

# DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION

## DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING

The Assembly Rooms, New Romney

Thursday 22 January 2015

18.30 for 19.00

### Attendance:

Ms K Anderson	-	NDA
Cllr D Baker	-	Kent County Council
Mrs G Baker	-	NR, Lydd & Greatstone Res Asso
Mrs L Barton	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Cllr P Coe	-	New Romney Town Council
Dr L Davies	-	ONR (Dun B)
Mrs T Finn	-	SSG Secretariat
Dr L Franks	-	Minute Taker
Dr P Hayes	-	ONR (Dun A)
Mr P Hetherington	-	Magnox
Mr T Hills	-	Independent Member
Mr D Illsley	-	Shepway District Council
Cllr R Jones	-	Lydd Town Council
Mr R Lavender	-	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Cllr D Lawton	-	New Romney Town Council
Ms J Moakes	-	Environment Agency
Mrs L Parker	-	SJC Dungeness A Site
Mr A Parry	-	Independent Vice Chairman
Mrs K Paterson	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Mr M Pearson	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Mr A Pynn	-	EA (Dun A)
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Cllr A Snoad	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr R Starbuck	-	Dungeness B Power Station
Mrs C Waters	-	Lydd Town Council
Mrs L Whenday	-	Dungeness Residents Association
Mr P Wilkinson	-	Dungeness A Site
Mr R Williams	-	RSPB
Mr J Wroblewski	-	Dungeness B Power Station

### Guests:

Mr S Franks	-	Magnox
Mr P Ireland	-	Magnox
Mr A Jakeways	-	ONR
Mr S McNitt	-	Dungeness A Site

## **I INTRODUCTION**

3285 Col. Smythe welcomed members and guests to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group (SSG). He opened the meeting by explaining that although not much had been reported since the previous meeting, that there had been a lot of work undertaken by the new parent body (PBO), Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP). Chairman encouraged the questioning of the experts present at this meeting. He announced the death of Marie Masters, who passed away on 19 January, commenting that she had been a regular and valued contributor to SSG meetings in the past.

## **II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3286 The following apologies were received:

Cllr Lord Amphill	-	Rother District Council
Mr B Botley	-	Kent Against a Radioactive Environment
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Mr D Clarke	-	ONR, Nuclear Security
Cllr Mrs V Dawson	-	Lydd Town Council
Ms J Dear	-	Natural England
Ms T Luetchford	-	Romney Marsh Partnership Group
Mrs H Morris	-	Dungeness A Site

## **III MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS**

3287 The minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> SSG meeting held on 16 October 2014 were agreed as an accurate record.

## **IV CORRESPONDENCE**

3288 A list of correspondence, distributed to SSG members, was made available to attendees at this meeting. Chairman advised that Mr Parry (Vice Chairman) and himself had received an invitation to attend the NDA Stakeholders meeting in Warrington on 24 February to cover key topics that had been adjourned from the National SSG meeting in October 2014.

## **V MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 21<sup>st</sup> MEETING**

3289 Chairman invited any comments and none were forthcoming. He advised that he would bring up one matter during the course of this meeting.

## **VI A SITE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

3290 Mr Paul Wilkinson, Site Director, drew attention to the written report dated October 2014 – January 2015, highlighting the following:

- *Safety Performance*: one lost time accident reported. During the demolition of the turbine hall, an operative struck a finger with a spanner.

- *Site Clearance*: Good progress with south side site clearance project; webcam set up to observe the turbine hall demolition (completion expected by March), anticipated completion of south side site clearance by May.
- *ILW programme*: about to restart programme. Peter Ireland to explain ILW strategy under item XII.
- *Ponds Programme*: Pond drainage and stabilisation is well underway. Trial drain of Reactor Two pond planned for February. Plan to deploy divers to assist with decontamination and removal of ponds furniture.
- *Fuel Element Debris (FED)*: No further FED to be taken from other Magnox sites. More Dungeness FED identified in pond skips and Reactor Two Lug Vault. Dissolution at site will continue with EA permission until summer 2015.
- *Accident and Emergency Guidelines*: New guidelines have been developed that are fit for purpose for the plant and the projects / programmes being undertaken.

