

## DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Minutes of meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 1900 hours in the Pentland Hotel (Ballroom), Thurso.

Present:	David Flear	DSG Chairman
	Derrick Milnes	(DSG Vice-chair) Wick and Thurso Trade Union Council
	Bob Earnshaw	Thurso Community Council
	Roy Blackburn	DSG Member
	Fiona Levack	Caithness Chamber of Commerce
	Tor Justad	DSG Member
	John Deighan	Dounreay Unions
	Eann Sinclair	CNSRP Programme Manager
	Cllr George Farlow	Highland Council
	Cllr Roger Saxon	Highland Council
	Donald MacBeath	North Highland College
	Deirdre Henderson	Buldoo Residents Group
	Cllr Willie Mackay	Highland Council
	Roy Kirk	Highlands and Islands Enterprise
	David Broughton	DSG member

In addition:	Nigel Lowe	NDA Head of Programme
	Mark Rouse	Managing Director, Dounreay
	Cdr Ken Dyke	MOD Vulcan
	Roger Wilson	SEPA
	Peter Watson	ONR (Dounreay)
	Sheila Hutchison	ONR
	Liam Bain	CNC
	Emma Forbes	Highland Council, Planning
	June Love	DSG Secretariat, DSRL

### 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

David Flear, DSG Chairman, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Before commencing with the meeting David declared that he had taken on the role as John Thurso's local campaign advisor. He stated he did not intend to make any political statements at this meeting or other DSG meetings as the two positions were completely separate. He had not allowed any political statements at previous DSG meetings and this would be the case going forward.

He noted that recent press articles had speculated that a different senior NDA representative would be attending DSG. Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme would represent Dounreay in his capacity as senior representative.

For those who did not attend the AGM, he noted that the following had been re-elected:

- Chair: David Flear
- Vice-chair: Derrick Milnes
- Site restoration sub group chair: Bob Earnshaw
- Socio economic sub group chair: Derrick Milnes

David Flear welcomed Liam Bain (CNC), Sheila Hutchison (ONR), Andy Beckwith (DSRL) and Brian Wade (DSRL). He noted that this would be Peter Watson's last DSG as he was handing over his role as ONR Nominated Site Inspector from the 1<sup>st</sup> of April to Sheila. Other changes in ONR were that Danny McGregor would be taking over from Simon Bonniface and Mina Golshan had been appointed as ONR's new delivery manager.

David Flear thanked Peter Watson for his involvement with DSG over the years reflecting that he had seen a significant shift in ONR's reporting in the years that Peter had been involved. He wished Peter well for the future.

Changes of personnel had also been notified by ONR (Vulcan). Jim Williams would be handing over to Alun Griffiths whose intention it was to attend the occasional DSG as and when he was at the Vulcan site.

Before closing, David Flear also gave a welcome to Elizabeth Gray, non-executive director of DSRL Board.

## 2. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

- Alastair MacDonald DSG Honorary member
- Trudy Morris Chamber of Commerce (Fiona Levack deputising)
- Sandy Mackie Scrabster Harbour Trust
- Ronnie Johnstone Church of Scotland
- Murray Lamont North Highland Tourism
- Ian Leslie SGRIPD
- Russ Hayley Caithness West Community Council
- Mike Flavell Health Service
- Cllr Matthew Reiss Highland Council
- Cllr Maurice Davidson Orkney Islands Council
- David Mudie Highland Council Planning (Emma Forbes deputising)
- Jim Williams ONR, Vulcan
- Andy Brotherston CNC (Liam Bain depositing)

## 3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the September meeting – DSG(2014)M004 refers – had been circulated to members in advance of this meeting. The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the meeting. This was proposed by Derrick Milnes and seconded by John Deighan.

David Broughton noted the statement on page 5 of the minutes which stated [on time period of rotating secondees] "Mark Rouse responded that this was something they were looking into however he pointed out that when UKAEA personnel managed the site the personnel also rotated on a regular basis." David Broughton pointed out that, while UKAEA personnel frequently rotated within Departments on site, it was less regular that they rotated across sites.

## 4. STATUS OF ACTIONS

David Flear noted that the status of actions had been circulated in advance to members. He noted the following outstanding actions:

- DSG (2014)M002/A007: Secretary to liaise with Scottish Government to explore whether a presentation on Higher Activity Waste implementation would be available for the June meeting.

Action ongoing: Scottish Government were awaiting sign off from ministers.

- DSG(2014)M002/A012: Bob Kury, Deputy Managing Director, Dounreay to share learnings from the DSRL study into the Interim End State with DSG when available. Action ongoing: Long term action.
- DSG(2014)M002/A014: CNC to provide presentation on CNC's role to the next site restoration sub group meeting. Action ongoing: Liam Bain noted that a presentation had been prepared and would be provided at the next sub group meeting.
- DSG(2014)M003/A009: Emma Forbes, Highland Council Planning, to look into the issue of excessive noise at the CNC Firing Range and report back to DSG. Action ongoing: Emma Forbes, Highland Council said she was still progressing this. She had spoken with Environmental Health again who had indicated that they had received individual complaints and would endeavour to get the noise monitoring completed. Emma had impressed upon them this should be carried out as soon as possible. David Flear felt it may be useful if DSG also wrote to Environmental Health regarding this.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A001: Secretary to draft letter to Environmental Health regarding noise monitoring for the CNC firing range.

## 5. VULCAN UPDATE

David Flear stated that the Ministry of Defence report Vulcan matters at the site restoration sub group meeting. The last meeting had been held in January and the following reported:

- The shore test facility programme continued as planned.
- An inspection and audit programme, which is now included in a written report to the sub group, was outlined and going to plan.
- A decision was still awaited on recommendations on the future of the site which included a review of the requirement for a PWR3 prototype reactor core. DSG wrote to the minister indicating a general support for PWR3 prototypes testing but we are still awaiting a response to that letter. If there is no further testing of reactor cores then the site should be fully decommissioned.

Rolls Royce had provided a written update for this meeting and this would be taken at the next sub group meeting. Highlights from the report included:

- Continued focus to safely deliver the current programme
- Safety remained a key focus and no issues during this period.
- Preparing specific work programmes for operations on site for period 2020-2022.
- Continued business planning and development for nuclear skills in Caithness beyond 2022.
- Sixteen Rolls-Royce apprentices were continuing with training and they were looking to recruit an additional 6 for the 2015 intake.

David Flear invited Commander Ken Dyke to provide a verbal update. Ken Dyke reported:

- That the PWR3 report commissioned by the previous Secretary of State had been passed to the current Secretary of State and it was expected that an announcement would be made shortly and certainly before Parliament dissolves at the end of March.
- On safety, there had been no accidents/injuries since the last report had been issued.

Cdr Dyke noted that at the last sub group meeting there had been a request to report these statistics using the standard TRIRs. He noted that if this was done it would effectively end up with a row of '0' and would prove meaningless.

- The inspection and audit programme has continued.

There was no ONR or DNSR representative in attendance to provide an update. Roger Wilson, SEPA reported:

- Continued to follow through the inadvertent discharge reported at the last meeting.
- Focus over the coming months would be largely on reviewing the letter of agreement (which is equivalent of an authorisation for radioactive discharges). If the site moves into decommissioning the agreement would change and therefore it was useful to commence review of this now.

Roger Saxon noted that if there was no future for the Vulcan site for the longer term it was important to remember that Rolls Royce were a big employer in the area. Bob Earnshaw noted that Rolls Royce had already intimated that they wish to retain the skills in the area and that future work was being explored.

