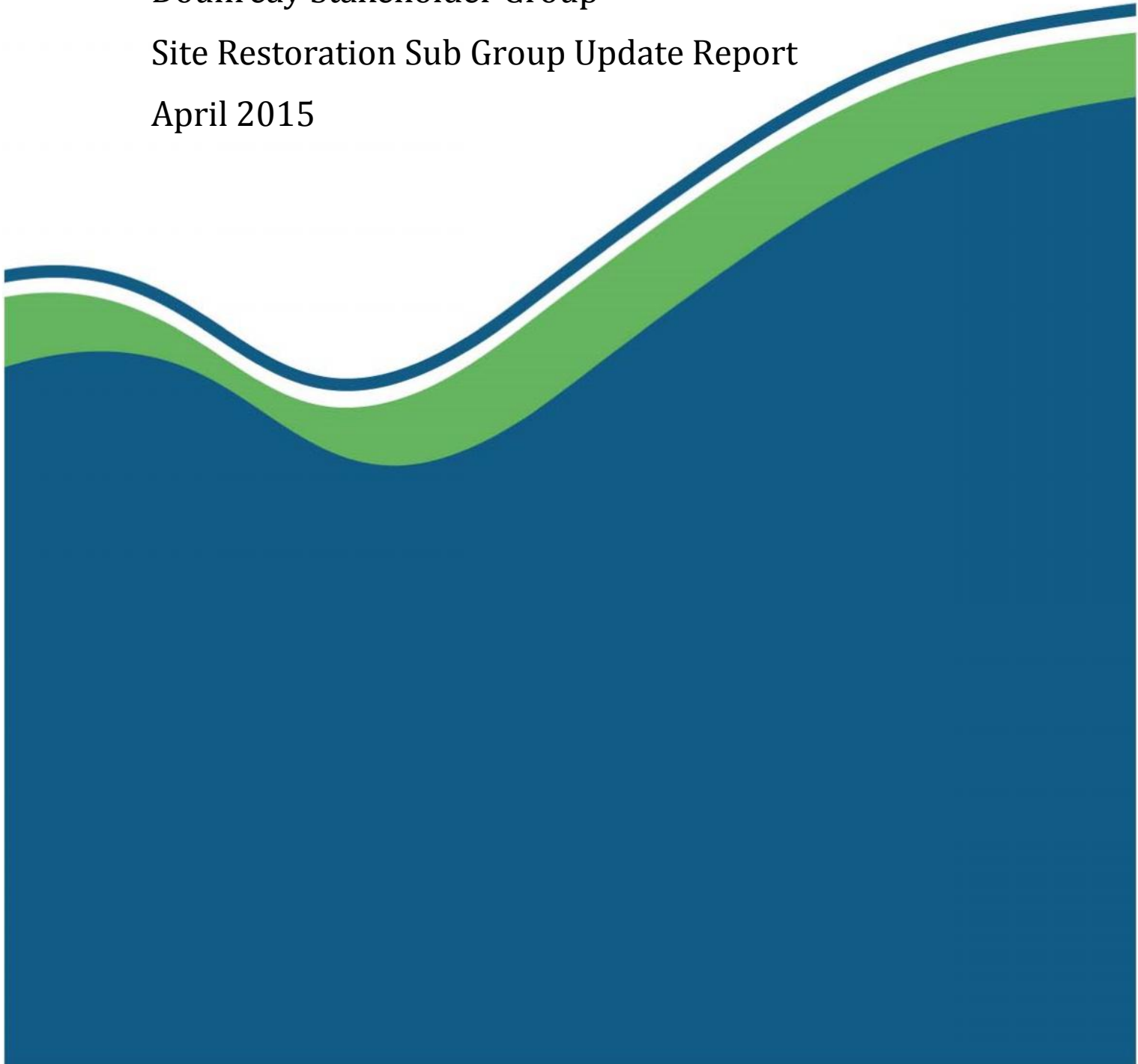




DSG(2015)P008



Dounreay Stakeholder Group  
Site Restoration Sub Group Update Report  
April 2015



