

HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

The twenty sixth meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group will take place on Thursday 8 December 2011 in The Brisbane House Hotel, Largs at 1.30pm. (1pm for lunch)

AGENDA

13.00 Lunch and information gathering

13.30 Chairman's opening remarks

Chair and Vice Chair updates and correspondence

13.45 Approval of previous minutes

13.50 Socio-economic subgroup update

14.30 Socio-economic funding process

Jonathan Jenkin, NDA

14.45 Tea & Coffee

15.00 Hunterston B Station Reports

Colin Weir, Hunterston B

Keith Hammond, SEPA

Mark Tyrer, ONR

15.45 Hunterston A Site Reports

Peter Roach, Site Director, Hunterston A Site

David Rushton, Programme Manager, NDA

16.45 Round up public Q&A

Future Meetings:

Thursday 8 March 2012 – Seamill Hydro Hotel, Seamill

Thursday 7 June 2012 – Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan

Thursday 6 September 2012 – Brisbane House Hotel, Largs

Thursday 6 December 2012 – Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan

17.00 Close



Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

**THE TWENTY FIFTH HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2011 IN THE LAURISTON HOTEL, ARDROSSAN**

Present:

Magnox Ltd

Mr Mark Stubbs
Mr Reuben Phillips
Mr Steve Payne
Mr Tony Bale (Chair)

Community Councillors

Mr John Lamb - West Kilbride
Mrs Rita Holmes – Fairlie (Vice Chair)
Mr Allan Rice – Saltcoats

Community Council Representatives

Mr Douglas MacFarlane (Largs)
Mr Ian Frame (Cumbrae)
Mr Kenny MacDougall (Ardrossan)

Councillors

Cllr Robert Barr
Cllr Elisabeth Marshall

In Attendance

Mrs Shelagh Milligan, Magnox Ltd
Mr Derek Rooney, Magnox Ltd
Mr Sean Marshall, Magnox Ltd
Mr Allan McRae, CNC
Ms Claire Cook, British Energy
Mr Ewan Young, Scottish Government
Mr Howard Steele, Scottish Government
Cllr Ian Lindsay, Chapelcross SSG (Chair)

Several members of the public were also in attendance

Apologies:

Mr Colin Weir, Mr Willie Jack, Cllr Elizabeth McLardy, Mr Angus Cochrane-Patrick, Mr Stuart McGhie, Mr John Robertson and Mr Peter Roach.

British Energy

Mr John Morrison

NDA

Mr Bill Hamilton

ONR

Mr Chris Kemp
Dr Mark Tyrer

SEPA

Ms Iona MacDonald
Mr Keith Hammond

North Ayrshire Council

Mr Hugh McGhee



1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Tony Bale welcomed everyone to the 25th meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group (SSG).

2. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR UPDATES/CORRESPONDENCE

Mr Bale introduced Mr Mark Stubbs, Hunterston A Deputy Site Director, who was deputising for Mr Peter Roach and requested that all questions regarding A Site were directed to him in Mr Roach's absence. Mr Bale advised the attendance of Chapelcross SSG Chair, Cllr Ian Lindsay, who was present to observe the meeting.

Mr Steven Payne stated that correspondence had been received from Mr Craig Perkins, Acting Chair of Ardrossan Community Council, requesting Mr Kenny McDougall remain as representative for all future SSG meetings.

Mr Payne added that all members had received notification of NDA's Managing Radioactive Waste Safely Consultation which the Government would welcome views on. The consultation would continue until Friday 30 September 2011 and it was noted that further information was available online at www.decc.gov.uk.

With regards to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR), Dr Mike Weightman, HM Chief Inspector, was due to publish the final report on the Japanese earthquake and tsunami. Mr Payne advised that the ONR had contemplated running small regional events to provide question and answering opportunities and an estimation on the number of interested parties from the Hunterston SSG was requested. Mr Payne also indicated a note of interest from Chapelcross. Mr Bale stated that he would liaise with colleagues from Chapelcross to establish their interest and provide a joint response by close of business that day.

ACTION T. BALE

Mr Bale expressed his disappointment that there were no local Councillors in attendance at the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr Bale informed the members of an extraordinary meeting which took place on 2 June 2011 to consider an application from Saltcoats Community Council for SSG membership and that two actions had been placed upon the Secretariat at that meeting. Firstly, to provide Mr John Robertson with written confirmation of his voting rights (complete) and secondly, to investigate a possible oversight of a non-voting member being counted in a previous vote. The only issue of contention was that the vote cast was to allow Saltcoats Community Council representation on the group. It was however indicated that if the individual concerned was not entitled to vote, a majority decision still remained therefore the outcome was unaffected. Mr Bale advised that the Secretariat had now received correspondence from Largs Community Council with this regard. The extraordinary minutes were approved.

At the SSG meeting on 2 June 2011, an action was placed on the Secretariat to amend the minutes of 3 March 2011 concerning the change in designation of Mr Ian Frame and Mr Douglas MacFarlane from "Community Councillors" to "Community Council Representatives". This action was carried out and the minutes of 3 March 2011 were approved.

No further amendments were noted for the minutes of 2 June 2011 and the minutes were approved.



4.A HUNTERSTON B STATION REPORT

Mr John Morrison took the Hunterston B report as read. He highlighted that it had been three and a half years since the last lost-time accident and with regard to outage, no significant accidents to report. At the end of June, Lloyds Register Qualification Assurance were onsite to continue accreditation to the three key standards ISO 9001 quality standard; ISO 14001 environment standard and ISO 18001 safety standard, all of which were approved.

Mr Morrison noted that with regards to environment, there had been no serious events in the period. Continuation of processing low level access waste with key focus on minimising and generalising waste and bringing materials into controlled areas had occurred.

With regard to radiological protection, Mr Morrison indicated a small increase in the personal contamination events due to lowering the threshold for monitoring contamination which contributed to continual improvement. This situation allowed them to look at other opportunities for deep cleaning and improving the environment for staff.

The Radiation Report for 2011 was on schedule for the end of the year. Strong performance had been noted with the only challenge being seaweed ingress.

Mr Morrison made reference to the Weightman Report in that a number of mandatory evaluations had been carried out with further ongoing stress testing. Scottish Government had been contacted in this regard.

Mr Morrison commented that initiatives were continuing within the area of transparency and that a forthcoming "information day" was planned for Saturday 17 September 2011. Details had been advertised in the local press and events were occurring at all sites throughout the UK and Worldwide.

Within Community Section 4, work was ongoing to provide a wide range of worthy sponsorship educational visits within the local community. Mr Morrison advised that apprentices were being recruited this year in addition to the current 25 full-time apprentices and he anticipated staff numbers to increase to 552 by the end of this year.

Mr Hugh McGhee sought clarification regarding the Weightman Report and its recommendations for Hunterston B and Hunterston A and what implications were intimated. Mr Morrison commented that they had reviewed seismic housekeeping in order that no fragments of plant were mobile. Reference was made to an enhanced training programme in addition to emergency arrangements.

