

## **DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2013 in the Pentland Hotel, Thurso.

Present:	Bob Earnshaw	Acting Chairman (Thurso Community Council)
	Alastair MacDonald	DSG Honorary member
	Nicola Dreaves	Caithness Chamber of Commerce
	John Green	Caithness Voluntary Group
	Gordon Jenkins	North Highland College
	Alan Scott	Caithness Contractors Consortium
	John Deighan	Dounreay Unions
	Roy Kirk	Highlands and Islands Enterprise
	Eann Sinclair	Caithness & NS Regeneration Partnership
	Cllr Willie Mackay	Highland Council
	Deirdre Henderson	Buldoe Residents Group
	Thelma MacKenzie	Wick and Thurso Trade Union Council
	Cllr Roger Saxon	Highland Council
In addition:	Roger Hardy	Managing Director, Dounreay
	Mark Rouse	Managing Director, Dounreay (designate)
	Nigel Lowe	NDA
	Roger Wilson	SEPA
	Lt Cdr Rory Stewart	MOD, Vulcan
	Peter Watson	ONR (Dounreay)
	Mike Turner	(ONR Transport)
	Ian Miller	DNSR (Vulcan)
	Martin MacDonald	Scottish Government, Radwaste
	June Love	DSG Secretariat, DSRL

## **MINUTES**

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Bob Earnshaw welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reported, that DSG members had just held the Annual General meeting and new office bearers had been elected, as follows:

- David Flear: Chairman
- Anne Chard: Vice-Chair
- Derrick Milnes: Socio economic sub group chairman
- Bob Earnshaw: Site Restoration sub group chairman

Bob noted that for continuity he would continue in the chair for this meeting.

He welcomed Mark Rouse, Managing Director, Dounreay (designate), Mike Turner, ONR (Transport) and Rob Campbell (ONR) to the meeting.

### **2. APOLOGIES**

Apologies have been received from:

- Ross Mackenzie Health Service
- Cllr Alex MacLeod Highland Council
- Cllr Michael Stout Shetland Islands Council
- David Mudie Highland Council, Planning
- Ronnie Johnstone Church of Scotland
- Cllr Maurice Davidson Orkney Islands Council
- Cllr George Farlow Highland Council
- Jean Lipa Association of Caithness Community Councils
- Derrick Milnes Thurso & Wick Trades Council (Thelma Mackenzie deputising)
- Iain Leslie SGRIPD
- Trudy Morris Chamber of Commerce (Nicola Dreaves deputising)
- Anne Chard Caithness West Community Council
- Sandy Mackie Scrabster Harbour Trust
- David Flear DSG Vice-chairman
- Cdr Ken Dyke MOD Vulcan (Lt Cdr Rory Stewart)
- Rob Wharton ONR (for Vulcan)

The secretary noted that Cllr Michael Stout, Shetland Islands Council, had resigned from DSG due to personal reasons. Shetland Islands Council was now seeking a new representative. Bob Earnshaw noted Cllr Stout's contribution to the DSG in the short time he had been a member and asked that DSG's thanks be recorded to him.

### **3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

Bob Earnshaw noted that the minutes had been circulated in advance to members – DSDG(2012)M003 refers. John Green stated that he had been omitted from the attendance at the December meeting. June Love responded she would amend the minutes to reflect John Green's attendance. [Secretary's note – John Green's attendance has now been added to endorsed minutes.]

The minutes were taken as a true reflection of the meeting. This was proposed by John Deighan and seconded by Alan Scott.

No issues were raised from the minutes.

### **4. STATUS OF ACTIONS**

An updated status of actions had been circulated to members in advance. Bob Earnshaw noted that the majority of actions had been completed. Those outstanding were related to the National Nuclear Archives and these would be raised with the Project Manager at a meeting to be held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

No issues were raised from the status of actions.

### **5. UPDATE FROM VULCAN**

Bob Earnshaw noted that the Vulcan update had been provided at the Site Restoration sub group meeting held in January. Of note:

- Bob Earnshaw and David Flear had met with Commander Dyke following the December DSG meeting. The presentation in December had been useful in setting

out the timescales for considering the future of the Vulcan site and DSG will continue to ask for updates at the appropriate time.

- Rolls Royce had provided a written update (DSG(2013)C017 refers). The full report had been circulated to members and will be taken forward at the next site operations sub group meeting. In summary the report outlined:
  - focus on the safe delivery of the current PWR2 Reactor operations.
  - Safety performance is key and there had been no accidents since the last meeting.
  - There is an increase in the amount of additional contract work on detailed preparations for on site in the immediate/short-term period of 2015-2021.
  - Rolls Royce is progressing the design, development and manufacture of the Next Generation PWR3 reactor cores and plant for the UK's nuclear powered submarine fleet. Along with their continued support and development of current in-service operations with PWR2 plant underpins their submarines business going forward for in excess of 40 years.

