

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SIZEWELL A & B STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG)
HELD AT THE RIVERSIDE CENTRE, STRATFORD ST ANDREW
ON THURSDAY 6th MARCH 2014 AT 10.00**

PRESENT

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| 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 T Branton | - Co-opted Member |
| Mr M Clark | - Co-opted Member |
| Mr T Cooper | - Co-opted Member |
| Ms J Girling | - Co-opted Member |
| Ms T Green | - Representing Therese Coffey MP |
| Cllr T Hodgson | - Suffolk Association of Local Councils |
| Ms P Hogan | - Sizewell Residents' Association |
| Cllr W H Howard | - Leiston-cum-Sizewell Town Council |
| Cllr M Jones | - Aldringham-cum-Thorpe & Knodishall Parish Councils |
| Cllr S Robertson | - Westleton Parish Council |
| Mr C Tucker | - Sizewell B Staff Representative |
| Mr D West | - Suffolk Wildlife Trust |
| Mr P Wilkinson | - Co-opted Member |

IN ATTENDANCE

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| Dr C Barnes | - Suffolk Coastal District Council |
| Ms M Barnes | - EDF Energy Communications |
| Mr J Benn | - Sizewell B Plant Manager |
| Dr L Franks | - SSG Clerk |
| Mr D Gregory | - Office for Nuclear Regulation Sizewell A Inspector |
| Mr P Hetherington | - Magnox |
| Dr G Hopkin | - Office for Nuclear Regulation Sizewell B Inspector |
| Mr A Lord | - Environment Agency |
| Dr R M ^{ac} Gregor | - Environment Agency Sizewell A Inspector |
| Mr C Mann | - Sizewell A Plant Manager |
| Mr S Parr | - Environment Agency incoming Sizewell B Inspector |
| Mr A Pynn | - Environment Agency incoming Sizewell A Inspector |
| Mr R Proctor | - SSG Secretariat |
| Dr S Runacres | - Food Standards Agency |
| Mr G Smith | - Office for Nuclear Regulation Sizewell B Inspector |
| Ms N Spatchett | - Sizewell B Community Liaison Officer |
| PC D Thompson | - Civil Nuclear Constabulary |
| Mr T Watkins | - Sizewell A Site Director |

And five members of the public

CHAIR'S OPENING COMMENTS

2162 Chair welcomed all attendees and expressed gratitude to those that had attended the Special Meeting held the previous evening.

I PUBLIC FORUM

2163 Mr Griffith-Jones introduced himself and advertised the Shut Down Sizewell Campaign meeting being held on Tuesday 11th March at 19.30 at the Aldeburgh Baptist Church called "Fukushima – is Aldeburgh really safe?", on the third anniversary of the event.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2164 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr D Bailey, Dr A Burt, Cllr M Chandler (represented by Cllr M Jones who is to be the permanent representative forthwith), Dr T Coffey (represented by Ms T Green), Mr S Cook, Mr D Foy, Cllr A Nunn, Cllr N Smith, Mr J Crawford (represented by Mr J Benn), Mr J Jenkin and Mr G M^cMeekan (represented by Mr S Parr). Chair noted that although the NDA were unable to send representation today they had regularly attended previous SSG meetings.

2165 Declarations of Interest from SSG members were updated as detailed in appendix 1.

III(a) MINUTES OF THE SSG MEETING HELD 05.12.13.

2166 The minutes of the meeting of the SSG held on 5th December 2013 were agreed (12 for, 0 against, 3 abstentions) as an accurate record subject to paragraph 2146 being amended to read:

"Chair reminded attendees that the process of moving fuel ~~to~~ from the dry fuel store to the GDF had been questioned previously and a response circulated."