Mrs Rita Holmes enquired whether it would be appropriate to mention the application with the Local Authority for the nitrogen plant and perhaps give information on the need for this plant and nitrogen use. Mr Morrison stated that they already had a nitrogen plant but were looking to upgrade and improve its performance to support their safety. Mr Morrison intimated that the system was used as a cold-down system. In a significant event, control rods and safety rods would be dropped into the reactor which would act as a short term cold down/shut down and then nitrogen injected into the reactor making it completely benign. Due to the cracking issue in graphite, a request had been made to implement two new systems with the introduction of super articulated rods and a new nitrogen system which was seismic qualified to ensure the reactor was held down long-term.

Mr John Lamb made reference to the Weightman Report and enquired if safety keys and emergency procedures would be updated to accommodate any safety elements recommended. Mr Morrison commented that some of this had already been implemented and that a stress test to remove barriers (not normally thought of) would be carried out. Mr Chris Kemp added that members should note the Weightman Report is an interim report published in May 2011 and the final, extended report would become available within one week.

Mr Bale congratulated Hunterston B on its safety record and the fact that it had taken on an additional seven apprentices.

Mr Kenny MacDougall enquired as to whether any personnel were involved in the test which was going through parts of North Ayrshire into South Ayrshire, concerning a nuclear disaster through the MOD, Operation Trinity. In response, Mr Morrison stated that he was unaware if Hunterston B were involved with that particular test, however they had been heavily involved with local communities and Scottish Government with emergency arrangements and re-testing within the last six months. Mr MacDougall added that after speaking to parish councils in England in the vicinity of nuclear facilities, there seemed to be a different attitude to nuclear safety and knowledge if there were to be an accident within a station in that area. South of the border, parish councils were seen to work closely with the local authority in the event of a disaster to help man evacuation zones as they were representatives of individual communities.

Mr MacDougall stated that in his opinion, the community councillors were reluctant to get involved with helping the local authority and the Government and enquired as to why. Mr Morrison advised that any response to an accident was managed by the police and it was their responsibility to direct action/orders. If anything were to occur off-site, this also came under police remit. He added that there was an off-site centre at Lancaster House, Prestwick, which provides all briefing and situates the Gold Commander and Government Technical Advisor. Regular tests are carried out here with members of local agencies and regional councils, however he was unsure as to what level. Ms Claire Cook verified that whilst the police were in charge, the plant itself was owned by North Ayrshire Council, therefore any questions should be directed to them regarding changes.

Mr MacDougall reiterated that he felt a lack of communication between the Council, agencies and other representatives. He proposed that an enquiry should be included in the programme, however it should at least be highlighted in the event that it ever happened. Mr McGhee commented that Ayrshire had an emergency planning group and it would perhaps be worthwhile contacting them in this regard. Mr Bale requested these comments be duly recorded and agreed there should be an involvement from Community Councillors. Mr Bale asked Mr McGhee to convey this to the Council Directors and report their response at the next SSG meeting.

ACTION: H. MCGHEE

Cllr Robert Barr arrived and gave apologies on behalf of Cllr's Gallagher and McLardy. Mr Bale advised Mr Barr of his earlier comments regarding his disappointment at the non-attendance of Cllr's and the fact that it was noted in the minutes.

Members were informed by Mr MacDougall of a council meeting on Wednesday 7 September 2011 whereby certain remarks were made and minuted concerning community councillors and their role within the SSG. Mr MacDougall was shocked that this had been discussed at a major council meeting and added that he felt the community councillors had proved invaluable to the SSG. It was Mr MacDougall's opinion that the statements had come from some Cllr's



who had never attended the SSG and he felt it belittled the views of the SSG. Mr Bale responded that he had no knowledge of the meeting but that the minutes would be in the public domain and thought it was wise to continue the debate once this information was available for everyone to view. Mr Bale noted Mr MacDougall's concerns regarding these comments towards the SSG and that the SSG would respond to any points which needed clarification once the minutes were available.

At this point Cllr Elisabeth Marshall entered the meeting and Mr Bale reiterated his apologies for his earlier comments regarding the lack of attendance from North Ayrshire Councillors.

4.B SEPA REPORT

Mr Keith Hammond took the report as read. Mr Hammond advised that a follow up regulation inspection had been carried out on 1 September 2011 to look at liquid discharge under the schedule and no contentious issues were found. The station had experienced a minor spill of contaminated oil whilst being transported, however the site identified this immediately and affected areas were removed. SEPA stated that this was an excellent response.

RIFE 16 2010 would be published in late October. A SEPA report on Fukushima monitoring had been published on SEPA's website as of 1 September 2011. Mr Hammond quoted a paragraph on public health implications from the Health Protection Agency (HPA) website. A member of the public confirmed that the report was available on the website and in addition, it was noted on the SEPA website that there was going to be a similar report to the ONR report. Mr Hammond replied that it was his understanding that the HPA was supposed to be reviewing and actioning these results.

4.C ONR REPORT

Dr Mark Tyrer confirmed that the report issued on 1 July 2011 was taken as read and that the next report would be at the end of October 2011. Dr Tyrer congratulated Hunterston B on its outage saying it was one of the best he had witnessed in his 25 years experience in nuclear safety. ONR carried out various inspections during the outage and the site should be commended on its performance. All staff, including contractors, had an upbeat, positive attitude throughout the outage with the correct documentation being available at the point of work and the correct procedures being followed. Some of the behaviours exhibited were exemplary.

Consent was given on 30 August 2011 for Reactor 4 with the report issued shortly thereafter on their website. Mrs. Holmes asked Dr, Tyrer to confirm who will make the decision on the extension of the operating life of the plant. Dr. Tyrer confirmed that this decision will be made by EDF as it is a purely commercial decision. However, ongoing discussions are being held with ONR concerning this matter. There are also meetings with ONR technical specialists held on a regular basis. Mrs Holmes responded that this was reassuring.

Cllr Barr enquired if the Scottish Government would have an input if a request was made for extension. In response, Mr Morrison stated that as part of the business community in Scotland, they were happy to work with any Government and as an organization, would work with political sides. Dr Tyrer added that safety cases were reproduced every 10 years to ensure they met legal requirements and that this process started three year's previous to the 10 year expiry.

Following recess, Mr Bale updated the members after discussion with Mrs Holmes and Chapelcross SSG Chair, Cllr Ian Lindsay, that the Secretariat would communicate the wish for

a joint meeting at Chapelcross at a mutual time, date and venue. Dr Tyrer enquired as to whether Torness should be included, to which Mr Bale responded that they would take that information onboard. Cllr Barr requested that the North Ayrshire Council be made aware of this meeting.

ACTION: D. ROONEY

5. SOCIO-ECONOMIC SUBGROUP UPDATE

A meeting had been held on Wednesday 27 July 2011 at Hunterston A regarding main topics which had been circulated to the group. North Ayrshire Council Chief Executive, Mrs Elma Murray, and Irvine Bay Regeneration Company were in attendance in addition to The Scottish Government and Scottish Enterprise representatives. Mr Bale wished to note the group's disappointment that Mr Jonathan Jenkin, NDA was not in attendance. Mr Bale commented that this was deemed unhelpful and hoped NDA would take note. In response, Mr Bill Hamilton asked members to accept his apologies for this error which occurred due to the fact that Mr Jenkin had been on annual leave and he was unaware that as an organisation, someone should be in attendance.

