

Stakeholder Consultation:

What, Why, When, and What Goes Wrong?

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What ?

1. A way of persuading people that your plan should be implemented, in the way you are suggesting *Communication*
2. A way of sharing proposals with people, getting their feedback, and improving the proposals *Consultation*
3. A way of working with partners so that you can together achieve something you couldn't do alone *Collaboration*



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Why ?

1. Improve decisions
2. Manage risks
3. Ease implementation
4. Meet moral obligations
5. Meet legal obligations

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When to consult?

1. Before we know what the issue is, and how it needs handling *X Collaboration*
2. We know the issue, but don't know what options exist to handle it *X Collaboration*
3. We know the issue, and know some clear options to handle it *Y Consultation*
4. We know the issue, and have a preferred option to handle it *Y Consultation*
5. We know the issue, have a preferred way to handle it, and are going ahead *X Communication*

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What goes wrong?

1. Consultation happens **too late** i.e. after a decision is largely made
2. **Insufficient reasoning** is published in the consultation to allow for intelligent responses
3. **Inadequate time** is allowed for responses
4. Product of consultation is **not conscientiously taken into account**

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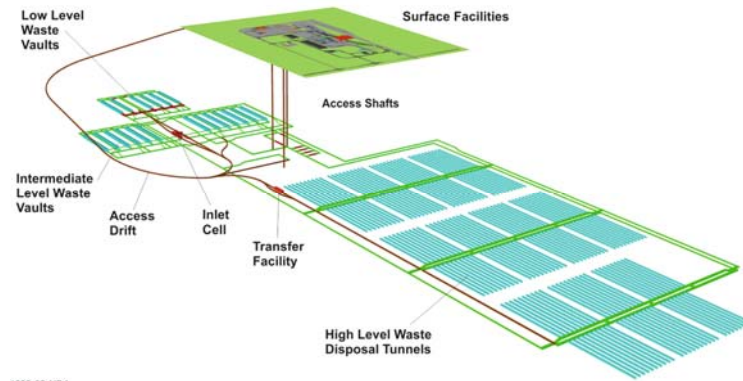
3 Lessons - GDF

- Government invitation for communities to discuss hosting a GDF
- Community Benefits offered
- Right of Withdrawal existed
- 3 years of engagement and consultation via a Partnership of 17 organisations

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Geological Disposal Facility



1633-02-NDA

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THREEKEYQUESTIONS

3 Lessons - GDF

- Put yourself in their shoes
- Pre-consultation
- Keep decision-makers directly involved

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THREEKEYQUESTIONS

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