



Closure Director's Report Dungeness A Site

January 2016



Round-up from the Closure Director

On return to work after the festive break on 4 January, I hosted an 'all hands' safe start site meeting to focus on safety.

The collective consultation for **Organisational Restructure** was formally concluded at the beginning of December 2015. All staff will be informed of outcomes by mid-February 2016.



Meetings with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, Magnox executives and site management were held this week to take forward a revised Life-time Performance plan.

Magnox continues to support local socio-economic projects. Details on how to apply for funding is at the end of this report.

The **Ponds Programme** has had a challenging and busy quarter, working on three initiatives.

The commissioning activities for the removal of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) IONSIV cartridges and filters from reactor one pond are complete for the export to Oldbury. This activity has involved re-commissioning the reactor one fuel route for flask import and export. The first flask left site this week and the movement of the waste is planned to be completed by end January 2016.

Upon completion of IONSIV removal, a further 10 Low Level Waste fuel skips are scheduled to be removed for disposal in February 2016.

Preparations for the divers for decommissioning activities in reactor two pond continues, with the first dives forecast to commence in March 2016.

Plant & Structures projects including external pipework deplanting and asbestos removal in boiler cells one and two continue. The **Site Security Separation Project** is in its final stages. All physical equipment and systems are installed. A Security Level 1 Exercise takes place during the first week of February 2016.

The **Waste Projects Programme**, priorities include characterisation (ILW and ILW/ LLW borderline wastes sample analysis and reporting) and completion of the ILW Conditioning Facility building by the end of March 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Wilkinson'.

Paul Wilkinson
Closure Director

1. SAFETY

SAFETY

Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) IONSIV cartridges (14) and filters (4) to consolidate this waste stream with items from Sizewell A at Oldbury. This activity has involved re-commissioning the reactor one fuel route for flask import and export. All commissioning activities are complete and the movement of the waste is planned to be completed in January 2016.

In response to a company-wide red brief, the site has continued focus on safe working at height. Human Performance Task Observations and Project Safety Reviews have had increased vigilance on working at height activities, along with increased management visibility in the field. The impact has already changed the way site completes certain jobs in order to improve safety when working at height.

Project safety focus remains culturally positive with Human Performance tools and techniques continually being embedded and used.

Following last quarter's campaign on slips, trips and falls, there has unfortunately been an event whereby an individual tripped over a sheet of steel plate, left in situ after crane operations. The operative received a cut to his forehead, along with small cuts to his nose and hands. An ambulance was called to site and the individual was taken to hospital where he received stitches to the head wound. He was discharged from hospital the same evening and returned to work the following day. The steel plates were removed immediately after the event and an assessment has been made across the site for similar hazards.

The Site responded to a number of grid disturbances during December which caused the site to lose electrical supplies. The new emergency scheme contingency arrangements were put into place and have been extremely useful in dealing with this type of scenario.

High winds in the period have also impacted the Site. During a night shift, damage occurred to scaffold C2 enclosures positioned on the side of the reactors. A number of scaffold boards were loosened by the wind, with one being blown onto the roof below, and poly weather proofing became detached. The C2 enclosures were not compromised and a full inspection and repair has been carried out as well as improvements to the way the scaffold boards are secured. Other site buildings have shown evidence of wind damage to the cladding, which has since been repaired.

Safe work continues on the construction of the Intermediate Level Waste Conditioning Facility with good progress being made along with safe work in ponds decommissioning, asset management and thermal insulation removal within the boiler areas.

ENVIRONMENT

Work continues on the construction of the new package sewage system, for which the site has submitted a variation to the EPR Permit to cover the location of the sampling point. The Environment Agency is currently reviewing the variation.

An extension to the Marine Management Organisation Permit for the cleaning of the active effluent discharge line by a specialist contractor has been requested. The original permit expired at the end of 2015 before any physical work was carried out. The work is now expected to be completed in the first half of 2016.

The Magnox Dissolution Plant continues to process the final batch of fuel element debris.

EMERGENCY SCHEME

The Site continued to embed the new arrangements in the form of emergency exercises and demonstrated this to the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) on 20 October in the Level 1 exercise. Feedback about the exercise was positive and deemed adequate by the ONR. Dungeness was the first Magnox site to formally demonstrate these new arrangements to the ONR and is now coaching other Magnox sites through the transition.