On a personal note, Bob stated it was good to hear that Rolls Royce were continuing to develop their specific business planning and maturing their options on the future utilisation and deployment of their nuclear skills in Caithness in 2020 and beyond.

Update from MOD, Vulcan. Lt Cdr Rory Stewart reported:

- The plant was currently shutdown for scheduled maintenance and on course to start-up again in May/June.
- Rolls Royce were actively seeking new contracts to continue utilising the site workforce in Caithness.
- The next emergency exercise was planned for 19<sup>th</sup> June 2013.

Update from DNSR (Vulcan): Ian Miller reported:

- Key focus for DNSR activities over next several years will be to conduct assessments and inspections relating to Vulcan's future programme.
- DNSR is main area is to ensure nuclear and radiological safety on the site. They will sample significant safety submissions to ensure they are satisfied.

Update from SEPA: Roger Wilson reported:

- He had been appointed as site inspector for Vulcan in mid 2012.
- He had visited site on a number of occasions including the induction course.

- He had commenced the process of inspecting the site against compliance.

Roger noted that the Vulcan site was owned by the Crown and hence was different from the Dounreay site in that there was a letter of agreement in existence.

- He had started working with DNSR and they would work jointly in assessing the site's environmental performance.

Ian Miller added that DNSR, ONR and SEPA worked closely together to ensure safety critical work continued.

There were no issues raised by members.

## **6. BUSINESS MEETING UPDATE**

Bob Earnshaw noted that the business meeting had met on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2013 – DSG/BM(2013)M001 refers. Of note:

- The forthcoming meeting on the National Nuclear Archives had been postponed due to personal reasons. A new date (25<sup>th</sup> March 2013) had been identified.
- The paperwork for the Annual General Meeting had been reviewed.
- The DSG external review recommendations were agreed and actions identified to close out the recommendations. [Outstanding actions from the review are recorded within these minutes.]
- The chairman had written to Rob Gibson to ask if he could encourage Transport Scotland to make progress with the Berriedale Braes study.
- A request had been sent to NDA to ask how they plan to pursue the GDF location following the negative vote by Cumbria.
- Following the DSG review last year one of the recommendations was to increase the capacity and expertise of the DSG membership. The Terms of Reference allows for five members of the public to be co-opted if there was a gap in expertise. An advertisement for volunteers had been published at the end of February and a number of applications received. The business meeting officials would review the applications and hope to have new members in place in time for the sub group meetings to be held in April.

No issues were raised by members.

For completeness the actions from the Business Meeting are recorded here:

**DSG(2013)M001/A001:** June Love to circulate actions relating to the National Nuclear Archives when confirming venue for meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> February.

**DSG(2013)M001/A002:** June Love to write to Anna MacConnell enquiring if she had received an update on progress from Transport Scotland on Berriedale Braes.

**DSG (2013)M001/A003:** Secretary to update AGM paperwork and distribute to member at the end of February 2013.

**DSG (2013)M001/A004:** Secretary to request a presentation by DSRL on consolidated plan.

**DSG(2013)M001/A005:** Secretary to update agenda to include presentation by DSRL on consolidated plan.

**DSG(2013)M001/A006:** DSG Business meeting members to provide secretary with comments on DSG review paper.

**DSG(2013)M001/A007:** Secretary to request NDA's strategy and timeline for the next step for the GDF location.

**DSG(2013)M001/A008:** DSG to advertise (via website and cascade through memberships etc) vacancies for members of the public to join DSG but focussing on those who have a background in health, safety, environment, waste and contractual matters.

**DSG(2013)M001/A009:** Identify project related work to get young people (school students) involved.

**DSG(2013)M001/A010:** NDA, Site and Regulator's reports should be provided to DSG 10 working days before sub group meetings.

**DSG(2013)M001/A011:** The Site End State to become a standing agenda item for site restoration sub group.

**DSG(2013)M001/A012:** Request to Vulcan for site visit and a presentation at main DSG meeting.

**DSG(2013)M001/A013:** Scottish Gov to be asked to set meeting dates on a yearly basis and ensure paperwork is provided to SSG's 12 working days before meetings take place.

**DSG(2013)M001/A014:** Chairman to write to DSRL and Vulcan requesting detailed reports on the outcome of emergency planning exercises.

