



Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

SEVENTH HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING

**HELD ON THURSDAY 23RD NOVEMBER 2006 IN THE SEAMILL HYDRO HOTEL,
SEAMILL**

Present

North Ayrshire Council

Councillor Richard Wilkinson (Chair)

Hunterston Estate

Mr Angus Cochran-Patrick

British Energy

Mr Tom Ungi

Ms Marian Carlin

Mr Bob Kafka (B Station Specialist)

National Farmers Union

Mrs Eleanor Lamont (Deputy Chair)

Community Councillors

Mrs Rita Holmes - Fairlie

Mr John Lamb – West Kilbride

Mr Ian Frame – Millport

Mr Kenny MacDougall - Ardrossan

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

Mr Randall Bargelt

HSE

Mr Peter Ford (A Station Inspector)

British Nuclear Group

Mr Peter Roach

Miss Lynne McTaggart (A Site Specialist)

Mr Tony Bale

Mrs Jennifer Gillie

Several members of the public were also in attendance

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillor E McLardy, Mr K Littlewood, SEPA, Dr J Cooper, Ms L Gilmour, NHS Ayrshire and Arran, Strathclyde Police, Mrs A Russell-Stevenson, SSG Secretariat, Mr D Shepherd, NII, Mr H Kerr, Strathclyde Fire Brigade.

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Councillor Wilkinson thanked the members and public for their attendance at this seventh meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group. Councillor Wilkinson welcomed the members of the Dounreay and Chapelcross Stakeholder Groups that had come to observe the meeting. He said that he hoped that everyone would enjoy and participate in the meeting, which would be scheduled to close at around 20.30.

Councillor Wilkinson went on to thank Mr Ungi for the well organised briefing meeting held on the 16th November for members of the SSG and they were joined by members of Fairlie Community Council.

Councillor Wilkinson went on to report that himself and Mrs Lamont attended the National Stakeholder Group meeting on the 6th & 7th of November in Birmingham, and that reports had been sent out to all members. Two key points came out of the NSG. The first being that it was decided at the network meeting of the SSG's that Chairs and Vice Chairs of all UK SSG's would seek a visit to the NDA headquarters and to Sellafield in the new year. The second point being that Sir Anthony Cleaver and Mr Ian Roxburgh of the NDA both acknowledge the amount of work that is being done by the SSG's and think that it is very valuable.

Councillor Wilkinson went on to acknowledge the apologies and stated that he did hope to see these absent members at future meetings.

2. MINUTES of the 19th September 2006

The minutes of the meeting of the SSG meeting held on the 19th September 2006 were discussed and the minutes agreed.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor Wilkinson informed the group of all correspondence received.

1. British Energy Corporate Social Responsibility Report 2005/06 - 10th October 2006
2. NDA Annual Report & Accounts 2005/06 - 7th November 2006
3. UK Government and Devolved Administrations Response to the Report and Recommendations from the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management - 26th October 2006
4. Letter to join SSG from Mr. Stuart McGhie, Hunterston B Shop Steward -10th October 2006
5. NDA Socio-economic Policy draft for consultation 2006 - 7th November 2006
6. British Energy Help the Hospices Reception, Edinburgh on 12th December 2006

4. PUBLIC CONSULATATION UPDATE

Councillor Wilkinson gave a progress report on the public consultation on the Site End State of Hunterston 'A' Station. He informed the group that the public consultation is underway and will be till the end of January 2007; this will be done in the form of leaflets, exhibitions and public meetings. Councillor Wilkinson went on to say that Alyson Russell-Stevenson was co-

ordinating this with Nuclear Technologies. He stated that at the next sub-group meeting there would be an update. Councillor Wilkinson asked the group if they had any questions.

Mr MacDougall said that the leaflets in the papers were not consistent as he had bought 2 papers and there was not a leaflet in any.

Mrs Holmes mentioned that she had not seen anything about the Public Consultation and her comments on the health aspects, which she wanted mentioned, had not been acknowledged.

Councillor Wilkinson said that this was not the only leaflet that would be going out. This was just one to launch the Consultation.

Mrs Lamont said that she thinks there has been some confusion over the running of the public consultation. She thought that the Public Consultation was being carried out by Nuclear Technologies, and that there needed to be a meeting to find out who is running it.

Mr Cochran Patrick asked why the leaflet was not presented to the subgroup to be agreed on before being sent out.

Mrs Lamont stated that what was proposed at the meeting was agreed and any comments would be taken into account, but felt that it had got on its own momentum and the SSG need to review it and agree on future leaflets.

