

## SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE ON DSG ACTION

- Action M001/A018: Bob Earnshaw asked Elizabeth Gray if she could provide an update on the licensing issues of the low level waste facility.

Elizabeth Gray responded that there were a number of issues relating to the low level waste policy implementation. A UK group had been set up to drive and take all of the low level waste issues together and Nuclear site licensing was one of these. The aim is to get a proper plan in place and public consultation will be carried out. At present this is at the planning stage. Elizabeth agreed to take an action to report progress to DSG at the appropriate time.

**Action: DSG(2010)M001/A001: Elizabeth Gray to update DSG on low level waste issues relating to policy (and including licensing issues) at the appropriate time.**

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### Update as of 9<sup>th</sup> March 2011 - Low Level Waste Issues

There are two separate lines on this subject.

- Bulk Quantities for storage
- Paris and Brussels Convention (liability insurance)

The Bulk Quantities for storage is being taken forward by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and a consultation exercise will get underway shortly. This is a follow up to the pre consultation workshops and meetings which took place in 2010 and which assisted in shaping the consultation.

The consultation paper on the implementation of amendments to the Paris and Brussels Convention on nuclear third party liability has been published and the consultation period finishes on 28 April 2011. There is a dedicated web page on the DECC website. The papers include the consultation paper, draft Order and impact assessment. The link is as follows:

[http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/consultations/paris\\_brussels/paris\\_brussels.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/consultations/paris_brussels/paris_brussels.aspx)

The revised Paris and Brussels Convention now brings nuclear waste disposal facilities within the definition of a “nuclear installation” and therefore within the liability regime.

The UK Government proposes to bring such facilities within the 1965 Act liability regime but considers that the liability regime should only apply to nuclear waste disposal facilities which present the level of hazard which the Paris and Brussels Convention was designed to cover. Government therefore proposes to amend the 1965 Act to apply all of the aspects of the liability regime in the revised Convention (and the Brussels Convention) to disposal sites but without extending the scope of the existing nuclear licensing regime to cover them.

The Scottish Government  
Radioactive Waste Team  
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