2167 Chair proposed that a new action is generated to question the movement of fuel to the dry fuel store. Cllr Hodgson questioned whether this would include the method of transport to be used. Mr Benn clarified that he understood the enquiry was concerning the movement of fuel from wet storage (fuel pond) into casks and movement of these casks to the dry fuel store. Mr Benn advised he would accept this as an action and cautioned that some elements may be classified. Mr Wilkinson asked why aspects of the process may be classified and Mr Benn responded that it was unknown whether anything was classified until he had looked into this matter. Mr Taylor questioned how the dry fuel store was ventilated and Mr Benn acknowledged that these aspects should be included in the response. Ms Girling sought and received reassurance that a response would be sought before the next SSG meeting. Members voted 11 for, 0 against and 4 abstentions to agree the following action: **EDF Energy to explain how fuel will be moved from wet storage into casks and subsequently into the dry fuel store and to clarify the ventilation arrangements for the dry fuel store.**

2168 Ms Green advised that Dr Coffey was opposed to the sub group being delegated responsibility to formulate a response to the 05.03.14. Special Meeting and decide the next steps taken. Chair clarified that this was a recommendation on the minutes of sub group meeting held 26.02.14. and explained that due to the close proximity of the Special Meeting and the full SSG meeting, this recommendation had been proposed to enable any outcomes of the Special Meeting to be considered and acted upon by the sub group. Mr Proctor added further clarification and members debated this matter briefly. **Chair agreed to contact Dr Coffey regarding her opposition to this matter.**

III(b) MINUTES OF THE SSG SUB-GROUP MEETING HELD 26.02.14.

- 2169 Mr Taylor asked for clarification of the cause of the reactor shutdown described in paragraph 3.26 and Mr Benn confirmed that this would be explained during his presentation clarifying that the reactor was manually shutdown and did not trip.
- 2170 Cllr Howard asked whether the questions raised in paragraph 3.07 were answered by the ONR at the Special Meeting held 05.03.14. and heard that question 7, regarding the confidence with which flaws could be detected, was debated at length, Q6, regarding access to records, was confirmed and Q5, regarding metallurgical inspections, was raised.
- 2171 **Chair advised that a transcript of questions and answers from the Special Meeting was being prepared and would be circulated to members, that the written response from ONR to those questions not answered last night would be circulated to members and that all questions and answers would be submitted to EDF Energy for any additional comment and that these would also be circulated to members.**
- 2172 Mr Wilkinson referred to Q26 regarding the use of MOX fuel. He advised that the answer received at the Special meeting was that MOX fuel will not be used at Sizewell B. Chair clarified the reply received as that there had been no application made to use MOX fuel and that the safety case would have to be made should MOX fuel be used in the future. Mr Wilkinson asked if this question could be resubmitted for a fuller answer and Chair suggested that EDF Energy may be able to explain what the implications would be if MOX fuel were to be used at Sizewell B or C. A debate about whether Sizewell C considerations should be part of this meeting ensued. **Chair advised that Q26 would be submitted to EDF Energy, the NDA and DECC for further comment.**
- 2173 Ms Girling led a vote of formal thanks to the clerk for capturing the questions raised at the sub group meeting, enabling their submission to ONR in advance of the Special Meeting.
- 2174 Ms Girling suggested that the last sentence of paragraph 3.32 was amended to read "JG later suggested that a date, within 3 to 4 weeks, for the next sub group meeting to be decided at the full SSG meeting on 06.03.14."
- 2175 Members indicated their approval for the corrections detailed above (12 for, 0 against, 4 abstentions).
- 2176 Chair read through the actions and recommendations from section 3, clarifying that the second item was for the SSG to authorise the sub group to consider the questions and answers resulting from the Special Meeting held 05.03.14 and take actions to progress this matter. A vote was held: 13 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions. It was noted that the role of the Emergency Response Centre would be clarified during the Sizewell B presentation today.
- 2177 Chair drew attention to section 4 actions and recommendations and item one, to invite A.Osman to the June meeting, was unanimously approved, item two regarding the dry fuel store, was noted as approved earlier (paragraph 2167).

