

**BERKELEY NUCLEAR LICENSED SITE AND OLDBURY ON SEVERN
POWER STATION SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUPS
MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING HELD AT EASTWOOD PARK
CONFERENCE CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2008**

PRESENT:

Cllr M Lynden(in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Mrs P Wride	-	Ham and Stone Parish Council
Cllr D Burgess	-	Alkington Parish Council
Cllr C Evers	-	Glos Assn of Parish and Town Councils
Cllr K Graupner	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr N Halsall	-	Thornbury Town Council
Cllr M Hawkins	-	Aust Parish Council
Ms R Kitson	-	Hill Parish Meeting
Ms M Bitton	-	Hill Parish Meeting
Cllr Mrs J Lyons	-	Olveston Parish Council
Rev D Primrose	-	Oldbury Power Station Chaplain
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr V Shenoi	-	Forest of Dean District Council
Mr J Stanton	-	Stroud District Council
Cllr Mrs V Tutin	-	Olveston Parish Council
Cllr M Whiteside	-	Stroud District Council
Mr B Willcox	-	Olveston/Alveston Parish Council??

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr S Barker	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Dr D Warner	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr S Hounslow	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr D Atkinson	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr R Flynn	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr P Youngman	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr M Lester	-	Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Dr M Ghannad	-	NII
Mr P Kennedy	-	Food Standards Agency
Dr P Mountford-Lister	-	Environment Agency
Ms A Lillycrop	-	Environment Agency
Ms A Presdee	-	Gloucestershire First
Mr J Lamonby	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Mr J C Bishton	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Mr P Clarke	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms M Hausrath	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms S Postans	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms E Vaughan Lewis	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Mr J Crocker	-	Berkeley Licensed Site
Mr S Payne	-	Berkeley Licensed Site
Mr P Hetherington	-	Magnox South
Mr W R Cullimore		
Mr B Delve		
Mr R Grey		
Ms M Willcox		

Mr T Pike
Mr R Cornock
Ms V Cornock
Mr N Carmichael
Mr P Page
Ms A Paine
Mr G Blythe
Ms J Kempster
Mr P Hobbs
Mr D Goldie
Mrs Goldie
Ms L Hutchinson (Bristol Evening Post)
Ms L-J Gillespie (Thornbury Gazette)
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)

I WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

1 Cllr Lynden welcomed members of the Oldbury and Berkeley Site Stakeholder Groups to the meeting which was being held jointly for the consideration of monitoring reports and other items of interest to both SSGs.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 Apologies for absence were received from Mr D Billing, Mr P Booth, Mr M Dalziel, Dr L Hales, Mr A Jardine, Mr B S Kirk, Mr G Laverack, Mr D Drew MP, Mr M Harper MP, Rev R Avery, Mr H Tovell, Mr D Withey, Mr J Gilliland, Ms M Morrey, Dr C Chudley

III MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING HELD ON 16 OCTOBER 2007

(a) Accuracy

3 The minutes of the meeting of the joint meeting held on 16 October 2007 were approved as a correct record.

(b) Matters arising

4 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

IV NDA UPDATE

5 Cllr Lynden explained that in anticipation of public interest in NDA activities relating to the disposal and future use of parts of the Oldbury site, this item had been placed at this point on the agenda. Mr Barker introduced Mr Atkinson and Mr Hounslow who were able to update members on this matter. During discussion the following points were noted:

- (i) The NDA had a statutory obligation to secure value for money from its assets. Following the Government's announcement in relation to new nuclear build it was intended that land at Oldbury, Wylfa and Bradwell would be released onto the market as soon as practicable. Income from the sale of land might be used to offset costs of decommissioning which remained the NDA's prime objective.
- (ii) Potential interest in surplus land at all the NDA sites had been canvassed and most interest had been expressed in the sites at Oldbury, Wylfa and Bradwell. The NDA was not disposing of any designated or licensed land at these sites and care was being taken to ensure that no actions were taken which might hinder decommissioning activities.
- (iii) Expressions of interest in acquiring land at NDA sites had covered a range of potential electricity generation projects and other uses.
- (iv) It was intended that the NDA would sell land on a leasehold basis which would enable it to retain control over the management of the sites as necessary for continued decommissioning work.
- (v) Cllr Hawkins asked whether bulk materials required for the construction of a new power station would be brought to the site by sea. Mr Atkinson said that this would be a matter for the purchaser developing the site; he anticipated that most of the major plant items would be brought to the site by sea but he acknowledged that a major construction project would involve a large volume of construction traffic.
- (vi) In reply to a question from Dr Mountford-Lister, Mr Atkinson said that the existing licensed site would be excluded from any sale with the possible exception of the silt lagoon currently within the Licensed Site which might be de-licensed.
- (vii) In reply to a question from Mr Mitchell on the NDA attitude towards the acquisition of land around the site by E.ON, Mr Hounslow said that the NDA interest was in protecting the value of its land. It was to be expected that speculative acquisitions would take place around any potential development sites.
- (viii) Cllr Riddle welcomed this meeting and the opportunity to question representatives of the NDA on this matter. He said there were concerns in the community in relation to the lack of transparency in land acquisition by other parties and a wish for more information on development intentions. Mr Atkinson said that matters relating to land acquisitions were necessarily

confidential but he undertook to draw potential purchasers' attention to the community wish for a dialogue.

