

Chairs Report on Annual NDA Summit Delivery

8th-10th July.

Day1: Mission Delivery Day2: Developing our people

This Summit was held in at Coleg Menai, Bangor, North Wales and attended by the Chairs and vice chairs of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority Sites as well as many other stakeholders and representatives of Non Governmental Organisations.

David Pettie CEO and Tom Smith Chairman of NDA were in attendance. Like last year, when the Summit was at Berkley, a lot of trains , buses and travelling were involved to get there and back.

The Chairman of Wylfa SSG Aled Jones kindly hosted a drinks party at his house for the chairs and vice chairs so we had a chance to talk together before the event started the following day.

Bill Hamilton opened proceedings followed by speeches from Tom Smith, Aled Jones and David Peattie.

There were interesting exhibits on display throughout eg robotics and precision engineered metallics.

Wylfa Magnox closure director Stuart Law, spoke about his site and the Magnox fuel cycle, along with Rebecca Weston the Enterprise Director of Sellafield Ltd. who touched on future opportunities.

Marie Berggren, Head of Unit for Final Repositories for Radioactive Waste , Municipality of Osthhammar spoke about the Swedish experience with site selection for its Geological Disposal Facility, commenting that the Swedes had more trust in their politicians than we, in Britain, had. This made the process easier.

There was an interesting presentation on the decommissioning of Plutonium Contaminated Material Facilities at the Low Level Waste Repository which is legacy from the period just after WW2 when the race was on for Britain to have its own nuclear bomb. There was a lot of hazardous bunkers left from this era. Admiration and thanks have to go to the men and women doing that clean up. There was a demonstration of the care taken in the use of protective layers of clothing , gloves and respirators that had to be donned before the bunkers could be entered. Hours were spent in these hot toxic environments to clean them and take samples of the dust for analysis.

John Macnamara, NDA Head of Stakeholder Relations opened on Day2.
There was a presentation on the National Skills Perspective - Nuclear
Sector Deal-

There was an opportunity to see the College and its workshops which
were impressive. Hopefully, there will be an equivalent set up at
Kilwinning College with precision instruments and workshops.

Rita Holmes