

DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION

DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING

Lydd Golf Course

Wednesday 29th January 2014

18:30 for 19.00

Attendance:

Ms K Anderson	-	NDA
Cllr D Baker	-	Kent County Council
Mrs G Baker	-	NR, Lydd & Greatstone Res Assoc
Mr J Black	-	Dungeness A Site
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Mrs T Finn	-	SSG Secretariat
Dr L Franks	-	Minute Taker
Ms C Gamble	-	Dungeness A Site
Dr V Green	-	ONR (Dun B)
Dr P Hayes	-	ONR (Dun A)
Mr P Hetherington	-	Magnox
Cllr T Hills	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr D Illsley	-	Shepway District Council
PCSO M Kimpton	-	Lydd Police
Mr R Lavender	-	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Cllr D Lawton	-	New Romney Town Council
Ms J Moakes	-	Environment Agency
Mrs H Morris	-	Dungeness A Site
Ms S Mortimer	-	Affinity Water
Mr A Parry	-	Independent Vice Chairman
Mr M Pearson	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Mr T Preston	-	Defend our Coast
Mr J Prosser	-	Kent County Council
Mr A Pynn	-	Environment Agency
Ms J Sanders	-	EDF Energy
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mrs L Whenday	-	Dungeness Residents Association
Mr R Williams	-	RSPB
Mr J Wroblewski	-	Dungeness B Power Station

Guests:

Ms L Collins	-	Magnox
Ms E Hadden	-	Kent County Council
Mr J Pritchard	-	UK Nuclear Restoration
Insp K Stephens	-	Kent Police

I INTRODUCTION

- 3149 Col. Smythe welcomed members and guests to the 19th Meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) and encouraged them to ask questions. He summarised the past year as having been very busy and focussed upon three key areas:
- Fuel Element Debris (FED) / Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) storage preferred options – workshops and consultation held; SSG and other interested groups have responded; closing date 31 January 2014.
 - Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) – site selection consultation to inform revisions to current paper; consultation on amended document anticipated.
 - Magnox / RSRL Competition – four bids received; preferred bidder to be announced 31 March 2014; opportunity to discuss socio-economic package after announcement.
- 3150 Q: Can all speakers please introduce themselves? Col Smythe agreed this protocol and introduced himself and the Vice Chair, Mr Andrew Parry.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3151 The following apologies were received:

Ms L Barton	-	LAAG
Cllr Mrs V Dawson	-	Lydd Town Council
Mrs J Dear	-	Natural England
Mr J Goodsell	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr P Mountford-Lister	-	Environment Agency
Ms E Lyons	-	Kent & Essex Fisheries
Mr M Salisbury	-	Kent County Council
Cllr P Simmons	-	Shepway District Council
Cllr S Souster	-	Rother District Council
Mr R Starbuck	-	Dungeness B Site
Mr A Wilkinson	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr A Wright	-	Dungeness A Site

III MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS

- 3152 The minutes of the 18th SSG meeting held on 16 October 2013. were agreed as an accurate record with the following amendment:
Para 3116, second bullet point - *Bathing Water Directive*: Macerated fish content ~~may~~ will not affect blue flag status ~~but does not or~~ impact on bathing water quality.
- 3153 Chairman commented that the improvements to the FED plant detailed in paragraph 3132 are in abeyance until the FED preferred option has been decided upon.

IV CORRESPONDENCE

- 3154 A list of correspondence distributed to SSG members was made available to attendees.

V MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 18th MEETING

- 3155 None.

VI DUNGENESS A SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 3156 Jon Black, Environment, Health, Safety, Security and Quality Manager introduced himself and drew attention to the written report previously circulated, highlighting the following:
- *Safety Performance*: overall good, however, four work-related minor first aid incidents of which three were hand injuries and one was a vehicle collision. Site recertified to International Standards for Quality (ISO9001), the Environment (ISO14001) and Safety (OHSAS18001) by an independent audit team.
 - *Environment*: quantity of controlled discharge routes continues to be reduced.
 - *Plant and Structures*: bird-scaring features have been placed on site to minimise nesting prior to the demolition of the turbine hall. The community have been advised. These involve noise (screeching and banging) and will only be operated during normal working hours.
 - *Ponds Programme*: IONSIV cartridges are being used to retrieve Caesium 134 and 137 from the ponds. Subsequent phase will be to remove all the pond furniture prior to drainage and stabilisation.
 - *Electrical Overlay Scheme Site Reconfiguration*: final connections are being made to provide a simplified electrical system to support the ongoing decommissioning and demolition on site. Removes electrical connections to plant (for example the turbine hall) in readiness for demolition.
 - *Asbestos Removal*: Required prior to demolition of the turbine hall. Progressing well.
 - *Community Relations*: details in section 5 of the report of the distribution of funding via the Magnox Socio-economic Scheme January to December 2013. Noted as totalling £1,045,417.00
- 3157 No questions were forthcoming.