Mr Bale highlighted that a joint draft report was presented at the subgroup meeting, which had since been distributed to all voting members for comment. The purpose of the report was to compile a package of projects and ideas for submission to NDA for funding. The secretariat had received three responses to the draft report from Ardrossan Community Council, Fairlie Community Council and West Kilbride Community Council. A single SSG response was then forwarded to the North Ayrshire Council Chief Executive, commenting that some projects were not meeting the criteria and therefore no support would be offered by either SSG or NDA.

This was part of the case for gaining priority funding and was in co-partnership with Scottish Government, Irvine Bay and various organisations. Mr Lamb confirmed that the SSG had been discussing priority status with NDA for quite some time.

Mrs Holmes responded that in her opinion, the draft from North Ayrshire Council was poor and she felt pressurised to "sing from the same hymn sheet". Mrs Holmes added that only a few statistics from the draft Hall Aitken Report needed to be included to substantiate this as priority status as opposed to the entire report being submitted. Mrs Holmes commented that she felt there was an agenda to push through other areas of the draft Hall Aitken Report. Mr Hamilton responded that the NDA welcomed thorough bids that met their criteria. He added that NDA Chairman, Mr Stephen Henwood, had indicated that he would welcome serious applications from the Hunterston SSG and was fully aware of the issues in the area. Mr Hamilton assured the SSG that both he and Mr Jenkin would attend the next subgroup meeting and an action was noted for them to be advised of the date, time and venue once arranged.

ACTION: D. ROONEY

Cllr Barr reiterated that the report was only in draft form, which stated there were no concerns from other parties. Mr Bale confirmed that the report was indeed in draft form and that SSG were not in control of signing off the final report as it was a council document. Mr MacDougall asked for clarification regarding the report as he was unaware of any SSG input. Mr MacDougall felt there was nothing within the report which met NDA criteria and that guidelines and direction was still required. Mr Bale took on board all comments and reiterated that this was merely the start of a journey.

Mr Bill Hamilton made reference to Bridgewater College as this project had been part funded by NDA and its funding had been crucial to engineering works being built on campus. He added that the NDA were now more focused on Hunterston and looked favourably for the right

project to be put forward. NDA did not expect the SSG to make the bid but expected them to approve it and be supportive.

Mr MacDougall asked if there was a specific reason for the NDA's support of Hunterston, and questioned whether they were looking to close the site earlier than planned. Mr Hamilton stated that the NDA were not only committed to Hunterston, but also their other 18 sites. He explained that Hunterston was one site whom as yet, had not taken advantage of NDA funding, hence the reason they were concentrating their efforts on Hunterston.

Mrs Holmes stated that sites such as Chapelcross and Dounreay had received funding due to the projects put forward not being controversial. Mrs Holmes added that Hunterston had various projects which North Ayrshire Council was pressing them to accept that could prove detrimental to the community. Mrs Holmes mentioned that waste could be brought in from elsewhere resulting in money for the cleansing firm. Mr Bale stated he was unaware of waste from other areas coming onto the site. Mrs Holmes stated that there was a competitive study within the draft Hall Aitken Report that mentioned this and mentioned the fact that Hunterston had an empty ILW store. Mrs Holmes added that Mr Peter Roach had previously stated that the only way to receive financial benefit would be if waste were taken from elsewhere, hence the reason she was wary. Mr Stubbs responded that there were no plans to use the ILW store for anything other than Site waste at present. Mr MacDougall read aloud a statement from the previous SSG meeting when waste removal had been mentioned. Mr Hamilton responded that these were clearly two different debates that should not be confused and felt he had given a full response at the last SSG. He reiterated that specific proposals may need approval and to go through various stages. This was a separate debate to the socio-economic support for the area and Mr Hamilton rejected any allegations that socio-economic funding from the NDA was dependent on waste coming to Hunterston. Mrs Holmes felt that she was not confusing the two debates but being vigilant.

Mr MacDougall stated that whilst he understood Mrs Holmes's comments, he wished to clarify that Mrs Holmes was not speaking on behalf of members within the room. There was also the perception that in bringing in nuclear waste, there would be money available for this purpose. Mr MacDougall made reference to a newspaper publication on 3 September 2011 (East Anglian Daily Times) which stated that EDF had awarded £1.3 million to improve a national designated Suffolk Coast. Mr Hamilton advised that the NDA's socio-economic policy was not to support the companies involved but to support the socio-economic regeneration.

Mr Sean Marshall stated that he had been heavily involved with colleagues in attempting to obtain socio-economic funding for the Chapelcross area. He noted that schemes had only been successful due to the right people/organisations being involved. Mr Marshall felt there was a real opportunity for Hunterston and added that the draft Hall Aitken Report illustrated the demographics of the area well. Mr Marshall had learned that NDA wished the SSG to fully engage in the process. Mr Bale suggested that the way forward would be to have a further subgroup meeting in the near future. Mr Bale noted that Chief Executive, Elma Murray had received a response from him but to date he had received no response from Ms Murray. It was proposed that perhaps a representative from Chapelcross should be invited to attend the next subgroup meeting. This would be discussed and, if deemed appropriate, an invitation would be extended to Chapelcross.

ACTION: D. ROONEY

Mr Bale rounded up the discussions and concluded that this was merely the beginning of a journey, and that the group would engage with the council amongst others to arrange a further meeting. He also recognised the possibility of gauging potential project ideas from the

Hunterston workforce, but it was noted that the usual method for workforce communication was via the appropriate trade union representatives.

6.A HUNTERSTON A SITE REPORT

Mr Mark Stubbs extended a warm welcome to Mr Allan Rice, Saltcoats Community Council, as a new member of the SSG. He indicated that the report should be taken as read with a few items highlighted.

With regards to safety, it was now over 27 months since the last lost-time accident, no medical treatments and only 16 minor first aid injuries over the last year. The site continues to complete the decommissioning work safely and to schedule.

Since the last meeting, the site had installed a pontoon across the pond with dewatering likely to commence in around the end of September/beginning of October and lasting approximately three years.

A meeting was scheduled for 19 September 2011 with Magnox and NDA to discuss the proposal for the near site, near surface graphite disposal facility.

Mr Stubbs advised that with regard to national matters linked to Hunterston A, Mr Ewan Young from the Scottish Government was in attendance and had been involved in activity of a higher implementation strategy. Mr Young offered to speak on this topic at the end of the Hunterston A report.

With regard to land quality management, Mr Stubbs advised that the site was pursuing longer term land remediation options. A proposed technical solution has been selected and once independently reviewed and approved, work would commence circa April 2012.

Mr Stubbs stated that the safety of the public, personnel and care of the environment remained top priority to complete decommissioning work at Hunterston A.

Mr McGhee asked Mr Stubbs to clarify that the building referred to within the site report was a new ILW retrieval building and not the ILW store that already existed. Mr Stubbs confirmed that this was correct.

