

Cigéo,

**Taking action today
to protect present
and future generations
and the environment**



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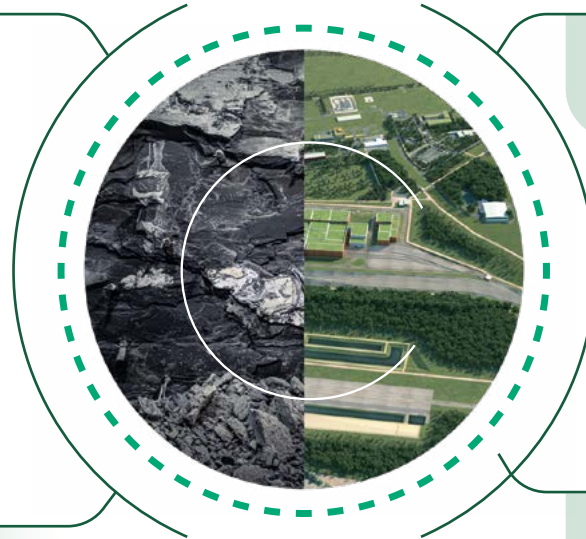
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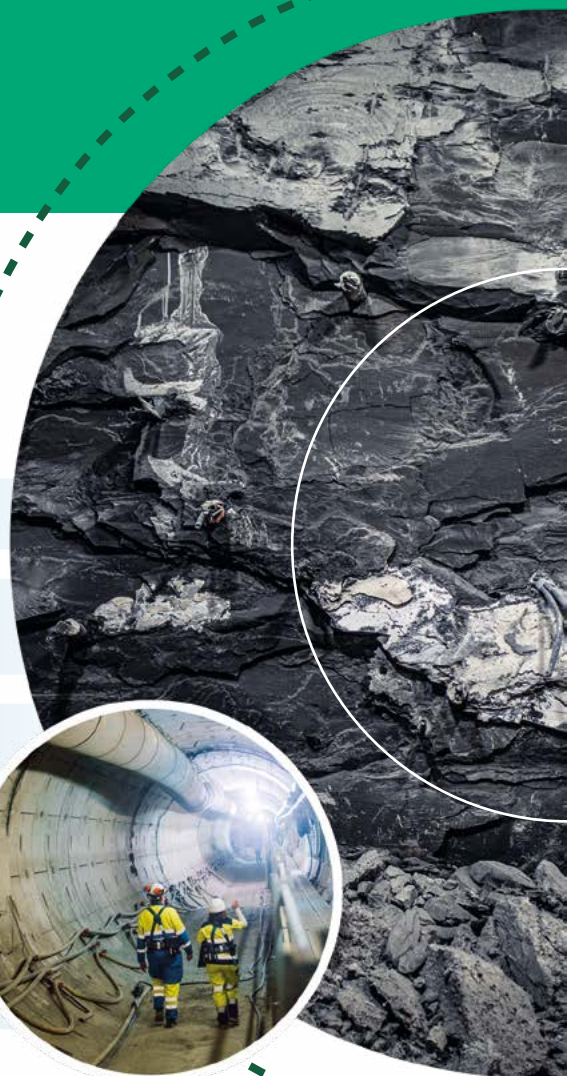
1 CIGÉO PROJECT OVERVIEW

OUR PURPOSE

To safely manage highly radioactive waste over the long term.

WHY?

- ▶ **TO PROTECT** present and future generations
- ▶ **TO ENSURE THE SAFE LONG-TERM DISPOSAL** of radioactive waste
- ▶ **TO ISOLATE** radioactive waste from natural evolutions and human activities at the surface
- ▶ **TO CONTAIN** radioactive substances, slow down their migration, and control their radiological impact.
- ▶ **TO PROTECT** the environment over the long-term.



relying on a stable, homogeneous, low-permeability and thick layer of clay rock that formed 160 million years ago



WHERE?

In the Grand Est region, at the border of the Meuse and Haute-Marne departments

The Cigéo facility is designed to accommodate **83,000 m³** of radioactive waste:

- High-Level Waste (HLW)
- Intermediate-Level Long-Lived Waste (ILW-LL)

This waste represents **less than 3%** of the total volume of radioactive waste, but contains **more than 99% of the total radioactivity.**

More than half of this waste has already been produced and is being stored temporarily awaiting for disposal.

Once all the waste packages will have been disposed of, the facility will be closed. The long term safety will be ensured by the rock layer, acting as a natural barrier, without need for human supervision.

