



Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group

**Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group Meeting
Friday 29 October 2010**

**Hinkley Point A Site Director's report for the period
25 June 2010 – 29 October 2010**

1. SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

The site has now gone over 1200 days without a lost time accident and over 30 months without a personal contamination event.

The site marked European Health and Safety week, with several events aimed to promote health and safety on site and at home. Amongst these, a question and answer session with a Safety Engineer on safety myths, along with a treasure hunt designed to educate the workforce on the correct forms and procedures required to work safely & compliantly. The site's Chemists entertained the workers with experiments including one which showed how metal oxidises to form rust. There were displays showing the importance of ensuring your vehicles are ready for winter. Information was also given on the necessity of maintaining your smoke alarms and CO₂ monitors at home. There was also a static display from the Environment Team, showing how we maintain a safe environment.

This year's emergency exercise programme is well underway. A series of shift exercises have begun in preparation for a demonstration of our full emergency arrangements to the NII on 18 November.

2. DECOMMISSIONING PROGRESS

Fuel Element Debris Treatment (Dissolution)

Bradwell is currently the lead site for dissolution. Once trials have been completed a decision can be made on the dissolution technology that will be used at other Magnox South sites. Members of the SSG who attended the original dissolution optioneering session will be contacted to discuss the dissolution method to be used once the Bradwell trials have been completed.

Intermediate Level Waste

The Multi Attribute Decision Analysis (MADA) report relating to management of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) streams was issued in September 2010. Copies of the report have been made available to SSG members who attended the workshop. The report concludes that the following two options scored similarly;

1. Process wet and solid wastes using the MiniStores concept.
2. Process wet wastes using thermal vitrification and solid wastes using the MiniStores concept.

Following review, the site has selected MiniStores for wet and solid wastes. The reason for this selection is that the MiniStores concept is more affordable than thermal vitrification and is also being used at all other Magnox South sites. This will allow learning, staff and equipment to be shared between the sites which will result in savings over the lifetime of the project.

Settling Tanks

Leak detection pit isolation from Settling Tank 1, 2 and 3 secondary containment is complete. Installation of new leak detection instruments is in progress.

Emergency leak response equipment is being assembled and testing, commissioning and deployment will follow.

Optioneering workshops to determine the final scope of enhancements have been completed.

The settling tank contents will now be moved to MiniStores following the ILW optioneering work. The work will be carried out in 2014 ahead of the main MiniStores deployment on site.

Ponds Decommissioning

The R1 pond has now been declared fuel free. The final fuel fragments left site at the end of September. This is the final piece of work towards the regulatory milestone of declaring the site fuel free.

This marks the end of a huge project that began in 2005 after defuelling of the reactors was completed. It has been an intensive task for the team involved.

Numerous innovations have been deployed in the process, including the hugely successful remote operated vehicle (ROV) which was an i4 innovations award winner last year and has since been used in clean up operations at Bradwell.

The ponds team are now working on their back-out strategy.

Skip Processing

The final skips were sent to the USA for smelting earlier this year marking the end of the skips project. In total 1739 skips were recovered from the ponds, decontaminated, size reduced and shipped to the USA.

Systems and Structures Preservation Project

Work continues to ensure the continued integrity of the assets we require and the removal of those we no longer need. Since the last report, the blower house glazing refurbishment has been completed as has the refurbishment of a significant amount of external structural steelwork. The electrical decommissioning team continue to make good progress in the Turbine Hall removing redundant cabling.

Future work includes removal of the pipe bridges between R1 west and R2 east blower houses and the removal of the shield cooling vent stacks.

Asbestos

Work continues to clear areas identified in the site's asbestos management plan.

Electrical Overlay System

As reported previously the Electrical Overlay System is now fully in-service and providing electrical supplies across the site. Final close-out is in progress.

Turbine Hall

Preparation work is underway for the possible demolition of the turbine hall, should funding become available. Work has included services surveys, an ecological survey, hazardous material surveys, structural surveys and the re-location of adjacent workshops and offices.

We have also been in talks with EDF to discuss the possibility of using spoil from excavation work on C site to back-fill the turbine hall void. This arrangement would prevent the need to transport approximately 2500 truck loads of spoil through the local community. It would also mean that we will not have to import a similar amount of spoil at a later date to complete our back-fill. This offers the best environmental option for EDF, Hinkley Point A and the local community and offers a real cost saving to the NDA as the EDF spoil is free of charge.

3. WASTE MANAGEMENT

Between April and October 381 tonnes of non-radioactive controlled waste was dispatched from site, of which 96% was re-cycled.

In July, one half-height ISO container was sent for disposal to the low level waste repository near Drigg in Cumbria.

One full-height ISO container of drummed waste for super compaction was dispatched to Sellafield in June, with another planned for November.

Three half-height ISO containers loaded with the last Hinkley skips were sent to the USA for metal melting in July/August. This melted metal will be re-used beneficially within the nuclear industry.

4. COMPANY MATTERS

Magnox North and South reintegration

The NDA have accepted a business case to create one Magnox SLC (site licence company), subject to regulatory agreement. Legal re-integration is expected by January 2011, with a programme to reorganise the business by April 2011.

Following the announcement restructuring in Magnox South has been put on hold.

In the proposed new structure Hinkley will sit under the 'optimum cost sites' wing along with Hunterston and Berkeley. Our Chief Operating Officer will be Gary Voorheis.

The current Managing Director of Magnox North, Neil Baldwin, will become the Managing Director of Magnox Electric Plc.

Mark Lesinski, former Managing Director of Magnox South, will be taking up a new role at the NDA. In the interim period Gary Voorheis will take the role of Managing Director for Magnox South.

5. COMMUNITY NEWS

Charity of the year

Fundraising has been going well at site and to date staff have raised over £4,500 for the Neonatal unit at Musgrove Park Hospital.

The site has held various fundraising events such as the Hinkley Point Fun Run, a charity waxing session and a sponsored silence. A charity calendar has also been produced using photographs taken by staff of Somerset wildlife. They are on sale now for a donation of £5.

Magnox South Socio-economic Scheme

The closing date for applications for the Magnox South Socio-Economic scheme for 2010-2011 is 30 October 2010. The bids will be assessed by the socio-economic panel including the Head of Communications from Magnox South and an NDA representative. Successful and unsuccessful bids will be informed in due course.

Parent Body Organisation Sponsorship

Since the last SSG meeting all of the EnergySolutions funding has been allocated. Over £5000 has been donated to local community groups and charities to fund various schemes.

Protestors

In the past 6 weeks Hinkley Point has experienced three off site protests by different anti-nuclear campaign groups. The protestors have been protesting against EDF and the potential build of Hinkley C.

On Monday 4 October a small group of protestors prevented employees gaining access to site. Site access was restricted for several hours in the morning with non essential staff advised to stay away from site, normal access resumed at around 11.30.

We have a security lock-down procedure and all site employees have been given advice on what to do in the event of protestors. There is also a site access telephone number for staff to gain up to date information from the site.