



WINFRITH SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP (SSG) MEETING – 3 NOVEMBER 2015

Meeting Reference SG19

Venue: Winfrith Newburgh Village Hall

Present:

Sandra Ellis (Chair)	Mel Loveless – Wool Parish Council
John Larkin (Deputy Chair)	Tony Seward
Sara Johnston – NDA	Paul Norris
Peter Hayes – ONR	Alice Norris
Kelly Anderson – NDA	John Derring
Andrew Hampson – Tradebe Inutec	Peter Fry
Nick Holt – Tradebe Inutec	Michael Dunnett - Magnox
Jorge Torrens – Tradebe Inutec	Susan Adams - Magnox
Richard Conway – PDC	Mike Wyatt - Magnox
Richard Wilson – PDC	Andy Philips - Magnox
Cllr Cherry Brooks – PDC	Emma Burwood - Magnox
Emily Blake – West Lulworth Parish Council	Will Matheson – Magnox
Amanda Williams – Winfrith Newburgh PC	Rob Shaw – Magnox
Fiona Bowles – Winfrith Newburgh & East Knighton Parish Council	Alison Pugh, Magnox (minutes)

Apologies Cllr Barry Quinn, Deputy Leader and Lulworth & Winfrith Ward
Cllr Carole Matthews – West Lulworth Parish Council – represented by Emily Blake
Tony Wormald – Owermoigne Parish Council

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introduction – Mrs Sandra Ellis SSG Chairman

Mrs Ellis welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for their kind wishes and get well cards following her recent illness. Whilst she had been unable to attend the meeting of SSG chairs held in August, she had been updated on the outcomes of that meeting.

The minutes of the meeting on 2 June were accepted as a true record.

2. Magnox Winfrith Report - Michael Dunnett, Magnox South Sites Closure Director

Michael Dunnett gave a presentation on progress made at Winfrith since the last meeting.

Safety and Environment Overview

The Winfrith site had been relicensed from RSRL to Magnox from 1 April 2015.

An emergency exercise had been held in September; this had been based around a pretend incident at the Treated Radwaste Store. It had been witnessed by the ONR Inspector who deemed it to be an adequate demonstration of the site's emergency arrangements which could be implemented if needed. Future exercises might not be witnessed as often but this would be reviewed as the programme progressed because facilities could be recategorised.

Industrial Safety

There had been one minor injury involving a member of staff working in the SGHWR Primary Containment where a metal shard had gone into his arm. Staff had been reminded on the correct use of tools.

A number of safety initiatives had been brought into Magnox. These included: working at height;', objects falling from height; slips, trips and falls; and the regular inspection of ageing plant.

Environmental

Investigations were being undertaken into two waste related issues. One involved a drum of waste sent to Tradebe for supercompaction where liquid had leaked out. The other involved a bag of waste which contained contamination; this had been environmentally monitored and was well below the permitted discharges.

Programme Update

SGHWR

Significant progress had been made in all areas.

The scheme design for the reactor core decommissioning had been completed and an Invitation to Tender had been sent out to a number of suppliers. A number of compliant bids had been returned and an announcement regarding the successful bidder and the placement of the contract should follow soon.

Work continued on stripping out tanks and ducts from the Primary Containment. This involved working in a hostile environment with asbestos and high radiation levels, therefore remote dismantling machines would be used to remove asbestos before decontamination work could take place in the Secondary Containment.

A drone had been purchased to enable inspection of cladding and the mural on the outside of the SGHWR building. This was a safety initiative and would avoid the need for working at height and high scaffolding costs.

Pipework from SGHWR to the EAST building had been removed and work continued to remove the building itself. The slab had been removed and samples taken showed that contamination levels had been less than expected. There would be a full remediation of the area.

Dragon

A mock-up of the Dragon reactor had been assembled in Building A544 and this would enable tests to be carried out before actually entering the reactor itself. Work continued to remove the vehicle air lock inside the building.

ALES

It was possible that ALES could be operational up to mid-2017 although work on both the land and marine side was unlikely to commence until 2019. Considerable engagement would take place with stakeholders on our plans for optioneering the pipeline. Mrs Ellis suggested that a meeting or workshop be held with Winfrith and Wool Parish councils in spring 2016 to ask their opinion.

The Active Break Tanks at ALES had been cemented and would soon go off for disposal. Cranes would be brought onto site to assist with this and arrangements had been made for them to access the site via the Dorset Green entrance, thereby avoiding the need to use Gatmore Road. An EIA and BAT assessment were being worked on.

End State

The end state of the site and the use of the rail siding would be looked at. It was possible that some land could be retained for potential industrial development but the north-east end of the site had been deemed unsuitable for this. The collection of groundwater would also have to be considered. The SSE substation would remain in place and would continue to be the responsibility of SSE.

Magnox Restructuring

Projects had been moved into the new Magnox wide programme structures as Phase 2 of the restructuring exercise. The exercise to 'best fit' senior staff positions had been completed and the next stage would be to 'right-size' the organisation to match staff numbers with available funding. Concern continued over future employment but it was hoped to avoid large numbers of compulsory redundancies as numbers were fairly close to what they should be following a number of resignations and VER.

3. Nuclear Decommissioning Report - Sara Johnston/Kelly Anderson, NDA

Kelly Anderson reported that a survey of stakeholders had been held over the summer; this had gone to various stakeholders including some SSG chairs and members, SLCs and PBOs. Questions had been asked on what people knew about the NDA, what they did and how they could improve. It appeared from the feedback received that the main areas for improvement would be better and more direct engagement with local authorities. It was also hoped to issue some stories via the media on the work of the NDA. A full report would be given at the next national Stakeholder's event.

