

**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION**  
**DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING**

**The Visitor Centre - Dungeness B Power Station**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

**10.00 for 10.30**

**Attendance:**

|                    |   |                                  |
|--------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Mrs L Barton       | - | Lydd Airport Action Group        |
| Cllr M Burgess     | - | Ashford Borough Council          |
| Miss R Butler      | - | Environment Agency               |
| Cllr P Coe         | - | New Romney Town Council          |
| Mr I Cuthbert      | - | Dungeness A Site                 |
| Dr L Davies        | - | ONR (Dun B)                      |
| Mrs T Finn         | - | SSG Secretariat                  |
| Mr K Franks        | - | Independent Member               |
| Dr L Franks        | - | Minute Taker                     |
| Cllr Mrs B Gregory | - | New Romney Town Council          |
| Ms C Igoe          | - | Romney Marsh Partnership         |
| Mr D Illsley       | - | Shepway District Council         |
| Mr A Jakeways      | - | ONR (Dun A)                      |
| Mr J Jenkin        | - | NDA                              |
| Mr R Jones         | - | Lydd Town Council                |
| Cllr E Last        | - | Lydd Town Council                |
| Mr R Lavender      | - | Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce |
| Cllr D Lawton      | - | New Romney Town Council          |
| Mr O Leyshon       | - | Romney Marsh Countryside Project |
| Cllr D Monk        | - | Shepway District Council         |
| Ms S Mortimer      | - | Affinity Water                   |
| Mr M Pearson       | - | Dungeness B Power Station        |
| Cllr A Rodriguez   | - | New Romney Town Council          |
| Ms J Sanders       | - | EDF                              |
| Mr J Simpson       | - | Affinity Water                   |
| Mr A Stone         | - | Environment Agency               |
| Ms K Smith         | - | Dungeness Residents Association  |
| Col G Smythe       | - | Independent Chairman             |

## **I INTRODUCTION**

3464 Col. Smythe welcomed attendees, in particular those new to this forum, to the 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Site Stakeholder Group (SSG). He explained that it had been a busy interval between meetings, that additional information would be circulated to all members as it became available and that an amended agenda had resulted. He encouraged attendees to ask questions of the operators and regulators present.

## **II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3465 The following apologies were received:

|                   |   |  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Cllr Lord Amphill | - | Rother District Council                |
| Mr J Beckwith     | - | Magnox                                 |
| Mr B Botley       | - | Kent Against a Radioactive Environment |
| Mr T Clegg        | - | Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries       |
| Chief Insp Elmes  | - | Kent Police                            |
| Mr P Fahey        | - | EA (Dun A)                             |
| Cllr C Goddard    | - | Lydd Town Council                      |
| Mr T Hills        | - | Independent Member                     |
| Ms E Newell       | - | Holiday Inn (Ashford North)            |
| Mr A Parry        | - | Independent Vice Chair                 |
| Ms M Stuart       | - | Kent Against a Radioactive Environment |
| Cllr Mrs C Waters | - | Kent County Council                    |
| Mr J Wroblewski   | - | Dungeness B Power Station              |

## **III MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS**

3466 The minutes of the 25<sup>th</sup> SSG meeting held on 21.01.16. were agreed as an accurate record.

## **IV CORRESPONDENCE**

3467 A list of correspondence, distributed to SSG members, was made available to attendees at this meeting. Chairman advised that hard copies were available on request.

## **V MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 22<sup>nd</sup> MEETING**

3468 Chairman drew attention to the action point raised at the previous meeting:  
*Para 3449 p5 re Sewage Outfall* – update reported in the current EA Report (dated February - May 2016)

## **VI DUNGENESS A CLOSURE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

3467 Ian Cuthbert, Site Programme Integrator, gave apologies from the Site Closure Director, Paul Wilkinson. He drew attention to the written report dated May 2016, and in particular the following sections:

- *Safety*: Remains good, one trip event reported.

- *Ponds Programme:* Divers have been deployed in the ponds in the scheduled trial and are due to return in September 2016 to continue work in the R2 pond and subsequently in the R1 pond. IONSIV cartridges and filters have now been shipped to Oldbury site for reprocessing. Once all skips and debris has been removed from the ponds, the next phase will be pond drainage.
- *Waste Projects:* the design, installation and commissioning of facilities and systems for retrieval and conditioning of Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) is progressing well and mechanical and electrical systems installation in the ILW Conditioning Facility has commenced. The next step is the installation of the Advanced Vacuum Drying System (AVDS), which is currently being manufactured off site and is now due to be delivered in the autumn, ahead of the original December deadline. The asbestos removal continues and is due to complete during 2018 (time frame dependent on funding).
- *Organisational Restructure:* now complete and more programme orientated.

