

**BERKELEY NUCLEAR LICENSED SITE
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT OLDBURY INFORMATION
CENTRE**

ON WEDNESDAY 1 NOV 2006

PRESENT:

Cllr P Wride (in the chair)	-	Berkeley SSG Chairman
Cllr N Cooper	-	Berkeley SSG Vice-Chairman
Cllr D Wride	-	Stroud District Council
Cllr V Shenoi	-	Forest of Dean District Council
Cllr R Dawson-Marsh	-	Lydney Town Council
Mr F Baker	-	National Farmers Union
Cllr D Burgess	-	Alkington Parish Council
Cllr V Watts	-	Berkeley Town Council
Mr S Andrews	-	Trade Union Representative
Mr B Archer	-	Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr J Crocker	-	Site Director, Berkeley
Miss H Atkin	-	Human Resources Manager, Berkeley Site
Mr R Phillips	-	EHS&Q Manager, Berkeley Site
Mr S Houston	-	ILW Store Project Lead, Berkeley Site
Mr S Payne (Secretary)	-	Public Relations, Berkeley Site
Miss T Owen	-	Public Relations, Berkeley Site
Miss A Kentish	-	Communications, Magnox Southern Region
Dr D Warner	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Ms A Presdee	-	Gloucestershire First
Mr J Beckett	-	Environment Officer, Stroud District Council
Mr P Gilbert	-	Stroud District Council Planning
Mr A Jardine	-	Berkeley Estate/Country Landowner Assoc
Dr C Smitton	-	Nuclear Consultant
Cllr E Holmes	-	Berkeley Town Council
Mr R Darlymple-Smith	-	Local Resident
Dr C Chudley	-	Local Resident

I APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1 Cllr Mrs Wride welcomed members to this meeting of the Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group (SSG).
- 2 Apologies for absence were received from:

Mr D Withey	-	Environment Agency
Mr J Gilliland	-	Office Civil Nuclear Security
Cllr R Bartlam	-	Stinchcombe Parish Council
Cllr M Prakel	-	Alyburton Parish Council
Mr N Woodward	-	Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust
Mrs M Morrey	-	Health Protection Agency
Dr T Ejidokun	-	Health Protection Agency
Mr D Lane	-	Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue
Mr D Hagg	-	Chief Executive, Stroud District Council
Mr J Balfe	-	Stroud District Council, Planning
Ms E Jackson	-	Stroud District Council, Planning

- 3 It was noted that members of the public had been invited to attend this meeting. Notice of the meeting had been publicised in local newspapers, on local radio and on town and parish notice boards.

II MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING HELD ON 5 JULY 2006

(a) Accuracy

- 4 The minutes of the meeting of the joint meeting held on 5th July 2006 were reviewed and deemed accurate.

(b) Matters arising

- 5 Mr Payne referred to paragraph 4 of the minutes concerning the outfall from the Berkeley Site raised by Mr Baker. Mr Payne said that the outfall is not within the site boundary and that he had spoken to Mr Edgare of the Environment Agency (Ops Delivery), who confirmed that the Environment Agency were responsible for maintaining the tidal flap. It was confirmed that the last inspection was a year ago and another inspection was due in October 2007.

III SITE MANAGERS REPORT – JIM CROCKER, SITE DIRECTOR

- 6 Mr Crocker began his report by highlighting the site significant safety record and that it had now been 101 weeks without a lost time accident at the site.
- 7 Mr Crocker described a near miss incident at the site where a worker nearly cut through a live cable. He said that work was suspended on the site for two weeks whilst investigations and risk assessments were carried out. He said that work had now resumed and valuable lessons learnt. These will be fed back through the Operational Experience Feedback process throughout the other Reactor Sites.

- 8 Mr Crocker told the group that British Nuclear Group will now be split and sold off separately, with the sale of Reactor Sites to be completed by next Spring. He said that the majority of staff who are employed within the Site License Company (SLC) will not be affected by the sale. Those who will be affected are employed by British Nuclear Group within the Site Management Company, which included him.
- 9 Mr Crocker gave the group a brief update of the site projects. He said that partial site de-licensing was still on track to be completed by December 2006, which would be a huge milestone for the site. Once partial site de-licensing had been completed BNLS staff would then move back to the power station site of the site. Mr Crocker reported that the Shielded Area work is moving on well and should be completed by 2008. Caesium Removal Plant work is progressing to plan and should be complete 2009. The Active Waste Retrieval Project (AWVR) is progressing well, with prototype retrieval systems being explored with the project being completed by 2011. He stressed that under the current plan early reactor dismantlement is not included and the site will enter Care and Maintenance in 2011 (pending approval of plan).

