

HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP

The twenty fifth meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group will take place on Thursday 8 September 2011 in The Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan at 1.30pm. (1pm for lunch)

AGENDA

13.00 Lunch and information gathering

13.30 Chairman's opening remarks

Chair and Vice Chair updates and correspondence

13.45 Approval of previous minutes

13.50 Hunterston B Station Reports

John Morrison, Hunterston B

Keith Hammond, SEPA

Mark Tyrer, NII

14.20 Socio-economic subgroup update

15.00 Tea & Coffee

15.15 Hunterston A Site Reports

Peter Roach, Site Director, Hunterston A Site

David Rushton, Programme Manager, NDA

Ian Robertson, SEPA

Chris Kemp, NII

16.45 Round up public Q&A

Future Meetings:

Thursday 8 December 2011 at 1.30pm, Brisbane House Hotel, Largs

17.00 Close

Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

**THE TWENTY FOURTH HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 2 JUNE 2011 IN THE SEAMILL HYDRO HOTEL, SEAMILL**

Present:

Magnox Ltd

Mr Peter Roach
Mr Reuben Phillips
Mr Steve Payne
Mr Tony Bale (Chair)

Community Councillors

Mr John Lamb - West Kilbride
Mrs Rita Holmes – Fairlie (Vice Chair)

Community Council Representatives

Mr Douglas MacFarlane (Largs)
Mr Ian Frame (Cumbrae)
Mr Kenny MacDougall (Ardrossan)

Councillors

Cllr Robert Barr
Cllr Alex Gallagher
Cllr John Reid
Cllr Elisabethe Marshall
Cllr Elizabeth McLardy

In Attendance

Mrs Shelagh Milligan, Magnox Ltd
Mr Derek Rooney, Magnox Ltd
Mr Mark Stubbs, Magnox Ltd
Mr Allan McRae, CNC
Ms Claire Cook, British Energy
Mr Bob Kafka, British Energy
Ms Iona McDonald, SEPA
Mr Allan Rice, Saltcoats Community Council

British Energy

Mr Colin Weir

NDA

Mr David Rushton
Mr Bill Hamilton

Hunterston Estate

Mr Angus Cochran-Patrick
Mr Ralston Ryder

ONR

Chris Kemp

SEPA

Mr Ian Robertson

North Ayrshire Council

Mr Kevin Thomas

Community Member

Mr John Robertson

Several members of the public were also in attendance

Apologies:

Mr Mark Tyrer, Mr Ewan Young, Ms Annie Perrott, Mrs Anne de Koning



1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

Chairman Tony Bale welcomed everyone to the 24th meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group (SSG).

2. CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR UPDATES/CORRESPONDENCE

Mr Bale introduced Steve Payne, Magnox Ltd, who was attending his first SSG meeting to lend assistance following Kerry McMillan's departure from the company.

Mr Bale explained that prior to this main meeting, an extraordinary meeting was held to discuss constitutional matters relating to a request from Saltcoats Community Council for voting rights on the group. Mr Bale confirmed that the constitution had been amended and Saltcoats Community Council now has a voting right on the Hunterston SSG.

Mr Steve Payne stated that correspondence had been received from Ardrossan Community Council notifying the SSG that, due to a restructuring process, Mr Kenny MacDougall will continue to represent Ardrossan Community Council in the short term until a permanent replacement becomes available. It was noted that Mr MacDougall has the full support of Ardrossan Community Council and voting rights on their behalf.

A letter of thanks was also received from the Ardrossan Academy Memorial Field Fund, thanking Mr Bale for his kind donation of £5,000 towards the upgrading of the pavilion and playing fields. Mr Bale was entitled to this sum of money as remuneration, however he has very generously donated this to charity.

All members were sent copies of the NDA's response to the consultation report which lists all the responses the NDA received with a note of the actions taken where necessary. The revised Business Plan has been amended in accordance with the responses received and has been signed off by Government and Scottish Ministers. Copies are now available on the NDA website. In reference to the specific point at Hunterston A relating to the high dose rate (HDR) items in the cartridge cooling pond, the NDA wished to offer the following response:

Since finding the HDR items the Site has developed a solution for retrieving them and then transporting them to Sellafield for reprocessing. They have secured the use of flask(s) to transport the HDR items but the timing of this is still to be decided. The intention is to move the HDR items into the flask(s) and store prior to transport to enable the pond drain down operations to continue.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Mr John Robertson stated that Mr Ian Frame and Mr Douglas MacFarlane are not community council members, so therefore should not be listed under the Community Councillor heading on page one of the minutes. Mrs Rita Holmes disagreed with this, explaining that these individuals had been appointed to sit on the SSG on behalf of Cumbrae and Largs Community Council respectively. Mr Robertson argued that the individuals were therefore representatives, not community councillors. Mr Bale stated that for the purpose of the minutes of 3 March 2011 and all future minutes, this issue would be rectified. **ACTION: D. ROONEY**

There was no further comment and pending the above amendment, the minutes were approved.



4.A HUNTERSTON B STATION REPORT

Mr Colin Weir, Station Director, took the Hunterston B report as read. He highlighted that the station had continued its excellent safety performance and that it had been over three years since there had been any lost time accidents by EDF staff or contract partners. There had been no significant environmental events. One situation which was reported to SEPA involved a small leak from a sea water cooled transformer oil cooler tube nest which did not go to sea but was recorded as a “near miss”.

On 31 March 2011 the Hunterston B emergency arrangements were demonstrated to the Office of Nuclear Regulation (formerly NII). The exercise was deemed to be adequate, which is a pass mark from the regulator.

There continued to be an excellent performance by the station on generation, with the last quarter seeing full optimum power from both units. An interim outage on Reactor three was completed successfully, on plan and safely.

Mr Weir said he would like to bring attention to the tragic events in Fukushima and the power plant there. He was sure most of those present were aware of EDF's response and the nuclear regulator's response. He personally was tasked with ensuring that Hunterston B had adequate cooling and emergency arrangements in place. One of the conclusions in the Mike Weightman report was that the nuclear industry had acted responsibly and appropriately displaying leadership and a strong safety culture to date. The EDF Board met two days after the event and put significant actions in place to ensure we check our plant for “Design Basis” and “Beyond Design Basis” both on the components we have on plant and the training of our personnel and all were found to be adequate by the ONR.

Mr Kevin Thomas asked Mr Weir for his opinion on the ONR, the reasons for the change from NII and whether there was any difference in the set of regulations. Mr Weir said that ONR brought together a number of bodies who had an interest in the nuclear industry which seemed like a successful way ahead. He added that Mr Mark Tyrer of the nuclear inspectorate has an office on site and visits regularly. There are also three independent inspectors on site continuously.

