



Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group

**Hinkley Point Site Stakeholder Group Meeting
Friday 26 October 2012**

1. SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE

Our safety performance remains consistent; there has not been a lost time accident for 65 months, and no personal contamination events for 56 months.

We are constantly building on our safety performance and utilising the human performance error prevention tools in everyday work practices. Many events have been organised for the upcoming year to keep health and safety and looking out for each other in the forefront of all our workers minds.

Hinkley Point A 2015 Periodic Safety Review (PSR)

The regulatory ten yearly review of safety is now well under way. The scoping document has been presented to the Nuclear Safety Committee and been endorsed by its chairman. The scope will be delivered by the project organisation and following commercial engagement a contract has been placed for the delivery of the technical reports that support the PSR. These reports are now being progressed via a series of desk top studies and plant walk downs.

2. DECOMMISSIONING PROGRESS

Interim Storage Facility (ISF)

The detailed design for the ISF is progressing and is expected to be completed by December 2012. A junction 73 amendment to the original planning application for the ISF was granted in July 2012. The dimensions of the proposed ISF are considerably smaller than the previously proposed intermediate level waste (ILW) store.

Construction will commence on completion of the detailed design and is expected to take approximately one year which means that the ISF could be available in May 2014. The Hinkley ISF is a third of a kind structure incorporating lessons learnt and operational experience from the design and construction of similar facilities at Berkeley and Bradwell.

The ISF will contain Hinkley Point A's entire ILW inventory which will be stored in MiniStores until the deep geological disposal facility becomes available. Work to modify the existing foundation slab to accommodate the ISF has been completed.

Fuel Element Debris (FED).

Work has proceeded in respect of FED waste. Contracts have been placed with two companies to carry out optioneering studies to identify preferred technologies for the retrieval of the FED wastes from the Hinkley A vaults and to sort the nimonic springs and other non-FED materials from the Magnox. Both contracts are due for completion in October. A further contract is scheduled to be placed in December which will take the output from these two contracts and develop the concept design for retrieval and sorting. It is intended that this contract will also include development work on the preferred technologies, including some active trials at Hinkley. These will help to characterise the wastes as well as prove some of the techniques currently being proposed.

The Bradwell project has suffered further delays and is now not expected to commence active operations before mid-2013. This is resulting in the Hinkley project having to defer work on the dissolution and effluent treatment elements of the project as it is considered essential to wait for operational experience from Bradwell before committing to the construction of the Hinkley plant. Work on retrieval and sorting is able to proceed as this is largely specific to Hinkley.

Ponds

The reactor two (R2) pond despatch bay remains empty following the trial drain. The final stage of the trial was to make man access in to the drained despatch bay to allow final clean up, this work has been completed. Drain down of the Reactor two main pond has commenced, a two staged approach is being followed. Stage one will reduce approximately one meter of water from the pond (pond depth is approx. six metres). The radiological data will be reviewed at this point to ensure consistency with the trial data before moving in to stage two.

Work has progressed on reactor one (R1) pond despatch bay, the bay is now ready for full drain and this will start within the next month. This is slightly delayed due to operational work on the pond water treatment plant.

The ponds are coupled to several other plant areas which need to be adequately controlled during the drain of the ponds. Engineering work has been progressing in these areas, including decontamination and de-planting.

The site and ponds project teams have proposed to undertake some decontamination trials that may be introduced at Hinkley and other Magnox sites. The trial will be conducted on Magnox skips and concrete samples taken from the Hinkley pond. The trial will assess some conventionally available technologies. The trials will start later this year.

Systems and Structures Preservation Project

Work continues across the site in a range of areas. This includes work to various pieces of plant where required, including recent improvement works to the plant status monitoring system. Other work packages include investigative work in the sludge canning building and civil inspections of the site's active waste water tanks.

Asbestos

Management of the site's legacy asbestos is a key priority. Bulk asbestos removal has been in progress at Hinkley since 2003 and is now in its latter stages. The project is due for completion in the financial year 2012/13.

Currently the project team are carrying out asbestos removal from R1 and R2 ponds building. Bagged asbestos waste, previously stored in ISO containers is being transferred to skips for removal from the site.

Wet ILW recovery

The site has just started a project to recover the waste inventory from settling tanks one, two and three and temporarily store it in MiniStores to await a processing campaign in the medium term. This portion of the intermediate level waste recovery programme is an acceleration of previously planned work due to the current tanks nearing the end of their useful design life. The regulator has asked for a milestone for the completion of this work (LC35 milestone) by March 2014.

A concept design package for the attachment to the MiniStores has been let and the work to successfully transfer resins from settling tank nine to settling tank eight will help inform the basis of the design for the equipment to recover the wastes from settling tanks one, two and three. A temporary buffer store is required as the ISF is unlikely to be completed in time; this is likely to be a temporary quick erect weather shield located near the low level waste processing building (201).