- (ix) Mr Atkinson said it was likely that marketing of the surplus NDA land would begin early in the New Year.
- (x) In reply to a question from Cllr Booth, Mr Atkinson confirmed that the site licence company would remain responsible for maintenance of the reservoir during the decommissioning period.
- (xi) Mr Grey drew attention to the concerns of local people caused by the uncertainty over development proposals. Mr Goldie emphasised the significant effect on values of property in areas adjacent to the potential development site. Mr Atkinson said that he was willing to discuss such concerns with local residents after the meeting. He said that it might be appropriate for individuals to take professional advice if they believed the value of their property was affected.
- (xii) Cllr Evers drew attention to the outcome of the work done by this Group on the preferred end state for the site and emphasised the environmental sensitivity of developing on this land. Mr Hounslow said that planning consent was a matter for the purchaser of the land.
- (xiii) Cllr Lynden said that Oldbury Parish Council would call a meeting of local residents as soon as any definite proposals for the development of the site were known.

V PUBLIC FORUM

6 There were no further issues raised by members of the public.

VI ITEMS OF JOINT INTEREST

(a) Oldbury Site Update

7 Mr Lamonby reported on current activities and issues at Oldbury Power Station, drawing particular attention to the following:

- (i) The station's high standards of safety performance had been maintained. It has now more than two years since there had been an accident on site involving time lost from work.
- (ii) A one-day safety training session had been provided during the past three months for all staff and contractors on site and had been very well received.

- (iii) Turbine 2 was now in operation with Reactor 2. Following maintenance Turbine 1 had been tested satisfactorily using steam from Reactor 2.
- (iv) Work on the reactor core graphite safety case to enable the restart of Reactor 1 was progressing well. The programme of channel inspections on Reactor 1 had been completed. These inspections on both reactors had included more than 30,000 graphite bricks and no defects had been found. A safety case for operation of the reactors beyond 2008 was currently with the NII. Due to plant shutdowns in recent years sufficient new fuel was available; adequate margins remained against graphite safety case limits and the programme for reprocessing spent fuel at Sellafield meant that defuelling was not due to commence until 2011. Mr Lamonby said that the prospects for continued operation beyond 2008 appeared to be encouraging; he would inform members when a decision was reached.
- (v) A team of inspectors from the World Association of Nuclear Operators had carried out a peer review of the station's operations management arrangements.

8 In reply to a question from Cllr Whiteside Mr Lamonby confirmed that if operation beyond 2008 was permitted by the NII, graphite core irradiation would remain well within safety case limits.

9 Cllr Shenoï expressed his congratulations on the completion of the work necessary to justify extending the operating life of the station. He felt this was particularly important in view of the current position regarding generating capacity. Cllr Riddle also expressed similar congratulations. He acknowledged the excellent safety record at the station over the past 40 years and felt it was important that electricity production from the station should be maximised.

(b) Berkeley Site Update

10 Mr Crocker reported on activities at the Berkeley site, drawing particular attention to the following:

- (i) The site had achieved a period of 92 weeks without a lost time accident. In a recent accident a contractor's employee had injured his foot; the emergency response activities involving both on site and Ambulance Service personnel had worked very effectively.
- (ii) The site's emergency arrangements had been demonstrated to the regulator effectively on the day before this meeting.
- (iii) Organisational structure requirements were being reassessed in line with the station's current work programme. Consultations were taking place with trades unions on future requirements and opportunities for work at other sites were being identified for

staff who would be surplus to requirements. It was anticipated that notifications would be given to staff on 1 January.

- (iv) It was anticipated that when planned asset improvement work was completed next year the reactors would be ready for entry into a care and maintenance state with only limited future access for inspection. Berkeley would be the first station to achieve this status.

11 Ms Paine asked about the work which was planned to be carried out during the coming year. Mr Crocker explained that this included sealing off access to certain areas, providing security surveillance, and separating service links to the Berkeley Centre site.

12 Cllr Evers asked about the current status of the NDA's intention to accelerate decommissioning programmes. Mr Barker said that the aspiration to achieve decommissioning within a period of 25 years was addressed in the current draft business plan. The plan stated that there was no business case to support that 25 year aspiration in the absence of required waste disposal routes. Details of the draft business plan were available on the NDA website.

