

TRAWSFYNYDD SITE
MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
HELD AT THE CONFERENCE AND INDUCTION CENTRE
ON MONDAY 10 DECEMBER 2012

PRESENT

Cllr J Isgoed Williams Chairman

Trawsfynydd Site

Mr Dave R Wilson	Magnox Site Director
Mr Ian Edwards	Magnox
Mr Rory Trappe	Magnox
Mr R J Phillips	Magnox
Mr R Parry	Magnox
Mr Bryan Walley	Magnox
Mr P Richardson	Magnox
Mr Andy McAteer	Magnox
Mr B Halsey	Magnox
Mr J E Owen	Magnox
Mr Mark Chevis	Magnox
Mr Richard Cowell	Magnox
Ms Christina Black	Magnox
Mr Julian Peachey	Magnox

Horizon

Mr Richard Foxhall

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

Mr D Edwards

Gwynedd Council

Cllr Thomas Ellis
Mrs Shirley Hughes
Mr Alun Evans
Ms Nia Swann Bowden

Town and Community Councils

Cllr Dafydd Watts	Llanfrothen Community Council
Cllr John Richards	Talsarnau Community Council
Cllr D Meredydd Williams	Maentwrog Community Council

Community Groups and Organisations

Mr Idwal Williams	Traws-Newid
Dr Iolo ap Gwynn	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Mr Aled Sturkey	Snowdonia National Park Authority

Observers

Mr Chris Kemp	ONR
Mr E Jones	Farmers' Union of Wales
Mr Alan Hall	Welsh Water
Ms Gemma Roberts	Welsh Water
Mrs Megan Jones	Translation
Miss Elen Williams	Minutes

1. Apologies for absence

Cllr Gareth Thomas	Gwynedd Council
Cllr Paul Thomas	Gwynedd Council
Lord Dafydd Elis Thomas	Assembly Member
Ms Michelle Humphreys	Magnox
Mr Jonathan Jenkin	NDA
Ms Gillian Thomas	NDA
Mr Keith O'Brien	Snowdonia National Park Authority
Ms Sonia Thompson	Welsh Ambulance Service
Mrs Gwen Pettifor	WI
Mr Elfyn Llwyd	Member of Parliament
Mr Terry Williams	Cwmni Seren Ffestiniog Cyf

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Following the request at the previous meeting, he highlighted that the minutes had been made available earlier this time as draft versions.

2. Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2012

The minutes were approved and accepted as being a correct record of the proceedings, subject to the following corrections:

- 2.1 Cllr Meredydd Williams noted that question 3.1 had been asked by Dr Iolo ap Gwynn.
- 2.2 Mr Mark Chevis referred to point 2.3, stating that the FSA will remain, and that it is their representation on the SSG that will cease to exist. He also clarified information regarding the competition process in point 4.4.
- 2.3 Cllr Dafydd Watts asked for more clarity with regard to 'how clean is clean' in point 5.16, to which the Chair and Mr D Wilson replied that this could be addressed later on in the Site Director's Report.

Having discussed these matters, the minutes were proposed as a true record.

3. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 11 June 2012

- 3.1 There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Address

- 4.1 The Chairman stated that he had attended the National SSG meeting in Manchester, where the tendering process in relation to decommissioning had been discussed.
- 4.2 The Chairman welcomed to the meeting David Edwards (NDA), Nia Swann Bowden (Snowdonia Enterprise Zone Manager), and Mark Chevis (Communications Officer for Trawsfynydd and Wylfa).

- 4.3 He explained that item 10 would be covered by Mr Dave Wilson, but that Christina was present and would be able to answer any questions. He also indicated that item 11 would come immediately after item 5 on the Agenda as Mr Richard Foxhall had commitments elsewhere.
- 4.4 The Chairman mentioned that Mr Idwal Williams, the Vice-chairman, had been in London on his behalf. He thanked him for representing him and Mr Idwal Williams was invited to add any comments.
- 4.5 Mr Idwal Williams confirmed that there was an intention to contact the stakeholders with regard to waste storage plans. In Manchester, the possibilities had been mentioned and it appeared that there would be developments and that more discussions would be held in the future. Traws had been praised for its work, having received awards by RoSPA and by Personnel Today for its human resources work. He had attended meetings in relation to the bid in Manchester, and five companies had gone forward, with an announcement expected at the end of the month.

