

**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP  
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS FROM THE FIFTY FIRST MEETING  
HELD ON THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT THE WATERSIDE HOTEL, WEST KILBRIDE**

**Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Mrs Rita Holmes, Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting and in particular, Mr Jonathan Jenkin from the NDA on behalf of Mr Bill Hamilton. Mrs Holmes updated on the Site Stakeholder Group Housekeeping meeting held that morning and confirmed that she had been re-elected as Chair, with Mr Stuart McGhie being elected Vice Chair.

**Chair and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence**

The Chair noted that it had been another very busy year for herself and the former Vice Chair, Mr John Lamb, and she thanked Mr Lamb for his help and input to the workload and attendance at meetings.

**Actions and Approval of Previous Minutes**

The Minutes of the meeting of 6 September 2018 were approved. The four actions from the meeting had been dealt with and discharged.

**Hunterston A Site Reports**

**Hunterston A Report – Mr John Grierson, Ms Denise Wilson and Mr Ian Warner**

The Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) and the Day Away Case Rate (DACR) for the site remained at zero. Hunterston currently has the best safety record in the Magnox estate. Photos were shown demonstrating progress on the key work programmes. Ms Wilson presented on Risk Based Deplanting and Mr Warner updated on the Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation (GRR).

**ONR Report**

The ONR report was circulated with the meeting papers. Mr Rob Eales was not present as he has resigned from his position with ONR and his replacement with responsibility for Hunterston A site has yet to be identified.

**SEPA Report**

The SEPA report was circulated with the meeting papers. Mr David Stone was not present at the meeting.

**NDA Report – Mr Jonathan Jenkin**

The big news from the NDA was that Magnox Ltd will become a subsidiary of the NDA from 1 September 2019, after the Secretary of State endorsed the NDA's recommendation. A programme of work for the transition is well under way. The NDA Archive Nucleus in Wick has collected two top architectural awards as one of the most stylish buildings in the UK. The eighth NDA Supply Chain Event will be held on 1 November in Manchester. The NDA Stakeholder Summit in July at Berkeley was very well attended.

**Update from Scottish Government – Mr Ewan Young**

The Scottish Government report covered an update on Regulation of Radioactive Substances activities, Scottish Higher Activity Waste Strategy Implementation and Radioactive Contaminated Land.

**Hunterston B Station Reports**

**Hunterston B Report – Mr Colin Weir**

A video was shown of Dr Jim Reed, Graphite Expert, explaining the role of graphite core in the reactors. Members were invited to view life-size models of the core and ask questions. The site had experienced two Lost Time Accidents with employees and one with a Contractor. Fortunately these were not serious injuries but extremely disappointing nonetheless, particularly after such a long period of excellent safety record. Reactor 3 is still offline for detailed inspection and Reactor 4 will be taken offline for routine inspection in October 2018.

**ONR Report – Mr Stuart Fannin**

Mr Fannin described the inspections undertaken on site during the period, including those arising from the Lost Time Accidents.

**SEPA Report – Mr Keith Hammond**

Mr Keith Hammond updated on the Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018, which came into force in Scotland on 1 September 2018. SEPA has produced a four page non-technical summary, available on SEPA's website on the Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation (GRR) document published in summer.

A number of questions were asked by members and further detail on these can be found in the full Minutes of the meeting.

**Next Meeting – Thursday 6 December 2018 at 1.00 pm for 1.30 pm at The Seamill Hydro Hotel, Seamill.**

**HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP  
MINUTES OF FIFTY FIRST MEETING HELD ON  
THURSDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2018 AT 1.30 PM  
AT THE WATERSIDE HOTEL, ARDROSSAN ROAD, WEST KILBRIDE, KA23 9NG**