**DSG(2013)M001/A015:** DSG Secretary to work with DSRL to identify a rolling programme of activities.

**DSG(2013)M001/A016:** To revise Terms of Reference to ensure that socio economics at Vulcan is included.

**DSG(2013)M001/A017:** To focus on the Dounreay Socio Economic Plan to hold NDA/Dounreay account on deliverables but not precluding the wider regeneration programme.

**DSG(2013)M001/A018:** To ensure CNSRP programme manager continues to provide an over-arching document which demonstrates NDA/Dounreay deliverables fits into overall CNSRP programme.

**DSG(2013)M001/A019:** To put a standing agenda item for large contracts on both site restoration and socio economic sub group meetings.

**DSG(2013)M001/A020:** To provide a guidance note of the roles and responsibilities of members representing DSG on various meetings.

**DSG(2013)M001/A021:** Chair/Vice chair to carry out inductions for new members.

**DSG(2013)M001/A022:** Communications to become a standing agenda item on DSG business meeting. .

## **7. SITE RESTORATION SUB GROUP UPDATE**

Bob Earnshaw reported that the Site Restoration sub group had met on the 16<sup>th</sup> January. The minutes had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting – DSG/SRSG(2013)M001 refers. Of note:

### **DSRL sub group update:**

- DSRL's consolidated lifetime plan had now been approved by NDA.
- A third shipment of fuel had taken place from Dounreay to Sellafield.
- The concrete pours for the new low level waste facility were nearing completion.
- There had been a discussion on the potential re-use of buildings when identifying areas of the site for demolition. At present the plan was to optimise demolitions by zones. NDA and DSRL had confirmed they would consider cases for re-use if identified and there was a robust business case to support it.

Bob Earnshaw invited Roger Hardy to provide an update. Roger Hardy noted he would cover his update in his presentation (see agenda item 9).

### **ONR sub group update:**

- Six visits had taken place since the last meeting.
- Asset management had been reviewed and ONR were satisfied that this was being appropriately managed.
- A number of inspections had been undertaken including reactor and fuel storage facility inspections and modifications to PFR plant and equipment.
- Satisfactory progress was being made with the new laboratories.

Peter Watson provided a verbal update. Of note:

Final – endorsed at meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013

- The ONR report for October to December 2012 was now available on ONR's website.
- This had been a busy period for ONR with a number of personnel on site for the Annual Review of Safety.
- The criticality incident detection and alarm system had been inspected and ONR were satisfied with the systems in place.
- The scenario for the next emergency exercise was currently being developed. The exercise was expected to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013.
- Dialogue continued with DSRL, Highland Council, NDA and SEPA on waste management and site remediation.
- Good decommissioning progress was being made in a number of Fuel Cycle Area plants.

Mike Turner noted he had nothing to add.

**SEPA sub group update:**

- SEPA inspectors had visited WRACS and were satisfied with the ongoing work to replace the supercompactor.
- The RSA authorisation consultation closed with 14 responses received. [NB: A brief on the changes to the discharges had been requested by Orkney Islands Council, DSG(2013)C019 refers.]
- SEPA had granted the authorisation to DSRL to dispose of low level waste in the new facility. [NB: this is a separate authorisation to the RSA authorisation reported above.]
- DSRL also confirmed that there was a requirement for a 3<sup>rd</sup> vault to be constructed. At the time of the meeting the location for this vault had not been identified and DSRL had been actioned to inform DSG when the location was known. Subsequently correspondence had been received from DSRL – DSG(2013)C013 refers.
- SEPA was questioned on the report of thermal cracking which had occurred in the walls of the demolition waste vault at the low level waste facility. SEPA confirmed this did not impinge on the need to satisfy authorisation conditions. DSRL had also intimated they would be carrying out a study on the cracking and NDA also confirmed they would carry out a separate independent study as well as the regulators keeping a watchful eye on this.

Bob Earnshaw invited those present to provide an update on the status of the thermal cracking reports.

Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme, reported that the NDA had received the engineering report relating to the thermal cracking in the Low Level Waste vaults from DSRL and confirmed the analysis was correct and supports the remediation plan.

Roger Wilson noted they had identified an ONR resource that would provide a report on DSRL's assessment of the issue.

Roger Wilson provided a verbal update. Of note:

- Compliance with authorisations: In 2012 sites with radioactive discharge authorisations were subject to an assessment scheme. Three authorisations were currently in place for the site (NB this did not include the authorisation for disposing of Low Level Waste in the new facility). The compliance assessment found that the position with discharges for the site were excellent (gas), good (liquid) and excellent (waste).

SEPA were still in the process of determining the proposed new discharge authorisation for liquid, gas and waste.