Mr MacFarlane referred to the leak from the sea water cooler transformer asking if there was a catch tray for picking up oil instead of it dropping into the drains. Mr Weir said there were several containments and the leak was caught in the last containment before going to sea. There is a programme to replace the sea water coolers to titanium in their forthcoming outage to prevent this happening again. Mr MacFarlane referred to the processing of low level active waste continuing and asked what exactly that entailed. Mr Weir said this could be as simple as laundering clothes, showers, all of which is a continual operation at Hunterston.

Mr Robertson asked if anyone on the SSG had attended any of the emergency exercises and if it was possible for some of the members to do so in the future. Mr Weir said that this request had been made last year to which he responded by letter giving reasons why the public would not be allowed on site during an exercise. However Mr Weir agreed to look at ways, with the site Emergency Preparedness Engineer, of doing a “table top” exercise for members of the SSG, outwith an emergency exercise.

Mrs Holmes referred to a comment in the report that low CO2 stocks delayed refuelling and asked what the CO2 was for. Mr Weir responded that CO2 stocks were for the cooling within the reactor for the heat transfer between the reactor core and the boilers. They also cool the



refuelling machine and before going into refuelling campaigns they must have minimum level of stocks as part of their safety case. The refuelling was delayed until CO2 stocks were at full capacity. There is a minimum stock level for normal operations and a stock level above that for refuelling operations.

Mrs Holmes asked, with regard to Fukushima, whether potassium iodate tablets were available, informing people how to get them, rather than waiting to be told, and for North Ayrshire Council to let us know where evacuation centres are because she felt there was a lack of information with regard to this. Mr Bale said that this was not a question for Mr Weir, this fell under the remit of North Ayrshire Council and Ayrshire and Arran Health Board. He also said that this debate had been gone through before and answered. There was no representative at the meeting of either body.

Mr Lamb said he noticed that the new version of the Hunterston emergency plan had been approved by the ONR. He asked if, under the emergency arrangements, the new plan available for access and, if so, where. Mr Weir said that he was unaware of any change to the access but he would check and report back. **Post meeting update** - report can be accessed via: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/pars/2011/hunterston-b-1.htm>

Mr MacFarlane asked for an explanation of robust fuel referred to under Regulatory Activity. Mr Weir responded that it was a different enrichment in terms of the fuel which goes into the reactor. The regulator has to grant a licence to use it, all EDF fleet has changed to robust fuel. It did not change any parameters in the reactor, temperature parameters or steam parameters, all operating conditions are the same. Robust fuel has a better burn life.

Mr MacDougall said that post Fukushima the EU directive had ordered a stress test, and asked if Hunterston B was actively pursuing this. Mr Weir confirmed that all Nuclear Operators would be carrying out this test. It would be done on a fleet wide basis and that they would be fully compliant with carrying out stress tests. Mr MacDougall said that in the stress test there was nothing about an act of terrorism and it was his understanding that this had been removed under lobbying from EDF. Mr Weir said that he was unaware of this adding that the actual directive had not yet been issued by the Regulator. He also said that he hoped members of the committee would appreciate that it wouldn't be prudent to publish the station's counter-terrorism measures. He said that he would report back to the members once the actual stress test directive had been issued.

A member of the public questioned whether, in their environmental monitoring, any evidence was picked up of radioactivity from Fukushima. Mr Weir responded that additional monitoring had been requested and this information had been supplied to SEPA. The same member of the public commented that on the SEPA website a report had been posted about air monitoring systems around the area between West Kilbride and Fairlie which showed extremely low traces of radioactivity. He had been unaware of this continual monitoring and wondered how many other people were knowledgeable about this, also if this had been in operation for some time had there been any evidence of releases from Hunterston A or B. Mr Hammond of SEPA said that SEPA was involved in monitoring the Fukushima event, the Health Protection Agency did this on their behalf, at the main three stations in Scotland for high volume monitoring, and this is where these traces showed up. As had been pointed out it was extremely small, just above the limit of detection. The monitoring had been in place for some time, he didn't have the exact amount of time, but it was not in place to particularly monitor either station or any other nuclear sites it was more general environmental monitoring and even if something was picked up it would be difficult to tie that to any particular station.

He could say that to the best of his knowledge nothing had been found that related to either A or B station. He also said that the monitoring station was not in either Fairlie or West Kilbride, one was in Glasgow, one in Lerwick, another in Eskdalemuir. The member of the public posing the question said that he thought they were talking of two different things as the SEPA report on the website specifically referred to monitoring between Fairlie and West Kilbride. The information was no longer on the website however, he believed that the information was going to be pulled together in a Report on the monitoring in the UK of the Fukushima incident. All the data he had seen on websites indicated that there had been extremely low levels which had reached the UK. He added that he would like to compliment the people who were monitoring the levels as it should give confidence that if anything did happen it would be picked up very easily. Mr Bale asked Mr Hammond if he could provide, for the next meeting, a copy of the Report which is due out in July.

4.B SEPA REPORT

Mr Hammond took the report as read. He drew attention to the Notice of Variation issued on 4 May 2011 relating to the application made back in September to clarify the situation with regard to the role of the waste depository which could be viewed on the SEPA website. He highlighted the compliance of the station with regard to its PPC permit has been deemed to be good in accordance with the compliance assessment scheme and with regard to the RSA authorisation which uses a different scheme, it has been deemed to be satisfactory.

Mrs Holmes asked if these two issues were the only issues identified at the station. Mr Hammond said that those were the things he would highlight. He believed Mrs Holmes was referring to the assist visit which the station organised and was carried out by people central to EDF. This highlighted a number of issues which weren't necessarily problems but areas where questions had been raised and clarification had been sought. SEPA are monitoring this process and the method in which the station arrives at the answers. This is a programme which will take quite some time to conclude, an answer is not expected for several months yet. Mrs Holmes asked if this was something that the local community should be asking about as there was not a lot of detail. Mr Hammond said the majority of it would be e.g. the wording and how a procedure had been put together to see whether it makes sense to the local employees using it, he didn't feel that it would be of interest to the SSG. EDF's purpose was to turn the spotlight on itself to see how its procedures could be improved upon. Mr Weir added that the company was very keen on benchmarking with a view to tightening up their procedures. They always adopt the view that they would like to go beyond compliance so they continue to make improvements to their procedures as part of their safety culture as Nuclear Operators. The company strives for excellence.

