



Mike Heaton
Oldbury Site Director

Report on Oldbury Activities to SSG January 2014

Safety and Compliance

Throughout the period the site has maintained compliance with all operating rule limits and conditions and all maintenance schedule requirements.

Conventional safety performance continues to be strong with no significant issues. The site recently passed a significant milestone with over a year since a lost time accident. Continued certification to the ISO 14001, 18001 and 9001 standards following external review was also recommended.

A revised set of emergency arrangements were presented to the Office for Nuclear Regulation during December following revision to the site emergency plan to bring us into line with the generic arrangements. The changes were viewed as positive and as a result training and exercises across all the shifts will take place in the coming weeks, with the intention to have the new arrangements in place by March 2014.

In terms of staffing, Laura Miles has taken up the post as the site's Environment, Health, Safety, Security and Quality (EHSSQ) Manager. Laura previously held the same position at Hinkley Point 'A' and, as such, brings a wealth of defuelling and decommissioning experience to Oldbury.

Defuelling



Good progress has been made with defuelling activities since the last SSG, with the two reactors being just over 30% defuelled. The rate of defuelling will continue to be at a rate of one or two flasks per week, building up to routinely dispatching three flasks per week when Oldbury becomes the priority site for defuelling in the company. This should occur when Sizewell 'A' has completed defuelling in September 2014.

The end of defuelling date for Oldbury is still likely to be in 2016, dependant on reprocessing performance at Sellafield.

Plant update

Both reactors remain in a natural circulation cooling state i.e. there is no forced circulation of air within the cores and they have been in this condition for some time.



As part of further simplifying the plant configuration, the reactor cooling water (RCW) system was formally removed from service in November as there was no longer any requirement to maintain it. This removed the nuclear safety requirement for the main cooling water (CW) system, fed from the river.

Other systems reliant on the main CW are currently being formally declared out of service. This is particularly important given recent damage to the coarse screens at the river intake during severe weather over Christmas, requiring the decision to take this plant out of service. Following discussions with the Environment Agency the intention is now to leave it out of service on the basis that a new alternative effluent discharge line will be installed shortly.

Work on the site approach road to install a new electrical supply cable required for decommissioning is now substantially complete. Final works are in progress within the site boundary and there should be no further traffic disruption as a result.

Consolidation of Waste Facilities

As reported at the last SSG, a 'drop in' session as part of public engagement into potential consolidation of future waste facilities was held in the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury. One of the options being discussed would result in intermediate level waste (ILW) transfers from Oldbury to Berkeley for storage, whilst fuel element debris (FED) could be transferred to Hinkley Point 'A' for dissolution. The consultation period, which Magnox is running on behalf of the NDA, will finish on the 31 January 2014. After the closing date the NDA will spend time looking at the potential options and reviewing the feedback that they have received.

Magnox Competition Update

All bids from the four consortiums are currently being considered by the NDA with the announcement of preferred bidder on 31 March. Once this is known a period of 'due diligence' will occur with the winner formally taking over from Energy Solutions on 1 September 2014.

Community Involvement



On 14 November a class of Year 9 students from Winchcombe school visited the Oldbury Conference Centre and took part in a workshop. On 26 November we had a class of Year 12 geography and religious studies students from Rednock School. This workshop was a completely new format, which was based around environmental, ethical and moral aspects of nuclear, solar, wind and gas power.

Both workshops were a success and well received by students and teachers who attended.

The site supported the Thornbury Christmas lights association with the purchase of new lights for their Christmas tree display in Thornbury, following the vandalism of the lights last year.

The site has supported the Alveston Forum committee, which has been fundraising for a defibulator for the village. The village raised the money for the defibulator and cabinet, but although the defibulator (AED) is a self-contained unit, the external cabinet, which enable it to be available for 24hrs public access requires a 240v AC electrical supply. The site has provided manpower and material for the electrical supply.

Socio economic funding

- Thornbury Area Music Trust received £500
- Yate Town Football development centre received £500
- St Briavels Assembly Rooms, Lydney received £5,000