5. Site Director's Report

- 5.1 Mr Dave R Wilson, the Site Director, gave a presentation regarding the safe and compliant delivery into Care and Maintenance state by December 2016.
- 5.2 With regard to safety, there had been 744 days since the last lost time incident. There had been no incidents in the past year.
- 5.3 The timescale for the Programme was outlined:
Scheduled Entry to Care and Maintenance – December 2016
Height Reduction Phase – 2020 to 2026
Final Site Clearance Phase – 2076 to 2085.
- 5.4 Funding for 2012/13 is as follows:
Value of Work in Baseline – Circa £79.8m
Value of Works Delivered Year to Date (Performance against Baseline) – £49.6m
Actual Cost Year to Date – £50.6m
- 5.5 A lot of work had been done on the safestores, and the absailers had been very busy with repair works.
- 5.6 The strengthening works were ongoing. There had been a lot of scaffolding work, and a lot of work to strengthen the structure. Scaffold had been placed to replace joints and repair.
- 5.7 Work had been done to make sure the reactor pressure vessels were OK, with camera surveys undertaken to confirm the condition of the pressure vessels.
- 5.8 With regard to waste streams, it was getting to a point where the resins will be drummed up.
- 5.9 Brand new cranes had been installed over the past 6 months, and these were being tested.
- 5.10 Work was taking place to retrieve FEDs, and there had been a lot of good physical progress.
- 5.11 RV2 Bulk Resin Retrieval has been completed and RV1 Residual Resin Retrievals was progressing.
- 5.12 With regard to Ponds North Void, a robotic arm was used in the PNV to go through the sludge and retrieve solid material in order to transfer and store them.
- 5.13 With regard to Ponds Decommissioning, they had been carrying on with the scabbling work. Regarding how clean is clean, they had been going through the more active ponds and taking samples for analysis to see what contamination there is.

New arrangements were in place regarding Very Low Level Waste Disposals. This is bulk material which is very slightly active, and Mr D Wilson explained that there are companies who will take waste low level waste. 746 drums had gone to date, with the first shipment on 18th September 2012. Another 8 shipments are planned before the end of the financial year.

- 5.14 With regard to the Intermediate Level Waste Store, there are 73 ILW packages in store (20 this year) and 1803 drums in temporary storage before transfer to the ILW Store. There will be approximately 2000 drums in total during the Care and Maintenance State.
- 5.15 Mr D Wilson gave an update on Land Quality, stating that the team in Trawsfynydd were Christina Black (Project Lead), Kevin Davis (Land Quality Manager), Oscar Hathaway (C&M Land Quality Strategy Manager), and Pete Longley (Technical Lead).
- 5.16 He explained that the Land Quality Team at Trawsfynydd were there to manage the impact that site works have on the quality of the land and watercourses. The aims are to ensure and demonstrate that Trawsfynydd site achieves satisfactory land condition.
- 5.17 Land quality is subject to ongoing monitoring. There are 59 boreholes on the site. 38 of these are monitored regularly and most have been installed for over 10 years. The full details of all analyses undertaken are provided to regulators (Environment Agency, ONR).
- 5.18 Currently at Trawsfynydd, a 3D groundwater modelling exercise is taking place, and work to sample and monitor the boreholes is ongoing. The main aim is to prepare for entry into the Care and Maintenance State, and during that time, there will be ongoing monitoring work to ensure land quality objectives are achieved.
- 5.19 With regard to Socio-Economic matters, the employment figures are as follows:

Total Employment	894
Staff	210
Agency/CSW	157
Contractors	527

(Not all contractors work full-time at the site and contractor numbers fluctuate as projects start and come to an end)

- 5.20 The events held during October included the Maths@Traws event, the Annual Trawsfynydd Site Schools Quiz and the 'World of Work' Careers Wales event. There were currently three Coleg Menai apprentices on the site and three graduates had started short term placements at the site. The Site Charities Committee had raised over £10,000 for local causes since being formed in 2008.
- 5.21 Since June, BBC Wales, S4C and ITV Wales had visited the site, as well as Hywel Williams MP (Arfon), the Radioactive Waste Management Directorate (RWMD), the International Atomic Energy Agency, KEPCO from South Korea, as well as the SSG who came to the site for an informal visit and site tour. As well as this, the Tate Modern Gallery would be filming on 17th and 18th December, in relation to the structure.
- 5.22 To summarise, he stated that the safety and environmental performance had been good. Major projects were progressing well and there was ongoing engagement with a wide range of stakeholders.

5.23 Questions

- a. Cllr Meredydd Williams – What is the position with regard to the possibility of waste coming into Traws? Would it be up to the NDA to approach the SSG?
Mr Dave Wilson replied that there had been discussions regarding this matter on a fairly high level, i.e. could you bring ILW from Wylfa to Traws. However he indicated that there is very little spare capacity.

