

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

**DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SITE RESTORATION SUB GROUP**

DSG/SRSG(2013)M001

**Minutes of the DSG Site Restoration sub group meeting held on
Wednesday 16th January 2013 at 1900 hours in the Pentland Hotel, Thurso.**

Present:

Anne Chard	Caithness West Community Council (acting chair)
Bob Earnshaw	DSG Chairman
Alastair MacDonald	DSG Honorary member
Ian Leslie	SGRPID
Deirdre Henderson	Buldoo Residents Group
Alan Scott	Caithness Contractors Consortium
David Alexander	Dounreay Unions

In addition:

June Love	DSG Secretariat
Jerry Morrissey	Programme Manager, NDA
Anna MacConnell	NDA Stakeholder Relations & Socio Economics
Dyan Foss	Deputy Managing Director, Dounreay
Ken Dyke	Vulcan, MoD
Stewart Ballantine	SEPA
Peter Watson	ONR

In addition, a Japanese film crew was in attendance. This was part of an NDA estate-wide filming and had been in Caithness for the week taking footage of the site operations.

MINUTES

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Anne Chard welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that George Farlow (sub group chair) had been delayed and had tendered his apologies.

2. APOLOGIES RECEIVED

Apologies were received from:

- Cllr George Farlow Highland Council (sub group chairman)
- David Flear DSG Vice-chairman
- Roger Saxon Highland Council
- John Deighan Dounreay Unions (David Alexander deputising)
- Cllr Maurice Davidson Orkney Islands Council
- Cllr Michael Stout Shetland Islands Council
- Jean Lipa Association of Caithness Community Councils

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

- Nigel Lowe NDA Head of Programme (Jerry Morrissey deputising)
- Christine Lee Site End State Project Manager, Dounreay
- Ian Miller DNSR for Vulcan
- Ross Mackenzie Health Service
- Rob Wharton ONR for Vulcan

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated to members in advance – DSG/SRSG(2012)M004 refers. The minutes were taken as a true reflection of the meeting.

The minutes were proposed by Bob Earnshaw and seconded by Alan Scott.

No issues were raised from the minutes.

4. PROGRESS ON ACTIONS

The status of actions had been circulated to members in advance. Of note:

- DSG(2012)M004/A015: Dyan Foss to provide DSG with information on size of vaults at the new low level waste facility. **Action complete** – diagrams with dimensions provided at Site Restoration sub group on 16th January 2013 – DSG(2013)C004 refers.

Dyan Foss noted that an invitation to visit the new low level waste facility was still open to DSG members.

- DSG(2012)M004/A015a: DSRL to discuss procurement topics with representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Caithness Contractors Consortium. **Action complete** – meeting held on 23rd January 2013.
- DSG (2012)M004/A010: Graham Beaven to provide short summary on non-radioactive waste process. **Action complete – see DSG(2012)C086.**

5. VULCAN UPDATE

Anne Chard noted that a meeting had taken place with the DSG Chair, vice-chair and Commander Ken Dyke following the December DSG meeting. Discussion had been focussed on why Vulcan was different from Dounreay at present with Vulcan still in operational mode.

Commander Ken Dyke reported that the plan continued to operate as per programme.

ONR had provided a written report – DSG(2012)P0 02 refers as well as an update from Rolls Royce (DSG(2012)C086 refers).

Bob Earnshaw stated that the presentation provided by MOD at the December DSG meeting had been informative and was useful to have a timeline for decision making on the future of the site

There were no issues raised by members..

6. **DOUNREAY UPDATE**

Dounreay: Anne Chard noted a written report had been provided by Dounreay – DSG(2013)P004 refers. Dyan Foss noted the following:

- Consolidation of the lifetime plan was now completed. A number of change controls had been submitted to NDA.
- A second fuel shipment had taken place by rail from Dounreay to Sellafield.
- It was estimated that the concrete pours for the low level waste facility would be complete by February.
- There had been two recordable injuries in December – one was a sprained ankle after slipping on ice and the second was an elbow injury which had resulted in 7 days of lost time. As a result, the parent body organisations are bringing in expertise to look at the safety culture to identify improvements.

Anne Chard asked if re-use of buildings would be a site consideration when identifying areas of the site for demolition. Dyan Foss responded the plan at present was to optimise demolitions by zones. However, she emphasised that if something was identified which would be of use post-Dounreay there was an ability to change the plan.

