

## Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

### SEPA Update on Hunterston B

#### HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING,

1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 at the Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan

#### Regulation

##### Radioactive Substances Act 1993 (RSA)

SEPA has formally inspected the station in relation to its RSA Authorisation once since the last SSG meeting. On 13 October 2016, SEPA undertook an inspection looking at the station's disposals of radioactive aqueous waste to the environment. No contraventions were noted. In addition, SEPA staff participated in the multi-agency exercise of emergency preparedness for the station, Exercise Kestrel, on 21 September 2016.

SEPA staff participated in a Level 4 Radioactive Waste meeting with EDF, EA and ONR on 5 October 2016 in order to receive an update on EDF corporate developments with regard to solid radioactive waste management. SEPA staff also participated in a meeting with the EA in Birmingham on 24 October 2016 in order to discuss COMAH and other environmental issues across the EDF fleet in the UK.

##### Pollution Prevention & Control (PPC)

There have been no issues relating to the station's PPC permit for its non-radioactive emissions from the emergency diesel generators, auxiliary boilers and waste oil burner since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

##### Control of Major Accidents Hazards (COMAH)

There have been no issues relating to COMAH since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

##### Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR)

The sewage treatment plant has again failed to comply with its pH limit. It appears that a pH probe failed which resulted in the caustic dosing system overdosing and breaching the upper limit of 9.0. This failure is not the same as previous incidents which were low pH failures. Although there is no apparent environmental impact as a result of this exceedance, the discharge will once again be subject to enforcement sampling by SEPA.

##### European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EUETS)

There were no issues relating to the station's EUETS permit since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

#### Events

Other than the pH failure of the sewage treatment plant, there were no reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA's interests at the station known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

### **Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)**

SEPA works together with the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment, and in publishing the results. The reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation. The reports focus on key information that demonstrates both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition (RIFE 21) covering 2015 has been published and electronic copies can be obtained from SEPA's website: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk) under "*Environment/Radioactive Substances/Environmental monitoring and assessment/Reports*".

### **Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)**

The Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) is a publicly accessible electronic database of releases of pollutants to all environmental media and transfers of non-radioactive waste. SEPA intends that, as far as practicable, SPRI be the principle means by which information on Scottish pollutant releases and non-radioactive waste transfers is collected and made public. Wherever possible, such information will be collected and presented by this one system.

The data for 2015, including that from Hunterston B, have been published and are available on SEPA's website: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk) under "*Environment/Environmental data/SPRI*".

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