

# NDA Monthly Update

## May 2013

### Summary

- NDA statement on Government's response to Sellafield report
- ILW storage options in England and Wales
- FED treatment options published
- ILW storage options in central and southern Scotland
- Magnox and RSRL competition bidders meet stakeholders
- Date announced for Supply Chain Event 2013
- Nuclear material transferred from Harwell
- Business Plan published
- Latest Insight magazine available
- LLWR contract extended
- £31 million for nuclear technologies
- Last Berkeley boilers on the move
- Action plan for smaller businesses

### Diary Dates

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|--|--------------------|
| • Direct Research Portfolio forward plan       | May                |
| • Plutonium strategic direction published      | Spring/summer 2013 |
| • Official opening of Dalton Cumbrian Facility | Summer             |
| • National Stakeholder Event                   | 21-22 October      |

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### NDA statement on Government response to Sellafield report

The Government has responded to the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee report on managing risk at Sellafield, agreeing with the Committee's six main recommendations and setting clear targets for the NDA to enable their achievement. John Clarke, NDA Chief Executive Officer said: "We have worked closely with the National Audit Office and engaged openly with the Public Accounts Committee to recognise and agree key issues that need to be progressed."

[Weblink: Response to PAC recommendations](#)

### ILW options in England and Wales

The NDA has published a paper on Interim ILW Storage Facilities at Magnox Ltd and existing EDF Energy sites in England and Wales. A number of options have been identified, in line with the NDA's Strategy which states that centralised and multi-site approaches should be considered if this delivers benefits. The paper will now be subject to a period of consultation before a preferred option is published later in the year.

[Weblink: ILW option papers](#)

### FED treatment options

The NDA has also published options on facilities for the treatment and dissolution of Fuel Element Debris (FED) at a number of Magnox sites. A number of options have been identified, in line with the NDA's Strategy which states that centralised and multi-site approaches should be considered if this delivers benefits. The paper will now be subject to a period of consultation before a preferred option is published later in the year.

[Weblink: FED option papers](#)

### Preferred option for ILW in central and southern Scotland

The NDA has now completed its study of options for the storage of Intermediate Level Waste in central and southern Scotland, concluding that there would be benefits in storing Hunterston B waste at Hunterston A's store. This is in line with NDA's Strategy which states that centralised and multi-site approaches should be considered. The preferred option for other sites in the region is to remain with the current approach of building an interim storage facility at each site. Stakeholders were involved in the consultation exercise and their views were taken into account during the process.

[Weblink: Preferred option on ILW storage in central and southern Scotland](#)

### Stakeholders and bidders meet

A series of meetings around the UK have enabled local stakeholders to meet members of the bidding teams who are taking part in the £7 billion competition for ownership of the Magnox and RSRL SLCs. Four events were held in Scotland, Wales and England,

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where representatives from site stakeholder groups and local government shared their views on socio-economics and other issues with the four consortia. The NDA is currently engaged in the information-gathering dialogue phase of the procurement exercise, while site visits have also been taking place. Following the submission of tenders and a period of evaluation, the preferred bidder will be announced next year.

[Weblink: Magnox and RSRL Parent Body Organisation competition](#)

### Supply chain event returns for 2013

The NDA estate's showcase Supply Chain Event has moved to a bigger venue that will be able to host even more visitors and exhibitors. Last year's event in Bolton, Lancashire, attracted more than 700 delegates from across the country, including existing supply chain members and those who were new to nuclear decommissioning. For 2013, the venue will be EventCity in Manchester, on 13 November, which is able to accommodate up to 1,000 people including 200 exhibitors. Launched three years ago, the annual event is organised jointly by the NDA and its SLCs.

[Weblink: Bigger venue for supply chain event](#)

### Nuclear material leaves Harwell

The first consignment of nuclear material from Harwell, in the form of Contact-Handled Intermediate Level Waste (CHILW), has been safely transported by rail to Sellafield. The start of the transports follows publication of the NDA's preferred option for the long-term management of the material, concluding that there was a clear and compelling strategic case for transferring the materials to Sellafield for interim storage in appropriate facilities.

[Weblink: Harwell material movements](#)

### Business Plan published

The NDA has published its 2013-16 Business Plan outlining delivery priorities for the period. A total of £3.2 billion will be spent on cleaning up the nuclear legacy during the next financial year with 55% allocated to hazard reduction at Sellafield, the top priority.

[Weblink: Business Plan 2013-2016](#)

### News magazine published

The latest edition of the NDA's news magazine Insight has now been published and is available both electronically and in hard copy.

[Weblink: Insight published](#)

### Repository contract extended for five years

The international consortium UK Nuclear Waste Management (UKNWM) has been awarded another five-year term to manage LLW Repository Ltd (LLWR). This follows the

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successful implementation and delivery of key commitments since the NDA awarded the contract in 2008. The contract covers the management and operations of the national Low Level Waste Repository near Drigg in West Cumbria and the development and implementation of the National Low Level Waste Strategy. The contract has realised around £30 million in savings, extended the life of the LLWR facility, reduced volumes of waste bound for the repository and seen the opening a new vault.

[Weblink: Contract extended](#)

### Multi-million pound injection for new technologies

Decommissioning research projects were among the beneficiaries when Business Secretary Vince Cable announced major collaborative funding awards that will enhance the nuclear supply chain and increase opportunities to commercialise new technologies. The funding, provided by a range of public bodies, will support 35 projects in developing new technologies for the construction, operation and decommissioning of UK nuclear power plants. This will bring together more than 60 organisations including multinational corporations, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and universities. The £18 million joint funding between the Technology Strategy Board, the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the NDA and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) is expected to leverage in an additional £13 million.

[Weblink: Funding award](#)

### Berkeley waves off last boilers

Berkeley town in Gloucestershire came to a standstill when the last two boilers were removed from the nearby nuclear site to be shipped off for recycling. The first five boilers, each weighing more than 25 London buses, were removed in 2012 and have now been smelted, recycling up to 95% of the metal. A further eight boilers were transported earlier this year. The original plan was to leave the boilers in situ until final clearance of the site in 2074, when they would have been consigned to the LLWR in Cumbria for disposal.

[Weblink: Boilers on the move](#)

### New action plan to support smaller businesses

The NDA has published a three-year plan to support greater opportunities for smaller businesses seeking to work in the UK's decommissioning market. The Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Action Plan builds on initiatives already under way across the NDA estate. The NDA's plan sets a challenging target of 20% of annual sub-contract spend (both direct and indirect) – at least £300 million - to SMEs by 2015, almost doubling the currently reported level. Half the NDA's current £3 billion annual budget is spent with the supply chain, via the SLCs.

[Weblink: SME Action Plan](#)