



Dounreay Stakeholder Group  
Site Restoration Sub Group Update Report  
April 2022

## **Covid-19**

COVID-19 Full details of SEPA's response to the COVID-19 pandemic are available on our website at; <https://coronavirus.sepa.org.uk/> .

## **Cyber Attack**

On Christmas Eve, SEPA was subject to a serious and complex cyber-attack which has significantly impacted our contact centre, internal systems, processes and communications.

Following the attack, we immediately enacted our business continuity arrangements and took immediate action to limit the impact of the cyber-attack, notifying relevant authorities, including Scottish Government, Police Scotland, the National Cyber Security Centre and the Information Commissioner's Office with whom we continue to work.

While Police Scotland has indicated the likely involvement of international serious and organised crime, SEPA has been clear that it will not engage with criminals intent on disrupting public services and extorting public funds. The matter is subject to a live criminal investigation

While some systems and services may be badly affected for some time, step-by-step we're working to assess and consider how we recover.

We've published:

- Our [Cyber attack | Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#)
- Our [Cyber-Attack: Service Status | Scottish Environment Protection Agency \(SEPA\)](#) information

SEPA are updating its service status on a weekly basis.

## **DSRL Regulatory Team**

SEPA has expanded the team of site inspectors supporting the regulation of DSRL with the addition of David Stone and Corynne McGuire. This change broadens the range of skills across our DSRL regulatory team and provides greater resilience for the future.

## **Site Inspection Work & EASR Compliance**

In February SEPA undertook an inspection of DSRL site arrangements for the management of low level waste. SEPA assessed DSRL compliance with EASR standard conditions B.2.2, B.6.1 and C.3.1 which requires permit holders: to optimise their approach to the management of radioactive waste; only treat radioactive waste where it represents BPM and not transfer radioactive waste unless it represents BPM. SEPA found the site to be compliant with these conditions.

In April SEPA undertook an inspection of DSRL arrangements for compliance with EASR standard condition A.1.1 which requires the permit holder to have adequate financial and human resources to ensure compliance with the authorisation. SEPA inspected DSRL's arrangements for provision of adequate human resource and found the site to be compliant with this condition.

Engagement with DSRL projects continues with project update meetings held with Shaft & Silo, DMTR, Fuels. FCA, DFR, and PFR.

In February SEPA issued DSRL with an Information Notice requiring a report detailing options assessment work undertaken for the non-active drainage system by end of May 2022. DSRL have updated SEPA on progress and advised they remain on target to meet this deadline.

### **Particles**

SEPA are aware there has been an increased number of particles found on the Dounreay foreshore this year, with the majority being found on the west foreshore. Although there has been a relative increase in the number of particles found on the foreshore, the activities of the particles found recently are within the range of those previously found. It should be noted that the foreshore area is physically difficult to access and the foreshore is an area of extremely low occupancy. To date there has been no increase in the rate of particle finds at Sandside beach

DSRL's permit requires them to undertake monitoring of the foreshore on a fortnightly basis (except during 1 May – 31 August due to nesting birds) and recover the detected particles.

SEPA is engaging with the Particles Retrieval Advisory Group (Dounreay), group to determine what data it requires to consider the impact of the recent particle finds. PRAG(D)'s consideration of the impact of the recent particle finds will inform SEPA's response.

### **Transition to Magnox**

SEPA continue to be updated on progress toward transition to Magnox. In the coming months we expect further engagement and will be undertaking a detailed review of supporting documentation.

### **Low Level Radioactive Waste Facility**

Public consultation on the application to vary the site permit has now closed. SEPA received two responses which it is now considering as part of its determination.

### **Non-Nuclear Site Regulation**

Nothing to report.

### **Planning**

Nothing to report.

### **Vulcan**

SEPA are aware the MOD and NDA are exploring options for transferring liability for the decommissioning of Vulcan NRTE to the NDA Group. SEPA are supportive of this proposal and look forward to future engagement with both parties on this matter.

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Radioactive Substances Unit