

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 12 JULY 2017**

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden welcomed members to the meeting. He expressed regret that the meeting which had been scheduled to be held in April had been cancelled at the request of the NDA due to the application of the purdah rules in advance of the General Election.
- Cllr M Riddle, representing South Gloucestershire Council, described for members the relationship between local authorities and the nuclear industry. He acknowledged the value of SSG meetings in providing information for local representatives which could be fed back to their communities. He described South Gloucestershire Council's participation with other local authorities in established bodies relating to the decommissioning of legacy nuclear sites and new nuclear power station construction.
- Reports were received from the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency on the results of their regulatory and inspection activities at the Oldbury site.
- Mr Jonathan Jenkin presented a report on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. He explained the background to the decision taken jointly by NDA and the Cavendish Fluor Partnership to terminate CFPs contract for the management of the Magnox and RSRL sites at the end of August 2019. He emphasised that this resulted from a review, undertaken since the contract was let, of the work required to be done which had identified a significant mismatch with the forecasts on which the tender had been based. It was not in any way a reflection on the performance of CFP who would remain responsible for the management of the sites until the termination date.
- Site Closure Director Mr Mike Heaton reported on the continued safety of activities at the Oldbury Site. Compliance had been maintained with all Site Licence requirements. There had been no significant conventional safety issues.
- Mr Heaton reported on the good progress which was being made with decommissioning work, in particular the removal of redundant items from the station's cooling ponds and the installation of an electrical overlay system which would enable other systems to be taken out of service and removed safely. He reminded members of the volumes of wastes to be packaged for transfer to the storage facility at Berkeley. Ms Gemma Coombs reported on the results of a stakeholder survey which had shown a generally high level of satisfaction with the effectiveness of SSGs in providing information for local communities.
- Mr Simon Napper and Mr Stephen Payne, representing Radioactive Waste Management Ltd gave a presentation on proposed arrangements for the selection of a site for the development of a geological disposal facility for radioactive wastes.

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE
CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 12 JULY 2017**

PRESENT:

Mr M Lynden (in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr J Cornock	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr C Evers	-	Glos Assoc of Parish and Town Councils
Cllr D Griffiths	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Dr L Hales	-	Independent Environmental Consultant
Cllr M J Hawkins	-	Aust Parish Council
Mr G Jones	-	Staff Representative
Cllr G Vaughan Lewis	-	Alkington Parish Council
Cllr Ms J Lyons	-	Olveston Parish Council
Cllr J O'Neill	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Ms A Paine	-	Stroud Green Party
Cllr G Rawlinson	-	Thornbury Town Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Commerce
Cllr K Sullivan	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Mrs P Wride	-	Berkeley SSG Chair

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr R Green	-	Environment Agency
Mr J Jenkin	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr S Napper	-	Radioactive Waste Management Ltd
Mr S Payne	-	Radioactive Waste Management Ltd
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Ms S Stagg	-	James Reed PR for Horizon Nuclear Power
Mr M Heaton	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Ms G Coombs	-	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 reminded members that the meeting which had been scheduled to be held in April had been cancelled at the request of the NDA due to the application of the purdah rules in advance of the general election. He regretted that it had not been possible to meet on that occasion, even if it would not have been possible for those affected by the purdah rules to attend.
- 2 Mr Lynden drew attention to issues raised by the government's declared intention to withdraw from membership of Euratom. He felt that the implications of such withdrawal would become clearer in the coming months

and that it might be appropriate for this Group to give further consideration to these issues at a future meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 3 Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Heath, Mr P Dickenson, Mrs E Vaughan-Lewis, Cllr D Dovey and Mr G P Simms.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 4 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 25 January 2017 were approved as an accurate record.

(b) Matters arising

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

CONFIRMATION OF CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR

- 6 Members unanimously agreed that Mr Lynden and Mr Hawkins should continue in their roles as Chair and Vice-Chair of this group respectively for the coming year.