VII DUNGENESS B STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- 3158 Mr Martin Pearson drew attention to two written reports, both dated 29 January 2014; the Site Director's Report and the Environmental Report and described the last year as offering the usual challenge but with exceptional safety performance. The following aspects were commented upon:
- *Safety Performance*: no top tier nuclear or environmental reportable events. No lost time incidents for the contract partners since 2007, a country-wide record. A single recent lost time injury for a member of staff that hit his finger with a hammer. EDF Energy has become the UK leader for Industrial Safety Performance.
 - *Challenges and achievements during 2013*: several near misses openly reported to the regulators. Annual performance of 4.76 TWh against target of 6TWh. Two key incidents:
 - Coastal Flooding: Safety case requires a dry site and some very rare events may cause some flooding. The site was shut down during May and June until temporary improvements were completed. Permanent flood defence wall now under construction.
 - Loss of National Grid Connection: During October the National Grid lost their roof necessitating the shut-down of both units. Proactive media

communications included social media, like twitter, in addition to traditional interviews.

Site Director was proud that both the plant and the people performed well in response to these incidents.

- *Concrete flood defence wall:* 80% completed to a height of 1.5m around the site. Cost approximately £2.5 million and delivered within six months. This forms part of the post Fukushima response programme.
- *Visitor Centre & Community Engagement:* Visitor Centre opened February 2013 and has received more than 4500 visitors to date. Guide numbers increased from five to eight to cope with visitor numbers. Many school visits with repeat visits already booked in. Apprentice scheme being run again this year.
- *Lifetime Extension:* progress being made towards preparing for possible extension to 2028, with final decision to be made in December 2014.

3159 A four minute DVD that gave a pictorial synopsis of events during 2013 was played and questions and comments were then invited:

- *Comments* - Lydd and New Romney Residents and District Association visited the site and thoroughly enjoyed their tour. Chairman added his strong recommendation to visit the site and undertake the tour.
- *Question* - How many apprentices will be taken on this year? A: Similar to last year either six or seven.

3160 Chairman invited Mr Pearson to comment on the Environmental Report and the following points were noted:

- Sections of the drainage system have now been re-lined
- All discharges were minimised and fell well within the set limits
- Site was awarded the Biodiversity Benchmark in December 2013

VIII OFFICE for NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A.

3161 Dr P Hayes, Site Director for Dungeness A, drew attention to his report dated 1 October 2013 to 31 December 2013, commenting that much of his work comprised compliance inspections. He advised that a system inspection for the FED dissolution plant was carried out that included consideration of the training and competence of operators, the maintenance arrangements and the operation arrangements and all were judged appropriate without any areas of concern.

3162 Dr Hayes advised that the National Grid Switch House that lost its roof is located within the Dungeness A Nuclear Licence Site and that ONR Inspectors for both A and B sites attended this building. The impact of the loss of power to the A Site was that back-up power generation was implemented with no safety-related matters arising. Improvements to the working relationship between National Grid and Magnox were identified and are being implemented to ensure appropriate maintenance of the Switch House. This will be monitored.

3163 The Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) previously centred on both of the power stations will remain at 2.4km. The associated emergency planning arrangements required under REPIR no longer include the A Site as it has been agreed that the A Site cannot cause an off-site emergency. The DEPZ will now be centred upon the B Station alone.

3164 No questions were forthcoming.

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

3165 Dr Vince Green, Dungeness B Site Inspector reflected on the past year and described three key issues:

- *Potential for Coastal Flooding:* The requirement to secure modern standards protection against rare events (1 in 10,000 years return period) has led to the current construction of the sea defence wall around the site and already completed and on-going modifications to protect key safety related equipment locally.
- *Graphite Weight Loss:* complex subject dealing with protection against boiler tube failures which would cause water and steam to enter the reactor pressure vessel. ONR are content with the current position but this is predicted to worsen through life as additional graphite weight loss and degradation of boiler tubes occurs. Significant additional work will therefore be needed to secure extended life.
- *Loss of Off Site Power* due to National Grid connection failure. Initial follow up confirmed that people performed well and key safety related plant for reactor post trip cooling performed adequately. However, reasonably practicable improvements should be made to other safety related plant to improve resilience and reduce the demands on personnel. This would be followed up in February.

