

Freswick House
Fors Business and Technology Park
Thurso
Caithness
KW14 7UZ

T +44 (0)1925802497
F +44 (0)1925 802472
anna.macconnell@nda.gov.uk
www.nda.gov.uk

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Mr Bob Earnshaw
Chairman – Dounreay Stakeholder Group
c/o DSG Secretariat
Dounreay.com
Traill House
Thurso
Caithness KW14 7BJ

Dear Bob

Treating the material as waste at Dounreay has direct costs of approximately £65M. This cost is based on simplistic grout immobilisation, and it has the potential to increase as an R&D programme would be needed to underpin the wasteform manufacturing process, product quality requirements, and disposability assessments. Such R&D work would almost certainly be carried out at Sellafield where similar R&D needs have been identified and are initiating. There would be no anticipated changes to employment levels up to 2018, based on our current understanding, and any increase in employment towards the end of the site life would be very small.

There is potentially a positive socio-economic impact from the installation of crane capability at Georgemas rail head which is required to support the fuel moves by rail. Appropriately managed the facility might provide intermodal freight transport infrastructure that can be used for the benefit of the region in the future. We have arranged for DRS representatives to come to Caithness on 16th August to meet with community representatives from the Caithness Transport Forum and the Caithness & North Sutherland Advisory Group and we hope that members of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group will also be able to attend. In addition, if you feel it would be useful we could arrange for another discussion on fuel movement with some of our technical experts.

There will be no impact on site funding over the current funding period as a result of the proposed strategic change. It is difficult to comment on future funding periods, but it is not anticipated that this strategy change would have a measurable effect on that funding, certainly up to 2018.

We are able to extend the credible and preferred options paper response period to the 9th September 2011 and trust that this will allow you sufficient time opportunity to discuss the issue in more detail before forming views. If you have any more questions and I can be of any more help please let me know.

Yours sincerely



Anna MacConnell
STAKEHOLDER RELATIONS AND SOCIO ECONOMIC MANAGER

cc.
Bill Hamilton, NDA
Stuart Chalmers, NDA
Simon Middlemas, DSRL
Alex Anderson, DSRL