## **Site Inspection Work & RSA Compliance**

Further to the fire that occurred in the Sodium Tank farm last October, which resulted in SEPA issuing a Notice of Variation to the RSA Authorisation, requiring DSRL to undertake a range of improvements relating to the design and testing of temporary containment and ventilation systems and the management and supervision of decommissioning activities DSRL has, to date, completed the improvements by the prescribed date. DSRL is required to complete the various improvements between 1 March and 1 June 2015 and SEPA will be carrying out inspection of the improvements during this process.

In February, SEPA received notification of an issue regarding the mis-consignment of items containing thorium from Dounreay to the National Nuclear Laboratory's (NNL) research and development facility at the Springfields Fuels Limited nuclear licensed site near Preston. SEPA is following this matter up with DSRL and has written to DSRL requiring the return of the items to Dounreay, in accordance with the RSA authorisation.

In March SEPA undertook an inspection of the undertaking of the beach monitoring programme. The outcome of SEPA's inspection was that DSRL was compliant with the relevant conditions of the RSA authorisation. In addition, several areas of good practice were observed regarding work being undertaken by Nuvia and DSRL.

In March, SEPA inspected against maintenance conditions in the Authorisation with particular emphasis on changes to periodicities. There was firm evidence that the Asset Management process was being used to logically and robustly inform the maintenance regime and this was seen as good practice and an application of BPM.

## **Other Site Work**

During February SEPA visited the new LLW Grouting plant at Dounreay, which was at the time, was going through inactive commissioning. SEPA also undertook a visit to the Dounreay foreshore, accompanied by a DSRL photographer, to observe and record levels of erosion of made ground along the Dounreay cliff top.

In March, SEPA attended a meeting of NDA's Spent fuels and Nuclear Materials Strategic Theme Oversight Group.

SEPA received a detailed update on DSRL's progress with the Exotic Fuels project and the DFR Breeder project.

SEPA inspected Nuvia, a tenant on DSRL's Nuclear Licenced Site, against conditions in their Registrations for sealed and open radioactive sources. This was found to be satisfactory.

## **Low Level Radioactive Waste Facility**

Following DSRL providing SEPA with updated documentation, SEPA undertook its process of consideration of DSRL's readiness to begin facility operations. SEPA concluded that it was content for DSRL to accumulate and dispose of LLW in Phase 1 of the facility. SEPA's agreement is subject to a number of conditions relating to specific radionuclides within the inventory and DSRL validating the effectiveness of the package grouting process.

## **Site End State**

SEPA has received DSRL's plans for the installation of groundwater monitoring boreholes up-gradient of the Dounreay site. The plans have been reviewed by SEPA and a number of comments provided to DSRL in relation to the proposals.

## **Non-Nuclear Site Regulation**

In February SEPA undertook an inspection against the requirements of the site Waste Management Licence, which did not identify any non-compliance.

During Quarter 4 DSRL breached the groundwater suspended solids trigger level for the D3100 landfill site, however when re-sampled was found to be back below the trigger level.

DSRL exceeded the abstraction limits at the LLWF by 110m<sup>3</sup> during February. Discussions are taking place between DSRL and SEPA regarding the possibility of varying the limits.

SEPA has been advised that the Sewerage installation work is proceeding for the houses at Buldoo and Upper Dounreay with the NDA having given approval to progress with non-invasive work.

## **Planning**

SEPA has been consulted by the planning authority on an application by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to build a national archive centre at Wick Airport Industrial Estate. SEPA has responded with no objection to the development, and provided advice on drainage issues.

## **Vulcan**

Discussions about a review of the Letter of Agreement were held with MoD and Rolls Royce staff. The Letter of Agreement is due for review and the change in Vulcan's mission makes this a necessary regulatory process.

Discussions were held about the application of BPM to gaseous discharges and this was found to be compliant with the Letter of Agreement.

Stewart Ballantine

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