Councillor Wilkinson stated that at the last subgroup on the 23rd October they agreed that the three options would be put forward and the leaflet would be based on what was agreed at the meeting, and that he felt the leaflet represents that.

Both Mr MacDougal and Mrs Lamont did not agree with that. They thought that it was agreed that they had till a certain date to put in their amendments and that it was left like that. Not that it was to go out.

Mr Roach stated that all of that work is being done on behalf of the sub group and there was no intent to drive it in any direction, and he will investigate the matter.

Mr Roach went on to say that in terms of who is driving the matter, it should be the subgroup. If it was not doing what the group wanted as a subgroup, there could be changes made to fix it.

5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE SSG

Councillor Wilkinson reported to the group that he had received a letter from Mr Stuart McGhie, a workforce representative from Hunterston B, requesting a seat on the SSG. Mr Ungi was in agreement as Hunterston A has a representative. Councillor Wilkinson asked who would like to support this. He proposed and Mrs Lamont seconded the proposal.

Mr MacDougal objected. He stated that two other people have asked to join the SSG so would they get the same treatment? He mentioned that they had asked repeatedly and have not got on to the SSG and the same courtesy should be shown to them as to Mr McGhie.

Councillor Wilkinson stated that Mr McGhie would be representing the workforce of Hunterston B. New members from the public can join when the SSG advertise for new members and he hoped to have this done but had not managed as yet. This was an issue for the subgroup. The application form needed to be agreed in more detail.

Mr MacDougall stated that the group could not say that they would take someone from B stations and disregard members of the public. It had to be one or the other, keep the same standards.

Mrs. Holmes stated that she agreed that there needs to be a balance in her opinion, but they can't ignore members of the public.

Councillor Wilkinson said that he was not ignoring anyone. This issue is always mentioned at meetings and it was he who was going to take it up with the subgroup.

Mrs Lamont stated that the workforce need to be represented, Mr Bale agreed with Mrs Lamont saying that the workforce are major stakeholders and their views should be taken forward.

Mr Lamb mentioned that he had no views either way, but Mr Bale made a big point. The constitution should either be changed to welcome the new member or left as is.

A discussion ensued amongst the members with the result being a vote of 5 – 3 against Mr McGhie joining the SSG until the constitution was sorted.

Mr Lamb proposed the subgroup take on the issue of new members; this was seconded by Mrs Holmes.

Mr Ungi stated that he found this disappointing that the SSG did not take on a significant stakeholder. He added that the Hunterston B workforce is not happy and they would need to review the stations involvement in the SSG.

Mrs Lamont added that Hunterston B was not required to come to the SSG and that she was disappointed that the SSG had not taken on board a workforce member of B station.

Mr Bargelt added that there needed to be a process for how members are picked that everybody is comfortable with.

Councillor Wilkinson moved on to point out that Mr Robertson had resigned from the SSG due to ill health and that Mr Macfarlane would be taking over as the Largs Community Councillor for the SSG.

6. HUNTERSTON A SITE REPORT, BRITISH NUCLEAR GROUP

◦ **Hunterston A Site Manager's Report**

Mr Roach started his report by informing the group that Hunterston A had achieved 63 months without a lost time accident, and even more impressive 6 months since any injury had happened.

Mr Roach read through his report in detail to the group asking for any questions at the end.

Mrs. Holmes asked how the company was getting on with removing the graphite sleeves?

Mr Roach answered that they were on track and had received tenders for building work.

Mr Frame asked Mr Roach what was in the technical part of the ILW Store and if it was just a store.

Mr Roach explained that there was a receipt bay where they will receive the containers, they are then inspected and tested to make sure there are no problems.

Mr Frame asked if it was the same as Chapelcross. Mr Roach answered, no, Hunterston ILW Store is a big vault piled up with boxes, with a package handling machine.

Mr Roach added that the company were looking at the packaging density of the store to see if the containers were stacked differently, they could get more in.

Mrs Holmes asked Mr Roach if he meant Non-Operational Waste, Mr Roach said that there would be an opportunity to do that.

Mrs Lamont then asked Mr Roach if this meant that it would be possible to take waste from elsewhere.

Mr Roach said theoretically yes. He pointed out that it was the NDA's store and the NDA may look at optimising the use of the store, but they would still need to take into account the stakeholders views.

Mrs. Holmes added that she was not sure if it was in writing but the SSG had always been assured that the waste stored at Hunterston would only be Hunterston's. Mr Roach informed Mrs Holmes that this was correct and it was also subject to planning consent as well.