**Present**

**Magnox Ltd**

Mrs Jill Callander (SSG Secretariat)  
Mr John Grierson (Scottish Regional Lead)  
Ms Mair Jones (Socio Economic Lead)  
Mr Sean Marshall (Magnox Communications)  
Ms Johan Milliken (Trade Union Rep)  
Mr Reuben Phillips (EHSS&Q Manager)  
Mr Ian Warner (End State Optimisation Manager)  
Ms Denise Wilson (P&S Regional Delivery Manager, Scotland)

**Community Council Representatives**

Mr Drew Cochrane (Largs CC)  
Mrs Rita Holmes – SSG Chair (Fairlie CC)  
Mr John Lamb (West Kilbride CC)  
Mr Allan Rice (Saltcoats CC)

**North Ayrshire Council**

Cllr Robert Barr (Dalry and West Kilbride)  
Cllr Tom Marshall (North Coast and Cumbraes)  
Mr Hugh McGhee (Environmental Health)  
Cllr John Glover (Kilwinning)

**NDA**

Mr Jonathan Jenkin

**In Attendance**

Mrs Sheila Adams (Minutes)  
Mr Ronald Gilchrist (Fairlie and Millport CC)  
Mr David Nairn (Clyde Porpoise CIC)

**Apologies**

Mr Angus Cochran-Patrick (Hunterston Estate)  
Insp Colin Convery (Police Scotland)  
Cllr Todd Ferguson (Dalry and West Kilbride)  
Cllr Alex Gallagher (North Coast and Cumbraes)  
Dr Hazel Henderson (NHS Ayrshire & Arran)

**EDF (Hunterston B)**

Dr Roddy Angus (Technical Support Manager)  
Mr Bob Fenton (Head of Communications)  
Ms Fiona McCall (External Comms Manager)  
Mr Stuart McGhie – SSG Vice Chair (Trade Union Rep)  
Mr Colin Weir (Station Director)

**ONR**

Mr Stuart Fannin (Hunterston B)

**SEPA**

Mr Keith Hammond (Hunterston B)

**Scottish Government**

Mr Ewan Young

**National Farmers Union Scotland**

Mr William Jack

Mr Phil Lonsdale (Cumbrae CC)  
Mr Anil Mander (CNC, Hunterston B)  
Mr David Stone (SEPA, Hunterston A)  
Dr Will Munro (Food Standards Scotland)

## 1. Chairman's Opening Remarks and Declarations of Interest

Mrs Holmes, Chair, welcomed everyone to the fifty first meeting of the Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group in the Waterside Hotel, West Kilbride. All those present introduced themselves. The apologies, as listed above, were read out. There were no declarations of interest. Mrs Holmes welcomed Mr Jonathan Jenkin from the NDA, who was standing in for Mr Bill Hamilton.

Mrs Holmes noted that Mr Rob Eales, ONR representative for Hunterston A site, is leaving the ONR and notification of his replacement is awaited.

Mrs Holmes updated on the Site Stakeholder Group Housekeeping meeting held that morning and confirmed that she had been re-elected as Chair, with Mr Stuart McGhie being elected Vice Chair.

## 2. Chair and Vice Chair Updates and Correspondence

The Chair noted that it had been another very busy year for herself and the former Vice Chair, Mr John Lamb, and she thanked Mr Lamb for his help and input to the workload and attendance at meetings. Mrs Holmes summarised the meetings attended by the Chair and Vice Chair since the last meeting, which included the NDA Stakeholder Summit at South Gloucester College, Berkeley, in July 2018 and the Scottish Nuclear Sites meeting in Edinburgh on 10 August 2018.

## 3. Actions and Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting of 7 June 2018 were proposed for approval by Mr Drew Cochrane and seconded by Mr John Lamb.

