

## HINKLEY POINT SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

### Minutes of the meeting held at Hinkley Point Training and Induction Centre on Friday 27 June 2008.

#### Present

##### Cllr M Short (Chairman)

Mr P Higginson

Mr B Kury

- Fiddington Parish Council
- Technical & Safety Support Manager, Hinkley Point B
- Site Director, Hinkley Point A Site

#### Elected Members

Cllr C Allen

##### Cllr M Caswell (Vice-Chairman)

##### Cllr M Brown

Mr A Jeffrey

Cllr K Dyer

Cllr J Edwards

##### Cllr A Fraser

Cllr J Freeman

Cllr B Garner

Cllr N Hercock

Cllr M Hogg

##### Cllr D Hill

Cllr N Jones

##### Cllr Dr M Kellaway-Marriott

Cllr S Kingham

##### Cllr C Morgan

Mr J Pinkard

Ms L Scott

Mr B Slade

Cllr T Taylor

##### Cllr T Williams

- Cannington Parish Council
- Stockland Bristol
- Otterhampton Parish Council
- Stop Hinkley
- Sedgemoor District Council
- Spaxton Parish Council
- Sedgemoor District Council
- West Somerset District Council
- North Somerset District Council
- West Somerset District Council
- Nether Stowey Parish Council
- Sedgemoor District Council
- Sedgemoor District Council
- North Somerset District Council
- Sedgemoor District Council
- West Somerset Council
- Kilve Parish Meeting
- Forum 21
- Stogursey Parish Council
- West Somerset District Council
- Kilve Parish Council

#### Appointed Members

Mrs N Dawson

Mr D Haigh

Mr T Howes

##### Mr G Hudd

Mr D Withey

Dr D Warner

- Somerset Civil Contingencies Unit.
- Government Office South West – Resilience Team
- Civil Nuclear Constabulary
- Somerset County Council
- Environment Agency – A Station Inspector
- NDA Programme Manager Magnox South

#### Co-opted members

##### Miss B Child

- Co-opted Member

#### British Energy

Mr G Bell

Mr B Eyley

Mr D Stokes

- Public Relations Officer
- Site Inspector
- Human Resources Advisor

#### Magnox South

Mr R Adcock

Miss G Coombs

Mr J Darke

- Head of Environment
- Communication Support
- Deputy Assistant Site Manager

Mr P Hetherington	-	Communication Officer
Mr H Hughes	-	Magnox South
Mr T Jones	-	Head of Communications
Mr D McCubbin	-	Environmental Co-ordinator
Mr P Montague	-	EHSQ Manager
Mrs M Poole	-	Communication Support
Mr K Priddle	-	Project Lead
Mrs S Stewart (Secretary)	-	Communication Officer
Mr J Tott	-	Sizewell A Site

### **In Attendance**

Mr A Hurry	-	Somerset County Council Civil Contingency Unit
Ms K Lachowycz	-	South West Public Health Observatory
Mr S McPhail	-	South West Public Health Observatory
Ms T Malik	-	South West Public Health Observatory
Dr J Verne	-	South West Public Health Observatory
Ms A Watts	-	Member of the Public
Cllr P Wride	-	Berkeley SSG Chair

Members of the sub group are highlighted above in bold and underlined. Appendix 1 shows the full sub group list.

## **1. OPEN PUBLIC Q & A SESSION.**

The Chairman opened the meeting and asked if anyone had any objections to the meeting being recorded for the purpose of producing the minutes. No objections were received. He then invited questions from members of the public.

Q. Mr Jeffrey asked what progress had been made with the Hinkley Point B Stations Boron Bead Safety System.

A. Mr Higginson explained that British Energy were in discussion with the regulator about the possible installation of a Diverse Shut Down System added to those already in place at Hinkley Point B. The current method of shutting down the reactors is to drop the control rods using gravity. This is backed up by a secondary system that allows the control rods to be driven down using motors, a third system that injects nitrogen into the reactors, and a further safety system which is to pump water into the reactors. Mr Higginson said there is no question that the reactors could be safely shut down. There are also no issues relating to the integrity of the pressure vessel.