Mr Allan Rice asked about the make up of the pond water and whether it was more alkaline or acid. Mr Stubbs replied that the pond water was currently alkaline.

A member of the public enquired as to how the pond water was treated prior to being discharged to sea. Mr Stubbs replied that the pond water has been treated for a long time now through a Modular Active Effluent Treatment Plant (MAETP), which has removed caesium and filtered out much of the particulate material, reducing the level of radioactivity significantly. As the dewatering of the ponds progresses it will be subject to further treatment by the MAETP and then go to a delay tank where it would be monitored and, if suitable for discharge, would then be discharged to sea in accordance with the Site's current discharge authorisation.

The member of public also asked to what the specification was of material to be discharged in terms of chemical constituents and radioactivity. Mr Stubbs replied he did not have this information to hand but would provide it in due course. Mr Stubbs added that once agreement had been obtained from SEPA the draining would start around the end of



September/beginning of October. The member of the public stated that the cleaning and draining of the ponds was a very important activity in the decommissioning of the Site and requested further information to explain to members and the public. Mr Stubbs agreed it was an important stage and the Site was very confident in the plan and the way it was to be carried out. Mr Stubbs said he would be happy to provide a presentation covering the ponds clean and drain including the treatment and discharge process at the next SSG meeting.

ACTION M STUBBS

Mr Lamb asked for an update on the retrieval of the two spent fuel elements from the pond. Mr Stubbs detailed this process and commented overall work was going well. He explained that elements would be removed to two suitable shielded flasks on site before being removed to Sellafield for reprocessing.

Mrs Holmes enquired if there was any update on Compound 7 (CP7) and whether a presentation would be needed in this regard. Mr Stubbs responded that he would be happy to advise the outcome in due course. Mr Bale concluded that a CP7 presentation to the SSG was required.

ACTION: M. STUBBS

With regards to the meeting on 19 September between Magnox and the NDA to discuss the business case for graphite disposal, Mr MacDougall requested that the Chair inform the SSG of the NDA's decision in advance of the next SSG.

ACTION: T.BALE

6.B NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY

Mr Hamilton wished to congratulate Hunterston A on the excellent safety record aforementioned. He considered the ILW plant to be a particular success as it was a target reported by NDA to Government. Mr Hamilton added that NDA Chairman, Stephen Henwood, had recently visited the site and looked forward to seeing a good project for socio-economic funding coming forward in due course.

Mr Hamilton explained that NDA had published their annual report in July 2011 and it was a year of solid progress. The decision was made to close the Sellafield MOX Plant due to the impact of the tsunami on Japanese customers and their inability to confirm their desire to receive new MOX fuel. The NDA had invited Sellafield to propose a suitable plant to close. In Scotland, there had been media/stakeholder comments around NDA proposals to move material from Dounreay to Sellafield for processing. There had been media coverage surrounding the controversy relating to the proposal to transport the material by rail. The successful bidder, who would take over the closure contract for Dounreay, would be announced on 23 November 2011.

6.C SEPA REPORT

Ms Iona MacDonald took the SEPA report as read and informed the group that on 25 August 2011, SEPA attended a meeting with Magnox to discuss potential proposals for fuel element debris (FED) dissolution at the site, with the site being engaged at an early stage.

Mr MacDougall requested further information on FED dissolution. Mr Stubbs provided an outline of the process which has been used for many years at Dungeness A Power Station and was likely to be used at Bradwell Site. Although not currently part of the Hunterston A Site plan, it was a potential future opportunity and could bring real benefits to dispose of FED ILW. Mr Tyrer added that he had been involved with the Bradwell Site proposal and was strongly supportive of this method to deal with FED ILW. Mr Stubbs agreed to provide a presentation on FED dissolution at the next SSG meeting in December 2011.

ACTION: M. STUBBS



6.D ONR REPORT

Mr Kemp said that the main events in his report, which was for Quarter 2, had already been mentioned to the SSG, at its meeting on 2 June. They included the successful demonstration emergency exercise and various other inspections.

In the current quarter, he had had meetings about Magnox Ltd's choice of process for dealing with waste to be retrieved from the Solid Active Waste Building, which would enable it to submit a new decommissioning programme next month.

Licensees are required to review their safety cases periodically. In this quarter, ONR had written to Magnox Ltd to say that, subject to satisfactory completion of the recommendations of that review, the review was adequate to justify continued activities at Hunterston A to the end of 2020.

7. AOCB

Mr Ewan Young took this opportunity to give an update to members. He explained that work was due to commence on a strategy to implement policy, and this information was listed on the Scottish Government website. It was noted that papers would be published on the website once approved had been granted.

Mr Young informed that a technical advisory group would be convened. This may require further groups being created to offer support, including representatives of SSG and supporting companies. Mr Bale requested that Mr Young keep the secretariat advised on any updates, documentation and dates of meetings so that the SSG could endeavour to assist.

ACTION: D.ROONEY

Mr MacDougall highlighted the importance of advising members when information was placed on the website in order that issues were not overlooked. Mr Young explained that within the website, email alerts could be arranged and defined to suit individual needs.

Mr Bale concluded the meeting, reiterating his apology to councillors for his earlier comment regarding their non-attendance at the SSG. Congratulations were extended to B Station regarding safety and also on the new apprentices within the workforce. A member of the public suggested that an apprentice school be set up in the area.

8. DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The date and venue of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 8 December 2011, Brisbane House Hotel, Largs at 1.30pm

Mr Tony Bale
SSG Chairman

SSG Socio-Economic Subgroup
Wednesday 19 October 2011

The socio-economic subgroup held its third meeting on Wednesday 19 October at the Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan to review the list of projects within the document named 'Opportunities for North Ayrshire, Our economy and Our People'. This document was brought forward by North Ayrshire Council and Irvine Bay URC.

Those in attendance were as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representing</u>
Mrs Rita Homes	Fairlie Community Council
John Lamb	West Kilbride Community Council
Doug McFarlane	Largs Community Council
Councillor Alex Gallagher	North Ayrshire Council (afternoon session)
Councillor Robert Barr	North Ayrshire Council
Councillor Elizabeth McLardy	North Ayrshire Council
Mark Cullinane	Magnox Ltd, Hunterston A
Tony Bale	Chair
Jonathan Jenkins	NDA
Alasdair Laurenson	North Ayrshire Council
Patrick Wiggins	Irvine Bay URC
Frank Sweeney	Cunninghame Housing Association

The aim of the meeting was to review the numerous projects identified within the aforementioned document and submit some of these to the NDA for 'quick wins'. The term 'quick win' was identified as being projects which were ready for submission to the NDA for approval this financial year.

Mr Tony Bale opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and outlined the plan for the day ahead. Mr Bale stated that a further application was received from an individual who was a member of the Hunterston SSG and that this would be put forward at this meeting for consideration.

Mr Jonathan Jenkin then gave an update on the NDA funding process and that partnership with local agencies was key to obtaining NDA support.

Mr Jenkin also updated the group with regards to the proposed Magnox central pot which will replace the £40k of socio-economic money currently given to each Site each by the NDA for supporting worthy organisations in the local area.