The planning consent at present includes waste from Trawsfynydd only, and any changes would need to go through certain processes as there are specific planning clauses involved. In terms of Magnox, if there was a decision to change the plans, the SSG would be informed.

Mr D Edwards from the NDA indicated that the NDA has asked Magnox to look at ILW storage, and that there is a stakeholder process to follow. He stated that stakeholder engagement is all important.

The Chairman reiterated that there is a planning clause. There had been discussions, looking at the possibility of one ILW store catering for two sites, but no decision had been made.

Mr Dave Wilson added that the aim was to get rid of waste and not bring it in.

- b. Cllr John Richards – Will the samples of the ponds have an effect on care and maintenance?

Mr Dave Wilson referred to the scabbling work and that the key issues were the joints. It's a case of how far do you scabble through drains, and when to stop, as you don't want to keep on scabbling and come out the other end. As work progresses and moves on the hope is to gain a better understanding, but it's going to be a key decision.

- c. Cllr John Richards – Have there been any results with regard to the samples already undertaken?

Mr Dave Wilson explained that we need to look at the options with regard to where to go from here. The question is what to do with data and optioneering, but it is a key topic for these meetings.

6. Site Health Physicist report – Mr Bryan Halsey

Bryan Halsey indicated that a full report had been provided. He noted that everything was on the decrease, but drew attention to the graph on page 14 which indicated a slight increase in the Dose to Anglers, which had seen a dip in 2010 but an increase in 2011.

7. Report for Emergency Planning Consultative Committee – Mr Robin Phillips

- 7.1 With regard to Site Emergency Arrangements, there had been no significant changes in the site's emergency arrangements since the last SSG meeting, as there had been no need. The Site Emergency Arrangements had not been activated since the last SSG meeting.
- 7.2 In reference to Emergency Scheme Staff, three individuals had requested to leave the scheme and it had been decided to advertise internally for replacements. Following a lot of interest across the site, three members of staff were currently being trained to take on these roles, while existing members of the scheme were filling in the vacant rota spaces.
- 7.3 With regard to training, all three emergency services had continued to support staff training and exercising over the last six months. The North Wales Fire and Rescue Service had participated fully in two out of hours emergency exercises during the summer and positive feedback had been received by them.
- 7.4 In July, the annual demonstration emergency exercise had been held. It was an out of hours exercise demonstrated in front of ONR, and was deemed a success. There are always things to be learned from any exercise, and these points were being taken on board for future training and exercises.

- 7.5 The shift exercise programme for 2012/13 had started and would continue into the new year. The next demonstration exercise will take place in June 2013.
8. Report by the Office of Nuclear Regulation – Chris Kemp
- 8.1 Chris Kemp apologised that he had not been able to give a report to the meeting in June.
- 8.2 He referred to the annual demonstration, which had been held in the evening in order for the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service to be present. He had met representatives from the three sites and had learned from all of them.
- 8.3 He had inspected the packages going into store and deemed that all of them were in very good condition, considering their age.
9. Report by the Environment Agency – Mr Steve Howard
- 9.1 Mr Steve Howard explained that the Environment Agency is a lead Regulator for Traws and Wylfa and for the new build.
- 9.2 He explained that he attended the site once a month, usually on agenda but sometimes at short notice, and that he liked to see what was happening and see individuals in their working environment.
- 9.3 He had been interested in the asbestos tip, which was very satisfactory at present.
- 9.4 He explained that his work involved carrying out overview checks on information the sites has to pass on to the Agency.
- 9.5 He was very pleased with the arrangements with regard to weatherproofing. He had been looking at the drains as well and was also pleased that a survey of drains had been undertaken.
- 9.6 He was also pleased that Traws had introduced Very Low Level Waste arrangements and was satisfied that the site's performance had been compliant.
- 9.7 The interaction had pleased him as well. He indicated that information had been very forthcoming, and the spot checks had been as expected.
- 9.8 The Chairman noted that he was glad to hear such a glowing report.
- 9.9 Questions
- a. Cllr Tom Ellis enquired about the reference to asbestos and asked where it is kept – is it kept inside or in an outside location?
Mr Steve Howard explained that it was a landfilled site authorised decades ago and asbestos was buried so there were no possibilities of it being blown away. His main concern were the trees, in case they fell and disturbed the ground.
- b. Cllr Tom Ellis asked whether the site was likely to be cleared out in the future.
Mr Steve Howard stated that this wasn't planned and that there was no intention of doing so.
- c. The Chairman asked whether it would be possible to safeguard the area in order to ensure that no one goes to the site to start digging etc., to which Mr Steve Howard replied that it would be possible to place a layer on the site to make sure that people were aware of it.
10. Update on Trawsfynydd Site Land Quality – Ms Christina Black
This item was covered in the Site Director's report.