3468 Questions and comments were invited and Chairman sought clarification of what would happen to the ILW destined for the ILW store at Bradwell if that site did not get the required planning permission to use their existing store capacity for waste sourced from Dungeness and Sizewell sites. Mr Cuthbert advised that the Dungeness A site had limited capacity to store the packaged ILW and explained that the on-site packaging and conditioning would be undertaken progressively and up to 12 packages collated in readiness for shipping. Members expressed concern that an ILW store would be required at Dungeness.

3469 Q: How many boxes of ILW will be generated?  
 A: Approx 200 boxes in total will be required to sentence all the different ILW waste types.  
 Q: Will there be a regional waste store at Dungeness?  
 A: The current plan is for the various waste streams to be shipped to the designated regional stores so IONSIV cartridges and filters have been shipped to Oldbury, the skip panels will be shipped to Hinkley and the yellow ILW waste boxes to Bradwell. There is no plan to store ILW waste at Dungeness.  
 Q. Has the residual ILW from the FED waste dispatched from Bradwell and processed at Dungeness now been returned to Bradwell?  
 A. No, this is currently within our vaults and on our FED filters but will be recovered, conditioned and shipped to Bradwell for storage.  
 Q. What is the time frame for this?  
 A. The first shipments of ILW to the Bradwell store are anticipated in January 2017.  
 Q. Will the Bradwell ILW store require enlargement?  
 A. No there is capacity and the store is already in use to store Bradwell ILW.

3470 The question of when the outcome of the planning application would be known was posed and Mr Jonathan Jenkin, NDA, advised that application to vary the use of the existing ILW store to also house ILW sourced from other sites in the region was submitted in March. The statutory planning consultation period is underway and the outcome is likely in July/August.

## VII MAGNOX LIFETIME PLAN UPDATE

3471 Ian Cuthbert explained that with the change of the Parent Body, all Magnox sites had reconsidered their lifetime plans. The revised plan for Dungeness A has now been submitted to the NDA and will require regulatory approval. The only key change is to remove the quiescent period previously planned from 2019-23, meaning that planned

entry into Care and Maintenance (C&M) would be brought forward to 2025. This means that staffing levels on site will now remain relatively stable ( $\pm$  circa 20people).

3471 Q. When will the site enter C&M?

A. Planned for August 2025, however, this requires validation from the NDA, agreement with the other regulators and assumes sufficient funding is available.

3472 Chairman expressed optimism at this news, explaining that this will enable a continuation of socio-economic funding until entry into C&M (2025) rather than into the previously planned quiescent phase (2019), continuation of the SSG meetings and continued employment for current staff on site. Mr Jenkin concurred, advising that the future of socio-economic support and stakeholder group meetings after entry into C&M had yet to be considered.

3473 Q. Will there still be a regional hub to oversee sites in C&M?

A. Mr Jenkin advised that the model was for a central hub to oversee the different sites, advised that the concept of a central team was still in existence and that the details of what on-site presence may be required were as yet unclear. Mr Cuthbert added that the regulators would be consulted to ensure any system met their requirements.

3474 Q. How long will the site remain in C&M?

A. The plan is to start final site clearance in 2085, so approx 60years.

3475 Q. What is the rationale behind removing the quiescent phase?

A. Previously the ponds were to be drained and other specialised projects completed before the site was to be left dormant from 2019-23 with a minimal staff of circa ten. In 2023 the staffing was to be ramped up and the site demolition undertaken to enable the site to enter C&M in 2028. Upon review it was considered that all the required expertise was currently available on site and loss of this experience and knowledge would be very disadvantageous, hence removal of the quiescent phase to enable staff retention and continuous progress into C&M.

Q. What is the significance of 2018?

A. This is when, hopefully, the ponds will be drained enabling a significant step change on site.

Q. What staff changes do you anticipate?

A. In the near term, an increase to approx 220 staff to enable the ponds project to progress. After ponds drainage, a gradual tapering to nearer 100 -120 staff for the intervening years before entry into C&M. This is only a best guess at this time.