4.C ONR REPORT

Mr Tyrer was unavailable to review his report which was taken as read. Mr Thomas asked if the NII would cease to exist now that the ONR had taken over. Mr Kemp, ONR Site inspector at Hunterston A, said it was effectively a name change. The NII had been joined several years ago by other areas with nuclear regulatory responsibilities e.g. the Office of Nuclear Security. The ONR was now an agency of HSE and the recent change meant that they had acquired those people responsible for regulation of nuclear transport. In time legislation will be brought forward to make them an entirely independent regulator from HSE. As far as business was concerned he wanted to reassure people that this made no difference whatsoever to the number of nuclear inspections, nor the number of inspectors and no difference to the regulatory relationships.



5. CORWM UPDATE

Mr Bale noted that he had recently attended a CoRWM plenary meeting in Edinburgh with Mrs Holmes and Mr Lamb. This meeting covered a great deal of CoRWM's terms of reference which are to provide independent scrutiny and advice to UK Government and devolved administrations on the long term management of radioactive waste.

It was noted that CoRWM have produced a draft paper on the new process regarding Scotland's Higher Activity Radioactive Waste Policy. Following scrutiny from the Scottish Government, this draft paper will be presented at the next CoRWM plenary meeting.

Additionally, CoRWM's work on new developments has been put on hold awaiting the outcome of the Health and Safety Executive's report on the Japanese Fukushima disaster.

With regards to the Graphite Pathfinder Project at Hunterston A, it was stated that CoRWM only have strategic input.

Cllr McLardy asked if the CoRWM plenary meeting was open to the public. Mr Bale confirmed that it was.

6. SOCIO-ECONOMIC SUBGROUP UPDATE

Mrs Holmes explained that a very frank and open discussion took place at the socio-economic subgroup meeting, held at Hunterston A Site on Monday 9 May 2011. It was decided that invitations would be extended to influential bodies such as the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Irvine Bay Regeneration Company, North Ayrshire Council and NDA for valuable input at future meetings.

Cllr McLardy stated that this was a once in a lifetime opportunity to do something positive which would benefit employment in the area. She added that acquiring the required funds is proving very difficult however.

Mr Robertson asked why the subgroup meeting was not held in public. Mr Bale confirmed that this was not a full SSG meeting, therefore in line with previous subgroup meetings, it was not his intention to hold them in public. Mr Bale questioned why this issue had not been raised by Mr Robertson in the past.

Mr Robertson stated that all SSG members should have been notified that this subgroup meeting was taking place. Mr Bale reiterated that, at the previous SSG meeting in March 2011, it was agreed that a small balanced group would be identified to sit on the subgroup with the aim of taking it forward. A small balanced group has now been decided upon. Mr Robertson said that in his opinion, correspondence should still be sent in future to inform all members of what is happening with regards to future meetings.

Mr Robertson then advised that the Largs Initiative and the Three Towns Initiative should be involved in future subgroup meetings, adding that professional advice was essential and, thus far, there was no indication of professional advice being sought. Mr Bale argued that any representative being brought in from organisations such as the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise, Irvine Bay Regeneration Company, North Ayrshire Council and NDA would represent professional advice. Cllr John Reid agreed with Mr Bale and added that the abovementioned organisations would all look upon themselves as professional. He added that whilst there is an option for further groups to become involved further down the line if required, he had concerns of involving too many people too soon.



Cllr Alex Gallagher stated that the subgroup has only just been set up and changing it will not achieve anything. He said that a degree of time is required in order to obtain professional help, size up the problems being faced and work on the structure of the organisation.

Mr Kenny MacDougall expressed his concerns and questioned how many reports the NDA require before they would realise that North Ayrshire is a deprived area. Mr MacDougall explained that he had supplied the Scottish Governments Deprivation Report to the NDA yet had received no response. It was his opinion that the Hunterston SSG are being played as they have asked for guidance and direction on numerous occasions but to no avail.

Mr Bill Hamilton wished to confirm that the subgroup were very much heading in the right direction with its aspirations to seek funding, not only from the NDA, but from other appropriate authorities. It was stated that the NDA would be delighted to fund this community in order to address the run down of jobs because that is the legal remit of the NDA under the Energy Act 2004. Mr Hamilton admired Mr MacDougall's passion regarding the deprivation which exists in North Ayrshire, however, in order for a project to make a real difference in North Ayrshire, match funding would be required from elsewhere as opposed to solely from NDA. The NDA are not set up to be a regeneration body, they are a nuclear decommissioning body and whilst they can help shape and frame proposals, funding from other authorities must be sought.

Cllr Elisabeth Marshall agreed with Mr Robertson's earlier comment stating that she would like to go along to future subgroup meetings if she knew where and when they were taking place. Mr Bale confirmed that no date had currently been set for the next socio-economic subgroup meeting. Cllr Robert Barr expressed his disappointment that this discussion had been raised, given that it was only recently agreed that this was the direction the subgroup should take. Whilst he appreciated that everyone would like to be there, he stated that not everyone could be accommodated. Cllr Barr added that the subgroup should be given a chance to move forward and report back to the rest of the SSG members with their progress. Mr Bale concurred with this.

7.A HUNTERSTON A SITE REPORT

Mr Roach took the Hunterston A Site report as read and took the opportunity to introduce Mr Mark Stubbs to the SSG. Mr Stubbs has recently replaced Dr Stephen Price as Deputy Site Director and Project Manager at Hunterston A Site.

With regards to the Graphite Pathfinder Project lessons learned workshop, Cllr Gallagher questioned why this was required. Mr Roach confirmed that the workshop was run over three days and is merely an example of excellent practice by project staff as a matter of course.

Mr Bale referred to the remediation of the Site's CP7 compound and what was being done to rectify the issue, as this had been going on for long enough. Mr Roach responded that the contaminated land in question had been there since the 1970's with the decision being taken by a number of previous Site Director's, in conjunction with regulators, to leave the land in situ. Mr Roach added that although the Site has since been managing a regime which was agreed with regulators, this part of the world is occasionally prone to severe rainfall which led to the events of 2004 and 2010, overcoming the engineered barriers and washing some of the contaminated silt onto the foreshore area. Mr Roach stated that he had received a letter from SEPA requiring appropriate action to be taken, and as the Site Licensee, it was his responsibility to ensure that any emerging safety, security, or environmental work is funded



appropriately. He explained that it is essential Hunterston A make sure the best means of addressing this issue is chosen, as disturbing this material may actually cause more problems. Additionally, the Site does not have the authorisation to dig up and remove the contaminated land, and new authorisation could take up to two years. A decision will be made with regards to the extent of the work required around August of this year. In the meantime, despite SEPA having stated that this issue has very low significance in terms of environmental impact, the Site understands the concerns of local communities and will continue liaising with SEPA and the NDA to seek a satisfactory resolution.

