



Magnox



Minutes of the Wylfa Site Stakeholder Group held on Thursday 13 September 2012 at 3.00p.m. in Eleth and Eilian Rooms (Learning and Development Centre)

Present:

Cllr A M Jones	Site Stakeholder Group Chair
Gordon Malcolm	Deputy Site Director/Wylfa Plant Manager
Dr John Idris Jones	Socio Economic Manager Magnox (Wylfa)
Mr Tom Conway	Wylfa Retirees Association
Mr Fred Brookes	EHSS&Q Manager, Wylfa Site
Dr Les Davies	Site Inspectorate (Office for Nuclear Regulation)
Mr Tom Hurford	Horizon Nuclear Power
Mr Alan Hall	Emergency Planning Officer, Welsh Water
Mr Jonathan Jenkin	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Cllr. Elfed Jones	Llanbadrig Community Council
Cllr. Jac Jones	Mechell Community Council
Cllr Thomas Jones	Llanfechell Ward, Anglesey County Council
Lowri Jones	Communications Officer, Magnox Fuelled Sites
Mrs Jean Jones	Governor, Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones
Mr Mel O'Hara	Wylfa Retired Engineer
Cllr. J V Owen	Anglesey County Council, Parc and Mynydd Ward
Mr Tim Poole	Campaign for Rural Wales
Mrs Saranne Postans	Head of Communications Fuelled Sites, Magnox
Cllr W E Rowley	Cylch y Garn Community Council
Mr Mark Thornton	Waste Manager, Wylfa Site
Mrs Theresa Hughes	Magnox Wylfa
Mr Ted Allsop	Magnox Wylfa
Mrs Karin White	Communications Support Officer, Magnox Wylfa
Miss Linda Wyn Jones	Energy Island Programme
Mrs Jane Honey	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Mr Nick King	Magnox, Engineering Function, Oldbury
Mr Graeme McLaren	Magnox, Engineering Function, Oldbury
Mrs Judy Turner	Magnox Wylfa
Mr Paul Walsh	Magnox Wylfa
Mr Gordon Warren	Bull Bay Residents Association

Apologies

Stuart Law	Magnox Wylfa Site Director
Albert Owen	Member of Parliament
Ieuan Wyn Jones	Assembly Member
Richard Parry Jones	Anglesey County Council
Cllr Gareth Winston Roberts	SSG Vice Chair
Alan Smith	Horizon (Tom Hurford attending on his behalf)
Peter Harrup	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Glenn Vaughan	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Pippa Waterman	Marketing and Communications Energy Solutions
Michelle Humphreys	Magnox Wylfa

Melanie Wymer
Paul Kennedy
Steve Roberts
Cllr Dylan Jones
PC Louise Evans
Gwyneth Jones
Mr Dylan Williams

Meyrick Estate Management
Food Standards Agency
Member of Public
Anglesey County Council
Operational Planning, North Wales Police
Merched y Wawr
Acting Head of Economic Development, Anglesey
County Council

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He explained that Stuart Law was unable to attend today's meeting but Gordon Malcolm, Deputy Site Director, was attending on his behalf.

A letter had been received from Lady Anglesey's family to say that regrettably she could no longer attend the SSG meetings. It was proposed a letter of thanks be sent to Lady Anglesey's family to thank her for her contribution and support over the years.

The Chair also congratulated Commander Tom Conway on receiving an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Swansea. This was reiterated by Gordon Malcolm. Tom Conway responded by saying that he dedicated the Award to his colleagues at Wylfa and his fellow servicemen in the Royal Navy, and he was deeply grateful to both groups for their support -

2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 June 2012 and Matters Arising

There were no amendments to the previous minutes. The minutes were proposed as a correct record by Councillor JV Owens and seconded by Councillor Tom Jones.

Tom Conway asked how could people get hold of the Horizon Ecological Survey. He was told to contact Horizon Nuclear Power for information – Tom Hurford will liaise with Tom Conway . He also asked a question regarding the Oxide Fuel Decision by DECC. He objected strongly to the failure of government to recycle and recover waste into reusable fuel. His comments will be conveyed to DECC.

3. Site Director's Report

The Site Director's Report was presented by Gordon Malcolm on behalf of Stuart Law. He began by saying that it had been a successful period at Wylfa. The site had been given approval by the Office for Nuclear regulation to commence the transfer of fuel between the reactors. This would enable the continued generation of Reactor 1 until September 2014. Transfer of partially used fuel from Reactor 2 to Reactor 1 (a process called Inter Reactor Fuel Transfer – IRX) has now successfully commenced. This extended generation period is a fantastic opportunity for staff

In the period up to the 28th July, Wylfa had generated 1.427TWhrs, which is well ahead of its targets. 7 spent fuel flasks have been transported to Sellafield.

