

Table of contents

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------|
| | Zusammenfassung | 1 |
| 1 | Introduction..... | 7 |
| 2 | Factors influencing the corrosion process in a repository in clay | 11 |
| 2.1 | Reference concept for the storage of HLW in clay formation in northern Germany..... | 11 |
| 2.2 | Types of iron-based materials used or employed in a repository..... | 13 |
| 2.2.1 | Lower Cretaceous deposits in Lower Saxony | 14 |
| 2.2.2 | Mineralogy | 19 |
| 2.2.3 | Change of predominant clay minerals..... | 23 |
| 2.2.4 | Alteration of minerals during excavation, storage and reuse as backfill | 26 |
| 2.2.5 | General considerations on the genesis of the pore water chemistry of the Lower Cretaceous clays in Northern Germany..... | 26 |
| 2.2.6 | Assumptions regarding the initial state of porewaters in a repository in Lower Cretaceous clay formations | 36 |
| 2.2.7 | Analytical data on deep groundwater samples in Northern Germany..... | 36 |
| 2.2.8 | Geology, mineralogy, and geochemistry of the host rock at the model site NORD | 43 |
| 2.2.9 | Model pore water composition of a Lower Cretaceous clay | 47 |
| 2.3 | Time-dependent variables | 51 |
| 2.3.1 | Temperature | 51 |
| 2.3.2 | Saturation state of clay | 54 |
| 3 | Previous investigations of iron and steel corrosion in clay systems or in contact with brines | 57 |
| 3.1 | Overview | 57 |
| 3.2 | Germany..... | 58 |
| 3.3 | USA: Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP)..... | 60 |
| 3.4 | Switzerland | 64 |
| 3.4.1 | Disposal concept | 64 |

| | | |
|----------|--|------------|
| 3.4.2 | Experimental results | 66 |
| 3.5 | France | 72 |
| 3.5.1 | Repository concept..... | 72 |
| 3.5.2 | Experimental and modelling results | 73 |
| 3.6 | Sweden | 86 |
| 3.7 | Japan..... | 87 |
| 3.8 | Czech Republic | 88 |
| 3.9 | Miscellaneous studies on geochemical processes | 88 |
| 3.9.1 | Corrosion in the presence of H ₂ S..... | 88 |
| 3.9.2 | Reduction of Fe(III) oxides by H ₂ S | 89 |
| 3.9.3 | Reduction of pyrite by H ₂ S | 90 |
| 3.9.4 | Microbial conversion of hydrogen to methane..... | 90 |
| 3.9.5 | Reduction of iron(III) in oxides and clay minerals by H ₂ | 90 |
| 3.9.6 | Anaerobic reduction of sulphate by elemental hydrogen..... | 90 |
| 3.9.7 | Green rust formation..... | 91 |
| 3.9.8 | Corrosion in a humid, anaerobic atmosphere..... | 91 |
| 3.9.9 | Corrosion in contact with sand | 91 |
| 3.9.10 | Corrosion in unsaturated systems..... | 91 |
| 3.10 | Natural analogues..... | 92 |
| 3.10.1 | Corrosion of archaeological artefacts..... | 92 |
| 3.10.2 | Meteorites..... | 96 |
| 3.11 | Synthesis: Geochemical evolution of the near field and corrosion..... | 97 |
| 3.12 | Synthesis: corrosion products | 103 |
| 3.12.1 | Iron (III) oxides and oxyhydroxides | 103 |
| 3.12.2 | Iron(II) carbonates, chlorides, and hydroxides | 103 |
| 3.12.3 | Magnetite..... | 104 |
| 3.12.4 | Green rusts..... | 105 |
| 3.12.5 | Iron sulphides | 106 |
| 3.12.6 | Iron-containing clay minerals | 107 |
| 4 | Synthesis and characterization of iron corrosion phases | 111 |