Update on Actions:

*Action – Mr Grierson offered to present slides of the Risk-Based De-Planting (RBDP) process, referred to in the ONR report, at the next meeting.*

**Denise Wilson, Magnox, was attending the meeting to give a presentation on Risk Based Deplanting – action complete.**

*Action – Mr Phillips to amend table in 6.1 to show total gaseous discharge limits.*

**The table in the Hunterston A report had been amended to show totals, as requested – action complete.**

*Action – Sean Marshall / Mair Jones / Jonathan Jenkin to arrange sub group meeting of interested members to discuss potential projects which would benefit from match funding from socio economic fund.*

**This was on the Agenda for the earlier SSG Housekeeping meeting and a way forward identified which should see an increase in the number of larger applications received (£1k-£10k, £10k+) – action complete.**

*Action – SSG Secretariat to recirculate the adopted updated Constitution to members.*

**The updated SSG Constitution had been circulated with the meeting papers – action complete.**

## 4. Hunterston A Site Reports

### Hunterston A Reports – Mr John Grierson, MS Denise Wilson and Mr Ian Warner

Mr Grierson introduced Ms Denise Wilson, who formerly worked at Chapelcross site and is now

based at Hunterston.

Mr Grierson's report, issued with the meeting papers, was taken as read. Mr Grierson commenced his presentation with safety, as always, and was pleased to report that the Site had maintained its safety record with the Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) and the Day Away Case Rate (DACR) being zero, with no first aid case injuries at the site since March 2018. It is 51 months since the last Lost Time Accident (LTA) and Hunterston Site currently has the best safety record in the Magnox estate.

An EHSS&Q review had been a positive learning and sharing experience. The Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) campaign continues with the focus on Respect and Inclusion. Mr Grierson looked forward to attending the Women's Network Conference in Birmingham.

Mr Rob Eales has resigned from ONR to take up a position with Horizon Nuclear Power and Mr Grierson expected to be informed of his replacement in the next 2-3 weeks but in the meantime Mr Peter Rothwell will deputise. Mr Grierson hoped to receive approval of the variation to Licence Condition in respect of a revision to emergency arrangements to remove the monitor staff from the 24 hour rota from ONR in mid-September.

Employee numbers remain relatively stable with contractor numbers reducing on the Solid Intermediate Level Waste Encapsulation (SILWE) Plant project. The SILWE plant is now fitted out with equipment installed and cables fitted.

Mr Grierson showed the Critical Path Diagram and photographs of the various stages of the Key Programmes. The Ponds have reached stabilisation and the focus is now back to deplanting. The 783 packages of waste retrieved through the Solid Active Waste Bunker Retrieval (SAWBR) project up until June 2018 now stood at 829 packages. Bunker 2 is expected to be complete by late November / early December then the focus will be on Bunker 1. In the Wet Intermediate Level Waste Retrieval and Encapsulation Plant (WILWREP) there were 38 packages in June and 56 now. The summer period resulted in more packages due to the warmer weather and an agitator in the tank. WILWREP is ready to move from active commissioning to routine operations. The Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) store previously had 822 packages and was now sitting at 886.

### **Risk Based Depplanting – Ms Denise Wilson**

Mr Grierson introduced Denise Wilson who was responsible for reactor decommissioning at Chapelcross before being based at Hunterston. She talked those present through the process of Risk Based Depplanting. Lessons were learned during the decommissioning activities of reactor buildings at Bradwell, Trawsfynwydd, Chapelcross. Lessons have been learned across the fleet regarding the management and clearance of material, in particular from Chapelcross and Harwell. The project shares its own learning in particular with Sizewell, Dungeness and Wylfa who will be the next sites to adopt the Risk Based Depplant Strategy.

Ms Wilson explained Workstream 1 which included Internal Post Operational Clean Out (POCO), Depplanting and Modifications. This was further broken down into Strategic Justification; Characterisation; Assessments, Consents and Approvals; Preliminary Works; POCO and Depplanting; Internal Modifications for Care and Maintenance; Information Management. Ms Wilson assured members that regular contact is maintained with the Regulators throughout the process. She showed photos of Risk Based Depplanting and explained the process prior to and during care and maintenance. Workstream 2 involves appointing the Contractor for the External Weather Envelope, going through the design stage and early enabling works with physical works commencing in April 2019.