There was an event involving Turbine 3 which led to a loss of load on the unit which could have caused an unplanned reactor shutdown. An investigation into the human errors involved has led to learning which has been briefed to operations staff. There was also an issue with a zone rod alarm in Reactor 2, but this has now been corrected and an investigation is being progressed via the Magnox Nuclear Safety Committee. In June there was also a fuel mis-loading event where a fuel element was inserted into an adjacent channel. This was a result of a reactor physics engineer selecting the wrong type of fuel to

be loaded into the channel which was not prevented by the software system as intended. Several checks have been made to avoid a reoccurrence including correcting the fuel record software.

The installation of a temporary electrical supply has negated the need for a diesel generator to power equipment to provide dry air to Reactor 2 this led to significant financial and environmental savings for the site.

Magnox has been awarded Investors in People Gold Standard which is a particularly proud achievement. Regarding training, over 60% of the workforce at Wylfa and Trawsfynydd are now enrolled on the Shaping the Future Project which is a programme of support, retraining and redeployment of the workforce as the site goes towards end of generation and defuelling.

A very lively and informative question and answer session was held with Charles Hendry MP, Minister of State for Energy during his visit to Wylfa. We also welcomed numerous summer placement and work experience students during this period.

The Wylfa 21 Fund has donated over £10,000 to 19 charities.

The Chair thanked Gordon Malcolm for the Report and congratulated him on the good news regarding extended generation and the sites ongoing work with the community.

Tom Jones asked about the near miss event in Turbine 3 and asked what category of event it would have been if the event had occurred. Gordon Malcolm replied that it would not necessarily result in a reactor shut down . It would have been more likely that only the Turbine output would have been lost (INES category zero). A full investigation was undertaken and lessons have been learnt.

Arthur Jones asked whether there been any similar incidences in the past and expressed his surprise that such a simple accident had occurred. Gordon Malcolm replied that this was a human performance error and that error avoidance tools are being developed as part of a defence system to avoid more serious consequences.

Now that half the power station is not being used, Gordon Warren asked how is the redundant half of the power station being managed – is the plant being retained and maintained for spares or are they being decommissioned? Gordon Malcolm replied that Turbine 3 will be put into a long-term maintenance phase and Turbine 4 will be redundant and could be used for spares.

Tom Conway asked whether the fuel misloading event dealt with an element or a channel? Gordon Malcolm explained that it was part of the fuel re-loading process when the wrong fuel type was loaded into a channel, this was a programming error made possible by a fuel records software error. The Fuel Records software has been modified to avoid a repeat event.

4. SSG Chairman's Report

The Chair presented his written report. He met John Idris Jones regularly for briefings and updates, and he attended the Socio-economic Applications Review Meeting in Wylfa on 4th July. He also attended the NDA/Magnox RSRL Bidders Conference in Manchester and has asked to receive regular updates on the competition process.

The new Secretary of State for Wales, David Jones, had visited the station today. This gave a positive indication of his support and the UK Government's support to a New Build at Wylfa.

Tom Conway asked why was *EnergySolutions* USA looking to sell *EnergySolutions* Europe. The Chair replied that Energy Solutions USA had no choice in the matter due to their difficult financial situation in America. It had nothing to do with the commitment of Governments in Europe towards nuclear generation.

5. Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Update

Jonathan Jenkin gave the update on behalf of the NDA. He congratulated the site on obtaining IRX approval. The NDA were pleased to announce that Charles Hendry had committed £480,000 towards Phase 2 of the Energy Island project.

He also mentioned the Strategy Paper on Intermediate Level Waste Management looking at the benefits of consolidating the storage of waste. He also said that no decision has been made on the location and timescale for the Geo-disposal facility, however the Government has set out a clear process with communities invited to express an interest and to enter into a dialogue. So far, 3 communities have expressed an interest, all of them in Cumbria. Romney Marsh in Kent is also considering whether to express an interest and is currently consulting with residents. This is a long term infrastructure project.

Tom Conway asked about the geological sustainability of the Romney Marsh site. Jonathan Jenkin replied that the NDA has a screening process that will be used after the expressions of interest have been formally received. At that stage, more intensive borehole surveys will be undertaken.