3291 No questions were forthcoming.

## VII DUNGENESS B STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

3292 Mr Martin Pearson, Station Director, drew attention to his written report dated 22 January 2015 and apologised for the late distribution of this explaining that he had awaited the announcement regarding the lifetime extension for the site. Mr Pearson thanked Cllr Hills for advising that beach feeding will not commence next week but in a couple of weeks time. Mr Pearson drew attention to the following aspects of his report:

- *Life Time Extension*: confirmed extension to end of 2028. Doesn't affect daily operation, safety case requirements remain in place. Does unlock additional £155million of investment in the plant.
- *Investment in Plant*: £75million invested in new data processing control system in the control room. This is the most modern ICT system in the EDF Energy UK fleet. A further additional specific £8million investment in plant lifetime extension is expected this year with investment in subsequent years estimated at £20million/annum.
- *Flood Defences*: 7,000 tonnes of rock armour has now been delivered and will be placed in front of the shingle bank over the next few weeks. Final safety case to follow. This concludes improvements anticipated to last until 2030's.
- *Beach Feeding*: to commence in February 2015. Local residents consulted to mitigate impact of transport arrangements.
- *Key Milestone*: achieved earlier this week: within EDF Energy every operating unit was connected to the grid including 16 nuclear reactor turbines, 8 coal units, 3 units from the Combined Cycle Gas Turbines (CCGT) and 27 wind farm units.
- *Thank you to the community*: thanks were extended to the SSG attendees for supporting continued operation of the site.

3293 Q: Will the new computer system control the different temperatures on the reactor?  
 A: The new system controls all of the functions for the reactor and conventional plant. The operators have found the new system to be first class. This new system is also installed on the main control room simulator that enables visitors to see the new system as part of the tour route too.

- 3294 Q: Congratulations on the lifetime extension. Still hopeful that there will be a Dungeness C and perhaps this could use some of the A site land. Are you pleased with the Visitor Centre?  
A: Visitor Centre is very popular with over 10,000 visitors over the two years that it has been opened. Schools are using the Visitor Centre to support their syllabus and many are repeat visitors.
- 3295 Q: In reference to planned Government flood improvements in the area, does EDF Energy plan to support these efforts?  
A: EDF Energy is happy to work proactively with any local agency for the greater good of the local community.
- 3296 Q: Recent media reports have suggested that the main impediment to proceeding with a Dungeness C was flooding and not habitats regulation issues. Is this the case?  
A: I don't know where the media reports have got that information from as nothing has changed. Habitat is the reason the Government have given for a Dungeness C not proceeding.
- 3297 Chairman commented that the written report also included details of local community and social activities that are not usually formally recognised at these meetings. Chairman described these as 'good neighbourhood schemes' and led a vote of thanks to the station for undertaking this work.

## VIII OFFICE for NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A.

- 3298 Dr P Hayes, Site Inspector for Dungeness A, drew attention to his report dated 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2014 and in particular to the following:
- *Compliance Inspections:* Emergency demonstration exercise (required by LC 11) carried out satisfactorily. The site intend to make changes to emergency arrangements that will require formal ONR approval. This will only be granted if the site can demonstrate to ONR that the proposed emergency arrangements are suitable for the hazards on site. Two Inspectors from HSE's Construction Division inspected the site for compliance with the Construction, Design and Management Regulations and asbestos stripping, found good practice and overall were satisfied.
  - *ILW storage:* the ILW extraction and conditioning programme is on hold while the PBO determines future strategy. ONR challenged the site to demonstrate that the waste is not deteriorating whilst in storage and the site was able to do so.
  - *Ponds Divers:* ONR in conjunction with diving specialists in the HSE are taking an interest in the deployment of divers into the ponds. The safety case for this deployment is in preparation.
  - *Last SSG Meeting:* Andrew Jakeways introduced as the incoming Dungeness A Site Inspector.
- 3299 Q: Where is Dr Hayes moving to?  
A: Once RSRL and Magnox have been merged, Dr Hayes will be the Inspector for the former RSRL sites.

3300 Chairman led a vote of thanks to Dr Hayes for his valuable contribution to these meetings and to wish him well for the future.

## **IX OFFICE for NUCLEAR REGULATION (ONR) REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B**

3301 Dr Les Davies, introduced himself as the current Site Inspector for Dungeness B, having taken over from his predecessor Dr Vince Green on 1 October 2014. He apologised for not preparing a report for the last quarter explaining that there was a rigorous reporting period and that time had not allowed for its preparation in time for the meeting. Dr Davies drew attention to the previous report (dated 1 July 2014. to 30 September 2014) authored by Dr Green.

3302 Dr Davies provided a verbal report about the last quarter which had been mostly routine regulatory activity. The following key points were advised:

- *Lifetime extension*: ONR have no objections to the company continuing to operate and ONR will continue to enforce the safety case..
- *New Computer Control System*: ONR approved the operation of this new system after considerable dialogue that convinced ONR of its suitability.