## **2. CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from: Mr C Graham, Cllr J Edney, Mr G Roberts, Mr N Cann, Cllr N Hercock, Cllr K Turner, Mr R Prowse, Mr R Murray, Cllr A Trollope-Bellew, Ms D Webbe-Wood, Cllr P Tipney, Mr M Haslett, Mr N Matthews, Mr A Debenham, Cllr D Busby, Mr P Smith, Mrs J Brown, Mr C Knox, Mr M Treharne.

The Chairman clarified the fact that Mr Jeffrey was attending the meeting in place of Mr Debenham and would be representing Stop Hinkley.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands of elected members in order to confirm that a quorum was present at the meeting in the case of a vote needing to be taken. It was confirmed that 13 elected members were present which constitutes a quorum.

The following new members introduced themselves at the request of the Chairman:

Cllr B Garner – North Somerset Council  
Cllr J Edwards – Spaxton Parish Council  
Cllr J Freeman – West Somerset District Council  
Cllr N Jones – Sedgemoor District Council

### **3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 22 FEBRUARY 2008**

#### **a) Accuracy**

Miss Child asked for a correction to her title on the first page of the previous minutes as she was no longer a councillor at the time of the meeting.

#### **b) Matters Arising from Minutes of the meeting on 19 October 2007**

##### **Distribution of Potassium Iodate tablets in Stockland Bristol:**

Mr Higginson and Mr Hurry have now attended the Stockland Bristol Annual Parish meeting to discuss Potassium Iodate tablets. This matter is now closed.

##### **Induction Training for SSG members:**

A date has been set for the next induction training day to take place on Tuesday 9 September. It will require a minimum of six people to book onto the course to make the session viable.

##### **B Station financial contribution to the SSG meetings.**

Mr Higginson explained that this issue is being discussed at a corporate level between British Energy and the NDA.

##### **Update on Core Restraint Inspection Programme.**

To be covered in the B Station Report.

##### **Update on Planning Application for the Low Level Waste On Site Disposal.**

To be covered in the A Site Report.

##### **Update on Intermediate Level Waste.**

To be covered in the A Site Report.

##### **Emergency Planning Presentation – Off Site Plan.**

To be covered by Mr Hurry in Agenda Item 13.

##### **Update from Sedgemoor District Council about progress on Socio-economic link to the Low Level Waste Planning Application (106 agreement)**

Cllr Fraser said that the discussions were still ongoing and at this moment in time, no decisions had been made.

Dr Kellaway-Marriott pointed out that he had mentioned that he would be interested in seeing comparisons of cancer related statistics between Somerset and other Counties. He asked if this subject would be covered on the agenda. The Chairman said that this question should be asked of Julia Verne in agenda item 12 which relates to the work carried out by the South West Public Health Observatory.

#### 4. SITE DIRECTORS REPORT – HINKLEY POINT A SITE

Mr Kury introduced himself to the meeting and gave some background information about himself and his career within the nuclear industry. He then gave a presentation to update the group about what has been happening at Hinkley Point A Site since the last meeting.