IV PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED ILW STORE, JIM CROCKER SITE DIRECTOR

- 10 Mr Crocker said that in September he had met with the NDA board regarding waste storage at Berkeley, where it had been agreed that the current strategy of storing waste below ground in the Reactor 2 blower hall was not the way forward for the storage of the site ILW waste. He explained that he believed that the original plan would not make a safety case with the regulator as it was not large enough to take all the waste on the site and that the regulator would as prefer an above ground store. There were also some other operational issues. It was agreed that the new strategy will be for an above ground storing facility, based on the Hinkley Point A store design.
- 11 Mr Baker asked where the new store would situated. Mr Crocker said that nothing had changed, only that a new on-site store for the safe storage of encapsulated waste would be built within the site boundary subject to planning and regulatory approval. He said the main focus was hazard reduction by removing the waste from the various streams on site and storing it safely in a fit for purpose storage building.
- 12 Mr Crocker explained that the new store is consistent with the current three box strategy that has been adopted by most other reactor sites, the three boxes being the two reactors and the store above ground. He also explained that the new store would be of modern standards with a design life for 150 years. He stressed that this did not mean that the waste

would stay at Berkeley for a 150 years but the building design will allow storage for this amount of time pending a national repository.

- 13 Mr Crocker said that new store will be 300 feet long by 100 feet wide and made of reinforced concrete. He showed the group a diagram detailing the dimensions of the new store in relation to the reactor buildings. He also invited members of the group to the site for a tour to show them where the proposed store would be located.
- 14 Mr Burgess asked if seeking planning permission was the first stage of the process. Mr Crocker said yes and that discussions have been started with the site regulators, Gloucestershire County Council and Stroud District Council planning teams. He said that following this meeting he planned to undertake presentations at local town and parish council meetings.
- 15 Mr Crocker explained that the new waste store would store waste from the shielded area project as well as from the vaults. He said that a temporary buffer store will be built to hold the waste from the shielded area, to allow demolition of the shielded area building. This would hold that waste whilst the vaults project progressed to ensure that all waste storage was maximised in the new ILW store.
- 17 Mr Crocker said that to satisfy the regulators, a safety case would have to be produced. He also said that a Best Practical Means Study (BPM) and an Environmental Impact Assessment would be carried out. This would include studying, landscape and visual impact, traffic and transport, ecology and archaeology, socio-economic impact, geology, hydrogeology, air quality, noise and vibration studies.
- 18 Mr Crocker said the site would hope to submit its plans to the local planning authorities by the 31st March 07, seeking planning permission by July 07 and be operational by December 2009. He said that throughout this process he would keep the SSG updated on progress.
- 19 Cllr Wride asked if the demolition of the buildings on the Berkeley Centre side of the site will be happening at the same time as the building of the new ILW store. Mr Crocker replied that the site will be treated as two separate projects following de-licensing. He said that the demolition of the Berkeley Centre would be in stages commencing April 07 and finishing March 08. He explained that the NDA has asked for there to be a phased demolition to allow for any change in strategy at some point in the future. Dr Warner said the current plan is to return the site to a green field state, but emphasised that there is a currently an end state consultation taking place to look at what state the land should be left in following decommissioning. He also explained that the NDA are about to contract property specialists to look at the Berkeley Site and to advise on any potential future uses of the site. He explained that the older

buildings on site will be demolished leaving the newer buildings, which maybe commercially attractive and these are what the study by the property specialists will focus on. He said that they will look at whether the buildings are better left standing as an asset more so than the land beneath them.