## VIII DUNGENESS B STATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

3476 Martin Pearson, Station Director, drew attention to his written report dated 19<sup>th</sup> May 2016 and advised the following:

- *Safety*: Continues to be positive with no issues now for almost a year.
- *Environmental Issues*: another grey seal has got into the forebay. A fish expert has recently advised about fish behaviour after issues with herring ingress. The 'top hat' from one of the main cooling water pipes is no longer in place allowing fish into the forebay. This 'top hat' cover will be replaced during the next scheduled shut down (summer 2017).

- *Generation*: two issues over the last few months; a conventional valve on the turbine system shut spuriously; a massive ingress of herring overwhelmed the drum screen and fish accessed the cooling system. Both events resulted in unscheduled shut downs.
- *Visitors*: EDF Energy visitor centre is very busy with many schools organising repeat visits.
- *Community*: site continues to promote STEM activities in local schools. Female apprentices are being encouraged. Damian Collins visited site and shared his passion for apprentice recruitment.
- *Company News*: Financing has been troublesome for Hinkley C but is now in place and EDF Energy is in a period of formal consultation (until June) with the unions. The building of Hinkley C has already received the endorsement of the French President. Further updates are likely to be reported by the media.

3477 Mr Pearson announced that this was his last SSG meeting as he has been appointed to the role of Managing Director at URENCO UK Ltd and will, therefore, be leaving EDF Energy. His successor will be announced shortly and handover will occur in the summer. Mr Pearson thanked the SSG and in particular the Chairman. Chairman responded, thanking Mr Pearson for his transparency and honesty and commenting that he had enjoyed a good working relationship with Mr Pearson. Cllr Lavender added his thanks to Mr Pearson, commenting on how wonderful it was to see EDF Energy engaging the students in the local schools

3478 Questions were invited and none were forthcoming.

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

3479 Andrew Jakeways, Dungeness A Site Inspector, drew attention to the written report dated 01.01.16. - 31.03.16. and in particular to the following:

- *Site Visits*: safety inspections undertaken over two days in March (training, suitably qualified personnel, control of operations) and a security inspection during February (separation of the two power stations). No issues were raised.
- *Regulatory activity*: No incidences reported. No enforcement notices and two Licence Instruments were issued.
- *Chief Nuclear Inspector*: Dr Richard Savage has been appointed to this role.

3480 Questions were invited resulting in the following exchanges:

Q: Recent press has reported a decrease in armed police guarding Dungeness A and B sites. Is this the case and what are the plans for the future?

A: Mr Pearson advised that armed police, the Civil Nuclear Constabulary (CNC), guard Dungeness B site, have a minor remit to patrol the local community and their numbers have actually increased over the last 18 months. CNC offices and mess rooms are all within the Dungeness B site boundaries. Mr Jakeways added that Dungeness A is a category 4 site and, therefore, has no requirement for armed guards but does have those attending the B site within close proximity if an issue arose.

Q: Who undertakes the risk assessment to determine the security required?

A: The site themselves have a security team that undertakes the site risk assessment. ONR has a civil nuclear security team that would have oversight of

this and would approve the security plans. Mr Pearson advised that the sites have both safety and security inspections.

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

3481 Dr Les Davies, Dungeness B Site Inspector, drew attention to his written report covering the period 01.01.16. - 31.03.16., advised that he had very little to add and that the last three months had included routine inspections with no issues arising.

3482 Questions were invited and none were forthcoming.

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

3483 Andrew Stone, EA Site Inspector for Dungeness B, introduced himself as the replacement for the outgoing Inspector, Jo Moakes, and tendered apologies from Phil Fahey, EA Site Inspector for Dungeness A. He drew attention to the combined written report dated February - May 2016 and agreed to take questions concerning both sites.

3484 Mr Stone reminded attendees of the response to the action raised at the last meeting regarding UV treatment of sewerage works (p2 of EA report).

3485 Mr Stone provided a short presentation that showed screen shots of two websites advising that as part of the Government's open data programme, the EA have published data on regulated businesses in England (up to 2014) and provided a tool to check local environmental data and maps ([www.gov.uk/check-local-environmental-data](http://www.gov.uk/check-local-environmental-data)).

3486 Chairman invited questions and the following were asked regarding the ingress of sealife onto the cooling water system:  
Q: What happens to the fish that have ingressed the power station cooling water?  
A: Mr Pearson advised that the fish are not allowed to be returned live, so the fish are macerated and then returned to the sea.  
Q: Why does this happen?  
A: Sheer volume  
Q: What about the seal?  
A: Will be released from Sandwich Bay.  
A: The RSPCA seal hospital is based locally and this has meant an increase in the number of seals in this area.  
Q: Will the new 'top hat' prevent ingress of sealife?  
A: It should certainly reduce ingress.

