

Scottish Government Update to Dounreay Site Stakeholder Group – 7th December 2022

Scottish Government Radioactive Substances and Nuclear Decommissioning Policy Team

Higher Activity Waste Policy (HAW) Implementation

SG is currently developing a programme of work to further progress the delivery of the commitments in the 2016 HAW Strategy. This will comprise a number of specific work streams and projects that will enable SG and partners to deliver against the commitments made in the implementation strategy.

This includes a high level and technical piece of work assessing the credible options for near surface disposal concepts which may be suitable for the disposal of the higher activity waste generated in Scotland. This project will not be making any decisions on a final disposal concept, or location. It's an early investigatory piece of work and a first step at looking at near surface disposal (NSD) in Scotland.

A short presentation on this work will be given at the meeting on the 7th.

Work with NDA

The SG team also attended the NDA Stakeholder Summit in Edinburgh in September and supported the Minister for Environment and Land Reform, Mairi McAllan, as she delivered the keynote speech. The summit was an excellent opportunity to network with stakeholders from across the UK and highlight the importance of nuclear decommissioning in Scotland and joint working between Scottish Government and NDA.

https://twitter.com/ScotGovNetZero/status/1567542749800398849?ref_src=twsrc%5Egogle%7Ctwcamp%5Eserp%7Ctwgr%5Etweet

The annual meeting between Scottish Ministers and the NDA Chair to discuss nuclear decommissioning in Scotland will also be due in the early part of the new year.

UK Energy Bill

The UK Energy Bill, which contains provisions regarding nuclear sites, is on hold at the moment but will recommence its parliamentary passage at both Westminster and Holyrood in due course. The Scottish Government's legislative consent motion was laid at the Scottish Parliament in September.

[Energy Bill | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Energy Bill \[HL\] - Parliamentary Bills - UK Parliament](#)

ONR – 7th Joint Convention report

The Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management Seventh Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties took place from the 27th of June until the 8th of July. Diane Hamilton represented Scottish Government as part of the UK delegation, which was well received. The summary report of the seventh review meeting can be accessed at the link below.

[summary-report-seventh-review-meeting.pdf \(iaea.org\)](#)

Site Visits

Diane Hamilton and Dan Couldridge visited the Dounreay and MoD Vulcan sites at the end of September, to further our understanding of these sites and the local issues. The SG team visited Torness last month and have visits to Hunterston and Chapelcross scheduled for early next year.

Scottish Government**7th December 2022**