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Geological considerations for the site selection of a repository for lowand intermediate-level radioactive waste (LILW) in the Philippines

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The Philippine government, through an inter-agency committee on radioactive waste management spearheaded by the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI), is currently undertaking a project funded by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for the site selection and conceptual design of a near surface disposal facility (NSDF) for low- and intermediate level radioactive waste (LILW). When constructed, this facility will be the only one of its kind in the country. This paper presents preliminary results of evaluation of candidate sites in the context of the country's geological environment. Given the Philippines' very active tectonic and geologic setting, particular attention is given to hazards related to seismic events, volcanic activity and mass movements. In the Philippines, LILW is being generated essentially in hospitals, medical institutions, pharmaceutical and isotope research laboratories and other related industries. International regulations as well as national policy and legislation require stringent specifications in the proper disposal of such waste.