

NDA Monthly Update

January 2013

Summary

- Competition dialogue to start
- Harwell land released from nuclear regulation
- NDA Chairman in honours
- £18 million Cumbrian office scheme
- Views of stakeholders sought
- Dounreay material on the move
- National nuclear archive to go ahead
- Chapelcross defuels third reactor
- National event report published
- Industry waste guidance launched
- Capenhurst transfer completed
- Dungeness demolition work accelerated
- Awards for supply chain
- NDA engagement plan published

Diary Dates

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| • Cumbrian councils decide on GDF next steps | 30 January |
| • Stakeholder survey closes | 31 January |
| • Business Plan consultation ends | 1 February |
| • Dounreay Exotics Preferred Option | Early 2013 |
| • Position paper on graphite | End of March |
| • Preferred option for Southern and Central Scotland ILW storage solutions | End of March |

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Formal dialogue starts for £7 billion contract

The NDA has confirmed that four global organisations will embark on the next phase of the £7 billion competition to run the 12 Magnox and RSRL sites. An eight-month period of formal dialogue starts next month (Feb), providing each bidding team with opportunities to gather information. The final consortia wishing to proceed are: Reactor Site Solutions (Bechtel/EnergySolutions); The Babcock Fluor Partnership; CAS Restoration Partnership (CH2M Hill, Areva, Serco); and UK Nuclear Restoration Ltd (AMEC/Atkins). The NDA will also be arranging dialogue sessions between local stakeholder representatives and bidders, to take place on a regional basis during spring.

[Weblink: Bidders named](#)

Harwell land released from nuclear regulations

A fifth of the Harwell site has now been formally released from the last remaining nuclear regulations, and is available for new development. The final stage of a clean-up process that has taken several decades was ratified by Parliamentary Under Secretary of State Baroness Verma, who signed 'de-designating' orders to revoke the NDA's responsibility for the 27 hectares of land, around the size of 40 football pitches. The land will now be transferred to the partnership that is developing the wider Harwell Oxford campus.

[Weblink: Land de-designated](#)

Honour for NDA Chairman

NDA welcomes the Honour for its Chairman Stephen Henwood, who was made a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the New Year's Honours list in recognition of his services to the nuclear industry and charity.

[Weblink: CBE for Chairman](#)

£18 million office scheme

The NDA has appointed leading UK construction and infrastructure company, Morgan Sindall, to deliver a new £18 million office scheme in Whitehaven, Cumbria. The Albion Square development is a key project in the Britain's Energy Coast (BEC) programme and aims to boost the local economy by attracting new workers to the town centre. The two four-storey office buildings will house approximately 1,000 staff from Sellafield.

[Weblink: £18 million office development](#)

Stakeholder views sought

The NDA is seeking views from stakeholders on its performance, via an online survey. The deadline is 31 January 2013.

[Weblink: Stakeholder survey](#)

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Dounreay material moved to Sellafield

The first movement to Sellafield of breeder material from Dounreay has now taken place. In July 2011, the NDA published its Credible and Preferred Options for the management of Dounreay Fast Reactor (DFR) Breeder materials, which identified that the Preferred Option for the management of DFR Breeder materials was to transport the material to Sellafield to be reprocessed along with Magnox fuel. The transfer followed receipt of the necessary regulatory and other approvals required.

[Weblink: Exotic fuels](#)

Nuclear archive project

The NDA has announced a decision to proceed with the next phase of the National Nuclear Archive project, which will see a new purpose-built facility constructed at Wick, in Caithness, Scotland, for long-term storage of records and other archive material from UK civil nuclear sites. The archive will be operated on NDA's behalf by a specialist commercial partner and is expected to bring more than 20 sustainable jobs to the town. The new building will be constructed on land currently owned by Highland Council near Wick airport, and could be operational by early 2016.

[Weblink: National nuclear archive](#)

Third reactor defuelled at Chapelcross

Chapelcross hit another significant decommissioning milestone at the Scottish site when the third reactor was completely defuelled. Following formal permission to start defuelling from the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) in July 2008, and the first flask being sent to Sellafield for reprocessing in April 2009, consistent progress has been made with the programme to remove a total of 38,075 fuel elements from all four reactors. The defuelling project is scheduled to be completed by mid-2013, and will remove 99% of the radioactivity removed from the site.

[Weblink: Defuelling progress](#)

Event report published

The NDA has now published the report from the National Event for stakeholders, held in Manchester at the end of October. Approximately 80 delegates from all sectors gathered at the event, where a range of decommissioning topics were the focus of discussions.

[Weblink: National Event report](#)

Waste storage guidance launched

The NDA's guidance on storing Higher Activity Waste (HAW) has now been published and is available for all organisations involved in nuclear operations and decommissioning. The Industry Guidance for Interim Storage of HAW Packages was

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compiled over three years and addresses wide-ranging technical issues associated with both storing the packages and the stores. The process included 12 months of road-testing by waste producers before the recommendations were finalised.

[Weblink: Industry Guidance](#)

Capenhurst site transfer completed

The NDA has completed the transfer of its Capenhurst site, in Cheshire, continuing an asset disposal programme which has now brought in well over £1 billion for the UK taxpayer. Under the deal, Capenhurst Nuclear Services (CNS), a URENCO Group company, will take ownership of the land, combining with an adjacent site it already owns to create one nuclear licensed site. The asset use programme has already seen land at Wylfa, Oldbury and Springfields transferred to the private sector, raising revenue for the UK taxpayer, freeing resources for the core decommissioning mission and enabling inward investment.

[Weblink: Capenhurst transfer completed](#)

Demolition work accelerated

The former nuclear power station Dungeness A is to receive £12.8 million over the next three years to speed up decommissioning and demolition work. The extra funding will allow the south side of the site to be cleared in around three years, rather than in 15 years as originally planned, providing a jobs boost to the local economy and reducing the overall cost of the project. The skyline of the site will be transformed dramatically as the 26-metre tall turbine halls are set to be demolished.

[Weblink: Funds boost demolition work](#)

Supply chain awards

Total dedication, absolute commitment and collaborative effort were the overriding qualities shown by the winners of the first-ever Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) Estate Supply Chain Awards. The awards recognise the importance of businesses both large and small to the nuclear clean-up mission, and a series of presentations were made at the second joint NDA Estate Supply chain Event, in Bolton, to the winners in three categories: Innovation, Going the Extra Mile and Collaboration.

[Weblink: Supply chain winners](#)

Engagement plan published

NDA has updated plans giving details of the opportunities for stakeholders to contribute to strategic decision-making. The opportunities include providing feedback on options papers or through the NDA's statutory consultations, as well meetings and events.

[Weblink: Engagement plan](#)