

DSG(2010)C054

**Sixth Scottish Nuclear Sites Meeting
23 April 2010
Victoria Quay, Edinburgh**

Remit

- **To enable two way engagement between Scottish Government and stakeholders on issue which affect the nuclear sector.**
- **To provide a forum to facilitate discussion of cross-Scotland issue and information sharing for site operators, site stakeholder groups (SSG's) and other stakeholders.**

1. Welcome, introductions and apologies

1.01 Elizabeth Gray (Chair) welcomed everyone and thanked all for attending: List of Attendees is at Annex A. Introductions were made and new members and deputies welcomed. Apologies that were intimated and noted are at annex B.

2. Minutes of last meeting and update on actions

2.01 Minutes of the 4th and 5th meetings were agreed following minor adjustments to the 4th meeting minutes. An update on the actions was provided and this is included in the actions list at Annex C. Minutes will be published on SG website.

Action: publish minutes on SG website

3. Nuclear Decommissioning Authority and European Union

3.01 Elizabeth Gray introduced two new members of the team and asked them to introduce themselves and outline their work.

3.02 Martin Macdonald explained he would be focussing on two main items of work: NDA Strategy II and NDA Competition Programme. Strategy II is at draft stage and as required in policy the EA04 i.e needs to be approved by UK and Scottish Government Ministerial sign off by 31 March 2011. It is expected that the draft strategy will be out to consultation in September 2010. NDA Competition Programme includes the present competition for the Dounreay site and the next competition will be for Magnox sites.

3.03 Claire Dodd circulated a paper on two new legislative proposals currently being considered by the European Commission. She outlined what is being considered in relation to the Basic Safety Standards Directive (BSSD) where the aim is to simplify Community legislation in the area of radiation protection. The Commission has also re-launched the process of considering a legislative proposal on the management of radioactive waste and spent fuel and is undertaking a public consultation on the issue. Further details and a weblink on the questionnaire form part of the paper circulated for information.. She outlined what is being considered in relation to BSSD and what changes are being proposed. The issue of management of spent

fuel and radioactive waste is also being looked at by the European Commission (EC). Further details and a weblink on the questionnaire form part of the paper circulated.

3.04 Elizabeth Gray encouraged members to consider the EC proposals and respond accordingly by deadline.

4. Scotland's Higher Activity Radioactive Waste Policy

4.01 Elizabeth Gray explained the process of the consultation: Publication on 15 January 2010; Workshop on 29 January 2010 and presentations to a range of stakeholders groups.

Deadline for replies was 09 April 2010 but a number of bodies, particularly Councils, had asked for additional time to reflect the timing of their committee meetings. This had been agreed and responses will still be accepted over the next few weeks

4.02 An initial, superficial assessment of issues raised in responses received to date identified the need for more detail A paper which provided early indication of issues raised was distributed. This paper came with a disclaimer. Initial comments from those attending were as follows:

- Tony Bale, Hunterston A suggested the breakdown of the waste on a site by site basis, using simple steps.
- Dave Wilson, Chapelcross said this may confuse the position as figures can be shown in different ways.
- Simon Middlemass, Dounreay said this was a high level policy document only and that local information could be obtained from local sites.
- Elizabeth Gray asked whether a volunteer element to consider further papers was a consideration.
- Stuart Fowell, Babcock advised to look at the policy to see what is required to assist the policy in respect of waste.
- Sean Marshall, Chapelcross suggested data from the non nuclear industry be included in the policy.
- Dave Wilson, Chapelcross said that the removal of graphite and metal would reduce the figures dramatically. This would assist in the clarification of items requiring treatment in the immediate future.
- It was agreed that timeframes are important in respect of the policy.

Treatment Options:

- Various methods being considered which may affect the policy and therefore the waste generated which would affect the storage/disposal facilities required.

Transport/Export:

- Explanation needed in respect of transportation of waste. More visibility required.

Definitions:

- Clarity required on the 100/300 years timeframes for construction and institutional control.
- Near surface – provide more international examples to explain definition used
- The strategy of the policy (next steps) will require detail which explains fully definitions used
- Storage and disposal – agreed that clear distinction required to separate these items
- Depth need to demonstrate clear safety case
- Legal definition will be considered in respect of storage and disposal
- NDA will look at near surface as part of their Strategy II

Strategy:

- Outlined that NDA have major role in the implementation of the strategy
- SG would lead with input from sites, regulators, producers
- Consultation – Policy – Strategy – Implementation

Other Issues:

- Some of the points indicated were highlighted as requiring further input from various parties both within the industry, regulators and Central Government.
- Brian Clark, CoRWM asked how the Scottish Public can be consulted in respect of the policy statement prior to its finalisation and publication. Elizabeth Gray indicated that SG would seek the assistance of CoRWM and sites to consider how to engage the general public.