Mr Kevin Thomas noted that, in terms of radioactive discharges, only a small percentage of the Site's authorised disposal limit is being used. In view of this, he asked if the Site is planning to ask for a reduced limit in its new application. Mr Reuben Phillips explained that a higher limit provides flexibility to bring in projects if required, given that the business and funding received from the NDA can change. If the limit is reduced, then there is no flexibility or headroom. Mr Phillips added that Hunterston A are continually looking to minimise discharges which are released into the environment, thus explaining why the percentages are as low as they are.

Mrs Holmes asked if the problems relating to the CP7 compound would be addressed by increasing the Site boundary to take in the foreshore and if this had been taken into account. Mr Roach responded that whilst it is not the way he would solve the problem, he could understand why others may think so. The option is to prevent an off site discharge rather than growing the Site and thus providing more land to contaminate.

Mrs Holmes asked where the contaminated land would be stored should the decision be taken to excavate. Mr Roach responded that the Site does not have discharge authorisations for solid material that would allow him to confirm where such a significant volume of material would go.

Mrs Holmes stated that it seemed to be practice these days for low level waste to be disposed of at landfill sites when it would be better being kept on the Site itself. Mr Roach explained that Hunterston A will adopt best practical means, discuss with SEPA, and engage with the SSG as required.

Mrs Holmes then asked for further information on the fuel elements. Mr Roach explained that for the moment, the two fuel elements had been isolated at the bottom of the Site's cartridge cooling pond. Two flasks have been identified from Berkeley Site which will provide the required amount of shielding, and the fuel elements will be moved into each of these flasks prior to being retrieved. He added that ultimately, a flask will be used which will allow for the materials to be moved to Sellafield for reprocessing, however it is unsure just when an appropriate flask will become available due to the amount of defueling across sites throughout the UK. Until then, the fuel elements will be kept safely within shielded vessels inside the pond building.

A member of the public asked if any lessons had been learned from other Magnox sites with regards to the silt leak. Mr Roach confirmed that there were a number of establishments throughout the UK with contaminated land issues, however Magnox have appointed a new Project Manager to advise all ten sites on timing, best techniques and emerging technology in order help resolve these issues.



A further member of the public stated that he had been involved with this project in past years, and there is a massive amount of information in the public domain with regards to contamination of this area. He added that this contamination, made up of well known isotopes, is very minimal in terms of environmental damage.

Mr Roach added that one of the factors which must be taken into account in resolving this CP7 compound issue is cost. Whilst there are people who think the decision should be taken to address the issue, there are others who question the value of spending millions of pounds on something which has an insignificant impact on the environment when there are far more significant nuclear hazards in the UK to be dealt with.

Mrs Holmes asked for clarity on rumours going around Fairlie that Magnox had been having talks with the Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council and also that the NDA had offered £1.2million as compensation for losing Hunterston Sands. Mr Roach explained that he meets with North Ayrshire Council on a routine basis as he does with various other stakeholders. There are no secrets, purely discussions to decide the best way to take North Ayrshire forward and ensure it explores potential funding opportunities. This provides an opportunity to swap information and optimise each others plans. Mr Roach added that there is no figure of £1.2million that he is aware of.

7.B NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY

Mr David Rushton wished to highlight some key points from his report and started by congratulating Hunterston A Site for achieving two years without a lost time accident. He added that it was pleasing to note this excellent safety performance had been recognised through the award of a RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) Gold Medal.

In terms of the Graphite Pathfinder Project, Mr Rushton commended Magnox for carrying out a considerable amount of work in developing the scope which had been asked of them in a relatively short period of time. It was noted that a huge amount of information had been produced which allows the NDA to consider the preferred approach towards managing this waste. Mr Rushton was hopeful that a further update would be available come the next SSG meeting in September 2011.

With regards to the Graphite Pathfinder Project, Mr MacDougall asked what benefit a nuclear waste dump at Hunterston A would bring to the community. Mr Bill Hamilton explained that this is what the NDA are currently investigating and that no further answer could be provided at this time. He added that Magnox have done a phenomenal job in putting forward a technical case for the project, and that it now up to the NDA to decide its feasibility. This raises a number of issues which will all be taken into consideration. Mr Hamilton reminded the group that citizens have benefited from electricity production at Hunterston A for over thirty years and there is now a responsibility to deal with this material appropriately.

Mr Kevin Thomas asked what the Site's ILW Store would be used for should the Graphite Pathfinder Project be approved. Mr Roach explained that the void created could be used to store other materials, however there are current planning permission restrictions in place. Mr MacDougall asked if this included storing materials from other areas. Mr Roach stated that he could not speculate as there is no current plan in place. He noted that in line with Scottish Government Policy, material from other areas did not necessarily mean out with the proximity of the Site.



Mr MacDougall asked the NDA if they had plans to bring waste from other areas for storage in the Hunterston A ILW Store. Mr Hamilton reiterated that there are no plans for the Site to store anything other than what it currently has planning permission for. He added that this is only part of the answer though and wished to highlight a statement from the Scottish and UK Government approved NDA strategy, which reads:

The NDA has a wide range of human resources and physical assets across its estate and we will make better use of these in delivering our mission. For example, this may include moving materials and waste from one site to another where the facilities exist to best manage them. Such solutions may challenge historic practices of the current regulatory framework, but could produce environmental impact and provide greater value for money.

Mr Hamilton concluded that the NDA will continue to evaluate the technical and economic viabilities, and all plans will be required to go through consultation and regulatory examination.

Mr Stuart McGhie stated that North Ayrshire had enjoyed 50 years of safe nuclear generation and the waste now needs to be dealt with responsibly in terms of safety and cost effectiveness. Mr McGhie explained that while he understood the Scottish Government's view on near site near surface disposal, he would challenge that view as many organisations and individuals have done. He added that public support and acceptability could be lost if this is the direction being headed, and questioned if any cost benefit analysis has been carried out for one purpose built, safe and secure repository.

7.C SEPA REPORT

Mr Ian Robertson took the SEPA report as read but wished to highlight that with regards to the CP7 compound situation, SEPA had kept in close contact with Hunterston A Site since the event which occurred in September 2010. SEPA is keen for the Site to come up with a permanent solution which is independent of extreme weather conditions. Mr Robertson also announced that this would be his last SSG meeting and his colleague, Ms Iona McDonald, would be taking over his role as Hunterston A Site Inspector.

Cllr Gallagher asked how serious the wording in the SEPA report was which states that:

SEPA highlighted several topics which it felt merited further detailed consideration. SEPA regards a rigorous investigation of these identified topics as an essential component of a comprehensive assessment of the fundamental design concept of the proposed facility.

Mr Robertson responded that SEPA's main concern related to the lack of addressing human intrusion into the disposal facility. Mr Roach wished to clarify that the safety case SEPA witnessed was a preliminary environmental safety case, therefore Hunterston A concurred that rigorous development was required.