3166 Attendees were reminded that whenever the ONR visit the site an intervention report is written and a summary of this placed onto the ONR website.

3167 Dr Green then drew attention to the quarterly report 1 October 2013 to 31 December 2013. The following points were noted:

- *Cooling isolated to two buffer store tubes containing irradiated fuel:* actual and potential safety consequences have been investigated and both found to be limited.
- *Operating Rules:* a significant number of events on site during 2013 where the site has been outside of its conditions and limits necessary in the interests of safety. Individual cases followed up by ONR to date have been found to have limited safety significance. The site is investigating the adverse trend in this area to look for common causes. This will be followed up by ONR in February.
- *Loss of Off Site Power:* multiple lines of protection. Dr Green covered this in his review of the year.
- *Data Processing and Control System:* original equipment was considered obsolete and is being replaced with modern technology. The license instrument has been issued to enable commissioning and it is anticipated that by April a further ONR permission will be issued to bring the new equipment into service.

3168 Questions were invited and none were forthcoming.

X ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A.

3169 Andrew Pynn apologised for the absence of the current Dungeness A Inspector, Mr P Mountford-Lister, and clarified that he was the incoming Site Inspector from April 2014. Attendees heard that the Environment Agency issue environmental permits that contain limits and conditions to minimise radioactive emissions, discharges and waste disposals from site.

3170 Mr Pynn drew attention to the Environment Agency Nuclear Regulation Report for both sites dated October 2013 to January 2014 and in particular to the following items for Dungeness A site:

- *Management System and Arrangements Audit*: outcomes recommend minor improvements and otherwise noted the site had performed well.
- *Permit Variation*: Minor changes to adapt to a new template and remove several discharge routes no longer in use.
- *Radioactivity in Foods and the Environment (RIFE) report for 2012* now published. Link detailed in report and hard copies available on request.

3171 Questions were invited and none were forthcoming.

XI ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS B

3172 Jo Moakes, EA Site Inspector for Dungeness B, referred to the Environment Agency Nuclear Regulation Report for both sites dated October 2013 to January 2014 commenting upon the following regarding the Dungeness B station:

- *Discharges*: all noted as within limits of permit with use of best available techniques to minimise discharges.
- *District Survey Lab*: Arrangements for the calibration of equipment used to analyse environmental samples required improvements that have now been implemented.
- *Equipment to Monitor Discharges*: old equipment has been upgraded.
- *Radioactive Waste Management*: Improvement programme has been implemented to reduce volume and improve segregation of waste.
- *Groundwater Tritium*: samples from three boreholes on the North East of the site were above the 100 Bq/l investigation levels. There is an ongoing investigation involving weekly monitoring and a specialist contractor to understand the movement of groundwater around the site to try and pinpoint the source. A lot of the drainage system has been re-lined. The EA are satisfied with this approach.
- *Management Arrangements Audit*: positive outcome with clear 'top down, bottom up' effective arrangements.
- *Beach Feeding*: approved on 24 January.
- *Flood Risk Management*: EA continue to provide support to the ONR to understand flood risk, particularly for tidal surges.
- *Eels Regulations*: Report now received and will be considered by EA and other Regulators. Final Report deadline is 30 September 2014.

- 3173 Q: How many affected boreholes are within the station boundary, how many are off site and how many are monitored?
 A: Approx 90% are within. 10-15 boreholes are monitored on a regular basis.
 Q: Why has there been an increase in the number of boreholes with elevated Tritium levels?
 A: It could be that Tritium from a single source is spreading as a result of increasing ground water volumes. No evidence of any other type of radioisotope has been found in any of the boreholes.
 Q: What is the direction of travel of the spread?
 A: Towards the sea.

3174 A debate about the flood risk to the area to the west of the site was held between Tony Hills and Jo Moakes including funding for the Lydd Rangers Scheme. This resulted in Jo Moakes agreeing to take away and investigate this matter further. It was noted that a recent meeting attended by EDF Energy, Natural England, the RSPB and others considered the best environmental option to protect the whole area. Cllr Hills asked that the local councils were kept aware of outcomes and this was agreed.

XII NDA UPDATE

- 3175 Kelly Anderson introduced herself and provided background information about the NDA and the following was noted:
- A non-departmental public body that reports to the Department for Energy and Climate Change (DECC).
 - Owns 17 nuclear power stations within the UK including Dungeness A.
 - Sets the strategy for the Magnox sites, including Dungeness A.

