



**Svensk Kärnbränslehantering AB**

Blekhölmstorget 30, Box 250, 101 24 Stockholm  
Telefon: 08-459 84 00, Fax: 08-579 386 10  
E-post: [fraga@skb.se](mailto:fraga@skb.se)

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[Home](#) / [About SKB](#) / [SKB in Forsmark](#)

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## Strong local support for final repository

Local support in favour of a final repository for spent nuclear fuel in one's own municipality has increased somewhat in both Oskarshamn and Östhammar. This is shown by the annual public opinion poll that was conducted by Synovate on behalf of SKB.

The poll, which was taken before SKB announced its site selection on June 3 2009, shows that support for a final repository increased somewhat in both of the municipalities where SKB has conducted site investigations. This year's results are to be compared to those from the previous year. In Östhammar 79 percent of those who responded to the poll said that they were "for" or "totally for" the establishment of a final repository in their own municipality, which is an increase of 2 percent. In Oskarshamn the equivalent figure was an increase of one percent, for a total of 84 percent. In a nationwide poll, 41 percent responded likewise.

"We are, of course, very happy to see that local support for SKB and the issue have grown. Even if the poll was done prior to the recently announced site selection, it is a measure of how we and our work are perceived by those who are most closely affected by what we do," says Carl Sommerholt, Communications Manager at SKB

A majority, more than 80 percent, of those who participated in the national survey as well as those from the two municipalities say that they want the final disposal of spent nuclear fuel to be solved by those who are alive today and not be left to future generations.

"SKB has now selected a site for the final repository of nuclear fuel and so our work is proceeding into a new phase. We will, however, continue to have operations in both of these municipalities for a long time to come. That's why it is important for us to maintain and develop the confidence that residents of Oskarshamn and Östhammar have in us today, by continuing to focus on openness and dialogue," concludes Carl Sommerholt.

SKB has been conducting an annual opinion poll since 2003 that inquires about one's opinion of having a possible final repository in one's own municipality.

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