

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
SIZEWELL A & B STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT THE MARKET HALL, SAXMUNDHAM
ON THURSDAY 5TH JUNE 2014 AT 19.00**

PRESENT

Cllr M Fellowes	- Aldeburgh Town Council <i>SSG Chairman</i>
Mr M Taylor	- Suffolk Coastal Friends of the Earth <i>SSG Deputy Chairman</i>
Mr C Betson	- Leiston Business Association
Mr J Carey	- Sizewell A Representative
Dr T Coffey MP	- Member of Parliament for Suffolk Coastal
Mr D Foy	- Sizewell B Representative
Ms J Girling	- Co-opted Member
Cllr T Hodgson	- Suffolk Association of Local Councils
Ms P Hogan	- Sizewell Residents' Association
Cllr W H Howard	- Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council
Cllr A Nunn	- Suffolk Coastal District Council
Cllr S Robertson	- Westleton Parish Council
Cllr N Smith	- Middleton-cum-Fordley & Eastbridge and Theberton Parish Councils
Cllr R Smith	- Suffolk County Council
Mr C Tucker	- Sizewell B Staff Representative
Mr P Wilkinson	- Co-opted Member

IN ATTENDANCE

Dr C Barnes	- Suffolk Coastal District Council
Ms M Barnes	- EDF Energy Communications
Mr M Cubitt	- Sizewell B Technical and Safety Manager
Dr L Franks	- SSG Clerk
Mr P Hetherington	- SSG Secretariat
Mr J Jenkin	- Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr H Mahgoub	- Public Health England
Mr C Mann	- Sizewell A Plant Manager
Mr G Moorcroft	- Office for Nuclear Regulation Sizewell B Inspector (incoming)
Ms M Orerary	- Public Health Doctor, Suffolk County Council
Mr A Osman	- Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit
Mr M Sibley	- Environment Agency
Mr G Smith	- Office for Nuclear Regulation Sizewell B Inspector (outgoing)
Ms N Spatchett	- Sizewell B Community Liaison Officer
PC D Thompson	- Civil Nuclear Constabulary
Mr T Watkins	- Sizewell A Site Director

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr C Barnett	- Shut Down Sizewell Campaign (SDSC)
Ms S Betson	
Mr D Green	- East Anglian Daily Times
Mr J Grieger	
Mr T Griffith-Jones	- Campaign Against Nuclear Expansion
Mr J Heley	
Ms C Hoy	- Campaign for Clean Energy Solutions
Mr R Hogart	
Mr R M ^{ac} Gibbon	
Mr C Telkman	
Ms L Tucker	
And other members of the public	

CHAIR'S OPENING COMMENTS

2241 Chair welcomed all attendees and asked all speakers to use microphones and to introduce themselves. She introduced herself and the Clerk. Chair welcomed back Cllr Smith as the Suffolk County Council representative on the SSG. Chair explained that invited speakers and industry operators & regulators were seated together in one block, SSG members in the central block and all others in the remaining block. In response to a request, she advised that speakers can stand if they prefer but that microphones will enable speakers to be heard.

I PUBLIC FORUM

2242 Mr Barnett introduced himself as speaking on behalf of the Shut Down Sizewell Campaign (SDSC) and referred to the public meeting held on 5th March 2014 regarding the Sizewell B Reactor Pressure Vessel (RPV), advising that the SDSC remained convinced that the proposed inspection date should be brought forward from 2016. He referred to subsequent SSG meetings held 6th March 2014 and 2nd April 2014 and questioned why his emailed request for the questions raised and answers given regarding the safety of the RPV had not been fulfilled. Chair advised that a full transcript of the public meeting and the minutes of the subsequent sub-group meeting were in the public domain. She apologised if the holding reply sent had not been received, advising that the reply explained that this matter would be discussed tonight (item 2171 on the action tracker and agenda item 3ii) and that the questions posed to the ONR (detailed in the minutes of the SSG subgroup meeting held 26.02.14.) had been submitted to EDF Energy and to the ONR for any further comment. A debate ensued about the public availability of the questions and answers and Chair confirmed that questions and answers were in the public domain.

2243 Mr Barnett referred to the recent determination of the size of the detailed emergency planning zone (DEPZ), expressing disappointment that it was not to be increased substantially from the previous 2.4km radius around the power stations. He advised that he had exposed the total inadequacy of the DEPZ on 20.05.14., questioning whether the document sent to the Chair had been circulated to members. Chair advised that item 8 on the Agenda was specifically to discuss emergency planning and to decide how to progress this matter. Mr Barnett advised he was unable to stay at the meeting to hear this item. Mr Barnett referred to the ONR's Project Assessment Report issued 23.04.14 (copy available at www.onr.org.uk/pars/2014/sizewell-a-14-001.pdf) titled "ONR's statutory determination of the off-site emergency planning and public information area for Sizewell A & B nuclear licensed sites in accordance with the requirements of the Radiation (Emergency Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2001 (REPPiR) Regulations 9 and 16". He reminded attendees that ONR claim to be an independent organisation.

2244 Chair intervened at this point and asked Mr Barnett to ask a question, advising that Mr A Osman and Mr G Smith were present and could be asked to briefly answer this now, as Mr Barnett had to leave before the item would be reached on the agenda.

2245 Mr Barnett agreed to formulate a question. He stated that the ONR are observing the UK REPPiR requirements which specifically refer to a "reasonably foreseeable radiation emergency" and are using this as the basis for their DEPZ determination. He referred to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) guidance quoted within the report which is based on 'extreme accidents'. He then referred to the Fukushima accident. He suggested that the current DEPZ determination was a "conspiracy to lull the public into believing they are safe when they are not". He asked why the ONR did not use the IAEA guidance and base the determination upon an extreme accident. Mr G Smith reminded attendees that an ONR colleague had provided a detailed presentation at the December SSG meeting describing the principles for the ONR's DEPZ determination, that this had now been undertaken and the outcome and report published on the ONR website, adding that EDF Energy are currently working with Suffolk County Council to ensure Emergency plans are

aligned. He advised that the principles had been clearly outlined and the governing regulations explained in the published report. He advised that the risks had reduced with the defueling of Sizewell A. He reminded attendees that there had been ample opportunity for questioning the principles for the determination at the December SSG meeting. Mr Barnett complained that REPIR was out of date and suggested that it should be torn up. Mr Smith advised that REPIR could not be torn up.

