

NDA Monthly Update

January 2014

Summary

- £8-9 million for collaborative research
- Report on stakeholder event
- New Executive appointments
- £13 million for nuclear technologies
- Last chance to comment on Draft NDA Business Plan
- ILW/FED preferred 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
- Surplus land to be sold

Diary Dates

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| • End of period for comment on ILW/FED options | 31 January 2014 |
| • Updated radioactive waste inventory published | February 2014 |
| • New NDA website launched | March 2013 |
| • Uranics credible options published | Jan/Feb 2014 |
| • Magnox Contingency Paper published | Jan/Feb 2014 |
| • Graphite waste management strategy paper published | Jan/Feb 2-14 |
| • Plutonium public position paper published | Jan/Feb |

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Distinctive approach to research

An £8-9 million four-year research programme will combine the expertise of the nuclear industry with 10 universities to focus on some of the key decommissioning challenges and help build the next generation of nuclear experts. The National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL), NDA and Sellafield Limited are collaborating, along with the Engineering & Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) and the consortium of UK universities, led by Leeds, on 30 separate projects.

[Weblink: Distinctive research programme](#)

Report on national stakeholder event

The NDA has now published the report from the National Event for stakeholders, held near Bradwell in October. Approximately 75 delegates from all sectors gathered at the event, where a range of decommissioning topics were the focus of discussions.

[Weblink: Event report](#)

Appointments to NDA Executive Team

The NDA has announced two new appointments to its executive team. Peter Lutwyche, formerly a BNFL senior manager, moves to the newly created position of Sellafield Programme Director from his current role as Vice-President of Jacobs UK operations. This follows the departure of Chief Operating Officer Mark Lesinski, who is returning to the US. David Vineall has been appointed as the NDA's new HR Director, replacing outgoing HR Director Jim McLaughlin. David joins from Tata Steel, and previously worked for BAE Systems.

[Weblink: NDA appointments](#)

Up to £13 million boost for new technologies

As the nuclear renaissance gathers pace, the NDA has again joined with other public bodies to open up opportunities for UK businesses, offering a total of up to £13 million investment for new technologies covering new build, current operations and decommissioning. The collaboration between the UK innovation agency the Technology Strategy Board, the NDA and the Department of Energy and Climate Change, aimed at helping UK-based businesses, will focus on key technology areas such as construction, manufacturing, operation, maintenance and decommissioning and waste.

[Weblink: Investment in nuclear R&D](#)

Views sought on Business Plan

Stakeholders have until 24 January to submit responses on the NDA's draft Business Plan 2014-2017 which was published for consultation in December. Based on the NDA's 2011 Strategy, the Plan sets out key objectives and expected progress for all sites over the next three years, in line with the funding allocated by the Department of Energy and

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Climate change (DECC). Also included is a 20-year overview of forthcoming activities across the 17 sites in the NDA's estate.

[Weblink: .2014-2017 Draft Business Plan](#)

1,300 attend supply chain event

Last year's prestigious NDA Estate Supply Chain Event 2013 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 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 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 in November, 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's Chief Executive John Clarke gave 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 year, the NDA announced that the contract with NMP would be extended into a second five-year term.

[Weblink: Evidence to PAC hearing](#)

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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](#)