2 A SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL PROJECT



25 years

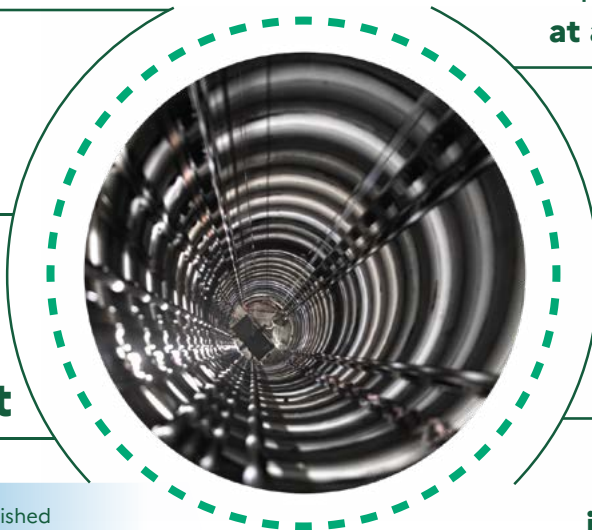
of research carried out at Andra's Underground Research Laboratory

Industrial operating phase spanning **more than 100 years**

Framed by **three Acts of parliament**



- 1991** Research framework established
- 2006** Deep geological disposal recognised as the reference solution
- 2016** Considerations on the implementation of reversibility