Following on from the Level 1 Exercise, the site has continued to practice a number of counter terrorism exercises using the new Security Guard Force, in the lead up to site separation from EDF Energy (Dungeness B) on 16 February 2016. Focus also continues on refresher training; coaching and exercising the site based rescue teams and first aiders on dealing with work at height and confined space accident scenarios.

RADIOLOGICAL PROTECTION

Radiation doses to workers remain As Low As Reasonably Practicable and below dose estimates. Radiological protection improvements have been made across multiple projects and this is demonstrated by successful progression of activities. Continual improvement remains the overall focus for the team.

2. SITE AND PROJECT NEWS

PONDS PROGRAMME

The Dungeness ponds programme has had a challenging and busy three months working on three initiatives:

- 1) Preparations have continued in reactor one pond for the export of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) IONSIV cartridges (14) and filters (4) to consolidate this waste stream with items from Sizewell A at Oldbury. This activity has involved re-commissioning the reactor one fuel route for flask import and export. All commissioning activities are complete and the movement of the waste is planned to be completed in January 2016.
- 2) Upon IONSIV completion a further 10 Low Level Waste (LLW) fuel skips are scheduled to be removed in February 2016 for disposal.
- 3) In reactor two pond the enabling works for decommissioning activities using divers has progressed but difficulties have been encountered with plant reliability including overhead cranes and electrical supplies which had taken additional time to overcome. The impact of the delays has pushed the forecast start date for the first dives to March 2016.



ION SIV cartridges are loaded into a transport flask



Demonstration of diving equipment

WASTE OPERATIONS PROGRAMME

Between October and the end of December, 6.5 tonne of metallic LLW in two half height ISOs have been sent to Studsvik for metal recycling with a further 46m³ of LLW sent to Tradebe for Incineration under the Low Level Waste Repository Framework contract. The Site also shipped eight Low Level Waste Ponds Skips to INUTEC for co-disposal for final consignment to the Low Level Waste Repository.

The site has also shipped around 35 non-radioactive waste shipments comprising of mainly general waste and metal.



HHISOs loaded with pond skips and metal waste

WASTE PROJECTS PROGRAMME

The Waste Projects Programme at Dungeness A is continuing with the Ductile Cast Iron Containers (DCIC) strategy as the standard disposal package for this site so that the available capacity at the Bradwell Interim Storage Facility (ISF) can be fully utilised, subject to the appropriate local authority and regulatory approvals.

Good progress has been made in the last financial year:

- construction of the ILW Conditioning Facility building is expected before end of March 16;
- Advanced Vacuum Drying System (AVDS) contract placed,
- all sampling of the ILW and ILW/LLW borderline wastes characterisation campaign is expected to be complete before end of March 16;
- commenced the design of the IX Resin Retrieval Equipment; and
- commenced the design of the IONSIV Filter transport and storage facilities.

The scope of waste projects portfolio for this financial year is:

- off-site manufacture of the AVDS and subsequent installation and inactive commissioning at site;
- installation and inactive commissioning of the service systems required within the ILW Conditioning Facility building to operate the AVDS;
- completion of the ILW and ILW/LLW borderline wastes characterisation campaign (Sample analysis and reporting);
- completion of the design of the IX Resin Retrieval Equipment and subsequent procurement, manufacture, installation and inactive commissioning;
- development of the design of the sludge, sand and gravel retrieval equipment;
- completion of the design of the IONSIV Filters transport and storage facilities and subsequent procurement, manufacture, installation and inactive commissioning;
- development of the designs for MCI processing equipment; and
- development of the design for Buffer Storage facilities and cross site transportation equipment, followed by the subsequent procurement, manufacture, installation and inactive commissioning of these facilities.

PLANT AND STRUCTURES

South Side of Site Clearance

The project is complete with the close out in January 2016.

Control and Instrumentation Overlay – Remote Alarm Monitoring Systems

All the works are now complete and the system has been handed over to the Operations team.

Asset Management

- Bought, installed and commissioned the new hand and foot monitors.
- Some minor repair work for the last tranche of the Man Access Drains Project and issued the final tranche that has just started.
- The contract for the New Modular Sewage Treatment Plant has been Issued and the electrical supply work has started.
- The contract for the PWFCR Stack Replacement Plant has been Issued, fabrication under way and on-site work starts this month.

- The contract for the A & F Discharge Lines Cleaning has been Issued.
- The zinc bromide has been sampled and characterised.
- The lower maintenance rooms clearing is almost complete, after completion and the survey has proved the area to be clear, the zinc bromide removal process can begin (approved contractor TradeBe is waiting go ahead).

