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10:25 6 October 2015

Low-alkaline cement created with rice chaff for nuclear waste disposal

By Kanae Ayukawa
TOKYO, Oct. 6, Kyodo

Osaka University and a cement company in Hokkaido have co-developed a low-alkaline cement by utilizing rice chaff that would strengthen the durability of final nuclear waste disposal sites.

The development of low-alkaline cement is essential for the construction of final nuclear waste disposal facilities that will need a durability of up to 100,000 years to prevent harm from radioactive materials.

In such repositories, nuclear waste will be solidified with glass and placed in metallic containers before being covered with clay and deeply buried underground.