



Update for DSG

NDA

December 2023



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NDA Stakeholder Update

Please find below a brief update on main points of interest since the last meeting.

- NDA's sponsoring department, the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), has a new **Secretary of State** following Grant Shapps' move to the Ministry of Defence. Claire Coutinho previously held roles as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for Education, and Department for Work and Pensions.
- The Department's dedicated **Minister for Nuclear and Networks**, Andrew Bowie visited some of the NDA estate at Sellafield and Barrow in September.
- NDA's **new Interim Chair**, Chris Train OBE, replaced Roz Rivaz whose term of office ended in August. Chris has over 38 years' experience in the Energy, Utilities, Regulation and Infrastructure sectors. He has held chief executive, and other senior roles at Cadent, National Grid, Transco and Lattice. He has also sat on various European and international committees.
- Chris Train and David Peattie met with the **SSG Chairs and Vice-Chairs** in Manchester on 16-17 October. This is an annual meeting and enables senior NDA management to better understand the issues facing communities around the NDA sites.
- Chris and David also hosted the NDA annual briefing with **Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary** for Just Transition and Net Zero, Mairi McAllan MSP on October 26th.
- After the successful in-person stakeholder summit in Edinburgh last year, preparations are underway for the next in-person event in Cumbria in 2024. We continue to promote both in-person and online events, and intend to host a **virtual summit** on December 12th 2023. We will update you on the full agenda over the next couple of weeks.
- NDA took part in the Nuclear Industry Association's '**Week in Parliament**' this September. It is an opportunity for MPs and other parliamentarians to gain a better understanding of the contribution that nuclear – including decommissioning – makes to the economy both nationally and at a constituency level. It is estimated that businesses in nearly 75% of



parliamentary constituencies contribute to the supply chain that supports delivery of the NDA's mission.

- NDA hosted a **Scottish Supply Chain** event in Dunblane on November 8th. Around 465 supply chain companies work for NDA Group in Scotland.
- Through the National Decommissioning Centre/University of Aberdeen, a report highlighting the **NDA's Economic Impact in Scotland** has been produced. This compliments the recent local SE impact studies published last year. Full details on this report be issued over the next few weeks.
- On November 9th, NDA attended the **SEPA VIBES Awards** 2023 in Glasgow. The event celebrated the environmental credentials of companies large and small around Scotland. NDA sponsored the Medium-Sized Business Category.
- **Nuclear Restoration Services (NRS)** has been announced as the new name for Dounreay/Magnox.
- Preparations have continued for the NDA and NRS to take on decommissioning of the fleet of **Advanced Gas-cooled Reactors (AGRs)** from EDF Energy. The first site to transfer is expected to be Hunterston B in 2026. The first reactor at Hunterston B has now been fully defueled.
- The NDA has developed a draft **code of practice** to provide guidance to sites and site licence companies (SLCs) on how timing and pace of decommissioning could be assessed in a more structured, consistent and transparent manner. The proposed Codes of Practice for Determining Pace and Timing of Decommissioning will be in line with Strategy 4 and DESNZ policy and has so far been discussed with the sites, regulators and Nuleaf but will also be discussed with SSGs in advance of publication.
- Every year, NDA publishes its **Mission Progress Report** which details the work that has been going on over the past year and how that contributes to the completion of our mission. This year's edition is expected to be published in November.
- Every three years, NDA reviews its **socio-economic strategy** to check that it is fit for purpose and updated where necessary. The last one was published just as the pandemic took hold and much has changed since then. A consultation process on the new strategy will go-live on GOV.UK towards the



end of November 2023 and last 12 weeks. An advance copy will go to SSG Chairs no later than Friday 17th November.

- In November, NDA were delighted to announce the sale of CPX land (6 hectares) to South of Scotland Enterprise for re-development. In October, the CPX site hosted a visit from the **Scottish Government Hydrogen Team** – CPX has been identified as a SG Hydrogen Hub.
- The search for a suitable site for a **Geological Disposal** Facility (GDF), to permanently dispose of the UK's higher activity waste, continues. Two key parameters are that the geology must be suitable and that the community itself is willing to host the facility. We have been working with three communities in Cumbria and one in Lincolnshire. It is now clear that the geology around one of these – Allerdale in Cumbria – will not support a GDF and Nuclear Waste Services (NWS) has decided to wind down the project there. The programme continues with the other communities and NWS is still looking for other communities that might be interested in participating.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. If you have any questions, please feed-back through the Secretariat.



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