

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

**SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016**

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden welcomed members to the meeting
- Mr J Jenkin, representing the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority, drew attention to the public consultation on the NDA's draft strategy which closed on 15 February. He pointed out that the funding provided for the NDA following the government's spending review would require savings and efficiency improvements but was sufficient to allow major work programmes to continue.
- 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.
- The final flask of irradiated fuel had been despatched from the Site to Sellafield on 7 January 2016. Completion of this work well ahead of programme was a significant achievement and the removal of all fuel represented a reduction of 99% in the Site's radioactive inventory. Good progress was being made with a programme of work to demonstrate that no fuel remained on the site.
- It was reported that an exercise had been held to demonstrate to the Office for Nuclear Regulation revised arrangements for dealing with an emergency on the site which were considered appropriate now that all fuel had been removed.
- Mr Heaton pointed out that Ionsiv spent filter cartridges were being transferred to Oldbury from Dungeness A and Sizewell A for consolidation and temporary storage. Three consignments had been received to date and a further two were planned. Processing these components at Oldbury would represent significant savings compared with the alternative of providing processing facilities at each of the sites. This would not have an adverse effect on conditions at Oldbury or delay the programme for Oldbury's entry into a care and maintenance state.
- Members received reports from the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency on the results of their inspection activities at the Oldbury site. No adverse comments were raised.
- Members agreed to establish a subcommittee to consider the preferred interim end state for the Oldbury Site following decommissioning activities. The subcommittee, which would also include representatives of the Berkeley SSG, would report back to this Group in due course.
- Members gave initial consideration to the possible scope for combining some of the functions of this Group with the Berkeley SSG. This matter will be considered further at the next meeting.

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE
CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY 2016**

PRESENT:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Mr M Lynden (in the chair) | - | Oldbury on Severn Parish Council |
| Cllr D Dovey | - | Monmouthshire County Council |
| Cllr M Hawkins | - | Aust Parish Council |
| Cllr Ms S Hunter | - | Olveston Parish Council |
| Cllr G Vaughan-Lewis | - | Alkington Parish Council |
| Cllr Ms J Lyons | - | Olveston Parish Council |
| Cllr Ms H Molyneux | - | Forest of Dean District Council |
| Cllr J O'Neill | - | South Gloucestershire Council |
| Cllr G Rawlinson | - | Thornbury Town Council |
| Mr B Roberts | - | Thornbury Chamber of Trade |
| Mr J Stanton | - | Vice-Chair, Berkeley SSG |
| Cllr K Sullivan | - | Oldbury Parish Council |
| Cllr Mrs P Wride | - | Chair, Berkeley SSG |

IN ATTENDANCE:

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Mr J Jenkin | - | Nuclear Decommissioning Authority |
| Mr P Dickenson | - | Office for Nuclear Regulation |
| Ms S Stagg | - | James Reed PR |
| Mr M Heaton | - | Oldbury on Severn Power Station |
| Ms K Basra-Steele | - | Oldbury on Severn Power Station |
| Ms G Coombs | - | Communications Officer |
| Mr W Gill | | |
| Mr A Mitchell | | |
| Mr M J Davis (Secretary) | | |

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1 Mr Lynden welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Oldbury on Severn Site Stakeholder Group.
- 2 Mr Lynden drew attention to forthcoming changes in arrangements for secretarial support to these meetings. Ms Coombs explained that in future secretariat support for SSGs at all Magnox sites was to be provided by Ms Tracey Fynn who was based at Dungeness A Site. It was intended that paperwork associated with SSG meetings would be circulated by e-mail as far as possible; a small number of printed copies of papers would be available at meetings for any members of the public who attended but it was hoped that members would be able to receive all their communications via e-mail. All of the members present confirmed that they were able to receive and if necessary print copies of all documentation sent via e-mail. It was noted that all documentation associated with these meetings was available on the Magnox website.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 3 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Riddle, Mr P Reynolds, Cllr C Evers, Mr P Chilcott, Ms H Cook, Cllr J Cordwell, Mr G P Simms, Ms G Ellis-King, and Mr D Wride.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 4 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 29 July 2015 and of the meeting held jointly with the Berkeley SSG on 28 October 2015 were approved as accurate records.

