

# Asse Research Mine, Remlingen

(Director: Dipl.-Ing. Günther Kappei)

Since 1965 the GSF-National Research Center has been operating the Asse Research Mine near Remlingen. Since this date research and development work on the final storage of radioactive waste in salt formations has been conducted at this former salt mine. Since 1979 no additional radioactive waste has been placed in storage here. Since the GSF-National Research Center has no further requirement for research at the Asse Mine, the mine is now being prepared to close down pursuant to the Federal Mining Law.

A closing-down operation plan has to be submitted to the approval

authority. In the operation planning procedure evidence of the long-term safety is not explicitly required, but it must be ensured that the protection of the surface, i.e. our living space, will still be guaranteed after closing down. Since radioactive waste was deposited in the Asse Mine between 1967 and 1978, the protection of our living space extends not only to any conceivable effects of the mine such as subsidence, but also to the protection against radioactive substances and the ionising radiation they emit. In order to ensure that all protection aims of the Mining, Nuclear and Water Law are complied with, a

safety report will be attached to the closing down operation plan for the Asse Mine, in which evidence for the long-term safety is provided.

Since 1995 the stopes in the southern part of the Asse Research Mine dating back to the times at which rock salt was mined have been filled up with indigenous material. The Asse site and its filling are monitored by geotechnical, geophysical and hydrogeological measuring programmes. Parallel to this measure for stabilising the mine layout, work is also being done to ensure the long-term safety of the pit. This evidence is an essential part of the safety report to be attached to the closure operation plan.

In late November 2006, 37 scientific and technical employees, 88 other employees and 14 trainees worked at the Asse Research Mine.



The mobile construction materials system on the 750 m level.