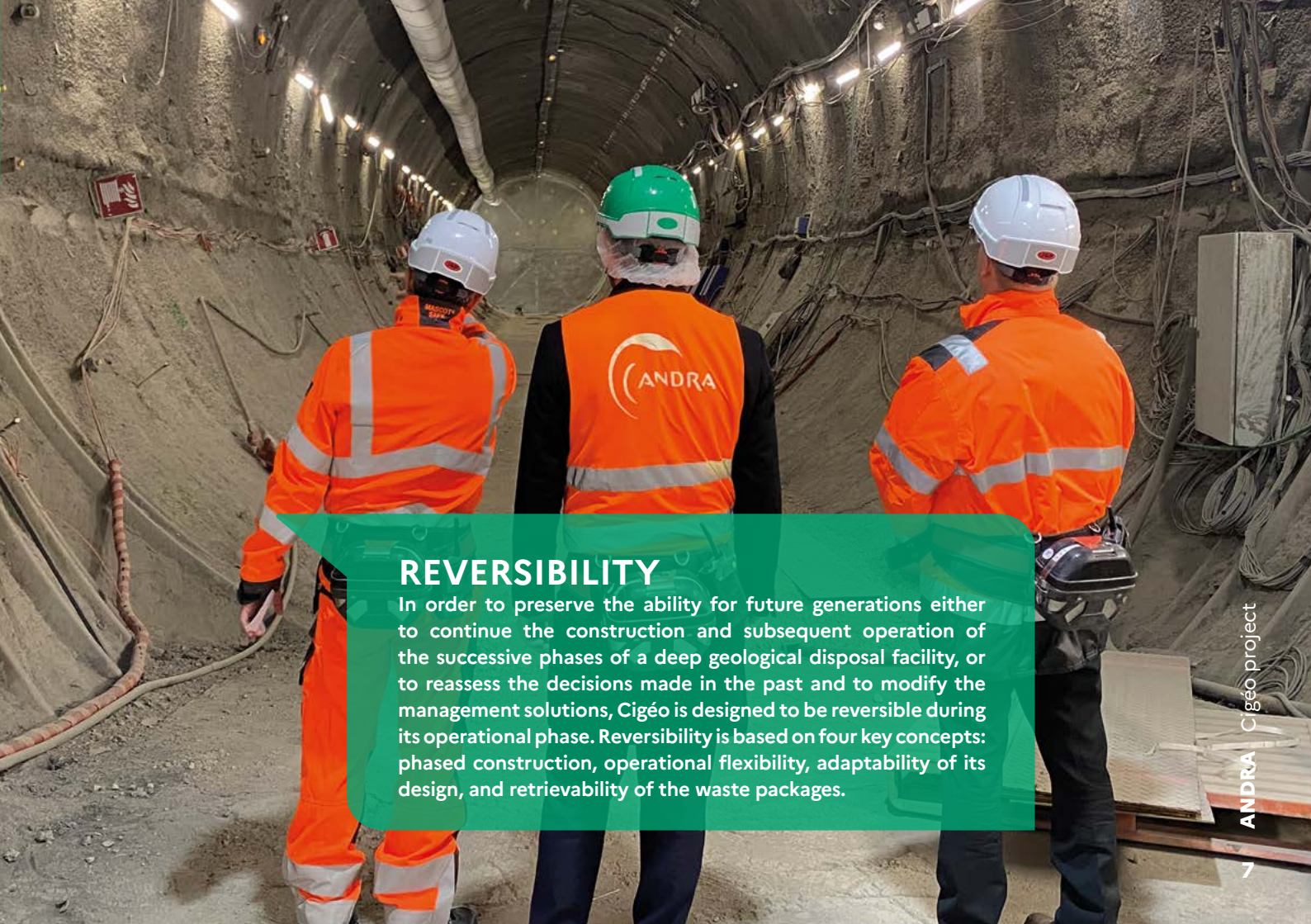


A unique project located at a depth of **500 m**

4 public debates
(2005, 2013, 2019, 2025-2026)
and regular consultations with local residents



Oversight by an independent authority:
the French Authority for Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection (ASNR)



REVERSIBILITY

In order to preserve the ability for future generations either to continue the construction and subsequent operation of the successive phases of a deep geological disposal facility, or to reassess the decisions made in the past and to modify the management solutions, Cigéo is designed to be reversible during its operational phase. Reversibility is based on four key concepts: phased construction, operational flexibility, adaptability of its design, and retrievability of the waste packages.

3

SURFACE AND UNDERGROUND FACILITIES

CIGÉO IN PRACTICE

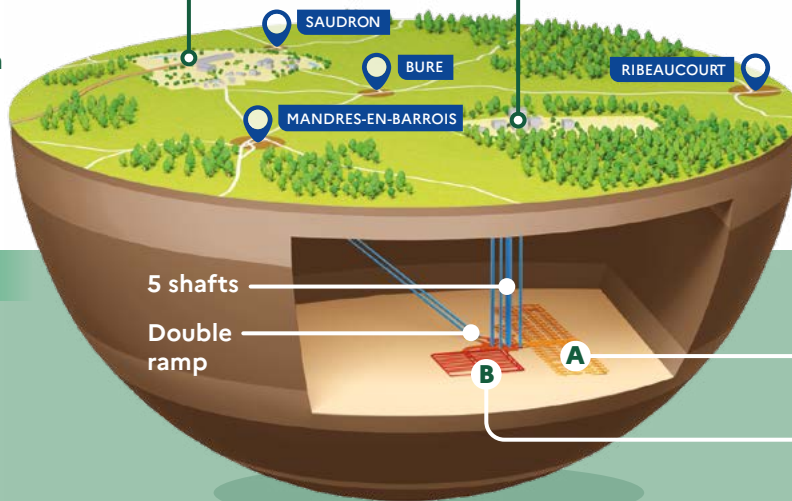
AT THE SURFACE

"Ramp" zone

- Reception of waste packages, arriving mainly by rail
- Packages inspection and preparation
- Transport of waste packages to the underground facility via a funicular

"Shaft" zone

- Support zone for the construction works
- Shafts provide ventilation and are used to transport personnel, equipment and materials



UNDERGROUND

2 distinct and strictly separated zones

- Waste package reception zone
- Construction zone

**WATCH THE VIDEO TO SEE
HOW WASTE PACKAGES
ARE DISPOSED OF**



2 disposal areas:

- A** Disposal of HLW in 1 m diameter, 150 m long horizontal microtunnels
- B** Disposal of ILW-LL in tunnels 10 metres in diameter and up to 500 metres long

4 A PROJECT DEEPLY ROOTED IN ITS LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS

Up to 2,000 jobs

during the initial construction phase.

Up to 1,000 jobs

during the operation of the facility.

Indirect jobs

(among suppliers and service providers) and induced employment (resulting from spending by Cigéo employees), **over more than a century.**

A territorial development plan

designed to support the successful implementation of the project, to promote resident's quality of life and support local economic development



KEY MILESTONES

1

SEPTEMBER 2025

Start of preparatory works

2

OCTOBER 2025

Consultation of local municipalities
and authorities

*

3

DECEMBER 2025

Issuance of ASNR opinion on Cigéo
creation licence application

*

4

MAY 2026

Public inquiry

*

* Submitted early 2023, the creation licence application was subject to a review, conducted by the ASNR



Explore our immersive exhibition
“Cigéo, above and below”

Want to visit the Underground Research Laboratory? Visits can be arranged, by reservation.

Find out more at:

**[https://international.andra.fr/
meusehaute-marne-facility-cmhm](https://international.andra.fr/meusehaute-marne-facility-cmhm)**

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NOTEPAD



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