Mr Jenkin outlined the four main themes required for achieving NDA funding:

- Employment – preferably high value
- Education & skills – to increase Skills level
- Economic Diversification
- Economic & Social Infrastructure

Mr Patrick Wiggins of Irvine Bay Urban Regeneration Company led the group through each of the projects on draft v2 of the 'Opportunities for North Ayrshire, Our economy

and Our People' document. It was decided that the subgroup would categorise each project into short term, medium term and longer term on the basis of what stage each project was currently at. Once this categorisation was complete, the subgroup would then review the short term projects and a select few would be put forward to the NDA via the SSG.

Mr Wiggins gave a full description of all 22 projects within the document and a discussion took place on each one and their merits. During the discussion it was highlighted that project 12, the Millport Marine Biology centre, had already been submitted to the NDA. Mr Jenkin informed the group that there was already ongoing dialogue in place between himself and the project team and that certain assurances had been made which made potential funding more feasible. It was agreed at this time that the group would support this application as it was already under development.

The group then discussed the additional project put forward by Mr Kenny MacDougall regarding a lobster farm. The group discussed the merits of the application, but were unable to ascertain who was leading this project and what partners were on board. From reviewing the paper, questions arose as to the structure of the organisation and whether it was a private sector application. It was agreed that this project was not covered under the remit of the group as it had still to be developed and that the application should at first be referred to the Business Development section of North Ayrshire council for assistance to develop it. Mr Jenkin agreed to e-mail some words to Mr MacDougall as to the NDA's response.

The afternoon session then narrowed down the list of projects for submission. The group agreed that the projects being forward would be by a consensus of the subgroup and supported by the entire SSG.

The agreed projects were as follows:

- 12) Millport Marine Biology Centre
- 5) North Ayrshire Sectoral Academy
- 11) Ayrshire Key Fund
- 16) Ardrossan Quayside Office Redevelopment
- 18) Tourism Growth – (It was agreed that this could look to incorporate parts of project 19 Watersports and Outdoor Access.)

Mr Jenkin highlighted that the lead applicant for each project should now obtain the draft application from the NDA website and that he would send the Business case proforma for circulation.

It was decided that the above projects would be ratified at the full SSG meeting on 8 December 2011. It was mentioned that it is possible that some projects may fail to get the necessary match funding in place and may not go forward to the NDA at this stage.



HUNTERSTON A STAKEHOLDER REPORT DECEMBER 2011

**HUNTERSTON A
SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
8 DECEMBER 2011**

Hunterston A has continued to make good progress on our programme of work and the Site remains very busy. We continue to be adequately funded by the NDA and remain committed to addressing the nuclear liabilities at Hunterston A in a safe, secure manner with care for the environment.

1 SAFETY, SECURITY and ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

1.1 Safety Performance

The Site has maintained its impressive safety performance with only minor first aid case injuries having occurred in the previous 12 month rolling period and clocking up 750,000 hours worked. Much of this work has been construction with the usual risks of industrial safety, so this performance reflects the workforce's attitude and commitment to working safely.

As a result, the Site safety performance, which is measured in total recordable incidence rate and day away case rate, remains at zero. Additionally, the Site has achieved all company Environmental, Health, Safety, Security and Quality targets for the previous two consecutive periods.

1.2 Learning and Improvement

The workforce continues to demonstrate a positive safety culture and are always keen and receptive to learn from experience, whether it be our own or someone else's. This allows intervention and rectification of issues in a timely manner with feedback provided.

Positive feedback has been received by a number of visiting parties who have recently visited Hunterston A. All parties have been impressed by the safety methods employed in order to meet the significant challenges presented by decommissioning. Examples of some of the positive feedback which has been noted include:

- "The workforce is open, honest and knowledgeable"
- "Excellent quality and content of presentations delivered"
- "Very high standards of cleanliness and housekeeping"

An inspection of the Site's management arrangements to ensure compliance with the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Fire Safety (Scotland) Regulations 2006 was conducted by the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) during October. Whilst some very minor 'areas for improvement' were identified, feedback from the Inspector was very positive with no areas of 'non-compliance' identified. Feedback on the content and quality of site fire risk assessments was singled out as an example of best practise.

2 DECOMMISSIONING PROGRESS

2.1 Pond

The pond decommissioning team have recently commenced the pond dewatering activities. During the dewatering phase, the pond walls will be decontaminated and stabilised. The equipment necessary to carry out the decontamination is due to complete active commissioning during December 2011.

The commencement of dewatering follows a period of interactions with SEPA to satisfy their requirements. Consequently, the hold point was removed. Hunterston A will continue to work closely with SEPA over the coming months to carefully ensure that the conditions for discharging pond water are monitored at acceptable levels.

2.2 Land Quality Management

On 31 October a meeting was held at Hunterston A with members of the SSG invited to discuss developments in regard to the CP7 compound. Subsequent to that meeting, a note of the presentation we gave was sent out for sharing with the various committees that SSG members represent. Feedback from the meeting was along the lines of;

- Resolving this issue is important to the local communities and whichever solution is selected it had better be effective to prevent a reoccurrence;
- Initially the consensus seemed to be to adopt the excavate and remove the contaminated soil and dispose option i.e. the "big dig" approach;
- However given the volumes likely, with no suitable waste routes open, with no suitable authorisations in place and increased lorry movements, minds began to change;
- After much questioning the group began to understand why the isolate contamination and replace drainage option i.e. the "in-situ" solution, had advantages;
- We continue the regular catch pit cleaning activities but a decision is needed to bring about a solution.

Additionally, options have been discussed with SEPA who have rightly asked us to consider the medium and longer term perspective as well as the near term. ONR are aware and we have discussed the matter with NDA to check alignment with their strategy relating to such matters.

Finally, members of the Magnox Executive have been consulted and we have taken their extensive collective advice and experience.

In order to confidently address the problem for a sustained period, in a timely manner while minimising the risk of a reoccurrence and limiting waste arising's, the conclusion is clear. The decision is to adopt the isolate contamination and replace drainage option i.e. the "in-situ" solution.

Critical to the success of this work will be preparation of the specification and securing the services of an experienced contractor capable of completing the work to a high standard. The preparatory phase of work will start next spring.

2.3 Solid ILW Retrieval

The facility continues to be put through the paces to establish baseline throughputs. Work will continue to optimise the plant. Operator training programmes are being progressed in parallel.

The cross-site transporter vehicle, which moves the filled waste packages between ILW facilities, is nearing completion. The vehicle comprises a tractor unit, similar to that seen at airports, with a trailer that carries a shielded over pack in which the filled package is placed. An extended period of reliability testing of the cross-site transporter identified a number of non-compliances which are being rectified prior to Magnox taking delivery of the vehicle. The factory acceptance testing has been completed and a small number of residual issues are being resolved. The delivery of the vehicle is scheduled for December at which point in-active commissioning will commence at each of the ILW retrieval, processing and storage facilities.

2.4 Wet ILW

The commissioning team has now arrived on site and has started preparing for the handover from the WILWREP construction team. Some delay has been experienced on this project recently, in particular on completing the electrical installation. However, it is anticipated that many of the construction delays will be overcome before Christmas to allow commissioning to continue unhindered. The commissioning phase will continue into the spring/early summer 2012.

