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**FORM FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS**  
(Instructions for preparation on reverse)

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**PAPER TITLE**      Recovery of wastes from an old storage silo

**AUTHOR(S) NAME(S)**      Mr P Manson

**SUBMITTING AUTHOR**

**LAST NAME**      Manson      **FIRST NAME** Piers      **TITLE** Mr

**AFFILIATION**      British Nuclear Fuels      **TEL**      [0] 19467 74012

**STREET**      Sellafield      **FAX**      [0] 19467 74726

**CODE** CA20 1PG      **CITY** Cumbria      **COUNTRY** United Kingdom

**PRESENTING AUTHOR (IF DIFFERENT)**

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**ABSTRACT (See instructions overleaf)**

The dry silo at the Sellafield site, British Nuclear Fuels Limited (BNFL) was built in the late 1940s to receive solid intermediate level wastes from the first fuel decanning and reprocessing plants in the United Kingdom. It operated from the early 1950s until the mid 1960s, and the building has been under care and maintenance surveillance from then until the present. The building is a single walled structure, with six internal compartments and a roof superstructure that positioned a transfer flask over the compartment being filled. To minimise external doserates, additional shielding was placed on and near to the silo walls. BNFL has now decided to retrieve the contents of the silo. There has been investigative work to confirm the state of the structure and to confirm the nature of the contents, since contemporary tipping records were not detailed. A remotely operated method for retrieval has been developed and a processing building is to be erected adjacent to the existing silo. Here there will be some initial sorting, identification and processing of wastes to ensure that they are safe for transport to a further building where they will be encapsulated. The poster will outline some of the safety concerns addressed by the recovery facility design such as the potential for fire, the seismic robustness of the silo and the dose reduction measures necessary for construction in the existing doserates from the silo.