Mr Grierson resumed his presentation for Hunterston A with figures. Deliverable targets for 2018/19 are 40% complete but this is acceptable as there are good reasons for any areas which have not yet been delivered. Only half of the socio-economic budget for applications under £1k has been spent and plans were made to encourage more applications at the Housekeeping meeting earlier.

Mr Grierson showed photographs of the heat exchanger deplanting project at Chapelcross. This complex job involved moving 16 units at a rate of 2 per day from site to port in an 11 day window which was fraught with challenges outwith the Site's control. By day 6, 3 shipments had been made but the final 5 shipments were successfully moved in 5 days.

Mr Grierson concluded his presentation with safety, which is always the number one priority. He was very pleased with the excellent safety record at Hunterston and hoped that this would continue.

### **Question and Answer Session**

Mr Lamb asked if the Intermediate Level Waste (ILW) components in the reactor buildings would be packaged before going to the ILW store. Ms Wilson responded that they would first go into the bunkers and would be packaged during the Care and Maintenance phase.

Mr Cochrane asked if the £36m budget for 2018/19 came from the NDA and Government. Mr Grierson confirmed that this contribution was from the NDA, received from the Government.

Mr Rice asked how many people were expected to be on site during the Care and Maintenance phase. Mr Grierson advised that Bradwell site is just about to enter Care and Maintenance and has a number of security personnel. The desire would be to have nobody on site but the case has to be made with ONR and this case has not yet been made for Hunterston. Mr Rice asked how the case would be made. Mr Grierson replied that a response timescale is required which would involve multiple security and alarm systems. The site would have to look at its defence levels and how quickly these could be penetrated. Mr Grierson stressed that there is a lot of work to be done before Hunterston reaches this stage.

Mrs Holmes asked about the timescale for the permanent new cladding and the deplanting of the reactor building. Mr Grierson responded that some of the work will be undertaken in parallel and some will be after. Alarm equipment will be installed for Care and Maintenance, firstly at local level then from a central control. Anything which would affect the site's passive state would be alarmed.

Mrs Holmes asked if registration of the discharge points would be within the authorisation limits when the SILWE plant is brought online as this is a new facility. It was confirmed that the site was consulting with SEPA. All discharge points would be registered as part of a multimedia authorisation and this is newly registered monitoring would be ongoing both inside and out.

Mrs Holmes thanked Mr Grierson for hosting a site visit for herself and Mr Lamb to explain safety cases in more detail, which was an eye-opener.

Mr Grierson thanked the former Vice Chair, Mr John Lamb, for his work and support throughout his period of office and for travelling all over the country to attend forums, representing Hunterston A site. He welcomed Mr Stuart McGhie to the position.

### **GRR Update – Mr Ian Warner**

Mr Warner recapped on the overview of the newly issued regulatory Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation (GRR) explained at the last

meeting. In addition he briefed on progress on the consultation on the “Regulation of nuclear sites in the latter stages of decommissioning” which was issued by The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS). The consultation closed on 28 July 2018 and a response from Government to the consultation comment is awaited. Mr Warner talked through the GRR requirements and advised that as of 1 September 2018, in Scotland authorisations will be known as ‘permits’. Mr Warner explained the types of waste under consideration within the GRR requirements (high volume, low hazard wastes) and gave examples of possible options for the disposition of this type of radioactive waste from a decommissioning site. For each type of waste an Options Assessment Report will be prepared giving Optimised Solution for Disposal.

