

# NDA Monthly Update

## August 2012

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### Summary

- DECC report on geological disposal
- Magnox and RSRL competition moves formally launched
- MOP9 published
- NDA's 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
- £15 million funding for R&D in joint Government initiative

### Diary Dates

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| • Position on Central and Southern Scotland ILW options      | August 2012        |
| • Site Restoration Strategy Development final document       | End of summer 2012 |
| • Transfer of Dounreay breeder material to Sellafield starts | Late 2012          |

## NDA Monthly Update – August 2012

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### DECC publishes second Annual Report on MRWS

The Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC) has published the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Report on its Managing Radioactive Waste Safety programme, which focuses on developing geological disposal in the UK. The report sets out the work being undertaken by the NDA's Radioactive Waste Management Directorate to deliver the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF), including stakeholder engagement, the development of site assessment criteria, international updates and work on options for accelerating work.

[Weblink: MRWS Annual Report](#)

### Magnox and RSRL competition under way

Almost 170 delegates attended the recent Bidder Conference to hear details of the competition to appoint a new Parent Body Organisation for the 12 Magnox and RSRL sites. Held in Manchester, potential bidding organisations, stakeholders, regulators and trade unions were given an outline of the competition schedule as well as the NDA's expectations on progressing decommissioning at each site. Valued at £4-5 billion over the next seven years, the competition is one of the UK's largest public procurement exercises. The projected two-year timeframe takes account of the recent six-week extension to the PQQ period following the announcement that EnergySolutions, the parent body of Magnox Ltd, is to be sold.

[Weblink: Competition information](#)

### Magnox operating programme updated

The NDA, in conjunction with Magnox Ltd and Sellafield Ltd, has published the ninth update of The Magnox Operating Programme (MOP), the fourth to be published by the NDA. The MOP defines how the whole Magnox fuel cycle is managed and co-ordinated between the different sites, and covers fuel manufacture, electricity generation, fuelling and defuelling of reactors, and reprocessing of spent fuel. MOP 9 has adopted a flexible approach that takes account of different possible scenarios. Meanwhile, the NDA has also published its Magnox Fuel Strategy Position Paper which looks at strategic options for managing any contingencies that arise.

[Weblink: MOP9 and Strategy Position Paper](#)

### 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.

## NDA Monthly Update – August 2012

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"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 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](#)

## **NDA Monthly Update – August 2012**

### **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](#)

### **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](#)

### **£15 million for nuclear R&D**

Time is still available for organisations to apply for a share of the £15 million funding that 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](#)