

DSG representatives are reminded that they are responsible for cascading information relating to the DSG to members of respective organisations.

**DSG(2011)C243**

## **DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP - HIGHLIGHTS**

**14<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

### **General**

- DSG(2011)M006 were endorsed with one amendment. These are now published on the website. [www.dounreaystakeholdergroup.org](http://www.dounreaystakeholdergroup.org).
- DSG are currently considering carrying out a review of the role and remit of DSG. The draft aims and objectives have been circulated to all members and will be discussed at the sub group meetings in November.
- Members have been invited to a local STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) event to be held at the Engineering Skills Centre, North Highland College on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2011.
- A drop in session to outline the plans for the national nuclear archive will take place on 29<sup>th</sup> September in Wick
- ONR are considering the possibility of running a small number of regional public events to report on the findings of Dr Mike Weightman (HM Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations) on the Japanese earthquake, tsunami and implications for the UK nuclear industry.
- ONR will launch a consultation on bulk waste on 19<sup>th</sup> September.
- Competition for the site was continuing and DSRL was preparing for the transition period following the announcement of the preferred bidder on the 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

### **Site Restoration**

- DSRL had published a document providing an explanation of the materials currently held at Dounreay. This had been done to explain the difference between waste and fuel. The leaflet had been published on DSRL's website and printed copies will be available next week.
- The NDA had published a paper on the credible and preferred options for DFR breeder fuel. DSG has now submitted a response – DSG(2011)C233 refers.

DSG representatives attended a meeting, facilitated by Caithness Transport Forum, to meet with Direct Rail Services to discuss the potential move of fuel to Sellafield by train.

- A special meeting on the low level waste project is being arranged for October. Two dates have been identified and availability is currently being sought from members. In addition, DSRL will carry out a trial blast at the low level waste site on 22<sup>nd</sup> September. A representative from DSG has been invited to attend.
- Vulcan continued to be shutdown for planned maintenance. The plant would be back in operation by late November/early December.

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- DSRL have 18 key targets to meet this financial year relating to hazard reduction. Of the 18, two have already been achieved and two are currently behind schedule.
- DSRL also reported a fault in WRACS (Waste Receipt Assay Characterisation and Supercompaction). The supercompactor had broken down and at present provision was being made to store low level waste without compaction until repairs are made.
- The COMARE/KIKK report will be tabled at the next Site Restoration sub group meeting in November. COMARE Chairman Alex Elliot and Paul Dale, SEPA will be in attendance.
- Inspections and discussions on the site have continued on a regular basis. ONR have always found the site very responsive, knowledgeable and takes due regard to ONR's views. The site is not complacent on safety and continues to look for improvements. ONR appreciate the response that site personnel provide.
- SEPA have issued the modification to the Waste Management License, allowing the use of recycled material in Landfill 42.
- SEPA has received an application for a site-wide waste management license. As a result of SEPA's consultation with statutory consultees and discretionary consultees (Buldoo residents). SEPA have received several responses. SEPA is in now in the process of determining the application.
- SEPA has issued an authorisation under the Transfrontier Shipment of Radioactive Waste and Spent Fuel Regulations 2008, to DSRL to return cemented radioactive waste to Belgium, its country of origin.

### **Socio economics**

- DSG representatives had a useful meeting, facilitated by HIE, with Scottish Development International. SDI look at inward investment for Scotland as a whole and DSG members explored what SDI can do for Caithness and North Sutherland and how SDI would use the research studies carried out by HIE to assist in inward investment activities.
- DSRL had also circulated a draft paper on the socio economic benefits for DSRL contracts. An action was placed on the Chamber to respond and they have done this.
- DSG members attended the official opening of the new offices at Forss for Pensions Administration Office. John Thurso, MP officially opened the new offices. It was pleasing to hear that the Pensions offices had secured extensions to current contracts and the review currently being undertaken is on schedule.

Dounreay Stakeholder Group  
19<sup>th</sup> September 2011