Anne Chard responded that it may be that relatively new buildings are demolished just because there were in an identified zone but may have the potential for re-use. Dyan Foss replied that this was correct, however, presently the site was working through the logistics of the demolitions. She intimated she would be happy to share these plans once they had been internally considered.

ONR: Peter Watson, ONR stated that his written report would be provided to the secretary as soon as possible. He verbally updated the group as follows:

- Six separate visits had taken place to Dounreay by a number of ONR inspectors including specialists.
- Asset management had been reviewed to ensure the site was managing its assets appropriately with respect to nuclear safety. There had been a follow up inspection in November and a number of observations were made (nothing of significance). ONR were continuing to keep an interest in this and were

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

currently satisfied on the progress the site was making.

- Inspections in the reactors and fuel storage facility had taken place taking into consideration the relationship between management and staff, how the site complies with its' own operating manual and it was expected that the outcome would be positive.
- Inspections on modifications to PFR plant and equipment were good with compliance against the relevant Licence Condition.
- Satisfactory progress was being made in the new laboratories which would be a facility required until the interim end state.
- ONR had deemed the emergency exercise held on 1st October to be an adequate demonstration of emergency arrangements.
- ONR were working with SEPA on low level waste accumulation on site while the supercompactor was being replaced. The inspection had concluded that DSRL was adequately compliant against the relevant Licence Condition.
- Specialist inspectors from ONR had visited to look at the CIDAS (Criticality Incident Detection and Alarm System) and while the report was still to be finalised the inspectors had been satisfied with what they had seen.

SEPA: A written report had been provided to members in advance of the meeting – DSG(2013)P003 refers. Stewart Ballantine provided a verbal update. Of note:

- SEPA inspectors had visited WRACS and while work is still in progress to remove the old compactor. SEPA were satisfied with what they saw.
- The RSA authorisation consultation was now closed with 14 responses submitted, including one from DSG. Responses are now being considered as part of the application determination.
- A meeting had taken place with DSRL regarding the degree of thermal cracking which had occurred in the walls of the demolition waste vault at the new low level waste facility. It was stated that this did not impinge on the need to satisfy authorisation conditions setting permeability standards. Further discussion was ongoing and SEPA would report back to DSG in due course.
- SEPA would be taking part in a meeting to discuss interim end state in February 2013.

- SEPA has now granted Authorisation to DSRL to dispose of low level radioactive waste in the new low level waste facility. A copy of the authorisation, Decision document and a summary of the consultation responses received can be found on SEPA's website:
www.sepa.org.uk/radioactive_substances/decommissioning/dounreay/proposed_llw_facilities.aspx

Bob Earnshaw raised his concerns on the cracking of the concrete in the new demolition vault. He asked SEPA if they were happy with how DSRL was addressing this issue. Stewart Ballantine stated that permeability was an absolute requirement to be met before they would sign off to allow waste to be disposed off into the new facility. Anne Chard asked for re-assurance that waste would not be disposed of until SEPA had carried out assessments. Stewart Ballantine confirmed that this was the case.

Anne Chard asked what would have to be done if this continued to be a problem. Dyan Foss responded that DSRL had a team looking at the engineering of the facility. In addition, the NDA had requested that DSRL carry out an independent review. Jerry Morrissey confirmed this was the case. Dyan Foss re-iterated that reviews would be carried out by DSRL, NDA and SEPA before disposal operations would be sanctioned.

Deirdre Henderson added that the Buldoo residents had always indicated that the site had chosen the wrong location for the facility as it appeared that the water levels were 10 times more than estimated. She asked if this was likely to have an impact. Stewart Ballantine stated that in terms of construction it was not related to this issue.

Deirdre Henderson noted that the site had recently informed residents (and DSG) that a third vault would be required to take LLW from the site. She added that information on the position of the vault was still outstanding. Dyan Foss noted that the 3rd vault would be required and that the site was considering the best location (within the existing plans for the six vaults). She added that a response to DSG and Buldoo residents on the location of the third vault would be communicated as soon as possible. Stewart Ballantine confirmed that SEPA were in discussion with the site on this matter.

Dyan Foss agreed that DSRL would provide a timeline for the engineering studies associated with the concrete cracking as well as an indication of the position of the 3rd vault.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A001: DSRL to provide a timeline for the engineering studies associated with the low level waste concrete cracking.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A002: DSRL to provide information to DSG (and Buldoo residents) of the positioning of the 3rd vault once it had been

discussed in detail with NDA and regulators.