Mr Thomas noted that SEPA deal with the environmental safety case for the Graphite Pathfinder Project, and asked for clarity on whether the ONR are also involved in this safety case. Mr Chris Kemp confirmed that the ONR are involved and in due course will be receiving a full safety case.

7.D ONR REPORT

Mr Kemp presented the ONR report and the following discussion took place.

Mrs Bale asked if Hunterston A would consider having an overview from SSG members whilst an emergency exercise was taking place. Mr Roach stated that he was not in favour of inviting additional individuals to observe an exercise, given that the Site is an intense area of activity with an already significant amount of professional people observing. Mr Roach added that it was his opinion that this could affect the Site's performance. That said, he explained that an overview presentation of the arrangements would be possible, thus providing insight into command and control techniques which are deployed amongst all aspects of decision making.

8. AOCB

Mr Douglas MacFarlane wished to clarify the situation regarding a newspaper article which was published in the Largs and Millport Weekly News, dated Wednesday 25 May 2011, regarding the September 2010 silt leak. He stated that the article was written by a newspaper reporter, who attends Largs Community Council meetings, based on a discussion which took place between community council members. Mr MacFarlane clarified that he did not submit an article to the newspaper, nor was he consulted about this article. Mr MacFarlane explained that some of the information within the article was not accurate and would therefore like it noted that what was published in the newspaper was not necessarily his opinion as an SSG member. Mr MacDougall stated that there are no restrictions at community council meetings, creating the problem of a reporter being able to attend and fabricate a discussion in order to sell papers.

9. DATE & VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

The date and venue of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 8 September 2011 within the Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan.

Mr Tony Bale
SSG Chairman

Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

THE SECOND HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP SOCIO-ECONOMIC SUBGROUP MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 27 JULY 2011 AT HUNTERSTON A SITE

Present:

Magnox Ltd

Mr Tony Bale (Chair)
Mr Peter Roach
Mr Mark Cullinane

Community Councillors

Mr John Lamb - West Kilbride
Mrs Rita Holmes – Fairlie (Vice Chair)

Community Council Representatives

Mr Douglas MacFarlane (Largs)

Councillors

Cllr Robert Barr
Cllr Alex Gallagher
Cllr Elizabeth McLardy

British Energy

Mr Stuart McGhie

Apologies:

Mr Jonathan Jenkin, NDA

North Ayrshire Council

Mrs Elma Murray

Scottish Government

Mr Martin McCloskey
Ms Marieli Cole

Scottish Enterprise

Mr Adrian Brown

Irvine Bay Regeneration Company

Mr Patrick Wiggins

1. OPEN DISCUSSION

The socio-economic subgroup held its second meeting on Wednesday 27 July 2011, at Hunterston A Site. The following discussions took place:

Mr Bale opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and stated the aim of the subgroup was to achieve NDA socio-economic priority status. The attending organisations were asked to support this.

Mr Cullinane gave an update on the status of the feasibility report commissioned by Magnox Ltd which is being produced by Hall Aitken. It is now in the process of being updated with current statistics and it is expected that this document will be completed by during August 2011.

A general discussion then took place on the issues faced within the North Ayrshire area and what must be done to ensure recognition for funding by the NDA.



It was noted by subgroup members that Jonathan Jenkin had agreed to attend the meeting to update the group on the mechanics of the NDA socio economic funding. The group wished to note their disappointment that he had since submitted his apologies. An action was placed to arrange a further meeting with Jonathan Jenkin and the socio-economic subgroup in the near future. **ACTION: D ROONEY**

Mrs Murray, Chief Executive of North Ayrshire Council, and Mr Wiggins of Irvine Bay Regeneration Company, introduced a draft paper to the group which they are planning on submitting to the NDA for socio-economic funding in the area. They informed the group that they had been in contact with Jonathan Jenkin regarding this matter and the paper, if adopted by North Ayrshire Council amongst other bodies, was to be used in conjunction with the Hall Aitken report to support the case for North Ayrshire.

Mrs Murray reiterated that the paper was still in draft format and requested feedback and support from the SSG in order for it to be included within the report to North Ayrshire Council elected members in September 2011.

Mrs had also asked that the Scottish Government support the paper and stated that she had approached Scottish Enterprise for their endorsement. The chair asked if British Energy were also able to provide formal support.

A lengthy discussion then took place on the merits of the paper, though the subgroup did request time to read it in more detail. It was agreed that Mrs Murray would send an electronic format of the draft paper to the SSG secretariat to be sent out electronically to the SSG for comment and support. The responses would be co-ordinated electronically by the SSG Secretariat and send to North Ayrshire Council by August 10 for incorporation into the report.

ACTION: D ROONEY

Mr Tony Bale
SSG Chairman



HUNTERSTON A STAKEHOLDER REPORT SEPTEMBER 2011

**HUNTERSTON A
SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT TO THE SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
8 SEPTEMBER 2011**

Hunterston A has continued to make good progress on our programme of work and the Site remains very busy. We continue to be well supported by the NDA and committed to addressing the nuclear liabilities at Hunterston A in a safe, secure manner with care for the environment.

1 SAFETY, SECURITY and ENVIRONMENTAL OVERVIEW

1.1 Safety Performance

The Site has maintained its excellent safety performance achieving 27 months since the last lost time accident.

Consequently, Total Recordable Incidence Rate and Day Away Case Rate both remain at zero. This continuous improvement in Site safety performance has resulted in a 'green traffic light' indicator against all corporate environmental, health, safety, security, and quality (EHSS&Q) indicators. This is a very significant achievement and reflects the tremendous efforts of all site personnel to ensure work is carried out safely and all potential hazards and risks are reported promptly.

1.2 Learning and Improvement

In July a corporate EHSS&Q governance review was undertaken at Hunterston A by representatives of the company executive and EHSS&Q central support team. Feedback from this review recognised and confirmed the excellent work being carried out on site with housekeeping standards, quality of signage and posters, knowledge and professionalism of the workforce, safety related interface arrangements and communications with staff, contractors and regulators seen as being among the best within Magnox. The introduction of a safety 'Drop-In Centre' on-site was considered to be 'best practise' within the company and a facility which the review team will promote at other Magnox sites.

Staff reporting of events, near misses and potential hazards continues to be excellent, reflecting a good safety culture and thereby ensuring positive action is taken to address potential hazards and risks in a timely manner.

Embedment of the company human performance programme and introduction of a site specific human performance implementation plan for 2011/12 is targeted at reducing events caused by human error. To date the Site has achieved 100% of its planned targets. This was reaffirmed by a company 'oversight review' of human performance in August by the Magnox Human Performance Oversight Team with a number of human performance based initiatives again identified as being best practice within Magnox.

