

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP**

**SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2015**

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden expressed a particular welcome to Mr Luke Hall MP, the newly elected member for Thornbury and Yate, together with other newly elected representatives who were attending a meeting of this Group for the first time.
- Ms K Anderson, representing the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority drew attention to the consideration currently being given to the level of NDA's funding as part of the government's spending review. The outcome of the review would be announced in November.
- Site Director Mr Mike Heaton reported on the continued safety of activities at the Oldbury Site. Compliance had been maintained with all operating rule limits and conditions and all maintenance schedule requirements. There had been no significant conventional safety issues.
- It was reported that the arrangements in place for dealing with an emergency on the Site had been demonstrated in an exercise to the satisfaction of the Office for Nuclear Regulation.
- Mr Heaton reported that 95% of the fuel had been removed from Reactor 1 and the remainder would be removed shortly. Reactor 2 was currently 85% defuelled and the remainder would be removed by October.
- Mr Heaton drew attention to a proposal that IONSIV spent filter cartridges were to be transferred to Oldbury from Dungeness A and Sizewell A for packaging, avoiding the need for processing facilities at the other sites. These proposals were subject to safety case and regulatory approval.
- Good progress was being made with the removal of asbestos from plant items on the Turbine Hall roof.
- Mr Heaton said that the simplification of work requirements which would follow after the completion of defuelling would result in a significant reduction in manpower requirements on the Site.

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE
CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 29 JULY 2015**

PRESENT:

Mr M Lynden (in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr S Blick	-	Alveston Parish Council
Cllr D Dovey	-	Monmouthshire County Council
Mr Luke Hall MP		
Cllr Ms J Hathway	-	Falfield Parish Council
Cllr G Vaughan-Lewis	-	Alkington Parish Council
Cllr Ms J Lyons	-	Olveston Parish Council
Mr J McNally	-	Staff Representative
Cllr Ms H Molyneux	-	Forest of Dean District Council
Cllr J O'Neill	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Ms A Paine	-	Stroud Green Party
Cllr G Rawlinson	-	Thornbury Town Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Trade
Cllr Ms F Shipston	-	Tytherington Parish Council
Cllr Ms V Tutin	-	Olveston Parish Council
Cllr Mrs P Wride	-	Chair, Berkeley SSG

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms K Anderson	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr P Reynolds	-	Environment Agency
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Andrew Buchanan.	-	James Reed PR
Mr M Heaton	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms L Miles	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Mrs E Vaughan-Lewis	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms G Coombs	-	Communications Officer
Cllr K Sullivan	-	Oldbury Parish Council
Cllr D Griffiths	-	Oldbury Parish Council
Mr D Wride	-	Lower Severn Drainage Board
Mr W Gill		
Mr P Page		
Ms P Page		
Mr S Rodliffe		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1 Mr Lynden welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Oldbury on Severn Site Stakeholder Group. He expressed a particular welcome to Mr Luke Hall MP, the newly elected member of parliament for Thornbury and Yate and other new members who were attending a meeting of this Group for the first time.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2 Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Chilcott, Ms H Cook, Mr P Dickenson, Dr L Hales, Cllr M Hawkins, Mr J Jenkin, Mr A Mitchell, Mr G P Simms and Ms S Stagg.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

(a) Accuracy

- 3 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 29 April 2015 were approved as an accurate record.

(b) Matters arising

- 4 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

- 5 Mr Lynden invited members of the public to raise any issues which might not arise in discussion later in the meeting. No issues were raised.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

- 6 Ms Anderson provided an update on issues of interest to the NDA, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The impact of the government's forthcoming spending review on funding for NDA activities was not yet known. The NDA's funding represented some 70% of the total allocation to the Department of Energy and Climate Change and some reductions were therefore likely. Stakeholders would be kept informed of any impact of changes in funding; the results of the spending review would be announced in November.
 - (ii) The NDA had published its annual report and accounts which were available on the website.
 - (iii) A recent issue of the NDA's Insight magazine focused attention on progress made during the 10 years since NDA had been established. Copies of the magazine were available for members.
 - (iv) A recent NDA publication gave useful information on the nature of radioactive waste and the volumes of the various types of waste in storage.
 - (v) Chairs and Vice Chairs of all SSGs were being invited to a national stakeholder group meeting on 23/24 September which would include a

visit to the Sellafield site. The meeting would include consultation on the NDA's draft strategy; information on that strategy would be provided for members at the next meeting of this Group and feedback from members would be very welcome.