A Forward Work Programme of GRR will be prepared for Hunterston A, with a timeline to culminate in the development of a Preferred End State Options Paper for the eventual end state for the site (ie what might the final end state of the site comprise) NDA consideration, estimated to be in mid/late 2019. Trawsfynwydd is a ‘lead and learn’ site and its Preferred End State Options Paper will be submitted to the NDA for consideration in December 2018. Mr Warner showed photographs of the Ponds complex, Reactor buildings, lesser features such as pipes, manholes, drains and radioactive contaminated ground, of which Trawsfynwydd has more than any other Magnox site due to a historic ponds leak in the 1980’s. Mr Warner explained the possible configuration of the site after Final Site Clearance has been completed.

### **Question and Answer Session**

Mr Rice asked if the ponds that Mr Grierson referred to in his report were a likely candidate structure for consideration of on-site disposal and Mr Warner responded that they potentially could be. Mr Rice asked if there was a link between the ponds and was advised that there are various underground tunnels from the reactor buildings to the ponds and a series of rubble drains underneath the structure. Mr Warner reassured members that before any action is taken, the site has to make a safety case to SEPA. He considered that both Regulators (ONR and SEPA) have been very challenging throughout the trials at Trawsfynwydd and Magnox personnel now know what is required to demonstrate a valid safety case.

Mr McGhie asked if on site disposal could be an option. Mr Warner responded that this could be considered at Hunterston but there is an issue for sites with adjacent A and B stations that doesn’t exist at some other sites. Considering the management of future waste arisings at both sites together could be considered but that the importation of wastes for disposal at Hunterston from other sites in Scotland was not an option.

Mrs Holmes asked how long it would be until Trawsfynwydd achieved Final Site Clearance. Mr Warner replied that under the current plan it will reach Care and Maintenance in 2029 with final site clearance in 2078. Under GRR, it may be that some of the work planned for final site clearance will be brought forward and done earlier, for example the demolition and on-site disposal of the ponds complex but no decision has yet been made.

Mr Warner offered to attend future meetings to update on GRR as the involvement of Site Stakeholder Groups is fundamental to the process.

Mr Rice asked for a glossary of acronyms to be included with the papers or the names written in full to aid understanding for members not totally familiar with the terminology.

**Action – Glossary of acronyms to be provided to SSG Members.**

### **ONR Report**

The ONR report, circulated with the meeting papers, was taken as read. Mr Rob Eales was not present at the meeting but Mr Stuart Fannin offered to answer or take back any questions on the report.

### **Question and Answer Session**

Mrs Holmes asked about the inspection on Licence Condition 2 – Marking of the Site Boundary. She referred to the road between A station and B station and asked if the area within the fenced was a licensed site and the area outwith the fence unlicensed. Mr Fannin and Mr Grierson clarified that there are signs and blue boundary markers and Mr Fannin added that just because an area is within a licensed site, it does not necessarily pose any greater risk as this is controlled.

Mrs Holmes asked about the historic contamination of Compound 7 at Hunterston A, which is fenced off. Mr Grierson responded that there are barriers to contain the contamination and routine tests done of boreholes.

### **SEPA Report**

The SEPA report, circulated prior to the meeting, was taken as read. Mr David Stone was not present at the meeting. Mr Keith Hammond offered to answer or take back any questions on the report but there were none.

### **5. NDA Report – Mr Jonathan Jenkin**

Mr Jenkin echoed Mr Grierson's thanks to Mr John Lamb for his years of service as Chair of the Site Stakeholder Group and welcomed Mr McGhie to the position of Vice Chair.

The NDA report, issued with the meeting papers, was taken as read. The big news from the NDA was that Magnox Ltd will become a subsidiary of the NDA from 1 September 2019, after the Secretary of State endorsed the NDA's recommendation. A programme of work for the transition is well under way and the position of Managing Director of Magnox is now being advertised. There is a series of workstreams designing the new Executive. Until 1 September 2019, Cavendish Fluor Partnership (CFP) is the Parent Body Organisation for Magnox Ltd and there will be a gradual transition to shadow working.

Very good progress is being made at Sellafield dealing with higher radioactivity legacy ponds and silos and removing the hazards.