2 DECOMMISSIONING PROGRESS

2.1 Pond

The pond decommissioning team are continuing with preparations to commence the pond dewatering activities. During the dewatering phase, the pond walls will be decontaminated and sealed. The installation and commissioning of the equipment to carry out the decontamination and sealing has progressed well. The necessary regulator engagement has been completed and the project will be ready to start dewatering, subject to final regulatory approval, during September 2011 at the earliest.

2.2 Land Quality Management

The Site is still actively pursuing a solution to the contaminated land issue in the CP7 compound. The potential for a further release continues to be mitigated by weekly catch pit cleaning and twice weekly monitoring. No further occurrences have been detected at the foreshore despite the very heavy rain between 15 – 18 August 2011, which repeated the conditions of last September.

A project to implement a solution that does not require long term catch pit cleaning and will stop the potential for a further release is likely to commence in spring next year. To that end, a technical solution is likely to be chosen which involves installing an engineered barrier. This will isolate the source of contamination. This engineered barrier will be supplemented by enhanced drainage in the vicinity of the contamination that will minimise the interaction of groundwater with the engineered barrier. Post implementation, the situation will be monitored to ensure a successful outcome.

A technical review of the project has been undertaken by an independent consultancy and this solution is looking the likely way forward.

2.3 Solid ILW Retrieval

The building is complete with all the waste retrieval and package handling systems installed and working. The effort is currently focused on addressing identified issues from the commissioning activities which are generally minor in nature, including certification of test equipment and labelling of plant items and cables. After some further optimisation, it is envisaged that the facility will be used to train staff for future operations.

The cross-site transporter vehicle, which moves the filled waste packages between ILW facilities, is nearing completion. The vehicle comprises a tractor unit, similar to that seen at airports, with a trailer that carries a shielded overpack in which the filled package is placed. An extended period of reliability testing of the cross-site transporter identified a number of non-compliances which are being rectified prior to Magnox taking delivery of the vehicle. It is now expected that the vehicle will be delivered for in-active commissioning with the various ILW retrieval, processing and storage facilities in October 2011.

2.4 Wet ILW

Construction work has continued and good progress has been made since June. During September we anticipate the arrival of the commissioning team that will take over the

facility and bring it into an operational state. The commissioning phase will take us through into the spring/early summer next year.

One of the key pieces of documentation to support the commissioning phase is the commissioning safety case that has recently been sent for Independent Nuclear Safety Assessment.

As we prepare for commissioning, we are already looking forward into operations. To that end, we have held discussions involving the Trade Unions about how best to provide that operational resource in line with company agreements.

2.5 Graphite Pathfinder Project

The Graphite Pathfinder Project continues to provide underpinning to support near site, near surface waste disposal with no show stoppers identified thus far. While it has been identified that the project has uncertainty associated with costs and stakeholder/regulatory convergence, the NDA continue to recognise the potential opportunities for alternative approaches to the long term management and graphite disposal in the UK.

The NDA remain keen to explore new ways of dealing with legacy wastes from both reactor operations and decommissioning and have commended the work carried out by the project team. The Magnox Executive will be presenting the Hunterston Graphite Pathfinder case directly to the NDA Executive at a meeting currently planned for the end of September 2011.

3 PEOPLE

3.1 Employee Relations

Sickness absence at Hunterston A is averaging 4.12 days lost over the past rolling 12 month period (2.03 days short term sick and 2.09 days long term sick) compared to the Company target of 6.25 days. A couple of staff have recently undergone planned orthopaedic surgery but the use of an onsite visiting physiotherapist has improved some employees return to work periods along with aiding others to remain at work whilst undergoing treatment.

During the period the Healthy Working Lives Committee held a week long promotion on opportunities for health and wellbeing. This provided staff with information on help groups, mood foods and exercise. It was well attended with over 200 workers visiting on one day.

Occupational Health (OH) have been working on their new website which is hoped to go live with the launch of the Company's new intranet in the Autumn and IT are working hard to make this timescale. Previews can be supplied via Site OH.

The webpage provides information/details on:

- The OH teams and their contact details
- Fitness for work issues and team leader information
- Links to OH documents and forms
- Stress and EAP information/links

- Wellbeing page that will be updated regularly in line with health promotion activities

A company wide stress survey based on the HSE's assessment tool is planned in the immediate future.

Work continues to manage reintegration of Magnox North and South. A number of staff are taking part in workgroups to discuss new processes and aid preparation of Management of Change documents. Centrally, work is ongoing to formalise implementation plans to move to new structures and Management of Change documents. The new Agresso IT system is on target to come into effect in November 2011. This system will rationalise a number of processes and systems currently in place and will be utilised by all members of staff. Training needs and access levels for staff on use of this new system are in the process of being identified.

3.2 Learning and Development

As part of the Magnox Ltd commitment to maintain and continuously build on staff skills and knowledge, the following provides examples of the learning interventions currently in progress at Hunterston A.

Five operators have successfully completed training on a new multi directional lift truck to further improve their skills in the movement of loads around the site in an effective and safe manner.

The Hunterston A Rapid Response Team have successfully completed their annual week long intensive training programme to ensure they are skilled to the highest level to respond in the event of an emergency. Three further personnel have completed first aid at work training to enable them to join the team.

The Leadership Development Programme has now been expanded to include specific nuclear skills and a number of site personnel are actively continuing with this programme and various individual development modules. Continual assessment of competence is carried out by line managers to confirm that we have the correct skills in place and if they can be further improved.

4 ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Radioactive Discharges

Solid

Low Level Waste (LLW) discharges to the Low Level Waste Repository (LLWR) continue. Discharges over the 12 month period from July 2010 to June 2011 equate to 139.6m³, representing 24% of our authorised disposal limit. Radioactive nuclide content of this waste was well below authorised limits. The main contributions to the waste consignments were from decommissioning projects such as SAWBR and wet ILW ground-works and pond cleanup operations.

Liquid

Liquid radioactive discharges during the period July 2010 to June 2011 were made at levels that represent less than 1.8% for total beta, 0.02% for Plutonium-241, 0.04% for

Tritium and 0.51% for total alpha, of the Site's authorised discharge limit. The main contributions to the discharges were from miscellaneous sources on the Site, predominantly plant wash-down activities and filter backwashes.

Gaseous

Gaseous radioactive discharges during the period July 2010 to June 2011 were made at levels that represent 4.7% for Tritium, 4.3% for Carbon-14 and 0.75% for Beta particulate of the Site's authorised discharge limit. The main contributions to the discharges were from ventilation systems operating in contamination controlled areas and reactor vessel 'breathing'.

