

DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION

DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

The Assembly Rooms New Romney

Wednesday 12 October 2011

13.30 for 14.00pm

Attendance:

Mrs G Baker	-	Lydd, New Romney & Greaststone Residents Association
Mrs M Barnes	-	EDF Energy
Mrs L Barton	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Mr B Botley	-	Kent Against a Radioactive Environment
Cllr Mrs V Dawson	-	Lydd Town Council
Ms J Dear	-	Natural England
Mr K Franks	-	Independent Member
Dr L Franks	-	Minute Taker
PC W Glennie	-	Kent Police
Dr V Green	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR)
Mr S Henry	-	EDF Energy
Mr T Hills	-	Varne Boat Club
Mr G Callahan	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Cllr A Clifton-Holt	-	Shepway District Council
Mr D Ilsley	-	Shepway District Council
Mr J Jenkin	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA)
Mr R Jepps	-	Dungeness A Site
Cllr E Last	-	Lydd Town Council
Cllr D Lawton	-	New Romney Town Council
Cllr M Lock	-	East Sussex County Council
Cllr Mrs M Masters	-	Lydd Town Council
Mrs H Morris	-	Dungeness A Site
Dr P Naylor	-	Environment Agency (EA)
Mr C Paddock	-	Regeneris
Mr A Parry	-	Independent Vice Chairman
Mr M Pearson	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Mr M Porter	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Cllr S Souster	-	Rother District Council
Ms M Stuart	-	Kent Against a Radioactive Environment
Mr S Terry	-	Kent County Council
Mrs K Thomas	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr V Todd	-	Dungeness A Site
Cllr C Waters	-	Kent County Council
Mrs L Whenday	-	Dungeness Residents Association
Mr D Williams	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr S Wilson	-	Dungeness Residents Association

I INTRODUCTION

- 2792 Col. Smythe welcomed members and guests to the 12th meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and encouraged them to ask questions.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The following apologies were received:

Ms H Able	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr C Albrow	-	Independent Member
Ms J Childs	-	NHS Medical Physics
Mr D Dicker	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr J Earnshaw	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Mr J Gilliland	-	ONR
Mr G Holt	-	NHS
Mr R Johnson	-	Channel Chamber of Commerce
Mr P Mountford-Lister	-	EA
Cllr Mrs J Newton	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr T Preston	-	Defend Our Coast
Mr D Urquhart	-	ONR
Ms T Young	-	Kent County Council

III MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

- 2793 The minutes of the 11th SSG meeting held on 28th April 2010 were agreed as an accurate record.

IV CORRESPONDENCE

- 2794 A list of correspondence distributed to SSG members was made available to attendees.

V MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 11th MEETING

- 2795 2762 & 2765 – Actions noted for Mr J Earnshaw to be undertaken, and written responses submitted, by Mr M Pearson for circulation to SSG members.
2747 – Response to action noted to have been recorded in the Minutes.

VI DUNGENESS A SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2796 Ray Jepps, Site Director, drew attention to the Report for Dungeness A, commenting on the following:

Safety

- site awarded their 8th RoSPA Gold Medal
- no lost time accidents, seven minor first aid events
- joint audit of site procedures for quality, environment and safety standards revealed no major areas for concern.
- administrative issue resulting in written system of work papers expiring before the actual job had started. This has resulted in an investigation into determining the root cause.

