

**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION
DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING
THE VISITORS CENTRE – DUNGENESS B POWER STATION
THURSDAY 10th MAY 2018**

ATTENDANCE:

Ms Abbi Bamping	-	Natural England
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Cllr P Coe	-	New Romney Town Council
Mrs T Finn	-	SSG Secretariat
Cllr D Godfrey	-	Deputy Chairman
Mr J Goodsell	-	Dungeness A SJC
Mr B Hamilton	-	NDA
Mr T Harwood	-	Kent County Council
Mr P Heaton	-	EA Inspector, Dungeness A
Cllr A Hills	-	Kent County Council
Mr D Illsley	-	Folkestone and Hythe District Council
Mr R Lavender	-	Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Mr N Levinson	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Ms T Luetchford	-	Romney Marsh Partnership
Mr L Ollier	-	EDF Communications
Mr E Osondu	-	Environment Agency
Mr S Payne	-	Magnox Communications
Cllr A Rodriguez	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr J Royal-Simpson	-	Affinity Water
Col. G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mr I Stewart	-	Station Director, Dungeness B
Ms S Tanner	-	Minute Taker
Cllr R Wilkins	-	Folkestone and Hythe District Council
Mr P Wilkinson	-	Closure Director, Dungeness A

I INTRODUCTION

- 3621 Col. Smythe welcomed the SSG to the meeting today and explained that they would be going through the agenda. Col. Smythe highlighted the sadness at the recent passing of Cllr Lawton, Cllr Lawton had been an active member of the SSG and he would be missed greatly and asked if there was agreement, he would send a letter of condolences on behalf of the SSG to Cllr Lawton's family, all were in agreement.

II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 3622 Col. Smythe explained that there is a list of attendees and apologies in their meeting pack.

III TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

- 3623 Minutes of the meeting of Thursday 18th January have been approved – Cllr D Godfrey has noted that he has spoken to Rolls Royce and they would be happy to come and down and talk to the SSG, just not yet until they have advanced their technology and have more information.

IV CORRESPONDENCE

3624 There is a list of Correspondence, these are mainly emails and Tracey will ensure that all important emails are sent out.

V MATTERS ARISING – GEORGE SMYTHE

3625 Only one matter arising, the visit from Bill Hamilton who was unable to attend the AGM. He is here today and will be delivering a presentation.

VI COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS A'S CLOSURE DIRECTORS REPORT – MR PAUL WILKINSON, CLOSURE DIRECTOR

3626 Mr Wilkinson, Closure Director delivered his report and highlighted the following

- Safety is the current top priority and Dungeness A is on the verge of achieving 2 years without a loss time accident, something the site is extremely proud of and hard work is continuing and they are working towards both zero loss time accidents and zero accidents they are yet to achieve but this is the aspiration.
- There have been some issues with the sewage plant, and the Environment Agency (EA) on a frequent basis, alongside the site carry out inspection on the discharges, and the EA carried out tests and found discharges to be non-compliant. Dungeness A was issued with a warning letter and plant was shut down. All sampling since has been compliant and they are currently reviewing the process to ensure this does not happen again.
- Ponds – Currently half drained, there have been significant issues but it is now progressing well and to schedule. Awarded Gold award for the diving work at the recent company conference.
- Asbestos programme has been halted due to incident at Hinkley Point A, due to spring hangers and work will not continue until further investigation has been carried out. A huge emphasis will always be on safety first.
- De-wire project, is now at phase 3.
- Waste Projects, nine intermediate level waste (ILW) containers have been dispatched into the Bradwell Store and there is another 140 to go. This has been paused due to failure in pipework – there was no leakage or risk of exposure, we are hoping to get back into dispatch within three weeks.
- There is no longer a nightshift operations team, there is only security in place and this is the first time in 50 years.

3627 He invited questions from the SSG:
Col. Smythe: Will the ILW container shipment to Bradwell store pick up momentum again?
Mr Wilkinson: Definitely, what we find when carrying out decommissioning activities is that there is a difficulty when starting and progress over time is limited and then we will pick up and we are predicting to send around 18 boxes per month from Dungeness.

