

**Minutes of the Wylfa Site Stakeholder Group held on Thursday 13 December 2012 in Eleth and Eilian Rooms**

**Present:**

Cllr A M Jones	Site Stakeholder Group Chair
Mr Gordon Malcolm	Deputy Site Director/Wylfa Plant Manager
Mr Fred Brookes	EHSS&Q Manager, Wylfa Site
Mr Mark Chevis	Communications Officer, Wylfa/Trawsfynydd
Mr Tom Conway	Wylfa Retirees Association
Dr Les Davies	Site Inspectorate - Office for Nuclear Regulation
Mr Gav Elias	Welsh Government
Mr Alan Hall	Emergency Planning Officer, Welsh Water
Mr Peter Harrop	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Cllr William T Hughes	Llanbadrig Ward - Anglesey County Council
Ms Michelle Humphreys	Magnox Wylfa
Mr Derek Jones	Magnox – Emergency Procedures
Cllr Jac Jones	Mechell Community Council
Mr Ieuan Wyn Jones	Assembly Member for Anglesey
Mrs Jean Jones	Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones
Mrs Claire MacLean	ONR EIA Team
Mr M Mytich	Hyder
Mr Mel O'Hara	Member of SSG Waste Sub Group
Cllr J V Owen	Parc and Mynydd Ward - Anglesey County Council
Cllr Glyn Roberts	Mechell Community Council
Cllr Gareth Winston Roberts OBE	SSG Vice Chair (Amlwch Rural–Anglesey County Council)
Cllr W E Rowley	Cylch y Garn Community Council
Mr Gareth Roberts	Office of Ieuan Wyn Jones AM
Mr Mark Thornton	Waste Manager, Wylfa Site
Mrs Judy Turner	Magnox Wylfa
Mrs Karin White	Magnox Wylfa

**Apologies**

PC 1574 Louise Evans	North Wales Police
Mr Richard Foxhall	Horizon Nuclear Power
Cllr K P Hughes	Llanfaethlu Ward – Anglesey County Council
Mr Jonathan Jenkin	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Cllr Elfed Jones	Llanbadrig Community Council
Mrs Gwyneth Jones	Merched y Wawr
Dr John Idris Jones	Energy Island and Magnox Wylfa Site
Mr J C Jones	National Farmers Union
Miss Linda Jones	Energy Island

Mr Richard Parry Jones	Interim Chief Executive - Anglesey County Council
Mr Stuart Law	Site Director, Wylfa
Mrs Jan Milburn	Decommissioning Manager, Wylfa Site
Mr Nigel Monckton	Head of Magnox Corporate Communications
Mr Roger Nourish	ONR EIADR Team
Mr Albert Owen	Member of Parliament for Anglesey
Mr Tim Poole	Campaign for Rural Wales
Mrs Saranne Postans	Communications Officer, Magnox North
Mr Steve Roberts	Member of Public
Mr Trevor Roberts	SJC Representative, Wylfa Site
Mr Alan Smith	Horizon Nuclear Power
Mr Dylan Williams	Economic Development Unit, Anglesey County Council
Mrs Heidi V Williams	FUW – County Executive Officer
Mrs Melanie Wymer	Bodorgan Trust Company Ltd
Mr Paul Kennedy	Radiation Team, Food Standards Agency

## **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 special welcome was extended to Ieuan Wyn Jones AM, Claire MacLean and Dr Peter Howden from ONR's EIA Team, Michael Mytych from Hyder, and Gav Elias from the Radioactivity & Pollution Prevention Branch of Welsh Government.

## **2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 13 September 2012 and Matters Arising**

There were no amendments to the previous minutes. The minutes were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Jac Jones and seconded by Cllr A M Jones as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

## **3. Site Director's Report**

- i. Wylfa is delighted to have been awarded a fourth Sword of Honour by the British Safety Council and also a Globe of Honour for its environmental performance.
- ii. A near miss event was recorded when a piece of reinforced glass fell from one of the glazing panels. A survey was conducted by Civil Engineering which identified additional cracked glass panels and these have now been replaced.
- iii. On 30 September a conservative decision was made to shut down Reactor one to carry out camera inspections due to fuelling difficulties. A presentation will be given later in the meeting to describe what happened and the steps taken. There was no increased risk to the environment, workforce or public.
- iv. IRX preparations were initiated in May and now fuel is being routinely transferred from reactor two to reactor one via cell two.