One of the key pieces of documentation to support the commissioning phase is the pre-commissioning safety case. This safety case was submitted for Independent Nuclear Safety Assessment and has now been accepted.

As we move into commissioning, we are also looking forward into operations. To that end, we have held discussions involving the Trade Unions about how best to provide that operational resource in line with company agreements. Recently we have advertised internally within Magnox and a number of people have applied for positions. Where these positions can not be filled by Magnox people, we will be approaching the marketplace for suitable agency/contract supplied workers with a requirement to provide local people where possible.

2.5 Graphite Pathfinder Project

In September 2011, Magnox presented a four strand approach to the NDA's Executive team proposing;

- A change to Fuel Element Debris (FED) dissolution for Bunker 1 (mainly Magnox FED),
- Reverting to encapsulation for Bunkers 2-5 (mainly Graphite),
- Complete the development of the Graphite Pathfinder Project
- Explore possible commercial options with EnergySolutions

The overall approach was generally well received, however, at the end of an extended

discussion, it was confirmed that there was no compelling economic case for continuing the Graphite Pathfinder Project (GPP). The outcome of the discussion follows:

- NDA noted the intent to change the strategy for Bunker 1 (Magnox FED) material and expect, in due course, to consider any business case that can be made.
- NDA supported the Hunterston baseline proposal to encapsulate the contents of Bunker 2-5 (graphite) together with further optimisation of the plan where possible.
- NDA directed Magnox to suspend the further development work on GPP at this time.
- NDA confirmed they are always interested in discussing technical innovation and innovative commercial approaches from Site Licence Companies or Parent Body Organisations.
- NDA remain keen for Magnox to continue to work with NDA and others to explore Reactor
- Decommissioning Waste disposal options which should afford the opportunity to review and further develop cost models for management of such wastes.
- The next steps include completing the high level strategic options work, gaining approval for the relevant baseline change proposals and exploring further optimisation options. A revised LC35 milestone change proposal has already been to Nuclear Safety Committee and to the Office of Nuclear Regulation (ONR). ONR are aware of the developments and will assess and respond in due course.
- The GPP team are naturally disappointed, however, it should be emphasised that their work to date has been exceptional and team morale remains good. Most of the offsite technical teams have of course already been stood down and the impact on the Hunterston team at present is likely to be minimal since the new scope - looking into the store usage, possible FED dissolution and re-phasing of Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) - needs to be resourced.

3 PEOPLE

3.1 Employee Relations

Sickness absence at Hunterston A is averaging 4.51 days lost over the past rolling 12 month period (1.6 days short term sick and 2.91 days long term sick) compared to the Company target of 6.25 days. There has been a decrease in short term sick absence but a slight increase in long term absence due to surgery. These employees are being monitored via Occupational Health.

Recruitment activity at present continues to focus on the Project Support and Projects departments.

A new IT system called Agresso is being introduced and is well on its way with participation from staff from various departments involved in User Acceptance Testing which commenced in November. There have been slight delays to the project which have been necessary to ensure the end product gives the best benefit for our customer and the commencement date is January 2012. Work has been ongoing in sharing Site information with the Agresso Project Team to enable electronic interfaces to be set up when the system goes live. The Agresso Project Leader gave a presentation to Line Managers during November at Hunterston A.

During this period the Healthy Working Lives Committee were involved in the European Week of Health and Safety on site. The committee focussed on 'Work Life Balance' which explained to workers the benefits of utilising personal time away from work to maintain health and emotional wellbeing. Amongst the information given were details on forthcoming local events and they also received discount vouchers provided by many local businesses.

National 'Wear it Pink' day was well represented at Site with workers encouraged to donate to the charity along with wearing an item in pink to show their support. The workforce once again clearly showed their generosity to such a worthwhile cause via donations and participation and raised an excellent sum of £1,000.

A Company stress survey has now been completed and the information gathered is being prepared and will be presented to the Magnox Joint Management/Union Council, after which the information will be fed to sites.

3.2 Learning and Development

Continuing with the Magnox commitment to maintain and continuously build on staff skills and knowledge, the following provide examples of the Learning & Development activity at Hunterston A during this period.

The Site has been working closely with the Magnox common induction project and has recently introduced the new updated versions of Site specific induction packages. The newly issued National Skills Academy for Nuclear basic common induction package is now also included, which will soon form part of the Nuclear Skills Passport that can be used throughout the Nuclear industry.

Safety remains the number one priority and this period has been no exception with courses covering wide ranging subjects such as Radiation Protection Supervisor, Tractor & Bowser and Confined Space awareness. In addition to these, ten members of the Engineering department were involved in an Institute of Occupational Safety & Health (IOSH) Managing Safely training course. They are currently awaiting the results of their assessments to gain the formal IOSH Managing Safely certification.

4 ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Radioactive Discharges

Solid

Low Level Waste (LLW) discharges to the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) continue. Discharges over the 12 month period from October 2010 to September 2011 equate to 159.1m³, representing 27% of our authorised disposal limit. Radioactive nuclide content of this waste was well below authorised limits. The main contributions to the waste consignments were from projects such as CCP decommissioning and cleanup operations.

Liquid

Liquid radioactive discharges during the period October 2010 to September 2011 were made at levels that represent less than 1.4% for total beta, 0.01% for Plutonium-241, 0.03% for Tritium and 0.4% for total alpha, of the Site's authorised discharge limit. The

main contributions to the discharges were from miscellaneous sources on the Site, predominantly plant wash-down activities and filter backwashes.

Gaseous

Gaseous radioactive discharges during the period October 2010 to September 2011 were made at levels that represent 4.6% for Tritium, 4.1% for Carbon-14 and 0.75% for Beta particulate of the Site's authorised discharge limit. The main contributions to the discharges were from ventilation systems operating in contamination controlled areas and reactor vessel 'breathing'.

High Volume Very Low Level Waste (HVLLW)

The Site has a varied Radioactive Substances Act (RSA) authorisation to allow disposal of HVLLW to a landfill site via LLWR. However, the routine disposal of HVLLW has not started yet as we are seeking to progress a direct route from the Site to the authorised landfill site to minimise the environmental impact of the transport.

New Authorisations

SEPA are currently reviewing the Site's application for two variations to the solid RSA discharge authorisation (to increase the volume limit and for direct disposal of HVLLW to a landfill site in Cumbria). These will be going out for public consultation in the near future.

4.2 Non-radiological Environmental update

Environmental protection activities have included surveillance of the sewage treatment plant, including the analysis of discharge samples, sampling and analysis of effluent discharges relating to the liquid and gaseous discharge systems, monitoring electricity and water usage, examination of recycling opportunities and undertaking actions specified in its Biodiversity Action Plan.

The Site has been shortlisted in the Management Award (Large Business Size Category) of the Vision In Business for the Environment of Scotland (VIBES) awards. VIBES is a partnership between: Environmental Protection UK; Scottish Environment Protection Agency; Scottish Government and Zero Waste Scotland. The awards aim to encourage the efficient use of resources, enhance the competitiveness of businesses, improve environmental performance and support the wider goals of sustainable development including social benefits through community and staff involvement.