Mrs Lamont asked Mr Bargelt to comment. Mr Bargelt said that the NDA needs to look at all options for across the area, and this is what they were doing but would need to work with the SSG and keeping them informed.

Mrs Holmes asked Mr Roach if materials on site would be smelted there or sent elsewhere.

Mr Roach answered that there was nothing in the plans for on site smelting. There is none at Hunterston A, there are options to look at what would smelt. It could be at Hunterston A or could be abroad.

Mrs Holmes asked what it would be classed as – Very Low Level Waste?

Mr Roach answered that he was not sure yet. Probably LLW but could be ILW.

Councillor Wilkinson asked if there were any further questions, Mr MacDougal asked about the roof cladding of the ILW store, and when it would be fixed.

Mr Roach stated that the material supplied was below standard, this impacts on timescale. But the store is not on a critical timescale, however they are working very hard to get back on track, and the contractors have been given a recovery plan.

Mr MacDougal went on to the issue of the new NDA Strategy. He had a bit of concern on the issue of the space in the Store, and felt that the issue of bringing waste in has been on the cards of the NDA all along. The Chapelcross waste would end up at Hunterston as they were creating more space.

Mr Roach pointed out that the design of the Hunterston ILW Store was 5 years ago and that the NDA only came about 18 months ago. The design and layout is purely on Hunterston A waste.

Mr Bargelt added that they were trying to be open and honest in their thinking and that there was nothing underhand going on. The ILW store was designed before the NDA came along, but the big waste issue needs to be addressed.

Mrs Holmes asked Mr Roach when the report on the Very Low Level Waste Pits would be available.

Mr Roach said that he would look in to that.

Councillor Wilkinson went on to say that he would like to see the Socio Economic Funding bid Proposal on both agendas of the sub and main SSG meetings. Consideration of proposals should be undertaken at the sub group with outcomes reported to the SSG.

Mr Cochran Patrick said that he thought they should be only on the subgroup first then once it has been approved, go to the main SSG.

Councillor Wilkinson said that he thought it should be covered at both meetings.

Mrs Lamont asked that the SSG start to invite the Ayrshire Enterprise to attend the meetings in the future.

Councillor Wilkinson said this would be carried forward to a subgroup meeting.

◦ **Radiological and Environmental Safety Report - Hunterston A**

Ms McTaggart presented this report and explained it covered radiological safety and environmental performance at Hunterston 'A' Decommissioning Site from 1st August 2006 until 30th September 2006.

Ms McTaggart went through her report that was given to all SSG members.

Councillor Wilkinson thanked Ms McTaggart and asked if the members had any questions.

Mrs Holmes asked if the liquid radioactive effluent discharges which remained below 10% were any different from last period. Ms McTaggart stated that they were similar.

- **HSE NII Hunterston A Site Inspector's Report**

Mr Ford went through his report that was given to each member of the SSG.

Councillor Wilkinson thanked Mr Ford and asked if the members had any questions, to which there was none.

- **SEPA Hunterston A Site Inspectors Report**

Mr Littlewood could not attend the meeting, his report was noted and there were no questions.

- **Any other A Site Business**

Councillor Wilkinson asked Mr Roach if there was any other business to close the A Site part of the agenda, Mr Roach said there was none. Councillor Wilkinson thanked him for his contribution.

This concluded the Hunterston A section of the agenda.

7. MINUTES OF REPORT OF HUNTERSTON B STATION, BRITISH ENERGY

- **Matters raised at the meeting affecting Hunterston 'B'**

Mr Wilkinson thanked Mr Ungi for the boiler tubes presentation held at Hunterston 'B' for SSG members on 16 November 2006 and commented that it had been well organised.

Mr Wilkinson referred to a letter that had been received from Stuart McGhie asking to be considered for membership of the group. The basis of this request was that Mr McGhie represented the workforce at Hunterston B, a total of approximately 550 staff. Tony Bale was already a member of the group representing 'A' station staff. Mr Wilkinson advised that he was supportive of this application. Mr Ken McDougall responded that he was aware of other people in the community who had requested a seat in the group but had been turned down. Mr Wilkinson said that a precedent had been set as the group already had a representative from 'A' station; therefore he felt it was right to have the same courtesy extended to the 'B' station. Mr McDougall agreed that there should be a balance of opinions within the group but still felt aggrieved that the other people had been 'ignored'. Mrs Lamont advised that she supported the view that the 'B' station union representative should be allowed to join the group. Mr John Lamb said that he did not have strong views either way but asked whether the constitution of the meeting had been reviewed to allow the membership to be increased. Mr Ungi said that he understood the concerns of group members and added that he felt it was a positive move when 'A' station were allowed to have a representative. Mr McGhie had volunteered as a representative of the workforce and to ignore his request would be ignoring a major stakeholder. Mr Wilkinson commented that Mr McGhie was an Amicus shop steward and asked about the other unions' representation. Mr Ungi clarified that Mr McGhie would, in this forum, be representing the workforce from all unions. Mr Wilkinson then proposed a vote in this matter that resulted in 3 votes in favour and 5 votes against the proposal. The point was made that the 'no' votes were applicable at this point in time, subject to checking the