PUBLIC FORUM

- 7 Mr Lynden invited members of the public to raise any issues which might not arise in discussion later in the meeting. No such issues were raised.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND THE NUCLEAR INDUSTRY

- 8 Cllr Riddle outlined relationships between local authorities and the nuclear industry with particular reference to the Oldbury Site. He said that from contacts with members of other councils it had been made clear that the Oldbury SSG was regarded as one of the most effective in the country. He valued his attendance at these meetings and that of Ms Ellis-King who was the South Gloucestershire Council's lead officer on nuclear matters.
- 9 Cllr Riddle explained the role of South Gloucestershire Council in dealing with planning consent applications from the Site and from Horizon Nuclear Power for proposed developments. South Gloucestershire Council would be a consultee in the process of considering new nuclear development at Oldbury as a nationally significant infrastructure project.
- 10 Cllr Riddle described South Gloucestershire Council's involvement, with other local authorities, in NuLeAF, the Nuclear Legacy Advisory Forum and the New Nuclear Local Authorities Group. He described the roles of these groups and issues discussed at their meetings. He said that the benefits of working with

other councils on these issues included learning from others' experience and establishing good practices. Consideration was given at these meetings to the community benefits from hosting new developments. Cllr Vaughan-Lewis commented that the location of a power station within a local community provided its own benefits in terms of local employment and trade for local businesses. Cllr Riddle said that access to the site for construction and other purposes would be a significant issue in relation to the establishment of a new power station at Oldbury.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Office for Nuclear Regulation

- 11 In the absence of Mr Dickenson who had been unable to attend this meeting, consideration was given to his reports which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr Mitchell commented that some of the language used in the reports appeared to follow a standard format designed to be applicable at all sites.

Environment Agency

- 12 Mr Green reported on the Environment Agency's inspection and regulatory work relating to the Oldbury site. Copies of his reports had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

- 13 Mr Jenkin provided an update on issues of current interest, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) NDA and the Cavendish Fluor Partnership had mutually agreed to terminate the contract for the management of the Magnox and RSRL Sites with effect from 1 September 2019. This reflected the significantly increased scope of work now recognised as being necessary compared with that identified in the tendering process.
 - (ii) The competition process which had resulted in the placing of that contract had been the subject of legal claims brought by Energy Solutions and Bechtel who had been unsuccessful bidders. The High Court had ruled that the competition process had been flawed. The EnergySolutions and Bechtel claims had been settled in a total sum approaching £100 million; these costs could potentially have been significantly higher if the cases had proceeded to trial.
 - (iii) The Secretary of State had set up an independent inquiry under the chairmanship of Mr S Holliday to review the conduct of the competition process and the reasons why the contract had not been sustainable.
 - (iv) The decision to terminate the contract was not a reflection on the performance of the Cavendish Fluor Partnership who would continue to

be responsible for the management of the Sites until the date of termination. The contractual changes would not affect the continuing programme of work at the Site. No decisions had yet been taken as to future arrangements following termination of the contract.

- 14 In reply to questions, Mr Jenkins said that the contract with CFP had made provision for a consolidation period allowing them to review the work needed at each site. That review had demonstrated a significant increase in work required compared with the tender estimates on which the contract had been based and had led to the decision that the contract should be terminated.
- 15 Mr Jenkin explained the purdah rules issued by the Cabinet Office to be applied during periods leading up to a general election. He felt it was clear from his interpretation of those rules that it would not be appropriate for the NDA, regulators or Magnox officers to attend an SSG meeting in the period leading up to an election. Mr Lynden regretted this and felt that it should have been possible for the SSG, as an independent body, to hold a meeting if it wished.