- (i) Safety - Mr Kury explained that the site had achieved one year without a lost time accident. There have been no reportable incidents since the last meeting. The site has been awarded the RoSPA Presidents Award for the third year running. Around 3,000 Behavioural Safety Observations have been completed by personnel working at the site over the past year.
- (ii) Mr Kury explained how the site had performed over the past year. He talked about the fact that the NDA expected the Site Licence Company (SLC) to deliver work in a safe and compliant manner. He explained that the site had achieved 99% of the Performance Based Incentives (PBI's) and had achieved £4.5 million savings. The Cost Performance Index came out at 1.1 which shows a 10% efficiency saving and the Scheduled Performance Index came out at 0.99 which shows that 99% of the work had been completed.
- (iii) Waste Management – The site has sent two shipments to the US for recycling as part of the metal melt project. Three half height ISO containers have been sent to the Low Level Waste Repository near Drigg in Cumbria. Two full height ISO containers of drummed waste have been sent to Sellafield for drum compaction and 17m<sup>3</sup> of oil and sludge have been sent for incineration.
- (iv) Community Relations – Site personnel have raised around £6,000 for last year's charity of the year, Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. The Hinkley Point Fun Run took place in June. Funds are being raised this year for Children's Hospice South West. The site has recently become one of the founder members of the Bridgwater Chamber of Commerce and support for this will continue in the future. EnergySolutions continue to support the local community through the sponsorship and donations policy.
- (v) Company News – Mr Kury updated the SSG on the latest news within Magnox South. He explained that Ken Powers will be returning to the US at the end of July to take up a new role as Chief Operating Officer for EnergySolutions. Mark Lesinski will be replacing him as Managing Director for Magnox South and Ray Jepps will be stepping into Mark Lesinski's role of Chief Nuclear Operating Officer for Magnox South. Magnox South has recently produced an Achievements Brochure. The brochure highlights some of the recent achievements within the company. Copies of the brochure were available at the meeting.

Mr Kury explained that Magnox South has taken a regional approach to providing socio-economic support to the communities around the five southern sites. James Tott, from Sizewell, will be giving the SSG an update on this subject later in the report.

- (vi) Legal Separation – Mr Kury told the SSG that he and other members of the Magnox South team had attended a meeting with the regulators to present evidence for legal separation. The meeting had been successful and both the Nuclear Installation Inspectorate (NII) and the Environment Agency (EA) have confirmed that they will propose that Magnox South and Magnox North proceed with legal separation, subject to some minor actions being completed. This is expected to take place in October 2008.
- (vii) Update on Hinkley Project Work – Mr Kury explained that the site had recently completed the removal of the pipe bridges that linked the reactor buildings to the turbine hall. Work to move the 50,000m<sup>3</sup> spoil from the C Station land to the turbine hall basement and cooling water fore-

bay area is now complete. The aqueous decontamination facility has processed a further 275 skips from the R2 cooling ponds. These skips are the ones that are sent for recycling in the US. The new open plan modular accommodation building, Bay View, is now fully operational. The building is situated on the north side of the site. One of the sites big projects for the current year is to replace the old 275kV circuit breakers which supplies electricity to the site from the National Grid. The technical optioneering study has been completed and an order has been placed for the new breakers.

- (viii) Low Level Waste On Site Disposal – Mr Kury informed the SSG that the planning application for the On Site Disposal facility has been placed on hold pending an updated business case. The NDA want to make sure that the strategy for dealing with low level waste at Hinkley, meets the overall strategic policy for dealing with low level waste in the UK.
- (ix) Wet Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) – Mr Kury updated the SSG on the status of dealing with Wet ILW. He explained that the optioneering study highlighted that the preferred method of dealing with this waste is Thermal Vitrification. The second option was Drying and Compaction. As a result of some challenges by experts within the industry, the site is going to review both options before making a decision on which method to use at Hinkley Point A Site. One of the factors that could impact on the decision making process is a review of the storage containers that could be used in the future. Mini ILW Stores could replace the Nirex boxes that had previously been considered for storing the ILW.
- (x) Mini ILW Stores – Mr Kury gave a presentation about Mini ILW Stores (also known as The Yellow Box). These are very robust boxes that are currently used in Europe and the USA to contain waste. He explained that the NDA had sponsored the company to carry out a pathfinder study to evaluate whether a different option could be used to the current baseline strategy which involves building and operating an ILW Store on site and purchasing approved stainless steel Nirex boxes to store the processed ILW in.

The use of Mini ILW Stores would enable the company to start processing ILW without building an ILW Store. One of the benefits of the mini store is that the company can procure boxes as they need them. It also has shielding built into the box which means that waste contained in the box can be transported without any other shielding. The mini stores have undergone all the required technical testing to prove that they are a robust storage container, including being dropped from a height of nine metres onto a spike and extreme heat tests. Mr Kury emphasised the fact that they have not been approved for use in the UK yet so additional work would need to take place. He explained that all the SSGs within Magnox South would have the opportunity to examine a sample mini store.