The outcome of the government's spending review would be announced at the end of November. There was no indication of what this was likely to be.

Sara Johnstone spoke about the NDA's update on the Draft Strategy 3. It was a requirement of the Energy Act 2004 that the NDA would update and consult on its strategy every 5 years and targets for every year would be identified in the NDA's business plan. Engagement would take place over a six week period and feedback had been requested from stakeholders, local authorities and Natural England etc. The NDA welcomed comments and/or observations and these should be submitted before the end of November.

4. Regulators

Office for Nuclear Regulations (ONR) - Overview of site performance – Peter Hayes

Peter Hayes had taken over from Vince Green as ONR Inspector for Winfrith and Harwell. He was the Corporate ONR Inspector for the whole of Magnox.

The Annual Review of Safety and Environment (ARoSE) for Harwell and Winfrith had been held in July and the regulators had been content that safety and environmental matters had been managed very well. It was evident that the current restructuring exercise had caused anxiety for staff but it was hoped that staff would continue to keep their focus on safety.

Following informal discussions, it was likely that Tradebe-Inutec would submit a formal application for its own site nuclear licence. This would have to be approved by the ONR Chief Inspector and Tradebe-Inutec would have to show that suitable safety and environmental arrangements were in place.

Following Andy Hall's retirement, Dr Richard Savage had taken over as the ONR's Chief Nuclear Inspector; Dr Savage had recently visited Winfrith.

Environment Agency – Peter Reynolds

Peter Reynolds (EA Inspector for Tradebe-Inutec) attended the meeting on behalf of Adam Davies, who was unable to attend. He explained that the EA's main role was to look at waste disposal and storage to and from the site. The site was regulated under a permit and would need to demonstrate they were minimising waste production and the impact on the environment. He confirmed that emissions from the site had been in the lowest category possible.

There had been no non-conformances on the site since the last SSG.

There had been two events in the last six months; a liquid pour in the supercompactor and errors within waste records. Both were under investigation and would be reported on at the next SSG.

Future inspections would include the Asset Management plan, and strategy and changes to the LTP.

5. Dragon Project – Andy Philps/Rob Shaw

Andy Philps (Dragon Project Manager) said that the Dragon reactor was a prototype high temperature cooled reactor which had ceased operation in 1975. Almost all of the active plant outside the reactor core and the fuel had been removed. The core was yet to be removed, but it would be useful to know what was left in there and whether it was ILW, LLW etc.

A university student on a summer holiday contract had been tasked with a project to carry out a remote photographic survey to capture images of the inside of the facility, which had not been imaged for over 50 years. The main challenge was the high radiation environment within the reactor so a fully remote control system had been required. A low cost camera was purchased from Maplin and this was suspended into the reactor itself. The system was worked by computer and had a pan, tilt and zoom control away from the camera. LED lighting was installed to ensure the light inside the reactor was adequate.

Rob Shaw showed a short video clip of pictures taken inside the core. It showed the core to be in a good condition with no visible evidence of damage. It was hoped to remove the core in 2019 and this would go to the new ILW store at Harwell. The use of the camera should help with fact finding and preparatory work for modelling, core sampling and characterisation. The decommissioning project should be complete by 2022. The CCTV camera would be vulnerable to gamma radiation and it was hoped to find a more suitable camera across the Magnox estate for future work.

Mrs Ellis asked what would happen with the Dragon artefacts once the facility had been decommissioned. Andy Philps said that the Dragon mock up would possibly go to a museum and it was hoped to find a good home for the Dragon statue at the front of B71.

6. Tradebe-Inutec Update - Nick Holt

Nick Holt introduced Andrew Hampson, who had recently been appointed as Tradebe-Inutec's Safety, Health, Environmental and Quality Manger.

Since 1996 Tradebe-Inutec had operated as a tenant on the Magnox site. However, going forward they intended to apply for their own license to operate their site as it was expected that they would be on the site long after Magnox had left. Magnox would support them in their application and additional land would be leased from Magnox so that they could extend their occupied area to ensure growth capability to meet the business needs.

Tradebe would put together an application for the licence, and guidance meetings had been held with the Site Inspector and the ONR licensing team. It was hoped to submit the application at the end of 2015 with a possible licensing date of early 2017. Magnox would then need to relicense to take account of the reduction in its footprint. Discussions with the NDA about the acquisition of the area had made good progress.

The preferred access to the Tradebe site would be via the Dorset Green site and discussions had been held with the HCA about securing this in the longer term.

Tradebe-Inutec had been awarded the 2015 ROSPA Health and Safety gold award, which recognised good quality over 12 different areas.

There had been no reportable injuries for over seven years but there had been one Lost Time Accident since the last meeting; this was a knee injury with one day lost.

8. Any Other Business

Emma Burwood reminded members that the Magnox socio economic scheme was available for local projects and urged members to look at the Magnox website as there was still some money available for this year.

Mrs Ellis thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Future SSG meetings were planned for 21 April 2016 at 1800 hours and 3 November 2016 at 1400 hours.

It was noted that Peter Fry had written a book on AEE Winfrith, which was due to be published at the end of November.

Emma Burwood SSG Secretariat
Alison Pugh Minutes Secretary

01305 2020317
emma.burwood@research-sites.com