

NDA Monthly Update

June 2017

Summary

- 2018 supply chain event and awards: registration opens
- Academics share research findings
- Thousands gather to share expertise
- Magnox contract announcement
- NDA new Chief Executive takes up role
- NDA new Chairman takes up role
- Latest NDA Business Plan published
- Updated inventory of radioactive waste published
- UK and US continue collaborative agreement
- Nuclear archive opens its doors
- Machine will clean up Sellafield's most hazardous building
- Robot demolishes final cell

Diary Dates

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| • Robotics Week | 26 June |
| • NDA Annual Report and Accounts published | Early July |
| • NDA Estate Supply Chain Event, Manchester | 2 November |

Register now for 2018 Supply Chain Event

Registration has now opened for the 2018 NDA Estate Supply Chain Event at EventCity in Manchester on 2 November. Last year's event attracted 1,500 visitors from the UK and overseas, including 260 exhibition stands. The day features presentations by keynote speakers and a full afternoon of opportunities for face-to-face business networking. Businesses of all sizes are welcome, especially those from the Small and Medium-sized Enterprise community. Submissions for the annual awards, which will be presented in the morning, are also being invited – the closing date is 7 September.

[Weblink: Register now for supply event](#)

Academics share research findings

More than 100 industry representatives, PhD researchers, academics and scientists gathered for a two-day technical conference in York, all committed to shedding new light on some long-standing complexities associated with nuclear decommissioning. The annual DISTINCTIVE conference was an opportunity for sharing research results and ideas three years into a programme that is focused on decommissioning studies. Based at universities all over the UK, among the key aspirations of the programme are to develop the next generation of technical specialists and strengthen links with the nuclear industry in order to apply research at site level.

[Weblink: Finishing line in sight for research students](#)

Thousands gather to share world-wide expertise

The NDA's Strategy Director Adrian Simper was one of more 2,000 people at the 43rd annual international Waste Management Symposium (WMS) held in Arizona recently, representing 30-plus countries. The event connects people from different organisations in different countries, all seeking solutions to deal with radioactive waste and materials. Collaboration with the US and Canada, as well as news from Japan, were among the discussion topics.

[Weblink: Delegates share nuclear learning](#)

Magnox contract announcement

The NDA has decided to terminate the Magnox contract by mutual agreement with the Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP). The contract will terminate in September 2019 and CFP will remain the parent body organisation until then. The NDA has also settled the claims with EnergySolutions and Bechtel. This ends the lengthy and costly court proceedings and limits further risk to the taxpayer. Below is a link to the Written Ministerial Statement made by BEIS Secretary of State, Greg Clark:

[Weblink: Ministerial Announcement](#)

David Peattie starts work new NDA Chief Executive

David Peattie has now taken up his role as the NDA's new Chief Executive Officer following John Clarke's decision to take retirement after five years in the role. David, who has an extensive background in the oil and gas sector, assumed office last month. He will be responsible for leading the NDA in the decommissioning and clean-up of 17 legacy nuclear sites across the UK, including Sellafield. The appointment was made by the non-executive members of the NDA Board, with the approval of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Secretary of State Greg Clark.

[Weblink: CEO appointment](#)

New NDA Chairman now in post

The NDA's new chairman, former diplomat Tom Smith, has taken up his role after his appointment was announced in December. Tom took over from Stephen Henwood in March. He is an Oxford chemistry graduate, former diplomat and Member of the Institute of Directors, and was an NDA Non-Executive Director from 2013 until stepping into the Chairman's role.

[Weblink: New Chairman named](#)

NDA publishes latest Business Plan

The NDA's annual Business Plan has now been published, setting out objectives and expected progress for all 17 NDA sites over the next three years. The plan is based on the NDA's 2016 Strategy and is in line with the funding agreed with HM Treasury and Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Also included is a 20-year overview of forthcoming activities across the estate.

[Weblink: Business Plan](#)

Updated inventory of radioactive waste available

An updated inventory of the UK's radioactive waste has been published. The inventory comprises a series of reports that provide the information on levels of radioactive waste across the country and forecasts of the amounts that are expected to arise in the future. The UK Radioactive Waste Inventory (UKRWI) is part of an ongoing programme of research jointly conducted by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the NDA. The inventory is updated every three years to provide the latest national record on radioactive wastes and materials in the UK.

[Weblink: UK Radioactive Waste Inventory](#)

UK and US continue collaborative agreement

A 10-year-old agreement between US and UK government organisations responsible for nuclear clean-up was recently extended for a further five years. Since the Statement of

Intent was signed in 2007, numerous information and ‘lessons learned’ exchanges have taken place on a wide variety of topics ranging from contracting strategies to plutonium management. Current activities are focused on start-up and commissioning, ageing infrastructure management, robotics/remote technology development and implementation.

[Weblink: US-UK agreement continues](#)

Nuclear archive opens its doors

A unique archive has now opened in the far north of Scotland, bringing together a vast collection of records, plans, photographs and drawings from the earliest days of the UK’s nuclear industry. Located near Dounreay, the £21 million investment by the NDA, *Nucleus (The Nuclear and Caithness Archives)*, also houses a local collection of historic Scottish material that had outgrown its existing home. Dounreay records were the first nuclear collection to be transferred; material from the other 16 sites will be moved in gradually over the coming years.

[Weblink: Archive opens](#)

Machine will clean up Sellafield’s most hazardous building

A 350-tonne machine has been installed at Sellafield to tackle one of the world’s most challenging nuclear clean-up jobs. The £100 million Silo Emptying Plant is one of three machines that will scoop radioactive waste out of the Magnox Swarf Storage Silo. The 1960s storage facility has been described as one of the most hazardous buildings in western Europe and contains 10,000 cubic metres of intermediate level waste from the earliest days of the UK’s civil nuclear industry. Material was tipped into the six silos from the top, and Magnox cladding was later added to the mix.

[Weblink: Silo Emptying Plant unveiled](#)

Robot demolishes final cell

The final internal structure has been dismantled at the Dounreay Materials Test Reactor (DMTR) support building complex, which will allow the building to be demolished later this year. The complex contained a fuel pond, waste drum store and a post-irradiated examination cave – all of which have previously been decommissioned. The final structure, a holding area for the site’s solid remote handled waste, was pulled apart remotely using a robotic demolition machine (Brokk 180). The DMTR was the first of Dounreay’s three reactors to reach criticality, and was closed in 1969.

[Weblink: Robot demolishes final cell](#)