Car Park Project

The detailed design for the car park has taken longer than planned but is now nearing completion. As a result of this delay the contractor is now due to mobilise in October 2012 with completion of the car park now anticipated in January 2013. Additional site surveys have been completed and, where possible, the remaining services traversing the car park construction site have been diverted or isolated/removed.

Site Security Separation Project

The contracts for the new site entrance/reception building, and the security and access control systems have been awarded to Henry W Pollard & Sons Ltd and Quadrant Security Group Ltd respectively. Both contracts are nearing the completion of the detailed design periods with mobilisation following.

Work for the installation of the new fence line and associated security equipment between the sites has been completed. The paperwork associated with relicensing of the sites to reflect the change of boundaries has been completed and is currently with the regulator for approval.

3. WASTE MANAGEMENT

From 1 April 2012 Hinkley along with the other nine Magnox sites in the fleet has worked very closely with Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) Ltd to develop our contribution to the national programme for LLW. This demonstrates the Magnox commitment to improving application of the waste hierarchy. The overall benefit across Magnox and LLWR from diverting metals, combustibles, and Very Low Level Waste (VLLW) from disposal at the national LLW repository is £71 million over the five year plan period, and preserving 2.4 years of capacity at the repository.

Hinkley target contribution toward the five year joint LLW Management Plan -

- 43te metal diverted from LLWR
- 30m³ combustible materials diverted from LLWR
- 5m³ VLLW diverted from LLWR

In July 2012 under the framework agreement with LLWR Ltd approximately 12 tonnes of LLW metal (packed in two half-height ISO freight containers) was sent for melting and recycling, historically such material would have been buried at the national LLW repository in Cumbria.

In August 2012 a further 40 x 250 litre drums of solid combustible LLW were dispatched for incineration at a licensed facility near Hythe, Hampshire. This shipment was also made under the framework agreement with LLWR.

Hinkley A have been exploiting a recently introduced exemption order to dispose of what was previously radioactive asbestos which now qualifies as "out of scope" material. This year to date approximately 97 tonnes of asbestos has been removed from site and disposed to landfill.

In total this year approximately 372 tonnes of non-radioactive waste have been despatched from site.

4. COMPANY MATTERS

The period of restructuring for the site is now complete, and all staff are now working in their new roles.

The site has hosted visits for, the Chief Operating Officer John Jenkin, Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and Clifford Shanbury, independent ONR Audit Committee member, Robert Rogers, Senior Site Inspector ONR (Civil Nuclear Security), the ONR have also visited

to conduct their regulatory inspections. The Environment Agency has also visited the site in the last quarter.

The site has completed a number of emergency exercises in the past two months including an ONR witnessed exercise due to take place on 18 October.

Peter Montague, Project Delivery Manager recently gave a presentation to the Retired Employees Association as part of an event organised in conjunction with Hinkley Point B Station.

The site has been working with Hinkley B in a bid to minimise disruption caused by traffic and parking during their outage period. All Hinkley A site personnel have been allocated parking at a number of off-site locations and subsequently travel to site on coaches provided by Magnox.

Hinkley A site remained open and fully functional during the period of the recent anti-nuclear protest (5-8 October). There was a slight change to the site access arrangements, personnel were transported to site in mini-buses from a holding point in Bridgwater.

On a personal note, I have enjoyed my first four months as the site director at Hinkley, the last SSG meeting in June was my first external relations engagement in my new role, and it was good to meet the members of the group.

I have been summoned to attend an inquest at the coroner's office following the death of an individual who historically worked at Hinkley Point A site. I will be representing Magnox, and in attendance to answer Hinkley Point A site related questions regarding asbestos on site and asbestos management.

5. COMMUNITY NEWS

Charity of the year

The chosen charity for this financial year is Taunton Opportunity Group (TOG) this is a pre-school for children with learning difficulties. Fundraising has continued for the charity and more than two thousand pounds has been raised. A group of keen cyclists took on the challenge at the end of September to cycle from Lands' End back to Hinkley to raise cash for TOG, this was a great event and really well supported, all the cyclists who set out from Lands' End successfully completed the challenge. The funds raised from this event are still coming in but the charity committee anticipate the event will more than double the amount raised so far this year.

Socio-economic

The new socio-economic scheme for Magnox was launched in April.

The new scheme is web based and can be accessed at www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com All applications from £1 to £100,000+ should be submitted through this system.

Funding applications will be assessed individually against a set of pre-defined criteria; once this has been done applications will then be reviewed against location and the Magnox prioritisation list, as outlined in the Magnox socio-economic development plan, which is available online: <http://www.magnoxsites.com/publications/company-information>

The defined criteria set by the NDA are:

- Employment
- Education and Skills
- Economic and Social Infrastructure
- Economic Diversification

All of our socio-economic activity needs to support the NDA's socio-economic policy, the aim of which is to 'mitigate the impact of decommissioning'.

So far there have been over 229 applications to the scheme. Over £200,000 has so far been donated to various projects including over £9,000 to projects near Hinkley.