Mr Kury emphasised the fact that the current baseline strategy has not changed and that the use of Mini ILW Stores is just being investigated. The Chairman suggested that with the amount of information that had been given so far and the possible changes in strategy for dealing with ILW, Mr Kury should take questions from the floor before taking a short break to give members the opportunity to look at a sample of the Mini ILW Store in the car park.

#### **Questions relating to the A Site Report:**

Cllr Williams asked if the ILW Store in the current baseline strategy would be paid for using tax payers money. Mr Kury explained that whichever method of dealing with the ILW is decided on, it will be paid for using tax payers money.

Cllr Williams also asked Mr Kury to explain what is meant by legal separation. Mr Kury explained that the NDA has asked Magnox Electric to separate into two separate companies, Magnox North and

Magnox South. The plan is to reduce the 10 individual site licences to a Magnox North licence and a Magnox South licence. There are three phases of the process that have to be completed before the licences can be issued. The first phase was regionalisation, where the company processes were regionalised on paper. The current phase is called shadow working, this is where the company have to show they have the technical competencies to operate as two separate companies. The third phase is to legally separate into two companies.

Cllr Garner asked if the use of Mini ILW Stores would increase the threat of terrorist activity from the air. Mr Kury didn't feel that use of the mini stores would have any effect on the threat of terrorist activity. The mini stores would be as robust as an ILW store.

Cllr Brown asked Mr Kury to clarify how the use of Mini ILW Stores as opposed to the currently used Nirex Boxes might effect the eventual decision taken on treatment of ILW. Mr Kury explained that the criteria for the waste to go into a Nirex Box is more stringent than that of the mini store. Because the mini stores are more robust, the waste doesn't need to be processed into such a highly stable form. Mr Kury said he felt it was the right decision to continue to evaluate the options for processing the ILW.

Cllr Brown said he was concerned to hear about the delay in submitting a planning application for on site disposal of low level waste. He wondered if this was so that waste from other sites could be disposed of at Hinkley. Mr Priddle explained that the current plan is for the application to cover Hinkley Point A Site waste only. He said that further stakeholder engagement would have to take place if this changed. He also said that current space at Hinkley is very limited and therefore it is doubtful that there would be sufficient space to take waste from elsewhere.

Mr Hudd asked where the mini stores would be stored if a decision was taken to use them. He wondered if Magnox South would store them at the point of origin or whether there would be a policy to use a single centralised store and where that might be. Mr Kury said that they would be stored on site, possibly using the footprint slab of the ILW store that had already been completed at Hinkley. There is no plan to use a regional store.

Cllr Freeman asked what the nature of the ILW material would be after drying and compaction had taken place. He was concerned that it may become airborne. Mr Kury explained the process using resin as an example. This is one of the key materials that would be processed at the site. He explained that water is removed from the resin which results in approximately one third reduction, then the resin is reduced again by compaction and sealed into the box under strictly controlled conditions. He said that the material could be in a powder form.

Cllr Williams asked who manufactures the Mini ILW Stores and who manufactures the Nirex boxes. Mr Hughes explained that two different German companies manufacture the mini stores. The Nirex boxes are approved by Nirex but not manufactured by them.

Mr Jeffreys asked if the mini stores needed any cooling systems. Mr Kury explained that based on the waste streams and forms being considered at Hinkley, no cooling system would be required.

Cllr Kellaway-Marriott congratulated *EnergySolutions* on the work done with the Decommissioning Skills Centre and the £182 K donated to the new foundation degree.

Cllr Kingham asked if the cost savings last year had been down to the recycling of the metal sent to the US. Mr Kury said efficiency savings had come from many areas. The sale of scrap metal from many projects, especially the turbine hall de-plant, had resulted in savings. Many of the savings were simply down to looking at efficient and innovative ways of workings.

