

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

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Our ref: L29Mar01(Earnshaw)

Mr Bob Earnshaw C/O June Love **DSG Secretariat** Dounreay.com Traill House 7 Olrig Street Thurso Caithness KW14 7BJ

Dear Mr Earnshaw

Re: NDA Competition for Dounreay Site Parent Body Organisation (PBO)

Thank you very much for your letter concerning the role of socio-economic factors within the forthcoming competition for the Dounreay Site Parent Body Organisation (PBO). I very much enjoyed meeting with you at the National Stakeholder Group (NSG) last week and talking these issues through. I have also met with John Thurso MP and corresponded with him on this topic and think we are all very much aligned.

The core points we discussed were:

- That socio-economic criteria will be an important component of the competition process, clearly the cost to the tax payer and schedule of carrying out the work will be at the very top of the list;
- More broadly that any successful PBO would need to play a leading role in the community given the nature of the work and its impact on the local economy. To succeed in their multi-year task, there will need to be a sustained leader in this arena;
- The challenge is how to incorporate these socio-economic considerations into the competition terms itself under our legal procurement requirements. Whatever we specify as criteria must be able to be clearly assessed and contractualised. The complexity of encapsulating what outstanding socio-economic leadership looks like makes this a difficult task;
- As a way forward we think it very important that the candidates that come through prequalification have thoughtful conversations with ourselves and many in the community during the "dialogue" period. Secondly my Commercial Director, John Clarke, and I will meet with the Highlands & Islands Enterprise and The Highland Council in order to get their input on what good criteria might be to include in the contract.



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The desired eventual outcome is to have commitments from the successful bidder that are meaningful to the community and against which we can measure and hold them to account.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely

Tony Fountain Chief Executive

Copy: John Thurso MP

John Clarke Randall Bargelt