2246 Chair advised that whilst not mandatory to demonstrate effective evacuation, that to reassure the public, the SSG may request that this is undertaken locally. **Chair agreed to email Mr Barnett (via Chris Ure) with details of the discussion undertaken during item 8 on the agenda regarding Emergency Plans.**

2247 Mr M^{ac}Gibbon asked about the terms and conditions for workers on the EDF Energy site. He referred to a Workplace Solutions contractor 'Aramark', citing that they are "proud to create an environment where employees are engaged and satisfied in their jobs" adding that whilst health and safety and professional development conditions are respected that very minimal wages are paid. He asked for EDF Energy to commit to ensuring that their employees and those of contractors are paid a living wage rather than a minimum wage. He advised that he had a petition of over 2000 signatories that supported this request. Mr Cubitt, Technical and Safety Manager for EDF Energy, concurred that Aramark are a subcontractor for staff on Sizewell B site advising that the Terms and Conditions for their employees were a matter for that subcontractor; EDF Energy do not get involved. Mr M^{ac}Gibbon expressed his dissatisfaction and sought clarification that EDF Energy have no control over subcontractors including wages and conditions. Mr Cubitt advised that EDF Energy can influence the conditions for workers, such as safety, quality etc but that the terms of employment, including wages are agreed between the worker and the subcontractor. Mr D Foy, UNITE Secretary of the Sizewell Energy branch, advised that UNITE, Sizewell and Aramark have been in negotiations over the last four months with some success and that negotiations continue. He pledged to pursue a satisfactory conclusion between Aramark, Workplace Solutions and EDF Energy, adding that the ongoing problem rests with Aramark.

2248 Mr J Kreeger introduced himself as representing the Suffolk Peoples' Assembly and advised that he had organised the petition in association with UNITE and the employees. He advised that Ipswich Council have a policy of paying a living wage and that London University forced Aramark to pay a London living wage to catering and cleaning staff. He questioned why EDF Energy cannot decide who their subcontractors are and why they cannot enforce a policy of paying a living wage. He added that whenever Aramark are contracted, there are disputes. **Chair agreed that this would form an action** and asked that the speakers leave contact details with the secretariat.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE & DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

2249 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Bailey, Mr T Branton, Dr A Burt, Mr T Cooper, Mr J Crawford (represented by Mr M Cubitt), Mr D Gregory, Mr P Lanyon, Mr S Parr, Mr A Pynn and Mr D West.

2250 Declarations of Interest from SSG members were updated as detailed in appendix 1.

3(i) MINUTES OF THE SSG MEETING HELD 06.03.14.

2251 The minutes of the meeting of the SSG held on 6th March 2014 were agreed (11 for, 0 against, 3 abstentions) as an accurate record subject to one sentence in paragraph 2238 being amended to read:
Mr Taylor gave his view that DECC infers that Sizewell B will use high burn up fuel in the future.

2252 Mr Wilkinson advised that he received only odd numbered pages of the hard copies of the minutes. Chair apologised advising that full copies were available at this meeting.

2253 Matters arising were agreed, by majority vote, as captured on the action tracker.

3 (ii) MINUTES OF THE SSG SUB-GROUP MEETING HELD 02.04.14.

2254 Ms Girling commented that she found this sub-group meeting extremely helpful, gave special thanks to Colin Tucker for his input at that meeting and concluded that she now felt reassured.

2255 Chair drew attention to each key topic, reminding attendees that the Sizewell B dry fuel store was to be the subject of a separate public meeting. Chair sought members' views of Mr Busby's report (regarding steam venting at Sizewell B) advising that no further information was to be provided by EDF Energy.

2256 Mr Taylor asked what the RIMNET monitors would be used for. He questioned whether Mr Busby's suggestion that steam venting caused emissions could be verified or disproven using the RIMNET devices. Mr Osman explained that RIMNET devices were there to monitor emissions and that the data collected will be made public. He advised that he was not aware of the characteristics of the monitors for detecting low level emissions but **agreed to find out and feed this back to the Chair**. He concluded that the intention was to assist in identifying and quantifying any emissions from a Sizewell incident and that this information would be used to help decide the nature and location of the hazard.

2257 Mr Wilkinson referred to 3.26 regarding the test blocks asking what the outcome of discussions held between the Chair, Vice Chair and management at Sizewell B had been. Chair explained that test blocks were routinely sampled and that there were sufficient test block samples *in situ* to ensure that these were not exhausted. Chair advised that this outcome would be detailed in the Action Tracker updates.

2258 Mr Wilkinson referred to 3.31 regarding 'who regulates the regulator?' and questioned whether this matter would be discussed tonight. Chair advised that she had asked Mike Caswell, Chair of the National Stakeholders Group, for this to be added to the National Stakeholders meeting agenda. Mr Wilkinson expressed his dismay that this debate was not being undertaken locally.

2259 Mr Wilkinson drew attention to the Actions and Recommendations for section 3 regarding the RPV and questioned why there was no action/recommendation regarding whether the inspection of the RPV should be brought forward. Chair advised that the discussion detailed in the minutes reflected that arrangements were already progressing for the inspection of the RPV. Clerk added that the minuted discussion indicated that the possibility of bringing the inspection forward was not feasible and hence no recommendation to do so was made by the attendees. Chair advised that the minutes fully reflected the meeting and that the actions/recommendations were used to describe any further steps required. She invited comments about how minutes could be made any clearer to those that were not in attendance at the meeting and none were forthcoming.

2260 Dr Coffey referred to 3.31 regarding 'who regulates the regulator?' saying that her email to the SSG Chair advised that Parliament regulate the regulators. She added that regulators are no longer directly answerable to Government Ministers but through select committees or other forums used by Parliament to scrutinise, adding that she felt this was an appropriate question for DECC to answer at the National Stakeholders meeting as it was a National rather than localised matter.

