

NDA Monthly Update

September 2014

Summary

- New PBO in place at Magnox Ltd and RSRL
- Office block boost for town
- Register now for Supply Chain Event 2014
- Last fuel leaves Sizewell
- Quayside project under way
- Nuclear licence lifted from Harwell plots of land
- Mixed rail loads bring benefits
- New fund supports small businesses
- Government publishes White Paper on Implementing Geological Disposal
- Waste Inventory website redesigned
- College plan receives £5 million of government funding

Diary Dates

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| • National Nuclear Science Week | 20-24 October 2014 |
| • NDA National Stakeholder Event, Birmingham | 28-29 October 2014 |
| • RWM Stakeholder Event, Birmingham | 29-30 October |
| • NDA Estate Supply Chain Event | 6 November 2014 |

New Parent Body Organisation sets to work

Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry was the backdrop for stakeholders who gathered to mark the NDA's formal award of a new Parent Body Organisation (PBO) contract to The Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP). More than £1.5 billion of savings for the public purse are anticipated as CFP now begins to implement its plans for Magnox Ltd and Research Sites Restoration Ltd, continuing with the decades-long programme of work to decommission 10 of the UK's first nuclear power stations and the two pioneering research facilities.

The share transfer event ended the NDA's two-year procurement process to appoint a new PBO for the two Site Licence Companies. CFP, a joint venture between the UK's Cavendish Nuclear, part of Babcock International, and US-based Fluor Corporation, will own the shares in the two SLCs for the 14-year contract period. The SLCs will continue to operate the sites on behalf of the NDA.

[Weblink: Share transfer event](#)

£18 million offices to bring 1,000 workers into town

Construction work is now complete a new £multi-million office block that set to bring 1,000 Sellafield workers into the centre of Whitehaven. The complex was commissioned by the NDA's own property company (NDA Properties Ltd) to transfer staff from Sellafield, freeing up space for decommissioning, reducing traffic to the nuclear site and helping to regenerate the town centre. The development is a joint project between the NDA, Sellafield Ltd, Nuclear Management Partners, Britain's Energy Coast and Copeland Borough Council.

[Weblink: Offices boost for town centre](#)

Still time to register for 2014 supply chain event

Almost 800 delegates have now registered for the NDA 2014 supply chain event. The event will be held at EventCity in Manchester on Thursday, 6 November. With additional support from partners from the public sector, the theme of the day will be *Connect and Collaborate*. As with previous years, entry to the event will be free of charge to both visitors and exhibitors. Baroness Verma, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change, returns as the keynote speaker. The event will also include a presentation ceremony for the winners of the prestigious 2014 NDA Estate Supply Chain Awards.

[Weblink: Registrations open for 2014 supply chain event](#)

Last fuel leaves Sizewell

The last container of spent nuclear fuel has now left Sizewell A, removing 99% of the radioactive hazard from the former power station. The defueling was successfully

completed ahead of a target set by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). The site is now fuel-free for the first time in almost half a century, marking a major decommissioning milestone. Since electricity generation ended in 2006, more than 52,000 individual fuel elements have been systematically removed and transported to Sellafield for reprocessing, packaged in 50-tonne shielded flasks.

[Weblink: Sizewell defuelling](#)

Quayside project under way

A £375,000 award, funded by NDA and EnergySolutions, will help to develop a £3 million office accommodation project at Ardrossan Quayside. The project is one of a number being developed by Irvine Bay Regeneration Company to regenerate the town which is located near the Hunterston A site. The project is being funded through grants won by Irvine Bay Regeneration Company: £1.8 million from the Scottish Government's Capital Regeneration Fund; £463,000 from the European Regional Development Fund; £375,000 from the NDA and £196,000 from HUB SouthWest.

[Weblink: Quayside project for town](#)

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 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 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](#)

Waste website launched

A new user-friendly website has been launched to accompany the recent publication of information on the UK stocks of radioactive waste. The aim behind the revamp is to use 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.