Fuller comments to be forwarded once consideration given by those attending.

Action: paper on BSSD and Spent Fuel to be circulated with the minutes

Action: paper on early indicative responses received to be circulated with the minutes

Action: paper on details of respondees to be circulated with the minutes

4. Magnox North: Higher Activity Waste Treatment Options Hunterston A

4.01 Peter Roach outlined the work being done by Magnox North and the NDA in respect of the treatment of ILW (HAW in Scotland) at Hunterston A site. Provided background on how work came about – look at new ways of working to deal with graphite and steel in terms of treatment and disposal. Advised that £2.9million has been set aside for the feasibility of the work. Safety cases need to be created and considered. Milestone dates are as follows:

December 2010 final safety case generated
March 2011 design concept developed

It was indicated that work could revert back to existing route if study indicates that proposed work is not achievable. Keith Riding, NDA provided details of how the NDA are assisting in this study. A question was asked if the safety case was for Hunterston A only. This was confirmed. A question about depth was asked and it was indicated that a depth of 10-50 metres is likely. Jim Cochrane, SEPA advised that the radioactive waste safety case was being looked at by SEPA/Magnox and NDA. It was suggested that stakeholder engagement in the local community would be of benefit. The meeting requested that a representative of SG Planning attend the next Scottish Sites meeting and that SG Planning should engage with planning authorities on HAW policy.

Action: arrange for SG Planning to attend next meeting

Action: ask SG Planning to engage with local planning authorities on HAW policy

5. Scottish Enterprise & Highlands and Islands Enterprise Joint Project

5.01 Murray Bainbridge, Scottish Enterprise could not attend but a paper and diagram provided by Murray Bainbridge was distributed. Paper outlined work on a project entitled supply chain development project. This was being funded by Scottish Enterprise. Keith Riding, NDA provided further information in respect of NDA's involvement in the project.

Action: paper and diagram to be circulated with the minutes

6. Updates – SEPA, HSE:NII, SCCORS, CoRWM & NDA

6.01 Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)

Jim Cochrane, SEPA provided details of work underway on both Policy and Regulation. The details of which were:

- Staff changes being made following retirements etc
- RIFE now published
- Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) now in place in England and Wales
- RSA93 will remain in place in Scotland
- BPM/BAT guidance document to be published
- SEPA continues to provide support to SG on HAW policy.
- Exemption Orders. Second bite of engagement shortly to take place. DECC will lead
- Public Value Programme (PVP) – SEPA are engaged in this and provide regulatory views only together with EA for England and Wales.

Dave Wilson, Site Director, Chapelcross advised that Magnox North had written to SEPA expressing concern about staff numbers and possible problems including risk factors.

Action: SEPA to provide details of new contact details of SEPA staff

Action: SEPA to provide details of comments made to PVP to Site Directors for their information

Action: contact details of Steve Chandler, DECC to be distributed.

6.02 Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII)

Andy Hall advised the meeting of some of the various items of work which were currently underway within the NII. These included:

- Legislative Reform Order (LRO) and creation of Office of Nuclear Regulation (ONR) to be scrutinised by Parliamentary Committee prior to being placed in the House.
- Internal changes have been finalised but put into storage until LRO approval.
- HSE views on PVP being put forward at relevant points
- Consultation on 'bulk quantities' being put together and will be issued later in 2010.

6.03 SCCORS

In the absence of a representative of SCCORS a written report was submitted. This will be circulated with the minutes of the meeting.

Action: circulate SCCORS report with minutes.

6.04 CoRWM

Brian Clark provided details on work underway by CoRWM since last Scottish Sites meeting. These include consideration of :

- Scottish HAW policy
- Work programme for 2010 – 2013
- British Geological Screening
- NDA preparations for stage 4 of the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF)
- NDA safety case
- NDA consultation on NDA Strategy II
- Public Stakeholder Engagement (PSE) policy
- Continue to engage with SG on HAW

Comments have been provided to UK Government on new nuclear build and CoRWM still await comments from Government on their R&D report.

CoRWM wished to thank those who have assisted in public and stakeholder engagements, especially in respect of Hunterston.

6.05 NDA

Stuart Chalmers, NDA provided details of work undertaken by NDA. These are as follows

- Attended workshop on decommissioning together with Magnox North, Magnox South, British Energy, EDF Energy
- NDA business plan published. £2.8billion spending in UK. £1.5billion to West Cumbria, remainder to spent on rest of the estate
- PVP under consideration
- Dounreay Competition. Two industry events held to date. Contract notices now out. 10-12 companies have expressed interest and requested papers for consideration.

