

# **Dounreay Site Stakeholder Group**

## **Site Restoration Sub-Group**



**Site Inspection Work & EASR Compliance**

During the reporting period SEPA has engaged regularly with Dounreay at a programme level or directly with project teams on matters relating to ongoing projects including Waste Management, FCA decommissioning, Reactor decommissioning and the Shaft & Silo Waste Retrieval Project.

As previously reported, NRS had notified SEPA of a potential leak of radioactively contaminated water from the D2001 Carbon Bed Filter (CBF) to ground on the Dounreay site. It has been established that the water level within the CBF had been decreasing, caused by a small leak from the CBF structure. No increased levels of radioactivity have been detected in groundwater monitoring sample points which are located downstream of the CBF. NRS has subsequently removed water from the CBF and has installed level monitoring instrumentation to monitor any water ingress into the CBF and any leakage from the CBF.

SEPA's investigation of the circumstances concluded that NRS had contravened conditions of its EASR radioactive substances permit. In July, SEPA issued a Regulatory Notice to NRS that specifies the steps it is required to take.

NRS is currently undertaking work to address the requirements of the notice and SEPA has provided feedback on NRS' response to step 1.

During July, SEPA observed the shaft monitoring options assessment undertaken to underpin the selection of the technical solution for the ongoing monitoring of the shaft between now and site closure.

Following notification from NRS regarding a fault with equipment software used for activity assessment of solid waste in the WRACS facility, NRS has updated SEPA on the results of its investigation. SEPA has been engaging with NRS on its addressing of the identified EASR radioactive substances permit non-compliances which related to the use of best practicable means when conducting measurements; records and training requirements.

Following notification from NRS regarding consignment of PFR drummed waste to the D3100 facility, NRS has updated SEPA on the results of its investigation. SEPA has been engaging with NRS on it addressing of the identified EASR radioactive substances permit non-compliances which related to records and written procedures.

**Variation Application**

SEPA determination of the EASR permit variation application from NRS-Dounreay to make changes to the list of authorised gaseous outlets and remove a specified waste transfer route remains ongoing. The application does not request any change to current discharge limits.

**Low Level Radioactive Waste Facility**

SEPA continue to engage with the LLWF team on a regular basis and are content that the facility continues to operate in a compliant manner.

SEPA undertook an inspection of the LLWF facility in September to assess compliance with maintenance and asset management requirements of the site permit and is considering the findings at present.

Progress continues with the determination of the application to vary the site permit. Internal peer review of the draft permit will begin in the coming weeks.

**Dounreay Non-Nuclear Site Regulation**

Nothing to report.

**Vulcan**

Nothing to report.

**Vulcan Non-Nuclear Site Regulation**

Nothing to report.

Stewart Ballantine  
Radioactive Substances Unit

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