Cllr George Farlow asked SEPA if there were any recent surveys of radioactivity levels in the Pentland Firth. Roger Wilson responded that the information on levels was set out in the RIFE report (the last one published around October last year). George Farlow said his question was based on the recent reports of the management of Sellafield and wondered if there may be radioactive levels in the Pentland Firth associated with Sellafield. Roger Wilson responded that he was aware of radioactivity from Sellafield detected in the Irish and North Sea. June Love agreed to provide George Farlow with the website link to the latest RIFE report.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A002: June Love to send Cllr George Farlow SEPA's website link to the latest RIFE report.

Cllr George Farlow said he understood that radioactive discharges from Wlfya could have Norwegians taking an interest. Tor Justad noted that SEPA were aware of monitoring around Norway. Roger Wilson stated that this was not his area and was therefore not entirely sure however he would check and respond accordingly.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A003: Roger Wilson, SEPA to seek assurances that the appropriate person in SEPA was aware of monitoring carried out in Norway.

## 6. UPDATE ON SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

David Flear stated there had been a full discussion at the December DSG on safety and thanked Mark Rouse (Managing Director, DSRL) and Bob Kury (Deputy Manager Director, DSRL) for their

frequent updates on this subject.

David noted that Bob Kury was leading the Improvement Team activities with Ken Heider, Project Director (Reactors) leading on the actions resulting from the ONR Improvement Notice. The improvement team was now in place and was supported by Raymond Hill, Kathryn Cartwright, Jonathan Nisbet and Justin Barnes. The team was currently addressing:

- Cross site cultural issues in relation to health, safety and environment, including actions from PFR incident.
- Undertaking a review of the output from the safety pause
- Management of the Safety, Health, Environmental and Quality Improvement Plans.

David Flear invited Mark Rouse to provide an update. Mark Rouse responded that the safety improvements continued at a pace with four main areas:

- Compliance: In the short term, inconsistencies had been identified across site procedures and a decision had been taken to pause work to allow everyone to review their paperwork. This identified some further inconsistencies and work to address these are well underway. The audit of compliance was complete and being written up. It will be used to ensure that all procedures are robust.
- PFR Tank farm: DSRL was working closely with the regulators to ensure they have the confidence required in the actions they are taking to close out the Improvement Notice by the appropriate time.
- RSA authorisation variation: DSRL was continuing to work with SEPA to work through the requirements and learn lessons. This was on schedule to meet improvement targets.
- Dounreay Improvement Team: This would be headed up by two DSRL employees – Raymond Hill and Kathryn Cartwright. The team was expanding with DSRL personnel who had extensive site experience becoming involved. There would be regular reporting to the Executive Team. The team would also be visiting other sites with a view to benchmarking Dounreay and to ensure lessons were learnt from other sites. In the short term, focus would be on the Conduct of Operations ensuring this was updated and fit for purpose so that practises were consistent across the site. There would be more of a focus of senior leadership team presence in the workplace to ensure that they were available to listen to anyone's suggestions, concerns or issues. Senior management was working with the Trade Unions to identify a representative for the Improvement Team to ensure their strong presence in the team.
- Jim Gray had recently been appointed as Director of Assurance, DSRL having 30 years' experience in the nuclear industry.

David Flear asked if the NDA were content with the progress being made. Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme responded that they were supportive of the initiatives that had been instigated by Mark Rouse and monitor progress closely. In addition, there was regular dialogue between NDA, SEPA and ONR to ensure everyone's satisfaction of what DSRL is doing.

Peter Watson, ONR added that he would come to this in more detail in his report but would echo the remarks made by NDA. ONR were working with DSRL, NDA, SEPA and the Safety Representatives and could see positive signs of progress however there had, in the past, been a few false starts and therefore ONR would continue to scrutinise and question to ensure the right things

were being done.

On the ONR Improvement Notice, Peter Watson noted that this was time specific and that Danny Gregory would take the lead on this work.

Roger Wilson, SEPA again echoed the sentiments of others. SEPA was engaged and working closely with everyone else and had recently carried out one inspection which had shown that lots of work was being done and progress was being made and SEPA would maintain their interest until completely satisfied.

Before opening up to DSG members for questions, David Flear noted that DSG members had voiced their concerns in relation to the length of time the PBO secondees remain in post at Dounreay. ONR had raised this as a potential issue which may have contributed to the decline in safety. The NDA, having learnt lessons from the Dounreay contract, had made changes to the Magnox contract in that PBO secondees have to remain longer in post. DSG representatives had spoken to the NDA Head of Programme who indicated that to change the contract on this matter would be a lengthy matter and more importantly was not needed since the desired outcome (i.e. longer periods in post) can be achieved by negotiation between the NDA and CDP. A letter, signed by the DSG chairman had been sent to the NDA Chief Executive on this matter.

Bob Earnshaw stated that he was aware of a letter that had been sent, via the DSG Secretariat, from John Thurso who had also written to the NDA Chief Executive along similar lines. Bob added that while he and other members were aware and understood the statement made about the contract but felt that no stone should be left unturned to consider how changes could be done.

David Flear stated that many of the ways DSG members get information is from site management, unions, NDA, the regulators but importantly they also receive feedback from the community in many ways including ad hoc discussions, correspondence or discussions that take place when visiting the site's office in Thurso. With regard the recent statements made by the NDA Chief Executive to the Public Affairs Committee regarding 'ruffling a few feathers' [related to Dounreay] a member of the community had written directly to the chair expressing his frustration with these remarks. The text of the correspondence had been passed to the NDA site facing team for Nigel Lowe to feed back to headquarters.

David Flear also noted that the local press had recently reported that Mark Rouse would leave in September. He asked Mark Rouse whether he was in a position to announce his successor. Mark Rouse said he would not in a position at this time but would ensure it was announced at the appropriate time.

David Flear noted that the Dounreay Unions had provided a statement at the last DSG meeting (December 2014) and asked John Deighan for an update. John Deighan responded that the statement made in December still stood. A recent meeting of the Trade Union Council which included Dounreay representatives as well as others from various organisations where questions of Dounreay were raised resulted with the local reporter present asking for a statement which had been provided. In addition, the Dounreay Unions had raised various issues with site management and were currently working through these in an appropriate manner. David Flear responded that it was important that DSG members hear from the unions who represent the staff at Dounreay as it is the workforce's perception of how things are moving forward that is important.

David Flear then invited questions from DSG members. Tor Justad noted the comments made by DSRL, the NDA and regulators and commented that these statements could have been made by any

business. Basically, in summary the message was that mistakes had been made, incidents happened and the safety regime needs to be better. David Flear responded that as chairman he had been kept up to date on a regular basis with monthly briefings from the Director and these discussions contained additional detail and would be raised at the sub group meeting.

Tor Justad raised the point made previously regarding the turnover of senior management and believed that the response at the last meeting had been because of tax issues. While he felt he would have to take this comment at face value he also failed to understand how this was not an issue for any other major companies who have people moving around all over the world with some staying with a project for a lot longer than two years. Nigel Lowe responded that he he knew of many companies who were impacted by the same issue. However, it was important to keep this in perspective since the tax issue was not the cause of this problem but was one of many contributing factors. He noted the letters which the NDA Chief Executive had received from DSG and from John Thurso, MP and believed that without changing the contract they could still achieve the result required. Along with the PBO, the NDA had worked to ensure that the secondees did not all leave at the same time and that there was a staggered approach to handing over responsibility. How this would be achieved would not happen overnight since individuals had made family commitments for their current durations. However, and more importantly improvements could be achieved without needing to change the contract.

Mark Rouse added that, with regard to site safety and environmental performance, the only way he could prove improvement was by demonstrating it by delivering the decommissioning programme safely and this is what is covered in the work being undertaken in ensuring the procedures are consistent with adequately trained people who understand the processes required.