7. Sites Updates

7.01 Written reports from some sites had been provided prior to the meeting and are attached to these minutes as Annex E. Verbal additions were as follows:

Hunterston A

Peter Roach, Site Director advised the meeting of the following additional items:

- 17,000M2 glazing had been removed from the structures
- Periodic safety review completed
- Full funding agreed with NDA for 2010/2011

Hunterston B

John Morrison advised the meeting of things underway at the site. These included:

- Passed 2 year mark without an accident
- Reactor 3 outage safely conducted earlier in the year
- Site is top performer in the EDF fleet
- Site continues to support local projects
- 2 new graduates now on site
- 6 new apprentices on site
- 550 full time staff on site
- 275 contractor staff on site

Dounreay

Stuart Chalmers, NDA advised of the following:

- 100m3 waste removed from site
- Raffinates removed from site
- Passed over 1 year mark on lost time accidents
- 28,000 suited entries over last year

- Confirmed that up to £150million funding from NDA from Public Value Programme for each of the next four years.
- Relates to 75% of projected spend bid.
- Shaft and silo and encapsulation projects moved back by 6 or 7 years
- LLW storage facility to continue to next stage. Possible contract let March 2011
- Reactor dismantling strategy now being considered.

Chapelcross

Dave Wilson, Site Director advised of the following additional items:

- 10,600 drums of waste sent from site
- Flask availability has caused slight delay in programme
- Possible acceleration of future work being considered
- Working with Scottish Enterprise on socio economic projects during 2010
- Article 37 submitted and awaiting outcome from Scottish Ministers/UK Government

8. AOB

Elizabeth Gray referred to RWPG workshop which is due to be held on 11 May 2010 in London. Thirty seven proposed work areas to be discussed and these will be used to create the work programme.

Reference also made to LLW Implementation Group who are looking at Low Level Waste and NORM. Due to meet on 12 May in London

Action: outcome of RWPG workshop to be distributed to sites meeting attendees.

9. Date of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be either 28 October, 4 or 11 November 2010. Availability will be sought for these dates and a formal meeting request issued.

Annex A

Attendees

Elizabeth Gray (Chair)	Scottish Government, Radioactive Waste Team
Stuart Hudson	Scottish Government, Radioactive Waste Team
Ewan Young	Scottish Government, Radioactive Waste Team
Martin Macdonald	Scottish Government, Radioactive Waste Team
Claire Dodd	Scottish Government, Radioactive Waste Team
Michael Litchfield	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) Graduate
Nina Staebler	Scottish Government, Energy Division
Peter Roach	Hunterston A Site Director
Kerry McMillan	Hunterston A
Shelagh Milligan	Hunterston A
John Lamb	Hunterston SSG
Tony Bale	Hunterston SSG
John Morrison	Hunterston B
Linda Smith	British Energy
Dave Wilson	Chapelcross Site Director
Cllr Ian Lindsay	Chapelcross SSG
Cllr Sean Marshall	Chapelcross SSG
Simon Middlemas	Dounreay Site Director
John Deighan	Dounreay Stakeholder Group
Stuart Fowell	Babcock, Rosyth
Jim Cochrane	SEPA
Laura Kerr	SEPA
Andy Hall	HSE: NII
Keith Riding	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Andy Edwards	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Stuart Chalmers	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Brian Clark	CoRWM

Annex B

Apologies

Byron Tilly	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
George Hunter	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
Randall Bargelt	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Graeme Rankin	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Cmdr Michael Moreland	HMS Vulcan
Ian Stewart	Station Director, Hunterston B
Kenny MacDougall	Hunterston SSG
Paul Winkle	Station Director, Torness
Jill M Callander	Chapelcross SSG
Cllr Ronnie Ogilvie	Chapelcross SSG
Murray Bainbridge	Scottish Enterprise
George Regan	Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS)
Brian Goodall	Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS)
Peter Mulheron	Scottish Councils Committee on Radioactive Substances (SCCORS)
Mick Bacon	HSE: NII
Andy Sloan	CoRWM

