

# NDA Monthly Update

## July 2012

### Summary

- NDA Annual Report and Accounts available
- Britain's Energy Coast Blueprint published
- Oxide fuels decision
- Funding for Energy Island Project announced
- NDA newsletter published
- Magnox and RSRL competition due to start
- Waste management development programme outlined
- Latest NDA engagement plan available
- Safety Director appointed
- Dounreay hazard now destroyed
- £15 million available for nuclear R&D
- Wylfa closes one reactor

### Diary Dates

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|--|---------------|
| • Uranics credible options paper published                   | July 2012     |
| • Magnox Operating Programme (MOP) 9 published               | July 2012     |
| • Transfer of Dounreay breeder material to Sellafield starts | Summer 2012   |
| • National Stakeholder Event, Manchester                     | 29-30 October |

## NDA Monthly Update – July 2012

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### Annual Report and Accounts published

The NDA has now published its Annual Report and Accounts for 2011/2012, which demonstrate that significant progress in decommissioning has been made coupled with real savings for the taxpayer and marking a year of solid progress. John Clarke, NDA Chief Executive, said: "I am pleased to report that performance over the last 12 months has been generally good across all our sites, against challenging targets. We continue to perform strongly in terms of income generation and introducing efficiencies both within the organisation and across the wider estate while maintaining progress on the core mission."

[Weblink: Annual Report and Accounts](#)

### Blueprint welcomed

The NDA, Sellafield Ltd and Nuclear Management Partners have welcomed the publication of Britain's Energy Coast Economic Blueprint. The Blueprint sets out Britain's Energy Coast's vision for the development of the local economy in West Cumbria over the next 15 years, a period that could see the creation of more than 3,000 jobs as well as a significant boost to the local economy. The programme, launched in 2009, has seen around £25 million of public and private sector resource invested in regional economic regeneration activities, which has levered in a further £35 million to the area.

[Weblink: Energy Coast Blueprint](#)

### Oxide fuel decision

The NDA has confirmed that contracts for the reprocessing of spent oxide fuels from the UK's AGR reactors, and those from overseas that remain in storage at Sellafield, will be continue to be completed through the THORP plant. Once reprocessing finishes in 2018, the plant will close prior to decommissioning. The decision follows a review of options to establish the most cost-effective strategy for managing the fuels associated with contracts which the NDA inherited when it was established in 2004. Any remaining AGR fuel, including any future arisings, will be placed into interim storage pending a decision to dispose of it in a geological disposal facility.

[Weblink: Oxide fuels](#)

### New funding for energy project

Minister of State for Energy Charles Hendry has announced a new £480,000 NDA funding package for the Anglesey Energy Island Programme (EIP), a public and private-sector initiative to put the region at the forefront of energy research and development, production and servicing. During a visit to the island, the Minister also told Coleg Menai

## **NDA Monthly Update – July 2012**

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students and Wylfa power station staff that the nuclear industry had a positive future on Anglesey and within the UK, reaffirming the UK Government's commitment to new build. The programme, led by the Isle of Anglesey County Council, acts as a vehicle for employment growth and development opportunities.

[Weblink: Boost for energy initiative](#)

### **Newsletter published**

The latest edition of the NDA's quarterly Insight newsletter has now been published and can be downloaded from the website. Hard copies are also available.

[Weblink: Insight edition 9](#)

### **Gearing up for Magnox and RSRL competition**

The NDA has completed a period of formal market engagement with interested parties as it prepares to launch the competitive process to appoint a new Parent Body Organisation for the Magnox and RSRL sites. Meanwhile, key milestones have now been agreed and are available on the NDA's website, where a competition page has been uploaded. The formal process starts on 16 July, with publication of the Contract Notice, which will be followed by a Bidders' Conference on 19 July, in Manchester. The conference will provide information-gathering opportunities for potential bidders.

[Weblink: Magnox and RSRL competition](#)

### **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](#)

## NDA Monthly Update – July 2012

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### Safety Director appointed

Ian Abbott, formerly the Security Advisor to Sellafield Limited, has joined 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. Its destruction was a key priority for both the NDA and Department of Energy and Climate Change.

[Weblink: Coolant destroyed](#)

### £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](#)