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Mr Mr Earnshaw

SCOTLAND'S HIGHER ACTIVITY RADIOACTIVE WASTE POLICY – STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

As you are aware, Scotland's Higher Activity Waste Policy was published in 2011. The Policy is for the long-term management of higher activity waste (HAW) in near surface facilities. The Policy requires the Scottish Government to produce a Strategy to inform the approach taken to implement the Policy. The project to develop this Strategy was initiated last year.

Claire Dodd wrote to you and the other Chairs of the Site Stakeholder Groups (SSGs) on 27 February inviting you to nominate a representative of site stakeholders for one position on the Technical Advisory Group (TAG). I understand that the SSGs responded and asked the Scottish Government to consider having all three SSGs represented on the TAG.

Following staff changes to the Radioactive Waste Team, which sits within my Division, we have been reviewing our approach to the project. As a result of this review, we are proposing to make changes to the project and its governance arrangements.

As a first step, I will now chair all future meetings of the Project Board which I hope demonstrates both the Scottish Government's commitment to this subject area and our internal focus on delivering an effective and fit for purpose strategy. We also have a responsibility to consider the views of the wider community when developing the Strategy. With that in mind, I would like to invite you as Chair of the Dounreay Stakeholder Group to attend future Project Board meetings in an observer capacity. I am also extending a similar invitation to the Chairs of the other Site Stakeholder Groups.

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