III(c) ACTION TRACKER

- 2178 Mr Wilkinson drew attention to the Public Health England action (ref 2131) and it was noted that this was awaiting closure. Mr Wilkinson advised that he was not satisfied with the answers received to questions raised and Chair suggested that the questions and answers were considered during a sub group meeting and that the action remain ongoing. Members voted and agreed this proposal (12 for, 0 against, 4 abstentions).
- 2179 Chair read through the remaining actions and sought comment from members regarding the status of each. Dr Robertson led a vote of thanks to Dr Hopkin and Mr Smith for

providing clarity at the Special Meeting held last night (ref action 1681). Members voted (15 for, 0 against, 1 abstention) to support proposed changes in the status for each action. It was noted that the following actions remain ongoing: 2108, 2131, 2149, 1911, 1681, the rest were now closed.

IV OPTIMISED FOOD MONITORING PROGRAMME (FOOD STANDARDS AGENCY)

- 2180 Dr S Runacres introduced himself and gave a presentation that described the rationale that led to the radiological programme review and consultation in 2013 and described the outcomes and the policy now being implemented. The following points were noted:
- Monitoring programme established in 1950's and organically grown - review necessary following new science published by the IAEA and discussed with the EA, the FSA and CEFAS.
 - Three tiers based on dose assessments in RiFE reports: top tier >100µSv; Mid tier 20-100µSv and bottom tier < 20µSv.
 - Public consultation offered 3 options: continue as current; cease FSA monitoring; implement optimised monitoring based on risk.
 - 29 different responders – responses on FSA website – that unanimously supported continuing with monitoring; 17 supported optimised monitoring.
 - FSA board approved optimised programme with review June 2015
 - New schedule of monitoring - 14 samples/year around Sizewell.
- 2181 Questions were invited and Mr Tucker asked how the new number of samples around Sizewell compared with that previously taken and heard that this was now far fewer. Dr Runacres explained that the budget for sampling and analysis for the UK has dropped by half but that cuts were not necessarily evenly distributed. He added that each site would be reviewed and a targeted approach, in conjunction with the EA, would be undertaken, using intelligence from each site about pulses in discharges to ensure that timing of sampling was optimised to capture any discharge peaks.
- 2182 Cllr Howard drew attention to the new programme, commented that there were no samples of quick fruiting plants, questioned whether home produced products were sampled and asked whether sampling was contracted out. Dr Runacres confirmed the latter and explained that samples were collected from areas identified in the habit surveys. He explained that samples would be drawn from different crops in different years.
- 2183 Mr Taylor asked how the confidence in contractors was measured. Dr Runacres advised that a procurement process was undertaken that considered a spectrum of high calibre providers and eventually selected the contractor that had been used previously.
- 2184 Ms Girling advised that she had previously been interviewed by CEFAS, as she grows a large amount of home produce and undertakes hedge-gathering, questioning whether this practice of interviewing would continue. Dr Runacres confirmed that it would but that the frequency may vary. He explained that this forms part of the habit survey. Ms Girling asked how many people were surveyed and heard that this information was contained in the habit survey reports. Dr Runacres explained that whilst he could not recall specific details, his understanding was that several interviews were conducted over a two day period.
- 2185 Mr Wilkinson expressed concern that a single potato, 2 fishes, one crab, one mussel etc would be collected under the new programme. Dr Runacres clarified that although it was a single sample, this would be of sufficient quantity to undertake all the planned analysis so would amount to several kilo's of potatoes, 2-3kg of mussel flesh weight etc.
- 2186 Mr Wilkinson asked about where samples were collected from and whether this would be down wind of the plant, at certain times of the year, taking the prevailing weather into account etc. Dr Runacres explained the goal that all of these factors would be considered,

hence the closer working with the Environment Agency to understand when and where to take samples.