v. Electricity generation is ahead of schedule (1.974 TWhrs against a target of 1.380 TWhrs). Wylfa has sent three low pressure turbine rotors weighing one hundred tonnes in total, to be recycled as they were surplus to requirement.

vi. In August 2008, Magnox supplied the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) with an environmental statement to support an application to decommission Wylfa Site. In March 2009, the HSE granted consent for a five year period for decommissioning. Due to the extended generation period, the consent will have expired before the end of generation (September 2014), therefore a re-application is needed before the existing one expires. Following discussions with ONR it has been agreed that Wylfa can submit a new Environmental Statement in the form of a Desktop Review of the 2008 Statement. This review will be submitted to the ONR by March 2013 to allow consent to be granted by March 2014.

vii. The Secretary of State for Wales, David Jones, visited Wylfa in September – one of his first official visits since taking up the post in the Cabinet. Also, Neil Baldwin, Magnox Managing Director, visited Wylfa and both had very positive comments about the station.

viii. Special note was made of the success of apprentices in achieving national awards, in particular Bryn Arfon Jones and Nick Edwards.

ix. The Shaping the Future Project is now well underway with masterclasses having been arranged to offer guidance to individuals.

x. After receiving the report, the Chair once again congratulated the station on achieving the Sword and Globe of Honour Awards.

#### **4. SSG Chairman's Report**

i. The Chair presented his written report. He has held regular meetings with John Idris Jones, Magnox's Socio Economic Manager, who is also seconded on a part time basis as Director of the Energy Island Programme. He also met up with Aled Roberts (Assembly Member for North Wales) and Neil Baldwin (Magnox Managing Director) and attended an update and briefing with Gordon Malcolm on-site.

ii. The Chair attended the National Stakeholder Group Meeting in Manchester in October (not in September as noted in the report).

iii. An invite has been sent to Mr John Clarke, Chief Executive of the NDA, to visit Wylfa in the near future.

iv. There were no questions on the report.

## **5. Proposal to amend the SSG Terms of Reference**

i. The Chair asked members to take the document away with them to think about the implications as certain electoral wards will disappear on 1 May 2013. This matter will be put on the agenda for discussion in the March meeting.

## **6. Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Update**

i. P. Harrup opened his report by congratulating the site on the excellent achievement of the Sword and Globe of Honour.

ii. The Public Accounts Committee held an evidence session in Cumbria following a report by the National Audit Office about the management of risk at Sellafield. The Chief Executive of the NDA, John Clarke, gave evidence before the committee.

iii. Supported by a £1 million contribution from the NDA, Britain's Energy Coast successfully secured £5.6 million of Regional Growth Fund for the "Investing in Business" Scheme. Comments were invited on the options within a Strategy Paper for ILW in Southern and Central Scotland. The deadline for comment was 5 October.

iv. The NDA have been kept well informed on the issues around continued generation at Wylfa.

v. The Department for Energy and Climate Change has published the 2nd Annual Report on its Managing Radioactive Waste Safely programme, which focuses on developing geological disposal in the UK.

vi. The competition to appoint a new Parent Body Organisation for the 12 Magnox and RSRL sites is now formally under way. A bidders conference was held in Manchester on the competition which is worth £4-5 billion over the next 7 years – making it one of the largest public procurement exercises being undertaken at present. Five global organisations have passed the pre-qualification stage.

vii. The Chair asked whether local communities could engage with the process when the competition bidders come on-site to discuss socio-economic issues. He felt that it was important for bidders to meet the local community so that they can get a feel for the community's wishes and aspirations on socio-economic issues. The NDA promised to respond to this request.

## **7. Office for Nuclear Regulation Update**

i. Dr Les Davies presented the ONR's report. He mentioned that a couple of preliminary investigations have been held on-site and they are satisfied that there was no need to take further action.

ii. Since the report, a demonstration exercise had been completed which tests the response to a Safety and Security event. There were a number of minor areas for improvement and some conflicting practices that need to be addressed.

- iii. The ONR publish their reports and executive summaries on the web and Stakeholders were invited to take a look at them.
- iv. The Energy Bill process is currently making its way through Parliament and the two main issues are: a) to facilitate new-build, and b) to include legislation for ONR to become an independent statutory organisation.
- v. The Chair informed the committee that Dr Les Davies is leaving his current post to take on a similar role across all the Magnox fleet. Tom Davenport will be the new inspector taking over in February. The Chair thanked Dr Davies personally for his support of the SSG during what has been a difficult and uncertain period.

