

Final seminar of SAFIR2022 and KYT2022 Programmes - opening

23.01.2023

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Final Seminar of the SAFIR2022 and KYT2022 Research Programmes 23.-24.1.2023

Dipoli, Espoo (Otakaari 24)

- **Final seminar for the two national research programmes funded by the nuclear waste management fund (VYR, separate fund for research).**
- **Next phase is the SAFER research programme covering both the research fields from the beginning of year 2023.**
- **The KYT2022 and SAFIR2022 programmes were evaluated by an international evaluation team in 2022: “the research programs produce a remarkable level of scientific output for a modest stream of funding”.**



Messages to take

- **Nuclear energy is a part of the Finnish energy strategy – clean, non-weather dependent and predictable. Licensees need to bear the responsibility over the lifecycle and for the nuclear waste management:**
 - Minister Lintilä 2021: “Electrification of industry and society as a whole highlights the importance of our own energy production. For Finland, **nuclear power is an important part of reliable and emission-free electricity production**”.
 - Nuclear energy is part of our **Finnish Climate and Energy Strategy 2022**: Safe use of existing power plants, enabling new technologies, SMRs. Starting the operation of Posiva spent nuclear fuel repository. Renewal of Nuclear Energy Act.
 - Energy sector is in a big change, and in Finland both clean energy targets by 2035 and cutting the energy dependencies to Russia create challenges.
- **Safety – Security – Safeguards – Sustainability**
- **To create stability and to be innovative!**



Messages to take

- **Many needs for the research:**
 - Operating licenses for Fortum and Posiva under preparations.
 - Studies on SMR deployment, business model and risk assessments are ongoing.
 - Being first in the world to start the spent nuclear fuel disposal by Posiva.
- **Future challenges:**
 - Maintaining the resources; capabilities and infra.
 - Intelligent/strategic networking and co-operation.
- **Strengths:**
 - Long perspectives and continuity in the research programmes.
 - Fluent co-operation in the research forum nationally and good international co-operation.
 - Experimental capabilities, in house modelling tools.
 - High high acceptability for nuclear energy in the society.
- **Research programme is a powerful tool!**