Annex C

Actions

Update of actions from Fifth meeting

Number	Action	Lead	Status
5.1	Ensure that Hunterston are advised about Caithness Regeneration Partnership	SG	Completed 23 March 2010
5.2	Ensure that Hunterston (site and SSG's) are kept informed about Caithness Regeneration Partnership	SG	Completed 23 March 2010
5.3	SCCORS to be more interactive with sites and SSG's	SCCORS	Ongoing
5.4	Various links to documents and websites to be provided (see minutes for precise details)	SG	Completed 2 November 2009
5.5	Copy of NDA presentation on strategic objectives to be circulated	NDA,SG	Completed 2 November 2009
5.6	Papers on Environmental Clean Technologies (ECT) to be circulated	SE,SG	Completed 2 November 2009
5.7	Exemption Order review – paper from SEPA to be distributed	SEPA, SG	Completed 2 November 2009
5.8	Compilation of 2010 dates for meetings etc to be made and distributed	Sites, SG	Completed 23 March 2010

Annex D

New Actions

Number	Action	Lead	Status
6.1	Publish minutes on SG website	SG	
6.2	Paper on BSSD and spent fuel to be circulated	SG	
6.3	Paper on early indicative responses received to be circulated	SG	
6.4	Paper on details of respondees up to 23 April 2010 to be circulated	SG	
6.5	Arrange for SG Planning to attend next meeting	SG	
6.6	Ask SG Planning to engage with local planning authorities on HAW policy	SG	
6.7	Paper and diagram on Scottish Enterprise project to be circulated	SG	
6.8	SEPA to provide details of new contacts	SEPA	
6.9	SEPA to provide comments on PVP to site directors	SEPA	
6.10	Contact details for DECC to be provided	SG	
6.11	SCCORS paper to be circulated	SG	
6.12	Outcome of RWPG workshop to be circulated	SG	

Annex E

Hunterston Briefing for Scottish Site Meeting on Friday 23 April 2010

Decommissioning progress continues at pace at Hunterston A Site with:

- Completed 99% of last years scope and made some savings for the UK tax payer.
- Around 17,000 metres of hazardous glazing now fully removed from both reactor buildings and replaced by new weather barriers delivering a decommissioning objective fro NDA
- Successfully commissioned over £8.5M worth of ILW retrieval equipment during last year
- Exemplary water clean up operations has already reduced radioactivity levels in the cooling ponds by over 75%.
- Construction of the Solid and Wet waste retrieval facilities remain on schedule. The site has never been busier and managing the complex interfaces within a small area requires strong controls by this SLC.

Maintaining excellent safety, environmental and security performance with:

- Hunterston A has the best set of EHSS&Q leading indicators across Magnox North.
- The sites been recommendation for a RoSPA Gold Medal.
- No environmental or security breaches through the past year.
- Early delivery of a high quality Periodic Safety Review shows the Site is in good order
- With the support of NDA the Hunterston A team has successfully justified to NII's satisfaction a request to extend the period of the improvement notice by 3 years to explore other disposal options for solid ILW.

New pathfinder project:

Hunterston A has had an additional £2.9M approved by NDA to explore the feasibility of an alternative disposal option for some ILW streams e.g. graphite and steel. The aim is to develop the design of a possible on site disposal option and to evaluate the required environmental safety case of such an option. Clearly there will be a need to interact with regulators and other key stakeholders.

Stakeholder Engagement:

The Hunterston SSG remains a lively forum scrutinising the sites activities and challenging the site team in addressing its socio-economic responsibilities on behalf of NDA. The group is going through some changes, positions of chair and now vice chair are due for election and we are looking to introduce some constitutional changes too. These are causing some tensions within the group and these seem to dominate most discussions. Hopefully these matters will be resolved at an extraordinary meeting set for 3rd May and "normal" business may be resumed.

SCOTTISH NUCLEAR SITES UPDATE – ROSYTH

Key Points

1. The first phase of site decommissioning completed in November ahead of programme and within budget. A concluding Site Characterisation survey has been undertaken and a Final Decommissioning Safety Report is being completed as part of the close-out documentation.
2. All decommissioned facilities and land were cleared of radioactivity to a standard that meets the IAEA guidance levels for land clearance defined in RS-G-1.7. Accordingly, the land can be removed from regulation under the RSA and CLRs. Additionally, two parts of the Nuclear Licensed Site were cleared of radioactivity to a standard that meets the NII's criterion for delicensing.
3. One part of the Nuclear Licensed Site remains operational and is not due to be decommissioned until the middle of the current decade.
4. A BPEO study into possible disposal routes for waste ion exchange resin in decay storage at Rosyth has recently been completed. Work will now continue to further develop two preferred disposal options until potential suppliers can give the necessary assurances and determine their costs.