- Discussions continued with DSRL, ONR, and NDA on the clean-up criteria to allow the site to reach its Interim End State.
- An improved detection system for the monitoring of beaches for particles was trialled in February 2012. The trial was successful and modifications to the detection system would be made.
- DSRL had hosted a visit by SEPA and the Environmental Agency (EA). The EA is the Environmental Regulator in England and Wales and SEPA work closely with EA to ensure best practice.



- The announcement by the NDA to build the National Nuclear Archives in Wick.

Bob Earnshaw also noted that since the last sub group meeting NDA has announced that the Exotic fuel will be transported to Sellafield and that the NDA briefing for March had just been received and circulated to members (DSG(2013)C018 refers). Both these topics would be the subject of discussion at the next sub group meeting.

Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme provided a verbal update. Of note:

- Confirmation that NDA had received the new life time plan following completion of consolidated in December.
- The contract was nearing its first year end and NDA were currently considering key milestones for the coming year.
- From a previous DSG query, relating to the National Audit Office (NAO) regarding Sellafield, Nigel Lowe confirmed that the NDA had accepted the NAO's report and an action plan has now been developed to address the issues within the report. A lot of the issues identified have a long-lead time to deal with due to the fact that some are a legacy from the civil nuclear programme dating back to the 1950s. He noted that the NAO had been complementary to the NDA for its openness and thoroughness of their response.

No issues were raised by members.

Bob Earnshaw noted that Martin MacDonald, Scottish Government was in attendance and invited him to provide a verbal update. Martin MacDonald noted:

- DSG's response to the Scottish Government's Procurement Bill consultation.
- The comments and support for the National Nuclear Archives.
- DSG had written to Scottish Government requesting forward dates for the Higher Activity Waste Implementation Project Board meetings. The Secretary noted that a letter had now been received with forward dates for 2013.
- The NDA's business plan was with Scottish Ministers for approval and a response was expected at the end of the month.

Martin also thanked Bob Earnshaw, as outgoing Chairman, for his work over the past three years.

Before opening up to members for questions Bob Earnshaw noted that following the sub group meetings in January, DSG had responded to:

- the NDA's consultation on the draft business plan – DSG(2013)C005 refers.
- Some DSG members had visited the drop-in session to outline plans to construct a new firing range. It appeared that most of those who attended had concerns about the proposed location. Further updates from DSRL had been provided and a planning application had been submitted to Highland Council.

Roger Saxon asked why DSRL had taken the decision to locate the new firing range off-site. Roger Hardy responded that the existing firing range on site did not meet the standards required for firearms training. All potential options had been considered and the location selected was on NDA land and the most cost-effective solution.

Roger Saxon felt it was a lot of money for a facility which will only be required for 10-15 years. He noted that there had been concerns voiced by local residents and believed they should make these views known to Highland Council through the planning process. Roger Hardy noted the cost of building a new facility but re-iterated that it was a cheaper option in the long-term. Training was extremely expensive and when travel, subsistence and replacement officers for on-site security purposes were included the costs escalated. The proposed new firing range was a cost effective solution.

No further issues were raised.

For completeness actions from the Site Restoration sub group are recorded here:

**DSG(2013)M001/A023:** DSRL to provide a timeline for the engineering studies associated with the low level waste concrete cracking.

**DSG(2013)M001/A024:** DSRL to provide information to DSG (and Buldoo residents) of the positioning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> vault once it had been discussed in detail with NDA and regulators.

**DSG(2013)M001/A025:** DSRL to provide information to DSG on the consolidated plan.

**DSG(2013)M001/A026:** All members to provide comment on NDA's draft business plan to the DSG secretariat.

## **8. SOCIO ECONOMIC SUB GROUP UPDATE**

Bob Earnshaw stated that Derrick Milnes had been unable to attend the meeting. Bob Earnshaw provided the update from the Socio Economic sub group meeting. The sub group met on 16<sup>th</sup> January and minutes had been circulated in advance to members – DSG/SESG(2013)M001 refers. Of note:

- A number of community fund applications were endorsed.
- An update had been received from Direct Rail Services and a number of suggestions were made for commercial freight to the project manager.
- The NDA reported that discussions were ongoing with Wick harbour regarding a potential funding application to support their business plan. NDA is working with HIE on this project.
- A meeting with the National Nuclear Archives project manager would now take place on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2013.
- DSG were pleased to hear that there are a couple of enquiries for the potential use of NDA land. While there is an understanding of the commercial sensitivities

surrounding such enquiries it was useful to know there are enquiries coming forward. DSG was fully supportive of NDA considering re-use of land.

Nigel Lowe noted DSG's support to re-use of NDA land. He added that this would be an ongoing activity and they were very eager to consider other proposals.

