

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP - HIGHLIGHTS FROM MEETING HELD ON 16th SEPTEMBER 2009 FOR CASCADE TO MEMBER ORGANISATIONS.

Minutes – DSG(2009)M003 – will be available shortly.

Key points from the meeting were as follows:

- NDA update included:
 - Progress of Dounreay decommissioning programme
 - Public Value Programme
 - NDA competition for Dounreay
 - NDA report and accounts
 - NDA funding allocation for socio economic projects
- Scottish Government updated on higher activity waste consultation.
- DSG general overview of activities:
 - Responses to various consultations:
 - UK Government's Plutonium management
 - HSE's re-organisation of NII
 - NDA's UK Strategy for low level waste
 - A number of events have taken place that has included DSG involvement, notably:
 - Cowam study on process of consultation for low level waste facility.
 - Scottish Government's higher activity wastes
 - The NDA competition industry event
 - The development of the community fund for low level waste
- Socio economic issues included updates on:
 - Sale of UKAEA
 - Pensions office
 - NDA competition industry event
 - Pentland Firth activities
 - Skills audit
 - Caithness conference
 - Caithness & North Sutherland vision document
 - Nuclear archives
 - Caithness Chamber of Commerce activities
- Environmental issues included updates on:
 - Progress on particles clean-up project (including letter from Shetland Islands Council and DSRL's response).
 - Presentation on DSRL's discharge authorisation
 - Update on heritage strategy progress
 - HSE's determination on the low level waste facility
 - SEPA's report included:
 - DSRL's application to surrender Pollution, prevention and control (PPC) permit.
 - Considering a response to the warning letter on tritium discharges.
 - Continuing to review low level waste facility ongoing work.

- Of general interest, the final phase of the Water Environment (Oil Storage) (Scotland) Regulations 2006 comes into effect on April 2010.
- NDA's report included:
 - Welcomed DSRL's 5-star award from the British Safety Council.
 - Congratulated DSRL for 2 million manhours without a lost time accident.
- Vulcan update included:
 - Plant shutdown for maintenance, expected to commence operations in about two weeks.
 - Commander Nigel Canty has left Vulcan. Commander Michael Moreland is his replacement.
 - Emergency planning zone is under consideration by NII/DNSR.
 - A formal response on the future of Vulcan is expected in the winter.
- Site operations update included:
 - Resumption of the NaK Disposal Plant at DFR.
 - NII were currently assessing shaft and silo retrieval project and waste encapsulation plant.
 - Action still ongoing between NII and Scottish Government on the licensing of the low level waste facility.
 - Consultation on the HSE's re-organisation of the nuclear directorate.
- Admin and Procedures update included:
 - Changes to membership
 - Redesign of the DSG website

Alastair MacDonald
DSG Chairman

20th September 2009