High Volume Very Low Level Waste (HVLLW)

The Site has a varied Radioactive Substances Act (RSA) authorisation to allow disposal of HVLLW to a landfill site via LLWR. However, the routine disposal of HVLLW has not started yet as we are seeking to progress a direct route from the Site to the authorised landfill site to minimise the environmental impact of the transport.

New Authorisations

SEPA have told the Site that the new Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) compliant liquid discharge authorisation will be issued before 1 April 2012. The new authorisation will include limits on conventional pollutants. This is part of an exercise to bring existing Radioactive Substances Act liquid discharge authorisations into line with other authorisations.

4.2 Non-radiological Environmental update

Environmental protection activities have included surveillance of the sewage treatment plant, including the analysis of discharge samples, sampling and analysis of effluent discharges relating to the liquid and gaseous discharge systems, monitoring electricity and water usage, examination of recycling opportunities and undertaking actions specified in its Biodiversity Action Plan.

The Site Environmental Committee continues to meet every three months and continues to review ways of promoting environmental awareness. On Friday 3 June 2011 members of the Environment Committee helped Transition West Kilbride to remove brambles from their community orchard.

4.3 Environmental Events

There were no environmental events in the period from May 2011 to July 2011.

5 RADIOLOGICAL SAFETY

Explanatory note: The maximum permissible dose to a radiation worker in the UK is 20mSv (milliSieverts) in a calendar year. The average annual radiation dose to the UK population from all sources is 2.6mSv. Collective dose is usually measured in man.milliSieverts. For example, if ten people were each to receive 0.1milliSieverts during a particular task, then the collective dose for the task would be 10 people x 0.1mSv each = 1 man.milliSievert.

Doses for the calendar year 2011 (up to 30 June 2011) are as follows;

- Employees received a collective dose of 6.386 man.mSv;
- Contractors received a collective dose of 20.641 man.mSv;
- The highest individual dose received by an employee was 0.754 mSv;
- The highest individual dose received by a contractor was 1.456 mSv.

The majority of dose accrued in 2011 has been from a combination of the Cartridge Cooling Pond decommissioning projects and other Site projects. All doses in these projects have been prior-assessed, planned and are tracked throughout the project duration to ensure that no limits are exceeded.

5.1 Radiological Events

There were no radiological events in the period from 7th May 2011 to 3rd August 2011.

6 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Hunterston A provided an adequate test of the Site's emergency arrangements to the regulator on 19 May 2011. The exercise programme has now been completed covering the period to 2013 and we continue to work with EDF Energy's Emergency Preparedness department to ensure we share learning across the sites.

Over the last few months the Site Emergency Handbook has been updated to include a 'lessons learned' form which allows us to collate learning from exercises or real life events and trend them. This will be done in conjunction with the Decommissioning Learning Lead who will identify human performance issues which can then be used in future briefings.

More emphasis is now being put on conventional safety incidents and emergency response teams are being trained in this on a more frequent basis.

7 NATIONAL MATTERS THAT LINK TO HUNTERSTON A

NDA reports on year of progress

On Monday 11 July 2011, the NDA published its Annual Report & Accounts for 2010/11 which outlines considerable progress in its mission to decommission and clean-up the UK's civil public sector nuclear legacy.

Reporting on his first full year as CEO, Tony Fountain said: "It's been a year of good performance, hitting targets that show concrete progress against our tasks. But it has also been a year in which critical steps have been taken to allow us to focus on delivery over the years ahead."

Highlights during 2010/11 include the following:

- Allocation under the Government's Spending Review of £12 billion over the next four years, of which £3 billion to be generated from commercial income
- Publication, following Government approval, of the revised Strategy which gives us a clear framework for the next 10-20 years and beyond
- Improved safety performance across the estate

- A reduction of over 10% in support and overhead costs right across the estate, which has released £65 million to be directed toward front line work
- Completion of the internal review into the NDA's own working model, which resulted in a 30% reduction to staffing levels and greater focus on delivery
- The revised estimated cost for dealing with the decommissioning and clean-up of the UK's civil nuclear legacy now stands at £49.2 billion

For further information and to download the Annual Report and Accounts 2010/11 document, please visit <http://www.nda.gov.uk/news/arac-2010-2011.cfm>.

8 PA/PR ACTIVITIES/CHARITABLE DONATIONS

Hunterston A is delighted to continue supporting the local community by funding worthwhile groups and organisations. The following highlights groups which have been allocated funding by Hunterston A since June 2011:

<i>Soc-Ec & Charity Donations:</i>	£
Sport North Ayrshire	2,000
Ayrshire Amateur Football Association	1,000
Irvine Beat FM	500
West Kilbride Village Nursery	500
Maggie's Centre	500
Auchenharvie Ice, Dance & Figure Skating Club	250
James Reid Tuesday Social Club	250
First Stevenston Boys Brigade	250
Stanley Primary Parent Council	200
Largs Bowling Tournament	200
Ardrossan Winton Rovers U19's	150
Saltcoats Gala Committee	150
Strathclyde Police Project Kraken	100
Total	£6,050

9 SITE VISITS

Hunterston A Site continues to attract the right kind of interest through our excellent performance. A selection of visitors during the period included:-

27 June 2011	Graphite Pathfinder Appreciation visit from NDA
5 July 2011	Gary Voorheis, Chief Operating Officer for Decommissioning Sites and Peter Montague, Chief Operating Officer Exec Support (Magnox Ltd) at Site for EHSS&Q Review
27 July 2011	SSG Soc-Ec subgroup meeting including North Ayrshire Council Chief Executive and representatives from Scottish Government.
1 August 2011	Stephen Pathirana, Stuart Hudson and Ewan Young (Scottish Government) and Jim Gemmell, Iona MacDonald (SEPA),
23 August 2011	Stephen Henwood, NDA Chairman, visit to Site.

Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

SEPA Update on Hunterston A

HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING

Date of Meeting : 08 September 2011

Introduction

SEPA continues to maintain close liaison with Magnox in relation to their ongoing programmes of work at Hunterston A. The following report provides a summary of principle topics addressed.

Scottish Government Visit

SEPA attended the site on 01 August 2011 along with several representatives of the Scottish Government Radioactive Waste Team. The groups were given a tour of several key project areas which were of particular interest to the Scottish Government.

Site Inspection

SEPA undertook an inspection of the arrangements in place to sample and discharge aqueous radioactive waste from the site. No significant issues were identified during the inspection. A small number of minor recommendations are being progressed by the site.

Cartridge Cooling Pond

SEPA continues to engage with the site regarding the proposals for draining the Cartridge Cooling Pond. SEPA reviewed and commented on a Best Practicable Means submission in support of these proposals, and attended a site meeting to further discuss the way forward.

