

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

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

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden welcomed members to the meeting
- Mr Lynden said that proposals to establish a subgroup to consider the preferred interim end state for the Site were being delayed pending completion of a review of the Site's lifetime plan. It was anticipated that a revised plan would be approved during the coming summer.
- 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.
- Following the final shipment of irradiated fuel to Sellafield in January, a programme of inspections had demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Office for Nuclear Regulation that no fuel remained on the site.
- Verification that the site was now "fuel free" allowed emergency planning and security arrangements to be simplified. It also allowed changes to an organisational structure appropriate for decommissioning work; staffing numbers had been reduced by approximately 100. Some of those leaving had been redeployed at other sites with some 30 - 40 personnel taking up posts at the Berkeley site.
- Decommissioning work had started in the cooling ponds. The first tasks included removal of tools and equipment used during operations. The programme of decommissioning work in the cooling ponds was expected to take some 2 - 2½ years.
- Mr Peter Dickinson, the Office for Nuclear Regulation's Site Inspector, emphasised the rigorous nature of the programme of inspections carried out to verify that there was no fuel remaining on the site. He personally had witnessed these inspections and satisfied himself with the results.
- Mr Peter Reynolds, the Lead Regulator for the Environment Agency drew attention to the Agency's agreement to a change to passive venting of the reactor pressure vessels and changes in environmental monitoring requirements following defueling.

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

PRESENT:

Mr M Lynden (in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr D Chubb	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr D Dovey	-	Monmouthshire County Council
Cllr C Evers	-	Glos Assoc of Parish and Town Councils
Dr L Hales	-	Independent Environmental Consultant
Cllr Ms J Hathway	-	Falfield Parish Council
Cllr M Hawkins	-	Aust 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
Ms A Paine	-	Stroud Green Party
Cllr G Rawlinson	-	Thornbury Town Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Trade
Mr J Stanton	-	Vice-Chair, Berkeley SSG
Cllr Ms V Tutin	-	Olveston Parish Council
Cllr Mrs P Wride	-	Chair, Berkeley SSG

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr P Dickenson	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Mr P Reynolds	-	Environment Agency
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Ms S Stagg	-	James Reed PR
Mr M Heaton	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms K Duane	-	Magnox
Mr P Heath	-	Magnox
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. He drew attention to the revised arrangements for providing administrative support to the SSG and in particular to the dedicated e-mail address, oldbury.ssg@magnoxsites.com, which members were able to use for any correspondence relating to the SSG.
- 2 Mr Lynden drew attention to the value of South Gloucestershire Council being represented in the membership of this Group at officer level. Proposed by Mr Lynden and seconded by Cllr Hawkins, it was unanimously agreed that

Ms G Ellis King, strategic projects manager, South Gloucestershire Council, should be added to the list of members of this Group.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 3 Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Riddle, Cllr K Sullivan, Ms H Cook, Mr G P Simms, Mr D Wride and Mr W Hamilton.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 4 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 27 January 2016 were approved as an accurate record.

(b) Matters arising

Subgroup to consider interim end state for site (para 21 refers)

- 5 Mr Stanton asked what progress had been made with establishing a subgroup to consider the interim future end-state for the site. Mr Lynden said that he had been asked to delay establishing a subgroup as the lifetime plan for the site was currently under revision and discussions within a subgroup would be more meaningful following the approval of that plan. He emphasised his view of the importance, from a local community point of view, of ensuring that there was effective liaison between Magnox and Horizon in relation to the potential use of existing facilities within a new power station development. He hoped that it would be possible to establish a subgroup during the latter part of the current year to consider end state issues and report back to the SSG as a whole. Mr Heath confirmed that revised lifetime plans had been submitted to the NDA and it was envisaged that they would be approved during the coming summer.

