

# NDA Monthly Update

## May 2012

### Summary

- Waste management development programme outlined
- Latest NDA engagement plan available
- Safety Director appointed
- Dounreay hazard now destroyed
- Update on Magnox and RSRL competition
- £15 million available for nuclear R&D
- Wylfa closes 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

### Diary Dates

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| • NDA Response document to Oxide Fuels Credible Options paper | End of May        |
| • Norwegian stakeholders visit Sellafield                     | Beginning of June |
| • Transfer of Dounreay breeder material to Sellafield starts  | Summer            |
| • Magnox Operating Programme (MOP) 9                          | Summer 2012       |
| • Magnox/RSRL competition starts                              | Summer 2012       |

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### Waste management programme outlined

The NDA has published its Strategy Development Programme for Integrated Waste Management, which reflects stakeholder comments and outlines work needed to develop a comprehensive Integrated Waste Management Strategy that will drive Lifetime Plan development and lead in due course to the estate-wide optimisation of waste management.

[Weblink: IWM Development Programme](#)

### 2012/2013 engagement plan published

Engagement plans for the coming year have now been published, giving details of opportunities for stakeholders to contribute to strategic decision-making. This could be through commenting on credible and preferred options papers or through statutory NDA consultations. The plans also include details of meetings and events such as the National Stakeholder Event, Chairs Forum and issue-specific workshops and seminars.

[Weblink: Engagement plan](#)

### Safety Director appointed

Ian Abbott, currently the Security Advisor to Sellafield Limited, will be joining the NDA as the Director Security, Safety, Safeguards and Environment. Ian said: " The secure and safe management of the UK's nuclear legacy is crucial to the future of the country's energy infrastructure. We need to do everything possible to ensure public and environmental safety in areas where the NDA has responsibility."

[Weblink: Safety director appointed](#)

### Hazard finally destroyed

Dounreay has now completed the destruction of one of the most hazardous legacies from the UK's early nuclear research. A purpose-built chemical plant processed the last of 57,000 litres of liquid metal lifted from the primary cooling circuit of the experimental fast breeder reactor. The coolant – an alloy of sodium and potassium (NaK) - was a major chemical and radiological hazard used in the 1950s-built Dounreay Fast Reactor, one of only two ever built in the UK to run on liquid metal.

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### Gearing up for Magnox and RSRL competition

The NDA is part-way through a period of formal market engagement with interested parties as it prepares to launch a competitive process to appoint a new Parent Body Organisation(s) for the Magnox and RSRL sites. Meanwhile, notification of the start of the competitive process, the Prior Information Notice (PIN) has been published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU). The current market engagement, however, does not form part of the procurement process.

[Weblink: Magnox and RSRL competition](#)

### £15 million for nuclear R&D

Up to £15 million of investment is being made to support nuclear research and development (R&D) in the supply chain, following a joint initiative by Government organisations. The support will be provided, via a competitive process, to collaborative projects involving both large and small businesses, as well as knowledge-sharing partnerships. The initiative is led by the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills-backed TSB, the NDA, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

[Weblink: Research investment](#)

### Wylfa closes one reactor

After over 40 years of safe operation, Wylfa Site's Reactor 2 finished generating electricity at the end of April, in line with the station's agreed operating plan. 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 closes](#)

### 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](#)

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### 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 town 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 were lowered to the ground outside the reactors in the 1990s, remain at the site.

[Weblink: Decommissioning milestone](#)

### 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.

[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, has now officially taken charge. 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](#)