Cllr George Farlow stated he was just getting used to engaging with Mark Rouse and this would come to an end in little over six months. George asked what the safety training equated to in hours and, on a completely different subject, what the effect of the change of contract for Sellafield would mean for the Dounreay site. Nigel Lowe confirmed that the change to the Sellafield business model would not affect the fuel movements from Dounreay or any of the other interactions between the two sites. Mark Rouse confirmed he would provide a response on the training hours undertaken.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A004: Mark Rouse, DSRL Managing Director to confirm the training hours undertaken by DSRL staff since the safety pause.

Roy Blackburn welcomed the comments made but asked what steps would be taken by management to ensure that these improvements made were sustainable in the future. Mark Rouse responded that everything being put in place had to be sustainable but he recognised that the only way to show that this was the case was time to ensure the incidents of the past did not happen again. A variety of refresher training courses were being undertaken and ensuring a consistency in the understanding of processes would be key to sustaining the standards. Nigel Lowe responded that when the incident occurred the NDA were clear with CDP and DSRL that any improvements taken forward had to be in a sustainable manner. NDA, to ensure this is being done, would bring in an independent assessor after the Improvement Notice and Authorisation variation were closed out, to take an independent view.. The NDA had made it clear that they do not want people moving out and then find new people coming in take a different approach. The assessment would be independent of the NDA.

Roy Blackburn asked if consideration had been given to repeating the safety culture survey. Nigel Lowe replied that the safety culture survey was an NDA estate-wide survey and, while there was no date identified as yet, it was planned to repeat it in the future. Mark Rouse added that the site also



carried out individual surveys and the feedback via this communication was a useful tool to gather information. This and a number of other initiatives had been identified to ensure a two-way flow of information.

## 7. UNIRRADIATED FUELS CHARACTERISATION FACILITY

David Flear reported that he had visited Bristol with a number of representatives from DECC, the Regulators, DSRL and apprentices from both DSRL and Bristol. The purpose was to show the level of technology which was required to assemble the Unirradiated Fuels Characterisation Facility (UFCF).

David Flear added that he had found this visit very informative and it had been good to hear that a number of local companies had been involved in the manufacture, construction and assembly aspects of this project. It had also been pleasing to see Dounreay invite down some of their apprentices to see for themselves what the facility entailed.

He then handed over to Andy Beckwith, Project Director Fuels who provided a short presentation. See DSG(2015)C024.

During the presentation, Andy Beckwith explained about the cans used to transport the material and handed around an example can so that members could see the integrity of the containment.

David Flear asked Andy to explain about how simple everyday objects can be adapted and used with good results. Andy Beckwith responded that this related to buying an everyday can opener from a well-known store and adapting it slightly to make it fit for purpose and it now allows operators to work via glove boxes to cut material up with less risk to cutting themselves. This was the type of innovative thinking that had come from this project.

Brian Wade, DSRL Apprentice also provided a short summary of his experience in visiting the facility and seeing the technology put together. He introduced himself as a 4<sup>th</sup> year electrical engineering apprentice with DSRL and over the past four years had gained experience with the planned and breakdown maintenance on all aspects of electrical equipment at the Dounreay site.

In December he, along with three other engineering apprentices, had visited the fuel glove box assembly site at the Redhall factory in Bristol. The aim of the visit was to gain an appreciation for the project. As some of the Dounreay engineering apprentices were involved in the planning and designing of early mock ups of the glove box, this had been an excellent opportunity to see how the assembly had progressed.

During the visit, DSRL senior engineer Paul MacAskill and Senior Project Manager, Ian Lyall had explained the importance of handling the country's legacy of plutonium and uranium and the challenges of handling the fuel without physically coming into contact with it. On arrival at the Redhall factory the management and the welding and fabrication apprentices had been very welcoming and after a safety brief and familiarisation, Jim Quinn (DSRL) had taken those visiting through the glove box arrangement and explained the process step by step. Dounreay operators were also present to help identify and overcome any design flaws and potential manual handling issues.

Brian stated that it had been good to see such a high tech project and gain an overall understanding for the project. Having apprentices present from different disciplines allowed an appreciation of the challenges of the project from different technical stand points. The standard of welding and fabrication had been very impressive and the implementation of the can opener proved that even



the most high tech engineering problems can benefit from simple, effectively solutions. As the project progresses he looked forward to being involved in the re-assembly, commissioning, operation and maintenance of the glove box assembly. In closing, on behalf of the Dounreay apprentices he thanked the UFCF project team for giving them the opportunity to be involved in this project and also the North Highland College for the work that they do with the apprentices in the county.

David Flear re-iterated that it was good to see the apprentices getting the opportunity and experience of visiting other facilities and the interchange of information this allowed with their counterparts at Bristol. Andy Beckwith responded that one of the things that he could say with 100% confidence is that Brian Wade and the other apprentices represent the core of how the decommissioning programme will be delivered. He felt it was refreshing to see young people coming through the apprentice programme and it would be this pipeline of young people who would see the completion of the decommissioning programme.

Responding to a question, Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme answered that NDA was happy with the progress made on this project along with quality of the construction. It was yet another example of the competency and professionalism of the DSRL workforce. He added that the NDA would be even happier when the plant was operating.

Peter Watson, ONR added that they had been working on this project for over three years as had other regulators and stakeholders. A lot of work had been done to get this far to de-risk permissioning. The safety case was a crucial document for the consideration of permissioning prior to construction, commissioning and operation of this facility. ONR will expect the site's own internal review process to examine the safety case carefully to ensure it was robust. There was a team of specialised assessors poised to assess this document once it was formally received. This process would be a particularly complex one.

Roger Wilson, SEPA added that this was and will continue to be a multi regulator process. SEPA had seen sight of some very early publications of the BPM (Best Practical Means) case which is required to support the safety case for this facility. There was a Memorandum of Understanding between ONR and SEPA and while ONR would take the lead in approvals, there would be ongoing discussions between ONR and SEPA.

Roy Blackburn asked whether the building that the facility would be installed in could be identified and asked how many cans would it take for 14 te of material. Andy Beckwith said he would like to respond to this question having clarified how much information could be provided without breaching security regulations.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A005: Andy Beckwith, Project Director Fuels to clarify whether questions raised with regard the UFCF can be responded to having considered security regulations.

David Broughton asked whether an appropriate flask had been identified for irradiated fuels. Andy Beckwith responded that had not yet been done. David Broughton asked how long it would take to build and license a flask. Andy Beckwith responded that this could take, from scratch, up to five years to build and license. David Broughton expressed surprise that a flask had not been identified a few years ago.

Tor Justad stated that since decommissioning nuclear facilities was happening all over the world why was there no similar facility which could have been 'bought off the shelf' rather than having to design from scratch.

Andy Beckwith responded that on the point of the UFCF facility the design of parts of the equipment were next generation mechanical fixes learning lessons from similar pieces of kit being used for similar purposes. Part of the facility was replicated from a Rocky Flats design, which had also been utilised throughout Europe. The automated part was based on the next generation at Sellafield (the back end of the plant that makes Thorp cans). Primarily the facility was designed and built around best practice across the board ensuring that it could all apply to standards for Dounreay.

Tor Justad noted that while he understood the containment associated with small cans placed into flasks it still required transportation by rail or sea and accidents could still happen. Andy Beckwith responded that once the material goes into the container all aspects of transport could be feasible and the route and mode would not be identified in advance of the movement.

Roger Saxon asked what the life span was of the fuel cans. Andy Beckwith responded that the cans had a 100 year life expectancy.