- 3176 Attention was drawn to the previously circulated NDA Monthly Update for January 2014 and the following points noted:
- *Internal Executive Team changes* with newly created posts of Sellafield Programme Director, Assurance Director and Business Services Director and withdrawal of the post of Chief Operating Officer and Commercial Director.
 - *ILW/FED*: consultation on preferred options paper closing on 31 January 2014 with 20 sets of comments received to date. Next phase is to review comments and make a decision about whether the preferred options stand in the spring.
 - *Magnox and RSRL Competition*: Bids are currently being assessed. Preferred bidder to be announced in March 2014. Opportunity for SSG Chairs to meet the preferred bidder in Manchester in mid-April.
 - *Geological Disposal Facility*: meeting held today. DECC to post all consultation responses on their gov.uk website by end of February. Current thinking is that a new site selection policy will be launched alongside a public awareness campaign.
 - *Diary Dates*: Several papers have now been published (Uranics credible options; Plutonium public position; Graphite waste management strategy) and the Magnox Contingency paper is due for publication on 31 January 2014.

- 3177 Q: What is the timeframe for the ILW/FED preferred option to be implemented? Dungeness A has the only operating FED plant in the Magnox fleet and it is

important to retain the operators and maintain this facility if it is to be used to process FED from other sites as described in the preferred options paper.

A: A decision will be made in the spring to ensure programmes are continuous. Magnox have been asked to set out a schedule of operations if the preferred options go ahead. This has not yet been received. The SSG will be kept informed of progress.

3178 Chairman expressed concern that the current operation of the FED plant may cease and questioned what would this mean for the operators. Ms Anderson agreed to take this concern back to NDA colleagues.

XIII SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE

3179 Chairman advised that during 2013 over a million pounds had been given to the local economy. It was noted that to date the Marsh Million, a partnership between Ashford, Shepway, Kent County Council, Magnox and the NDA, has provided business loans to two companies, refused two applications that did not meet the criteria and were considering a further fifteen loan applications. Small businesses are being encouraged to apply for loans and future promotion is planned. Chairman reported that the NDA want to expand the partnership and that this meant that the initial plan would require review. He questioned whether the NDA would fund an external consultant to undertake this review. Ms Anderson agreed to take this enquiry back to colleagues in the NDA.

3180 An Application Coordinator has been established to assist with applications for funding. Significant funding (£100,000) has been allocated to the Business Incubator Centre to help establish and run small enterprises.

3181 Chairman drew attention to the smaller allocations of funding (detailed in the Dungeness A Site Director's Report) advising that small grant applications need to be encouraged.

3182 Cllr David Illsley added that circa £700,000 of loans would be made available over the next three years. He advised that funding for the next three years has been considered and that a further forward looking plan needs to be established that encompasses a larger geographical area. Ms Anderson suggested that Jonathan Jenkin would be the most appropriate person to liaise with within the NDA and agreed to advise him of this matter.

3183 Richard Lavender commented that he had been meeting with local businesses and that he had found that many thought that the Marsh Million funding was limited to the Romney Marsh area. Chairman advised that the plan did make the geographical area clear and Cllr Illsley advised that further marketing and promotion was planned and that this would emphasise the geographical area applicable.

3184 A request for photographs to be taken of this meeting for the purposes of internal communications was granted.

XIV ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

3185 Chairman reminded attendees that the SSG Constitution stated that the Chairman and Vice Chair would serve for a three year period. At the last AGM and each subsequent meeting, attendees were advised of the forthcoming vacancies today

and encouraged attendees to nominate themselves for these positions. To date there have been no applications. Mr Parry and Col. Smythe expressed their willingness to continue for a further term of office. Each individual was nominated, seconded, re-elected and congratulated. Their independence and previous leadership was applauded.

- 3186 Mr Parry gave thanks for the vote of confidence, adding that there were interesting times ahead. Ms Anderson added that Col Smythe had been both supportive and challenging to the NDA as expected of an independent Chair, and provided appropriate liaison between the NDA, Magnox, the regulators and the community. Chairman added his thanks for the vote of confidence, promising to continue to try and get the best deal for the community.

XV ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 3187 Chairman asked whether the NDA might attend the next meeting to inform stakeholders about the 'hub' arrangements to be implemented once the A site goes into Care and Maintenance. Ms Anderson agreed to this.

- 3188 Cllr Hills advised that he had received very good feedback from the local community about the Nuclear Constabulary. Chairman endorsed this and added that if the B Station life span is extended, then the police station on that site would continue to provide this reassurance.

XVI NEXT MEETING

- 3189 The 20th meeting of the Dungeness SSG will be held on Wednesday 30 April and the subsequent meeting on Thursday 16 October. Time and location will be advised nearer the date for each.

Meeting closed at 20.40