The eighth NDA Supply Chain Event will be held on 1 November in Manchester. Supply Chain Awards will be presented to recognise the good work done across the supply chain. The NDA is pleased to see Scottish and Welsh Companies engaging more with Sellafield to ensure a share of the supply chain.

The NDA Archive Nucleus in Wick has collected two top architectural awards as one of the most stylish buildings in the UK.

The NDA Stakeholder Summit on 10 -11 July 2018 was held at South Gloucester and Stroud College at Berkeley, which used to be Magnox laboratories. These labs would have been demolished but as the College was running out of space, it took on a long lease and redeveloped the buildings to provide a state-of-the-art Engineering Centre. This is a great example of a former licensed facility being completely transformed. Holding the Summit here provided logistical challenges with transport and accommodation but it was well attended with over 200 delegates on the first day, which involved presentations by the NDA's Chair and Chief Executive, other

Executives and break-out sessions. The location and format of the 2019 Summit have still to be decided.

The outline case for the Magnox Continuous Decommissioning Strategy determining the timeline and pace of reactor dismantling has been endorsed by the Chief Executive, and will then go to the full Board in September, then relevant statutory bodies and then to the Government. The proposal for the revised Strategy is not to have a wholesale Strategy but one flexible enough to have the most appropriate Strategy for each site. Subject to approval, the Outline Summary will be published and consulted on and representatives of Site Stakeholder Groups, Local Authorities, Regulators and other interested parties will be invited to workshops to look at the criteria.

### **Question and Answer Session**

Mr Lamb asked if there was an update on when the Holliday Inquiry Report would be published. Mr Jenkin responded that this is still being finalised and is expected to be published in autumn.

Mr Cochrane commented on the significance to Magnox of going from the global, commercial Cavendish Fluor Partnership as Parent Body Organisation to being a wholly owned Government subsidiary. Mr Jenkin agreed that the next year to September 2019 will be significant and reminded members of the background to this decision. Mr Jenkin clarified that from 1 September 2019, Magnox employees will be public sector employees. The Work Programme has always been publicly funded but the model is changing from that of a Parent Body model to a subsidiary model.

Cllr Marshall asked how much of the £280m spent in Scotland is allocated to Hunterston. Mr Grierson responded that the budget for Chapelcross and Hunterston last year was £90m. Cllr Marshall asked for a comparison of socio economic spend in the last financial year. Mr Jenkin reminded members that the NDA had published its first Socio Economic Report. Mr Jenkin and Ms Jones will forward this to the Secretariat for circulation.

**Action – Secretariat to circulate the NDA Socio Economic Report to members.**

### **6. Update from Scottish Government – Mr Ewan Young**

Mr Young presented his report highlighting the Scottish Higher Activity Waste Strategy Implementation and Radioactive Contaminated Land.

#### **Regulation of Radioactive Substances activities**

The Environmental Authorisation (Scotland) Regulations 2018 came into force for the regulation of activities with radioactive substances on 1 September 2018. This regime will ultimately extend to the regulation of waste, water environment and industrial pollution. The regulations bring in a new system of tiered regulation, with General Binding Rules for the lowest risk activities, Notification for low/moderate risk activities, and full permitting with standardised conditions for complex or higher risk activities. There will be no immediate impact on operators, as existing permits will transition to the new regime. Over time, the new regime can be more flexible and proportionate, and sites will be able to have single authorisations across their environmental activities.

#### **Scottish Higher Activity Waste Strategy Implementation**

The Scottish Government is continuing its discussions with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA), the NDA subsidiary Radioactive Waste Management (RWM), and with the Committee on Radioactive Waste Management (CoRWM), on early steps to ensure the effective long term delivery of the Scottish Government's Higher Activity Waste Implementation Strategy.

There has been further development of the UK Government's proposals for a Geological Disposal Facility, to be located in England or Wales, with discussion of the UK Government's proposed



planning treatment in England for this infrastructure. It was stressed that this has no impact on Scottish radioactive waste or planning policies.