David Flear asked what the cost of building a glove box was. Andy Beckwith responded it was £12M and the containers in the region of £1,000. Tor Justad noted that 2016 had been identified for construction and asked how long the process would take once the material was brought in to be processed. Andy Beckwith responded that the programme showed a 3 year operation. Tor Justad asked whether 14 te was the total amount of material or would it be likely that further material could be found as decommissioning progresses. Andy Beckwith responded that the 14 te was a known figure and would not rise and this was not the type of material that would be expected to be found while carrying out decommissioning.

Cllr George Farlow noted the 100 year life expectancy of the cans and asked how long they would last if they came into contact with the sea. Andy Beckwith responded that he couldn't answer that question as he could not provide an exact answer however he did know that the can was extremely robust with various standards associated with the shipping of such material.

There being no further questions from DSG members nor members of the public, David Flear thanked everyone for their input to an informative presentation and noted the public information that was available for members to take away.

## 8. UPDATE FROM SUB GROUP MEETINGS

Business meeting: David Flear noted that the business meeting had met in January, the draft minutes had been circulated to all members. This meeting had focussed on the agenda for both the AGM and the public meeting.

One issue that was raised was an invitation to NHS Highland to meet with DSG members in relation to the press articles on Caithness General Hospital. A number of DSG representatives did meet with NHS Highland's Chief Executive and two others and a note for the record was produced – DSG(2015)C003 refers. There were a number of actions agreed and these will be reflected in the DSG minutes to ensure these are not lost sight of. A response had just been received from NHS Highland and this will be discussed at the next socio economic sub group meeting. It was useful that NHS Highland now sit on the CNSRP Advisory Board to ensure they are aware of the ongoing regeneration activities being undertaken.

Derrick Milnes stated that the DSG did have an NHS Highland representative and it was important that deputies were nominated to ensure consistency of attendance as far as possible. David Flear noted that the NHS had a wider impact in the area given that they were around the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest

employer in the Highlands. This was the reason that DSG got involved in topics not strictly related to Dounreay but which may be impacted on when the site finally closes. At times it appears appropriate that DSG takes the lead in airing such matters.

There being nothing further raised, David Flear passed over to Cllr Roger Saxon to provide the update on the DSG Site Restoration sub group.

For completeness, the actions arising from the business meeting and from the meeting with NHS Highland are recorded here:

- DSG(2015)M001/A006: June Love to include safety improvements on the March DSG agenda.
- DSG(2015)M001/A007: June Love to speak to Bob Earnshaw in relation to the DSG Annual General
- DSG(2015)M001/A008: June Love to confirm date of meeting with Simon Tucker, NDA Nuclear Archives Project Manager and confirm with DSG members.
- DSG(2015)M001/A009: June Love to confirm the NHS meeting with representatives of DSG.
- DSG(2015)M001/A010: NHS Highland to provide information on the Redesign Committee and its sub groups along with the roles, remit and representation.
- DSG(2015)M001/A011: NHS Highland / DSRL to update and formalise agreement with respect emergency arrangements.
- DSG(2015)M001/A012: Eann Sinclair, CNSRP to invite NHS Highland representative to CNSRP Advisory Board.
- DSG(2015)M001/A013: Eann Sinclair to provide information on Science Festival (STEM activities).
- DSG(2015)M001/A014: June Love to provide contact details for NHS STEM co-ordinator to DSRL STEM co-ordinator to link in.
- DSG(2015)M001/A015: Trudy Morris to send NHS Highland invitation to 'Preparing our Young People for Employment' event on 18<sup>th</sup> February.
- DSG(2015)M001/A016: Trudy Morris to invite NHS Highland representative to visit Caithness when Health Minister visits.
- DSG(2015)M001/A017: Kirsty McIntosh to attend (by confertel) Clinicians meeting.

Site Restoration sub group update: Roger Saxon reported that he had stood in as chair while Bob Earnshaw was on vacation. The sub group had met in January and the minutes of the meeting had been circulated in advance to members. He noted the following:

- Update from Vulcan – this had been covered under agenda item 5.
- Update on the safety improvements which had also been discussed earlier in the agenda.

NDA:

- The NDA reported the change of business model for Sellafield, and there was a discussion on whether this could potentially happen at Dounreay. The NDA assured the group that the Dounreay and Magnox contract models were unlikely to change unless something catastrophic happened and that the change to Sellafield was because the contract model did not suit a site of that size – 65% of NDA's expenditure – due to the level of complexity and variability it had. Topics discussed around this was that NDA had never been set up to be the controlling mind and the potential to impact on the Dounreay Fuels programme if Sellafield could not accept this – given the amount of time it can take for new management to settle down and deliver a programme.

Nigel Lowe, NDA Head of Programme provided a verbal update. He clarified that NDA had not yet taken over the management of Sellafield as this would happen on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016. He also noted that while Dounreay was also a complex site it was 10 times smaller than the Sellafield site and had identified an interim end state date being achieved in 15 years whereas Sellafield's end state was 130 years away.

Nigel Lowe also noted the following:

- Within Dounreay, focus is continuing in monitoring the progress of the improvement notice and RSA variation.
- The change control confirming the baseline for the site decommissioning programme has now been approved and the site will adopt the new plan effective from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. The change of the interim end state date means that over the contract life there is additional money from the overall Dounreay programme which is good news for the local area and the supply chain.
- Dounreay has always been a site that has had much interest and this continues as visitors from countries such as Japan and Canada who continue to visit the site to see for themselves how the decommissioning is being progressed.
- A successful DSRL supply chain event was held with over 80 suppliers in attendance with a lot of engagement and a lot of interest with some people travelling some distance to attend.
- Outside the site fence but still within the area, the NDA Nuclear Archives project was on track in terms of the construction contract. Public engagement had been carried out in June and the public response was very positive. The pre-planning work and statutory consultees were consulted before the planning application was submitted and it is expected that the application will be considered on the 24<sup>th</sup> March. If the planning response is positive it was expected that work would start on site by June 2015.

Cllr George Farlow stated that he sat on the Planning Committee and asked that it was minuted that he took no part in the discussion on the NDA Nuclear Archives. David Flear added that it had been pleasing to hear that there had been socio economic clauses within both construction and commercial partner contracts and praised Anna MacConnell for the work she had done in this area.

- On a national front, the NDA business planning consultation was still underway.

- A co-operative agreement had been signed between the NDA and Japan to establish an intellectual property agreement which Dounreay would figure highly in.
- Consolidation of the Magnox/RSRL sites continued to progress.

DSRL:

Roger Saxon noted the following highlights from the sub group meeting.

- DSRL had provided a written update, DSG(2015)P007 refers.
- The new decommissioning programme had been delivered to the NDA on schedule and this allowed the site to focus on project delivery which in turn will provide some stability for the workforce.
- The site took a decision to close due to adverse weather in January.
- The second phase of the new low level waste facilities (two vaults) will be constructed by 2020.
- There was new particle monitoring vehicles now deployed to continue monitoring beaches.
- An application to close off Landfill 42 had been submitted to SEPA.

Mark Rouse, DSRL Managing Director, showed a short video before providing a verbal update. The video showed the extent of the work being carried out in one of the plants in the Fuel Cycle Area which is required to decommission a particular plant. He explained that this sort of activity is carried out behind fences and is therefore not visible to the many visitors on the site and nor does it change the sky line however it demonstrated the progress being made inside the plants. He concluded that this also showed an example of the excellent, safe work that continues to be carried out at the site in support of the decommissioning programme.

He also noted the video of the UFCF referencing the fact that a number of local supply chain companies had been involved with this project.