VII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS B'S STATION DIRECTORS REPORTS – MR IAN STEWART, STATION DIRECTOR

3628 Mr Stewart, Station Director apologised that there was no written report for the SSG and has agreed to correct this moving forward. He delivered the following verbal report to the SSG:

- The main focus of Dungeness B is safety; their current record has been excellent. There has been a drive for security safety and there have been a number of exercises that have gone well and security agencies have been positive in their response.
- The periodic safety report has been approved by regulators, and this can be seen as a green light for the site to continue to do what we have been doing well.
- ONR focus area is corrosion and the site will be spending around £2 - £3 million to look a pipe corrosion management.
- Dungeness B received a warning letter from the EA due to consignment of waste oil go off site without the correct paperwork in place.
- Industrial Safety is in a good place and there have been no incidents in the first third of the year.
- Dungeness B put 3 Terawatt of energy onto the grid, and the lowest loss within the company.

3629 He explained that moving forward there will be a statutory outage again this year, which is due to take place 27 August 2018 for 80 days and an outage in June for formal inspections and investment work and a 10 day refuelling outage in May.

He gave further information on the EDF Apprenticeship Programme, there will be four new starters in September, two males and two females who are local, there will be changes to the programme and this will be moving to Hinkley C and the future apprenticeship recruitment will be lower than previous years.

The whole Dungeness team have been doing well to raise money for this year's chosen charity - Breast Cancer; there has been some fantastic work. The Visitors Centre has welcomed 24,000 guests over the last 5 years.

3630 Mr Stewart welcomed questioned from the SSG
Ms Tess Luetchford, Romney Marsh Partnership: Can you give further details about the lack of apprentices that will be taken on for future recruitment
Mr Stewart: As an organisation we are trying to streamline, and we will reduce accordingly.

Mr Richard Lavender, Channel Chamber of Commerce: Will there be any new builds?
Mr Stewart: There is a main focus on small modular reactors, there is a huge research project going on but this but this will be a decision for Kent County Council and there are no firm plans in place at the moment.

Mr John Royal Simpson, Affinity Water: Is there any risk of the oil spilling into the water supply
Mr Stewart: Not at all, this is something that is monitored carefully.

VIII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A – MR ROWLAND COOK, ONR INSPECTOR (NOT PRESENT, REPORT CIRCULATED)

3631 Reports have been circulated

IX COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B – MS FIONA HUNTER, ONR INSPECTOR (NOT PRESENT)

3632 Mr Ian Stewart has informed the SSG that there will be a new ONR Inspector starting at Dungeness B within the next two weeks.

X COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES – MR PHIL HEATON, EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS A AND MR EDDIE OSONDU, EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS B

3633 Mr Phil Heaton is in attendance for Dungeness A Site, Mr Phil Fahey is currently away for three months training, and he will be back on the 1 July 2018. He wanted to discuss Asset Management; this is due to the issues of degradation and salt water ingress. There will be a lot of money needing to be spent to take things down and to avoid a similar situation to Didcot. The EA is applying pressure to Magnox and the NDA to take decisions for the interim end state whilst in care and maintenance for 2027.

There have been three developments in recent months

- EC directive – The basic safety standards directive has now been implemented.
- The guidance in the link below which was published on 8th May talks about the changes in regulation for nuclear sites undergoing decommissioning with the Environment Agencies and HSE regulating nuclear sites once the main radiation risks are removed. For this to happen the nuclear installations act (NIA) would need to change and the principle of “no danger” for delicensing will be removed.
- The EA has released ‘Guidance on requirements for release’ this has been in the works for four years and hopeful it will be shared soon to make decisions on what to leave behind and take away.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/the-regulation-of-nuclear-sites-in-the-final-stages-of-decommissioning-and-clean-up>

3634 He invited questions from the SSG:
Cllr David Godfrey: Will there be consideration for the lightly contaminated concrete structures that may be left behind?
Mr Heaton: Unfortunately I am unable to speculate on the risk for the end use.

3635 Mr Eddie Osondu delivered the following report for Dungeness B Power Station

- There has been a warning letter issued to the site for specified corrective actions and training on the definition of waste and hopefully there will be no recurrence of the diesel mis-consignment event.
- As with A site, there was an asset management themed inspection carried out on 20 February 2018. There was no non-compliance noted during the inspection and we identified areas of good practice such as the implementation of a corrosion management programme to minimise the effect of corrosion on the plant.
- There was a leak from an isolation valve on the dump water storage tank. There was no immediate evidence that this has gone into the ground and investigations will continue to take place.