7. NDA UPDATE

Anne Chard noted that members had received in advance the NDA site stakeholder group briefing for December 2012 (DSG(2012)C085 refers). Jerry Morrissey provided a verbal update. Of note:

- The consolidation process had been completed in December. Following completion of a number of change controls the site now has a scope, schedule and costed programme.
- Baroness Verma, DECC had visited Dounreay in December. This had been a very positive visit .
- The NDA had announced their commitment to build the National Nuclear Archives in Wick which would retain/create 20+ jobs.

Alan Scott asked whether the consolidated plan had resulted in changes to the end date and overall costs. Jerry Morrissey responded that there had been an overall nett saving in decommissioning activities from the original competition bid. Alan Scott asked what the effects of the consolidation plan had made. Jerry Morrissey responded that the date had been pushed out slightly but was still in the date range of 2022-2025. Dyan Foss stated that there was still some rationalisation to be done which was expected to pull the schedule back. It was noted that information on the consolidation plan was currently being worked on and would be made available to stakeholders within the next four weeks.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A003: DSRL to provide information to DSG on the consolidated plan.

David Alexander asked if there was a schedule for the National Nuclear Archives. Anna MacConnell stated that the next task was to look for commercial partners. She indicated that the project manager would be visiting Caithness shortly to provide a timeline for the project.

Commander Ken Dyke noted that the NDA had provided funding for a Grants scheme for businesses in Cumbria. The secretary noted that this was similar to the North Highland Regeneration Fund which had been fully funded (£1.8M) by the NDA.

8. CORRESPONDENCE FOR NOTING

Anne Chard noted that DSG had responded to SEPA's RSA consultation – DSG(2012)C082 refers. She thanked everyone who had contributed to the response.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

▪ **NDA's draft business plan**

Anne Chard noted that the NDA's draft business plan was currently out for consultation (due to close on 1st February 2013). She suggested that members read the document and provide any questions, comments or issues to the secretary who would collate a draft response for approval by DSG before final submission.

Bob Earnshaw noted that he had asked a question at the Socio Economic sub group meeting on the budget allocated to Dounreay in the draft business plan. He had not recognised the figure of £175M as he had thought the site was working with a flat funding of £150M. He asked Jerry Morrissey for clarification. Dyan Foss stated that DSRL was due to respond to NDA (in the last quarter of the financial year) indicating the level of funding that the site requires for the coming year. This had not been finalised as yet. She expected that the site would be looking at funding levels around £150M to £161M. Jerry Morrissey said he expected that the funding in the draft plan was a best guess awaiting the site's requirements. He recognised that the change controls currently with NDA covered this year and next and some of the increase in funding would reflect inflation. Members agreed to seek clarity of the budget in their response to NDA.

Action: DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A004: All members to provide comment on NDA's draft business plan to the DSG secretariat.

▪ **Firing Range**

The secretary noted that DSRL, on behalf of NDA, would be holding a drop-in session at Reay Village Hall on Thursday 17th January 2013 to outline plans to construct a new training facility for the Civil Nuclear Constabulary firearms officers. A leaflet providing summary information was provided at the meeting for information. Members were invited to attend the drop-in session.

▪ **ONR**

Peter Watson indicated that he had a clash of meetings for two of the sub group meetings. For that reason his colleagues would cover future meetings Sheila Hutchison would attend the (April meeting and Ryan Maitland the September meeting.

▪ **Apprentices**

Alastair MacDonald noted that Rolls Royce had 16 apprentices going through training at present. He felt they should be commended for their ongoing support to

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

Anne Chard
DSG Site Restoration sub group, vice-chair
20th January 2013

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

STATUS OF ACTIONS

ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A001: DSRL to provide a timeline for the engineering studies associated with the low level waste concrete cracking.

DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A002: DSRL to provide information to DSG (and Buldoo residents) of the positioning of the 3rd vault once it had been discussed in detail with NDA and regulators.

DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A003: DSRL to provide information to DSG on the consolidated plan.

DSG/SRSG(2013)M001/A004: All members to provide comment on NDA's draft business plan to the DSG secretariat.