- The breakdown of WRACS (Waste, Receipt, Assay, Characterise and Supercompactor) had impacted on the waste being processed. The repair to the plant was nearing completion and this would be followed by active commissioning.
- SEPA had approved the authorisation for the disposal of Low Level Waste in the new facility. The authorisation had come with a couple of caveats which DSRL would clarify before closing out.
- The work carried out on safety, along with the NDA signing off the new contract provided Dounreay with a good start to 2015. The site would continue to concentrate on safety but with the programme now approved it allowed the site to move forward in delivering the programme which would lead to a busy workforce.
- The Dounreay Castle had recently been affected by the weather with the north wall falling down. While the castle is outside the licensed fence it sits on Dounreay land and because of its significance in history Historic Scotland were informed of the storm damage and representatives

visited the castle to assess the damage.

- In addition to the local supplier's event DSRL also held a Shaft and Silo suppliers day in Manchester which was well attended with a lot of industry interest.
- A number of the senior team contribution to the promotion of Caithness and Dounreay. As an example, a presentation by the Managing Director had been provided at a recent UKTi event which not only showcased the work at Dounreay but covered the capability of the local supply chain involved in the projects and the fact that the local supply chain are good at coming up with good, robust and simple solutions.
- The site would be hosting a visit by a delegation of Japanese visitors who were the equivalent to the NDA and fascinated by the UK structure.

Roger Saxon noted that a few years ago the priority on the site was to see the skyline change however he noted that the NDA had a priority of reducing high hazards which was effectively the right thing to do.

Deirdre Henderson noted that at the last Buldoo Residents Group meeting the site had made the residents aware that phase 2 of the construction of two vaults for low level waste would be built. Previously they had been informed that a third vault was required and now it transpired that two vaults would be built. Mark Rouse responded that the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of construction had always two vaults. The planning approval allowed for up to six vaults to be built and it had been phased to ensure vaults that may not be required would not be constructed. Deirdre Henderson stated she believed that the two new vaults would be for the waste taken from the existing pits and from decommissioning activities. She asked if the site had a good grasp on the amount of low level waste that would be accumulated from decommissioning as well as those retrieved from the existing site pits. Mark Rouse responded that low level waste volumes had been predicted.

Roger Saxon noted that the site would minimise waste as much as possible. Mark Rouse re-iterated that the site had planning permission for 6 vaults and that this would not be exceeded. Deirdre Henderson said previous management had led them to believe that if they minimised waste enough the first phase of the vaults would have been enough to accommodate the waste from the site. Mark Rouse replied that the site carries out robust waste minimisation which is a legal duty before sentencing waste to the vaults. Deirdre Henderson responded that this was a big issue for the residents of Buldoo with the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the vaults moving closer to the residential houses. David Flear stated that it was important for Buldoo residents to continue their input with the site in a positive way. The planning approval had stipulated a liaison group and this was right and proper and needs to continue as phase 2 commences. Deirdre Henderson said this would have to happen as this would directly impact on the residents. David Broughton suggested that DSRL put in writing information regarding phase 2 with the volumes of expected waste arising from the retrieval of the existing pits as well as the decommissioning waste.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A018: Mark Rouse, DSRL to provide an update on the phase 2 construction of the low level waste vaults and the volumes of low level waste existing and arising which will be disposed of in the facility.

SEPA:

Roger Saxon noted that SEPA had provided a written update to the DSG sub group meeting – DSG(2015)P004 refers. The paper provided updates on:

- SEPA's discussions and challenge to the site on its environmental improvement plan.
- The new low level waste facility submission was going through SEPA's internal process – it was expected to be complete to allow operations to start at beginning of April.

Roger Wilson provided the following verbal update:

- Site Inspection Work and Radioactive Substances Act (RSA) Compliance: Further to the fire that occurred in the PFR 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 system and the management and supervision of decommissioning activities, as reported in SEPA's January report, DSRL has completed the improvements by the required deadlines to date. DSRL are required to complete the various improvements between 1 March and 1 June 2015 and SEPA will be carrying out an inspection of the improvements.
- In January SEPA undertook an inspection of DSRL's implementation of its ongoing Environment Improvement Programme. The inspection found that a large amount of effort has been put into this and progress has been made and it was recognised that further work in some areas is required. SEPA will be carrying out further inspections.
- In March SEPA undertook an inspection of the undertaking of the beach monitoring programme. The areas inspected involved the setting up of the monitoring vehicle mounted monitoring equipment, planning of the survey work, surveying of Sandside beach and the analysis, assessment and reporting of the survey results. 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 February, SEPA received notification of an issue regarding the mis-consignment of items containing thorium from Dounreay to the National Nuclear Laboratory (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 it to return the items to Dounreay, in accordance with the RSA authorisation.
- On other site work, 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 have been provided to DSRL.
- SEPA were provided with updated documentation from DSRL relating to the low level waste facility and SEPA undertook its process of consideration of DSRL's readiness to being facility operations. SEPA concluded that it was content for DSRL to accumulate and disposal 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 waste package grouting process.
- SEPA had been consulted by the Highland Council on an application by the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to build a nuclear archive centre at Wick John O'Groats airport industry estate. SEPA has responded with no objection to the development and provided advice on drainage issues.



- An inspection of Waste Management Licence was carried out in February and it was found that suspended solids level was breached in a groundwater sample at D3100 landfill site in Quarter 4. The resample was below the trigger level. A CAR abstraction limit was exceeded by the low level waste facility at 110m<sup>3</sup> in February and discussions regarding varying the limits are ongoing. SEPA were also informed that the sewerage installation work is proceeding for the houses at Buldoo and Upper Dounreay. NDA had provided approval to progress with non-invasive work at present.

Tor Justad noted that SEPA had mentioned thorium and asked on a scale of 1 to 10 how significant was this. Roger Wilson responded that SEPA were awaiting the outcome of a site investigation report but added that the quantities were relatively small. He noted that SEPA would comment further following receipt of the report and once SEPA had an opportunity to review the content. Mark Rouse re-iterated that this had been low activity items. David Flear suggested further discussion would be more appropriate at the sub group meeting once SEPA had further information.

#### ONR

ONR, had provided a written update for the January sub group meeting – DSG(2015)P003 refers. Of note:

- A number of ONR inspections had taken place.
- Continued discussions with site on the PFR Sodium Tank Farm.
- Changes to the ONR site team. These had been outlined earlier in the meeting.

Peter Watson, ONR stated that this would be his last DSG meeting having taken the decision to work on a part time basis and therefore his role would be handed over to Sheila Hutchison.

Peter continued with clarification of the role of ONR compared with SEPA's role with regard to the management of radioactive waste, in relation to the new low level waste facility. He explained that the regulatory responsibility for minimising the total volume and rate of accumulation of LLW rests with ONR (under licence condition 32), whereas the disposal of LLW is regulated by SEPA. . Because of the situation with WRACS being out of action the accumulation of waste had, and continued to, increase. Inspections had been undertaken to the modifications for WRACS under LC32 and this appears to be going well with progress being made for the commissioning of WRACS and the low level waste grouting facility. Once WRACS was back in operation there was no doubt that the site would be able to reduce the backlog of waste.

Peter Watson provided a verbal update of the following:

- Licence Condition 21, in relation to the Breeder Fuel Removal facility, which is part-operational and part-inactive commissioning and consideration was being given as to how to relate this to the UFCF as appropriate. It was felt that the site had made adequate arrangements for commissioning, and was implementing them adequately.
- At times the lock down arrangements for security can conflict with safety arrangements and recently there had been good dialogue with DSRL which allowed the revision of the lockdown procedure. This now means that the lockdown procedure would not be the default position and would be considered now on a case by case basis.