arrangements in place within the constitution. It was suggested that a sub-group be set up to look at membership issues, including the request of Mr McGhie. Mr Ungi stated that he was extremely disappointed with this vote as he felt that significant stakeholders within the 'B' station workforce would not be represented. In view of this situation he would have to review the 'B' station involvement in this group in the future. Mrs Lamont also stated her disappointment at the outcome of the vote. Mr Wilkinson suggested that a review of the constitution be carried out and Mr Bargelt added that the process would also require to be reviewed.

Mr Wilkinson wished to record the resignation of John Robertson of 'B' station who had resigned from the committee and thanked him for his good work during his membership.

- **HUNTERSTON 'B' REPORT**

Mr Ungi commenced the Hunterston B report by thanking Graham Perry, Station Health Physicist, who had retired from the Company. Mr Perry had given the Stakeholder Group much support over previous years. His successor would be Mr Bob Kafka.

- **Safety**

Mr Ungi emphasised that safety continues to be a fundamental priority for Hunterston B. On 9th November the station had gone 515 since the last lost time accident and 385 days since the last contractor lost time accident

- **Environment**

The station continues to lead the fleet in environmental performance and has gone more than 1000 days since the last reportable environmental event. In addition, since the station started generating 30 years ago, it has avoided the emission of **150 million tonnes** of CO₂ into the atmosphere.

Mr Ungi stressed that the above were excellent achievements for the station, however it was important not to become complacent.

- **Output and Reactor 3 Outage**

The outage on unit 3 commenced in mid July and excellent progress was being made until boiler tube issues emerged. This resulted in extra time being added to the unit 3 outage and additional time being programmed into next year's double reactor outage to allow for inspections and repairs. Application had been to NII to return 3 to power.

A conservative decision was made to take unit 4 off line during October, to allow boiler inspections to be undertaken. Mr Ungi commented that this was a disappointing performance in relation to generation, however he hoped that this situation would not last too long. Consent would be required from the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) for re-start and this was currently being considered. It was likely that unit 4 would require to operate at 70% load (470 MW) until May 2007 when both reactors would undertake another outage. He added that it was not intended to re-enter the reactor 4 boilers again at that time. A special SSG had been held on 16 November at Hunterston B to provide more information regarding the boilers situation, and Mr Ungi was pleased that a number of members had attended this.

- **Industrial Safety**

Mr Ungi again highlighted the successful safety performance during the outage (Aug – Oct) which was especially pleasing given that, during the outage, staffing levels peaked at approximately 1500. There had been only a small number of minor accidents occurring during this time. He also noted that the increased station manning had brought a good deal of money into the local community to accommodate these people.

- **People**

Mr Ungi advised that Hunterston B was currently increasing the workforce and had taken on approximately 50 new employees in the last year to total of circa 520, being both local and non-local people. In addition there had also been 6 new apprentices recruited from the local area. He pointed out that there had been increasing pressures on the workforce which this additional recruitment should help to alleviate.

- **Community**

Mr Ungi advised that this year's charity of the year was Help the Hospices which was well supported by the workforce, with almost £5k being raised so far which would be matched by the company. These funds would be made available to local hospices. A number of future events would be held at the station in the next few months which would increase the total raised.

- **Corporate Social Responsibility Report**

Mr Ungi said that the company CSR report had been sent out the SSG members and advised that this included a questionnaire. He would welcome the views of the group members and thanked them in advance for any responses to be received.

- **Energy Review**

Mr Ungi referred to the company's Policy Framework for New Nuclear Build, which had been submitted to the UK government and emphasised that British Energy were very keen to contribute to the future of nuclear energy.

- **Financial Performance**

Mr Ungi commented that net company profits had increased significantly during the first quarter to £75 million from £6 million in the same quarter last year. He added that this was due, in the main, to high energy prices and was therefore reasonably disappointing.

