

NDA Monthly Update

November 2013

Summary

- Supply chain event attracts 1,300 visitors
- ILW/FED options paper published
- Evaluation under way on Magnox and RSRL competition
- NDA Chief Executive addresses parliamentary committee on Sellafield
- Reporting on major programmes
- Revised approach to build on procurement savings
- Options paper on radiation epidemiology and radiobiology research
- 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
- Plutonium report to DECC

Diary Dates

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| • GDF consultation closes | 5 December |
| • Draft Business Plan published | Early December |
| • Update radioactive waste inventory published | January 2014 |

NDA Monthly Update – November 2013

1,300 attend supply chain event

The event in Manchester attracted 1,300 delegates, representing the largest turn-out since the event was launched three years ago. The keynote speaker was Government Minister Baroness Verma, from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), while new attractions for this year included an international seminar and innovation zone. The winners of the annual supplier awards were also announced.

[Weblink: Supply chain event](#)

ILW/FED options paper

The NDA has now published the preferred options paper for the number and location of fuel element debris (FED) treatment plants and intermediate level waste (ILW) interim storage facilities for Magnox sites in England. This is a preliminary preferred options paper and comments are welcomed until 31 January 2014. Please send comments to strategy@nda.gov.uk. Engagement with Local Authorities and local communities began almost a year ago.

[Weblink: ILW and FED facilities](#)

Tenders evaluation under way

The four bidding consortia in the Magnox/RSRL competition have now officially submitted their final tenders to the NDA and evaluation is under way. The Invitation to Submit Final Tenders (ITSFT) issued last month marked 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: Evaluation under way](#)

Chief Executive gives evidence to hearing

The NDA Chief Executive John Clarke has been giving evidence to a hearing of the Public Accounts Committee. The Committee questioned the NDA and Department of Energy and Climate Change about Sellafield and the decision to extend the contract with Nuclear Management Partners for the management of Sellafield Ltd. Last month, the NDA announced that the contract with NMP would be extended into a second five-year term, the consortium having won a 17-year contract in 2008 to be the parent body organisation for Sellafield Ltd which operates the site.

[Weblink: Evidence to PAC hearing](#)

NDA Monthly Update – November 2013

Major projects and programmes reporting

The NDA has published a pilot report aiming to give stakeholders greater visibility on a number of major projects and programmes that are strategically important for the mission. The first version of the Priority Programme Report is a pilot which looks at six major projects or programmes: four at Sellafield, one for the Magnox sites and one for Dounreay.

[Weblink: Priority Programmes Report](#)

Revised approach to build on savings

An enhanced procurement strategy is being developed across the NDA estate, aiming to increase the £70 million in savings already achieved through collaborative contracting over the last four years. Launched at the 2013 NDA Estate Supply Chain Event, the revised Shared Services Alliance (SSA) Strategy aims to deliver maximum value from large-scale contracts while reducing the complexities of procurement processes and ensuring opportunities for suppliers are more visible. An additional focus will be a stronger drive to remove potential blockers to Small and Medium-sized enterprises, or SMEs, which supports NDA's and the SLCs SME targets and plans.

[Weblink: Revised approach](#)

Radiation epidemiology and radiobiology research

The NDA has published a Credible Options Paper which presents an initial assessment of options for managing radiation epidemiology and radiobiology research and associated research assets. Once stakeholder views have been taken into account, a preferred option will be published.

[Weblink: Radiation Epidemiology and Radiobiology Research Options paper](#)

Surplus land to be sold

The NDA is preparing to sell the freehold interest in a range of properties and parcels of land that are surplus to operational requirements, generating additional revenue for decommissioning. The assets, inherited when the NDA was established in 2005, are dotted around the UK and range from residential properties and gardens to plots of agricultural land together with some larger brownfield sites. Most, but not all, are close to NDA sites. Support for economic regeneration initiatives will also be a key consideration as some of the larger sites have potential to be adapted for business use.

[Weblink: land sales](#)

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

NDA Monthly Update – November 2013

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](#)

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

s conclusions from a recent study on the
-use
proposals. The study covered MOX fuel as well as GE-Hita reactor and

[Weblink: Plutonium progress](#)