Environment

- Water leaks have finally been resolved resulting in usage reduction of 45%

- 2799 Defuelling
- Progressing well
 - Reactor one now 90% defueled; should be completely defueled by end of December 2011.
 - Reactor two should be defueled by March 2012.
 - Site should be formally declared fuel-free by April / May 2012.
 - Safety case for storage of fuel in ponds has been revised to enable increased quantities to be stored prior to transportation to Sellafield.
- 2800 Fuel Element Dissolution (FED)
- Stretch target for site to be FED free is Jan/Feb 2012; excellent progress means end date likely to be early December 2011.
 - Trawsfynydd site are currently writing the safety case and procuring transport containers to enable FED to be brought from that site to the Dungeness site for processing. Likely to commence during January 2012.
- 2801 Electrical overlay scheme
- Contract to re-wire the site has been agreed and will now move forward.
- 2802 Sludge and Resin project
- Analysis of the sludge and resins will enable the final dispatches to be categorised as low level waste, saving approximately £6million.
- 2803 Acceleration of site clearance
- Strategy to accelerate decommissioning, demolition and deplant of buildings has received additional funding enabling the work to be commenced early in 2012 and completed over the next 3-4years.
 - Training building has been recycled and re-used by Dungeness B.
- 2804 Site Visits
- Several high profile visits including ONR, EA, Office for Civil Nuclear Security, Foreign Security Managers and NDA.
- 2805 Charity
- Staff have raised over £1,000 for the Pilgrims Hospice.
- 2806 Mr Jepps summarised the progress on site as transitioning from a fuelled site to a decommissioning site. Transition plans include review of the processes that govern work on site, plant withdrawal and staff restructuring taking into consideration individual aspirations. The change in strategy to increase the project workload over the next 3-4 years enables movement of staff from operational to project work.
- 2807 Q: Clarification sought of the workforce numbers and how these will evolve over the next 5 years.
A: Mixed picture, next 12 months likely to be stable depending on progress of projects. Significant reduction in staff numbers likely in 2018 when site enters care and maintenance.
- 2808 Q: How long will it take to process the Trawsfynydd FED and what is the impact on discharge levels?
A: Approximately 2.5years with no impact on the discharge levels from those seen during operational years.

- 2809 Q: Are we ahead compared to other sites in the Magnox fleet?
A: Comparing with other sites that shut down at the same time, Dungeness will be fuel-free in spring 2012, Chapel Cross in early 2013 and Sizewell in the latter half of 2013. Oldbury site noted to commence defueling shortly.
- 2810 Q: With reference to water leaks, was this discharged to sea?
A: This was mains supplied fresh water. We have had normal operational discharges.
- 2811 Q: Can Potassium Iodate please be corrected from KI to KIO₃
A: Agreed.
- 2812 Q: When the asbestos is removed and the turbine plant dismantled, will this be recycled or become scrap?
A: Scrap, as the technology is too old to be re-used.
- 2813 Q: Will contractors be external or retrained current staff?
A: Specialised contractors will be used but supervision and monitoring activities associated with these projects will be undertaken with retrained current staff.
- 2814 Q: Was there a common cause for the water leaks?
A: Simply pipe that had come to the end of its natural life. As one leak was repaired this caused a build up of pressure downstream and led to a subsequent leak.

VII OFFICE for NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A SITE

- 2815 Report for 01.04.11. to 30.06.11. previously circulated. Vince Green noted that the only update is that a new Site Inspector, Donald Urquhart, has been allocated responsibility for the site to replace previous Site Inspector, Bruce Archer. No questions arose.

VIII DUNGENESS B POWER STATION SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 2816 Martin Pearson, Site Director of Dungeness B, presented his report and drew particular attention to the following:
- 2817 Safety
- Contract partners have achieved 4 years without a lost time injury.
 - Station has received an International Standards Certificate after being awarded continuation in the following areas; Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems, Quality Management and Environmental Management.
- 2818 Events
- No environmental events to report.
 - ONR emergency arrangements have been tested.
 - An INES level 1 rated event was reported during August when an air environment was used instead of the required carbon dioxide environment.
 - An INES level 1 rated event was reported during September when an administrative error occurred.

- A conventional accident in Southern France, on a nuclear facility that reprocesses waste, led to a fatality.
- 2819 Charity
- Several members of staff undertook a cycle ride to raise £2,500 for the Paralympics GB and promote Team Green Britain.
- 2820 Station Open Day
- 17.09.11. training facility was opened to the public.
 - Working towards re-opening the visitor centre and offering site tours to the public.
- 2821 Shingle Recycling
- A joint application with the Environment Agency (EA) has been submitted to Kent County Council for shingle recycling to protect essential flood defences.
- 2822 Q: Of the seven new apprentices, how many came from Marsh Academy?
A: None of them.
- 2823 Q: Understand that in the past there was insufficient beach on the point to keep up with erosion. Why are you applying to restart this process?
A: Natural issue that trying to resolve. Natural England objected to the previous application submitted four years ago and since then studies have shown that the original method had the best environmental fit.
Q: Commercial fisherman object to the altering of the profile of the beach that results from this shingle recycling operation. The control of the operation needs to be better. Why hasn't the shingle just been pushed back up?
A: The timings of the operation will be carefully considered. This natural issue needs the fisherman and local communities to work with the EA and contractor as this is an essential flood defence. Work to relocate the shingle by pushing up has been undertaken to keep the current defences maintained at the right height over the last four years.
- 2824 Chairman added that the recent public meeting at Rye reflected that the mechanics of the shingle recycling operation relies on the EA and the contractor. A subsequent discussion led to agreement that the need for appropriate defences was not in dispute.
- 2825 Q: What will happen if the application to restart shingle recycling is delayed and how will the EA address the future need for a robust sea defence for the whole community?
A: Contingencies are in terms of timings, a few months, but there is no alternative plan.
- 2826 Mrs C Waters urged attendees to write to Kent County Council to express their concerns and enable the planning committee to fully understand how the management and control of the scheme is vital. It was noted that several letters had already been submitted.
- 2827 Some debate about who gained financially from the shingle recycling scheme occurred and was explained as primarily benefitting Lydd Town Council. Chairman summarised that the scheme was essential work and that the EA,