2261 Dr Coffey referred to the actions from section 5 regarding Public Health England, advising that Jane Ellison, and not Dan Poulter, is the Minister for Public Health.

- 2262 Mr Wilkinson advised that he had not received a full answer to secondary questions raised about steam venting and tritium deposition. He suggested that Mr Busby should be invited to an SSG meeting. Chair suggested that a separate meeting would enable a deeper discussion and asked members for their views. Dr Coffey asked about the outcomes of the meeting held at Sizewell B between the station director and the Chair and Vice Chair. Chair advised that regarding this topic, EDF Energy felt that they had already provided all the information requested. Mr Wilkinson disagreed and reiterated his proposal that Mr Busby was invited to speak at the next SSG meeting. Cllr Howard seconded this and members voted to carry this motion (6 for; 5 against; 5 abstentions). **Action: Mr Busby to be invited to the next SSG meeting.**
- 2263 Chair drew attention to the actions and recommendations from Section 3 regarding the RPV and Mr Tucker informed members (in response to action ii) that there was an assumed fixed frequency for inspections but if any doubts arose from the outcomes of inspections or from test block samples, then the frequency would be increased.
- 2264 Chair drew attention to the actions and recommendations from Section 5 advising that a meeting was being sought and that the correct Minister to approach was Jane Ellison. For section 6 Chair reiterated that a meeting had taken place at Sizewell B and that the members had voted to invite Mr Busby to their next SSG meeting.
- 2265 Chair drew attention to actions and recommendations from Section 7. Ms Girling advised that the NDA website had been down this week so public access to papers in advance of this meeting had been compromised. Mr Hetherington confirmed that the website had been down but that the link now worked to retrieve the information from the Magnox website. **Chair agreed to take an action to investigate this to ensure the availability of papers to members of the public.** Members' opinions about timing of meetings was sought and Chair requested that suggestions were given to her during the meeting break.
- 2266 Chair called a vote to approve the sub group actions and recommendations and this was carried (14 For; 0 Against; 0 Abstentions).

3 (iii) MINUTES/TRANSCRIPT OF THE SPECIAL MEETING HELD 05.03.14.

- 2267 Chair drew attention to the transcript commenting that as this was a verbatim transcript there was no requirement to 'approve'. Members concurred.

3 (iv) ACTION TRACKER

- 2268 Chair drew attention to each item on the action tracker and the following items were discussed:
- 2269 ref 2222 re consideration of why ventilation was not considered part of the planning process for the dry fuel store; Chair proposed to roll this matter into the other outstanding actions about the dry fuel store.
- 2270 ref 2219 regarding sea water sampling; The EA document that outlines where sea water samples are taken along the East coast near Sizewell has been circulated to members with hard copies available at this meeting. Chair questioned what was monitored and Mr Sibley responded. He introduced himself as representing the EA working from the local office, and explained that monitoring was undertaken at six sites, twelve times per annum and considered dissolved oxygen levels, temperature, chlorophyll, nutrients (nitrates, phosphates) etc and that all results meet good ecological status. He advised that the EA also monitor six bathing water sites (two each in Lowestoft, Southwold and Felixstowe) and that for the last five years they have all met minimum standards and mostly met higher water quality standards. Finally, radioactive monitoring of the seawater environment is also

undertaken that is subsequently recorded in the annual RIFE report. Chair asked if this item was now closed and Ms Girling asked specifically about sea water around Sizewell. Mr Sibley confirmed that no bathing water sites were monitored around Sizewell.

- 2271 Mr Wilkinson commented that this reflected the inadequacy of the monitoring undertaken. He also commented that this was further complicated as the affects of low dose radiation on health were also unresolved. He referred to the Tim Deere-Jones article and suggested that the SSG should pursue the inadequacy of the monitoring programme. Chair proposed that the EA address this further in writing. **Cllr Howard asked that, in addition to seawater bathing water quality near Sizewell, that the EA address sampling of estuarine sediments, beach and soil within ten miles of the coast.** Chair advised that sampling was undertaken on a risk-based approach. Mr Wilkinson asked that the EA also address the Tim Deere-Jones article and this was noted as action 1911 on the action tracker.
- 2272 ref 2172/2238 re potential use of MOX fuel; this item to be taken to the National Stakeholders Group Meeting in November.
- 2273 ref 2171 re the Sizewell B RPV; Mr Taylor advised that he felt reassured by the sub group meeting specifically addressing the RPV and that the next outage already has a great deal of essential work already scheduled. In conclusion, he suggested that the RPV inspection should not be brought forward. Chair agreed adding that there was a clear intention from the site and arrangements were already underway to undertake the inspection at a future outage. She requested that if there was any slippage in the timeframe that the SSG were kept informed and otherwise proposed that this item was closed. Dr Robertson seconded the proposal. Ms Girling added her support, advising that she felt that there was a full and comprehensive understanding.
- 2274 ref 2168 re the delegation of powers to the sub-group; Chair commented that this was an unusual circumstance that had been agreed by the full membership to prevent delay in the decision-making. Dr Coffey commented that she had concerns that this was not within the SSG Constitution and that she was happy for this matter to now be closed.
- 2275 re 2167/2194/2200/2215 re the dry fuel store; Chair commented that having met with EDF Energy to scope out what needed to be answered, that a separate public meeting was proposed to answer all arising questions. Mr N Smith supported this proposal.
- 2276 Remaining actions were referred to and their status left unchanged except for 1681 re the RPV which was now proposed as closed. Members concurred to the above proposed changes to the Action Tracker items with a unanimous show of hands.

4 SSG CONSTITUTION

- 2277 Chair asked for any suggested changes to the current, previously circulated SSG Constitution. None were forthcoming. Chair concluded that the current Constitution remains unchanged.

5 REVIEW OF ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERSHIP AND VOTE TO ADD THE COMMUNITIES AGAINST NUCLEAR EXPANSION (CANE).

- 2278 Chair advised that at any time an organisation can apply to become a member of the SSG and that Communities Against Nuclear Expansion (CANE) had done so and now members needed to decide this membership. Ms Girling declared that as the Chair of CANE she would not participate in any discussion or vote regarding their application for SSG membership.