- **Generation**

Mr Ungi referred to the generation report previously circulated and added that reactor 4, Turbine Generator 8 boiler inspections would be completed shortly and would start up and run at reduced load.

Mr K McDougall asked if the current issues with boiler tubes would affect the potential lifetime extension of the station. Mr Ungi said that there would be no change to the plans to

apply for lifetime extension which would be based on safety and economic considerations. This decision would require to have the agreement of the NDA in due course.

Mr Tony Bale said that he was encouraged by the information Mr Ungi had provided and asked that the SSG we kept on board with the current company strategy

- **Environment**

Mr Kafka was pleased to report that the station had achieved 1000 days without a reportable environmental event which was an excellent achievement, showing the commitment of Hunterston staff to the environment. There had been 2 minor events, neither of which had involved radioactive material, which had been described in the previously circulated report.

- **Radiological Safety**

Mr Kafka advised that there had been a significant impact on collective radiation dose as a result of the reactor 3 outage. However, personal radiation doses had been in line with predictions and well within the legal maximum permissible dose limits for radiation workers (20 millisieverts). Reactor 4 had been shut down for boiler inspections with the first round now complete. No individual had received a radiation dose in excess of 6 millisieverts.

- **Contamination Control**

A small number of incidents involving the discovery of low levels of contamination outside contamination controlled areas, and a small number of events involving the contamination of individuals' clothing, had occurred during the period. All of these had been of a minor nature, involving low levels of radioactivity, and all had been detected either by routine monitoring or by installed personnel monitoring equipment. Considering the station workforce had peaked at three times normal levels during the outage period, this had been a very good performance.

- **Radioactive Discharges**

Mr Kafka referred to the report previously issued and confirmed that radioactivity levels in liquid and gaseous effluents continued to be well within authorised limits.

Mr Lamb asked if the Station had experienced any problems in controlling cooling water the outlet temperature within consented limits. Mr Kafka advised that, although the existing cooling water discharge consent was not temperature limited, and so technically there could not be a breach of the consent, the Station routinely operated to a self imposed constraint which can, on occasion, be 'challenged' during the summer months when seawater temperatures rise. However, during the summer the station had managed to maintain its cooling water outlet temperatures below this constraint.

Mr Lamb referred to the seaweed issue and asked if this was a normal problem. Mr Ungi explained that the increase in seaweed quantity and jellyfish numbers in the Hunterston area were related to increase in seawater temperature, which had occurred earlier than usual this year, possibly due to global warming. Mr Lamb asked how the seaweed was disposed of. Mr Kafka confirmed that seaweed was currently disposed to landfill as Special Waste.

Mrs Lamont asked how it was intended to reduce the low level radioactive waste that had built up on the Station. Mr Kafka advised that the backlog had built up due to resource issues and additional waste that had been generated during the current, and previous, outage periods but that the backlog had been significantly reduced since the last SSG meeting. Mr Ungi added that staff were encouraged to ensure that low level radioactive waste arisings were minimised by not taking materials into radiologically controlled areas unnecessarily. Mr Kafka said that through the adoption of improved waste processing technology, continuing improvement in working practices and awareness training of staff, over the last 25 years annual disposals of low level radioactive waste have been significantly reduced (from 800 cubic metres per year to less than 100 cubic metres per year).

Mr Kafka reported that the Hunterston 'B' environmental monitoring programme had undergone a high level review, the results of which had indicated more sampling of locally grown foodstuffs (particularly vegetables and fruit), and less direct gamma radiation measurements at locations remote from the Station, would be appropriate. Mrs Lamont asked if sampling would include vegetables grown in local gardens or only those produced on a commercial basis. Mr Kafka said that this level of detail was still to be determined following acceptance by SEPA of the general principles adopted for the review.

Mrs Holmes referred to the problems with both reactors and comments made by Mr Coley and asked if there was a possibility they may not restart and if so would they be on reduced power. Mr Ungi said that this was very unlikely and advised that consent had already been made to start up the reactor. He was sure that both reactors could operate safely and believed that the station could operate until at least 2011, with lifetime extension being a likelihood. He added that Mr Coley had commented on a known phenomenon called 'creep fatigue' which was well understood in the industry. If the plant was run at certain levels then this issue could be avoided. However he reiterated that the intention was to get both reactors back to full load. Mrs Holmes thought that Mr Ungi was being 'super optimistic' and that a strong safety case would be needed to restart. Mr Ungi responded that the reason for his optimism was due to him being better informed technically than those present at the meeting. Reactor 4 had been closed due to a conservative and prudent decision; it was not something that was imposed on the station. He reiterated his optimism but in any case the NII would require to be satisfied. Mrs Holmes asked if the NII would be able to look at this issue in a reasonable timescale as they were currently undermanned. Mr Ungi said that in his experience the NII had never compromised their manner of scrutiny and he expected them to be as thorough as always but that perhaps they may take a little longer. Mrs Holmes stated that she had a high regard for the NII and SEPA.