**15 Minute Break to view the Mini ILW Stores.**

Mr Tott gave an explanation of the Magnox South Socio-Economic Scheme. He explained that the company had decided to take a regional approach to supporting Socio-Economic projects in the South and he was trying to encourage bids from the South West area. He explained that the Magnox South scheme is not connected to the bigger NDA Socio-Economic policy although the criteria for funding does reflect that in the NDA's own policy. Mr Tott also explained that the scheme was not connected to any community benefit schemes that may be associated with local waste issues. Copies of the scheme were available at the meeting and he confirmed that he and some colleagues were meeting with Sedgemoor Council to discuss a bid for funding from the Bridgwater Challenge Project.

The chairman informed the meeting that the order of the agenda items would change from the published agenda, in order to assist Dr Verne with her presentation. He explained that Dr Verne had accepted an invitation from the SSG to give an update on the statistics that the observatory collate. The request was made after the BBC broadcast a programme at the end of February which was based on a report by Dr Busby into infant and perinatal mortality and stillbirths near Hinkley Point.

## **5. PRESENTATION FROM SOUTH WEST PUBLIC HEALTH OBSERVATORY.**

Dr Verne described the work carried out by the regional health observatory and explained that they gather statistics for the whole of the South West and are funded by the Department of Health. The observatory's duty is to monitor the health of the area to identify patterns of disease. This information is then published on the web site and through reports to the local NHS, local councillors and members of the public. They also work very closely with local emergency services.

Dr Verne explained some of the work that the observatory had been doing recently in connection with asbestos workers in the region, road traffic collisions, the health impact of alcohol, and regional cancer statistics. She went on to explain that Health Profile reports have been produced that highlight the current health challenges for the local population. Copies were available for members to take away and are also available on the website – [www.healthprofiles.info](http://www.healthprofiles.info)

Dr Verne mentioned that a number of reports had been issued relating to increased risks of cancer and increased numbers of infant deaths in the area. She showed a number of slides which showed statistics that had been gathered by the South West Public Health Observatory at the request of the Director of Public Health, Dr Caroline Gamlin.

Dr Verne talked about infant deaths first and said that thankfully, as a result of improved nutrition and a reduction in women smoking during pregnancy, the number of deaths were very small. Statistics for Somerset show that deaths in very young babies are lower than the rest of the country, however it was pointed out that such small numbers can make it more difficult to analyse the data in small geographical areas. This results in a higher confidence interval. Dr Verne went on to explain that these low figures also create a problem when carrying out cluster analysis as statistics could be changed by including different geographical areas. Dr Verne confirmed that their analysis of the statistics did not show any significant increase in infant death numbers around Hinkley Point.

Dr Verne went on to talk about cancer deaths in the general population around Hinkley Point. There is a downward trend for all cancers within the whole of Somerset. Reduced rates of breast cancer deaths are due to the success of breast screening programmes and early cancer treatments. Dr Verne explained that a few years ago there were concerns that there seemed to be an increase in the incidents of breast cancer in the locality of Burnham North, Burnham South, Berrow and Highbridge. After further analysis of data, figures show that if breast screening programmes are taking place in a certain geographical area, the statistics for that area increase. This is because the breast screening will detect cancers earlier than if they were detected through lumps etc. Obviously this also allows for early treatment to take place. After averaging the data out over a number of years, statistics show that there are no increased cases of breast cancer in the Burnham area.

Leukaemia deaths were also an area of concern to some of the local people. Nearly all deaths in the area have been as a result of chronic lymphocytic leukaemia in older people. Again because of the small numbers, the confidence intervals overlap. Cases of leukaemia in under 15's is associated with a completely different type of leukaemia so the statistics for all leukaemia's should not be grouped together when producing reports.

Dr Verne said that the observatory had recently received a letter which highlighted a recent article in the media which showed concerns over statistics gathered in workers at Sellafield showing an increased risk of heart disease related to increased levels of exposure of radioactivity. Dr Verne has studied the paper in question as well as other papers that have studied workers in the nuclear industry. She said that in general nuclear workers are in fact healthier than workers in the surrounding areas with lower death rates. Heart disease in Somerset is much lower than the rest of England.

