

THE SAFETY REGULATOR'S TECHNICAL SUPPORT SYSTEM IN FRANCE

Thierry GRANIER

Deputy Director International Relations, ASN

CONTENTS

- 1. The nuclear safety regulator in France**
- 2. Its TSO**
- 3. Relations between regulator and TSO**

1

THE NUCLEAR SAFETY REGULATOR IN FRANCE

THE FRENCH NUCLEAR SAFETY AUTHORITY

Established by the law as an “independent administrative authority” in 2006

- ASN is independent of the government and the licensees
- ASN reports to the parliament and the public

ASN ensures, on behalf of the State, the oversight of nuclear safety and radiation protection of civil nuclear activities

ASN informs the public and advises the Government

MISSIONS AND PRINCIPLES OF ASN

Five Main duties

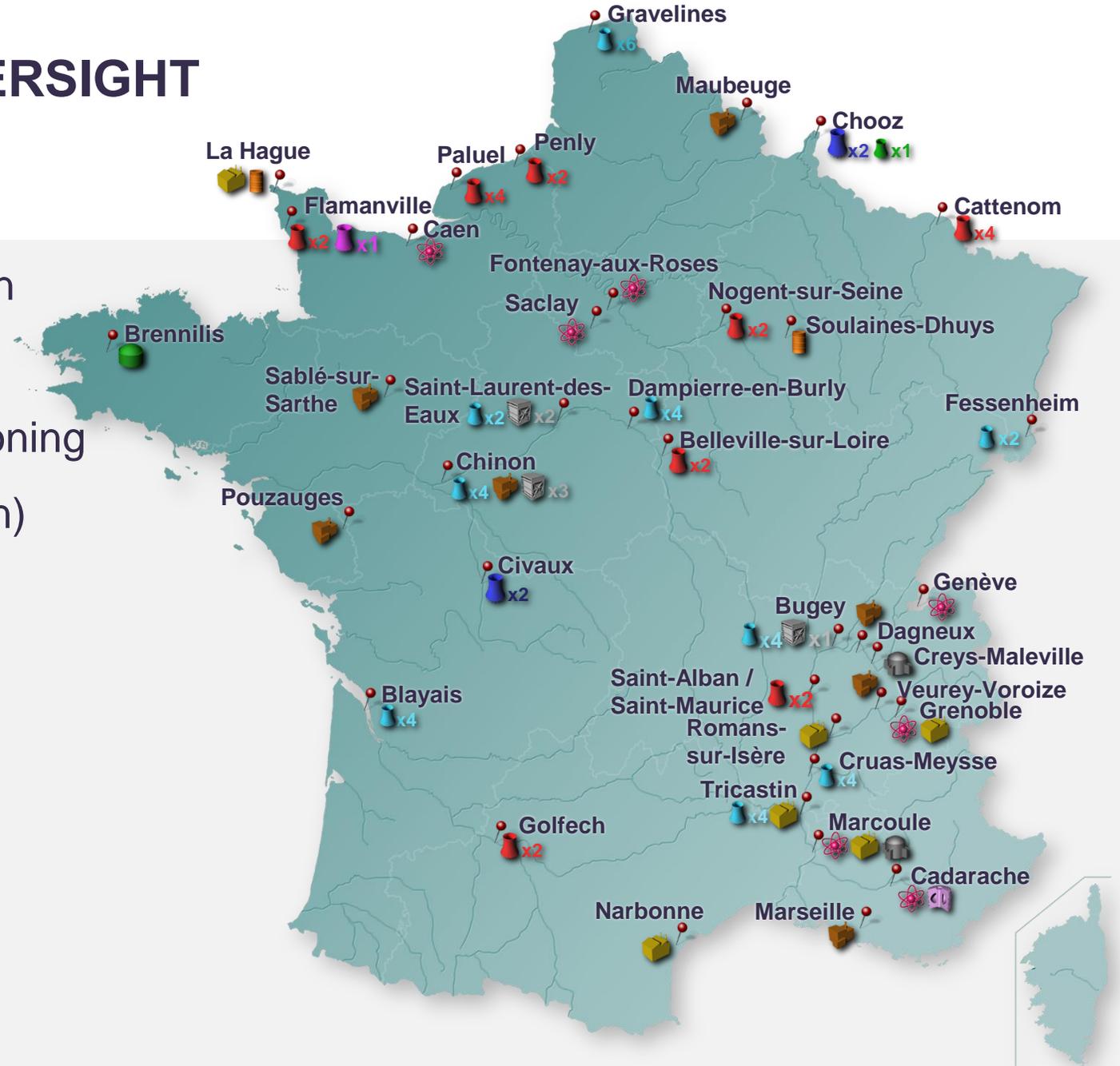
- Regulations
- Authorisations
- Inspections/enforcement
- Emergency preparedness and response
- Public information

