DSG(2011)C249

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP

STAKEHOLDER GROUP REVIEW

Background

Since its creation in 2005 the Dounreay Stakeholder Group has, with the support of an external consultant, reviewed the roles and remit of the DSG, which led to a number of recommendations which were all implemented at that time.

Over the last three years DSG has continued to evolve and the Terms of Reference have been reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that these continue to be relevant.

In May 2011 a DSG representative attended a Forum on Stakeholder Confidence (FSC) in Stockholm and reported back to DSG on her findings along with a number of recommendations – DSG(2011)C200 refers.

A small working group was set up to review the recommendations and it was broadly agreed that DSG needed to take stock of where it was and, more importantly, where it is going. Given the site competition and a new Parent Body Organisation (PBO) due to take over in April 2012 it was agreed that it would be timely to undertake a review of the activities of the DSG, making the assumption that the site has a 10 year decommissioning programme.

Consultant

It was agreed, at the working group, that an external consultant would be contracted to carry out this work to ensure that there is a balanced review. Tentative discussions have taken place with one consultant, who had previously carried out work for DSG, but no commitment has been made in awarding this work. The discussions were purely to ensure that the scope of work was a sensible approach to what DSG wishes to achieve.

Considerations to take into account

The Stockholm report recommendations were broadly based around the site's waste issues and the difference in policies between Scottish and UK Government. While this is, in fact, one area where DSG may wish to focus there are many other issues to consider and therefore the review will be broadened out to ensure it encompasses all DSG activities.

Scope of work

The draft aims and objectives are listed below. In order to conduct a full and meaningful survey it is envisaged that an external consultant will undertake the review and will attend one main DSG meeting as well as the socio economic and site restoration sub group meetings. If time permits it would also be useful to attend the DSG business meeting but as the membership of this is the chair, vice-chair and two sub group chairs this could be carried out via individual interviews.

In addition individual discussions with DSG members and other stakeholders would take place in order to gain a clear picture of the perceptions of both.

Aims and Objectives of review

The proposed terms of reference to be included are as follows:

- Prepare a commentary on the current and future role of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group, in relation to its evolving NDA, site and community needs (including Highland Council and the Scottish Government). The assumption for this would be that the site has a finite life of 10 years before all, but a small number of jobs, exist.
- Survey the views of DSG members and selected observers on the DSG's role, membership, Terms of Reference, and changes that might help it better discharge its responsibilities.
- Explore the perceptions of DSG members about their own contribution, the demands of the post, and the factors that help or hinder individual and collective effectiveness.
- Explore how DSG representatives ensure they are reflecting the views of their respective organisations and the wider community.
- Explore the perceptions of DSG members about where they believe the group's focus should be over the next 3, 6 and 10 years, with a view to presenting this work to the wider community to gauge further feedback before considering any changes to the DSG, if appropriate.
- Consider the production of a vision for the DSG and wider local community relating to the site end state, taking into account the change of Scottish Government policy on the long term storage of intermediate level waste..

Recommendation

DSG members are invited to endorse the scope of work and aims & objectives of the review and agree to the use of an external consultation to carry out the work.

Dounreay Stakeholder Group 30th August 2011