DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP BUSINESS MEETING

DSG/BM(2012)M003

Minutes of DSG Business meeting held on Friday 17th August 2012 at 1330 hrs in Dounreay.com, Thurso.

Present: Bob Earnshaw DSG Chairman

David Flear DSG Vice-chairman

George Farlow
Derrick Milnes
DSG Socio Economic sub group chair
DSG Socio Economic sub group chair

June Love DSG Secretariat, DSRL

In addition: Nigel Lowe NDA Head of Programme

Anna MacConnell Socio Economic & Stakeholder Relations Manager

MINUTES

1. WELCOME

Bob Earnshaw welcomed Nigel Lowe and Anna MacConnell to the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting – DSG/BM(2012)M002 – were endorsed by members as a true reflection of the meeting.

No issues were raised from the minutes.

4. PROGRESS ON ACTIONS

All DSG actions were reviewed. Of note:

- DSG(2012)M002/A007: Nigel Lowe to discuss the comments made with regards fuel movements and benefits with NDA HQ. This was discussed under Agenda item 6.
- DSG(2012)M002/A009: Alastair MacDonald (BDP) to consider how the site can report more accurately on the number of contractors working on the Dounreay site on a regular basis. Action ongoing – Data will be collected the 1st Wednesday of each month. First report will be circulated shortly.
- DSG(2012)M002/A018: Anna MacConnell, NDA to continue to keep DSG updated on progress of national nuclear archives. Long term action – further update will be available at end of September.
- DSG(2012)M002/A019: Bob Earnshaw, Thurso Community Council, to provide update to DSG on status of Tesco's proposed new store at the old mart, Thurso.

Action complete – Bob Earnshaw noted that this action had moved on. Tesco have until February 2013 to adhere to planning permission.

 DSG(2012)M002/A027: Nigel Lowe, NDA to discuss taking forward outline planning for the National Nuclear Archives with the project team. Action complete – Nigel Lowe had discussed this with Project team. The project team was reluctant to apply for planning permission until the business case was sanctioned.

Anna MacConnell noted that the business case would go forward for sanction by mid-September. George Farlow registered an interest as vice-chair of the Highland Council Planning committee. George stated it would be useful to have a pre-application discussion with Highland Council planning. Anna MacConnell responded that a list of key stakeholders had been drawn up, including DSG and once the business case had been discussed in September information would be provided. Anna also noted that NDA had been invited to submit a stage 2 application for European funding for the community area of the proposed archives.

• DSG(2012)M002/A029: Nigel Lowe to discuss socio economic elements in contract (in relation to National Nuclear Archives) with project team.

Nigel Lowe noted he had spoken to the project team in relation to socio economic elements in the contract. This would be ongoing and discussed in detail following sanction in mid-September.

5. ISSUES ARISING FROM SUB GROUP MEETINGS

- DSG/SESG(2012)M003: Mtg held on 18th July 2012
- DSG/SRSG(2012)M003: Mtg held on 18th July 2012

The minutes of the sub group meetings held on 18th July were discussed. Key highlights were agreed for updating at next DSG meeting in September.

6. DISCUSSION ON FUELS

David Flear noted that DSG had previously written to NDA asking for detailed information on lifetime costs of fuels, ie if the fuels were to remain on site what the cost would be for construction of new stores (how many), monitoring, care and maintenance, security, etc. While responses had been received they did not address this question.

He noted that he was not opposed to the fuels going to Sellafield however it was recognised that by transporting fuels to Sellafield there would be a socio-economic benefit at Sellafield with the protection of jobs while Dounreay jobs would run down.

David also noted that while he recognised the crane could have potential commercial benefits he believed there was a hazard associated with the access road. While fuels were being transport police vehicles would be available to ensure traffic was managed however police presence would not be there when the crane was being used for commercial freight.

In relation to the crane, David also felt that a marketing plan was required to maximise the benefit of the crane for commercial use.

Nigel Lowe responded that DRS owns the crane and are keen to increase commercial freight. They would be marketing the service.