- 2279 Mr Griffith-Jones was invited to explain why CANE had applied for membership. He opened by welcoming the Chair's comments about wanting local groups to be involved as part of the SSG. He advised that CANE wanted their voice to be heard at SSG meetings. He referred to the NDA guidelines regarding the membership of stakeholder groups, advising that free groups including environmental groups, local Politicians, local organisations & businesses and voluntary groups should all form the membership. He gave his view that the current SSG was dominated by political organisations and had insufficient local community groups. The membership of CANE would redress this balance.
- 2280 Members comments were invited. Dr Coffey reminded members that last year Friends of the Earth had joined the SSG. Dr Coffey explained that she stood against CANE becoming a member as several members of CANE were already amongst the SSG membership and the remit of the SSG did not include the expansion of Sizewell A or Sizewell B but considered the existing sites. She commented that the remit of CANE was presumably concerning nuclear expansion specifically and this was more aligned to the proposed new build of Sizewell C, an area outside the remit of the SSG. Cllr N Smith concurred with these views advising that he was also opposed to the membership of any group whose remit was outside of that of the SSG. He added that should Mr Griffith-Jones want to be considered as a co-opted member, he would support that application.
- 2281 Chair reminded attendees that the SSG considered potential new build when this impacts upon the existing Sizewell sites or their local communities. She added that there was a separate Sizewell C forum facilitated by EDF Energy and chaired by an independent person appointed by EDF Energy.
- 2282 Cllr Hodgson sought clarification of which communities were referred to within the Communities Against Nuclear Expansion. advised that CANE have five main objectives of which two were focussed on existing radiological problems around current sites and ensuring open, transparent and deliberate decision-making, adding that both of these were relevant to the proposed membership of the SSG. He clarified that 'communities' included friends and colleagues affected by proposed expansion in Bridgewater, Somerset (Hinkley C). He advised that membership of CANE was of individuals from communities and not community organisations per se.
- 2283 Mr Wilkinson suggested that Sizewell C was not inevitable and that those opposed to it would find a way into the SSG membership and, therefore, the views previously expressed in opposition to membership of CANE were not valid. He added that Mr Griffith-Jones personally had a lot of valuable experience and that he represented an organisation that had significant numbers of members drawn from the local area. He suggested that the SSG should welcome Mr Griffith-Jones' experience adding that Sizewell C would inevitably crowd the agenda for the SSG in the future.
- 2284 Chair questioned whether members had sought the views of the organisations they represent as to whether CANE should join the SSG, adding that she felt unable to personally judge whether a group should join. Chair reminded members that many local people are also existing members of CANE. Chair advised that the opposition of Dr Coffey to the proposal was understandable as the Government have a policy to promote nuclear expansion. Dr Coffey clarified that she would not object to the individual co-option of Mr Griffith-Jones, was using her personal judgement as an MP to make these decisions and that she was opposed to CANE membership of the SSG because they were against nuclear expansion and that was not the remit of the SSG.
- 2285 Mr Wilkinson proposed and Mr Taylor seconded the motion that CANE join the SSG membership. This motion was defeated (4 for, 11 against, 1 abstention). Chair suggested that Mr Griffith-Jones consider applying to be co-opted to join the group.

6 ELECTION OF CO-OPTED MEMBERS FOR 2014/15

2286 Chair read out a list of individuals that had applied to be co-opted for 2014/15:

- Mr Trevor Branton
- Mr Tony Cooper
- Ms Joan Girling
- Mr Pete Wilkinson

Chair advised that these individuals were current members and each had contributed to previous meetings. Chair proposed that the election was undertaken *en bloc* and this was seconded by Dr Robertson. A vote was conducted amongst representative members and this motion was unanimously carried.

7. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY CHAIRMAN 2014/15

2287 Chair led a vote of thanks to the Clerk, briefly summarised the past year of SSG work and expressed her willingness to continue as Chair before handing over to meeting to the Clerk.

2288 Clerk sought nominations and the following were received:

- Mr Taylor proposed Cllr Fellowes, Mr Foy seconded.
- Ms Hogan proposed Cllr R Smith, Cllr Hodgson seconded

2289 Clerk invited each nominee to speak. Cllr R Smith introduced himself as the County Councillor for Aldeburgh and Leiston and a resident of Saxmundham. He advised that he had served as SSG Chairman for the first 7 years of the existence of the group, had served as Deputy Chair for the eighth year and although away from the group in their ninth (previous) year had received papers and retained an active interest. He advised that he was now resuming his role as SCC representative on the group and pledged that if elected that at the next full meeting he would bring a paper on the future role of the SSG.

2290 Cllr Fellowes thanked attendees for providing this arena advising that it was important to have a means of discussing matters in an open and transparent way. She thanked Cllr R Smith's previous support as both Chair and Vice Chair. Cllr Fellowes reminded attendees of the measures she had introduced to deal with the increasing workload of the group including increased use of IT, the introduction of the Action Tracker and expanded communication with local people. She reminded members of the previous busy quarterly full meetings, that work had been progressed using the forum of the open sub-group meetings and that the group had arranged for public meetings to enable contentious subjects to be debated in depth, honestly and openly. She welcomed the input of Cllr R Smith and reiterated her desire to remain as Chair of the group.

2291 Clerk invited members to vote with the following outcomes:

- Nine votes for Cllr Fellowes: Cllr Howard, Ms Girling, Mr Taylor, Mr Foy, Mr Wilkinson, Cllr N Smith, Mr Carey, Mr Tucker, Dr Robertson
- Four votes for Cllr R Smith: Cllr Hodgson, Cllr Nunn, Ms Hogan, Dr Coffey

Cllr Fellowes was welcomed to return as SSG Chairman for 2014/15 with a round of applause.

2292 Cllr Fellowes thanked members and invited Cllr R Smith to liaise with her regarding the future role of the SSG. Chair sought nominations for the role of Deputy (Vice) Chairman and proposed Mr Taylor with a brief summary of the support Mr Taylor had provided to her in his role as Vice Chair for the preceding year. Cllr Howard seconded this nomination and as no other nominations were forthcoming, Mr Taylor was welcomed back as Deputy (Vice) Chairman for 2014/15 with a round of applause.