(b) Matters arising

- 5 There were no matters arising from the minutes of previous meetings.

PUBLIC FORUM

- 6 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

- 7 Mr Jenkin provided an update on issues of interest to the NDA, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The NDA had published its draft strategy and business plan documents for consultation. The consultation period would end on 15 February. The documents reflected the outcome of the government's spending review. The level of funding provided following that spending review - £16 billion over the next four years - would require savings and efficiency improvements but would allow major work programmes to continue.
 - (ii) The NDA had launched an online decommissioning blog which was accessible via its website. The website content was being moved to the central government website (www.gov.uk/nda).
 - (iii) Under changed management arrangements, Sellafield Ltd was to become a wholly-owned subsidiary of NDA. Mr Tony Fountain was to become chairman of Sellafield Ltd.
 - (iv) The NDA had been very pleased with the completion of despatches of irradiated fuel from Oldbury ahead of schedule. This represented a significant milestone in the reduction of hazards on the site and allowed the site to move into its decommissioning phase.

- (v) Generation at Wylfa power station had ceased on 30 December 2015. This was five years later than had originally been planned. The extended generation at Wylfa and Oldbury had produced additional income of £1 billion which had helped to fund decommissioning projects.
 - (vi) NDA had recently published a copy of its Insight magazine.
 - (vii) A successful supply chain event had been held in Manchester.
 - (viii) Significant progress was being made with decommissioning projects at Sellafield. A novel approach to storage of waste material had resulted in substantial savings in the costs of cleaning up the Magnox Swarf Storage Silo and good progress had been made recently in the removal of fuel from the Pile Fuel Storage Pond.
 - (ix) The Environment Agency had granted a permit which would enable disposals of wastes at the Low Level Waste Repository to continue for many years to come.
- 8 Mr Lynden referred to information he had gained at the National Stakeholder Group which illustrated the significant reduction over the past ten years in the proportion of total waste which was sent to the Low Level Waste Repository.
- 9 Cllr Vaughan Lewis sought further information on the reported changed approach to the storage of waste material from the Magnox Swarf Storage Silo. He questioned whether the change from a proposed encapsulation process to the storage of "raw waste" would incur additional expenditure in future years if wastes had to be encapsulated at a later date. Mr Jenkin undertook to provide further information to answer these questions.

Site Director's Report

- 10 Mr Heaton reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) 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) During a site visit the ONR's conventional safety inspector had been pleased with activities he had seen, particularly those associated with asbestos management and working at height.
 - (iii) An emergency exercise during December had demonstrated to the ONR the Site's proposed decommissioning emergency arrangements. This had been successful and allowed progress to be made with the training required for the new emergency arrangements; the new scheme was scheduled to come into force at the end of March 2016.

- (iv) Following the completion of reactor defuelling in October last year despatches of flasks of irradiated fuel had been made at a rate of about three per week. In recent weeks a rate of four flasks per week had been achieved - this was more than had previously been considered achievable. Despatches of fuel had been completed ahead of programme. The removal of fuel removed some 99% of the radioactive inventory from the site.
 - (v) Good progress was now being made with the programme of work to verify that there was no fuel remaining on site. Inspections of reactors and storage areas were complete and the fuel pond was being inspected systematically to confirm that there were no fragments of fuel elements in the pond.
 - (vi) Consignments of Ionsiv filters and cartridges from Sizewell A and Dungeness A had been received for consolidation, treatment and temporary storage in the Oldbury pond. Three of these consignments had been received to date and a further two were to follow. These filters and cartridges had been used during operations at Oldbury, Dungeness and Sizewell and the consolidation and treatment of the wastes at one location would represent significant savings compared with the alternative of carrying out these functions at each site. Carrying out all of this work at Oldbury would not delay the programme of work for entry into care and maintenance, currently planned for 2027.
 - (vii) An organisational structure appropriate to the requirements of the Site during the decommissioning phase had been agreed with trades unions and all staff had received counselling. During the coming year the main focus of work would be on decommissioning activities in the cooling pond and the continuation of the electrical overlay project. That project would allow other electrical supplies systems to be removed so that facilities, such as the Turbine Hall could be demolished. The current intention was that the Turbine Hall would be demolished during the period 2020 - 2022.
- 11 Mr Heaton said that he was to take over responsibility as Site Director for the Berkeley and Oldbury Sites following the imminent retirement of Mr Neal.
- 12 In reply to a question from Mr Gill, Mr Heaton confirmed that the consolidation of Ionsiv filters at Oldbury would save time in the programme of decommissioning work at Dungeness and Sizewell.
- 13 In response to comments by Cllr Dovey, Mr Lynden agreed that it was appropriate to take steps to make members of the public in Monmouthshire aware of the arrangements for implementation of off-site emergency arrangements within their area.
- 14 In reply to a further question from Mr Gill on the worst credible accident for the purpose of preparing emergency plans following the removal of all fuel from the site, Mr Heaton said that this would be a fire involving radioactive waste. He