- 2187 Mr Wilkinson questioned whether the optimised approach meant that remote monitoring would no longer be undertaken, commenting that this had previously provided background levels of radiation. Dr Runacres advised that the regulations required that background monitoring was undertaken. He added that he was meeting with other European technical experts to make these regulations fit for purpose.
- 2188 Mr Wilkinson commented that the optimised approach was 'risk-based' and questioned whether this was using the 3 tier dose limits. Dr Runacres confirmed this and that the ongoing debate about linear and non-linear effect would be considered when reviewing the dose levels for each tier next year. Mr Wilkinson suggested that the concept of dose currently in use had been discredited and that a very small dose may cause a disproportionate effect. Dr Runacres explained that ENDOR and COMARE advise on the dose calculations used in the report, adding that the FSA attempt to use the best scientific advice available and if the science and evidence changes, then the approach will change. Mr Wilkinson asked if all the different scientific viewpoints are taken into account when calculating risk and Dr Runacres said he could not answer this.
- 2189 Ms Hogan asked how the FSA would be informed about increases in levels of release and how this knowledge would impact upon sampling. Dr Runacres was unclear whether the information would come directly to the FSA in all cases or via the EA or other sources and gave an example of a recent event where he was provided with information from several sources. Dr Runacres added that this information enabled timely sampling and that the goal was to understand the timing of planned events in addition to reacting to unplanned events.
- 2190 Chair commented that whilst she supported a risk-based approach, that she felt Sizewell has lost out in comparison to other locations, such as Sellafield. She questioned how a spike in release would be detected by such a reduced level of sampling. Dr Runacres explained that the FSA monitoring was just one aspect of the monitoring undertaken and that the operators and the EA also carry out regular monitoring. He added that often there was a delay between a spike in release and appearance in foodstuffs. He explained that the risk-based approach to the FSA monitoring provided a more holistic approach.
- 2191 Mr Griffith-Jones asked if Dr Runacres was aware that 60% of early vegetable crops are grown in East Anglia and that wheat and potatoes are far less significant in terms of production levels. He questioned why the sampling was of the latter and not the early vegetable crops. Dr Runacres explained that it was the habit surveys (published on the FSA website) and consumption levels rather than production levels that were considered when designing sampling programmes. **Dr Runacres agreed to take an action to discuss production levels with contractors when redesigning the sampling programme.**
- 2192 Chair thanked Dr Runacres for his clear and comprehensive presentation.

The meeting paused for a short break at this point.

V SIZEWELL B REPORT

- 2193 Mr Benn drew attention to the written report and provided a presentation that covered the following points:
- Safety: 932 days since last EDF Energy lost time incident, 692 since last contractor lost time incident, 1199 days since last nuclear reportable event and 1377 days since last environmental reportable event.

- Staff: 571 staff including 49 apprentices. 250 contracting partners.
- Manual shutdown on 26.02.14 to carry out maintenance on one of the four reactor cooling pumps, following an alarm that indicated a low level of oil on a motor bearing. Reactor back to service on 27.02.14. Know that there is vapour loss through the bearing seals, however, an international team will be investigating why this bearing uses more oil than others.
- Minor Electrical Fire in February within some sampling equipment when a compressor overheated. This self extinguished but is being investigated as if it were a more significant event. Fire is recognised as a significant hazard.
- Dry Fuel Store: Concrete batching plant on site. Application to extend working hours on a Saturday to 6pm and to amend the approved travel plan to enable movement between Cemex and the site if the on-site batching plant breaks down and urgent supplies of concrete are required. On track for end date of December 2014.
- Development Proposals: proposals for an off-site transformer storage yard on Eastlands Industrial Estate and to move the existing District Survey Lab into the Emergency Response Centre to be submitted to Suffolk Coastal District Council.
- Emergency Response Centre: showcase event Dec 2013, formal completion March 2014 when recruitment and training of staff will commence. Fully operational later this year. Open evening event being planned for staff and SSG members.
- Community News: local sponsorships described. Sizewell B celebrates 19th birthday.