John Idris Jones replied to a query by Tom Conway about dry storage by saying that DECC have rules in place to ensure that any potential developer of new nuclear power stations produces a plan to show how they intend to store fuel on-site for about a century. The Government insist that this must be considered during the planning stage but it doesn't necessarily mean that fuel will be stored on-site for this amount of time.

There was also a discussion on the competition to appoint a parent body for Magnox. This is a requirement under the Energy Act. The current contract expires in July 2013 and it has already been extended once. An open competition process is necessary to alleviate the risk of a legal challenge. The Pre-qualification questionnaire stage has been extended by 6 weeks in order to take into account the announcement of the *EnergySolutions* sale process. Tom Conway raised fears about accountability with changes to parent bodies, but he was assured that there are safeguards in place within the Site Licence to ensure continuity of management.

Jonathan Jenkin went on to add that a National Site Stakeholder Group Meeting will be held at the end of October in Manchester when SSG Chairs and Vice Chairs will be invited to attend. During this meeting SSG Chairs will be briefed on the local Socio Economic part of the contract he also mentioned that the NDA Annual Report and Accounts have been published and that there is a summary document available.

The chair added that the RSRL/Magnox bid did raise questions regarding socio economic benefit which needs to be part of the competition process. Jonathan confirmed that it was the NDA's intention for Socio Economic benefit to be part of the contract.

6. Office for Nuclear Regulation Update

Dr Les Davies presented his report which had been circulated prior to the meeting. Two further items had occurred since the quarterly report had been published being the formal agreement to use secondary fuel route Dry Store Cell 5 (DSC5) for IRX and the site receiving approval for IRX .

For DSC 5 use formal agreement would be needed from the ONR and that they had agreed this process in principle, with some minor adjustments.

Prior to the IRX approval at the end of July a detailed technical assessment was undertaken looking at 4 issues in particular: Fault Studies; Human Factors; Integrity of Fuel; Control and Instrumentation. There were no issues with the readiness inspection for starting IRX, however some areas have been identified for follow-up. There is a summary of the IRX Safety Case available on the ONR website.

Arthur Jones admitted that he wasn't satisfied with the explanations given pertaining to human errors and asked what improvements are needed in that respect. Les Davies replied by saying that all event reports are checked and that a selection of them are investigated. He said that there were no specific examples of the same people making the same mistakes twice.

7. Presentation on the Magnox Operating Programme (MOP)

The objective of the MOP is to enable the UK to meet its international environmental and safety commitments in bringing the Magnox fuel cycle to a close by determining the closure sequence and expected timescales for the completion of defuelling and reprocessing of fuel.

All Magnox fuel has now been manufactured and delivered to sites – the last delivery was to Wylfa in December 2011. This programme is not as rigid as previous Operating Programmes as it considers a range of scenarios – from the upper bound to the lower bound of performance. It is accepted that the Programme is more transparent on uncertainties around capacity and therefore the timeline. However, in response to a question about the management of stock levels, it was made clear that the NDA want to finish processing in Sellafield as soon as is practically possible.

Following discussion Tom Conway asked for a written answer to his query on the reduction of caesium, Jonathan Jenkin will arrange a response. Arthur Jones asked about the reprocessing of fuels, and in particular, what happens to Magnox fuel after it was processed at Sellafield. Jonathan Jenkin explained that long terms solutions were being looked at. Discussions also took place on Wylfa's defuelling timescales and Sellafield targets to meet the Magnox Operating Plan.

8. Update from Wylfa SSG Waste Group

M Thornton presented a report from the Wylfa Waste Group that had met a week earlier. He said the following 5 main issues were discussed:

- 1) The low level waste incinerator was out of service. It has been inspected and the stack would be replaced, the incinerator is expected to be re-commissioned in November.

- 2) There was some corrosion debris in Dry Store Cell 4 following the removal of fuel. Site are currently looking at viable options for dealing with this and members of the subgroup will be invited to a option workshop before the end of December.
- 3) The joint low level waste plan. There is a clear intention to divert waste away from the low level waste repository by recycling the metals to reduce the material sent to Cumbria and incinerate waste on-site. The site is currently slightly behind the set targets but they are hoping to achieve them by the financial year end.
- 4) Land Quality Strategy – This is in preparation for the Care and Maintenance period and will be managed by a central hub.
- 5) Waste Tracking System. Currently waste on site is tracked manually. A new system has been developed to track the waste on-site using barcode scanning technology. The information from the scanner is visible on-site and this information can be accessed centrally by Magnox.