- The Chamber of Commerce had taken over the management contract for the North Highland Regeneration Fund.
- The Caithness & North Sutherland Fund had undertaken a review of its first year of operation. An invitation will be extended to John Henderson to attend the next sub group meeting to update members. Discussions on the number of potential funds in the county had ensued and DSG are supportive of new funds coming in are administered by established bodies rather than setting up new ones.
- Dounreay provided the sub group with an update on the progress of delivering the actions set out in the site's socio economic plan.

Bob Earnshaw noted that DSG members had an opportunity to input into content of the new plan which will be implemented in April 2013.

- Early discussions were ongoing with two organisations to consider whether they would meet the criteria for funding through the NDA/DSRL funding process.
- Back office services were being considered focussing on services that could potentially support other industries into the future. The report had been submitted to NDA and actions to be undertaken going forward will be outlined in the new socio economic plan.
- The site was also working on a workforce transition programme and all DSRL staff will have the opportunity to speak to their line management on the future of their current job, redeployment in Dounreay in the short term and aspirations for beyond Dounreay.

Nigel Lowe reported he had nothing new to add.

Roger Hardy was also content that all aspects had been covered. He thanked DSG members for their contribution to the workshop on the Socio Economic Plan and emphasised the importance of getting community feedback.

- Bob Earnshaw noted that following the presentation made in December regarding socio economic criteria in Dounreay contracts Trudy Morris and Alan Scott had met with DSRL and NDA to discuss this. An action had been placed on DSG to produce a paper on what they would like contractors to consider in terms of socio economics when bidding for work on the site. While DSG recognised, under EU procurement rules, DSRL could not score socio economics within a tender all bidders would be encouraged to submit a socio economic plan as part of their tender documents. The paper was currently in draft and would be discussed at the next socio economic sub group meeting. Bob thanked Trudy and Alan for taking this forward.

John Deighan asked who owned the crane at Georgemas. Nigel Lowe responded that it was under the ownership of DRS (Direct Rail Services). DRS were pursuing non-Dounreay activities and a number of discussions had commenced. The secretary noted that this had also been discussed at the Caithness Transport Forum and DRS would be invited to attend that forum.

Bob Earnshaw noted that CNSRP had provided a written update at the sub group meeting – DSG(2013)P001 refers. Of note:

- CNSRP had identified and agreed four priority projects to take forward into the coming year. These were Scrabster Harbour, Wick Harbour, Wick/John O' Groats airport and one inward investment project. More detail would be available shortly on what the CNSRP will do to support these projects.
- Eann Sinclair has taken over the Ambitious for Tourism role from Rachel Skene.

Eann Sinclair, CNSRP provided a verbal update. Of note:

- The CNSRP Executive Board had approved the four priority projects (described earlier – see above).
- CNSRP Programme Manager had attended the ETEC Stakeholder meeting and it was pleasing to see the good progress with the community apprentice programme. There was encouraging signs of potential uses for the facility with one of the links to be tested being the marine link with Orkney College.
- ETEC also hosted the 'Jobs and How to Get Them' event organised by the Chamber of Commerce. This had been a successful event with over 300 people visiting the 40 business/organisation exhibitors.
- The Caithness Transport Forum had met recently and HIAL had attended the meeting. HIAL confirmed they were developing a business plan for the airport.
- There was also some good news with 2-3 companies advertising for new jobs within the last week which was an encouraging sign.
- A meet the buyer event was being held with regards to the new Wick school builds.
- On tourism, Glasgow School of Arts work was progressing. A cluster group had now been formed and there would be an update held in Caithness Horizons next week.

Alastair MacDonald asked if anyone was considering suitable accommodation for young people moving into the area. Gordon Jenkins responded that he was not aware of any issues regarding accommodation.

John Deighan asked if the North Highland College worked with Nigg. Gordon Jenkins responded that NHC delivered training with staff visiting Nigg to carry out the verifications.

Alan Scott re-iterated the success of the 'Jobs and How to Get Them' event. However, he noted that it was slightly depressing to see the numbers of people coming through the

doors looking for apprenticeships. He stated that while everyone was aware of the potential skills shortage for engineers it appeared apprentice intakes were going down. Roger Hardy responded that Dounreay would be taking on one additional apprentice this year. Gordon Jenkins also noted that the local supply chain had difficulty in considering taking on additional apprentices, however he was pleased with the community apprenticeships which were being managed by NHC and they would be looking to build on this programme for future years.

Alan Scott felt that confidence was needed in the county for local companies to invest in apprenticeships. Having looked at the Dounreay staffing forecasts it was apparent that apprentice in-takes would cease in about six years. He felt there was something more to be done to encourage apprenticeships in engineering.