ACTIONS COMPLETED SINCE LAST MEETING

DSG(2012)M003/A003: Secretary to ask DSRL to provide a presentation on DSRL contracts at next main DSG meeting (September). **Action complete** – presentation to be provided at December meeting.

DSG(2012)M003/A006: Secretary to write back to Maritime and Coastguards asking for a response to previous correspondence. **Action complete** – see DSG(2012)C068

DSG(2012)M003/A007: Secretary to circulate DSRL's socio economic elements paper for further consideration. **Action complete** – DSG(2012)C019 circulated on 22nd July 2012.

DSG(2012)M003/A008: Secretary to ask Rolls Royce whether the £30M contract award related to work being taken at the Vulcan site. **Action complete** – John Hook emailed on 23rd July confirming that the £30M related to work at Vulcan.

DSG(2012)M003/A009: Dyan Foss to provide a brief on the WRACS supercompactor. **Action complete** – see DSG(2012)C065.

DSG(2012)M003/A010: Secretary to put interim site end state on agenda for site restoration sub group as a standing item. **Action complete** - on agenda for next site restoration sub group meeting (7th November 2012).

DSG(2012)M003/A011: Secretary to ensure conventional safety is discussed at DSG Review working group. **Action complete** – discussed at DSG review meeting on 13th August 2012.

DSG(2012)M003/A012: Secretary to write to NDA to ask for examples of the type of projects that could attract funding from the £15M research and development fund. **Action complete:** Information on the fund can be found here: <http://www.innovateuk.org/content/competition/developing-the-civil-nuclear-power->

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

[supply-chain1.ashx](#). The closing date for registration is 2nd September therefore there are no specific examples available at present.

DSG(2012)M003/A013: Secretary to invite Nigel Lowe to next DSG business meeting to further discuss Exotic fuel lifetime costs. **Action complete** – Nigel Lowe attended Business meeting on 17th August 2012.

DSG(2012)M003/A014: Site Restoration sub group members to provide the Secretary with any comments on ONR's consultation on bulk quantity of waste (supplementary consultation). **Action complete** – see DSG(2012)C064.

DSG(2012)M003/A015: Site Restoration sub group members to provide the Secretary with any comments on SEPA's consultation on LLW authorisation. **Action complete** – see DSG(2012)C072.

DSG(2012)M003/A023: Nigel Lowe, NDA to highlight skills from Caithness (on liquid metal technology and fast reactors) to NDA Project Team responsible for R&D projects. **Action complete** – Nigel Lowe confirmed that he had highlighted Caithness skills to the NDA project team and also to Adrian Simper (Strategy). They were open and positive to the discussion and are keen to utilise the skill set in the local community.

DSG(2012)M004/A003: Secretary to write to Ken Dyke to agree a date to meet to discuss DSG Review after 3rd December and before 12th December. **Action complete** – meeting held in December following DSG meeting.

DSG (2012)M004/A010: Graham Beaven to provide short summary on non-radioactive waste process. **Action complete** – see **DSG(2012)C086**.

DSG (2012)M004/A011: Secretary to speak to DSRL to see how consistent figures can be used between performance report and swipe-in system. **Action complete:** The performance report records the numbers of employees (and contractors with gate held passes) while the site access data records those people who swipe in on a daily basis. On any given day there is a number of staff that do not enter the site for various reasons, ie shift workers, those on maternity leave, the low level waste project team, Dounreay.com personnel. As an example in December there was 266 people (for the reasons detailed above) who did not enter the site.

DSG (2012)M004/A012: Peter Watson, ONR to check with colleagues to ensure ONR is satisfied with actions taken by DSRL in D2001 Waste Processing Cell. **Action complete** – see **DSG/SRSG(2012)M004**.

DSG (2012)M004/A014: Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme, to provide an update on NDA's response to the National Audit Office's report on Sellafield. **Action complete:** report on NAO website:
http://www.nao.org.uk/publications/1213/sellafield_risk_reduction.aspx

DSG(2012)M004/A015: Dyan Foss to provide DSG with information on size of vaults at the new low level waste facility. **Action complete** – diagrams with dimensions provided at Site Restoration sub group on 16th January 2013 – DSG(2013)C004 refers.

Endorsed on 17th April 2013

DSG(2012)M004/A015a: DSRL to discuss procurement topics with representatives of the Chamber of Commerce and the Caithness Contractors Consortium. **Action complete** – meeting held on 23rd January 2013.