said that an evaluation of potential hazards on the site following the removal of all fuel would be submitted to the Nuclear Safety Committee shortly. This would demonstrate that the potential for an off-site release of radioactivity was such that an off-site plan was not required. This matter would be subject to approval by the ONR.

Office for Nuclear Regulation

- 15 Mr Dickenson presented his report on inspection activities at the Oldbury site. He said that his inspections checked for compliance with the requirements of Site Licence conditions, and allowed him to witness current activities on the site and investigate reported events. He referred to the very thorough and systematic inspection process adopted in the cooling ponds to confirm that they were “fuel free”.
- 16 Mr Dickenson reported that Ms Adrienne Kelbie had recently been appointed Chief Executive of ONR and that the recruitment of a Chief Nuclear Inspector was currently in hand.

Environment Agency

- 17 Mr Reynolds had been unable to attend this meeting but his report on inspection activities at the Oldbury site had been circulated to members. It was noted that the EA report confirmed that the receipt of Ionsiv components from Dungeness A, as predicted, had not had any adverse impact on pond conditions at Oldbury. The Agency would continue to keep this matter under review.
- 18 It was noted that the Environment Agency was reviewing the Site's proposed changes to its environmental monitoring programme.
- 19 In response to a question from Mr Gill, Mr Heaton confirmed that with the circulating water system no longer in use, the reservoir was being allowed to silt up.

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER GROUP FEEDBACK

- 20 Mr Lynden reported on a meeting of the National Stakeholder Group which he and Cllr Hawkins had attended. The meeting had presented the NDA's draft strategy document to SSG representatives. During discussion with members, comments proposed by Mr Lynden as responses to the public consultation on the draft strategy were noted and supported. Mr Lynden undertook to submit these comments formally to the NDA.
- 21 During discussion Mr Lynden outlined his proposal to establish a subcommittee to consider a preferred interim end state for the Oldbury site. This Group had considered this matter some years ago but a review would be able to take account of the fact that the construction of a new power station was in prospect. It was envisaged that this subcommittee would include Mr Lynden, Cllr Hawkins, Cllr Mrs Wride, Cllr J Stanton, Cllr M Riddle (or Ms G Ellis-King), Mr A Mitchell and representatives of Magnox and Horizon Nuclear

Power. The subcommittee would report back to this Group in due course.
Mr Lynden undertook to circulate proposals for a meeting of this subcommittee.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

22 Mr Lynden suggested that with the Oldbury Site entering into a decommissioning phase there were opportunities for combining some of the functions of the Oldbury and Berkeley SSGs. He recognised that some issues to be addressed were specific to the separate sites but felt that there were economies to be made by combining some of the functions. During discussion on this suggestion the following points were noted:

- (i) Cllr Sullivan said that the impact of new station construction would be of more direct interest to the Oldbury Group than the Berkeley Group
- (ii) Cllr Lewis felt that the matter should be driven by the interests of the local communities rather than the economics of forming a combined group. Mr Heaton suggested that many issues of common interest could be dealt with in a joint meeting and then separate sessions could be held for more focused discussions. He said that there would be increasing opportunities for closer working between the two sites.

23 It was agreed that members would give further consideration to the possibility of combining some of the functions of the Oldbury and Berkeley SSGs and that the matter would be discussed further at the next meeting.

24 Mr Mitchell suggested that with the removal of all fuel from the Site there should be opportunities for providing public access to the Site to recognise and celebrate its iconic status within the programme of nuclear power development in the UK.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

13 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group was scheduled to be held on 27 April 2016.

MJD
1 February 2016