- 2194 **Chair proposed that she and the Deputy Chair attend Sizewell B site to ensure concerns and questions about the dry fuel store are addressed and reported to SSG members.**
- 2195 Mr Branton commented on the enviable safety record and questioned whether support arrangements were in place for the individuals that eventually do have a lost time accident. Mr Benn advised that the site actively encourage low level reporting (for example, a simple paper cut) to encourage a culture of open reporting so that if a significant event did happen it would be just another event. Mr Branton clarified that it was the stigma of resetting the days since Lost Time Incident to zero that he was concerned about.
- 2196 Ms Hogan thanked EDF Energy for the meeting held for Sizewell residents regarding the dry fuel store and expressed disappointment that residents were not informed about the manual shutdown on 26.02.14. Ms Hogan stressed the importance of keeping the local residents informed. Chair concurred and asked that the SSG were also updated. Mr Benn agreed to take this on board. Ms Hogan advised that she had attended the Emergency Response Centre showcase and had found this very interesting.
- 2197 Ms Girling referred to the travel plan if Cemex concrete was to be used and expressed concern that this was via Waterloo Road, expressing the view that this was not suitable for heavy vehicles. Chair questioned whether there would be consultation prior to approval and Mr Benn replied that he was unsure and that this was for contingency only. Cllr Hodgson advised that Leiston Town Council were bemused that the road to Kelsale had been improved and was not being used for Cemex lorries. **Mr Benn agreed to take an action to ascertain from colleagues how the route from Cemex to site was decided upon. Chair agreed to ask the Suffolk County Council highways department about whether consultation or local views were being considered.**
- 2198 Ms Girling referred to the proposed move of the District Survey Lab into the Emergency Response Centre and enquired what the current site would be used for. Mr Benn advised that the building would be demolished, that the low level communications hub retained and that there were no further plans for use of the site at this time.

- 2199 Ms Girling sought and received reassurance that the dry fuel store was scheduled for completion at the end of this year.
- 2200 Mr Wilkinson sought and received confirmation that Sizewell B was due to operate until 2036. He estimated that there would be approximately 600tonnes of spent fuel generated that would be transferred to the dry fuel store until the 'notional' repository was available, possibly from 2075. He suggested that this likely to be delayed and, if so, that this would mean spent fuel was on site until at least 2100. Mr Benn advised he was not in a position to confirm this. Mr Wilkinson asked who would take responsibility for the spent fuel if EDF Energy were to disappear. Mr Benn explained he was not in a position to answer this and requested that these questions were sent to EDF Energy in advance of meetings to enable a response to be formulated. Chair suggested that this question was addressed to the NDA. Mr Wilkinson also questioned what compensation would be offered to the local community in respect of long term storage of spent fuel and what waste inventory can be expected to be stored long term in the dry fuel store. **Chair summarised that these and other questions about the dry fuel store warrant further attention and proposed that this topic was a separate agenda item at the next SSG meeting.** Members indicated their agreement.
- 2201 Mr Wilkinson requested that John Busby was invited to give a presentation about steam venting by Sizewell B at a future SSG meeting. **Chair agreed to ensure that this topic was considered at the next SSG sub group meeting with a view to inclusion on a future SSG meeting agenda.**
- 2202 Mr Taylor advised that Sizewell B plant status on the EDF website was not being updated on a daily basis. Mr Benn agreed to take that back to colleagues.
- 2203 Mr Taylor raised concerns about the Hinkley C contract and Chair advised that this was not appropriate for discussion at this meeting.
- 2204 Mr Taylor sought clarification of whether the bearings on the cooling pump were rolling bearings and heard they were not.
- 2205 Mr Taylor asked about staffing levels and appropriate training to manage the fleet of large goods vehicles at the Emergency Response Centre. Mr Benn explained the strategic plan was to have two out of the three trained operators allocated per shift, always available to operate this equipment leaving the third to undertake update training as required.
- 2206 Chair asked Mr Benn to take further questions after the ONR report had been received as Mr Smith had to leave shortly. This was agreed (see below)