### **Radioactive Contaminated Land**

The Scottish Government's consultation on revised guidance on protecting the public from radioactive contamination on land closed on 21 August. A workshop was held on 10 August, attended by a number of individuals including contaminated land officers from a good cross section of Scottish local authorities, and the Scottish Government is very grateful to all who participated. The outputs of the workshop are being considered alongside the formal consultation responses, with no attribution of views to individual workshop participants. There were some very constructive ideas for improving the draft text, in particular on the interaction with development planning, and for other follow-up work that the Scottish Government can commission in order to improve the sourcing, availability and sharing of information on areas of potential contamination.

A final draft of the revised guidance will be ready for approval by Scottish Ministers by the end of September, ready for its formal clearance by the Scottish Parliament and then notification to the European Commission.

## **7. Hunterston B Station Reports**

### **Hunterston B Report – Mr Colin Weir**

The Hunterston B Station report, issued with the meeting papers, was taken as read. Mr Weir started his report by playing a video of Dr Jim Reed, Graphite Expert, explaining the role of the graphite core in the reactors and the inspections thereon. To allow for further demonstration through life-size models of the core, there was a ten minute comfort break to allow members to examine the models for themselves and ask questions.

*Mr Cochrane left the meeting at 3.20 pm.*

Mr Weir hoped that the video and models were helpful in helping members understand the core and cracking and extended the offer to host visits to the site to explain further.

Reactor 3 has been subject to the biggest graphite inspection carried out in the fleet inspecting 75 fuel channels and 11 control rod channels. The cracking is in line with predictions, with distortion and crack opening within expectations or less. There is a higher number of induced keyway root cracks. Mr Weir reemphasised that it is not the number of cracks that is significant but the distortion and what would happen to the core in the case of a seismic event. Mr Weir confirmed that the safety case for Reactor 3 is on track to be completed within six months. The focus is to ensure that the models are predicting accurately and that predictions can be verified against models. As the testing equipment is already on site, it is prudent for the site to take Reactor 4 off in October for assessment.

With regard to safety, Mr Weir was extremely disappointed that the site had experienced two Lost Time Accidents with employees and one with a Contractor. Fortunately these were not serious injuries but disappointing nonetheless, particularly after such a long period of excellent safety record. An operator had touched the controls on a moveable platform, elevating this, which had the potential for much worse injury. As an industrial site, safety has to be a priority with constant reminders and the site is refocussing on safety.

Reactor 3 being off has reduced operation but Reactor 4 has seen exceptional performance and is currently the best in the fleet.

Under Company Update, supply chain contracts for work at Hinkley Point C is making a positive impact on the economy. Engineer Louise Morran gave an inspiring speech at two Further Education establishments as a STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Maths) Ambassador. The Station has taken on 49 new employees.

### **Question and Answer Session**

Cllr Barr asked if the site was still recruiting and Mr Weir confirmed that this is the case.

Mr Rice asked the monetary value of having Reactor 3 offline. Mr Weir replied that this equated to £100m revenue less fuel costs of £30m.

Mr McGhee asked for clarification on the position with the interconnector. Mr Weir responded that this is in the final throes of commissioning but does not belong to EDF.

### **ONR Report – Mr Stuart Fannin**

The ONR report, issued with the meeting papers, was taken as read. Mr Fannin summarised key points in the report. The majority of inspections in the period demonstrated good compliance and good practice with only minor issues. A systems-based security inspection of the Data Processing System (DPS) identified that the operation of the DPS did not meet the requirements of the safety case. ONR requested corrective action be taken and will monitor through to completion of the action. This resulted in an amber rating (below standard or first level of enforcement action). During the shut down of Reactor 3, a leak was discovered in the heating system, from which there was no radioactive release and no risk posed to workers or the public. The event was rated as first level on the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES). ONR Specialists engaged with the site and after inspection were satisfied with the course of action taken.