Gordon Jenkins noted that NHC had worked hard to keep construction apprenticeships and these were subsidised by the college. The college would continue with this as long as there was funding to continue. John Deighan responded that NHC should be commended for the engineering and construction apprenticeships. He hoped that the college would get buy-in from local companies.

Roger Saxon noted the number of construction projects just about to start in the area. He hoped this would also allow the college to continue with the apprenticeship for construction. Gordon Jenkins assured the group that NHC was actively working on continuing with these schemes. John Deighan stated that some of the community funding related to wind farms should be targeted for education and apprenticeships. Bob Earnshaw echoed this and believed that there was growing community support for funding to be diverted into an educational trust.

Caithness Chamber of Commerce sub group update:

- The second year targets for Make the Right Connections had been met with 400 beneficiaries going through training equating to 700 training courses.
- Business start up courses were being organised for mid-February.
- The Caithness Transport Forum is now under the facilitation of the Chamber.
- Involved with Scottish Chambers on a number of events including SMART Exporter and a biomass information day.
- Representatives of the Chamber would be attending the Best of Britain exhibition/ conference in Birmingham.

Nicola Dreaves provided a verbal update. Of note:

- Via the Invest Caithness brand a brochure had been produced to inform Cruise liner operators of the tourism offering in Caithness.
- The Chamber was now offering two new services to members, these being Tax Credits and Foreign Exchange.

- On the ‘Jobs and How to Get Them’ event the Chamber had been extremely pleased with the positive feedback received from both visitors and participants.

Bob Earnshaw noted that a number of DSG representatives had been involved in the Highland Council’s charrette meetings held in Thurso and Wick. He stated that the presentations had been excellent and the people involved had put in an enormous amount of work. The information from the charrettes would inform the local development plan.

No further issues were raised.

For completeness the Socio Economic sub group actions are recorded here:

**DSG(2013)M001/A027:** Secretary to forward Dounreay Community Funding rules to Tom Curry, DRS.

**DSG(2013)M001/A028:** Eann Sinclair to provide a Highland Council contact (related to the new builds in Wick) with Direct Rail Services.

**DSG(2013)M001/A029:** Secretary to invite John Henderson, CNSF to attend next Socio Economic sub group meeting to update the group on the funding support provided from the Fund.

**DSG(2013)M001/A030:** Secretary to co-ordinate a suitable date for a workshop with DSG members (and other relevant stakeholders) to provide input for the new Socio Economic plan.

**DSG(2013)M001/A031:** Caithness Chamber of Commerce to ensure that British airways update website for Wick airport to Wick/John O’Groats airport.

**DSG(2013)M001/A032:** June Love to circulate information on Highland Council Charrettes to DSG members.

**DSG(2013)M001/A033:** All members to consider NDA’s business plan and provide comments to the secretary for collation into a response by DSG.

## **9. PRESENTATION ON DOUNREAY’S CONSOLIDATED PLAN**

Roger Hardy, Managing Director Dounreay provided the presentation. Of note:

- The consolidated plan was approved in December 2012.
- A lot of work had been undertaken to deliver the plan to NDA on schedule and there had been a good working relationship between the NDA and DSRL to achieve this.
- In developing the new lifetime plan the following was carried out in parallel:
  - Implications of new lifetime plan
  - New project strategy
  - Suitably qualified and experienced people
  - Confirm PCP compliance

- New SLC operating model
- As part of this there were some changes in the scope, which in turn had some impact on the schedule.
- The changes in scope included work which had not been completed before contract award which had to be carried over, some delays in DFR breeder fuel moves and the breakdown of the supercompactor.
- Before consolidation the shaft and silo was the critical path for the decommissioning programme. This had now changed with the DFR breeder fuel moves and breeder fuel reactor dismantling now on the critical path as a result of the delays in fuel moves. The first transport of breeder fuel had taken place in December 2012 and so far four moves had successfully taken place.
- Good progress is being made, in discussion with regulators, regarding bulk waste disposals. The existing site process was to take bulky items and cut them down into small sizes to fit into a container for disposal in the new low level waste facility. The new process, subject to regulator permissions, would be to take the bulk item and fill it with other low level waste before sentencing to the facility. This approach had the benefit of lower costs, better safety and lower dose to workers.
- Key to delivering the lifetime plan is moving people out of buildings so they can be left cold and dark before carrying out block demolitions by zoned areas. The main admin block (D2003) would be ready for demolition in 2017. There is a huge amount of work to do to get the logistics correct and at some point the site will be looking to decant people off-site into facilities elsewhere.
- The interim end state remains in the date range of 2022-2025. Currently it is more likely to be nearer 2025.
- Stable funding of approx £160M for the next six years has been confirmed by the NDA. However the staff numbers starts to drop off in 2018/19 and funding proportionally decreases at the same time.
- As intimated at the start of the contract it was expected that only a handful of people were not required. In year 1 that equated to about 12-14 people and no anticipated redundancies are expected in the next 5-6 years. However, following that there is a significant drop in required resources and it is going to happen.
- There is six years breathing space, in terms of socio economics, before 200-250 jobs start to go at Dounreay.