| | | |
|----------|---|------------|
| 4.1 | Selection of solid phases for thermodynamic investigation | 111 |
| 4.2 | Fe-Hibbingite, Fe ₂ (OH) ₃ Cl..... | 111 |
| 4.2.1 | Experimental procedures..... | 111 |
| 4.2.2 | Experiment at 40 °C..... | 115 |
| 4.3 | Hibbingite - (Fe,Mg)(OH) ₃ Cl..... | 116 |
| 4.4 | Amakinit – (Fe,Mg)(OH) ₂ | 117 |
| 4.5 | Chukanovite..... | 121 |
| 4.6 | Solid solution (Fe,Mg) ₂ (OH) ₂ CO ₃ | 123 |
| 4.7 | Akaganeite..... | 124 |
| 4.8 | Other Fe(II) containing solids | 126 |
| 4.8.1 | Fe(II) analogue to kambaldaite, NaNi ₄ (CO ₃) ₃ (OH) ₃ ·3H ₂ O..... | 127 |
| 4.8.2 | Other Fe(II) hydroxo chlorides and Fe(II) analogue of nepskoite..... | 128 |
| 4.8.3 | Fe(II) analogue to Northupite, Na ₃ Mg(CO) ₂ Cl | 128 |
| 5 | Prediction of long-term redox conditions in the nearfield..... | 129 |
| 5.1 | Preliminary remarks..... | 129 |
| 5.2 | Calculation of the redox level in the near field assuming different chemical boundary conditions..... | 130 |
| 5.2.1 | Purpose and border conditions of the calculations | 130 |
| 5.2.2 | Dimensions of the borehole, the liner and the container /reaction masses | 131 |
| 5.2.3 | Geochemical modelling of the corrosion process inside the liner | 132 |
| 5.2.4 | Corrosion reaction a – Reduction of sulphate suppressed, carbonate not buffered | 134 |
| 5.2.5 | Corrosion reaction b – reduction of sulphate suppressed, carbonate not buffered, hydrogen pressure fixed at 100 bar..... | 136 |
| 5.2.6 | Corrosion reaction c: Reduction of sulphate suppressed, carbonate buffered by fixed CO ₂ partial pressure..... | 137 |
| 5.2.7 | Corrosion reaction d: Reduction of sulphate suppressed, CO ₂ partial pressure fixed at 0.02574 bar, H ₂ pressure fixed at 100 bar..... | 138 |
| 5.2.8 | Corrosion reaction e: Reduction of sulphate allowed, CO ₂ partial pressure fixed at 0.02574 bar, H ₂ partial pressure fixed at 100 bar | 138 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|------------|
| 5.2.9 | Corrosion reaction f: reduction of sulphate suppressed, carbonate not buffered, hydrogen pressure fixed at 100 bar, quartz limited to 10 %, siderite (aged) suppressed | 139 |
| 5.2.10 | Corrosion reaction g : reduction of sulphate suppressed, carbonate not buffered, hydrogen pressure fixed at 10 bar, quartz limited to 10 %, siderite (aged) suppressed | 141 |
| 5.2.11 | Corrosion reaction h : reduction of sulphate allowed, carbonate not buffered, quartz limited to 10 %, siderite (aged) suppressed, unlimited supply of pyrite | 142 |
| 5.2.12 | Summary | 145 |
| 5.3 | Predominant speciation and solubility of selected radionuclides | 147 |
| 5.3.1 | Selenium | 147 |
| 5.3.2 | Uranium..... | 149 |
| 5.3.3 | Plutonium | 150 |
| 5.3.4 | Technetium..... | 151 |
| 5.3.5 | Solubility of Se, U, Pu and Tc in model pore water at pcH 6.4 to 9.6 and pH ₂ 0.008 to 100 bar..... | 152 |
| 6 | Summary and conclusions | 155 |
| 7 | References | 161 |
| List of tables | | 193 |
| List of figures..... | | 197 |