

OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION

SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT

OLDBURY INFORMATION CENTRE ON 3 MAY 2006

PRESENT:

Cllr M Lynden (Chairman)	-	Oldbury-on-Severn Parish Council
Cllr D Dovey	-	Chepstow Town Council
Cllr C Evers	-	Glos Association of Parish & Town Councils
Mr M Farley	-	Staff Representative, Oldbury Power Station
Cllr N Halsall	-	Thornbury Town Council
Dr L Hales		
Cllr M Hawkins	-	Aust Parish Council
Cllr G Locke	-	Rockhampton Parish Council
Cllr Ms J Lyons	-	Olveston Parish Council
Cllr Ms S O'Neill	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr A Pinder	-	Friends of the Earth
Rev D Primrose		
Cllr J C Rawlinson	-	Pilning and Severn Beach Parish Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr V Shenoi	-	Forest of Dean District Council

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr J C Bishton	-	Decommissioning Strategy Manager, Oldbury
Mr G Buchanan	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr S Barker	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Ms A Chapman	-	Head of Health Physics & Chemistry, Oldbury
Mr M Eagle	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr R Griffin	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr T Howes	-	Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Ms A Kentish	-	Communications Officer, Oldbury Power Station
Mr J Lamonby	-	Site Manager, Oldbury Power Station
Mr G Laverack	-	Health Protection Agency
Mr J Lindsay	-	Nuclear Installations Inspectorate
Mr N Monckton	-	Berkeley Centre
Mr A Murray	-	Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Ms R Lyon	-	Oldbury Power Station
Ms A Ryan	-	Oldbury Power Station
Mr M Studdon	-	Health Protection Agency
Mr D Urquhart	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Ms E Vaughan Lewis	-	Oldbury Power Station
Mr D Worsell	-	Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Cllr Mrs P Wride	-	Ham & Stone Parish Council
Mr B Roberts		
Mr W Gill		
Mr N Hutchings		
Mr H Yeomans		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Cllr Lynden welcomed members to this meeting of the Oldbury Power Station Site Stakeholder Group. He introduced Mr Barker, the Oldbury Site Programme Manager for the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, appointed in succession to Mr D Gatehouse who had been promoted within the NDA.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2 Apologies for absence were received from:

Dr C Blackburn	Food Standards Agency
Mrs C Harrison	HR Manager, Oldbury Power Station
Mr R Griffiths	National Assembly for Wales
Dr T Ejidokun	Health Protection Agency
Mr R Beddis	Forest of Dean District Council
Mr R Mrowicki	NDA
Mr D Withey	Environment Agency
Mr R Birch	Forest of Dean District Council
Dr J Sarangi	Health Protection Agency
Mrs J Young	Site Inspector, Oldbury Power Station
Mr R Langdon	Welsh Water
Mr M Heaton	EHSQU Manager, Oldbury Power Station
Mr S Webb MP	
Mr D Gatehouse	NDA

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 3 The minutes of the following meetings were approved as a correct record:

SSG Meeting held on 1 February 2006
End-state Sub-Group Meeting held on 13 February 2006
Socio-Economic Sub-Group Meeting held on 27 February 2006

(b) Matters arising

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

PUBLIC FORUM AND IODINE TABLET CONSULTATION

- 5 There were no issues raised by members of the public.
- 6 Mr Laverack pointed out that the Health Protection Agency had been asked to review policy in relation to the use of potassium iodate tablets

as a counter-measure in the event of a release of radioactivity. The Agency had prepared a detailed document with various options and members of the Group were invited to consider the merits and demerits of these options as part of a process of public consultation. Responses were required by 30 June. Members agreed that this Group should provide a response to the Health Protection Agency and it was agreed that a sub group should be formed to review the issues in detail. The following agreed to form a sub group:

Mr A Pinder
Mr G Buchanan
Cllr M Riddle
Mr W Gill

- 7 The group, with the support of power station staff, would meet as soon as possible to review the Health Protection Agency document.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

- 8 Cllr Lynden presented a report on the activities of the Site Stakeholder Group during the past year. He described the work carried out by the two sub groups dealing with the site end state and socio economic impact. He said he believed that these sub groups had made a good start and suggested that other sub groups might be established for specific purposes in due course. He thanked Mr Lamonby and Mr Bishton for the support which they and other station staff had given to the Group.
- 9 Cllr Lynden said he felt that the first year of the Group's work, independent of the NDA and the power station, had been successful and that further improvements would be made in the light of experience.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

- 10 It was noted that Cllr Lynden and Cllr Hawkins were prepared to stand again for election as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Group respectively for the coming year and that there had been no other nominations for these posts. Members agreed unanimously that the election of Cllr Lynden and Cllr Hawkins as Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Group for the coming year should be confirmed.
- 11 Cllr Riddle, on behalf of all members, thanked Cllr Lynden and Cllr Hawkins for their contribution to the work of this Group during the past year.

NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY STRATEGY REPORT

- 12 Mr Barker described the role and organisation of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. He emphasised the Authority's overriding concern for safety, security and protection of the environment, its desire to promote competition for the management of the sites and to ensure

that best practices were adopted. Mr Barker described the priorities of the NDA's annual plan. He believed that good progress had been made in the first year of the NDA's existence but there was much further work to be done. Copies of the NDA strategy document were available for members.

13 During discussion the following points were noted:

- (i) Cllr Shenoï suggested that the NDA might do more to publicise its activities in local schools and public libraries.
- (ii) Mr Hales asked about progress towards establishing long-term radioactive waste disposal facilities. Mr Griffin said that the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management had produced a draft report and would be reporting formally in July. He emphasised the importance of a clear strategy and the need for a prompt response from government. He said that pending the establishment of further national disposal facilities consideration would have to be given to interim arrangements.
- (iii) Cllr Lynden drew attention to a suggestion in a recent consultation document on the management of solid low level wastes that nuclear sites such as Oldbury might be used for the disposal of radioactive wastes from hospitals and other establishments within local areas. Mr Lamonby said that the site currently had an authorisation for the disposal of wastes to Drigg but that repository had limited capacity remaining and decisions had to be taken whether to establish a new repository or to store low level wastes on existing sites. Cllr Halsall suggested that there would be strong local resistance at any site to proposals for the storage of wastes from other sites.
- (iv) In response to a question from Cllr Evers, Mr Griffin said that the costs of an accelerated decommissioning programme as described in the NDA strategy document were currently being assessed.

SITE MANAGER'S REPORT

14 Mr Lamonby reported on operations and activities at Oldbury on Severn Power Station since the date of the previous meeting. He drew particular attention to the following:

- (i) Although one of the reactors had been on an extended shutdown, the station had exceeded its revised electricity production target.
- (ii) Analytical work was continuing in relation to the reactor core graphite safety case. During the current shutdown over 800 channels within the reactor core graphite had been inspected and nothing of any concern had been observed. This was a major

programme of work involving the removal of fuel and its replacement after the channel inspections.

- (iii) During its first year as a contractor to the NDA the station had exceeded its cost reduction target.
- (iv) Within the proposed arrangements to give competition in the management of the Magnox sites, Oldbury had been grouped within the Northern "bundle" of sites. This meant that Oldbury and Wylfa, the last of the generating sites, would be grouped together.
- (v) After a period of over 550 days without a lost time accident, an accident had occurred in which cuts had been sustained to a hand from broken glass within a damaged temporary building.
- (vi) It was proposed that some of the accommodation at the Oldbury Information Centre would be used by staff from Berkeley Centre.

- 15 Mr Hales referred to recent press comments suggesting that safe operating temperatures had been exceeded in order to achieve the target electricity production. Mr Lamonby confirmed that the operation of the reactor had remained well within the relevant safe limits and parameters; the revised target electricity production had been achieved by good and effective operational practices.
- 16 In reply to a question from Cllr Riddle in relation to the return to service of Reactor 2, Mr Lamonby said that safety case justifications were first considered by the Nuclear Safety Committee and then submitted to the NII whose approval was required before plant could be returned to service.

NII SITE INSPECTOR'S REPORT

- 17 Mr Lindsay reported on his inspection activities at Oldbury power station. The following points were noted during discussion:
- (i) The Inspectorate were kept informed of progress in the development of the safety case for returning Reactor 2 to service but no formal submission had yet been received from the station. Other aspects of the work undertaken during the Reactor 2 shutdown had been addressed satisfactorily.
 - (ii) Consultation was in hand on the first document submitted by the station under the regulations relating to the environmental impact assessment of decommissioning.
 - (iii) The Inspectorate would be fully involved in considering organisational changes to ensure that new companies were competent to act as site licensees.