The meeting paused for a short break at this point and resumed with a request for all attendees to sign the attendance sheet.

8. EMERGENCY PLAN UPDATE

- 2293 Andy Osman introduced himself as the Head of Emergency Planning for Suffolk, working for all eight Suffolk Councils. He used a presentation to recap the journey taken in Suffolk post the Fukushima event covering the following milestones:
- 2294 2011: May - Oct National Learning from Fukushima event detailed in the Weightman reports. July - Nov DECC considered radiation monitoring, central Government response, extendability if accident more severe than 'reasonably foreseeable' capacity and capability of the emergency services. End of the year DECC concluded that current emergency plans were fit for purpose but with opportunities to strengthen arrangements.
- 2295 2012: Community Forum at Sizewell Sports and Social Club hosted by ONR during February to discuss issues raised by Fukushima. Key issues that arose were size of current DEPZ, presence of vulnerable sites located on the edge of the current DEPZ, focus of emergency plans on reasonably foreseeable accidents, lack of prior information beyond DEPZ. Commitment made that the planned review of the Sizewell Emergency Plan would consider these issues and, as appropriate, inform improvements.
- 2296 2013: Public Consultation Jan - April on range of proposals including: considering increasing the DEPZ to cover Leiston and be in line with National guidelines, to introduce a second tier of emergency arrangements outside of the DEPZ to a range of 15km, to increase the capacity for evacuation and radiation monitoring, provision of emergency response actions out to a range of 15km, widen the list of pre-identified vulnerable groups that may require precautionary evacuation. Responses supported these proposals. Revised Sizewell Plan issued in December, prior to National decisions being made. New plan introduced that included:
- a second tier extended emergency planning zone (EEPZ) out to 15km
 - additional work on evacuation arrangements for Leiston
 - a completed assessment of vulnerable groups within 15km
 - additional evacuation centres
 - arrangements for management of security / terrorist incidents that may cause a nuclear incident
 - assumed DEPZ of 2.4km as revised determination not yet available.
- 2297 2014: revised DEPZ announced in April by ONR to include Leiston that confirmed a reduction in the historic risk now based upon Sizewell B to a distance of 1km. Announcement highlighted confusion about the term DEPZ. Updated Sizewell off-site Emergency Plan issued in May 2014 to reflect revised DEPZ and a revision to urgent countermeasures. Exercise Eagle took place on 21st May which tested new arrangements for responding to a reasonably foreseeable accident and to a more severe accident. Exercise set to be demanding and outcome reflected plan was sound with room for improvement.
- 2298 Mr Osman then indicated what was still to come as follows:
- National policy on revised extendability arrangements expected from DECC
 - National changes to radiation monitoring arrangements – environment and people from PHE
 - National policy on revised arrangements for exercising more severe accident scenarios from DECC and ONR
 - Prior information in larger Sizewell DEPZ from Sizewell operators
 - Prior information within EEPZ from the Suffolk Resilience Forum

- 2299 Mr Osman introduced colleagues from PHE and Suffolk Public Health to explain the future of urgent countermeasures. Mary Orerary, Public Health Doctor from SCC and Hamid Mahgoub, consultant from PHE local health protection group, introduced themselves and confirmed that there had been a revised DEPZ determination and a significantly reduced risk that had informed revised countermeasures. Ms Orerary advised that there were three key countermeasures: shelter, evacuation and pre-issued Potassium Iodate tablets. The area for provision of these countermeasures was within the 1km DEPZ. Mr Mahgoub confirmed that the pre-planned countermeasures would be for the 1km DEPZ.
- 2300 Chair sought clarity that the area to be supplied with Potassium Iodate tablets and to be encouraged to take shelter would be that outlined by the DEPZ but that the area for evacuation would be within the EEPZ. Ms Orerary advised that the revised DEPZ determined the vicinity of early countermeasures and reiterated that these included all three measures. Chair concluded that this would mean a larger number of individuals would now need to evacuate and expressed her concern that this could be achieved effectively as this had never been demonstrated, just modelled. She asked Mr Osman to comment.
- 2301 Mr Osman advised that Ms Orerary had confirmed that the three immediate countermeasures would be deployed within a 1km radius and that outside of this there was potential to evacuate. He advised that in 2013 an evacuation study had been undertaken that was publicly available. This study modelled the existing road network, the number of people to be evacuated, took into account the worst wind direction (from the sea west across Leiston) with the outcome that the population within 4km could be evacuated within 3 to 4 hours. Two real time evacuation events had occurred in 2007 and 2013: in 2007 1300 properties were evacuated within 6 hours and last year 1200 properties within 6 hours. Mr Osman confirmed that both evacuations were successful. Mr Wilkinson questioned whether there had been any chaos and Mr Osman confirmed that there was always chaos adding that many people decided to self-evacuate and not wait for the authorities to advise evacuation.
- 2302 Ms Girling advised her understanding that the area for urgent countermeasures had been reduced from 2.4km to 1km. She questioned what would happen outside of the 1km zone. Mr Osman advised that for a reasonably foreseeable accident that the risk (described by the operators and validated by the ONR) would not extend beyond 1km. The immediate response for those people within 1km is to shelter and take Potassium Iodate and those people beyond, should listen in for further advice. If the event was likely to extend beyond 1km then the response will be to evacuate. Ms Girling asked how many people lived within 1km and heard that the permanent population was 23 people. Ms Girling asked whether this would increase if Sizewell C went ahead and heard that the temporary number of people may well increase. If it was felt that an increase in the number of temporary staff was to affect the ability to evacuate within the time frame indicated, then this would be taken to the ONR as an issue that would affect the ability to implement the emergency plans. Ms Girling suggested that up to 7000 workers may be on site and that evacuation of these alone would clog up the roads. She expressed her concern that the people in this area were not being looked after properly.
- 2303 Mr Osman reiterated that there was a two-tier approach to enable arrangements to spread out to 15km. He reiterated that a study of the feasibility of evacuation had been undertaken and was in the public domain and that he welcomed any scrutiny of this work or any additional information about evacuation. He stressed that he had to follow a risk-based approach for emergency arrangements and, therefore, that arrangements in place had to be proportionate to the risk as described by the operators and validated by the ONR. He asked that if anyone else had additional information about the level of risk that he would be happy to discuss this. He advised that the plans were appropriate for a reasonably foreseeable accident and for a more severe accident.
- 2304 Mr Wilkinson asked for the slides to be circulated to the attendees. **Chair agreed to this.**