Dr Verne said that if anyone still had any concerns about health issues in the area, they should contact the Somerset Primary Care Trust. She also drew the groups attention to the following web sites:

[www.somersetpct.nhs.uk](http://www.somersetpct.nhs.uk)

[www.swphs.nhs.uk](http://www.swphs.nhs.uk)

### **Questions relating to the Health Observatory Presentation**

Cllr Williams asked Dr Verne if the observatory had any way of making sure action is taken if their research shows an area of concern. Dr Verne said that the statistics are used to highlight areas of health concerns in a geographical area i.e. smoking in pregnancy. These statistics are sent out to the directors of public health and the local authorities. The Regional Director of Public Health visits every primary care trust during the year as well as representatives of the local authority, to discuss the statistics and agree an action plan to improve the health of the population. The Strategic Health Authority also check on how the well the NHS is doing across the region.

Cllr Wride asked if the observatory studied mental health statistics. Dr Verne confirmed that they do study mental health and that there are concerns over the number of suicides. The Primary Care Trust do more in depth investigations in this area.

Cllr Kingham asked if radon gas was considered when collecting statistical health data. Dr Verne said that the observatory work closely with the health protection agency in identifying areas of radon gas and they issued a press release along with the trade unions to raise awareness of radon in the workplace. Dr Verne also sits on an advisory group to the Government, COMARE (Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment) who are also campaigning to reduce radon in the work place. Dr Verne also informed the meeting that a requirement is being introduced for new homes to include membranes where high levels of radon are present.

The chairman thanked Dr Verne for such a comprehensive review of the work they do in collating statistics.

## **6. STATION DIRECTORS REPORT – HINKLEY POINT B STATION**

Mr Higginson introduced himself and gave a brief description of the work he and his department are involved in.

- (i) Nuclear Safety – Mr Higginson reminded the group that a presentation had been given in the past about boiler tube inspection and repairs, including the fact that the company had a Safety Case for continued operation which included further boiler inspection work within a two year period. Reactor three (R3) inspection would take place within the statutory outage in 2009 and reactor

four (R4) would be done in the statutory outage later in 2008. The reactors continue to operate at 70% power until inspections are carried out later in the year. Hunterston B has already carried out further boiler tube inspections on their reactors with no significant findings.

Graphite – Further analysis has been carried out on the neutron doses of the core restraint and the latest information shows that exposure is within the Safety Case. Channel inspection will continue as it has done for the past 30 years on both reactors. This demonstrates that there is no restriction on the movement of control rods and that the reactor can be shut down when required. Core inspections will be carried out on R3 as part of an imminent outage and on R4 later in the year.

- (ii) Environment – No environmental events since the last meeting.
- (iii) Personal Safety – Station staff have gone for 570 without a lost time accident. Unfortunately our contract partners have only gone 127 days since their last lost time accident as someone literally tripped over his own feet.
- (iv) The site has had a number of manual shutdowns and one automatic shutdown since the last SSG meeting. Mr Higginson explained that turbine 7 was recently shutdown because of higher than normal internal control fluid flows. The steam being generated in the boilers was sent through the start-up vessel. The return to service of the turbine led to a lot of noise being created. Mr Higginson apologised for the noise and hoped it hadn't caused too much of a disturbance.

The Chairman asked if anyone had any questions relating to the B Station report. No questions were asked.

## **7. REPORT ON RADIOACTIVE DISCHARGES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING.**

Copies of the report had previously been sent out to members of the SSG. Mr Higginson explained that the monitoring programme carried out by Hinkley Point B Station shows that the radiological discharges have a minimal impact and there is no evidence of any long term accumulation of radioactivity resulting from the operation of the two sites, and radiation doses to members of the public from discharges are well below the legal limit of 1000  $\mu$ Sv in fact the annual exposure from man made radioactivity has been assessed to be around 25  $\mu$ Sv. Mr Higginson said that Cllr Williams had mentioned at previous meetings that these environmental monitoring programmes have been carried out since the 1950's before either of the stations were operating. He said that he would endeavour to compare the early results with more recent monitoring results.