VI OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT

- 2207 Mr Gavin Smith, Sizewell B Inspector, thanked the SSG for the positive feedback regarding the meeting held last night. He drew attention to the written report (01.10.13 - 31.12.13.) and provided a short presentation detailing the following points:
- ONR Chief Inspector's Report: No incidents reported requiring formal investigation and adequate demonstration of emergency arrangements in Oct 2013.
 - Compliance Inspection: clean air system meets safety case requirements and is well maintained.
 - Intermediate level Waste (ILW): outcomes of joint inspection with EA reflect safe processing of ILW resins with good safe progress of resins into casks.
 - DEPZ update: principles for determination on ONR website, rigorous internal assessments ongoing, outcome to be announced once process complete. Current DEPZ remains at 2.4km.

- 2208 Cllr Howard suggested that the situation regarding the tri-annual review of Emergency Arrangements was now illegal as the DEPZ had yet to be determined. Mr Gregory refuted this advising that the duty is upon the licensee to review their case and not upon the ONR to consider this review.
- 2209 At the request of the Chair, **Mr Smith agreed to take an action to determine the latest time for the announcement of the DEPZ determination.**
- 2210 Chair asked about the emergency demonstration and heard that part of the strategic thinking was for off-site countermeasures.
- 2211 Mr Griffith-Jones sought details of the ONR internal structure changes and was referred to paragraph 2152 of the SSG minutes from 05.12.13. Mr Smith reiterated these changes and it was noted that the new structure is available on the ONR website.
- 2212 Chair thanked Mr Smith and Dr Hopkin for their attendance and for the substantive work put into answering the questions raised about hydrogen flaking.

V SIZEWELL B REPORT (continued)

- 2213 Mr Benn agreed to take further questions at this point and Cllr Howard referred to the dry fuel store and expressed concern about the changes proposed to the travel plans and to the noise and dust generated by concrete crushing on site. **Mr Benn advised he would take the concern about the travel plans back to the planning team.** Chair added her concern about all the changes made since the original planning application was granted and took an **action to investigate this and raise this at the District Council level (Planning Authority).**
- 2214 Mr Taylor asked if anyone was employed on a zero hours contract and heard that only those employed in the visitors centre were on this type of contract.
- 2215 Ms Girling sought confirmation of when members were likely to be updated about the dry fuel store. Chair advised her intention to email all members to ensure that all concerns about the dry fuel store had been captured, for the Deputy Chair and herself to then meet with Mr Benn on site to shape the information that could then come back to a sub-group meeting for consideration. Formal approval for this action was unanimously received.

VII ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT

- 2216 Mr Parr introduced himself as the Incoming EA Inspector (from April), advised that he was in the transition phase of handover from the outgoing Inspector, Mr M^cMeekan and drew attention to the report dated 06.03.14.
- 2217 Chair expressed concern about the frequency with which EA Inspectors are changed. Mr Parr advised that changing Inspectors was helpful to ensure a fresh perspective and that an Inspector was likely to stay on one site for 3-5years. It was noted that there was a small group of specialist Inspectors (total of ~40 in the UK) and that incoming work like new build or individuals leaving the service had an impact on resources leading to periods of churn.
- 2218 Mr Taylor reminded attendees that he had raised a concern and had been reassured that job cuts within the EA would not impact the nuclear division. He recognised that recent issues with flooding had put the EA under strain and questioned whether this had impacted on any decisions about manning levels. Mr Parr explained this should not impact on the nuclear division as this group were funded by charging the operators and not from Government funding of the EA. However, agency resources may be re-directed to support urgent flood responses rather than kept on routine nuclear site inspections.