Nigel Lowe stated he would discuss with DRS traffic management for commercial freight leaving the station to ensure that all safety measures were considered. David added that it would be useful if NDA/DRS also spoke with Transport Scotland.

Action: DSG/BM(2012)M003/A001: Nigel Lowe, NDA to discuss with DRS traffic management for commercial freight at Georgemas junction.

Action: DSG/BM(2012)M003/A002: Anna MacConnell, NDA to discuss Georgemas with Transport Scotland to encourage Transport Scotland and DRS to consider how to address the issue of traffic management.

Nigel Lowe then provided a full explanation on NDA's budget, the decision taken on fuels and the hazards associated with the 19 NDA sites. He noted that the decision to transport fuels to Sellafield was taken from a security and cost avoidance stance as opposed to cost savings.

George Farlow noted that while this approach had some rationale it was important for the area to be considering applying for funding for socio economic projects coming forward. He also added that DRS may like to consider forestry freight but this would probably require loops in the railway being re-instated. He thought it might be an idea for DRS/NDA to consider this as part of a 'shovel-ready' project which they could invest in for future commercial needs. He also felt it would be useful to DRS had contact with Network Rail to understand the restrictions on the rail route.

7. DSG AGENDA

The draft agenda for the full DSG meeting to be held in September was discussed. David Flear asked whether it would be possible to have a presentation by DSRL on site contracts. This was agreed by members.

Action: DSG/BM(2012)M003/A003: Secretary to ask DSRL to provide a presentation on DSRL contracts at next main DSG meeting (September).

Members also discussed the date of the next meeting. Due to unforeseen circumstances it was agreed to look at moving the September meeting.

Action: DSG/BM(2012)M003/A004: Secretary to reschedule September DSG to week before scheduled meeting. [NB: Secretary had contacted the Pentland Hotel and the meeting has now been changed to 12th September. An email would be sent out to all members and observers to advise on change of date).

8. DSG REVIEW

The secretary noted that a meeting of the DSG review working group had met and agreed a number of actions going forward. This was tabled at the meeting for business meeting members to consider. It was agreed that comments would be provided to the secretary outside the meeting.

Action: DSG/BM(2012)M003/A004: Business meeting members to provide comment on the DSG Review working group's recommendations.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The following was discussed:

- WRACS supercompactor. It was noted that a briefing update had been provided to members (action raised at site restoration sub group meeting).
- George Farlow noted that Dounreay's plan for redundant buildings could be used for alternative business following site decommissioning. Bob Earnshaw responded that he believed that buildings would be stripped inside and left 'cold and dark' with demolitions on mass later in the programme. Nigel Lowe responded that this was the current plan. He stated that the NDA had defined the interim end state for the site and this was not at the discretion of DSRL. By interim end state it was believed that waste stores, the new low level waste facility and police command and control building would be left.

Bob Earnshaw noted that there had been a discussion at the last site restoration sub group meeting on site end states and this would now be a standing agenda item.

- On procurement, David Flear queried why NDA could put socio economic elements in the site contract but it appeared that the site could not. Nigel Lowe said that the NDA were governed by the Energy Act 2004 which had socio economic elements built in. The Dounreay site had to adhere to OJEU rules and could not bias contracts towards local companies. David Flear stated that he felt there were things that Dounreay could do if they wished which would not break legislation but could potential bring benefit to the area.
- It was agreed that Derrick Milnes would attend the next SNP political conference in October as part of the lobbying remit on behalf of the socio economic activities ongoing in the county.

There being no further business Bob Earnshaw thanked members for attending and closed the meeting.

Bob Earnshaw DSG Chairman 19th August 2012

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

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DSG/BM(2012)M003/A002: Anna MacConnell, NDA to discuss Georgemas with Transport Scotland to encourage Transport Scotland and DRS to consider how to address the issue of traffic management.

DSG/BM(2012)M003/A003: Secretary to ask DSRL to provide a presentation on DSRL contracts at next main DSG meeting (September).

DSG/BM(2012)M003/A004: Secretary to reschedule September DSG to week before scheduled meeting.

DSG/BM(2012)M003/A005: Business meeting members to provide comment on the DSG Review working group's recommendations.