SSG MANCHESTER WORKSHOP

- 18 Cllr Lynden reported on a meeting held in Manchester of the Chairmen, Vice Chairmen and other representatives of the various Site Stakeholder Groups. He said that this had provided a valuable opportunity for discussions on the approaches which were adopted in other groups and for learning from good practices elsewhere.

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP

- 19 Cllr Hawkins reported on a meeting of the National Stakeholder Group which had been held in Edinburgh during April. He said that this had been the third meeting of this group and improvements in the format and arrangements for the meeting had been made progressively.
- 20 A report by Cllr Hawkins on the National Stakeholder Group meeting had been circulated to members. He drew particular attention to the continuing number of uncertainties relating to "end state" issues and to the general level of concern expressed in relation to the retention of appropriate skills within the industry. He suggested that there were opportunities for the use of redundant training and engineering facilities at the Oldbury and Berkeley sites for skills training required by the industry.

CIVIL NUCLEAR CONSTABULARY - SITE SECURITY

- 21 Chief Insp Worsell of the Civil Nuclear Constabulary explained the role of the Constabulary in relation to security at Oldbury power station. He explained that the Civil Nuclear Constabulary had been established with responsibilities for policing around nuclear sites and in relation to nuclear fuel in transit. He said that the role included providing an armed response capability in order to prevent acts of sabotage. He said that this role had been filled previously by the Avon and Somerset Constabulary which retained primacy for policing the Oldbury site but confirmed that the two constabularies worked closely together.
- 22 Chief Insp Worsell emphasised that the establishment of the Civil Nuclear Constabulary was not a response to any specific threat to the nuclear sites but represented a prudent enhancement of the security response. In reply to a question from Mr Gill, Chief Insp Worsell said that the CNC officers wore the same uniform as other police officers; their vehicles were distinctive; and they would be seen to be carrying firearms when outside their vehicles. Their conspicuous presence provided a valuable deterrent effect and reassurance to the public.

EMERGENCY PLANNING CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

- 23 Ms Chapman reported on the meeting of the Emergency Planning Consultative Committee which had been held during March. Discussion at the meeting had included plans for the forthcoming exercises of the

emergency arrangements and the test of a new telephone warning system for informing local residents of the need for counter-measures in the event of a release of radioactivity. She said that lessons learned from this test of the telephone warning system were being pursued; the system was not yet operational. Cllr Lynden suggested that effective publicity should be given to the introduction of this system when it became fully operational.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR DECOMMISSIONING

- 24 Mr Bishton pointed out that the public consultation undertaken by HSE on the first of the documents to be submitted under the Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning regulations was nearing completion. He pointed out that data was being gathered on various current environmental issues as a basis for future assessments.

SITE END STATES

- 25 Cllr Hawkins reported on the further consideration given to site end states. He referred to the various uncertainties which could not be resolved at this stage but said that this did not preclude consideration being given to a number of possible end states. He referred to the need to consult more widely with stakeholders on possible end states. He said that whereas at the previous meeting it had been thought that this consultation could best be undertaken via the representative members of this group, it was now believed that it would be appropriate to seek professional help from others who were expert in the assessment of public opinion. Mr Bishton said it was likely that public consultation on possible end states for the Oldbury site could be undertaken during the summer in time to provide responses for consideration at the November 2006 meeting.

SOCIO ECONOMIC PLAN/SSG WEBSITE

- 26 Mr Bishton referred to the station's socio economic plan which had been published recently. He pointed out that the plan provided for an annual funding of £15,000 for socio economic activities and defined principles for the allocation of this funding. He said that the funding would increase to £60,000 in future years and the plan would be re-issued to take account of recent developments.
- 27 Mr Bishton referred to discussion at the end state sub group on the establishment of a website for the Oldbury SSG. The two alternatives which had been identified were to create a new site or to utilise the existing NDA website. During discussion attention was drawn to the costs and maintenance implications of having a private website and it was noted that there would be no undue restrictions on material located within the NDA website. Mr Pinder drew attention to the need for some design work to be applied in setting up a website. Following discussion

it was agreed that the use of the NDA website should be pursued as a location for an Oldbury SSG website.

Action Mr Bishton

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

28 Cllr Lynden expressed the Group's congratulations to the station on a recent special award granted by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

29 It was agreed that the next meeting of the Group should be held at a venue in Thornbury on the evening of 2 August. It was noted that subsequent meetings would be held as follows: 1 November (joint with Berkeley SSG); 7 February 2007 and 2 May 2007.

MJD
10 May 2006