## **XII NDA UPDATE**

3487 Jonathan Jenkin, Stakeholder Engagement Manager, drew attention to the NDA update for May 2016 explaining that this report covered the entire estate and not just Dungeness. The following points were noted:

- *National College for Nuclear (NCfN)*: £15million announced to create two NCfN sites in Bridgewater, Somerset and Lilyhall, Cumbria that are due to open in September 2017. It is hoped that 7,000 individuals will be trained at this college by 2020.

- *Research and Development:* contracts worth up to £12million have been awarded to a range of consortia from the Direct Research Portfolio a budget owned by the NDA to enable the development of technical expertise and deliver innovation across multiple sites. The DISTINCTIVE programme (Decommissioning, Immobilisation and Storage Solutions for Nuclear Waste Inventories) recently hosted a meeting in Bristol to share their learning. This programme is partly funded by the NDA.
- *Sellafield:* three key items:
  - a steel door frame has been installed on the Pile Fuel Cladding Silo, progress towards enabling the retrieval of legacy waste dating from the atomic weapons programme.
  - complete removal of all fuel from the pile fuel storage pond means a reduction of 70% of radioactivity levels in this 68year old facility.
  - Sellafield Ltd, a site licensed company, became a wholly owned subsidiary of NDA and will be chaired by Tony Fountain (ex NDA Chief Executive).
- *NDA Strategy / NDA Business Plan:* both are now published.
- *Supply Chain Event:* will next be convened on 03.11.16.
- *NDA Website:* now moved to central government domain.

3488 Questions were invited:

Q: What has happened to the fuel removed from the pile fuel storage pond?

A: It is now stored in safer conditions in a new storage facility on Sellafield site.

Q: Is the Business plan an annual plan?

A: It is a three year rolling plan that is updated annually.

### **XIII SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE**

3489 Chairman drew attention to the Community Relations section of the Dungeness A Closure Directors' report as this details the socio-economic spend for 2015-16 and commented upon the substantial number of good neighbourhood applications (grants up to £1000) that had been received and awarded.

3491 Chairman advised that larger sums could be bid for and encouraged applications adding that a training /educational component improved the chances of success. All criteria for bids are available on the website ([www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com](http://www.magnoxsocioeconomic.com)).

3492 The Magnox Socio-economic Plan for 2016-19 is about to be published and several SSG members, including the Chairman, have contributed during the consultation period.

3493 The Dymchurch Coastal Community Economic Plan has been published by Regeneris Consulting. Chairman advised that funding contributions for the production of such a plan is available on request and that the existence of this type of plan eases the successful application for funds for projects detailed therein. Chairman strongly recommended other communities produce a similar plan and suggested that David Illsley could advise sources of economic support and that Haf Morris was the contact for socio-economic bids.

#### **XIV ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

3494 Cllr Lavender advised that at the Business and Local MP breakfast meeting that he Chair's that the local MP had advised that he was still lobbying for a Dungeness C. He questioned what form this lobbying might take. Chairman advised that the MP may well be lobbying at a parliamentary level.

3495 A discussion about the possibility of a Dungeness C ensued and the following points were made:

- Footprint for a new station may not fit within available land. Small modular nuclear reactor technology may be feasible as sits on a smaller footprint
- Re-use of part/all Dungeness A site may not be possible
- Natural England objections meant that the Government did not list Dungeness as a possible location previously. Local land is not designated for new build.
- Flood risk may prevent new site being identified locally

3496 Chair advised that new Government proposals for the Geological Disposal Facility (GDF) are anticipated in Sept/Oct 2016. Chairman will invite Radioactive Waste Management to present information to attendees at a future SSG meeting.

3497 Chairman advised that he had attended a recent workshop on regulations covering NDA sites approaching final stages of decommissioning and clean-up. He advised that there was a lot of information shared from DECC, NDA, SEPA and Magnox and that each produced substantial briefs that he had yet to fully assimilate. Chairman advised that the workshop considered optimising assets and techniques to enable cost savings without compromising safety. Chairman advised that he was happy to share the information with District and County Councils.

3498 Chairman led a vote of thanks to the Clerk, advising that this will be her last attendance at this meeting. Clerk thanked the members for making her feel welcome during her tenure as their Clerk.

#### **XV NEXT MEETING**

3463 The 27<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Dungeness SSG will be held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2016, 9.30 for 10am at the Dungeness Visitor Centre.

Meeting closed at midday.