## **8. NII REPORTS – MATTERS ARISING.**

The Chairman explained that four reports had been sent out since the last meeting, two for each station. He said that although Mr Smith, Inspector for B Station, was not able to attend the meeting, Mr Ford, Inspector for the A Site, was present and would answer any questions. He commented that the A Site report from January – March had highlighted concerns about changes to the decommissioning programme due to funding issues. Mr Ford said that the NII were concerned about the uncertainty of funding. He mentioned the fact that Magnox South are producing a deferral review and that the NII will review this in due course. Mr Kury went on to explain that the deferral assessments are being done as part of legal separation and that the company had agreed with the NII that the new decommissioning arrangements will be agreed before legal separation takes place. New milestones will be agreed and provided at the next meeting.

Mr Ford explained that the latest report only goes to March 2008, he has been on the site three times since then to check some site specific elements of the re-licensing process and he is happy with site developments.

## **9. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

The Chairman asked about the concerns over ventilation issues on the A Site regarding HEPA filters. Mr Withey explained that further investigations showed that there were some maintenance issues with the pre-filter in the system. The conclusions were that some issues do need to be addressed.

## **10. PRESENTATION FROM SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL CONTINGENCY UNIT.**

Mr Hurry explained that the Civil Contingencies Unit had just completed the multi-agency Off Site Plan and that copies would be sent out in CD format. He explained that Somerset Civil Contingencies Unit is a partnership between Somerset County Council and the District and Borough Councils within the county of Somerset. He explained that the Off Site Plan consists of two phases. The Emergency Phase is a multi-agency response co-ordinated by Avon & Somerset Constabulary and the recovery phase is then passed to the local authority, this could be the County Council or the District Council. The Strategic Co-ordination Centre would move from Taunton Police Station to local authority accommodation as part of a formal handover process.

Mr Hurry showed some slides identifying where the different geographical zones fell. The Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) is the 5km area where urgent countermeasures would need to be considered in the case of an emergency. The area outside the DEPZ falls within the recovery phase and goes up to 40km.

Mr Hurry said that the Site Stakeholder Group could play a role in the recovery process at some time in the future as part of the community involvement process. He felt this could be achieved by using elected SSG members as part of a specialist recovery group.

Mr Hurry explained that the Civil Contingencies Unit would be carrying out an exercise on 3rd & 4th December 2008 and would like the SSG to become involved in the recovery phase of the exercise. He asked the SSG to take some time to look at the Off Site Plan and give some feedback about SSG participation in the recovery process by the next meeting in October.

### **Questions relating to the presentation from the Civil Contingencies Unit.**

Cllr Williams asked which authority would be responsible for directing ambulance in the case of an emergency. Mr Hurry explained that the Dorset & Somerset NHS Trust would cover the area around Hinkley Point and are fully involved in the multi-agency emergency arrangements.

The Chairman asked for clarification about other community involvement in the plan. He didn't feel that the SSG knew enough about the plan at this stage to be used as an integral part of the emergency planning system. He wondered what would happen if an SSG member took on the responsibility for informing the community about an emergency and then went away on holiday.

Cllr Wride, Chair of the Berkeley SSG, said she felt it was a good idea for the SSG members to become more involved in the emergency planning process.

Mrs Dawson, Somerset Civil Contingencies Unit explained that involvement of the SSG members was part of the strand of work that still needs to be done. She explained that Mr Hurry was just making a

request at this meeting to find out if the group thought it would be a good idea to become involved in the December exercise.

Miss Child suggested that the local police could get information out to neighbourhood watch groups. Mr Hurry said that appropriate warnings and structured information needs to go out to the immediately effected community and it was felt that use of the SSG could be useful. Mr Hurry said that he didn't believe that any involvement from the SSG would be needed until possibly the second day of an emergency.