Enablers

- Essential Supplies battery removal
- Mercury arc rectifier removal
- Water spray switches removed
- Removal of oil from redundant transformers

The Site Security Separation project is in its final stages and going well. All physical equipment and systems are installed and most are live. QSG are now programming and testing the system before presenting it to the Testing & Commissioning Panel.

Informal exercises with the new security force will start next week as part of their training. Peer assist exercises will be on the 19 January and the ONR-CNS demonstration exercise will be on the 2 February.

This will put the project on target to go live on the separation date of 16 February.

3. STAFFING

- As of 31 December 2015 there are 181.24 full time equivalent members of staff at Dungeness A. There are also an additional 18 members of staff who have a central role but are based at Dungeness A.
- There are 6 agency supplied workers, and 31 individuals employed through Framework Agreements.
- The number of contractors fluctuates according to the work being undertaken.
- 25 members of staff left the company through a combination of resignation, retirement, and voluntary severance between 1 April 2015 up to and including 31 December 2015.

Organisational Restructure

Due to the need to align our operating model to deliver an effective decommissioning programme; the number of positions on the Dungeness staff structure will reduce from 221 to 176.75 positions during 2016.

The collective consultation for this reduction was formally concluded on 1/2 December 2015, and it is expected that following individual consultation, staff will be informed of outcomes by mid-February 2016. This phase of restructuring will conclude in September 2016.

During this period of uncertainty support is being provided to staff by way of organisational and trade union support, an employee assistance programme and specialist outplacement advice for those leaving the organisation.

4. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Socio-economic spend from April to December 2015

	Organisation	Funding aim	Funding awarded	Description/outcome
1	Folkestone Rugby Club under 13's team	Good neighbour	£832	Rugby Kit
	Sub total		£832	
2	New Romney Country Fayre	Sustainable Communities	£1,983	Equipment for multi-year use
	Sub total		£1,983	
3	Marsh Academy	Mitigation	£16,140	Y2 of 3 year funding - total awarded £43,000
4	Marsh Million Fund	Mitigation	£150,000	Y2 of 3 year funding - total awarded £500,000
5	New Romney Business Incubator Units	Mitigation	£33,000	Y2 of 3 year funding - total awarded £99,709
6	Romney Marsh Partnership Co-ordinator	Mitigation	£40,000	Y2 of 3 year funding - total awarded £120,000
	Sub total		£239,140	
TOTAL	£241,955			

Marsh Million update

The Marsh Million Loan Scheme, launched in September 2013 has so far approved 25 loans totalling £307,557 and created 37 full-time equivalent jobs. The loan scheme offers interest free loans to local businesses of between £2,500 and £50,000.

The Marsh Million Economic Projects Scheme (EPS), launched in November 2014, has so far supported 8 successful applications totalling £395,988. The EPS scheme offers grants of up to £100,000 to organisations delivering projects to support the employment, training and the local community.

In the case of both the loan and EPS schemes, they are now closed to new pre-applications and the programme management team are currently processing the remaining approved pre-applications with a view to making final funding decisions by the end of March 2016. We will also be hosting a breakfast event on the 29th January 2016 to celebrate the achievements of the schemes.

Magnox's socio-economic approach

Magnox is committed to providing and enabling socio-economic support for the communities in which it operates.

A new Magnox socio-economic plan, developed to take into account the impacts of decommissioning was produced and agreed in 2011 following an assessment of the socio-economic implications for local communities. This is in-line with the requirements of the Energy Act 2004 to mitigate the effects of decommissioning on the surrounding communities and develop opportunities for socio-economic development.

How to apply for funding

Go to www.magnoxsites.co.uk/about-us/community or click on www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com to access the socio-economic web portal where you can apply for funding. Please read the funding guidelines and other documentation to assist you with your application and to make sure your project meets the required criteria.

Your contact is: Haf Morris, Dungeness A Site Tel: 01797 343549

Email: haf.e.morris@magnoxsites.com

Draft Magnox Socio-economic Plan Consultation

The consultation on the Draft Magnox Socio-economic Plan opened on 12 January 2016 and is running until 23 February 2016; where any feedback or comments will be considered before finalising the three year plan. The draft plan is available at:

<https://magnoxsites.com/what-we-do/engagement/soc-ec-plan>