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Report on Oldbury Activities to SSG

July 2014

Safety and Compliance

Throughout the period, the site has maintained compliance with all operating rules limits and conditions and all maintenance schedule requirements.

In terms of conventional safety performance, the site has not had a lost time accident since January 2013. However, the site is aware of how easily these runs can be broken, as demonstrated by a recent near miss when a hook and chain weighing 18kg became detached from the pile cap crane and fell to the pile cap. Nobody was nearby but the site understands the importance of the “free learning” from such events and, as such, initiated an immediate investigation into the event.

With respect to radiological performance, a flatrol rail wagon, used to transport flasks filled with spent nuclear fuel from Oldbury site, was found to have small fragments of contaminated debris on its arrival at Sellafield. The rail wagons are securely locked during shipments of spent fuel and no staff or members of the public were exposed to radiation at any point during the transport operations. An investigation is in progress to identify improvements and the incident has been reported to the regulators.

In early July the site hosted the second annual regulatory review of safety, environmental and security performance. This was an opportunity for all parties to look at the site’s performance over the year in order to facilitate discussion, clarification, scrutiny and challenge.

Supported by external emergency services, the site will conduct the annual demonstration of its emergency arrangements to the Office of Nuclear Regulation. This followed the usual series of shift exercises.

Defuelling

Following completion of defuelling at Sizewell A, Oldbury is now the priority defuelling site for the company. The site is now defuelling and shipping flasks

at a nominal rate of 2-3 flasks/week. Subject to good performance through the Sellafield reprocessing plant, defuelling is expected to be complete in approximately 18 months' time.

Following defuelling and a period of time to confirm the site is 'fuel free' the site will undergo a further transition and organisational change to move to a decommissioning site. Early preparations for this have commenced, including a number of plant simplification and project activities.

The first rail movement including mixed loads of radioactive material has taken place this month involving spent nuclear fuel from Oldbury and Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) from Research Sites Restoration Limited's (RSRL) Harwell site in Oxfordshire. The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) has formally requested that both Magnox Ltd and RSRL make arrangements which allow the sharing of DRS' trains running to Sellafield whenever practicable.

These joint train movements, referred to as "mixed loads" have environmental and economic benefits.

Plant Update

The trial of the mobile water treatment plant unit mentioned last time has been successfully completed, allowing the Main Water Treatment Plant to be declared non-operational. This will allow removal of the chemical hazards within the redundant plant.

Work continues on cleaning out the redundant Cooling Water plant in order to leave it in a safe state in readiness for decommissioning in the future. Some of the work will also enable the installation of the Alternative Effluent Discharge Line, for which work is anticipated to start in the autumn.



The new electrical sub-station just inside the site gate has been constructed and energised, currently feeding the Oldbury Technical Centre through the 11kV line from Alveston.

National Grid Company has started its rationalisation of 132kV lines in the area. Following the work, Oldbury will only be connected to the Iron Acton sub-station by two lines instead of the current four.



The redundant mobile crane store on site has been demolished. Contractors Keltbray removed internal tin sheets and insulation before the structure was taken down using two 360 degree excavators with grab and pincer attachments. A total of 39 tonnes of metal was sent for recycling.

Magnox Transition to a new Parent Body Organisation

The Cavendish Fluor Partnership will become the parent body organisation on 1 September 2014, taking over the responsibility for running the Magnox Sites from EnergySolutions. The current focus before share transfer is to ensure that individuals taking up roles in these senior roles in the organisation are suitably qualified and sufficiently briefed to take up their posts.

Following the 1 September the 'Consolidation Phase' will commence when more information will become available on any changes to future plans and strategy. Until then, EnergySolutions remain responsible for the way each Site is run.

Socio Economic Support

Panache steel band

Panache steel band is based at the Castle Secondary School in Thornbury. The band takes part in local festivals and events. The current group has been playing together for four years and applied for funding and received £860 to purchase new equipment and specialist tuning.



Thornbury Baptist Church RISE Project

The RISE (Respect, Inspire, Security and Education) project, also known as Thornbury Street Space, develop relationships with the local community so that youth and community links are forged. It offers pastoral support to schools in the area, mentoring pupils who would otherwise opt out of education. RISE works in partnership with schools, police and local council initiatives. One of the projects is to supports events at the local skate park. The group received £4,750 from the Magnox socio-economic scheme.



Other groups which have benefited from the scheme recently are:

Thornbury Choral Society	£370
Oldbury Fun Run	£800
Oldbury on Severn Cricket Club	£500
Thornbury Orchestra	£500
Alveston Allotment Association	£500