The Chair advised members that the waste sub group were looking for additional members members to join the sub-group. The group meets once a quarter at a convenient time for members. Any interested parties should provide their names to the Secretariat. Membership of the sub-group will be an agenda item at the next SSG meeting.

9. Socio Economic Scheme Update

Saranne Postans presented the report on Socio-economic issues. She reported that we are 6 months into the new website based application process and that the initial teething problems have now been resolved. To date throughout all 10 Magnox sites 207 applications have been received. The number of approved applications attributed to Wylfa site was 10, with a total value of £26,910. She said that a large number of lower monetary value schemes had been approved as well as continued funding for the Energy Island Programme. If anyone knows of a worthy scheme in need of funding, then they should contact Michelle Humphreys and submit an application on-line.

10. Supply Chain Scheme Update

Paul Walsh the Wylfa Supply Chain Manager gave a presentation on the Supply Chain Scheme. He said that this was a Commercial Strategy following a decision 18 months ago to restructure the commercial arrangements to redress the balance from Procurement to Delivery. Good practice and lessons learnt from other sites were applied to this process. Bangor University are also conducting a study of the economic benefits of contracts, looking in particular at supply chain spend. Early estimates suggest that local supply chain spend is double that of Wylfa's spend.

Concerns were raised about the delay to 2 contracts that had been set aside after a challenge to tender processes. As a result the Procurement Plan has been simplified with the aim of securing improved visibility, direct contact and ease of use.

Some members expressed disappointment that local companies had lost out on contracts due to the administrative burden of the tender process. Had these companies accessed the support available? In reply, the meeting was told that 4 companies had been offered support with the procurement process between 2007-2011. The Welsh Government is also offering

support through its Alliance Service which pays for all legal costs, as well as running How To Tender workshops.

Cllr JV Owen expressed further concern that local people were not successful in securing work. He also asked whether information about the support available is provided with the contract packs. He mentioned that staff from 4 local companies had been transferred to a new contractor and he queried how long will their employment terms be maintained. He was informed that TUPE processes protect employees' rights in transfer arrangements.

The chair said that it was important that the procurement process in the energy sector is seen to be supporting local companies, the energy island programme via the isle of Anglesey council is liaising with Magnox to establish what they need to do to assist local companies to tender in the energy sector.

11. Fukushima Project – Update on work at Wylfa

Ted Allsop gave a presentation on the Fukushima Project and outlined his role in co-ordinating Wylfa's response since the event in Japan. There has been significant progress during the last 12 months with 5 Magnox workshops being held as well as the publication of the Weightman Report and recommendations. Also a Stress Test report was completed and reviewed by ONR and ENSREG. The ONR made some further recommendations and most of these have now been implemented.

Tom Conway asked how far into the decommissioning process will the equipment be needed for. He was informed that the equipment will not be needed for a substantial length of time but that the generators would still be needed as we go forward into the care and maintenance phase.

Tom Conway went on to ask about personnel numbers on-site in the middle of night or during extreme conditions how many people would be need to operate this equipment. Gordon Malcolm replied that there are 20-24 members of staff in the emergency team and a damage repair team is always on-call. Minimal actions are needed within a 72 hour period, so the numbers are sufficient.

Cllr JV Owen asked where is the emergency equipment kept? He was informed that there is an emergency equipment store on site. Also, two portable 415V Generators have been purchased which in an emergency could be used for lighting, communication, charging station batteries etc. These are kept in the Fukushima storage compound which is in an area above sea level. Also, 6 new fire pumps have been purchased and each is capable of supplying the boiler feed requirements of the Reactor for 72 hours.

T Hurford asked whether the ONR had input into the procurement of the new equipment? It was confirmed that the ONR had had some involvement with discussion and responses being obtained from the ONR.

A Jones asked was there an automated system in place to close the reactor in an emergency – when looking at an extreme weather condition? Gordon Malcolm explained that there was a Reactor protection system in place which was regulated by an ONR safety case.

12. Any Other Business

The Implication of Extended Generation on Decommissioning Proposals

Graeme McLaren from the Engineering Function based at Oldbury Technical Centre explained to members that Wylfa's decommissioning proposals were being re-examined to ensure that they are still valid following the site obtaining consent to extend generation . Also, the important role of the SSG in the previous consultation process was underlined. A presentation will be given in the December SSG meeting on the implication of extended generation on decommissioning proposals as we go forward. Working alongside the ONR the Engineering team will be looking at Wylfa's decommissioning plan to see if the work needs re-visiting as a result. It is expected that a report will be submitted to the ONR at the end of March 2013.

13. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **13 December 2012** not 6th December as originally advertised.