



NDA Update for DSG

November 2024



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NDA Stakeholder Update

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

Government Update

As previously advised Sir Keir Starmer as the new UK Prime Minister, appointed the Rt Hon Ed Miliband as the Secretary of State for Energy and Net Zero, with his team of Rt Hon Lord Hunt OBE as Minister of State for Energy and Net Zero, Sarah Jones MP as Minister of State for Industry, Kerry McCarty MP as Parliamentary Under Secretary for Climate, Miatta Fahnbulleh MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary for Energy Consumers and Michael Shanks MP as Parliamentary Under Secretary for Energy.

As part of the running of government the selection of representation for select committees has been underway alongside familiarisation visits for key Ministers and officials into their appointment areas.

Key appointments include local Sellafield MP Josh MacAlister, as Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Nuclear with David Mundell, MP for the area covering Chapelcross, as Vice Chair. The Energy and Net Zero Committee (ESNZ) has also made appointments which include site MPs Josh MacAlister and Julie Minns and there are three MPs with NDA sites located in their constituencies sitting in the Public Accounts (PAC) and ESNZ.

Board updates

Harriet Kemp recently (30th August) joined the NDA board. She has extensive background and experience in HR matters and remuneration matters including working at Compass Plc, Novartis and Pepsi.

Outreach activities

Following a site visit to Sellafield by the new **Energy Minister Lord Hunt** he recorded a short video about his visit which can be watched on the Sellafield Ltd Facebook page.

Engagement priorities for 2024

- We recently held our Stakeholder Conference on September 17/18 in Manchester. We'd like to thank all those that attended and engaged and if you haven't already would encourage you to provide us with feedback via Slido. In due course we'll be putting up videos from the event so check out the NDA linked In page. During the event David Peattie announced that the NDA would be investing an extra £5m over the next five years to support around 20 PhDs. This builds on the current annual spend of £45m in early careers, including apprenticeships, graduates and PhDs.



- As mentioned in previous updates, our independent review into the SSGs is underway. This exercise will provide an opportunity to reflect on the successes of the stakeholder voice in the local community over the last 20 years. It will also allow us to consider how best to address some of the challenges that face us as we think about the future. Our Chairs and Vice-Chairs played a role in helping to draft the scope of the review and they received a short progress update at the SSG Chairs and Vice-Chairs meeting mentioned above.
- We are in the process of developing and designed our next broad **stakeholder survey**. More details will be available in due course.
- As you will be aware preparation is underway for **Strategy V** which we expect to publish in March 2026. Our strategy document is published every 5 years and describes our high-level approach to delivering our mission. Within that we identify several critical enablers essential to the successful delivery of our mission including public and stakeholder engagement. The NDA attended a recent Enablers meeting with West Cumbria stakeholders as part of our engagement process.
- The latest **CPG** took place in the **Scottish Parliament** with the main topic being 'Skills'. Actions included Vice-Convenor (SNP) to introduce motion into Chamber regarding skills gaps. Skills Development Scotland to consider work plan that pulls various activities together. NDA and DESNZ to report back on progress of Scottish Skills Hub. DESNZ to re-visit 'Destination Nuclear' campaign to re-consider where 'decommissioning' is positioned. **Next CPG meeting December 17th** – topic 'Radioactive Waste – dealing with the legacy'.
- We are working closely with the Nuclear Industries Association (NIA) to establish a **Cross-Party Group on the Civil Nuclear Industry in the Welsh Parliament**. The aim is to have first meeting in November 2024.