- 2219 Ms Girling asked how frequently the seawater near Sizewell was monitored and what analysis was undertaken. Mr Parr explained he was unclear whether the EA routinely monitored seawater near Sizewell as there was a monitoring point near Lowestoft, and agreed to take an **action to find out what samples the EA take, what they analyse these samples for and report back this information to the SSG.**
- 2220 Chair referred to the report and questioned what work the EA had undertaken with ONR colleagues on the development of the design for the proposed dry fuel store. Mr Parr explained that this was about the development of the safety case and that whilst this was led by ONR, the EA have a supporting review role. He added that Mr M^cMeekan and himself had attended a meeting recently to ensure that the expectations of the EA are included in this project. Chair expressed her concern that the planning permission has been granted and yet the design of the dry fuel store is still being formulated.
- 2221 Mr Gregory clarified that the ONR would expect to see regular regulatory meetings until the facility was fully operational to check that what was being built was what was designed and that the construction and operation was undertaken safely. Chair asked if there was any major change in design whether the public or the District Council would be consulted with and Mr Gregory concurred explaining that the meetings primarily checked that what had been given permission for was being implemented.
- 2222 Mr Taylor questioned why the District Council chose not to discuss the ventilation of the dry fuel store, given that this was raised as a concern. **Dr C Barnes agreed to take an action to raise this matter and report back to the SSG.** Ms Girling advised that she had written to the District Council about the dry fuel store on 26.03.13. and had received a reply. Ms Girling proposed that the Chair write again to the District Council on behalf of the SSG about their role with enforcing the conditions that were set as part of granting planning permission. **Chair agreed to take an action to consider the letter and response, consult with the District Council representative and try and get an answer from the planning authority.**

VIII SIZEWELL A REPORT

- 2223 Mr Watkins reported on recent activities at the Sizewell A site, referring to a written report which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The following points were noted during the presentation:
- Safety Performance: remains good. “Not driving a statistic, driving a culture.”
 - Storage of Waste: low and intermediate level waste now stored separately. Important to establish robust storage procedures as the site moves into the waste generation phase.
 - Defueling: more than 85% defueled with fewer than 50 flasks still to ship. On target to achieve following:
 - dispatch 240tonnes of fuel by end of March 2013
 - completely defuel reactors by June 2014.
 - dispatch all fuel by September 2014
 Site then requires fuel-free verification with ONR confirmation.
 - Transition: once declared fuel-free there will be a reduction in Magnox staff by circa 80 (25-30%) by March 2014. Best-fit structure completed to ensure retention of skilled staff to enable decommissioning. All staff are now aware of their individual futures. Stress and distraction of change has been recognised. Training and familiarisation programmes are ongoing.
 - Active Effluent Treatment Plant (AETP) tank refurbishment: final monitoring and delay tank 1 now back in service. Programme of refurbishment continues.
 - Turbine Hall: Asbestos removal due to commence in April. Enables future demolition.

- Fuelling Machines: once defueled the expertise gained from maintaining the equipment will be used to dismantle the fuelling machines.
- Community: Socio-economic fund has lowest take-up locally compared with rest of fleet. Applications for funding invited via www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com. Several projects described.
- Original Painting: Impressionist painting of construction of site by Ken Cuthbert found and restored. Mr Cuthbert invited to site.

2224 Cllr Jones suggested that the site liaise with the local job centre about those individuals leaving Magnox employment. Mr Watkins explained that many of those leaving are retiring, however, this suggestion would be taken back to human resources. Cllr Jones asked what opportunities for employment there would be on site and heard that experience would be drawn from existing employees from other sites or via experienced contractors. Local recruitment by contractors may occur.

2225 Ms Girling thanked Mr Watkins for his clear presentation, suggested that the Ken Cuthbert picture may be press worthy and that there would be considerable local interest in seeing this and also having an on-site event to understand the current status of the site. Mr Watkins concurred. A short discussion about local memories ensued and it was agreed that this was a matter of industrial and engineering heritage. Mr Watkins suggested that Mr Hetherington might like to follow this up and consider other records from that time (photographic, film etc).

2226 Cllr Howard asked what would happen to the graphite and heard that this would stay on site as part of the safe store for future disposal. Cllr Howard questioned what level of deterioration could be expected and heard this was likely to be minimal.