## **7. Update of the SSG Waste Sub Group and Membership**

- i. No meetings of the Waste Sub Group were held during this period as no issues were raised.
- ii. The Low Level Waste incinerator stack - A high degree of corrosion was discovered in Dungeness and as a result the equipment in Wylfa was also inspected. Following that, the incinerator stack was replaced in March and was re-commissioned on 28 November. Unfortunately, there was then a fault with the air compressor so it was shut down to allow maintenance and annual emissions testing . Wylfa will start to incinerate waste in the New Year and the backlog is scheduled to be cleared by March.
- iii. Dry Store Cell four corrosion debris – Work is being done to determine how to remove the debris. A report was due for November, but it will now be ready before the end of December. A workshop will be held on this issue in the New Year.
- iv. Low level waste management plan – The intention is to minimise the waste sent to the repository through incineration and recycling. Wylfa is confident that it will meet both the incineration and recycling targets.
- v. The waste tracking barcode system demonstrated in the last SSG meeting is now in a shadow working phase – the new system will take over in the New Year.
- vi. The Land Quality Strategy looks at Wylfa land which may be contaminated by oil/chemicals/ radioactivity. This document is being revised so that a consistent document may be produced describing land quality on all sites. The final version will be available in the New Year.
- vii. Additional members are needed for the Waste Sub Group, Jean Jones and Cllr J V Owen put their names forward. SSG members were asked to send any other names to the secretariat.

## **8. Socio Economic Scheme Update**

- i. Michelle Humphreys presented this update and report. Five organisations have been awarded funding during the last quarter. Friends of Ynys Môn Gymnastics Club (£400), Merched y Wawr Ynys Môn (£500), Cylch Meithrin Penysarn (£1,000), Llanerchymedd Football Club (£1,000) and Holyhead Hotspur Football Club (£500).
- ii. Since the paper report was produced six applications are currently in progress and we are meeting with other organisations to discuss future applications.
- iii. On 3 December, a total of 778 visitors had visited the Santa's Grotto. It is envisaged that over 2,200 visitors will have visited the Grotto by 21 December. The Retirees Christmas Lunch was held on 7 December.
- iv. The summer placement application process is now open and members were asked to disseminate information about this scheme to people they know.

## **9. Emergency Planning Consultative Committee Report**

- i. These committee meetings are well attended and do a lot of good work in planning exercises. The full series of in-house security and nuclear exercises have been combined (rather than two separate procedures) and as a result conflicts have been identified and they will be addressed. All the learning was applied in the demonstration to the Regulator and areas of improvement will be implemented.
- ii. The ONR has conducted several audits and inspections and it was noted that the Emergency Handbook needs some document reference numbers updated.
- iii. The Event Management Centre was activated by a small acid leak – procedures were established and the issue was dealt with promptly.
- iv. The Welsh Ambulance Service was called on-site as a member of staff was complaining of chest pains – this was a non-working condition.
- v. A major RAD Safety Exercise will be undertaken in March 2013. Planning for this exercise will take up to five months. Industries that use radioactive material have to conform to these requirements for transporting materials. A prompt response service is required to be in-place for any such incident during transportation on rail or road. This exercise will be a "road incident" (near the Sports Field) and all the activities will be within the Wylfa site boundary. All three emergency services will be participating in the exercise – Police, Fire and Ambulance.

## **10. Presentation on Reactor one Shutdown and Return to Service**

- i. Gordon Malcolm reported that on 31 September, staff experienced refuelling difficulties in reactor one and a management decision was taken to shut down the reactor so that they could take a look inside and determine the problem. It was discovered that the fuelling machine wasn't able to pick up a fuel element using the grab. A camera was lowered into the

reactor to inspect the problem. The obstruction was recovered and was removed from the fuel channel. The reactor was restarted in the beginning of November.

ii. Staff found that metallic debris was present in the channel. A special magnetic tool was specifically manufactured locally in Beaumaris to clear the obstruction. Once everything had been inspected, a safety submission was scrutinised by the ONR and they had no objection to a return to service of the reactor.

iii. Tom Conway asked what proportion of the gas flow was obstructed and what the change in temperature of the fuel element was. It was explained that the reactor debris assessment caters for up to 25 of these items and we only found one. The change in fuel temperature was negligible and the item wasn't levitated by the channel gas flow.