13 In reply to a question from Mr Stanton, Mr Crocker said that he was not able to give an indication of future manpower requirements until staff had been notified, but he said that there would be a significant reduction. Sufficient staff would be retained to meet emergency scheme and other compliance requirements. He said that in future staff would be recruited for projects as funding and appropriate waste streams became available.

(c) Civil Nuclear Constabulary Annual Review

14 Insp Lester presented a report from the Civil Nuclear Constabulary. He described the background to the establishment of the Constabulary and explained its current role and organisational structure. He said that the role of the Constabulary in relation to the power station sites and the areas immediately around them was related only to protection against potential terrorist threats; it was not concerned with site security which was managed by the site itself.

15 In response to concerns expressed by Cllr Halsall about police officers carrying firearms, Insp Lester said that the public was becoming more used to seeing officers carrying firearms at airports etc. He said that a range of measures in addition to firearms were available to the officers. He emphasised the discipline and training which characterised the Constabulary's approach and said that any officer using a firearm would have to justify such use after the event. Cllr Lynden said he felt that after some initial concerns in relation to officers carrying firearms the local community now generally felt reassured by the presence of the Constabulary.

(d) CoRWM Update

16 Cllr Lynden reported on a meeting he had attended at which information had been provided on the continuing role of the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management. He felt that this particular meeting had not been successful but it was important to maintain an awareness of the work of the Committee.

(e) BERR Consultation

17 Cllr Mrs Wride reported on a meeting she had attended at which the Department of Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform had consulted on proposals for a strategic siting assessment to deal with planning for new power station construction. It was anticipated that the proposals would avoid delays in the planning process.

(f) National Stakeholder Group

18 Cllr Lynden and Cllr Mrs Wride reported on a meeting of the National Stakeholder Group which they had attended during the previous week. Issues discussed had included the NDA's Draft Business Plan and arrangements for the sale of surplus land at NDA sites. Information had also been provided on the NII's generic design assessment process for potential designs for new power stations and measures in hand to increase NII recruitment to meet its increasing workload. Dr Ghannad said that in the allocation of its resources the NII always gave priority to the operational sites.

VII ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

(a) Food Standards Agency

19 Mr Kennedy reported on the results of the monitoring of radioactivity in food and the environment undertaken during 2007 by the Food Standards Agency in conjunction with the Environment Agency. The formal report on the results of this monitoring would be published in early December; if members wished to have a copy they should contact Saranne Postans at Oldbury.

20 Mr Kennedy explained the nature of the monitoring undertaken and the way in which the results were used to assess the potential radiation exposures which might be received by members of the public in the vicinity of the sites consuming locally produced foodstuffs. He said that the potential dose to a member of the public in the vicinity of the Berkeley and Oldbury sites consuming locally produced foodstuffs during 2007 was assessed as less than 5 microSieverts (μSv) and the potential dose which might have been received by a member of the local fishing community consuming locally caught fish and shellfish was $18\mu\text{Sv}$. He said that the apparent increase in the potential "aquatic" dose compared with the previous year was attributable to the use of a new habit survey.

21 Mr Kennedy said that these potential exposures were small compared with the annual dose limit of $1000\mu\text{Sv}$ for members of the public from artificial

sources of radioactivity (excluding medical treatments). He pointed out that the exposure associated with a dental X-ray was 5 μ Sv and the exposure from cosmic radiation during a return flight between the UK and Australia was 160 μ Sv.

(b) Environment Agency

22 A written report on the Environment Agency's regulatory activities in relation to Oldbury had been circulated to members. Dr Mountford-Lister invited comments or questions. Cllr Lynden commented on the Agency's use of consultants in dealing with a specific issue which had been addressed to them; he suggested that the Agency might be expected to have the necessary expertise in-house. Dr Mountford-Lister said that consultants were used on occasions for specific tasks of short duration; the Agency had to act as an intelligent customer in commissioning work by consultants and in dealing with their recommendations.

(b) Magnox Electric Ltd

23 Mr Clark presented a report on the results of the environmental monitoring undertaken by Magnox Electric during the past year. He briefly outlined the nature of the environmental monitoring programme and said that all planned monitoring activities had been completed as required during the year.

24 Cllr Evers drew attention to the reported improved method of assessing discharges which had resulted in significantly reduced levels of Carbon 14 discharges being reported in recent years. He accepted that it had not been considered appropriate to reassess discharges reported in previous years but suggested that it might be appropriate in future reports to draw attention to the effect of this revised assessment method.

VIII DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT JOINT MEETING

27 It was noted that the next joint meeting would be held in November 2009. The date and venue would be confirmed in due course.

MJD
17 November 2008