11. Update on Horizon Nuclear Power and plans for a replacement nuclear power station at Wylfa Site – Mr Richard Foxhall, Stakeholder Relations Manager
- 11.1 The Chairman invited Mr Richard Foxhall to talk about the recent good news concerning Wylfa.
- 11.2 Mr Richard Foxhall was glad to share the news that Horizon had been purchased by Hitachi, and that the intention was to build a new power station.
- Hitachi have announced that they are going to place 2 or 3 reactors on the site, depending on the space available. 100 members of staff remained and there was a good relationship with the regulator. He emphasised that there is over 3 years of essential data to learn from.
- 11.3 Horizon was formed in January 2009 as a joint venture between E.ON UK and RWE npower. On 29th March 2012, E.ON and RWE announced their intention to withdraw from the UK nuclear programme, and Horizon was put up for sale. On October 30th 2012 Hitachi announced an agreement to purchase Horizon, and on 23rd November, the funds had been transferred from Hitachi to ensure the purchase.
- 11.4 Horizon will be the site developer and will be responsible for securing a site licence and development consent.
- 11.5 Hitachi have signed a Memorandum of Association with Rolls Royce and Babcock.
- 11.6 Over the next weeks and months we will be looking at how the work will go about. There aren't many timescales at the moment but more information will be available by the next meeting.
- 11.7 The aim is to have the first unit operating in the first quarter of the 2020's.
- 11.8 With regard to technology, the Hitachi Advanced Boiling Water Reactor (ABWR) will be used at both Wylfa and Oldbury, and Mr Richard Foxhall expressed that everyone was very eager to see how this technology works. This is the only advanced (generation 3+) reactor that is operational anywhere in the world. All four operational ABWR units have been completed to time and cost, with the latest unit being completed in 37 months. ABWR is already licenced in Japan, Taiwan and the USA.
- 11.9 The need for nuclear remains unchanged, and there is strong political support for it. It is estimated that around 12,000 jobs will be created during the construction process. On 30 October, Hitachi had mentioned that they would be using modular construction, and that they hoped to open a plant in the UK similar to that in Japan.
- 11.10 He hoped that the skills would be in place, and stated that there would be collaboration to ensure the best opportunities possible.
- 11.11 The Chairman expressed that this news meant continuity, stating that without continuity it would be a difficult period for renewable energy. With reference to young people, he hoped that the education authorities would refer them to this industry. He expressed his thanks to Richard and hoped that another report would be received soon.
12. Magnox socio-economic scheme update – Mr Mark Chevis
- 12.1 Mr Mark Chevis gave an update on the Magnox socio-economic scheme.
- 12.2 He informed the meeting that 273 applications had been submitted to the funding web portal to date, to the value of just under £5 million.
- 12.3 43 of the applications submitted were attributed to Traws, to the value of £657,112.



- 12.4 22 of the applications attributed to Traws had been approved and granted. These ranged from applications from community groups to business associated projects, for example, the 'clucking hens' social enterprise at Ysgol y Gorlan.
- 12.5 The key factors of the scheme was to mitigate the effects of decommissioning.
- 12.6 There is an application worth £360,000 by Coleg Meirion Dwyfor going through the application process at present, which is part of their project to build a skill centre. A final decision will have been made by the next meeting.
- 12.7 Mr Mark Chevis explained that they were looking for transformational projects, and urged everyone to pass the message on to people who would benefit.
13. Trawsfynydd Footbridge 2012 repairs – Mr Andy McAteer
- 13.1 Mr Andy McAteer informed the meeting that work had been done on the footbridge to make sure it is safe. This had involved iron work, painting work, and work on the decking. He noted that the bridge was checked every week to make sure that the decking was safe.
- 13.2 On behalf of Trawsfynydd, the Chairman thanked Mr Andy McAteer. He stated that people use the bridge and that the path is very pleasant. He thanked him for taking care of the footbridge, with the hope that this would continue.
- 13.3 Questions
- a. Cllr Tom Ellis also thanked Mr Andy McAteer, saying that a lot of use is made of the bridge. However he mentioned the land leading down towards the bridge and enquired whether it would be possible to do something to put a hard surface on this part.
Mr Andy McAteer explained that they were only responsible for the bridge and that the council is responsible for that piece of land.
- b. Cllr Meredydd Williams enquired whether it was a local company who did the work. Mr Andy McAteer replied that it was a local company who had undertaken the first decking work, but not the latest iron work.
The Chairman stated that this wet piece of land was an issue, and thought perhaps it would be possible to talk to the National Park and the Paths Department in the County Council to see if whether it would be possible to do something, as it isn't acceptable as it is.
14. Maentwrog Low Pressure Pipeline Tree Felling Project – Mr Andy McAteer
- 14.1 Mr Andy McAteer stated that there are 625 trees screening the low pressure pipeline which brings water from the lake to Maentwrog. People didn't realise when planting the trees that they would grow so large, but by now they are between 80 and 100 feet tall, and if they fell they could potentially harm the pipe.
- 14.2 The project had started and the preparations were under way. With regard to transporting the trees, they did not want to take the trees through Maentwrog and Gellilydan, but instead wanted to take them by the dam and up towards the A470 straight to the saw mill or wherever they are intended.
- 14.3 He explained that he wanted to inform people that the project was taking place, and that people may see a few lorries and tractors. He noted that Prysor Angling had been made aware of the situation as well.