3303 Chairman welcomed Dr Davies and invited questions and comments. No questions were forthcoming.

## **X ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE FOR DUNGENESS A AND DUNGENESS B**

3304 Andrew Pynn, EA Site Inspector for Dungeness A, referred to the Environment Agency Nuclear Regulation Report for both sites dated October to December 2014 and commented upon the following regarding the Dungeness A station:

- *Radioactive Waste Management Arrangements*: a themed compliance inspection that is part of a national programme was undertaken to identify best practice and drive up standards across the fleet. No regulatory concerns were noted.
- *FED treatment Plant*: on-going operation of the plant is subject to approval of a variation to permit application. This is currently being assessed and, as usual, requires that Best Available Techniques are being used.
- Radioactivity in Food and the Environment (RIFE) report has been issued for 2013 and is available on the EA website.

3305 Questions were invited but none were forthcoming.

3306 Jo Moakes, EA Site Inspector for Dungeness B referred to the section of the report that concerned Dungeness B station, advising that this had been amended slightly since being distributed. The following points were highlighted:

- *Inspections*: The active laboratories have been inspected and found to be satisfactory. The initial teething problems experienced with the gaseous sampling cubicles have now been resolved to a high level of confidence.
- *Ponds*: the incorrect alignment of the valve that caused some ponds water to leak into the sump during November is being investigated. .
- *Radioactive Waste Management Arrangements*: the themed compliance inspection which has been undertaken at all Nuclear Licensed Sites identified that significant improvements to the infrastructure have been undertaken on site.

- *Groundwater Tritium*: remediation strategy to be provided by March 2015. Recent monitoring has found levels have reduced back to background in the affected area with one borehole registering at just above 100Bq/l. Slightly elevated levels (190Bq/l) found at another location were met with prompt action by the site to divert condensate from boilers through overland pipework whilst the pipework failure is investigated and resolved.
- *Eels Regulations*: Dungeness B have provided the EA with a report which provides the estimated costs to install 'best practice' measures on their cooling water intake. A variation to the environmental permit was granted with effect from 31.12.14. This variation requires the operator to review the costs of installing 'best practice' measures by inputting them into our cost benefit assessment tool. If the net benefits are deemed not to meet with the criteria set out in the variation then the operator will explore the costs of installing alternative measures. These are all set out in our guidance which is referenced in the SSG report.
- *Exercises*: preparations for the level 2 emergency exercise to be undertaken in March 2015 have begun in consultation with the Emergency Planning Coordinating Committee.
- *Beach Feeding*: anticipated to commence Feb 2015

3307 Cllr Hills questioned the impact of modifications to the intake of cooling water on the fish stocks. Ms Moakes advised that any measures taken will help to protect fish. A short debate ensued about the likely survival of glass eels if taken around the plant with the cooling water.

## **XI NDA UPDATE**

3308 Kelly Anderson, NDA Stakeholder Relations Manager, advised that the NDA Monthly Updates for November and December had been previously circulated and referred to the recently published January 2014 update, in particular to the following:

- *NDA Stakeholder Event*: held in Birmingham at the end of October 2014 focussed on the new NDA Strategy from March 2016, draft for consultation due Sept 2015. Several presentations covered topics like integrated waste management, site decommissioning and remediation, nuclear materials and others. Future strategy for stakeholder engagement and socio-economic arrangements were deferred to a second meeting to be held on 24 February 2015 in Warrington to enable early comment from SSGs. About 80 delegates attended, with union representation via the National Officer, however, there was no representation from Dungeness SSG.
- *Supply Chain Event*: held on 6 November 2014 in Manchester. Very successful with positive feedback.
- *Insight magazine*: published in December 2014 with hard copies available at this meeting and on the NDA website.
- *Draft Business Plan for 2015-18*: published and open to consultation until 30 January 2015.
- *Sellafield*: DECC have announced approval to change the management of Sellafield from a parent body model to being wholly owned by NDA. The stakeholder briefing on the new management arrangements is available at this meeting.

- *NDA Guidance to SSG's*: original guidance formulated in 2009 that provides a framework for each SSG to base their constitution upon. The effectiveness of this guidance will be discussed at the NDA Stakeholder event in February. Anyone with views about this is asked to communicate them to the Chairman or Vice Chairman to bring to the NDA Stakeholder meeting. SSG secretariats will also be invited to comment.