4.3 Environmental Events

There were no environmental events in the period from May 2011 to October 2011.

5 RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY

Explanatory note: The maximum permissible dose to a radiation worker in the UK is 20mSv (milliSieverts) in a calendar year. The average annual radiation dose to the UK population from all sources is 2.6mSv. Collective dose is usually measured in man.milliSieverts. For example, if ten people were each to receive 0.1milliSieverts during a particular task, then the collective dose for the task would be 10 people x 0.1mSv each = 1 man.milliSievert.

Doses for the calendar year 2011 (up to 30 September 2011) are as follows;

- Employees received a collective dose of 9.996 man.mSv;
- Contractors received a collective dose of 32.542 man.mSv;
- The highest individual dose received by an employee was 1.366 mSv;
- The highest individual dose received by a contractor was 2.110 mSv.

The majority of dose accrued in 2011 has been from a combination of the Cartridge Cooling Pond decommissioning projects and other Site projects. All doses in these projects have been prior-assessed, planned and are tracked throughout the project duration to ensure that no limits are exceeded.

5.1 Radiological Events

There were no radiological events in the period from 4th August 2011 to 11th November 2011.

6 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

On the evening of 10 November 2011, a level two notification exercise took place on site. Exercise "Dawn" provided a series of initial notification calls to the emergency services, offsite staff and the Site event reporting system. The purpose of the exercise is to prove that the Site can correctly initiate call outs to the various bodies identified on the call out procedures. This was completed successfully.

On 18 November 2011, Hunterston A staff took part in Exercise "Endurance", simulating a prolonged site event, which required the site emergency admin officers to provide a rota of staff to the Central Emergency Support Centre in Barnwood, Gloucester. Some good learning points were identified, but overall, the exercise was deemed successful with the staff involved finding the experience valuable.

There were no on-site incidents or off-site nuclear emergency declarations made thus far during 2011, however, the Site emergency team personnel responded to twenty six events, mainly first aid injuries. All incidents are recorded to allow trending to be carried out and allowing the Site to gain valuable learning.

7 NATIONAL MATTERS THAT LINK TO HUNTERSTON A

Statement on Tony Fountain, NDA CEO

On 20 September 2011, the NDA announced that Tony Fountain would be leaving the NDA to pursue his career back in the Oil and Gas sector. Mr. Fountain joined the NDA in October 2009 following a 25 year career at BP.

NDA Chairman Stephen Henwood said: "Tony has made a huge contribution to the NDA's achievements over the last couple of years. He has reshaped the organisation to become more delivery focused, and under his leadership considerable progress has been made in our mission. We are disappointed to be losing him and wish him every success. The NDA's mission remains one of the most exciting and challenging roles in the public sector and we look forward to finding a suitably experienced and skilled successor, a process that has already begun."

8 PA/PR ACTIVITIES/CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Hunterston A is delighted to continue supporting the local community by funding worthwhile groups and organisations. The following highlights groups which have been allocated funding by Hunterston A since September 2011:

<i>Soc-Ec & Charity Donations:</i>	£
Children's Safety Education Foundation	2,340
St.Matthew's Academy Eco-Garden	1,160
Largs Colts	1,000
Glitter Beach Foundation	500
Irvine and District Pipe Band	500
Friends of Caledonia	500
West Kilbride Environment Group	500
Chernobyl Children's Lifeline	500
Ardrossan Indoor Bowling Club	500
Ayrshire Hospice	500
Dalry Burns Club	275
TASS Thistle Titans	250
Festival of Juvenile Solo Piping	250
Ardrossan Christmas Donations Committee	250
Largs United Amateur Football Club	250
National Autistic Society	250
Ardrossan Whitlees Community Association	250
Saltcoats Town Centre Initiative	150
Saltcoats Gala Committee	150
Total	£10,075

9 SITE VISITS

Hunterston A Site continues to attract the right kind of interest through our excellent performance. A selection of visitors during the period included:-

6-9 September 2011	Chris Kemp, ONR Site Inspector, visit to Hunterston A
19 September 2011	Graphite Pathfinder Project meeting with NDA
22 September 2011	Iona MacDonald, SEPA Site Inspector, visit to Hunterston A
29 September 2011	Gary Voorheis, Chief Operating Officer for Decommissioning Sites, at Hunterston A for Divisional Director's meeting
13 October 2011	Magnox Board meeting at Hunterston A
31 October 2011	SSG information gathering session at Hunterston A
1-2 November 2011	NDA representatives at Hunterston A for Strategic Performance Review.
21-24 November 2011	Chris Kemp, ONR Site Inspector, visit to Hunterston A

Quarterly site report for Hunterston A

1 July 2011–30 September 2011

Foreword

This report is issued as part of the Office for Nuclear Regulation's (ONR) commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to Hunterston A available to the public. Reports are distributed quarterly to members of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/llc).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend meetings of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and will respond to any questions raised there by the members of the group. Any other person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact the ONR.

Email: ONRenquiries@hse.gsi.gov.uk

Post: Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS

Inspections

ONR made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- 6–9 September

Routine matters

Inspections at Hunterston A

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- (i) the conditions attached by HSE/ONR to the nuclear site licence;
- (ii) the Health and Safety at Work etc Act (HSWA) 1974; and
- (iii) regulations made under the HSWA (for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999).

This entails monitoring licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters which may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation. In this period routine inspections of Hunterston A covered:

- radioactive waste management
- decommissioning

In general the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements were deemed to be adequate in the areas inspected. However, where improvements were considered necessary, satisfactory commitments to address the issues were made by the licensee, and the Site Inspector will monitor progress during future visits. Where necessary, formal regulatory enforcement action will be taken to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

Safety Representatives: the site inspector held a meeting for Safety Representatives, to support their function of representing employees and receiving information on matters affecting their health, safety, and welfare at work.

Site Stakeholder Group: The site inspector attended the quarterly meeting of the SSG, making a short presentation and answering questions.

Inspections elsewhere

As well as inspecting at this site, ONR makes inspections at the other nuclear sites for which Magnox Ltd is the licensee, and has regulatory meetings with the licensee elsewhere. Where these are relevant to Trawsfynydd they will be mentioned here; for instance, many of the licensee's arrangements for compliance with the licence are common to many or all of the other sites. In this period, we have begun work aimed at improving the licensee's own scrutiny of its safety-related performance and decisions. We have also continued with work aimed at improving the licensee's ability to learn from experience—its own, that of other nuclear operators, and that of other high-hazard industries.

Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

There were no items of particular note during the quarter.

Regulatory activity

Under health and safety legislation, ONR site inspectors, and other HSE inspectors, may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed licence instruments (LIs). In addition, inspectors may issue enforcement notices to secure improvements to safety.

No licence instruments or enforcement notices were issued during the quarter.

News from ONR

ONR Board

The full ONR Board came into effect on 25 July and comprises nine members: Nick Baldwin as the Chair, four non-executive members and four executive members, who include Mike Weightman, HM Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations.