Update from Chapelcross Headlines from 2009/10

- Full MDU inventory removed from site 6 months ahead of schedule and within the LTP cost.
- 32 flasks of fuel shipped to Sellafield for reprocessing
- 5 Heat Exchangers fully stripped of asbestos with work on turbine hall strip started.
- 188m³ of Low Level Waste shipped to LLWR
- 6km effluent discharge line successfully relined.
- Programme of work agreed with NDA for 2010/11
- Preparatory work for ponds decommissioning started
- Multi media discharge authorisation out to consultation

Update from Torness

The update from Torness is in the form of a letter. See below:

Torness Power Station update

Company performance

The EDF Energy UK

Existing Nuclear fleet achieved an excellent operational performance in 2009.

Following the acquisition of British Energy by EDF on 5 January 2009, the total nuclear output for the period from 1 January 2009 to 31 December 2009 was 55.1TWh.

During 2009, one of the largest programmes of outages for many years was carried out on the EDF Energy Existing Nuclear fleet. This reflects the continued focus on investment in plant and people to improve the long-term reliability and safe operation of the UK Existing Nuclear fleet by proactively targeting investment designed to deliver equipment reliability and to reduce the risk of future losses.

The regulator approved the Periodic Safety Reviews for Heysham 2 and Torness on 29 January 2010, for the period up to 2020, subject to the normal delivery of the agreed work programme. A Periodic Safety Review (PSR) is a condition of the site licence at each power station and without it a station cannot continue to operate. The aim of the PSR is to demonstrate that the plant is safe to operate for the next ten years and to identify any life limiting factors. The PSR process is a key input into ongoing lifetime reviews and potential plant lifetime extensions

In addition, British Energy has been successfully integrated into EDF Energy. Synergies have been identified mainly in the areas of nuclear procurement and insurance, integration of British Energy's trading function, use of existing nuclear staff in the nuclear new build strategy and savings as a result of cash restrictions no longer applying to British Energy post acquisition.

Torness performance

At Torness, over the past 12 months, we have focussed on achieving our vision of being the top performing station in the Existing Nuclear fleet, targeting improvements in our overall safety performance, equipment reliability, work management, staff engagement and professionalism.

Torness produced 9.11 terawatt hours in 2009, which is enough power for 1.97 million households. It is one of the station's best performances since it started generating in 1988. On Friday, 15 January 2010 we passed a significant milestone of one year without a lost time accident at Torness. This is a significant achievement and has required everybody working here to take appropriate care in everything they do. The most important thing is to ensure that we continue to work safely every day and avoid injury or harm to ourselves and our colleagues. While celebrating our record for lost time accidents, we acknowledge that we continue to have a number of very minor accidents. This shows that we must not be complacent and indeed, that we need to work together to make Torness even safer. Our goal must be to have zero accidents of any kind.

People management has also contributed to the success of the station as we have successfully managed the succession of roles and ensured suitably qualified and experienced personnel are available to fill vacancies - guaranteeing continuity of the business.

The station has recruited to plan over the year and currently has 542 full time equivalent employees. We continue to make good progress with our training programmes and to work with our leaders at all levels to improve leadership and accountability. The station has a robust succession management programme. Torness runs a work experience programme every year in conjunction with Gateway and local schools. The station offers places for fourth year pupils within different departments at Torness such as the chemistry lab, training, environmental safety and the maintenance workshop. Pupils come in and experience what it is like being in the working world for a week. They join the department of their choice and carry out various tasks and duties within that department.

Over the last year we have had students from North Berwick, Dunbar, John Knox Academy, Berwick upon Tweed, Musselburgh and Edinburgh.

We are currently in the process of recruiting eight new apprentices. They will benefit from a brand new modern apprenticeship programme at an academy based in HMS Sultan, Gosport, Hampshire. The programme, run by Flagship (the Royal Navy's training partner) is a residential scheme designed to combine technical engineering training with a comprehensive life skills programme. At Torness we have a total of 25 apprentices.

Torness continues to work with the local community. We have a strong link with the local schools and interact with them on regular occasions. We actively support Generation Science, School's Engineering Challenge and regularly host visits from schools and universities. In terms of charity our staff has been very generous. Staff and contractors purchased a new vehicle for Leuchie House in North Berwick. The brand new fully wheelchair accessible Fiat Freedom, worth £13,000, will help provide essential respite services to those suffering the debilitating condition, multiple sclerosis, and their carers.

Unfortunately we have already faced some station challenges in 2010. Reactor 2 tripped on 11 January 2010. During quadrant protection channel testing a coincident fault caused the quadrant to trip. We returned the unit to service in 2 ½ days. Reactor 1 tripped on 1 February 2010 following the failure of a generator transformer. Staff and contractors worked tirelessly to replace the transformer – which weighs 250 tonnes. Staff responded excellently and the unit returned to service on 20 March 2010.