- 3309 Chairman referred to the request made at the previous meeting for the hub team to attend and address the SSG regarding the security arrangements for the site once it enters Care and Maintenance (C&M). Chairman reminded attendees that the date for Dungeness A site entering C&M was end 2018 / early 2019. Mr Wilkinson advised that as this was a Magnox matter that he would take an **ACTION** to arrange for the Hub Team to attend and address the SSG. He added that March 2019 was the date for commencing interim C&M with a small number of staff on site, March 2023 for preparing for full C&M with no-one on site expected from March 2027. Chairman sought confirmation that interim C&M would commence March 2019 and questioned whether this date would change. Mr Wilkinson advised that the funding profile would determine whether this date could be brought forwards slightly.
- 3310 Chairman questioned whether the end state for the site would remain the same and heard that the new PBO are challenging this, however, from the outside the C&M vision remains; not identical but very similar.
- 3311 Chairman questioned what will happen once the site enters C&M in terms of communicating with the community, particularly if the SSG is disbanded. Ms Anderson advised that currently there are no plans to remove the SSG when the site enters C&M and that this matter needs to be considered on a bespoke for each site basis. She advised that as there is a Dungeness B that some form of stakeholder group would continue but that the format of this had yet to be decided. Mr Pearson advised that there are three sites that do not have a Magnox station and that at each there is still a stakeholder forum, called a Local Community Liaison Committee, that runs on a similar basis to this SSG but is chaired by the Station Director.
- 3312 A short debate about ensuring effective communication and appropriate socio-economic arrangements ensued. Attendees were encouraged to bring their views about this to the Chairman to enable a full discussion at the February NDA Stakeholder meeting.
- 3313 Cllr Hills commented that a bespoke programme tailored to the local requirements would need to be established. He questioned whether the coverage of the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC), noted as now based within the B Site perimeter, would change once A site entered C&M. Mr Pearson advised that there was no intended change to the coverage of the CNC.

## **XII WASTE STRATEGY PROPOSALS**

- 3314 Peter Ireland introduced himself as the Strategy Manager for the Waste Programme based at Berkley Centre. He provided a presentation to describe the 'direction of travel' for waste management. He drew particular attention to the following aspects:
- *ILW storage and FED treatment*: preferred option decision put on hold until the incoming PBO were able to consider this. Strategy developed in line with PBO bid and target cost contract taking into account the input from the engagement

workshops held in 2013. This is not finalised and has yet to be shared with each SSG.

- *Scope of Review:* No change to the priority given to safety, security and environment, however, the aim is to ensure best value to the UK tax payer. Review includes: ILW packaging / storage, FED management, ILW pond skips and IONSIV cartridges.
- *New Proposals:* utilise most appropriate waste packaging (choice of DCICs, 6m<sup>3</sup> boxes, TRUshields and 500l drums) – for Dungeness this is affected by storage arrangements and is most likely to remain DCICs. Develop new waste route for low level waste (LLW) FED and move from FED dissolution to encapsulation – most of the Dungeness FED has undergone dissolution already. Make best use of assets on a regional basis and share assets with EDF Energy where feasible.
- *Possible Impact on Dungeness A:* interim storage of Dungeness ILW DCIC packages in the Bradwell store subject to consultation with stakeholders and sufficient space being available at Bradwell. No ILW store at Dungeness. No further intake of other site's FED for dissolution at Dungeness. Possible decontamination of the 30-60 pond skips at a single off-site facility (preferred) or establish a local decontamination process on site. Transfer the 14 IONSIV cartridges to Oldbury site for packaging in DCIC's subject to final storage destination and consultation with stakeholders.
- *Numerical Considerations:* not having an ILW store at Dungeness saves approx £10-15 million and an estimated 400 construction lorry movements.
- *Benefits of New Strategy:* arguably improved safety, security and environment. Lessons from previous strategy learnt and no significant new development required. Input from 2013 consultation taken on board and for example rail rather than roads will be used to transfer waste, HGV movements will be minimised, regional consolidation will be implemented. Considerable cost savings for the tax payer.
- *Key Dates:* January-March 2015 engage with MPs, SSGs, regulators and Local Authorities and subject to the outcomes of this, by mid 2015 initiate planning application to import waste to Bradwell. If all permissions obtained, commence waste movements during 2016.

3315 Q: Can a schematic impression of the impact on the Dungeness site be presented to this SSG?

A: Mr Wilkinson agreed an **ACTION** to provide a presentation about C&M that includes visuals.

3316 Q: How many lorry journeys will there be for transporting waste?

A: Mr Ireland advised the intention to use the railhead at Dungeness to transport by rail to Bradwell. Chairman added that the consultation input had encouraged using rail where possible.

3317 Q: How many skips are to be transported and how many lorries will this involve?

A: Mr Wilkinson estimated 40 skips in total, each lorry takes 8, so a total of 5 lorries.

