

UKAEA Materials Research Facility

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UKAEA's Materials Research Facility



New 2150m² building should be open late 2015

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- USP for Culham. Open access, central location, high calibre science base, experienced in hosting visiting scientists, Safety and security systems already in place.
- Culham will not become a nuclear licensed site.
- No nuclear fuel and radioactive inventory limited so as to not exceed the existing safety envelope of the Culham site. PSR and PCSR written to define this. Irradiated materials to be tested eg Steels and other materials for fission and fusion research.
- Will require a new Environment Agency Permit. A BAT study has been carried out to support this.



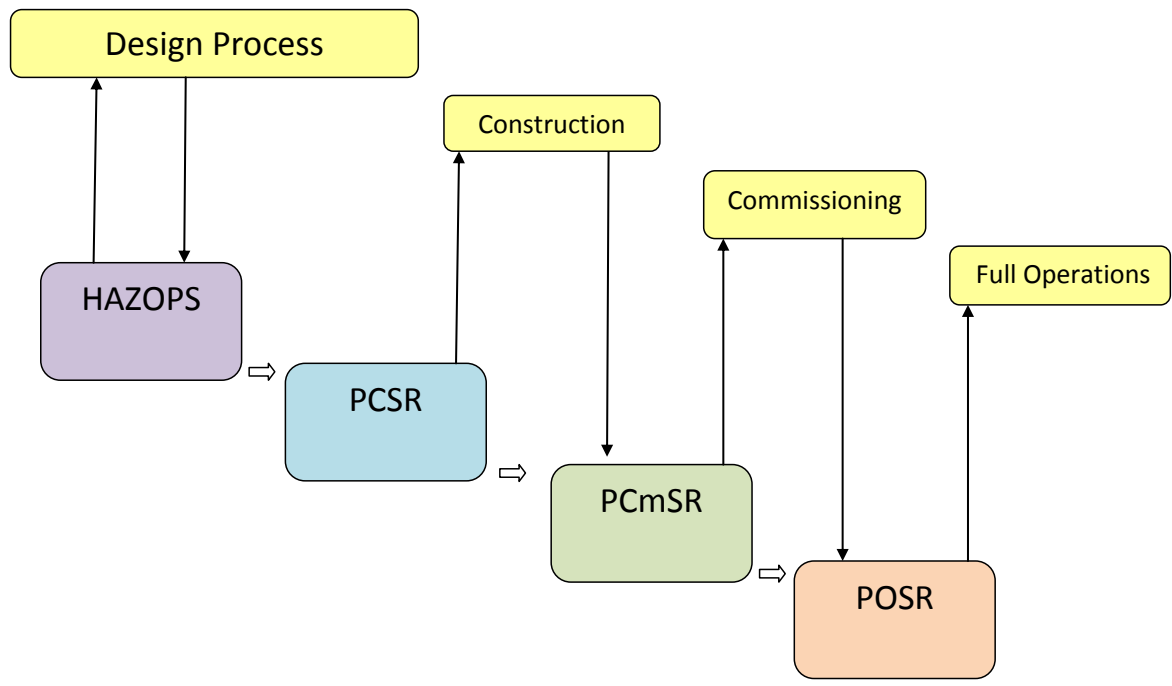
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New EA Permits

- A new MRF specific EA permit required to allow inventories and types of material below the limits specified in the ONR guidance on “bulk quantities” of radioactive material.
- An additional permit will be required for the storage and disposal of radioactive waste produced by MRF operations. The BAT study identified ILW disposal routes via Sellafield Ltd and NNL.
- The new permit will preferably be a β, γ with trace α rather than isotope specific.
- We need to investigate the limits applied to non fission produced isotopes.
- MRF to be commissioned under our existing permits (MRL limits) :1GBq Co⁶⁰

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Safety case



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- Provenance of material sent to Culham will be key to assure compliance with EA permit and inventory tracking. QA systems in place to assure this.
- UKAEA has experienced Radioactive Material Transport Officers who can assist and advise regarding the transport of samples to Culham.