

NDA Monthly Update

August 2014

Summary

- A quarter of Harwell site delicensed
- “Mixed load” by rail delivers benefits
- New fund to help decommissioning
- Government publishes White Paper on Implementing Geological Disposal
- Registrations open for 2014 supply chain event
- Baroness Verma visits Dounreay
- Berkeley Centre receives £5 million of government funding
- Re-design for Waste Inventory website
- Cumbrian land deal brings new nuclear closer
- Additional funding at Dounreay
- NDA annual report published

Diary Dates

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|------------------------------------|------------------|
| • Magnox RSRL Share Transfer Event | 1 September 2014 |
| • SSG Chairs Event | 2 September 2014 |
| • CoRWM public meeting near Wylfa | 4 September 2014 |
| • NDA Supply Chain Event | 6 November 2014 |

A quarter of Harwell site delicensed

The nuclear licence has been lifted from two plots of land at the Harwell site. The delicensed total is now 25 hectares, which equals around 30 football pitches and represents 25% of the original licensed area. One area lies on the Eastern boundary, next to land already released for new uses, and previously housed active workshops, experimental facilities, the active laundry and the boiler houses. The second, smaller area lies behind the location of the Harwell Variable Energy Cyclotron (VEC). The VEC played an important role in the research and development of neutron therapy used in the treatment of diseases such as cancer. It was operational until the 1980s and was then fully decommissioned.

[Weblink: A quarter of Harwell site delicensed](#)

“Mixed load” by rail delivers benefits

In a landmark move for the nuclear industry, a ‘mixed load’ of radioactive materials was shipped by train from the Berkeley Railhead in Gloucestershire to Sellafield in Cumbria. Flasks containing spent fuel from Oldbury were loaded alongside ISO containers of packaged Intermediate Level Waste from Research Sites Restoration Limited’s Harwell Site in Oxfordshire. Historically, the transport of these loads have always operated separately. However, NDA concluded that sharing loads to Sellafield would deliver savings and environmental benefits. A long period of planning, stakeholder and regulatory engagement was required before the first transport was successfully completed in July.

[Weblink: “Mixed load” by rail delivers benefits](#)

New fund to help decommissioning

An NDA-backed scheme which helps small businesses develop decommissioning technologies has launched a partnership with Sellafield that aims to accelerate the clean-up of the site. Innovus has joined forces with Sellafield Ltd to offer a fund worth £397,500 which will help develop technologies to make the decommissioning of the site quicker, cheaper and safer. Sellafield Ltd provided the investment after a rash of applications for Innovus funding following its Nuclear Decommissioning Opportunities event in March.

[Weblink: New fund to help decommissioning](#)

Government publishes White Paper on Implementing Geological Disposal

The Department of Energy and Climate Change has published its White Paper on Implementing Geological Disposal. Commenting on the publication of the paper, Bruce McKirdy, Managing Director of Radioactive Waste Management Limited, says “The White Paper sets out the role of Radioactive Waste Management Limited (RWM) as the

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developer of a geological disposal facility and clearly positions the public at the centre of any final decision-making on where a facility is sited.”

[Weblink: Government publishes White Paper on Implementing Geological Disposal](#)

Registrations open for 2014 supply chain event

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jargon-free language and clear graphics to explain more about radioactive waste in the UK. The UK Radioactive Waste Inventory (UKRWI) 2013, based on a detailed stock-take during last year, contains details of radioactive waste and nuclear materials currently held across the country, as well as waste that is expected to arise in future from the operation of sites and decommissioning activities.

[Weblink: Radioactive Waste Inventory 2013](#)

Land deal brings new nuclear closer

The NDA has concluded a deal worth in the region of £200 million with Toshiba Corporation and GDF SUEZ on the extension of a land option agreement for the Moorside site. The deal will boost the development of the new nuclear power project in West Cumbria. Toshiba and GDF Suez intend to build three reactors to come online from 2024, with an output of around 3.4GW, enough to power up to six million homes. It is estimated that the project will result in 21,000 jobs over the construction period, including peak on-site employment of more than 6,000 people. The three reactors will sustain around 1,000 permanent jobs over the course of the reactors' lifetimes.

[Weblink: Nuclear deal concluded](#)

Additional Dounreay funding

NDA has allocated an additional £50 million over the next two years to Dounreay Site Restoration Limited (DSRL) as a step towards accommodating planned additional scope in the programme. The full scope of extra work, largely associated with the requirement to transfer nuclear fuels to Sellafield, has been clarified following the award of a contract in 2012 to Cavendish Dounreay Partnership, who are managing the Dounreay clean-up. Performance against the CDP contract is progressing well, with 100% of annual milestones met and the potential for savings of approximately £1 billion on the previous plan, as well as acceleration of the site closure date by 10 years.

[Weblink: Dounreay funding](#)

NDA Annual Report published

Two major contractual decisions were significant highlights of the last financial year across the NDA estate, and are among a range of achievements outlined in the Annual Report and Accounts 2013- 2014, published last month. The decision to select Cavendish Fluor Partnership as the Preferred Bidder for the 12 Magnox Ltd and RSRL sites was announced in March and brings the two-year procurement process closer to a conclusion. The NDA also extended the Sellafield contract, awarded to Nuclear Management Partners (NMP) in 2008.

[Weblink: Annual Report 2013-2014](#)