contractor and the local community need to agree the management and control and that the financial aspects were outside of their remit.

- 2828 It was suggested that the application had not taken all alternatives into consideration and that it had been made in haste. This was refuted and attendees were reminded that the application to restart works had taken four years to formulate since the Natural England objection.

IX OFFICE for NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B POWER STATION

- 2829 Attention was drawn to the 1st April - 30th June 2011 report previously circulated to attendees. Vince Green highlighted the following:

- Emergency exercise had been satisfactorily demonstrated despite being challenging.
- Outcomes of the annual review of safety were satisfactory.
- Non-routine matter reported from an event at the end of May rated as INES 0 (no safety significance). Specialist Inspector advice is awaited.
- More recent events mentioned in the Dungeness B Site Director's report will be covered at the next SSG meeting.

- 2830 Q: Why did the ONR not attend the public enquiry about the Lydd Airport planning application when in comparable circumstances at another site it had done so?

A: ONR wrote to the planning inspector offering assistance and re-iterating that the original advice had not changed. There was nothing additional to add to the original advice and the planning inspector had not requested the presence of the ONR.

X ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS B.

- 2831 Paul Naylor, Site Inspector for Dungeness B, presented an Environment Agency Nuclear Regulation Report. He described the following in particular:

- New equipment to monitor discharges now being used for statutory reporting, several minor issues have been resolved.
- Final delay tank discharges: two tanks have been discharged simultaneously. No environmental impact but an investigation into cause has been initiated.
- Diesel generator fuel line leak: contained within trench and no hydrocarbon contamination of ground water detected.
- CEFAS have undertaken a habits survey and generated a report on behalf of the EA, the Food Standards Agency and the ONR. RIFE report uses data from this agency.

- 2834 Q: New discharge monitoring equipment – how frequently do you calibrate it and what standards are used.

A: A strict maintenance and control schedule is deployed. Mr Pearson added that this schedule enables traceability.

- 2835 Q: When the two tanks discharged simultaneously did they breach any discharge levels.

A: There was no impact on the overall discharges to the environment; it was simply a process issue.

- 2836 Q: Why are the discharge levels, set in the 60' & 70's, still allowed today and revised lower given more recent research findings?
A: EA review discharge levels regularly and discharge limits are set with a ceiling of what is safe to the public and reduced to what the stations, with best practice, could possibly reduce this to. The stations are then required to demonstrate how they have minimised discharge levels in order to comply.

XI FUKUSHIMA UPDATE AND ONR REVIEW

- 2837 Vince Green gave a comprehensive PowerPoint presentation describing events at the Fukushima Dai-ichi plant and the UK and International response to this. He concluded that moving forwards, all the nuclear power plants in Europe must undergo "stress tests" by the licensees who will produce reports by the end of October 2011. These reports will be considered by the national regulators (ONR in the UK) who will produce national reports by the end of December 2011. An international taskforce will then peer review the national reports by the end of April 2012.

- 2838 Clarification of the different reports was sought and provided.

- 2839 Q: What do the stress tests investigate?
A: Specification is available on the internet. (<http://www.ensreg.eu/node/286>). A "stress test" is defined as a targeted reassessment of the safety margins. Technically it examines two different initiating events; earthquakes and flooding for which it considers 'what if' scenarios (e.g. earthquakes of progressively greater magnitude etc.) to identify areas of weakness and consider how resilience can be improved. In a similar way it looks at the consequences of the loss of two selected safety functions; electrical power and ultimate heat sink. Finally it considers severe accident management issues. Mr Pearson added that external mitigating resources are also being evaluated that extend beyond the design of the station.