- 2305 Mr Wilkinson criticised the consultation saying that information couldn't be read and that it couldn't be answered properly. He described the consultation as a joke and questioned why the views of the SSG were not circulated as part of the consultation. He described the fault as resting with the Government and suggested that if anyone within a 20km zone really knew the risk they were taking, then the Government's programme for a nuclear power renaissance would collapse. He described the reduction in risk as laughable given the spent fuel on Sizewell B site. He concluded by expressing his disgust and this was greeted with applause.
- 2306 Ms Hogan questioned what would happen to those people visiting within 1km of the site as they would not have the tablets. Mr Osman advised that places within the 1km zone would be supplied with tablets. Ms Hogan asked for further details of exactly what fell within the DEPZ and Mr Osman offered to explain this afterwards. Chair concurred and invited questions from the public, asking for all questions to be collated and addressed together.
- 2307 Bob Hogart queried the intention to store nuclear waste at A site and spent fuel at B site in conjunction with the proposal to build C and D reactors and have the energy from Greater Gabbard transmitted via this area, suggesting that it was stupid to risk the safety of Suffolk in this way. He suggested that London needed the energy and not East Anglia. He suggested that the concept was wrong to decimate the local area and use imported labour at terrible rates to build unnecessary power stations. Chair stated that this overlapped with objection to new build but essentially that the concern was that the risk had increased not decreased. Mr Hogart concurred.
- 2308 Sammy Betson suggested that traffic congestion was already difficult in the area with the current movement of workers and shoppers and questioned whether there was something that residents could do for themselves, like purchasing their own Potassium Iodate tablets.
- 2309 It was asked whether the current risk assessment by the operators and ONR took into account the dry fuel store.
- 2310 Ms Hoy described an event at Wardens campsite last weekend that involved 250 brownies and questioned, if there had been a significant off site release that had spread beyond the 1km zone, how the emergency plan would enable the parents of these brownies to collect their children. She added that all of the paramedics attending the Eagle exercise that she had spoken to had emphatically advised that if there had been an actual risk of radioactive contamination then they would not have attended to their job but taken their families out of the area. She suggested that the model was fundamentally flawed because people will look after their families first.
- 2311 What should residents do with pets if an incident occurred?
- 2312 Chair summarised that the public were questioning whether the risks had actually reduced. Mr G Smith of the ONR advised that the risk assessment did not include the dry fuel store as this had not yet been built or given permission to operate. He added that the risk would be reassessed in accordance with the REPIR guidelines. **Chair asked for a written response clarifying the timeframe for review of the risk given that work to build the dry fuel store had commenced.**
- 2313 Mr Osman advised that domestic pets could be taken to the rest centre, adding that in the UK individuals had a choice and could not be forced to evacuate and leave behind livestock. Ms Hoy asked what would happen if someone broke down whilst trying to evacuate livestock and heard that the police would move the vehicle and animals out of the way.
- 2314 Mr Mahgoub advised that the need for Potassium Iodate tablets was only within 1km based on the current level of risk. Chair asked if they could be bought and taken outside of this zone. She advised that this indicated the need for more information, added that the SSG

had volunteered to assist in putting together extended information and requested that any information to be circulated to the public was checked with individuals outside of the industry before circulation. Chair advised that she had asked to observe the Eagle exercise and other exercises and that this request was declined. She reminded the forum that the question concerning visitors to the area had yet to be answered.

- 2315 Mr Osman advised that anyone in the area would be advised but could not be forced to leave and that the Police would undertake this advisory role. A member of the public questioned the available police resources.
- 2316 Chair commented that it was evident that there were still concerns to be addressed, advising that the SSG would be happy to facilitate communication. Chair said that Mr Taylor had attended the extraordinary Emergency Planning Consultative Committee meeting held earlier today and it was confirmed that she would receive papers from this.
- 2317 Mr Taylor said that he felt that Government were not making decisions fast enough and that DECC needed to make decisions about whether REPPIR required updating to take into account IAEA recommendations. Mr Taylor questioned whether REPPIR was still fit for purpose.

9. SIZEWELL A REPORT

- 2318 Mr Watkins reported on recent activities at the Sizewell A site, referring to a written report previously circulated. The following points were noted during the presentation:
- Safety Performance: remains good despite the distraction of transition.
 - Workforce: currently 312 employees, 10 agency and 115 contractors on site
 - Defueling: Reactor 1 now empty, Reactor 2 expecting to be emptied within days. Last flask shipment scheduled for early August. 65% of reactor channels already verified fuel-free and once fuel dispatched, ponds will be searched to ensure no fuel remains. ONR will need to validate fuel-free status and thereafter the risk on site was considerably reduced.
 - People: once declared fuel-free there will be a reduction in Magnox staff by circa 80 by March 2014. Literally a handful of staff that want employment and have not secured this. Significant amount of training ongoing to familiarise staff with incoming new emergency procedures. Parent Body Organisation transition to complete in early September involving a change of 35 UK personnel, five of whom are Magnox station directors.
 - Active Effluent Treatment Plant (AETP) tank refurbishment: last tank almost completed. The programme of refurbishment of this area continues into next year.
 - Turbine Hall: Asbestos removal likely to complete at end of this year when stripping from the boiler houses will commence. Enables future demolition.
 - Fuelling Machines: once defueled the expertise gained from maintaining the equipment will be used to dismantle the pile cap.
 - Sir George Earle Trophy: won by Magnox for the best safety performance within UK industry.
 - Community: Socio-economic fund has received insufficient applications.
 - Heritage: Industrial heritage display to include stories about people as well as plant to be opened during August in Leiston and, thereafter, donated to the Longshot museum.
- 2319 Cllr Howard commented that employed staff at Sizewell A have been looked after well and questioned what arrangements the contractors were making for staff reductions. Mr

Watkins advised that as the plant progresses with decommissioning that the contractors were likely to increase rather than decrease their staff numbers.