- 7 In reply to a question from Mr Roberts, Ms Anderson said that restrictions in NDA funding could potentially lead to a slowing down of decommissioning activities although the NDA would continue to ensure that sites remained safe and secure and would seek to maintain rates of progress on work programmes. Cllr Riddle suggested that in view of the proposed construction of a new power station at Oldbury a special case could be made for ensuring that the old power station site was cleared in a similar timescale. Ms Anderson agreed that the demonstration that former power station sites could be cleared effectively was important in gaining public acceptance of new power station construction.

Site Director's Report

- 8 Mr Heaton reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) Since the previous meeting the Site had maintained high standards of nuclear and conventional safety performance and had complied with all Operating Rule limits and conditions and all Maintenance Schedule requirements.
 - (ii) On 1 July the operation of the Site's emergency arrangements had been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Office for Nuclear Regulation in an exercise. At a recent annual review meeting, regulators had expressed satisfaction with standards maintained on the site.
 - (iii) Good progress was being made with defuelling. Reactor 1 was now 95% defuelled and the completion of defuelling of this reactor was imminent. Defuelling of Reactor 2 was 85% complete with completion expected in early October. It was anticipated that all fuel would be despatched from the site by early January 2016 and there would then be a programme of work to verify that the site was "fuel free".
 - (iv) Direct Rail Services Ltd had investigated the event reported at the previous meeting involving the removal of an empty fuel flask from its Flatrol rail wagon at the Berkeley railhead. A representative of DRS Ltd would attend the next meeting of this Group to report on their findings.
 - (v) As part of the review of the consolidation and management of radioactive waste at the various Magnox Sites it was proposed that IONSIV cartridges would be transferred from Dungeness A and Sizewell A for packaging at Oldbury. These cartridges, which had been used for the removal of caesium from pond water at these Sites, would be transferred to Oldbury in the flasks used for the transport of irradiated fuel. These proposals, which were subject to safety case and regulatory

approval, could result in savings as facilities for processing these components would not be required at the other two Sites.

- (vi) Good progress was being maintained with the removal of asbestos from the de-aerator plant on the Turbine Hall roof. This project represented the largest stripping of asbestos in the South-West of England and was now 50% complete.
- (vii) The transition from defuelling would enable significant simplification of work processes and requirements and it was anticipated that there could be a reduction from the current 300 posts to approximately 120-140 posts; actual reductions would depend on the level of funding for decommissioning projects. Some individual members of staff would be willing to retire; opportunities were being identified for those who wished to remain in employment in the industry.
- (viii) Some new members of this Group had taken part in a tour of the Oldbury site. A further visit would be arranged if necessary - members were asked to contact the Site if they wished to take part.

- 9 In reply to a question from Ms Paine, Mr Heaton said that the IONSIV equipment had been used as part of the process for the control of conditions in cooling ponds. Caesium was the principal radionuclide removed by this equipment. It was not anticipated that the processing of these cartridges at Oldbury would result in any increase in discharges of radioactivity to the River Severn. In response to a question from Cllr Riddle, Mr Heaton said that the despatch of all fuel would result in the removal of 99% of the total inventory of radioactivity on the Site.

Office for Nuclear Regulation

- 10 Mr Dickenson had been unable to attend as this meeting. No issues were raised by members on the report which had been circulated.

Environment Agency

- 11 Mr Reynolds presented a report on the Environment Agency's regulatory activities which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. He drew particular attention to the following:
- (i) Mr Reynolds had given consideration to arrangements in place to manage maintenance and decommissioning activities once the site been declared "fuel free". He had been satisfied with arrangements made to ensure that the site continued to meet its permit conditions.
 - (ii) The Agency had reviewed assessments undertaken in relation to the transfer of IONSIV cartridges from Dungeness and Sizewell to Oldbury. The Agency had no objections to the methodology of the study but required the additional information which the company was to provide in

order to allow it to assess whether the proposal represented the best available technique.

- (iii) Monitoring indicated that the rate of radioactive gaseous discharges from Oldbury continued to decline; no clear trend was apparent for liquid effluent discharges. More detailed reports on levels of discharges would be available for members at the next meeting.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- 12 Mr Lynden said that he and Cllr Hawkins would be attending a meeting with representatives of other SSG's during the coming week and would be attending the national stakeholder meeting in September. He would report back to this Group on issues discussed at those meetings.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No business

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 13 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group, a joint meeting with members of the Berkeley SSG, would be held at the Gables Hotel on 28 October 2015, commencing at 1.00pm with lunch available from 12 noon.

MJD

9 August 2015