PUBLIC FORUM

- 6 Mr Lynden invited members of the public to raise any issues which might not arise in discussion later in the meeting.
- 7 Mr Gill referred to comments by a representative of Horizon Nuclear Power at an earlier meeting of this Group indicating that there were plans for demolition of the Windbound public house and provision of improved car parking facilities at that site. He said that no progress appeared to have been made. Ms Stagg said that work on the demolition of the buildings was awaiting receipt of the necessary licences; she confirmed that the proposed work would enhance car parking facilities. She anticipated that demolition work would commence within a matter of weeks.
- 8 Cllr Doney drew attention to discussion on a television programme broadcast in Wales which suggested that proposals for development of a new station at Wylfa might not be going to proceed. Mr Heath confirmed that from his discussions with senior Horizon personnel there was no lack of commitment to proceed with

the development at Wylfa. In reply to a question from Ms Payne, Mr Heath said that proposals for development at Wylfa were not directly affected by delays at Hinkley Point C; the projects were being developed separately, by separate companies with their own individual timescales.

- 9 In response to comments on technical issues affecting the decision to proceed with Hinkley Point C construction, Mr Dickenson emphasised that construction would not be allowed to start before ONR was satisfied that all aspects were covered by suitably robust safety cases.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

- 10 It was noted that Mr Hamilton had been prevented from attending the meeting by delays on the rail network. A report on issues of current interest to the NDA had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.
- 11 It was noted that, in response to questions raised by Cllr Vaughan Lewis at the previous meeting, information had been sent to members on the revised approach to the treatment of waste materials contained in the Magnox Swarf Storage Silo at Sellafield. Cllr Vaughan Lewis acknowledged receipt of this information but said that it did not answer his initial question on the relative costs and benefits of the alternative approaches. He said that he would raise this matter again at a meeting when NDA officers were present.

Site Director's Report

- 12 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. There had been no significant industrial safety issues.
 - (ii) ONR had been given a report on the circumstances of an event in which an attempt had been made to remove the lid of a fuel transport flask in the Oldbury pond before all retaining bolts had been removed. Investigations had confirmed that procedures for removal of flask lids were appropriate but there had been a failure in communication between the personnel involved in this case.
 - (iii) Following the final shipment of irradiated fuel to Sellafield in January, a comprehensive programme of work had been completed to demonstrate that there was no fuel remaining on the site. The conclusions of this work had been accepted by ONR. The work programme had been completed in a timely manner in March.

- (iv) Certain changes were able to be made following the verification that no fuel remained on the site. These changes included simplified emergency arrangements, a reduction in the security classification for the site and organisational changes. Overall staffing numbers had been reduced by approximately 100. Some of those leaving had been redeployed at other sites – some 30 - 40 personnel had taken up posts at the Berkeley site.
 - (v) A document had been submitted to ONR via the Nuclear Safety Committee making a justification that there was no foreseeable potential fault on the site which could lead to an off-site release of radioactivity. If this case was approved by the ONR it would no longer be necessary to have plans for dealing with an off-site release.
 - (vi) Decommissioning work in the cooling ponds had commenced. Initial activities included the removal of tools and equipment from the ponds. The programme of decommissioning work in the cooling ponds was expected to take some 2 – 2½ years.
 - (vii) The Site continued to support local groups and activities as part of its socio economic support scheme.
- 13 Mr Lynden asked whether a new plant would be required for processing IONSIV filters, including those received from the Sizewell and Dungeness Sites. Mr Heaton said that the only plant which might be required was a conditioning plant to dry the waste if this was necessary before shipment from the Site.
- 14 In response to a question from Ms Paine about the reported de-sludging of the ponds, Mr Heaton said that there was some material at the bottom of the pond. This was largely graphite dust carried from the reactors on the irradiated fuel. The conditions within the Oldbury ponds were generally very good.

Office for Nuclear Regulation

- 15 Mr Dickenson presented his report on inspection activities at the Oldbury site. He emphasised the importance of the programme of work undertaken to confirm that no fuel had been left on site. He said that he had walked the route taken by fuel from its receipt on site to its despatch from site, as far as this was possible. He had witnessed inspections being undertaken and had questioned those carrying out this work. He acknowledged the rigorous nature of this programme of work and said that on its completion he had been able to confirm that it had demonstrated that the site was “fuel free”.
- 16 Mr Dickenson emphasised the importance of investigating events in order to learn from experience and the importance of following procedures, particularly in relation to decommissioning activities which could be less repetitive than operational work.
- 17 Mr Mitchell asked whether there were changes in relationships following the change in the parent body organisation. Mr Dickenson said secondees from the Cavendish Fluor Partnership had the same responsibilities as Magnox personnel

for safety. Mr Heath confirmed that Cavendish Fluor Partnership secondees were committed to the success of Magnox and were effectively part of the same Magnox management team for the period of their secondments.