Roger noted that one of the reflections he would make during his time at Dounreay was that socio economics was a very hard thing to do but one of the most important in terms of building confidence in the area. He noted that the way the community comes together here was very important. He had been at a number of Babcock sites which had found themselves in similar circumstances which had not had the community support that Caithness had. He felt that the CNSRP was an excellent model and with the community behind it added more strength to the area. He encouraged everyone to continue to work

together on the airport, harbours and road improvements (Berriedale Braes) and stressed that transport connectivity was key to the area succeeding.

For CNSRP the time was right to start translating the words into actions and actions into delivery, the success criteria being the number of jobs created to replace the high valued jobs at Dounreay.

- Project deliverables for year 1 had mostly been achieved with very good work being undertaken in the waste and fuels area.
- The announcement of the transfer of exotic fuels to Sellafield would not affect the end date for the site. It was important to remember that by transferring the fuels from Dounreay means that the hazard is reduced.
- Reactor decommissioning is going well with DFR being the main focus.
- The Fuel Cycle Area is making good progress. Visitors to the plant are always impressed with what they see. Steve Beckitt and his team are doing a really good job.
- Shaft and Silo works are also progressing on schedule.
- Mark Rouse will become Managing Director, Dounreay from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014. Mark will report to Roger Hardy who will take over the chair of the DSRL Board. The DSRL Board will be making some changes to attendance with Elizabeth Grey and Robert Gray remaining in non-executive posts. The Board would meet more frequently.
- Roger Hardy would continue to lead on the socio economic contribution from the Dounreay site.

Roger noted that, while this was his last meeting of DSG as Managing Director, he would be in the county on a regular basis and suspected that this would not be his last DSG meeting. He wished Mark well in taking over the management of the Dounreay site.

Roger Saxon noted that the breakdown of the supercompactor had been unexpected, he asked whether this had resulted in delays to the programme. Roger Hardy reported that a new supercompactor would be delivered to site within the month. The NDA had provided support in obtaining a new supercompactor from Aldermaston that was no longer required. The old supercompactor had been taken out of the plant and preparations were in progress to get the new one installed which was expected to take a few months.

Alan Scott asked what, given the lifetime plan was going to take longer to achieve, the increase of costs was. Roger Hardy replied that the additional costs were quite modest because most of the work would not be affected. Fuel transports had been the biggest impact to the date of achieving the interim end state.

Nigel Lowe noted that when he provided a presentation on the new contract to DSG he had talked about the circle of success. This applied to the tolerance on cost and date and even with the new revised plan NDA were satisfied DSRL remained in that success circle.

Bob Earnshaw, while recognising the concept of putting buildings into cold and dark, questioned the maintenance regime for these buildings. Roger Hardy responded that the



building would be left in a safe condition and that a lot of effort had been put into understanding the maintenance requirements. NDA had asked the same question.

There being no further questions, Bob Earnshaw thanked Roger for the presentation.

#### **10. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Bob Earnshaw asked those attending as members of the public whether they wished to raise any issues.

David Broughton said he had been looking at the site closure programme. He asked about the programme of activity for the Dounreay Cementation Plant covering the different types of waste (ie material test reactor, PFR raffinates). Roger Hardy noted that the MTR raffinate would be processed through the cementation plant this calendar year. The schedule shows that there would be 5-6 years of continuous processing of waste through the cementation plant with the plant running 24/7. He stated that this was one of the busiest areas of the site and it would be important to get this right to process the existing waste volumes and the major waste volumes coming out of the reactors.

David Broughton noted the discussion earlier regarding discharge authorisation limits. He asked how this linked to the level of risk to the public and environment. Roger Wilson responded that the operator would firstly evaluate the effects on the environment. The assessment covered the effects of human health and flora/fauna with the primary focus being human health. SEPA then consider these effects through assessment of the authorisation. The Food Standards Agency also looks at this in relation to safety in the food chain and Health Protection Agency would look at the effects on humans. Roger Wilson added that this was a well established method of evaluating the effects of discharges.

#### **11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Bob Earnshaw thanked Roger Hardy for his involvement with DSG and wished him well for the future.

No further business was raised by members.