14.4 Questions

- a. Mr E Jones asked about the other people who use the path, apart from those who are connected to the station.
Mr Andy McAteer stated that the intention was to warn people in order to make sure they don't put themselves in danger. They were asking people to be careful, and did not want to close the road. He reiterated that people have a responsibility to ensure that they do not put themselves in danger. He also stated that this wasn't the best time of year to do the work when it came to the weather, but there were benefits to doing the work at this time of year as well. The felling licence had been granted until March 2013.
- b. Cllr John Richards enquired whether there would be any safety signs.
Mr Andy McAteer stated that there would be signs stating key information, eg details of the people working on the site. He also expressed that is why he wanted to let the meeting know about the work and make people aware of it.
- c. Cllr Meredydd Williams enquired whether anything else would be planted to replace the trees.
Mr Andy McAteer replied that more suitable native species of trees would be planted.
The Chairman stated that he had mentioned this a few months ago, saying that it is most important to conserve but people don't consider that trees grow, and they grow beside and against buildings, causing a lot of bother and leading to high costs.

15. Any other business

- 15.1 The Chairman introduced Nia Swann Bowden to share information about the Enterprise Zone.
- 15.2 Nia Swann Bowden stated that she was at the meeting to give an update, following the presentation on the Enterprise Zone by Mr Dylan Griffiths at the previous meeting.
- 15.3 She explained that the site is going to receive specific attention, and the intention is to create opportunities and jobs. Each Zone is steered by a board, and Mr John Idris Jones is the Chairman in Snowdonia, with the board consisting of representatives from organisations in the area.
- 15.4 The board had noticed that there are gaps in the information that is available for the site. The intention now is to fill in the gaps and work is underway to do just that.
- 15.5 She stated that they had started to receive enquiries. An international data centre had shown an interest and were in discussions, presenting the possibility of ensuring 60 jobs.

15.6 Questions

- a. Cllr Meredydd Williams enquired whether there was a plan of the site that can be used for development.
Nia Swann Bowden replied that they were looking for exactly that at the moment. Cllr Meredydd Williams felt that this should have been available right at the beginning and once again expressed his disappointment that Blaenau hadn't been included.
Nia Swann Bowden explained that they were commissioning that work and hoping that it would be completed in the next 6 months. She emphasised that they were prioritising this – the ideal situation would have been to have a plan at the very beginning.

- b. Dr Iolo ap Gwynn commented that he had in previous meetings mentioned the gathering of information in order to be able to assess the need, but emphasised that we still don't know where people travel from into the area.
Nia Swann Bowden explained that all of this would be included and fed in.
Cllr Meredydd Williams felt that it was vital that contractors and subcontracts were aware of what is going on.
 - c. Cllr Tom Ellis noted the size of the site – as it's such a large site, it's difficult to understand why it hasn't been possible to come to an agreement about the site at the beginning.
The Chairman emphasised that this is exactly what is being discussed at present, and that is what Nia is doing at the moment.
- 15.7 The Chair raised a point concerning frequency of meetings. Some people felt that the meetings were few and far between. He asked Mr Mark Chevis if he had any comments. Mr Mark Chevis felt that it was the decision of the SSG and explained that meetings vary. However he noted that Magnox would be happy to facilitate a third meeting. Cllr Tom Ellis proposed holding a meeting three times a year. As many members attended the group on a voluntary basis representing the community, Cllr Meredydd Williams felt that twice a year was appropriate. As no one seconded the proposal to hold three meetings a year, there was a show of hands to show that everyone was in agreement to leave things as they are.
- 15.8 Cllr Dafydd Watts expressed that the site visit was very useful and a great help to see what is happening.
16. Date and time of next meeting

*Please note the next formal meeting of the SSG has been changed from Monday 03rd June to **Monday 10 June 2013.***

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contributions.