Publications, public service and policy updates

- We have now published our **Annual Report** which has also been laid in Parliament. The Annual Report sets out the progress made against our mission, from safely decommissioning existing sites to preparing to take responsibility for more, while managing radioactive waste for our existing programme and new nuclear
- The previous Government and devolved administrations published an updated policy for nuclear decommissioning and managing radioactive substances, including radioactive waste. Publication follows consultation undertaken last year on the proposals. [Read details of the policy here](#).
- The policy included an expectation that the NDA should explore with stakeholders the potential for optimising the LLW Repository to take suitable, less hazardous intermediate level waste. Engagement with the local community and relevant stakeholders will be an important part of this work, alongside further technical evaluation. If appropriate, the project would proceed to creation of a final business case and seek necessary approvals. Nuclear Waste



Services will be working with relevant key stakeholders, including the West Cumbria Sites Stakeholder Group, to inform its thinking

- As previously advised we expect the Scottish Government to start its review into its policy for higher activity radioactive waste (HAW). The policy framework is set out in a 2011 Policy and the 2016 Implementation Strategy. The anticipated timeline is: Commence review – late 2024, hold a public consultation – early 2025, issue a revised Policy document – late 2025.
- The new nuclear industry skills “roadmap” has been launched aimed at attracting and retaining the sector’s workforce of the future. The National Nuclear Strategic Plan for Skills (Skills Plan) is based on sector collaboration, investment in training, leadership development and improving diversity. The NDA is a signatory to the charter, which was signed at Westminster, that underpins the goal to double the number of new apprenticeships by 2026 and recruit 40,000 new jobs by 2030.
- The **NAO value for money study** into whether Sellafield and the NDA are taking a sustainable approach to decommissioning, leading to permanent hazard reduction has now been published and can be found via the following link [Decommissioning Sellafield: managing risks from the nuclear legacy - NAO report](#). The PAC is likely to consider the NAO report sometime before April.
- We have recently published our **Nuclear Heritage Strategy**. The NDA are tasked with decommissioning the UK’s legacy nuclear sites, sites and facilities which have been at the heart of delivering nuclear benefits for the UK, including national defence programmes and supplying safe, low-carbon power, for decades. The heritage strategy enables the NDA group to identify and preserve the tangible and intangible assets, objects, and memories of the nuclear industry, the people who worked in it, and the communities that supported it.
- NDA has published its **Socio Economic Report for 2023/24**, detailing a record investment in projects across the UK - [NDA group investing in our communities - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Mission delivery

- The NDA recently launched its brand-new, specialised cyber facility to accelerate collaboration and innovation across nuclear operators and the supply chain, enhancing the collective ability to successfully defend against cyber threats. The Group Cyberspace Collaboration Centre (GCCC) provides a space for experts in cyber, digital and security to come together and share knowledge and learning on how best to defend against evolving threats. The centre is a multi-functional space for collaborating, brainstorming, workshops, talks, learning and tutorials, cyber exercising, incident management and more. It aims to encourage our cyber, digital and security experts to think and work differently, with our shared future foremost in mind.



- Future plans for our Chapelcross site in Dumfries and Galloway were unveiled in August, with a long-term vision to develop the site into a Green Energy Hub: [Chapelcross Masterplan - CX Project](#)
- NWS and the NDA have established an innovative partnership for the enhanced management of asbestos waste, awarding two contracts to establish the **Asbestos Innovation Partnership**. This partnership will work with the NDA group and the supply chain, to test and develop new solutions to treat asbestos waste, helping to deliver efficiencies and enable more effective waste management.
- A collaboration between NRS, NTS and NWS has achieved a significant milestone by transporting the final waste from the Treated Radwaste Store (TRS) in Winfrith to the LLWR for disposal. The completion of this project ahead of schedule means that the need for **waste storage at Winfrith** which closed in 1990 has been removed, leaving the site ready for decommissioning.
- NDA and NRS have underlined their commitment to Government to, where possible, safely accelerate **land release at Harwell** site to maximise the economic impact of decommissioning. We have identified clear areas of strategic importance and will work together with the Harwell Campus joint venture on developing options for those areas. We are at early stages and still progressing the current release of plots, aiming to have a broader plan for land release this autumn.
- The hearing for the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) charges against Sellafield Ltd under the Nuclear Industries Security Regulations 2003 took place on 20 June at Westminster Magistrates Court in London. Sellafield Ltd entered a guilty plea to all charges. The sentence was pronounced on 2nd October with a fine of £332,500.00 being imposed.

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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