2320 Ms Girling asked about the construction painting described at the last meeting (by Ken Cuthbert) and heard that this would be part of the heritage exhibition. Mr Watkins invited Ms Girling to attend site to view the painting, as it was currently hanging in his office.

2321 Chair formally offered congratulations to the site for the progress made with defueling. Mr Foy thanked Mr Watkins for the way the leadership team has managed the transition of staff, commenting that staff had definitely been looked after with great care. This was greeted with applause.

10. OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT

2322 Chair reminded attendees that Mr Gregory had given his apologies but that his written report had been circulated (dated 01.01.14. – 31.03.14.). Chair invited questions and none were forthcoming.

11. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT (EA)

2323 Chair drew attention to the Environment Agency report dated 5th June 2014.

2324 Ms Hoy stated that there are 59 radionuclides routinely released during operation by nuclear power stations of which only a few were subject to scientific scrutiny. She referred to the earlier report about sea water monitoring and questioned which radionuclides are monitored and where samples are drawn from. **Mr Sibley agreed to take this as an action and provide a written answer.**

2325 Chair drew attention to the Sizewell B section of the report and sought clarification of what the 'relevant parts of the [dry] store safety case' were. **Mr Sibley agreed to take this as an action and provide a written answer.**

2326 Ms Hoy asked about the RIMNET monitors, questioning whether these monitored in real time, what radionuclides they monitored and whether they would remain operational in the event of a significant incident. **Chair advised that this questioned would be posed to Mr Osman in writing and a written response requested.**

12. NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY REPORT

2327 Jonathan Jenkin opened his presentation by offering his congratulations to Magnox for winning the George Earle trophy, advising that this was not just nuclear safety but across all industry categories and as such was a significant achievement.

2328 Mr Jenkin drew attention to the two NDA monthly updates for May and June and in particular commented upon the following:

- Sellafeld and TEPCO have signed a co-operation statement to share good practice. Each face challenging clean-up operations.
- NDA has signed an agreement with Toshiba and GDF Suez regarding land near Sellafeld and enabling this to be used for new nuclear power stations.
- NDA have published a report detailing the economic contribution Sellafeld has made to the regional and national economy.
- Stakeholder Engagement Plan recently published that details opportunities for stakeholders to become involved with the work of the NDA.
- Magnox and RSRL Competition: NDA announced preferred bidder as the Cavendish Flour Partnership (CFP) on 31.03.14. This transfer will enable significant cost savings

of approx £1billion. Transition agreement has been signed. The current PBO will remain in charge until share transfer on 01.09.14. Energy Solutions has commenced a legal challenge in the High Court for damages. This will not affect the transition and will not overturn the outcome of the competition.

- 2014-17 Business plan now published.
- Radioactive Waste Management Directorate became a wholly owned subsidiary of the NDA from 01.04.14. and have been renamed RWM Ltd. This subsidiary will become responsible for delivering Government policy on geological disposal.
- On 28th May DECC consultation on the management of overseas radioactive fuel closed.
- NDA Executive Board chairman has been re-appointed for a further three year term.
- 2013 UK Radioactive Waste Materials Inventory (published every 3 years) has been issued.
- MOD have published a potential list of five sites to store ILW from disused submarines, two of which are NDA sites (Sellafield and Chapelcross). Consultation on this expected later this year.
- New NDA website should now go live on Monday 9th June.

2329 Chair questioned the article about the management of separated plutonium on page 4 of the May update and in particular questioned the credible option for the re-use as MOX in light water reactors. Mr Jenkin clarified that the current plan was that the separated plutonium would be stored for approx 140 years and that the Government's preferred option was for re-use. NDA have considered the credible options for re-use and detailed three: as MOX in light water reactors, in CANDU EC6 reactors or in PRISM fast reactors. Not all options are 'market ready' and further work is necessary to confirm the technical and commercial feasibility of each.

2330 Mr Taylor asked if £1billion would be saved from Sizewell A decommissioning and heard that savings would be made from the lifetime decommissioning of the ten Magnox sites and the two research sites.

2331 Mr Taylor expressed concern that the Nuclear Liabilities Fund would have insufficient money to decommission nuclear reactors. Mr Jenkin advised that the NDA annually publish the estimated costs for decommissioning the NDA owned sites. The Nuclear Liabilities Fund was for decommissioning the EDF Energy sites and whilst the NDA has a role to ensure the fund is properly managed and contains sufficient funds based on comparisons with NDA costs for decommissioning, EDF Energy remains responsible for funding its decommissioning liabilities.

13. **SIZEWELL B REPORT**

2332 Martin Cubitt introduced himself as the Technical and Safety Manager at Sizewell B. He drew attention to the written report and provided a presentation that covered the following points:

- Safety: 1023 days since last EDF Energy lost time incident, 783 since last contractor lost time incident, 1290 days since last nuclear reportable event and 1468 days since last environmental reportable event.
- Staff: 560 staff including 49 apprentices. 250 contracting partners.
- Charging Pump Defect during April, testing on a charging pump revealed a defect on an oil pump cap. This has been repaired, has been reported to the regulator and is now the subject of an internal investigation.

- World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO): 30 International peers will visit the site in June for approx 3 weeks to consider the operation of Sizewell B against excellence.
- Emergency Exercise Eagle: level 3 testing of off-site emergency arrangements; judged adequate
- Dry Fuel Store: Work underway and old construction pad mostly removed with concrete waste to be re-used on site via the on-site concrete batching plant. Application to extend working hours now approved. Amendment to the travel plan, under consideration by Highways Agency, to enable transfer of small amounts of concrete once batching plant has left site. Public meeting to be arranged.
- Refuelling Outage 13: for six weeks around October with 12,500 tasks in addition to refuelling the reactor, with larger items including generator transformer exchange and Turbine 1 low pressure rotor replacements. More detail to be provided at next SSG meeting.
- Community News: sponsorship of Woodbridge wheelchair rugby team (£7,000). Four latest apprentices drawn from Suffolk schools.