Bob Earnshaw said, on a personal note, he had enjoyed his last three years as Chairman. While he would continue his involvement with DSG he wanted to thank all members for their support during his chairmanship. He had moved to the area in 1977 and he and his family had benefited from all that Caithness had to offer and by taking an active role in DSG and Thurso Community Council he was trying to put something back into the community. John Deighan thanked Bob, on behalf of DSG members, for his commitment to DSG.

#### **12. CLOSE**

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

**Bob Earnshaw**  
**DSG Chairman (Acting)**  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2013

## **STATUS OF ACTIONS**

### **ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING**

DSG(2013)M001/A001: June Love to circulate actions relating to the National Nuclear Archives when confirming venue for meeting to be held on 20<sup>th</sup> February.

DSG(2013)M001/A002: June Love to write to Anna MacConnell enquiring if she had received an update on progress from Transport Scotland on Berriedale Braes.

DSG (2013)M001/A003: Secretary to update AGM paperwork and distribute to member at the end of February 2013.

DSG (2013)M001/A004: Secretary to request a presentation by DSRL on consolidated plan.

DSG(2013)M001/A005: Secretary to update agenda to include presentation by DSRL on consolidated plan.

DSG(2013)M001/A006: DSG Business meeting members to provide secretary with comments on DSG review paper.

DSG(2013)M001/A007: Secretary to request NDA's strategy and timeline for the next step for the GDF location.

DSG(2013)M001/A008: DSG to advertise (via website and cascade through memberships etc) vacancies for members of the public to join DSG but focussing on those who have a background in health, safety, environment, waste and contractual matters.

DSG(2013)M001/A009: Identify project related work to get young people (school students) involved.

DSG(2013)M001/A010: NDA, Site and Regulator's reports should be provided to DSG 10 working days before sub group meetings. .

DSG(2013)M001/A011: The Site End State to become a standing agenda item for site restoration sub group.

DSG(2013)M001/A012: Request to Vulcan for site visit and a presentation at main DSG meeting.

DSG(2013)M001/A013: Scottish Gov to be asked to set meeting dates on a yearly basis and ensure paperwork is provided to SSG's 12 working days before meetings take place.

DSG(2013)M001/A014: Chairman to write to DSRL and Vulcan requesting detailed reports on the outcome of emergency planning exercises.

DSG(2013)M001/A015: DSG Secretary to work with DSRL to identify a rolling programme of activities.

DSG(2013)M001/A016: To revise Terms of Reference to ensure that socio economics at Vulcan is included.

DSG(2013)M001/A017: To focus on the Dounreay Socio Economic Plan to hold NDA/Dounreay account on deliverables but not precluding the wider regeneration programme.

DSG(2013)M001/A018: To ensure CNSRP programme manager continues to provide an over-arching document which demonstrates NDA/Dounreay deliverables fits into overall CNSRP programme.

DSG(2013)M001/A019: To put a standing agenda item for large contracts on both site restoration and socio economic sub group meetings.

DSG(2013)M001/A020: To provide a guidance note of the roles and responsibilities of members representing DSG on various meetings.

DSG(2013)M001/A021: Chair/Vice chair to carry out inductions for new members.

DSG(2013)M001/A022: Communications to become a standing agenda item on DSG business meeting.

DSG(2013)M001/A023: DSRL to provide a timeline for the engineering studies associated with the low level waste concrete cracking.

DSG(2013)M001/A024: DSRL to provide information to DSG (and Buldoo residents) of the positioning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> vault once it had been discussed in detail with NDA and regulators.

DSG(2013)M001/A025: DSRL to provide information to DSG on the consolidated plan.

DSG(2013)M001/A026: All members to provide comment on NDA's draft business plan to the DSG secretariat.

DSG(2013)M001/A027: Secretary to forward Dounreay Community Funding rules to Tom Curry, DRS.

DSG(2013)M001/A028: Eann Sinclair to provide a Highland Council contact (related to the new builds in Wick) with Direct Rail Services.

DSG(2013)M001/A029: Secretary to invite John Henderson, CNSF to attend next Socio Economic sub group meeting to update the group on the funding support provided from the Fund.

DSG(2013)M001/A030: Secretary to co-ordinate a suitable date for a workshop with DSG members (and other relevant stakeholders) to provide input for the new Socio Economic plan.

DSG(2013)M001/A031: Caithness Chamber of Commerce to ensure that British airways update website for Wick airport to Wick/John O'Groats airport.

Final – endorsed at meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013

DSG(2013)M001/A032: June Love to circulate information on Highland Council Charrettes to DSG members.

DSG(2013)M001/A033: All members to consider NDA's business plan and provide comments to the secretary for collation into a response by DSG.