and Cumbria County Council in January 2013? Proponents have suggested that this is simply a commitment to continue to study and learn about the geology of the region; in this case, why is it necessary for a decision to be taken?
- 2. The geological suitability of the region.** Some academics have argued that the mountainous Lake District is *prima facie* unsuitable. Is this true?

The Committee intends to invite oral evidence from relevant geological experts in early January 2013, and will publish any written evidence alongside transcripts of the evidence. The Committee does not plan to issue any formal report.

Committee membership is as follows: Sir Tony Cunningham MP (Chair), Tim Farron MP, Jamie Reed MP, John Stevenson MP, Rory Stewart MP, John Woodcock MP. Logistical support will be provided by a Secretariat, loaned to the Committee from the Department of Energy and Climate Change, and answering to the Committee with the objective of providing independent logistical support as required.