- 2333 Mr Taylor referred to a recent news article that described the measurement of rainfall by the MET office as far more accurate. He questioned whether similar studies on site were able to prove that there could not be flooding of the reactor building. Mr Cubitt explained that the current safety case includes an assessment of external hazards, including heavy rainfall. Periodic (10yearly) safety review recently completed.
- 2334 Ms Girling commented that the written report previously circulated was very different from the presentation. Ms Spatchett advised this was a balance between providing the most current information in the slides and submission of a written report that was required one month in advance of the meeting.
- 2335 Ms Girling asked when an application for an ONR licence for the dry fuel store would be submitted. Mr Cubitt explained that there were a number of staged safety cases and several of these were currently being progressed. He advised that the building work was on track to complete at the end of 2014 and that non-active commissioning was likely to commence during the second quarter of 2015. **Mr Cubitt agreed to ascertain the planned date for the staged safety case submission to the ONR for full operation.**
- 2336 Ms Hoy advised that she had enquired about the steam being released from the side of the dome and had been advised by security guards that this was because of the oil-fired central heating. She expressed her confusion. Mr Cubitt advised that the site have oil-fired auxiliary boilers. Mr Tucker added that when these are tested this causes a release of steam from the west side of the dome. Steam driven pumps, auxiliary feed water pumps and steam release valves also release clean steam when tested and without an indication of date and time it was difficult to advise which of these had caused the steam observed. A short while later the 'cloud' observed over the dome was queried and explained as likely to be steam.
- 2337 Ms Hoy questioned whether EDF Energy intends to pulse emissions from the site rather than have continuous releases. When the operators advised they hadn't heard about this, **Ms Hoy agreed to provide the source of this information and requested a written reply.**
- 2338 Chair expressed her surprise that work was proceeding with the dry fuel store yet there was no certainty that it would be commissioned by the ONR. Chair questioned whether there would be recourse to the Nuclear Liabilities Fund (NLF) if the commissioning did not happen. Mr Cubitt confirmed that a repayment would be made to the NLF if commissioning did not happen, however, EDF Energy remain confident that an appropriate case will be made to enable full commissioning.

2339 Chair questioned her understanding that the amendment to the travel plan was for contingency only yet the presentation suggested it would be applied after the batching plant had left site. Mr Cubitt explained that it was for contingency in case the batching plant failed and also for very small quantities of cement required once the batching plant had left site. **Chair advised she would check the planning documents.**

14. OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT

2340 Mr Gavin Smith, Sizewell B Inspector, drew attention to the written report (01.01.14 – 31.03.14.) and provided a short presentation detailing the following points:

- Periodic Report: good period of stable safe operation. Used fuel is stored in a safe and secure manner. No significant findings during site licence compliance inspection. Event involving emergency charging pump described this meeting.
- No significant findings with two System-based Inspections: Emergency diesel generators; site communication systems used to support delivery of emergency plan.
- Mid-cycle Safety Review: safety and performance since start of operation cycle 13 deemed adequate.
- Response to Events: entirely appropriate and prompt with internal investigation to ascertain cause and gain learning.
- Reduction in Risk: risk levels on Suffolk coast have reduced

2341 Ms Girling reminded the forum that she had previously referred to the 'tolerability of risk' document and commented that local people often perceive an intolerability of risk in that any risk associated with nuclear generation was intolerable. Mr G Smith advised that the ONR work with scientific quantification of risk and not with feelings.

2342 Mr G Smith introduced his successor, Mr Graham Moorcroft, to the forum, advising that Mr Moorcroft would be the Site Inspector from Monday 9th June. Chair led a vote of thanks to Mr G Smith for his contribution to SSG meetings and most notably the recent public meeting.

15. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT

2343 Chair reminded attendees that Environment Agency matters pertaining to both sites had been discussed earlier (section 11.)

16. CHAIR'S REPORT

2344 **Chair pledged to provide a formal written report covering the work of the SSG in the preceding year.**

17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2345 None.

Meeting closed at 22.47

Next SSG meeting: To be held on Thursday 11th September 2014 at Yoxford Village Hall, Yoxford at 09.30 for a 10.00 start.

Appendix 1: Declarations of Interest from SSG Members

Cllr Bailey:

- Receives a pension from the Electricity Supply Industry

Mr Betson:

- Station guide at Sizewell B
- Volunteer ranger – National Trust
- Member – RSPB

Mr Branton:

- Receives a pension from the Electricity Supply Industry

Cllr Fellowes:

- Councillor for Aldeburgh Town Council
- Conservative District Councillor for Aldeburgh and Aldringham and Thorpeness.
- Member of RSPB and National Trust

Mr Foy:

- Secretary of UNITE Energy Branch based at Sizewell covering A, B and newbuild sites.

Ms Girling:

- Chairperson of Campaign Against Nuclear Expansion (CANE)
- Secretary of Together Against Sizewell C (TASC)
- Member of RSPB, Suffolk Wildlife Trust, National Trust, Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth (Suffolk Coastal and National)

Cllr Hodgson:

- Receives a pension from the Electricity Supply Industry

Cllr Howard:

- Councillor on Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council
- Member of the Campaign Against Nuclear Expansion (CANE)
- Member of Together Against Sizewell C (TASC)

Cllr Nunn:

- Vice Chairman of Suffolk Coasts and Heaths AONB Joint Advisory Committee

Cllr Plant

- None

Cllr Robertson:

- Takes lodgers employed at the sites

Cllr N Smith:

- None

Mr R Smith

- None

Mr Taylor:

- Member of Suffolk Coastal Friends of the Earth
- Member of the Campaign Against Nuclear Expansion (CANE)
- Member of Together Against Sizewell C (TASC)

Mr Tucker:

- None

Mr Wilkinson:

- Advisor to the Campaign Against Nuclear Expansion (CANE)
- Associate of the Nuclear Waste Advisory Associates
- Consultant to the Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Member of the UK Government's Geological Disposal Implementation board.
- Acting Chairperson of Together Against Sizewell C (TASC)