- ONR were made aware of the DSG discussion with NHS Highland with regards DSRL's involvement to ensure there are adequate arrangements in place for dealing with contamination casualties. It would be important that the health provisions are adequate for that purpose.
- Regarding safety representatives at Dounreay, ONR were grateful for their input to discussions and the work that they carry out. They had made a very thorough impassioned statement to ONR senior management who were now well aware of the safety reps concerns. ONR were aware of the deteriorating trends and morale issues but were not sure that the root causes are clearly defined. As an example of this, two years ago ONR made a comment about poor lighting in one facility and the decision on site was taken not to improve the lighting and instead temporary lighting was installed. This was believed to be an example of poor management judgement however with the new management in place action had been taken and facility lighting had been replaced providing a much better environment to work in.
- The PFR Tank Farm had not, in itself, been a significant incident but ONR had decided to take action following a series of incidents. Engagement continues between ONR and DSRL and positive signs of improvement were starting to come through.
- The site improvements were on a different timescale and learnings from the Improvement Notice should be applied across the site.
- On a personal note, Peter Watson thanked DSG members for all their hard work, adding that the

attend and pleased that it was a positive experience.

Roger Saxon also noted that Tor Justad and David Broughton had both visited Barrow, facilitated by the NDA, to see the Ocean Pintail which is the vessel which would be used in the transport of nuclear material. The two representatives had both submitted a written report which would be taken at the next sub group meeting.

David Broughton said it had been a very good visit and noted that the people involved had been very professional. The boat appeared to be extremely well design, with 'double up' everything. He felt those who provided the information had been very honest without breaching security. They had heard about the safety case and interesting accident scenarios and he had come away with full confidence in the operations of the physical assets of the boat. He thought it was important to point out that it had been made clear they did not operate under cost and time pressures.

Tor Justad agreed with David's comments. The Captain showed them as much of the boat as possible and it was basically a ship within a ship. There were also tugs that the company could call on if required. While the boat was 28 years old there had been a lot of refurbishment work and appeared to be managed well. He added that questions raised previously still remained, ie how long would a container survive if they could not be retrieved from the seabed (if an accident occurred). There had been three recent incidents of ships sinking or running aground, all of which has been reported and there is still a concern from the general public especially with fuel movements. He recognised, however, that the ship was as good as these ships can be but it did not mean that accidents could not happen. He also recorded his thanks to INS people and the Captain for a well organised visit.

David Flear stated, on the subject of fuels, he believed NDA and DSRL had held a meeting with Orkney Councillors and senior officials and were provided with a DSRL update and a presentation from INS on the vessel. Given these discussions he had been led to believe that the Council's policy to oppose either sea or air shipments would be put on the agenda to be considered at a subsequent meeting.

It was also noted that DSG had submitted a response to the UK Government's review of CoRWM and a draft response to the UK Government's consultation on low level waste was currently being finalised in time for submission.

There being no further discussion, Roger Saxon thanked everyone for their input and handed over to Derrick Milnes to provide an update from the Socio Economic sub group.

For completeness, the actions from the DSG Site Restoration sub group are recorded here:

- DSG(2015)M001/A019: Lt Cdr Andy Mole to consider translating the safety statistics in future written reports into TRIR statistical data.
- DSG(2015)M001/A020: June Love to circulate the NDA's briefing note on the management of Sellafield to DSG members.
- DSG(2015)M001/A021: June Love to clarify who the two CoRWM representatives were who visited site as a follow up to the main CoRWM visit.
- DSG(2015)M001/A022: David Flear to write to CNC representative re attendance at meetings.

Socio Economic sub group update

Derrick Milnes noted that the sub group had met in January and members had all received advance copy of the minutes – DSG/SESG(2015)M001 refers. Of note:

- The NDA were progressing with a paper on the NDA's contribution to socio economics in Caithness & North Sutherland since their inception in 2005.
- The NDA Nuclear Archives project was progressing and Simon Tucker, Project Manager would be meeting with DSG members on 25<sup>th</sup> March and would also attend the CNSRP Advisory Board to provide an update.
- DSRL reported that the new socio economic plan for 2014 was in the process of being drafted and would come forward at the next sub group meeting.
- DSRL also outlined the work they were doing with their Commercial Department to look at ways of including socio economic clauses in contracts.
- Funding for the Caithness Transport Forum had been committed by DSRL for the next two years. However, Highland Council had decided they could not commit further funding from their discretionary fund and therefore the Forum now had a shortfall of funding. The Caithness Chamber of Commerce who manages the Forum had received a number of letters of support, including one from the DSG, and Highland Council were in the process of trying to identify a different funding stream to allow this work to continue.
- The new reprofiled decommissioning plan had been discussed in relation to the new timeline and the resource required to take the site to the interim end state. Once the work was completed a summary of the People Plan would be provided. DSG members voiced their opinion that if the site required additional resources they may offset the local supply chain and DSG would question whether this would be the right approach. Until the strategy was understood this would be something that DSG would continue to look at.
- DSG had written to the CNSRP Chairman regarding concerns for third sector funding given the budget constraints of the Highland Council. A response was awaited.
- CNSRP had also provided a written report and there had been an indication from HIE that there was some projects coming forward seeking funding from DSRL. Further updates would be provided at the next sub group meeting.

Derrick Milnes then invited the following to provide a verbal update:

NDA: Nigel Lowe provided a short presentation on NDA's contribution to socio economics since 2005 (See DSG(2015)C025). The draft paper was handed out in hard copy at the meeting. It was agreed that this would be placed on the next socio economic sub group agenda for discussion.

Action: DSG(2015)M001/A023: June Love to include NDA's socio economic paper on next socio economic sub group meeting agenda.

DSRL: Mark Rouse noted the following:

- The socio economic plan for 2015 was nearing completion.

- A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) had been signed by UHI and DSRL which allowed close working relationships between DSRL and the North Highland College, UHI. The next step was to get Donald MacBeath's team on site for a visit and explore where there can be mutual benefit. Improved skills for the DSRL workforce (for Dounreay decommissioning and beyond) would be important for the future of the local economy.
- Support continued to the CNSRP Programme Manager to develop the high level programme.
- The Dounreay Socio Economic Alliance (NDA/CDP/DSRL) had approved DSRL funding of £20K to submit a planning application for the Community Sports Hub.

CNSRP: Eann Sinclair reported:

- The first tranche of reporting against the CNSRP high level programme had been provided and would be tabled at the CNSRP Advisory Board and DSG meetings. Major projects including harbours, North Highland College, airport, Inward Investment activities.
- Wick Harbour Authority were in detailed discussions with BOWL personnel and had been provided with support from Cavendish Nuclear and HIE.
- The Meygen project was moving along and Scrabster would benefit from this work. It is expected that the first for devices would be put into the water in 2016.
- At Wick JOG airport NHV had established a helicopter hangar and HIE had completed a piece of work that provided confidence for future helicopter operations.
- Early discussions were taking place with Cavendish Nuclear about future plans (beyond Dounreay) and similar discussions with Rolls Royce.

HIE: Roy Kirk noted:

- That the Meygen project would be a world's first in the development of tidal energy and this would happen in Caithness. He believed the scale of this could be enormous.
- There are three other sectoral specific projects being taken forward at varying stages of discussion and were also starting to look at other sectors (non energy related).
- As well as the extension of Dounreay's programme there are some real things starting to happen.
- It was important to continue to raise awareness of Caithness and North Sutherland as a dynamic and healthy place to do business and this continued with events being organised to ensure the promotion of the area continued. He thanked DSRL for June Love's part-time secondment as part of the team taking these things forward.
- An event in Holyrood had been planned for 24<sup>th</sup> March and interest had been good. Further events were being developed.
- There was still a lot of work to be done but there was some real alternatives coming forward.