Contaminated Land

SEPA continues to maintain a close liaison with the site regarding the area of radioactive contaminated land at the CP7 compound. SEPA continues to monitor the performance of the measures which are currently in place to prevent a recurrence of the event of September 2010. These have so far been shown to be effective for the short term.

We are also maintaining a close interest in the site progress towards selection and implementation of a long term remedial solution for this area.

Upgrade of stack monitoring equipment

SEPA received notification that the programme of upgrading the gaseous discharge stack monitoring equipment was completed on 30 June 2011.

Iona MacDonald
SEPA Site Inspector Hunterston A
Radioactive Substances Operations Unit
12 August 2011

Quarterly site report for Hunterston A

1 April 2011–30 June 2011

Foreword

This report is issued as part of the Office for Nuclear Regulation's (ONR) commitment to make information about inspection and regulatory activities relating to Hunterston A available to the public. Reports are distributed quarterly to members of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and are also available on the ONR website (www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/llc).

Site inspectors from ONR usually attend meetings of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group and will respond to any questions raised there by the members of the group. Any other person wishing to inquire about matters covered by this report should contact the ONR.

Phone: 0151 951 3484

Email: ONRenquiries@hse.gsi.gov.uk

Post: Office for Nuclear Regulation
Redgrave Court
Merton Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L20 7HS

Inspections

ONR made inspections on the following dates during the quarter:

- 11 May
- 18–19 May
- 31 May–2 June

Routine matters

Inspections at Hunterston A

Inspections are undertaken as part of the process for monitoring compliance with:

- (i) the conditions attached by HSE/ONR to the nuclear site licence;
- (ii) the Health and Safety at Work etc Act (HSWA) 1974; and
- (iii) regulations made under the HSWA (for example the Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999 and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999).

This entails monitoring licensee's actions on the site in relation to incidents, operations, maintenance, projects, modifications, safety case changes and any other matters which may affect safety. The licensee is required to make and implement adequate arrangements under the conditions attached to the licence in order to ensure legal compliance. Inspections seek to judge both the adequacy of these arrangements and their implementation. In this period routine inspections of Hunterston A covered:

- emergency preparedness
- examination, maintenance, inspection and testing
- management of operations, including control and supervision
- decommissioning.

In general the arrangements made and implemented by the site in response to safety requirements were deemed to be adequate in the areas inspected. However, where improvements were considered necessary, satisfactory commitments to address the issues were made by the licensee, and the Site Inspector will monitor progress during future visits. Where necessary, formal regulatory enforcement action will be taken to ensure that appropriate remedial measures are implemented to reasonably practicable timescales.

Emergency Exercise: This year's demonstration emergency exercise was held on 19 May. It simulated a spillage of radioactive waste, contaminating a worker. In another building, two workers are overcome by fumes, and one of the rescuers breaks an ankle in the rescue. The exercise tested the site's ability to work with Strathclyde Fire and Rescue Service and Scottish Ambulance Service. Overall, ONR judged the exercise performance

to be a satisfactory demonstration of the licensee's arrangements for dealing with any accident or emergency arising on the site and its effects.

Graphite Pathfinder Project: The GPP considered near-surface disposal of graphite waste on or near the site. The licensee and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority have been deciding whether take this study beyond the feasibility stage. ONR had meetings with each during the quarter, to ensure that our regulatory position is understood.

Site Stakeholder Group: The site inspector attended the quarterly meeting of the SSG, making a short presentation and answering questions.

Non-routine matters

Licensees are required to have arrangements to respond to non-routine matters and events. ONR inspectors judge the adequacy of the licensee's response, including actions taken to implement any necessary improvements.

There were no items of particular note during the quarter.

Regulatory activity

Under health and safety legislation, ONR site inspectors, and other HSE inspectors, may issue formal documents to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements. Under nuclear site licence conditions, ONR issues regulatory documents, which either permit an activity or require some form of action to be taken; these are usually collectively termed licence instruments (LIs). In addition, inspectors may issue enforcement notices to secure improvements to safety.

No licence instruments or enforcement notices were issued during the quarter.

News from ONR

ONR update

Nick Baldwin was appointed as the interim Chair of ONR with effect from 1 April 2011. He was the chief executive of Powergen until 2002, having joined the company in 1989 and held a series of board-level and senior management positions. Until recently he was a non-executive director of Scottish and Southern Energy and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. The interim Chair appointment is expected to be for a period of two to three years, pending the successful passage of legislation to establish the ONR on a statutory basis. Nick is Chair of the ONR Board, which has corporate responsibility for ensuring that the ONR fulfils the aims set out in the Framework Document, and the objectives and key performance measures agreed under it. This document sets out the framework under which ONR will operate as an agency within the wider HSE and constitutes the authority for the conduct of its operations.

The first meeting of the ONR Board was held on 20 June 2011.

Further information about the ONR Board and a copy of the Framework Document can be found under the Board pages of the ONR website: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear>

Fukushima and the UK nuclear industry

On 12 March 2011, the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change asked Mike Weightman, HM Chief Inspector of Nuclear Installations, to produce a report on the implications and lessons for the UK nuclear industry of the accident that took place at the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power station in Japan. This work will be taken forward in co-operation and co-ordination with national stakeholders and international colleagues. The Secretary of State asked for an interim report by the middle of May 2011, and a final more comprehensive report in September.

ONR established project and technical support teams to look at aspects of the Fukushima event that were likely to be important lessons.

In addition to these teams ONR sought assistance from a wide range of organisations and issued an invitation to anyone able and willing to assist. To provide independent technical advice to the Chief Inspector during the production of the interim report, a wide range of stakeholders were asked to nominate an expert to attend an ONR Technical Advisory Panel (TAP). The TAP provided valuable input to the interim report and will continue to provide advice as ONR completes the final report.

The interim report, 'Japanese earthquake and tsunami: Implications for the UK Nuclear Industry' was published on 18 May and concludes that there is no need to curtail the operations of nuclear plants in the UK but lessons should be learnt. It recommends 25 areas for review—by industry, the Government or regulators—to determine whether sensible and appropriate measures can further improve safety in the UK nuclear industry. These include the design and layout of UK power plants, emergency response arrangements, dealing with prolonged loss of power supplies, and the risks associated with flooding. A 26th recommendation calls for plans to be published by the middle of June detailing how each of the 25 recommendations will be addressed.

The ONR teams are now working on the final report (final submissions were requested by 15 June).

Further information, including a copy of the interim report and details of the technical advisory panel, is available on the ONR website: www.hse.gov.uk/nuclear/fukushima/