Mr McDougall said that he had not been able to attend the site visit; but that he had no doubt that the station reactors would start up again. However he asked what would happen if lifetime extension was not granted, due to the amount of issues which had occurred over the last few years. Was there a possibility that the station would be shut down? Mr Ungi responded that the significance of failures in our reactors in comparison to fossil fuel plants is significantly higher. The NDA (Nuclear Decommissioning Authority) and British Energy would make the decision on whether lifetime extension was viable and then the NII would be asked to approve the

application. There would obviously be a point when the station would not be economically viable, but he did not believe that stage had yet been reached.

Mr Roach said that he supported Mr Ungi's opinions adding that there was a very low margin for error and conservative decisions must always be made. There was no arrogance in making these decisions.

Mr Kafka had reported that Hunterston `B's authorisation to transfer solid materials, contaminated by low levels of radioactivity associated with absorbed oil and liquids, for incineration at a site on the south coast of England had been varied by SEPA and this disposal route was again available to the Station. He confirmed for Mrs Holmes that this disposal route was currently only available for these materials and not for bulk radioactive oil.

Mr Cochran-Patrick referred to the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC) based at the station and said he would like more information on their remit i.e. was it to protect the power station? Mr Tony Newguard who had been present among the audience made himself known as being the CNC inspector responsible for the unit at Hunterston B. He explained that when an emergency situation developed they would contact the local constabulary who would take over the situation when they arrived. The CNC role was to carry out patrols and check anything suspicious but to then pass any issues to the local police within a 5km range.

• **Public Question & Answer Session (B station questions)**

A member of the public audience in referring to the seaweed issue, asked what would happen if landfill sites were not available. Mr Kafka said that British Energy was aware that future landfill disposal routes may be limited under new landfill regulations but that British Energy had not yet developed a firm alternative strategy.

Mr McDougall raised the recent industrial dispute and expressed his concern regarding the amount of disruption that had been encountered by people attempting to travel along the A78. He asked those involved to assure him that this situation would not occur again. Mr Ungi responded that this was a dispute which had affected both A and B sites and was with a contracting company (Balfour Kilpatrick (BKI)) and Amicus members of staff, not with British Energy. He added that any Trade Union had the right to take industrial action and confirmed that British Energy had not given them permission to picket on their land due to safety concerns. British Energy had tried to facilitate another arrangement but this unfortunately led to significant delays being encountered by traffic on the A78. Mr McDougall said that the station was the cause of moving the pickets to the main road and Mr Ungi responded that he had to consider the safety issues of people coming on to the site. He reiterated that the dispute was with BKI and their employees not British Energy.

8. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was agreed as 22nd March 2007. It was agreed that the subgroup would decide the venue and times of the meetings for 2007 at the next subgroup meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Wilkinson put it to the group that the next meeting of the SSG subgroup would be on the 7th December at Hunterston A in the evening, this was agreed.

Mr Frame asked that at the next subgroup meeting that Nuclear Technologies could be present to review the Site End State status.

10. PUBLIC QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION

Councillor Wilkinson addressed the members of the public on behalf of the SSG and asked if there were any further questions on any of the reports or any questions to any member of the SSG, which they would like to ask, there was none.

Councillor Wilkinson then invited Councillor Ian Lindsay (Chapelcross Chair) to say a few words. Mr Lindsay thanked the Chair for the invitation to attend and said that it was very interesting to see how the members interact and to see the constitution. He added that he had sympathy with the chair having two sites to deal with.

Councillor Wilkinson then asked Mr Alistair MacDonald (Dounreay Chair) to speak. Mr MacDonald thanked the SSG for the invite, and said that it was lovely to meet everyone and that there was an open invite to the Hunterston SSG to come up and see the Dounreay SSG.

Councillor Wilkinson then thanked the public for their support and the members of the group for a lively discussion during the meeting and closed the meeting at 8.40 p.m.

Councillor Richard Wilkinson
SSG Chair