Site Closure Director's Report

- 16 Mr Heaton reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The company's targeted approach to prevention of accidents was currently focusing on electrical safety which had clear links to fire safety. In the light of the recent tragic tower block fire, information was being provided to ONR on cladding applied to buildings on Magnox sites.
 - (ii) There had been no significant events or instances of non-compliance with regulatory requirements.
 - (iii) The Site's emergency arrangements had recently been demonstrated to the satisfaction of Office for Nuclear Regulation inspectors.
 - (iv) The ONR had not yet completed its assessment of the submission that, with the greatly reduced potential hazards on site, it was no longer necessary to have plans for dealing with an off- site release of radioactivity.
 - (v) Good progress was being made with the removal of low-level waste items from the cooling ponds and the storage of these items on the pile cap. Ionsiv components, including those transferred from Sizewell A and Dungeness A, had been consolidated.
 - (vi) Fuel element debris was to be sorted to segregate the Magnox cladding from the more highly radioactive components. This work was to be delayed so that natural decay of radioactivity would allow all of the Magnox material to be treated as low level waste.

- (vii) In accordance with the approved planning consent, intermediate level waste, including Ionsiv components from Sizewell and Dungeness, would be packaged and transferred for storage at Berkeley. Other waste packages were being transferred from Sizewell and Dungeness to Bradwell for storage. Planning consent may be sought for transferring empty pond skips from Oldbury for storage at Hinkley Point. These measures to consolidate waste storage at a smaller number of sites represented an overall saving of £200 million.
- (viii) The Interim Storage Facility at Berkeley was expected to contain 623 packages of waste from the Berkeley site and a maximum of 73 packages transferred from Oldbury.
- (ix) An electrical overlay system was to be installed allowing existing cabling to be removed from service. This would enable demolition of the Turbine Hall (scheduled for 2022) and the removal of the connections to the grid system with the associated transformers. The overlay system was scheduled for completion by March 2018.

17 Ms Coombs gave details of the results of the stakeholder survey carried out last year. She said that SSG members and others had taken part in the survey, the results of which had been very positive. SSGs had been regarded as working effectively, with members obtaining information from their attendance at meetings and providing feedback to the groups which they represented. An identified demand for site visits was to be met with visits for SSG members being organised every other year.

18 Ms Coombs reminded members of sources of information available to them outside of meetings via the company's website, electronic newsletter, YouTube channel and twitter account. She said there was a commitment to provide information on longer term plans when this was available. In response to a question from Ms Ellis King, Mr Heaton said that information on key dates in future decommissioning plans could be made available to members and this information will be circulated under a separate email.

GEOLOGICAL DISPOSAL FACILITY

19 Mr Napper outlined the current position in relation to the establishment of a geological disposal facility for radioactive waste. He explained the background to the formation of Radioactive Waste Management Ltd as a subsidiary of the NDA and outlined its role.

20 Mr Napper briefly described the background to the identification of deep geological disposal as the preferred option for dealing with higher activity radioactive waste. He said there was general international consensus that this was the safest means of dealing with these wastes. A facility in Finland was under construction and was due to become available for waste disposal from the early 2020s; this would be the first geological disposal facility in Europe. He explained the different approaches of the devolved governments within the UK.

- 21 Mr Napper explained proposed arrangements for the identification of a site for creation of a deep geological disposal facility. He referred to work undertaken in conjunction with the British Geological Survey to provide a means of high level screening of the various areas of the country against the geological characteristics needed for a safety case. The results of this work would be published before the siting process started. Mr Napper said that public consultation was shortly to commence on land use planning issues. He said that the selection of a site for development of a disposal facility would be dependent upon suitable geological conditions and the support of the local community. Community benefits would be available to local areas participating in the selection of a site.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

- 22 Mr Lynden outlined meetings which he would be attending with the NDA, with the chairs of other SSGs and with the Cavendish Fluor Partnership.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 23 Cllr Mrs Wride pointed out that the Berkeley SSG meeting later that day was to be held in the South Gloucestershire and Stroud College facility on the former Berkeley Centre site.

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 24 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group, a joint meeting with the Berkeley SSG, was scheduled to be held on 25 October 2017. The venue for the meeting would be confirmed in due course.

MJD

14 July 2017