Some principles

- Integrated view of nuclear safety and radiation protection
- Graded approach
- Continuous improvement of nuclear safety
- International benchmark

FACILITIES UNDER ASN'S OVERSIGHT

- 56 PWR power reactors in operation
- 1 PWR in construction
- 12 reactors closed / in decommissioning
- Research reactors (1 in construction)
- Fuel cycle facilities
- Research facilities



OTHER ACTIVITIES UNDER ASN'S OVERSIGHT

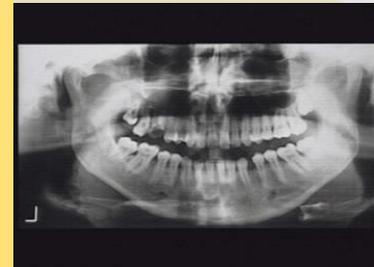
Transport

- ~ 16 000 certified containers
- ~ 90 types of approved packages
- ~ 900 000 transported packages



Medical Facilities

- ~ 33 000 devices for dental examinations
- ~ 16 000 devices for classical radiology
- ~ 850 scanners
- ~ 500 radiotherapy facilities



Industrial and research activities

- ~ 37 000 sealed sources
- ~ 6 000 authorizations for the use of sealed sources
- ~ 1 000 authorizations for unsealed sources



ASN'S RESOURCES



529

Staff members



320

inspectors



85%

Executive-level

Budget

- € 66 M
ASN's budget
- € 84 M
to TSO



2

THE TECHNICAL SUPPORT ORGANISATION

THE IRSN

IRSN: Institute for radiation protection and nuclear safety

A public body under the joint supervision of the ministers responsible for the environment, research, energy, health and defence

Missions: Research, safety assessment and public service missions

About 1800 employees

11 locations in France including 3 major sites

THE IRSN

Research and services of public interest

- Research on nuclear safety, security & radiation protection
- Contribution to national monitoring
- Contribution to national EP&R
- National accounting of nuclear material, national data base of radioactive sources

Technical support to the public authorities

- Safety of nuclear installations and transport of radioactive materials (civil and defence-related)
- Safety of nuclear defence systems
- Protection of nuclear materials, facilities and transport against malicious acts
- Application of international treaties on nuclear non-proliferation and the prohibition of chemical weapons

Contracts, commercial services

- Safety assessments
- Environmental measurements

3

RELATIONS BETWEEN REGULATOR AND TSO

LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

- A Decree dated 22 February 2002:
 - *“IRSN provides a technical support to ASN”* (Article 1)
- “TSN” Act, 13 June 2006, Article 16
 - Establishment of a Convention between ASN and IRSN to set the terms and conditions of technical support
 - Yearly opinion of ASN on the IRSN’s projected budget regarding the technical support

ASN-IRSN CONVENTION

- Signed for a period of five years (can be terminated with one year's notice)
- Specifies the nature and conditions of the technical support provided by IRSN
 - Areas concerned
 - Activities and deliverables
 - Specific duties
 - Communication, organisation, monitoring
- Convention for 2022-2026 was signed in December 2021

AREAS CONCERNED BY THE TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- Nuclear safety and radiation protection of nuclear installations and radioactive or fissile transport,
- Security of the radioactive sources,
- Protection of human Health and Environment,
- Emergency preparedness and response, post accidental management

ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

- Technical support activities comprise

Technical assessments, support of ASN oversight, EP&R, support to international activities, contribution to public information, participation in the development of reference texts, conducting studies on scientific or technical subjects, fieldwork to take samples, make measurements and carry out analyses ...

- Deliverables:

- “Opinions”, reports or technical notes addressed to the ASN:
- written reports submitted to the standing expert committees attached to the ASN;
- bibliographic or computer data transmitted to the ASN;
- participation in inspections, national or international working groups, internal ASN conferences...

- Mutual information and duty to alert ASN

- Opinions are published by IRSN

PROTOCOL AND FRAMEWORK

- Annual protocol
 - Establishes main actions to be performed in the year, priorities, manpower and budget
- Thematic framework documents
 - Established as appropriate and revised each year
 - Detail of the practical aspects of the relationship between ASN and IRSN
 - Technical assessment activities (ASN's expectations, timeframe...)
 - Inspections (program, relationship between ASN inspectors and TSO)
 - Coordination about communication all along the process of instruction
 - International activities
 - Nuclear reactor outages
 - Etc.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES OF TECHNICAL SUPPORT