- 20 Cllr Wride said it is very important that the local community need to know what the plan is for the site including the demolition. Cllr Shenoj asked had the flood levels been at the site been considered and has the site taking into account the proposed building of the Severn barrage. Mr Crocker said he has not been in any discussions regarding the barrage. He said that he understood the flooding issues and this is why the site is moving the waste from the underground vaults to a new above ground store, to maximise hazard reduction on the site. Mr Archer said that any safety case submitted to the regulator would have to include the mitigation of risks such as flooding.
- 21 Ms Presdee said she had visited the site and asked if whether the site would consider leasing buildings on the site for external income. Dr Warner explained that this is an NDA issue and the NDA will be looking at these types of issues at the site. He said that the NDA is a public body charged with maximising the returns on the assets it holds. Mr Crocker explained that under current plan that after December 07 there will be no electricity, sewage or water services provided on the de-licensed part of the site, with exception of BIL who are making their own arrangements and a separate business case to the NDA
- 22 Mr Baker asked why the proposed new store was positioned so far from the reactor buildings and surely by moving it closer you could bring the site boundary in considerably. Mr Crocker explained that the construction activities that need to occur over the next few years on the site will require lay down areas and that the proposed ILW store has been positioned in this way as to be outside of the R2/C2 boundary. This means that construction workers can operate a lay down area and work on building the ILW store under CDM regulations and do not have to enter the R2/C2 area, which requires dosimetry.
- 23 Cllr Burgess asked that if a national store becomes available in the future will the proposed ILW store have future uses. Mr Crocker said potentially it could have future uses, but the building is simply a concrete box.
- 24 Mr Gilbert asked why the site was removing all services from the de-licensed part of the site and that surely a serviceable site is a more valuable asset than one with no services. Mr Crocker explained that the infrastructure on the site is old and in need of renovation including the electric and drainage systems. He said that the site sewage plant is not coping with the amount of sewage and the site has had to ship off sewage to ensure they stay within EA authorisations. Mr Crocker said this is why the site would be cutting off the services following partial site de-

licensing. Mr Gilbert said that is important to tell people about these issues to aid their understanding of the site.

V NII INSPECTORS UPDATE – BRUCE ARCHER, SITE NII INSPECTOR

- 25 Mr Archer introduced himself to the site as the site NII Inspector for Berkeley and Bradwell. Mr Archer said in terms of the proposed partial de-licensing of the site, the NII set strict limits on the site to demonstrate that the de-licensed part meets their requirements. He said that the NII send independent contractors to check the radiation surveys being carried out by the site to ensure compliance. He said that the NII were hoping to meet the site's request to achieve site partial de-licensing by the 15th December. Cllr Wride said that she would like to thank all the regulators for giving the group the chance to ask them questions, as this is very reassuring for the local community, who sometimes fear the industry through their lack of understanding.

VI ENDSTATE CONSULTATION UPDATE, CLLR PENNY WRIDE, SSG CHAIR

- 26 Cllr Wride said that several SSG subgroup meetings had been held to decide the strategy for the consultation and that the contract to undertake the consultation had been placed with Hyder Consulting. She said that the consultation would include a door stepping exercise, stakeholder workshops and open public exhibitions. She said the group would be kept up to date with progress. She said that Cllr Cooper and she had been to a NDA end state workshop on the 27th September in Bristol and that she had also visited the Hinkley Point A SSG meeting on the 13th October. Cllr Wride also explained that Ham and Stone Parish Council were undertaking a questionnaire on their parish plan, which also included questions relating to the end state consultation. She concluded by saying that she would be representing the Berkeley SSG at the NDA National Stakeholder Group meeting later in the month.
- 27 Cllr Cooper said that Hyder Consulting were also undertaking the Oldbury Power Station end state consultation, which he believed would be beneficial to Berkeley as there are a number of synergies between the two sites and cross over of town and parishes. Cllr Wride said that as Oldbury had already started, that Berkeley could pick up on the learning points to improve their consultation. Ms Presdee asked that people are made aware of the consultation events in advance to allow people the chance to attend. Cllr Dawson Marsh said that the consultants should ensure that they include Lydney in consultation. Cllr Wride said that Lydney would be fully included. Miss Atkin stressed that as part of the tender specification, Lydney would be included as one of the target areas.

V11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

37 Mr Jardine asked if it would be possible for the site to produce an A4 for external stakeholders outlining what has been going on, on the site so to keep them updated with progress.

V111 DATE AND TIME OF THE NEXT MEETING

7th February 2006 – Venue to be agreed.

Actions

Action No.	Description	Task
Nov/1	A4 External Newsletter for stakeholders	S Payne – To look into the site producing a quarterly A4 update for local stakeholders

SJP
10 November 2006