

15th May 2012 Ref: DSG(2012)C045

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Please respond to:

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Dear Sirs

PENTLAND FIRTH, CAITHNESS – REMOVAL OF EMERGENCY TUG BOAT VESSELS

I am writing to you, on behalf of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group which is an independent body made up of over 20 community organisations set up to oversee the operations of the Dounreay nuclear site.

Over the last year we have been questioning ONR on who has the responsibility for assessing risk assessments for shipments of nuclear material by sea. On 14th February we received a response, via ONR site inspector, stating that the consignor had responsibility for emergency planning.

While, we as a group, understand this we feel that our question, in relation to the removal of emergency tug vessels, was not answered in detail. We believe that your organisation must have an overview of the safety and risk implications if a ship carrying nuclear materials was to get into trouble during its journey and would ask again if anyone has considered the potential safety impact that the removal of the emergency tug vessels may have.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Bob Earnshaw DSG Chairman