

NDA Monthly Update

October 2013

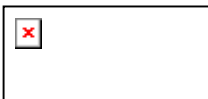
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Summary

- Sellafield contract extended
- Bidders invited to submit final tenders
- DECC launches consultation on site selection process for a GDF
- World-class nuclear research facility opens
- Increase in spending with smaller businesses
- NDA funding to support jobs growth

Diary Dates

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| • Credible options paper on Uranics | Autumn |
| • Magnox Strategy Contingency Options paper | Autumn |
| • National Stakeholder Event | 21-22 October |
| • NDA Estate Supply Chain Event 2013 | 13 November |



NDA Monthly Update – October 2013

Sellafield contract decision announced

The NDA has announced that the Sellafield contract with Nuclear Management Partners (the consortium comprising URS, AMEC and Areva) will be extended into a second five-year period. The first five-year period of the 17-year contract comes to an end in March 2014. NDA Chief Executive John Clarke said: "We are determined to drive improved performance. We have reviewed progress under the contract to date and concluded that the right decision is to extend the contract to give NMP further time to bring about the improvements in capability and performance at the site that we and they are looking for."

[Weblink: Contract extension](#)

Tenders invited

The four bidding consortia in the Magnox/RSRL competition have now been officially invited to submit their final tenders to the NDA. The Invitation to Submit Final Tenders (ITSFT) also marks the end of the nine-month information-gathering phase, where bidders were able to visit Magnox and RSRL sites, as well as take part in a series of formal face-to-face dialogue sessions with the NDA team. The identity of the Preferred Bidder will be announced in March 2014, followed by a period of transition before Share Transfer takes place in September.

[Weblink: Bidders invited to submit tenders](#)

DECC launches consultation on the site selection process for a GDF

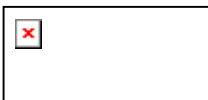
The Department for Energy and Climate Change has launched a public consultation on the site selection process for a Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) for higher activity radioactive waste. The consultation, which runs until 5 December and will include a series of regional public events, aims to gather views on how aspects of the siting process could be improved. The consultation document was drawn up following a Call for Evidence earlier in the year.

[Weblink: GDF siting process consultation document](#)

Dalton Cumbria Facility officially opens

West Cumbria is now home to a globally unique nuclear research, skills and education network after the official opening of a £20 million university research centre near Whitehaven. The Dalton Cumbria Facility (DCF), a joint investment by The University of Manchester and the NDA, will offer world-leading academic research into radiation science and nuclear engineering decommissioning. It adds to a network that includes the National Nuclear Laboratory at Sellafield, training centre Energus at Lillyhall and the Construction Skills Centre, near Workington.

[Weblink: Research facility opens](#)



NDA Monthly Update – October 2013

Increase in spending with smaller businesses

The NDA has published figures showing that overall levels of contract spending with smaller businesses are increasing across the estate. The 2012/13 increase gave Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) a 13% share of the estate's annual £1.6 billion supply chain spend, higher than the 11% recorded for the first time in 2010/11, and aiming for 20% by 2015. Last year, the NDA drew up a three-year action plan to ensure greater support for SMEs, which requires all SLCs and subsidiaries to adopt the targets

[Weblink: Contract spending figures](#)

NDA funding to help attract jobs

The NDA has pledged £250,000 funding to help Wick Harbour in Scotland attract new jobs to the area. The NDA pledge supports the planned upgrade aimed at attracting business from proposed offshore wind developments in the region. Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) is also providing up to £200,000. The money, which has helped to attract additional private funding, is earmarked for the installation of heavy lift facilities at the port's commercial quay and the dredging of the entry channel to the quay.

[Weblink: Harbour investment](#)

Plutonium report submitted to DECC

DECC has now received a copy of the NDA's conclusions from a recent study on the UK's separated plutonium stocks, which considered the credibility of alternative re-use proposals. The study covered MOX fuel as well as GE-Hitachi's PRISM reactor and Candu's Enhanced CANDU 6 reactor.

[Weblink: Plutonium progress](#)

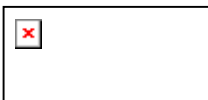
Still time to register for supply chain event

More than 700 delegates have now registered for this year's prestigious NDA Estate Supply Chain Event 2013, which will be held at EventCity, Manchester, on 13 November. The keynote speaker will be Government Minister Baroness Verma, from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), while new attractions for this year include an international seminar and innovation zone. Time is still available to attend as a delegate – entry is free of charge. Meanwhile, the deadline for entries to the business awards has now passed.

[Weblink: Supply chain event](#)

Annual Report and Accounts published

Crucial milestones were achieved in the clean-up of the UK's nuclear legacy last year, the NDA revealed in its annual report and accounts. John Clarke, NDA Chief Executive,



NDA Monthly Update – October 2013

who has completed his first full year in charge, said: "Sellafield remains our top priority. It is the world's most complex nuclear site with unprecedented challenges."

[Weblink: ARAC 2012-2013](#)

Construction skills centre opens

The official opening has taken place of a new £7 million centre that will equip hundreds of young people in West Cumbria with the latest construction skills. Development of the Britain's Energy Coast (BEC) Construction Skills Centre at Lakes College, Lillyhall, involved a wide variety of organisations and companies including Nuclear Management Partners, the NDA and Lakes College. The facility provides teaching spaces and workshops for up to 600 students.

[Weblink: West Cumbria construction skills centre](#)

Engagement plan for next year

The NDA has updated plans giving details of the opportunities for stakeholders to express views on strategic issues. Stakeholders can comment on credible and preferred options papers or have input via statutory consultations. The plans also include details of meetings and events, such as the National Stakeholder Event or issue-specific workshops and seminars.

[Weblink: Information on engagement plans](#)

Sizewell half-way to defuelling milestone

More than half of the 52,945 fuel elements have now been removed from Sizewell A's twin reactors, with complete defuelling expected by September 2014. Dr Brian Burnett, NDA Head of Programmes, said: "This is an important milestone on the site's journey towards Care and Maintenance and a vital step in reducing hazard on the site."

[Weblink: Sizewell reaches half-way point](#)

Engagement continues on ILW and FED options

Additional workshops for stakeholders have now taken place as the NDA seeks to reduce the number of treatment options for Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) storage and Fuel Element Debris (FED) treatment at Magnox sites in England and Wales. More than 50 responses were received to earlier consultation papers. All comments will now be considered, while further engagement will take place with stakeholders before the preferred options are published towards the end of the year.

[Weblink: ILW options](#) and [FED options](#)

