

# NDA Monthly Update

## October 2014

### Summary

- Last few places at Supply Chain Event
- Extra lease of life for Wylfa
- Research bursary available
- NDA leads risk management forum
- New PBO in place at Magnox Ltd and RSRL
- Office block boost for town
- Last fuel leaves Sizewell
- Quayside project under way
- Nuclear licence lifted from Harwell plots of land
- Mixed rail loads bring benefits
- College plan receives £5 million of government funding

### Diary Dates

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|--|-----------------|
| • NDA National Stakeholder Event, Birmingham | 29 October 2014 |
| • RWM Stakeholder Event, Birmingham          | 30 October 2014 |
| • NDA Estate Supply Chain Event              | 6 November 2014 |
| • MoD begin consultation on submarine waste  | November 2014   |

## NDA Monthly Update – October 2014

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### Act now to secure place at Supply Chain Event

Only a handful of exhibition spaces remain as plans are finalised for next month's NDA Estate Supply Chain Event 2014 in Manchester. Now the largest event of its kind in Europe, the aim of the day, at EventCity, on 6 November, is to provide greater visibility of contracting opportunities across the NDA's 19 UK sites, through informal networking and access to senior figures from the decommissioning sector. The event will feature 260 business stands plus more than 1,000 delegates, as well as a range of presentations by representatives from the UK Government, NDA and the Site Licence Companies.

[Weblink: Register now](#)

### Extra lease of life for Wylfa

Wylfa power station has been granted an extra year of life and will continue generating electricity until December 2015. Originally scheduled to close in 2010, the Anglesey plant has been granted a number of lifetime extensions after demonstrating to the regulators that it can continue to meet a stringent set of safety requirements. Wylfa's twin reactors, which began operating in 1970, once supplied enough electricity for almost half of Wales. Reactor 2 stopped generating last year while Reactor 1 has continued using partially used fuel transferred from the shut-down reactor. The extension will deliver additional income to the taxpayer of up to £785 million since 2010.

[Weblink: Wylfa lifetime extension](#)

### Research bursary available

Up to £500,000 is available from NDA's 2015 PhD bursary scheme. Applications are open for funding for research across the areas of: radionuclide characterisation; waste packaging and storage; land quality; decommissioning; spent fuel and nuclear material; research not covered by other themes but of benefit to the NDA's mission. Funding will be available to academic institutions and sub-contractors where the bursary is used as a grant top-up to access national facilities for research involving the handling of radioactive materials. Proposals must be submitted by 4 November using the form on the National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL) website.

[Weblink: Research bursaries](#)

### NDA leads national risk forum

More than 50 risk specialists gathered in Cumbria for the largest-ever annual forum focused on risk management across the NDA estate. Participants included the SLCs, the NDA's subsidiaries DRS and INS, regulators, the wider nuclear industry, the Institute of Risk Management, and other professionals. The event was preceded by a tour of Sellafield, the UK's most challenging nuclear complex.

[Weblink: Risk Management Forum](#)

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### New Parent Body Organisation sets to work

Manchester's Museum of Science and Industry was the backdrop for stakeholders who gathered to mark the NDA's formal award of a new Parent Body Organisation (PBO) contract to The Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP). More than £1.5 billion of savings for the public purse are anticipated as CFP now begins to implement its plans for Magnox Ltd and Research Sites Restoration Ltd, continuing with the decades-long programme of work to decommission 10 of the UK's first nuclear power stations and the two pioneering research facilities. The SLCs will continue to operate the sites on behalf of the NDA.

[Weblink: Share transfer event](#)

### New office block to bring 1,000 workers to town

Construction work is now complete on a new £multi-million office block that is set to bring 1,000 Sellafield workers into the centre of Whitehaven. The complex was commissioned by the NDA's own property company (NDA Properties Ltd) to transfer staff from Sellafield, freeing up space for decommissioning, reducing traffic to the nuclear site and helping to regenerate the town centre. The development is a joint project between the NDA, Sellafield Ltd, Nuclear Management Partners, Britain's Energy Coast and Copeland Borough Council.

[Weblink: Offices boost for town centre](#)

### Last fuel leaves Sizewell A

The last container of spent nuclear fuel has now left Sizewell A, removing 99% of the radioactive hazard from the former power station. The defueling was successfully completed ahead of a target set by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). The A site is now fuel-free for the first time in almost half a century, marking a major decommissioning milestone. Since electricity generation ended in 2006, more than 52,000 individual fuel elements have been systematically removed and transported to Sellafield for reprocessing, packaged in 50-tonne shielded flasks.

[Weblink: Sizewell defuelling](#)

### Quayside project under way

A £375,000 award, funded by NDA and EnergySolutions, will help to develop a £3 million office accommodation project at Ardrossan Quayside. The project is one of a number being developed by Irvine Bay Regeneration Company to regenerate the town which is located near the Hunterston A site. The project is being funded through grants won by Irvine Bay Regeneration Company: £1.8 million from the Scottish Government's Capital Regeneration Fund; £463,000 from the European Regional Development Fund; £375,000 from the NDA and £196,000 from HUB SouthWest.

[Weblink: Quayside project for town](#)

## NDA Monthly Update – October 2014

### A quarter of Harwell site delicensed

The nuclear licence has been lifted from two plots of land at the Harwell site. The delicensed total is now 25 hectares, or around 30 football pitches, and represents 25% of the original licensed area. One area lies on the Eastern boundary, next to land already released for new uses, and previously housed active workshops, experimental facilities, the active laundry and the boiler houses. The second, smaller area lies behind the location of the Harwell Variable Energy Cyclotron (VEC). The VEC played an important role in the research and development of neutron therapy used in the treatment of diseases such as cancer.

[Weblink: A quarter of Harwell site delicensed](#)

### “Mixed load” by rail delivers benefits

In a landmark move for the nuclear industry, a ‘mixed load’ of radioactive materials was shipped by train from the Berkeley Railhead to Sellafield. Flasks containing spent fuel from Oldbury were loaded alongside containers of packaged Intermediate Level Waste from Harwell. Historically, the transport of these loads have always operated separately. However, NDA concluded that sharing loads would deliver savings and environmental benefits. A long period of planning, stakeholder and regulatory engagement was required to enable the first shared transport in July.

[Weblink: “Mixed load” by rail delivers benefits](#)

### New fund to help decommissioning

An NDA-backed scheme which helps small businesses develop decommissioning technologies has launched a partnership with Sellafield that aims to accelerate the clean-up of the site. Innovus has joined forces with Sellafield Ltd to offer a fund worth £397,500 which will help develop technologies to make the decommissioning of the site quicker, cheaper and safer. Sellafield Ltd provided the investment after a rash of applications for Innovus funding following its Nuclear Decommissioning Opportunities event in March.

[Weblink: New fund to help decommissioning](#)

### £5 million for engineering college plan

Part of the Berkeley Centre, which adjoins the Berkeley site, will be transformed into an engineering training centre for young people, after £5 million funding was announced by the Government. In a pioneering use of some of the NDA-owned ex- research facilities, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College will refurbish an old rig hall and a range of office buildings to create a state-of-the-art campus providing training in the renewable energy and nuclear sectors.

[Weblink: Berkeley Centre funding](#)