

# NDA Monthly Update

January 2015

## Summary

- Sellafield management decision
- NDA Business Plan consultation
- Insight magazine published
- Dounreay programme re-phased
- Supply Chain Event success
- Report from Stakeholder Event
- Plaques mark completion of boiler project
- Tailor-made solution for Dounreay camera
- Family tribute at Windscale Pile
- £13 million for nuclear R&D

## Diary Dates

- South Gloucestershire and Stroud College Employer Day 23 January 2015
- MOD submarine waste consultation, Sellafield 27-28 January 2015
- UKTI and NIA Nuclear Showcase, London 28 January 2015

### Sellafield management decision

The Government has announced its decision to approve the NDA's recommendation for a change to the management arrangements at Sellafield. The NDA made the recommendation following a detailed review which concluded that the complex, technical uncertainties at Sellafield were less suited to the Parent Body Organisation (PBO) model that is working well elsewhere in the NDA's estate. Under the new arrangements, Sellafield Ltd will acquire a 'strategic partner' from the private sector to assist in its delivery rather than operate under the temporary ownership of a PBO.

[Weblink: Sellafield management decision](#)

### Your views sought on Business Plan

Consultation is now under way on the NDA's Draft Business Plan 2015-18 which sets out priorities for the next three years. Total planned expenditure for 2015-16 is £3.31 billion, of which £2.09 billion will be funded by the UK government and £1.22 billion from commercial operations. Planned expenditure on site programmes will be £2.91 billion, while non-site expenditure is expected to be £0.19 billion. This non-site expenditure includes skills development, socio-economic support to communities, R&D, insurance and pension costs, fees to SLCs, implementing geological disposal and NDA operating costs. The consultation closes on 30 January.

[Weblink: Business Plan consultation](#)

### NDA news magazine Insight published

The latest edition of the NDA's quarterly news magazine Insight has now been published and is now available for downloading from the website.

[Weblink: Insight, edition 16](#)

### Dounreay programme re-phased

The NDA has authorised a re-phased plan for Dounreay in order to accommodate a significant level of additional work. The work is required by the NDA in order to transfer the site's nuclear fuels to Sellafield, and will result in the site's closure date moving to 2029, nine years earlier than the original 2038 date but four years later than the date anticipated when the PBO contract was awarded in 2012 to Cavendish Dounreay Partnership Ltd (CDP). CDP continue to meet all milestones committed to at the contract award and this extra scope will result in the extension of targets to reflect the revised timeframe. Dounreay Site Research Limited (DSRL) and the NDA are now working to embed the new programme baseline, a significant piece of work in itself, for the start of the next financial year.

[Weblink: Revisions to Dounreay programme](#)

### Supply Chain Event success

Last November's NDA Estate Supply Chain Event scored a huge 98% success rating with visitors, according to a follow-up survey. Delegates who responded to the series of questions were overwhelmingly of the view that the one-day event at EventCity, Manchester, had been a valuable use of their time.

An electronic survey was issued to the 1,500 visitors, seeking to understand which aspects of the event had worked well and which might need adapting further to ensure the 2015 event meets business aspirations even more effectively. The event, supported by the NDA and all its Site Licence Companies (SLCs), provides a business networking forum and aims to improve the visibility of opportunities for suppliers, particularly those in the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) community. It is now believed to be the largest of its kind in Europe

[Weblink: Visitors endorsement for event](#)

### Report from Stakeholder Event

The NDA has now published the report from the National Event for stakeholders, held near Birmingham at the end of October 2014. Approximately 80 delegates from all sectors gathered at the event, where the development of the next Strategy document was the focus of discussions. The event opened with a video address from Baroness Verma and an introduction from NDA's CEO, John Clarke. This was followed by a number of presentations and round-table discussions on different elements of strategy development. Delegates also had an opportunity to question the NDA executive team.

[Weblink: Stakeholder focus on strategy](#)

### What it boils down to

Commemorative plaques have been manufactured from the last remaining sections of 15 giant boilers removed from Berkeley site for smelting and recycling in Sweden. The nearby town came to a standstill when the redundant boilers, each weighing 310 tonnes, trundled through the roads on massive transporters, en route for the docks. The project saw more than 4,000 tonnes of metal recycled and returned to the open market, helping to preserve valuable space at the UK's Low Level Waste Repository, where the boilers, classified as Low Level Waste (LLW), were originally scheduled for disposal.

[Weblink: Boilers smelted down](#)

### Dressmaker takes heat out of radiation hotspot

A local Thurso dressmaker used ironing-board fabric and a tog 7.0 duvet to create a bespoke insulated hood that will help to combat heat inside the high-hazard Dounreay Fast Reactor vault. The site's decommissioning specialists hit on the creative solution when seeking a cover for a radiation-detecting robotic camera. The camera will be

lowered through the roof to identify radiation sources and gather critical information that will contribute towards removing residual amounts of the highly dangerous liquid-metal coolant sodium-potassium, known as NaK.

[Weblink: Perfect material for reactor challenge](#)

### Family tribute at Windscale Pile

The iconic filter gallery has now been removed from the remaining Windscale Pile chimney, marking the completion of a project that has taken many years. Removal of the bulbous gallery was preceded by a ceremony paying tribute to pioneering scientist Sir John Cockcroft whose work prevented the 1957 Windscale fire from turning into a full-scale nuclear catastrophe. Seventy-two-year old Christopher Cockcroft was just eight when his Nobel prizewinning physicist father insisted that expensive filters were fitted on top of the two chimneys, or Piles, at Sellafield. His foresight helped to prevent the fire from spreading contamination across much of northern England.

[Weblink: Windscale milestone](#)

### £13 million for nuclear R&D

UK companies and consortia have been awarded a total of £13 million to help develop innovative technologies for the nuclear industry, covering decommissioning, existing operations and new build. The funding is part of a joint initiative between Innovate UK (formerly the Technology Strategy Board), the NDA and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) to stimulate innovation. Among the beneficiaries will be 15 collaborative R&D projects and 26 smaller-scale feasibility studies. The aim is to encourage a strong, sustainable supply chain serving both national and global markets. Over the coming decades, around £930 billion investment is planned globally on new reactors, while, the decommissioning market is also set to expand, with up to 145 reactors, mostly in Europe, expected to reach the end of their lives in the next 15 years, and an estimated global market worth £50 billion annually.

[Weblink: Funding for safe, smart nuclear technologies](#)