Mr Fannin referred to ONR's inspections of the Lost Time Incidents explained by Mr Weir. This included the conventional health and safety accident when a worker leaned against the control mechanism of a mobile elevated platform causing it to move and trap him against a support beam. Another worker slipped in liquid on the floor of the waste transfer area and hurt his elbow. The Health and Safety Executive investigated and noted a deterioration in health and safety performance on site. The site is delivering an Improvement Programme, which includes reinforcement of safety from leaders and putting in place an appropriate Action Plan.

The ONR continues to engage with specialists on the graphite core and attends weekly meetings. Mr Fannin reiterated that it is EDF's job to prepare a full safety case and the ONR's job to critically review this safety case.

### **Question and Answer Session**

Mr Lamb asked If the leak in a weld on the Heat System was discovered when the reactor was shut down and what caused this. Mr Fannin replied that the weld comes into play when the reactor is shut down and Mr Weir confirmed that it is caused by steam. Mr Lamb asked why the Inspections Programme did not find this defect and Mr Weir advised that it was caused by a water hammer and has resulted in a review of how pipework is inspected. All welds and radiography have now been inspected at Hunterston and Hinkley Point. Mrs Holmes asked where the leak was. Mr Weir explained that there are main boilers for normal operation then smaller boilers within the reactor for cooling the reactor. The leak was in an outlet tube feeding the boilers.

Mrs Holmes asked why it was so important for the Data Processing System to be correct as the Station had received an amber grading for this. Mr Fannin advised that the security systems did

not meet the site's Security Plan. This relates to cyber security in terms of the Data Processing System and related to minor findings, not a major challenge to the system.

Mr Rice asked how many welds were checked and Mr Weir responded that all welds are checked on all four reactors (Hunterston and Hinkley). Mr Rice further asked if there was any stress testing done. Mr Weir confirmed that this is done through radiography or ultrasonic inspections on a three yearly period by independent assurance inspectors.

Mrs Holmes asked if the site had any idea when a decision would be reached on the safety case for Reactor 3. Mr Fannin clarified that the safety case has to be submitted before it can be determined and the ONR would try to turn it round as quickly as practicable but formally has a three month period to respond.

Mrs Holmes noted that Reactor 4 is due to be taken offline on 2nd October and asked if it was likely to be back online before winter. Mr Weir replied that it is anticipated that it will be offline for 25 days, but could vary depending on data required to support return to service.

#### **SEPA Report – Mr Keith Hammond**

The written report from SEPA was taken as read. Mr Hammond expanded on the new Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 alluded to by Mr Young, which came into force on 1 September 2018 and is a big milestone for SEPA. SEPA's Nuclear Sector Plan 5 is due to be published for consultation in early 2019. With regard to the Guidance on Requirements for Release of Nuclear Sites from Radioactive Substances Regulation (GRR) document published in summer, SEPA has produced a four page non-technical summary which is available on SEPA's website.

#### **Question and Answer Session**

Mrs Callander asked when the Radioactivity in the Environment (RIFE) 23 Report would be published. Mr Hammond advised that this is normally issued in October.

Referring to the Sector Plans, Mrs Holmes asked if there were specific staff for each sector. Mr Hammond replied that there is one Sector Team which deals with all the specialisms within a sector.

#### **8. Any Other Business**

Mrs Holmes finished by again thanking Mr Lamb for his invaluable work during his tenure as Vice Chair.

The meeting dates for 2019 are:

Thursday 7 March 2019, Thursday 6 June 2019, Thursday 5 September 2019, Thursday 5 December 2019.

#### **9. Next Meeting – Thursday 6 December 2018**

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday 6 December 2018, at 1.00pm for 1.30pm, at different venue of Seamill Hydro Hotel, Ardrossan Road, Seamill, KA23 9ND.

Mrs Holmes thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting closed at 3.55 pm.