## **11. Environmental Impact Assessment for Decommissioning (EIADR)**

i. Judy Turner gave the update and presentation. She explained that Wylfa had to reapply for permission to decommission. An Environmental Statement was completed five years ago during the application for consent. The current consent will run out in March 2014 due to extended generation at Wylfa, we will be the only site to have to go through this process a second time.

ii. The process for gaining consent takes a full year so we have to submit our application to the ONR by March 2013. Following discussions with the ONR, we have agreed on a proposed method for re-submission. The current Environmental Statement will be used as a baseline and the new submission will only deal with any changes. This updated document will be circulated to members through the SSG mailing list for comment. Tests will be used to check what has changed since the last Environmental Statement looking at:

- a) any changes to the environment,
- b) are the plans to mitigate still valid,
- c) any new mitigation measures needed,
- d) changes in assessment methodology,
- e) present/future cumulative impacts by adjacent developments, and
- f) changes to the overall decommissioning project.

Hyder Consultants are forming an independent view on what needs to be covered and will produce a report soon.

iii. The potential changes are obviously related to the fact that Wylfa will be generating for longer and therefore the defuelling schedule will be delayed, but we'll be sticking to the same 2025 decommissioning end date. Therefore, the plans and schedules will be compressed. Other potential developments noted were:

- a) Wylfa B
- b) Centrica – 4.2 GW wind farm
- c) Sea Gen Wales tidal array
- d) National Grid infrastructure plans
- e) Use of land at Anglesey Aluminium

No significant detrimental effects on environmental impacts are expected due to this extension to the generating lifetime.

iv. The document will be submitted to the ONR by 25 March 2013 with a ninety day consultation period. The draft report will be much shorter than the original statement so members were encouraged to take the opportunity to submit comments.

v. Ieuan Wyn Jones expressed his concern regarding the decommissioning process and the delay in building Wylfa B. In particular, he was worried about the potential gap between the ending of one and the beginning of the other. In response, the Magnox Optimised Decommissioning Process was mentioned and the benefit of transferring the technology expertise and experience from this process to the new-build. If generation finished in 2014 the defuelling would take three years. It was emphasised that the date for the Care and Maintenance stage remains unchanged, and the processes leading up to that period will be compressed. It is envisaged that there will be an overlap between decommissioning and the new build – but this continuity issue will be addressed. The Welsh Government can also provide training initiatives to aid this transition.

vi. Tom Conway asked why the review only goes as far as Care and Maintenance. In response, he was advised that it does deal with the full period until final site clearance in 2085/2090 but naturally there is more detail on the first phases. It is also difficult to predict how technology will develop over such a long period of time Tom Conway went on to ask about reprocessing delays in Sellafield and whether that would necessitate reusing Dry Store Cell four and five as fuel stores. In response, Gordon Malcolm referred to the safety case for Dry Store Cell five as part of the defuelling activities. The station is undertaking a Periodic Safety Review which covers all facilities on-site and activities for the next ten years, and he confirmed this will include generation until the end of 2015 as this should be more than existing fuel stocks will allow. The NDA website describes the transfer of fuel to Sellafield and the various possible MOP scenarios. It describes the scenario and schedule if 600 tonnes per year is transferred to Sellafield but it also provides a model for 450 tonnes per year. This programme allows for delays and is a means of establishing contingency plans for extended generation if Wylfa's defuelling schedule is delayed. The Chair added that the MOP is currently operating to schedule. No new fuel can arrive on-site and so the total amount of fuel in Wylfa remains the same – there is no need to use Dry Store Cells as a repository. It was intended to re-use Dry Store Cell five only to speed up final defuelling. It was proposed that this issue could be discussed on a one to one basis outside the meeting and the ONR representative asked if he could sit-in as well.

## **12. Q & A and Any Other Business**

i. The value of training was reiterated in the meeting. It was stated that there is an excellent workforce in Wylfa and that a new build is on the "Horizon" but all organisations

(Anglesey County Council, Welsh Government and the British Government) need to be mindful of the possible transition gap.

ii. Tom Conway mentioned that there was a strong smell of gas turbine fuel in Cemaes last Monday and asked what was the problem. It was stated that staff had walked around the site in response to enquiries from the public and it was confirmed that there wasn't any fumes originating from the site.

iii. The Chair mentioned correspondence received from Richard Foxhall stating that Hitachi had completed the deal to buy Horizon and he thanked everyone involved in the announcement event.

iv. Dates proposed for SSG Meetings in 2013 –

14 March, 6 June, 5 September, 12 December.

The Chair brought the meeting to a close by wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.