- 18 Cllr Evers asked whether the appointment of a new Chief Nuclear Inspector was likely to lead to changes in ONR strategy. Mr Dickenson thought this was unlikely as Dr Savage had been acting as Chief Nuclear Inspector prior to his recent appointment and had been involved in the formulation of a strategic review.

Environment Agency

- 19 Mr Reynolds presented a report on the Environment Agency's inspection activities at the Oldbury site. He pointed out that Mr R Green had succeeded him as the Agency's Lead Regulator for the Oldbury site on 1 April but had been unable to attend this meeting. He drew particular attention to the following:

- (i) The Agency had reviewed and approved a proposal to move to passive venting of the reactor vessels following defuelling.
- (ii) There had been no adverse trend in liquid effluent discharges from the Oldbury cooling ponds following receipt of IONSIV components from Dungeness and Sizewell sites.
- (iii) In consultation with the Food Standards Agency, EA had agreed to changes in the Oldbury Site's environmental monitoring programme following defuelling of the reactors.

- 20 In reply to a question from Cllr Evers on the revised environmental monitoring programme, Mr Reynolds said that arrangements for monitoring the marine environment would remain largely unchanged whilst the cooling ponds remained in use, but it was appropriate to reduce the extent and frequency of some terrestrial monitoring due to the greatly reduced level of discharges to the atmosphere.

INTERIM END STATE DISCUSSION

- 21 It was noted that this matter had been addressed earlier in the meeting under matters arising from the previous meeting (para 5 refers)

CHAIR'S UPDATE

- 22 Mr Lynden reported that discussions at a future meeting of SSG chairs with NDA would include consideration of regulatory requirements for sites in a care and maintenance state. Cllr Vaughan Lewis asked whether proposals previously put forward by Energy Solutions for a central "hub" facility for carrying out work necessary at care and maintenance sites were still being pursued. Mr Heath confirmed that consideration was still being given to this possible arrangement but he said that many regulatory issues remained to be resolved.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 23 Mr Lynden drew attention to presentations organised for future meetings. The next meeting of this Group on 27 July would receive a presentation on the Site's revised emergency planning arrangements. The subsequent meeting held jointly with members of the Berkeley SSG would include a presentation from the Radioactive Waste Management Directorate.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 24 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group was scheduled to be held on 27 July 2016 and that the following meeting, a joint meeting with the Berkeley SSG, was scheduled to be held on 26 October 2016.

MJD
2 May 2016

25 May 2016

INFORMATION PREPARED FOR OLDBURY SSG MINUTES

Horizon Nuclear Power plans to deliver at least 5,400MW of low-carbon electricity at its proposed new nuclear sites, Wylfa Newydd on Anglesey and Oldbury-on-Severn in South Gloucestershire – enough to supply around 10 million homes.

Wylfa Newydd is our lead site and we are aiming for first new nuclear generation there in the mid-2020s with Oldbury to follow.

John Gilbert, Head of Strategy, said: “Our Wylfa project is the opposite of stalled. We are ramping up activity steeply as we put all the pieces of the jigsaw in place to get to our Final Investment Decision.

“We would all like to see Hinkley progress as soon as possible, but Horizon’s projects are not dependent on HPC going ahead. We have a different technology and ownership structure and we’ve made a good start to discussions with Government about the support mechanisms that would work for us.”

Recent progress at Horizon:

- First phase of public consultation at Wylfa Newydd complete: second stage due to take place later this year.
- Generic Design Assessment process on schedule for completion end of 2017.
- New CEO appointed.
- Appointment of major contractors for the power station construction.
- Works underway to double size of site office at Wylfa.
- Launched first local apprenticeship scheme.