2227 Ms Green asked about applying for socio-economic funding and whether there was online support for the process. Mr Watkins advised that it was all on line but that the site were happy to provide assistance.

IX OFFICE FOR NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT

2228 Mr Gregory referred to his report dated 01.10.13. – 31.12.13. and asked if members would find a presentation useful. Chair commented that slides to present any updates to the report would be useful in future.

2229 Mr Gregory referred to the visits of ONR specialists to site and it was noted that one was part of a programme of chemistry inspections of spent fuel ponds across the Magnox fleet and one considered site organisational resilience. These and the routine inspections were all satisfactory.

2230 The most recent emergency exercise was demonstrated to a satisfactory level in January and took on board learning from the previous demonstration.

2231 Once the site has been verified fuel-free, the ONR will consider granting two permissions:

- safety case for operation post-defuelling
- emergency planning – this will determine the minimum staffing levels on site.

2232 No questions were forthcoming

X ENVIRONMENT AGENCY REPORT (EA)

2233 Mr Pynn introduced himself explaining that the hand-over from Dr M^{ac}Gregor, the outgoing Inspector was now complete and that the latter was in attendance at the meeting for the last

time. He advised that since the last report he had conducted two inspections (management of low level waste; gaseous waste management) both with satisfactory outcomes.

2234 Mr Pynn advised that there had been no environmentally significant events and that all discharges had been well within permitted levels

2235 Mr Pynn referred to the response to the Tim Deere-Jones article and apologised that the response provided was not what was required. He explained that the article was being given further scrutiny, in partnership with the FSA, to generate a joint point-by-point response. He advised that the monitoring undertaken by the EA and the FSA was not intended to characterise everything in the environment but to function as a check and as such it was fit for purpose. The site were responsible for undertaking routine monitoring and that it is only when anomalies are reported that the EA and FSA then ramp up their monitoring to check for impact.

2236 Cllr Howard questioned whether the EA are confident that the site provides all the information needed, given that the operators are commercially driven. Mr Pynn explained that the EA audits the monitoring arrangements to ensure systems and processes are in place and to give confidence that the required monitoring and reporting will happen.

XI NUCLEAR DECOMMISSIONING AUTHORITY REPORT

2237 Chair reminded attendees that the NDA were unable to send representation today and drew attention to the March Monthly Update and in particular to the anticipated outcomes of the Magnox/ RSRL competition due end of March. Chair later stressed the importance of monitoring the impact of the change in parent body in terms of the culture on site and the future communication with the SSG.

2238 Chair invited questions and Ms Girling reminded attendees about question 26 regarding MOX fuel discussed in paragraph 2172. Ms Girling suggested that this should be on a future SSG meeting agenda. This was discussed and concern about the future of MOX fuel was expressed. Mr Taylor gave his view that DECC infers that Sizewell B will use this as source of fuel in the future and that the abundance of MOX fuel is used as a justification for new build. Chair sought clarity of where this view was expressed and Mr Taylor said he was not sure but it may be the National Policy Statement. Chair agreed to undertake research about this and to ask the NDA to address this topic. Ms Girling asked that environmental contamination associated with MOX fuel also need to be addressed.

XII CHAIR'S REPORT

2239 Chair verbally reported that she had been involved in the following:

- discussions about socio-economic applications.
- the administration, planning and facilitating of meetings including the Special Meeting about the Sizewell B Reactor Pressure Vessel.
- progressing the action tracker.

2240 Chair thanked the Deputy Chair for attending the opening of the Emergency Response Centre and for chairing the sub group meeting. Mr Taylor thanked all those that attended the latter.

XIII ANY OTHER BUSINESS

2240 None.

Meeting closed at 13.25

Next SSG meeting: Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday 5th June 2014 at The Market Hall, Saxmundham IP17 1AF at 18.30 for 19.00 start to include review of the SSG Constitution.

DRAFT

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

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 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)