Caithness Chamber of Commerce: Fiona Levack noted:

- They were keen to continue with the Caithness Transport Forum with the Berriedale Braes remaining one of the priorities, as well as looking at the new rail franchise and Georgemas junction.
- NDA/DSRL had funded a business support programme and to date 25 individuals had been provided with business advice on topics including social media, support and legal advice.
- A proposal for the Invest in Youth project was being prepared with a view that the Chamber would look to become the co-ordinator, to ensure business is engaged in looking at new and innovative ways to get young people into work.

North Highland College, UHI: Donald MacBeath noted:

- That endorsed the remarks made by Mark Rouse and welcomed the opportunity for his staff to get out to site to meet with Project Directors to assess the best way to provide solutions going forward.
- A strategic planning forum would be held in April. This was a major event to form the strategic direction for the college moving forward. A number of people had been invited and it was hoped that this would result in a good turnout.
- Invitations to submit tenders for a design contract to take forward the main campus and bring it up to the standard of ETEC and the ERI. There was a lot of support in establishing a new centre and the aspiration was to ensure that the campus was a quality facility.
- UHI fared very well in environmental research from a major quality assessment on research by UK Universities. ERI staff was heavily involved and it is hoped that this will release some research funding.
- NHC was working with SSE and there were 12 students about to embark on a pre-apprenticeship programme. The hope is this is the first of a number of joint training initiatives.
- A small delegation of students would be visiting a sister college in the USA with a view to reporting back findings. This was the first time there had been an opportunity to send some students over.

David Flear noted that, while he had mentioned this at the AGM, it was worth noting that the Caithness & North Sutherland Fund, set up in relation to the low level waste facility, was contributing to the area in a very positive way. Since its launch in 2011 the fund had awarded a total of £974,475 to 74 community projects which had levered funding to the total value of approximately £4.7M.

For completeness, the actions arising from the DSG Socio Economic sub group are recorded here:

- DSG(2015)M001/A024: DSG Socio Economic sub group members to provide comments to Eann Sinclair on tourism actions (see DSG(2014)C084).
- DSG(2015)M001/A025: DSG Socio Economic sub group members to comment on the draft vision for Dounreay Socio Economic Plan. .

- DSG(2015)M001/A026: Ken Nicol to provide a response in relation to procurement and whether sea transport had been explored.
- DSG(2015)M001/A027: Ken Nicol to check that there was no duplication between the Speed Careers event and Jobs and How to Get Them.
- DSG(2015)M001/A028: Ken Nicol to provide a summary of the DSRL People Plan to next Socio Economic sub group meeting.
- DSG(2015)M001/A029: June Love to invite Shona Kirk to next Socio Economic sub group meeting to provide briefing on progress of the Community Sports Hub project.
- DSG(2015)M001/A030: June Love to draft DSG letter, for approval, in relation to funding for third sector organisations to CNSRP Executive Board and copied to Advisory Board members.

#### 9. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

David Flear noted that members of the public had been invited to comment following each agenda item. He asked if anyone from the public wished to raise anything. No issues were raised.

#### 10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

David Flear noted that he and Derrick Milnes had attended the NDA's Site Stakeholder Group Chair's forum in Manchester in February. This had provided the opportunity to meet with the other site stakeholder group chairs and vice-chairs. NDA had re-issued their guidance note for stakeholder groups which DSG continued to comply with and updates from the Magnox sites with regards to the recent competition was provided.

David Flear also noted that it was important to be aware that DSG representatives were involved in a number of other meetings outside formal DSG meetings. He stressed the importance of DSG representatives to continue to work actively to ensure they continued to be the 'eyes and ears' in relation to site operations and to continue to ensure that the socio economic activities were joined up. An example of this was the recent meeting organised by DSG to meet with NHS Highland. David noted that during his next year in office he would continue to ensure these sorts of things had a joined up approach.

David Flear invited members to raise any issues that had not already been covered. No further topics were raised.

Before closing, David Flear noted that this had been a long meeting but had felt it had been worthwhile. It would be important that DSG continued to squirrel away, ask questions and move forward with Dounreay as it progressed through. He acknowledged the support provided by DSRL and the NDA and looked forward to that continuing in the coming year.

There being no further business, David Flear formally closed the meeting.

David Flear  
DSG Chairman  
23<sup>th</sup> March 2015



ACTIONS ARISING FROM THIS MEETING

DSG(2015)M001/A001: Secretary to draft letter to Environmental Health regarding noise monitoring for the CNC firing range.

DSG(2015)M001/A002: June Love to send Cllr George Farlow SEPA's website link to the latest RIFE report.

DSG(2015)M001/A003: Roger Wilson, SEPA to seek assurances that the appropriate person in SEPA was aware of monitoring carried out in Norway.

DSG(2015)M001/A004: Mark Rouse, DSRL Managing Director to confirm the training hours undertaken by DSRL staff since the safety pause.

DSG(2015)M001/A005: Andy Beckwith, Project Director Fuels to clarify whether questions raised with regard the UFCF can be responded to having considered security regulations.

DSG(2015)M001/A006: June Love to include safety improvements on the March DSG agenda.

DSG(2015)M001/A007: June Love to speak to Bob Earnshaw in relation to the DSG Annual General Meeting.

DSG(2015)M001/A008: June Love to confirm date of meeting with Simon Tucker, NDA Nuclear Archives Project Manager and confirm with DSG members.

DSG(2015)M001/A009: June Love to confirm the NHS meeting with representatives of DSG.

DSG(2015)M001/A010: NHS Highland to provide information on the Redesign Committee and its sub groups along with the roles, remit and representation.

DSG(2015)M001/A011: NHS Highland / DSRL to update and formalise agreement with respect emergency arrangements.

DSG(2015)M001/A012: Eann Sinclair, CNSRP to invite NHS Highland representative to CNSRP Advisory Board.

DSG(2015)M001/A013: Eann Sinclair to provide information on Science Festival (STEM activities).

DSG(2015)M001/A014: June Love to provide contact details for NHS STEM co-ordinator to DSRL STEM co-ordinator to link in.

DSG(2015)M001/A015: Trudy Morris to send NHS Highland invitation to 'Preparing our Young People for Employment' event on 18<sup>th</sup> February.

DSG(2015)M001/A016: Trudy Morris to invite NHS Highland representative to visit Caithness when Health Minister visits.

DSG(2015)M001/A017: Kirsty McIntosh to attend (by teleconf) Clinicians meeting.

DSG(2015)M001/A018: Mark Rouse, DSRL to provide an update on the phase 2 construction of the low level waste vaults and the volumes of low level waste existing and arising which will be disposed of in the facility.

DSG(2015)M001/A019: Lt Cdr Andy Mole to consider translating the safety statistics in future written reports into TRIR statistical data.

DSG(2015)M001/A020: June Love to circulate the NDA's briefing note on the management of Sellafield to DSG members.

DSG(2015)M001/A021: June Love to clarify who the two CoRWM representatives were who visited site as a follow up to the main CoRWM visit.

DSG(2015)M001/A022: David Flear to write to CNC representative re attendance at meetings.

DSG(2015)M001/A023: June Love to include NDA's socio economic paper on next socio economic sub group meeting agenda.

DSG(2015)M001/A024: DSG Socio Economic sub group members to provide comments to Eann Sinclair on tourism actions (see DSG(2014)C084).

DSG(2015)M001/A025: DSG Socio Economic sub group members to comment on the draft vision for Dounreay Socio Economic Plan.

DSG(2015)M001/A026: Ken Nicol to provide a response in relation to procurement and whether sea transport had been explored.

DSG(2015)M001/A027: Ken Nicol to check that there was no duplication between the Speed Careers event and Jobs and How to Get Them.

DSG(2015)M001/A028: Ken Nicol to provide a summary of the DSRL People Plan to next Socio Economic sub group meeting.