He invited questions – there was no questions asked.

XI NDA UPDATE – MR BILL HAMILTON, NDA

- 3636 Mr Hamilton delivered his presentation and highlighted the following points
- There are several workshops planned based on the government consultations mentioned earlier by the EA – SSG Chairs and Deputy Chairs will be invited to attend.
 - The NDA has recognised the need for skills, and there has been a new Head of Skills employed within the NDA which they are hopeful will enable all organisations to work together. There is a development in place for a Nuclear College and he is hopeful that Col. Smythe will attend a two day event.
 - The NDA business Plan has now been published which is a three year development plan, the NDA have also released the gender pay gap report in support for E&D strategy to encourage people to apply for jobs within the NDA.
 - The Socio-Economic Report is available on the government website.
 - The National Audit office has published a report has given recommendations and these have been implemented following the Holliday Inquiry interim report. We are currently awaiting the final report, and we are working hard on the transition of the management team for the work to be carried out. This has not been rubber stamped by the Secretary of State.

XII PRESENTATION ON DECOMMISSIONING – MR BILL HAMILTON, NDA

- 3637 Mr Hamilton delivered the following presentation to the SSG and made the following strategies:
- Deferral with minimal interventions – stop working and keep the site secure
 - Deferral with planned interventions – working towards care and maintenance, removing asbestos etc.
 - Continuous Decommissioning – continuation of decommissioning with no break for interim care and maintenance.

The deferral strategy has some costs to begin with and has a very limited interventions over a number of years (predominately ensuring the site is safe and secure) and then a major investment in around 80 years' time for a final site clearance. The main benefit is that there could be additional technology to complete the final clear up.

- 3638 We currently looking at complete deferral with planned interventions, this requires less costs at the beginning and the asbestos hazards become increasingly complex over time as buildings age and the overall costs are uncertain. There are significant costs in regards to keeping the site safe for example due to concrete and metal decay. There is also a risk to waste management as there may be no way of disposing of the waste and there is a risk of loss of skills over the 80 year period and this leads to retraining and additional costs.

Continuous decommissioning is the new possible option, the plant is a known state and there is minimal asbestos degradation as you are removing it continuously. There is a need of remote working due to the amount of radioactivity within the reactor buildings, this possible due to advancing technologies and you are able to keep the human workforce further away from the site. There will be continuous employment for longer, the supply chain can develop, future stakeholders can see you are dedicated to the site and you are committed to the future use of the site and you can focus the

spends on the early years of the decommissioning and is more known, this is a higher spend and will the government accept this as an additional cost?

- 3639 It may be difficult to implement the continuous decommissioning across all sites at the same time, if the decommissioning is carried out quickly the challenge will be of where to store the waste as there is not currently a suitable geological disposal unit to do this and may not be available until 2050.

He summarised with there is a lot of activity going on at the moment in regards to reviewing the current decommissioning strategy, there is no evidence to say that the current strategy is wrong but a blanket approach may be more cost effective and no decision has been made yet.

XIII SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE – COL. GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN

- 3640 Col. Smythe gave the SSG an update in regards to the Socio-Economic activity in the area, there has been a total of £69,000 spent in the area. Col. Smythe reiterated the importance of submitting applications so the community can benefit from the current funding which is available.

A Socio-Economic meeting took place yesterday (9 May) and found it very beneficial to attend to see how the money has been spent. Col. Smythe has asked Tracey to send out the Magnox Socio Economic Funding Guidelines and explained that if the applications aren't made then the money will not be given.

Action: Guidelines to be circulated by Secretariat.

XIV DUNGENESS SSG CONSTITUTION – COL. GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN

- 3641 Col. Smythe has explained that the NDA have distributed updated guidance for SSG constitutions, this was shared with the SSG and comments have been received on the current constitution, the suggested changes have been made. This will now be submitted to the NDA and then upon approval will be adopted.

A vote took place on the proposed changes:

Cllr P Coe Proposed
Cllr A Hills Seconded

All agreed

XV ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 3642 No other business was raised.

XV DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

- 3643 Next meeting to take place Tuesday 2 October, 10am at Dungeness B Visitors Centre