Land-Use Planning Regulations in France Following the Tolouse Disaster

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Abstract

After the disaster of AZF plant in Toulouse on 21 September 2001, France adopted a new law relative to safety reports and land-use planning on 30 July 2003.
This paper presents the new approach of risk analysis established by the French Ministry of the Environment, and in particular:

- the benefits and limits of the French semi-quantitative probabilistic assessment method;
- the benefits and difficulties to use a quantitative probabilistic assessment method;
- some learning from the risk analysis approaches carried out in the nuclear industry;
- some discussion about the national matrix to appreciate the gravity of human consequences from an accident outside facilities.