Cllr Edwards said that in the past, Spaxton Parish Council had been asked to provide representatives from the parish to be used as emergency contacts. The idea was that a CB radio would be issued and used in the event of an emergency, it seems that this system has now died a death. He wondered if there was a successor to the systems as Spaxton still appoints two representatives for this system. Mr Hurry said that the Civil Contingencies Unit is reviewing the old system and may use a different format in the future.

## **11. NDA REPORT**

The chair apologised to Dr Warner of the NDA as he realised he'd missed the agenda item to discuss any NDA business. Dr Warner said he had no specific issues to talk about but was happy to answer questions. There were no questions.

## **12. CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS**

The Chairman said that he had a few comments to make. He said that he felt he was talking for the whole group when he said that the SSG membership would like to see a firm decommissioning plan for Hinkley Point A Site. The planned date for the care and maintenance period had now slipped from around 2014 to 2025. He has spoken to Mr Kury and he has agreed to provide a list of dates against the latest plan so that members could visualise the work that has already been completed at the site and when other work is due to take place.

The Chairman wondered if it would be a good idea for the SSG to write a letter to the local MP expressing the groups concerns about the funding cuts for the decommissioning work at Hinkley. The SSG members agreed that this would be a good idea.

The Chairman said he had received an email for Mrs Brown, Parents Concerned about Hinkley expressing concerns about the two stations and had listed a number of requirements. He requested that a copy of this be sent out to all SSG members with the minutes of the meeting. Cllr Williams suggested that a copy of the Somerset Health Profile be sent to Mrs Brown.

## **13. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

The Chairman said that he had received a request from one of the members to say that he can't get to the meetings during the day time and asked if it would be possible for a future meeting to be held in the evening. The Chairman said that he would need the consensus of opinion from the members but that he felt the time of the meeting would never suit everybody and that there would probably be less members attending the meeting in the evening than the daytime. A majority of members wished to keep the meeting to the daytime. The chairman reminded the members that the October meeting would technically be the AGM for the re-election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Cllr Brown commented that he felt the request to consider an evening meeting in the future was an appropriate agenda item for the AGM.

The Chairman mentioned the remuneration for the Vice-Chairman position. At present there is an agreed emolument for the Chairman to claim £300 per meeting but nothing has been agreed for the Vice Chairman to claim an emolument. In the past the Vice-Chairman has taken unpaid leave to attend national meetings and the sub group has decided this is not an acceptable way forward. The group feel that the site licence company should find a way of ensuring an emolument is available for the Vice-Chair to attend meetings without being out of pocket.

Mr Kury agreed to take an action to work out this issue with the NDA.

Cllr Hill commented that she felt some excellent presentations had been given at today's meeting at an understandable level. She said the presenters should be congratulated.

The Chairman commented that the NDA's review of the constitution flagged up the importance of attending SSG meetings on a regular basis. He said he continues to be disappointed by the number of representatives that actually come to the meetings. There are 35 elected members and today's meeting struggled to make a quorum of 12. He suggested that a letter be sent out with the minutes asking people to try harder to attend the meetings or appoint someone in their place.

#### **14. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will take place on 31 October 2008 at the Hinkley Point Training and Induction Centre (formerly the Visitors Centre).

## Appendix 1

### SSG Sub Group/Agendas, Consultations etc.

Mike Short	Chairman – Fiddington
Mike Caswell	Vice Chair – Stockland Bristol
Terry Williams	Kilve Parish
Barbara Child	Co-opted
John Edney	Somerset County Council
Gerald Hudd	Somerset County Council
Jo Brown	PCAH
Mervyn Brown	Otterhampton Parish
Alan Debenham	Stop Hinkley
Dawn Hill	Sedgemoor District Council
Paul Tipney	West Somerset District Council
Anne Fraser	Sedgemoor District Council
Dr Kellaway-Marriott	North Somerset
Chris Morgan	West Somerset District Council