3318 Q: With regards to the IONSIV cartridges, will these be moved in skips and subsequently flasks to Oldbury? What is the timeframe for this?

A: Yes, transport would be in a flask containing IONSIV cartridges in approx 3 skips. The time frame would sit with the ponds deplanted prior to decommissioning.

- 3319 Q: Is it likely that any of the waste to be shipped off site will be returned to Dungeness? We accepted FED waste from Bradwell so it seems only fair that they receive our ILW for interim storage.  
A: No. It is intended for storage at the receiving site until the GDF is available for disposal. However, this needs to be discussed with the receiving site stakeholders.
- 3320 Q: If the decision is to decontaminate the skips on site, what will happen to the waste generated? Will this go through the FED dissolution plant?  
A: No the FED dissolution plant will not be used. Any waste generated would be encapsulated.
- 3321 Q: Does Magnox accept nuclear waste from other companies / countries?  
A: Magnox sends spent fuel to Sellafield. No waste is accepted by Magnox.
- 3322 Q: After the ILW has gone from Dungeness what will be the next step?  
A: The site will continue with its preparations for C&M. The LLW, the non-radioactive and inert waste will all need to be dealt with. There will be a significant volume of waste generated and this will need to be either re-used or disposed of.  
  
Q: What is the time frame for this?  
A: Magnox sites undertake deferred decommissioning, meaning that they remove all the major hazards then enter a period of C&M for 85years post last generation (31 December 2006) before final site clearance.
- 3323 Q: Does the site remain a licensed nuclear site for the duration of C&M?  
A: Yes. De-licensing is one of the last things that will happen during final site clearance.
- 3324 Q: Will the ILW be disposed of in the GDF once it becomes available?  
A: Yes, that is the plan. Those sites storing waste will transfer all ILW to the GDF that should be available around 2040.
- 3325 Q: Does this mean that Dungeness will be a waste-free zone?  
A: No, as there will still be some radioactive waste within fabric of the buildings until final site clearance.  
Q: After final site clearance will Dungeness A be a waste-free zone.  
A: That is the plan.

### **XIII SSG CHAIRS MEETING WITH MAGNOX EXECUTIVE**

- 3326 Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting in London on 7 December 2014 that was an introduction to the Cavendish Fluor Partnership, the new PBO. Three key subjects were addressed: direction of travel, waste strategy and socio-economic arrangements. It was explained that after gaining the contract the PBO had to assess the actual position that Magnox and RSRL sites were in rather than that anticipated and then discuss with the NDA the strategy for taking each site forward. The contract for managing the sites is for 14 years with a hold point after the first 7 years.
- 3327 Chairman explained that the waste strategy was as per the above presentation with an over-riding company philosophy of security and safety for employees and communities.

3328 The socio-economic approach described was different from that held by the previous PBO, however, it is NDA money and as such the NDA criteria remains. A summary programme has been generated that involves aligning the Magnox and RSRL socio-economic plans with the bid proposals, assessing and evaluating the socio-economic conditions around each site and then consulting with stakeholders and the other agencies involved prior to generating a three year rolling socio-economic development plan. Chairman said that it was reassuring that the PBO and the NDA were very supportive of Dungeness initiatives.

#### **XIV SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE**

3329 Chairman drew attention to the socio-economic update contained within the Dungeness A Site Director's report that detailed socio-economic spend between April and December 2014 and reminded attendees of the community support provided by Dungeness B. Chairman encouraged applications for funding.

#### **XV ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

3330 Chairman requested that the dates of future NDA National Stakeholder meetings were advised with more notice. He apologised for not attending the meeting held in October 2014 adding that very little notice of the final date had been provided. Ms Anderson forewarned that after February 2015 the next meeting would be held mid to end of May 2015 and again during the first week of September 2015 with final dates to be advised at the February meeting.

3331 Q: Is there still water being discharged from Dungeness A?  
A: Mr Wilkinson advised that cooling water is no longer being discharged from the A Site.

3332 Chairman reminded attendees that a key focus of the next NDA Stakeholder meeting was regarding the NDA guidance to Stakeholder Groups and their subsequent Constitutions. He encouraged attendees to submit any comments regarding the Dungeness Constitution to him prior to the meeting. He highlighted that one key difference between the Dungeness Constitution and that of other site SSG's is that elections of the Chairman and Vice Chairman are conducted every three years rather than annually. He explained the original thinking behind this was to provide the incumbents with sufficient time to become effective

#### **XVI NEXT MEETING**

3333 The 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Dungeness SSG will be held at 10.30 for 11.00 on Tuesday 21 April 2015 at The Guild Hall, Lydd.

Meeting closed at 21.00