



Submarine
Delivery Agency

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Councillor Struan Mackie
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VULCAN DECOMMISSIONING COMPETITION - UPDATE

Dear Struan,

I am pleased to advise that I am now in a position to provide you and the Dounreay Stakeholder Group (DSG) with the much-anticipated update on the Vulcan Decommissioning Competition. As you know, our ability to provide a full explanation on why the Prior Information Note was withdrawn on 30th October 2020 has been limited as options for future activity were under consideration by the Ministry of Defence (MOD) and also due to the potential effect on several potential industrial partners where equitable treatment needed to be assured.

During 2020, a review of the totality of fuel management activity identified that the Vulcan fuel management facilities would be required for longer than originally planned. Over the last few months, Vulcan staff have worked on detailed plans to undertake this work in a way that will deliver the intent to remove all fuel from site as soon as is reasonably practicable, whilst balancing the delivery of decommissioning with the need to support the extended fuel management scope. As a consequence of this extended scope it is anticipated that the date by which all fuel will be removed from site will be extended by up to three years until the end of 2025, during which time it is intended that the site will continue to be operated on behalf of the MOD by Rolls-Royce.

The intent remains to compete the contract for site decommissioning and the detail of this will be published on the AWARD management tool to ensure parity of treatment for potential bidders. It is emphasised that this change is not expected to impact Vulcan's ability to remain coherent with the Dounreay Civil site decommissioning timeline.

An update to industry on the procurement is about to be published on AWARD and, as mentioned, a revised Prior Information Note will follow in the summer to provide the detail and commence the new competition.

I look forward to being able to provide a fuller briefing at the DSG's September meeting.

Yours Sincerely

Gwendolynne (Wendy) Newton
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MOD