- 2840 Attendees noted that the final report from Dr Weightman had been published recently and was available on the ONR website (<http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/fukushima/>). Vince Green described the conclusions and recommendations resulting from both the interim and final Dr Weightman reports in some detail.

- 2841 Chairman suggested that attendees may need time to digest the information contained in the final report.

XII ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR DUNGENESS A

- 2841 Karen Thomas drew attention to the Environmental Management Plan (Issue 6 - October 2011) previously circulated to attendees, explaining the background surrounding the rationale behind the report. In summary, this report is an annual requirement to enable decommissioning of the Dungeness A site. Mrs Thomas explained some of the monitoring and mitigating measures and how best practice has been incorporated into this report. No questions were raised.

XIII NDA UPDATE

- 2842 Jonathan Jenkin drew attention the NDA Monthly Update for October 2011, expanding upon the summarised points. In particular he added the following:
- Annual Report of Accounts now published and available in full on the website or summarised in the special edition of the Insight magazine. This reflects a year of good progress against a backdrop of challenging times.
 - Performance tracking available on the website following a traffic light RAG system. Updated quarterly.
 - Sellafield MOX plant closed during August. UK policy remains repatriation of foreign-made nuclear fuel.
 - Socio-economic funding was discussed at the SSG Chairs meeting recently. Magnox finalising a socio-economic plan and will bring this to the respective SSGs. Priority sites noted as Trawsfynydd, Bradwell and Dungeness A.
 - Version 7 of Insight Magazine just published, available on web site.
 - Engagement Plan updated and on website – next national event is 23rd & 24th November.
- 2843 Questions were invited and Cllr Waters expressed her delight that Dungeness A had been recognised as a priority area for socio economic funding.
- 2844 Chairman emphasised the changes in application procedures for socio-economic funding and stressed the need to submit applications. Attendees noted that the Site Directors were able to respond swiftly to any application up to £1000, that applications for £1,000 - £10,000 required more evidence and input and for £10,000+ this would be peer reviewed by the NDA. He added some examples of successful bids for funding and it was noted that Regeneris had been engaged using some of this funding to enable a thorough evaluation of the socio economic impact of the decommissioning of Dungeness A.

XIV ROMNEY MARSH SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT UPDATE

- 2845 Chris Paddock gave a presentation titled “Romney Marsh Economic Impact Assessment and Socio-Economic Action Plan” in which he provided great detail about the socio-economic background of the area, the economic impact of Dungeness A site now and projected into the future, and an action plan to mitigate the impact of decommissioning the site and contribute to the sustainable economic development of the area. He summarised the presentation with the following points:
- Establish a partnership structure to enable an over-arching view and be a source of bids for funding.
 - Support local employment opportunity.
 - Support diversification in the local economy.
 - Help Romney Marsh remain a great place to live.
- 2845 A comment that despite there being in excess of 600,000 visitors to the Dungeness area there were no public toilets was made and the need for appropriate infrastructure to support visitors was raised. Mr Paddock concurred adding the importance of providing appropriate accommodation, roads, toilets and other facilities was evident.
- 2846 Q: Where can a copy of the Action Plan be obtained?
A: Technical impact report needs finalising and the Action Plan rewording. Once complete this will be evaluated by the steering group prior to being distributed to Town Councils. Chairman advised that final draft will be sent to SSG members prior to the next meeting.

Action: Chairman to ensure final draft of Impact Assessment and Action Plan to be sent with papers for the next SSG meeting.

2847 Comment made that Dungeness C is no longer considered a possibility.

2848 Comment that Rye and surrounding area has a similar problem and perhaps there should be joint working between the Romney Marsh area and the Rye area.

2849 Q: Who will be invited to join the Regeneration Partnership?
A: This needs to be decided locally to ensure community buy-in. Mr Paddock agreed to provide details of other regeneration partnership groups for consideration and suggested that up to 10 people would be an optimum size. Mr Jenkin added that the NDA would be happy to share the experiences from within the NDA estate.

XV ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2850 Q: What was purpose of the letter from British Energy about I¹³¹
A: Chairman advised this was in response to a matter raised at the last meeting.

XVI NEXT MEETING

2851 The Annual General Meeting will be held during the evening on Thursday 26th January 2012 and the next SSG meeting will be held on Thursday 19th April 2012.

Meeting closed at 16.30hrs