Three Board meetings were held during this quarter. Further information about the Board and minutes of the meetings can be found under the Board pages of the ONR website <http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/onr-board>

ONR corporate publications

ONR's first corporate plan, for 2011-2015, and quarterly report have been published on the ONR website. Also published on the website in September was the 2011 Nuclear Research Index, which lists nuclear safety research relevant to operating nuclear reactors.

Fukushima report

The Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change, Chris Huhne, requested a report from Mike Weightman on lessons for the UK nuclear industry from the Japanese incident. The report was delivered to DECC in September and made public. (An interim report, published in May, concluded that there was no reason to curtail nuclear plant operations in the UK.) ONR has written to community groups near nuclear sites in the UK asking whether they would be interested in ONR giving regional public briefings.

Stress tests

The European Council requested a review of safety at European nuclear power plants. The European Commission, supported by the European Nuclear Safety Regulatory Group (ENSREG), produced criteria and a plan for this review, now known as the EC stress test. Participating nations agreed to provide progress reports by 15 September and full reports in December. The UK progress report, compiled by ONR, has been published on line.

Nuclear Safety Directive and amended licence conditions

In every nuclear site licence, licence conditions 17 and 36 have been amended to allow the obligations of the Nuclear Safety Directive (NSD) 2009/71/Euratom to be fully implemented in Great Britain. ONR's licence condition handbook has been updated accordingly, and is available on the ONR website.

NDA Monthly Update

November 2011

Summary

- Oldbury to end generation in 2012
- MOD consultations start on submarine dismantling
- NDA Chief Executive stepping down
- Insight magazine edition 7 now available
- Latest version of Engagement Plan published
- Options for moving material from Harwell and Dounreay
- New online format tracks performance of sites and NDA
- Sellafield MOX Plant to close
- Sellafield Performance Plan published
- NDA's annual report and accounts published

Diary Dates

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| • National stakeholder event, Manchester | 23-24 November |
| • Announcement on Preferred Bidder for Dounreay | End of November |
| • Draft Business Plan consultation starts | Early December |

Oldbury closure date announced

Magnox Ltd has announced that Oldbury's remaining operating reactor will close in February 2012, after generating electricity safely for 44 years. The income from electricity sales has provided an important contribution to funding of the decommissioning programme. The proactive decision to shut Reactor One was made on the grounds that further operation of one of the world's oldest nuclear reactors is no longer economically viable. Reactor Two closed in June. The original closure date for both reactors was 2008.

[Weblink: Oldbury to close](#)

MoD starts consultation on submarine dismantling

The MOD has launched a public consultation on the options for dismantling of the UK's defuelled nuclear-powered submarines. MOD is seeking views on how radioactive material is removed from the submarines, where this is undertaken (Devonport and/or Rosyth Dockyards) and which type of site is used for the storage of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) arising. The types of site being considered for storage of ILW are those owned by the MOD, industry and the NDA and this will lead to further stakeholder engagement, at a later stage, to determine specific sites. The current consultation ends on 17 February 2012.

[Weblink: www.mod.uk/submarine dismantling](http://www.mod.uk/submarine-dismantling)

Chief Executive to step down

The NDA announced that Chief Executive Tony Fountain has decided to step down from his role as Chief Executive Officer and return to a career in the oil and gas sector. Tony, who joined the NDA in October 2009 following a 25-year career at BP, said: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my two years with the NDA and it has been a very difficult decision to make because I believe strongly in the role of the NDA and its mission. I firmly believe the organisation is well placed to achieve further success. I have really enjoyed the opportunity to work alongside our many stakeholders and I would like to thank them for their important contribution to our progress."

[Weblink: CEO moving on](#)

NDA Monthly Update – November 2011

Insight magazine published

The seventh edition of the NDA's news magazine for stakeholders has now been published and is available on the website.

[Weblink: Insight edition 7](#)

Updated National Engagement Plan

The NDA has published the second version of its National Stakeholder Engagement Plans that identify opportunities for stakeholders to inform the development and implementation of our Strategy over the next year.

<http://www.nda.gov.uk/stakeholders/engagement-plan.cfm>

Options for moving material from Harwell and Dounreay

Following a period of engagement and further consideration, the NDA is due to publish its decisions later this month on the proposed transfer to Sellafield of various nuclear fuels and materials currently held at the Harwell and Dounreay sites. Recent options papers demonstrated the strategic and economic case for the materials to be managed at Sellafield and the NDA has been engaging with local communities and other stakeholders around both sites in order to take their views into account before reaching its decisions.

[Weblink: Harwell Credible and Preferred Options Paper](#)
[Dounreay Credible and Preferred Options Paper](#)

Keeping track of progress

The NDA has launched a revised format for the online recording of sites' progress towards their decommissioning targets. Targets detailed in the recently published Business Plan 2011-2014 will be used to measure progress with a simple traffic light system of green (on target), amber (behind target with some possibility of recovery) and red (behind target). Web users will be able to check the performance of individual sites against specific targets, or browse by key themes. The new format reflects a stronger focus on delivery and will be updated on a quarterly basis, replacing the previous system which reported progress using more general indicators. As well as the sites, progress will be reported for the NDA and its Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD).

[Weblink: Our progress](#)

Future of Sellafield MOX plant

The Sellafield MOX Plant (SMP), which recycles foreign-owned plutonium into nuclear fuel, is being closed as a result of the NDA's re-assessment of commercial risk following the Japanese earthquake and tsunami. Working with Japanese customers, the NDA has been reviewing the Plant's future, assessing its likely effect on the SMP programme and associated commercial arrangements. The NDA Board concluded that the only reasonable course of action was to close SMP to ensure that the UK taxpayer does not carry a future financial burden from SMP. The NDA will continue to store Japanese plutonium safely and securely under international safeguards and further develop discussions on a responsible approach to support the Japanese Utilities' policy for re-using their material. Meanwhile, the Government has been consulting on policy options for dealing with the UK's Plutonium stockpile, including possible re-use as MOX fuel.

[Weblink: NDA statement](#)

Sellafield Performance Plan published

The NDA together with Sellafield Ltd and Nuclear Management Partners (NMP) have published a new Performance Plan for the site. The Plan follows two years of investigation and analysis and sets out the future operations, construction projects and decommissioning activities over the lifetime of the site, but with a particular focus through to 2025. NDA Chief Executive Tony Fountain said: "I believe that for the first time we now have a credible plan that is underpinned both technically and in terms of capability, that gives us all the best chance of success."

[Weblink: Details on the Sellafield Ltd website](#)

A year of progress

The NDA published its Annual Report & Accounts for 2010/11, outlining considerable progress in its mission to decommission and clean up the UK's civil public sector nuclear legacy. In addition to the main document, a special edition of Insight was published summarising some of the year's key achievements. Chief Executive Tony Fountain said: "It's been a year of good performance, hitting targets that show concrete progress against our tasks. But it has also been a year in which critical steps have been taken to allow us to focus on delivery over the years ahead – including securing the availability of resources through the Spending Review, a rebuilt Sellafield performance Plan, a new approach to Magnox delivery and our own more focused organisation."

[Weblink: Annual Report and Accounts 2010/2011](#)