

NDA Monthly Update

March 2012

Summary

- Wylfa to close one reactor
- Dounreay contract award
- Business Plan 2012-2015 published
- Berkeley boilers sent for recycling
- Non-executive directors appointed
- NDA's new Chief Executive takes helm
- Site restoration paper for stakeholder comment
- Magnox and RSRL competition in the pipeline

[HAM report on interim findings](#)

Diary Dates

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| • 2012-2013 National Engagement Plan published | Early April |
| • Final Integrated Waste Management Strategy Development Programme published | April |
| • Wylfa to close Reactor Two | End of April |
| • NDA Response document to Oxide Fuels Credible Options paper | May |
| • Magnox Operating Programme (MOP) 9 | Summer 2012 |
| • Magnox/RSRL competition starts | Summer 2012 |

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Wylfa to close one reactor

After over 40 years of safe operation, Wylfa Site's Reactor 2 will finish generating electricity on 30 April, in line with the station's agreed operating plan. The decision to close one reactor was taken because limited fuel stocks do not allow for the continued operation of both reactors. Wylfa received its final delivery of Magnox fuel in December 2011. Work will now focus on optimising generation of Reactor 1, which is allowed to operate until 2014. A decision by the nuclear regulators on the transfer of partially used fuel from Reactor 2 to Reactor 1 is expected in the Summer.

[Weblink: Wylfa R2 to close](#)

Dounreay contract award

Babcock Dounreay Partnership has now officially taken over responsibility for decommissioning the Dounreay site, with the transfer of shares in Dounreay Site Restoration Ltd at a ceremony in Caithness. The contract, which completes a two-year procurement process, is one of the largest in the public sector and is anticipated to save the taxpayer well over £1 billion. BDP, a joint venture comprising Babcock, CH2M Hill and URS, will take the site to a state where all major decommissioning work is complete, potentially as early as 2022.

[Weblink: Dounreay share transfer](#)

Business Plan published

The NDA has published its Business Plan for 2012 to 2015, following a period of public consultation and ministerial approval. This year's plan, which reflects the revised Strategy published last year, allows for an average expenditure of almost £3 billion a year over a four-year period, in line with the UK Government's last spending review, of which £2.3 billion will be funded by UK Government and £0.7 billion by income from commercial operations.

[Weblink: Business Plan 2012-2015](#)

Boilers sent for recycling

The village of Berkeley in Gloucestershire came to a standstill as five massive boilers – each weighing more than 25 London buses – trundled slowly through the streets to be shipped off for recycling. Local roads were temporarily closed to traffic, telephone wires lifted and street furniture moved in order to accommodate transporters carrying the 310-tonne boilers from the nearby Berkeley site. The boilers are being sent to a specialist recycling plant in Sweden and most of the metal will be released for re-use. A further 10 boilers, which have been lowered to the ground outside the reactors in the 1990s, remain at the site.

[Weblink: Decommissioning milestone](#)

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Non-Executive Directors appointed

Two non-executive directors have been appointed to the NDA Board. Chris Fenton is Group Strategy and Marketing Director for Amey plc, a major infrastructure services provider to the public sector. Murray Easton is currently an adviser to the UK MoD, Chairman of QiResults Ltd and Governor of the Health Foundation. Prior to that he had an extensive industrial career including.

[Weblink: Non-executive directors appointed](#)

New Chief Executive takes helm

John Clarke, the new Chief Executive Officer of the NDA following the departure of Tony Fountain in December, officially took charge on 2 April. John has worked in the international nuclear industry for more than 30 years in a range of operational, commercial and business leadership roles. He joined the NDA Board in 2008 from Sellafield Ltd.

[Weblink: New Chief Executive](#)

Site restoration paper for stakeholder comment

The NDA is seeking comments on its newly published draft Strategy Development Programme for Site Restoration. The paper describes the Site Restoration questions that still need to be answered (remaining strategic issues and opportunities), and outlines the NDA's plan for providing answers. The deadline for comments, emailed to strategy@nda.gov.uk, is 31 May 2012

[Weblink: Site restoration](#)

Gearing up for Magnox and RSRL competition

The NDA is planning a period of formal market engagement as it prepares to launch a competitive process to appoint a new Parent Body Organisation(s) for the Magnox and RSRL sites. Official notification of the start of the competitive process, the Prior Information Notice (PIN), will be published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) in April, while engagement with interested parties will take place during May, however this early engagement will not form part of the procurement process.

[Weblink: Magnox and RSRL competition](#)

Higher Activity Waste overview published

The NDA has published an overview of all its higher activity waste (HAW), providing details of where the material arises and how it is being dealt with. The Overview of NDA Higher Activity Waste looks at radioactive waste from NDA sites only and is based on information from the 2010 UK Radioactive Waste Inventory. The aim of the report is to

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provide clarity about the whole lifecycle of the different kinds of radioactive waste, including current methods of treatment, packaging, storage and ultimate disposal.

[Weblink: HAW overview](#)

World's oldest nuclear reactor closes

Oldbury Power Station, near Bristol, has ceased generating electricity after 44 years of safe operational life. The world's oldest nuclear plant, Oldbury provided enough electricity for one million homes for 20 years and will now start preparations to enter the decommissioning phase. Reactor One's closure follows the closure last June of Reactor Two and leaves Wylfa as the UK's only operating Magnox plant.

[Weblink: Oldbury closure](#)

Newsletter available

The latest edition of the NDA's newsletter, Insight, is now available in both printed version and on the website.

[Weblink: Insight published](#)

Land released from nuclear regulations

Large tracts of land at Berkeley and Oldbury have been officially sanctioned as available for new development after the last remaining nuclear regulations were removed. The two plots, covering around a third of the original Berkeley site and half the original Oldbury site, totalling 46 hectares, can now be disposed of either by sale or lease after the Energy Minister Lord Marland signed orders revoking the designating directions.

[Weblink: land released from regulations](#)