

## Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

### SEPA Update on Hunterston B

#### HUNTERSTON SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP MEETING,

6<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at the Waterside Hotel, Seamill

#### Regulation

##### Radioactive Substances Act 1993 (RSA)

SEPA staff have formally inspected the station in relation to its RSA Authorisation once since the last SSG report. On 12 June 2018, SEPA carried out a joint inspection with the ONR site inspector to look at the station's radioactive waste transfers. No contraventions were found, but a number of areas for improvement were noted.

##### Pollution Prevention & Control (PPC)

There have been no issues relating to the station's PPC permit for its non-radioactive emissions from the emergency diesel generators, auxiliary boilers and waste oil burner since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

##### Control of Major Accidents Hazards (COMAH)

There have been no issues relating to COMAH since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

##### Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR)

There have been no issues relating to the station's CAR licences for non-radioactive liquid discharges to the water environment since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

##### European Union Emission Trading Scheme (EUETS)

There were no issues relating to the station's EUETS permit since the last scheduled SSG meeting.

#### Events

There were no reportable incidents, complaints or non-compliance events affecting SEPA's interests at the station known to have occurred since the last meeting of the SSG at the time of writing this report.

#### Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018

The new regulations come into force on 1 September 2018. Only radioactive substances fall into the new regulations at this time; the other "regimes" (water, PPC and conventional waste) will migrate over in due course. Although any existing authorisations will be deemed as permits under the new regulations when they come into force, SEPA intends to transition the existing RSA nuclear authorisations within the next year. This transition will not involve any changes to the existing authorisations' limits or disposal routes, other than that allowed under the standard conditions.

## **SEPA's Nuclear Sector Plan**

In accordance with One Planet Prosperity, our regulatory strategy, SEPA has established a number of sectors to focus our environmental protection work to achieve our statutory functions as well as helping to improve the health and well-being of people in Scotland and contributing to sustainable economic growth.

One of the identified new sectors is the Nuclear Sector. SEPA is currently refining its ideas for a sector plan and intends to put the draft plan out for public consultation in early 2019.

## **Radioactivity in Food & the Environment (RIFE)**

SEPA works together with the Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales, Northern Ireland Environment Agency, Food Standards Scotland and Food Standards Agency on the radiological monitoring of food and the environment, and in publishing the results. The reports aim to provide an in-depth assessment of radioactivity in food and the environment in the UK and the public's exposure to radiation. The reports focus on key information that demonstrates both that food remains safe and that the public's exposure to ionising radiation is within legal limits.

The latest edition (RIFE 22) covering 2016 has been published and electronic copies can be obtained from SEPA's website: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk) under "*Environment/Radioactive Substances/Environmental monitoring and assessment/Reports*".

## **Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI)**

The Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) is a publicly accessible electronic database of releases of pollutants to all environmental media and transfers of non-radioactive waste. SEPA intends that, as far as practicable, SPRI be the principle means by which information on Scottish pollutant releases and non-radioactive waste transfers is collected and made public. Wherever possible, such information will be collected and presented by this one system.

The data for 2016, including that from Hunterston B, have been published and are available on SEPA's website: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk) under "*Environment/Environmental data/SPRI*".

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