DSG(2015)M001/A029: June Love to invite Shona Kirk to next Socio Economic sub group meeting to provide briefing on progress of the Community Sports Hub project.

DSG(2015)M001/A030: June Love to draft DSG letter, for approval, in relation to funding for third sector organisations to CNSRP Executive Board and copied to Advisory Board members.

#### ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

DSG (2014)M002/A007: Secretary to liaise with Scottish Government to explore whether a presentation on Higher Activity Waste implementation would be available for the June meeting. Action ongoing: Scottish Government were awaiting sign off from ministers.

DSG(2014)M002/A012: Bob Kury, Deputy Managing Director, Dounreay to share learnings from the DSRL study into the Interim End State with DSG when available. Action ongoing: Long term action.

DSG(2014)M002/A014: CNC to provide presentation on CNC's role to the next site restoration sub group meeting. Action ongoing: Liam Bain noted that a presentation had been prepared and would

be provided at the next sub group meeting.

DSG(2014)M003/A009: Emma Forbes, Highland Council Planning, to look into the issue of excessive noise at the CNC Firing Range and report back to DSG. Action ongoing: Emma Forbes, Highland Council said she was still progressing this. She had spoken with Environmental Health again who had indicated that they had received individual complaints and would endeavour to get the noise monitoring completed.

#### ACTIONS COMPLETED SINCE LAST MEETING

DSG (2014)M002/A025: Eann Sinclair to provide a timeline of actions generated from the Tourism meeting. Action complete: see DSG(2014)C084.

DSG(2014)M003/A011: Roger Wilson to provide information on the number of hydrogeologists that SEPA have at present and what would be required for the future. Action complete: There were two hydrogeologists working on Dounreay related matters. SEPA have an additional 4 qualified hydrogeologists and 9 more junior people. It is difficult to predict future requirements but SEPA have introduced a training scheme to ensure the suitably qualified people.

DSG(2014)M004/A001: June Love to put safety on site restoration sub group meeting as a standing agenda in order to review monthly progress reports from DSRL and updates from NDA and the regulators. Action complete: on agenda from 14<sup>th</sup> January meeting.

DSG(2014)M004/A002: June Love to circulate all presentations provided at meeting to DSG members. Action complete: circulated with website links via DSG December summary.

DSG(2014)M004/A003: Nigel Lowe to look at the justifications cited for the transfer of the Exotics fuels to Sellafield. Action complete: Nigel Lowe confirmed that there was no record that justification for fuel movements was made on cost savings.

DSG(2014)M004/A004: June Love to liaise with DSG members to identify a suitable date for all interested to visit the Pintail at Barrow. Action complete: DSG Site Restoration sub group representatives (Tor Justad and David Broughton) to attend on 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

DSG(2014)M004/A005: Tor Justad to forward the safety observations or an appropriate web-site link to Nigel Lowe via the DSG chair. Action complete: In relation to ships carrying nuclear materials from UK ports vessels, there is a report of the fire on the ship Atlantic Cartier on May 1 2013 carrying 9 tons of plutonium hexafluoride- you will find more detail on the website of NFLA (Nuclear Free Local Authorities) - Briefing 120 dated 4 March 2014

In terms of INS ships, in an INS report prepared for its Board dated November 2010 it states that in the recommissioning of MV Oceanic Pintail The larger type flasks (Castor 28M and TN81) and Pu packages will need some further analysis and a complete survey of the hold to ensure that any physical protrusions in the hold are also taken into account, as well as lifting frame space requirements" analysis of larger type casks will require further analysis and they will also need to ensure that any physical protrusions in the hold are also taken into account as well as lifting frame space requirements" Also on the website of CORE (Cumbrians Opposed to a Radioactive Environment) - dated 15/4/12 there is detail of safety concerns about Oceanic Pintail.

In relation to MV Parida the Danish Marine Accident Investigation Board website lists the MV Parida incident as a current investigation so more information about the ship will be available when the

report is published. The ship is Danish owned but carries the flag of Barbuda and Antigua. This flag is known as a "flag of convenience" which is a way to reduce operating costs and avoid the regulations of the owner's country. Many incidents have been recorded of poorly trained foreign crews on ships flagged in this way and this why the observation was made in relation to the MV Parida.

DSG(2014)M004/A006: June Love to confirm local procurement event once date is identified. Action complete: Procurement event will take place on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

DSG(2014)M004/A007: June Love to co-ordinate pre-meeting with DSRL Managing Director on ASFL presentation. Action complete: meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014.

DSG(2014)M004/A008: June Love to include 'health, safety and environment' on the December DSG agenda and inform site management and regulators that they will be invited to update at the public meeting. Action complete: on agenda for December meeting.

DSG(2014)M004/A007: June Love to invite Eleanor Scott to next DSG Site Restoration sub group meeting (January 2015). Action complete: Eleanor Scott to attend meeting to be held in January.

DSG(2014)M004/A010: June Love to organise a meeting with Phil Cartwright and the Business meeting to review socio economic spend for 2014-15. Action complete: Attended on 2<sup>rd</sup> January 2015.

DSG(2014)M004/A011: DSG members to provide comments on NDA draft business plan to June Love. Action ongoing: see DSG(2015)C011.

DSG(2014)M004/A012: June Love to collate all comments on NDA draft business plan and submit to NDA. Action complete: See DSG(2015)C011.

DSG(2014)M004/A013: DSG Secretary to follow up letter to UK Government Minister on PWR3 considerations and request response re timing of report. Action complete: reminder sent.

DSG(2014)M004/A014: DSG Secretary to circulate NDA's response to virtual reprocessing to DSG members for information. Action complete: link to UK Gov's response to consultation was sent on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014. See link: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/363544/FINAL\\_Government\\_Response\\_to\\_Consultation\\_OCT.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/363544/FINAL_Government_Response_to_Consultation_OCT.pdf).

DSG(2014)M004/A015: DSG Business meeting to consider topic of change management and safety/environment occurrences on full DSG agenda for December. Action complete: agenda topic, health, safety and environment have been included for December meeting.

DSG(2014)M004/A016: Christine Lee to ask for an update on the PFR Flask Arrestor Gear crane. Action complete: Modifications were made to the Flask Arrestor Gear crane and these have been completed. Before it is returned to service, the operating instructions for its use will be re-written, and a training module produced for the drivers.

DSG(2014)M004/A017: DSG Secretary to circulate NDA Strategy III questionnaire and stakeholder engagement/socio economics presentation for members to provide comments/feedback. Action complete: see DSG(2014)C077.

DSG(2014)M004/A018: DSG Secretary to organise meeting between NDA Head of Programme and DSG Business Meeting. Action complete: meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

DSG(2014)M004/A019: Members to provide any comments to outline draft paper on NDA's contribution to the economy of Caithness/North Sutherland by Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014. Action complete: see DSG(2014)C076.

DSG(2014)M004/A020: David Flear to raise DSRL transportation contract in relation to DRS at the next Caithness Transport Forum. Action complete: Raised at Caithness Transport Forum on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

DSG(2014)M004/A021: Mike Muir to have a discussion with CNSRP representatives on potential opportunities which could also benefit the area in terms of required infrastructure etc. Action ongoing: dates being considered for this meeting.

DSG(2014)M004/A022: DSG Secretary to circulate NDA Stakeholder engagement and socio economics presentation to allow members to provide comments/views.

DSG(2014)M004/A023: DSG Secretary to draft response to Highland Council's consultation on budget. Action complete: response provided re ensuring the area can continue to regenerate and that HC need to take account of this.

DSG(2014)M004/A024: Secretary to draft letter from DSG with regards to the changes being proposed to Caithness General Hospital. Action complete: see DSG(2015)C003.