- ASN does not directly finance IRSN for its technical support mission
- Technical support is financed by a subsidy coming from the State general budget and a subsidy coming from the taxes payed by nuclear operators
 - Joint ASN-IRSN request for budget in anticipation of State budget preparation
 - ASN is consulted each year by the government on the State subsidy

MONITORING (1/2)

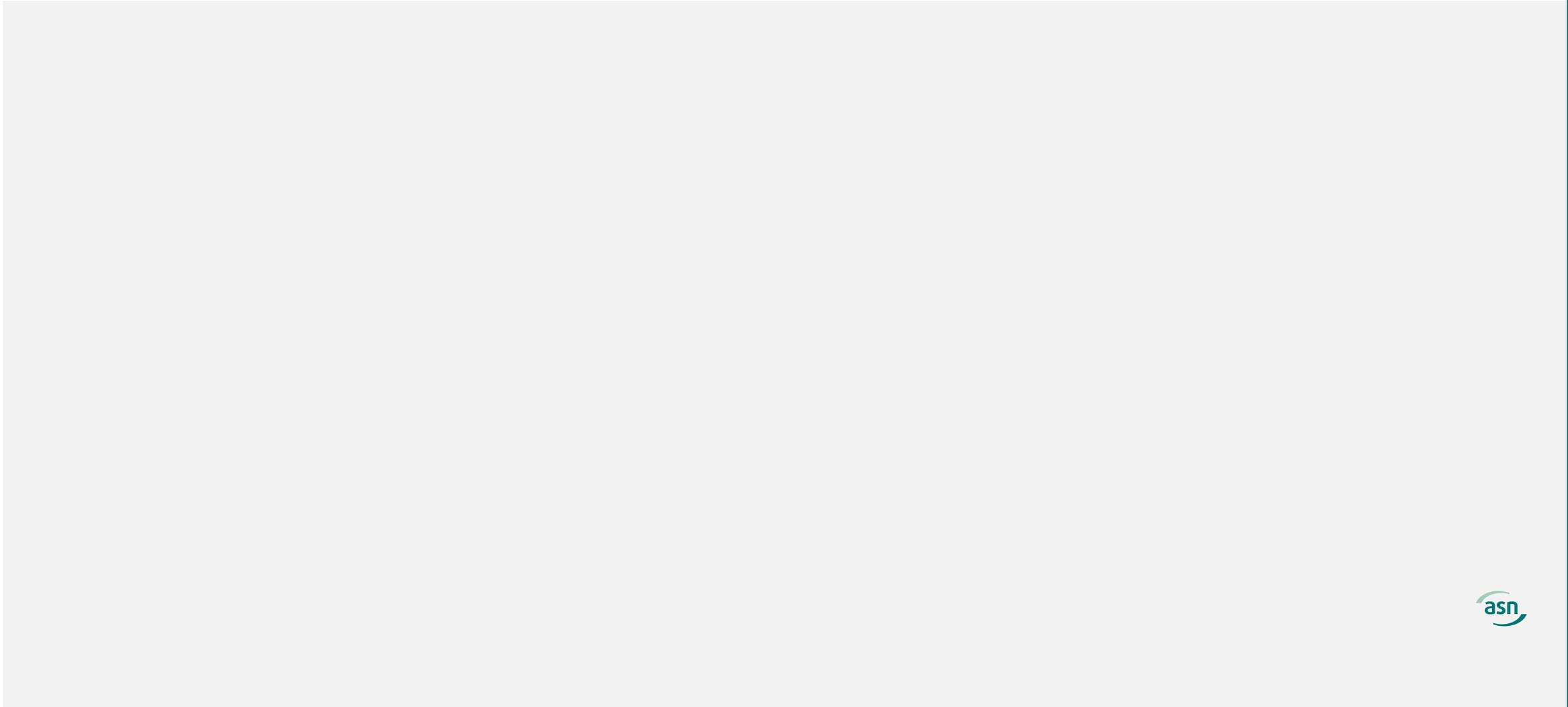
- Top level
 - Strategic consultation meetings (2 per year)
 - Unformal “2+2” meetings as appropriate
- Department level (central role in the TS steering)
 - 3 Progress review meetings a year
 - Led and moderated by ASN
 - Preceded by preparatory meetings by technical field
- Thematic or strategic seminars
 - As appropriate
 - Allow for an in-depth exchange on a subject
- An annual summary at the first quarter of the subsequent year
 - Established by IRSN
- Hearings of IRSN by the ASN Board of commissioners (2 per year)

MONITORING (2/2)

- Participation of ASN to:
 - IRSN's Supervisory Board
 - IRSN's main orientations committees

CONCLUSION

- More than 40 years of collaboration
- Effectiveness of public action for the management of nuclear and radiological risks
- A system very powerful



Спасибо за внимание!

