

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT UPDATE TO DOUNREAY SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP – 3RD DECEMBER 2025

SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT RADIOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING POLICY TEAM

Designation Directions for Decommissioning Hunterston B

We have been engaging with the DESNZ and the NDA on the amended Designation Direction that is required to transfer the Hunterston B site to the NDA for decommissioning, as required by the Energy Act 2004. A direction for Hunterston B was previously laid at the UK and Scottish Parliaments in 2021. This Direction allowed the NDA to undertake preparatory work before taking ownership of the Hunterston B site, including giving the NDA the necessary powers to be able to advise the UK and Scottish Governments regarding the future decommissioning of the site. This new Direction is required as it includes updated details following preparation work over the last few years and will enable the transfer in April next year. Scottish and UK Ministers will need to approve the new Direction, with the aim being for it then to be laid at both the UK and Scottish Parliaments early next year.

NDA Strategy V

Scottish Government are continuing to work with the NDA on the development of their Strategy V document, ensuring that Scottish Policy and practices are properly reflected. The public consultation closed on 29 September 2025. The document will need to be approved by both UK and Scottish Ministers, as well as being laid at both Parliaments, in accordance with the terms of the Energy Act 2004. The intention is to publish the Strategy in Spring 2026.

Parliamentary Business

The team has been dealing with some routine Parliamentary Questions regarding Scottish Ministers role in NDA governance. We have also had some parliamentary questions in relation to Scottish Ministers role in the potential transfer of Vulcan from the MoD to the NDA. The Parliamentary Questions and the responses can be found here;

[Written question and answer: S6W-40499 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40558 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40500 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40557 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40556 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

[Written question and answer: S6W-40559 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

Bill Kidd MSP also raised a Parliamentary Question regarding safety at Faslane following a number of media articles in relation to a reported incident at the Faslane base. Mr Kidd's question and the SG response can be found [here](#);

[Written question and answer: S6O-04914 | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

Mr Kidd initiated a debate in parliament on the issue, which our team supported at parliament. The full transcript of the debate can be found [here](#);

<https://www.parliament.scot/chamber-and-committees/official-report/search-what-was-said-in-parliament/meeting-of-parliament-17-09-2025?meeting=16579&job=141512>

Diane Hamilton
Scottish Government