

**DUNGENESS A SITE AND B POWER STATION  
DUNGENESS SITE STAKEHOLDER AGM  
THE VISITORS CENTRE – DUNGENESS B POWER STATION  
THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Cllr Lord Ampthill	-	Rother District Council
Mrs L Barton	-	Lydd Airport Action Group
Mr J Benn	-	Plant Manager, Dungeness B
Cllr M Burgess	-	Ashford Borough Council
Cllr P Coe	-	New Romney Town Council
Ms A Croombs	-	Natural England
Mrs T Finn	-	SSG Secretariat
Cllr D Godfrey	-	Deputy Chairman
Mr J Goodsell	-	SJC Representative, Magnox
Mr B Hamilton	-	Communications Manager, NDA
Mr A Hills	-	Kent County Council
Mr S Kirsopp	-	ONR Inspector (Dungeness B)
Mr R Lavender	-	Invicta Chamber of Commerce
Mr O Leyshon	-	Romney Marsh Countryside Project
Ms T Luetchford	-	Romney Marsh Partnership Group
Mr J McNamara	-	EDF Energy
Mr S Payne	-	Magnox Communications
Cllr A Rodriguez	-	New Romney Town Council
Mr J Royal-Simpson	-	Affinity Water
Col G Smythe	-	Independent Chairman
Mr A Stone	-	EA Inspector (Dungeness B)
Mrs S Bowie-Wooler	-	Minute Taker
Cllr R Wilkins	-	Folkestone and Hythe District Council
Mr P Wilkinson	-	Closure Director, Dungeness A

**Apologies:**

Ms A Bamping	-	Natural England
Mr J Beckwith	-	Magnox
Cllr M Boyd	-	Rye Town Council
Mr R Cook	-	ONR Inspector (Dungeness A)
Ms J Dear	-	Natural England
Mr P Fahey	-	EA Inspector (Dungeness A)
Mr I Stewart	-	Station Director, Dungeness B
Ms A Tamplin	-	Kent County Council
Cllr P Thomas	-	New Romney Town Council
Mrs C Waters	-	Lydd Town Council

**I INTRODUCTION**

3662 Col. Smythe welcomed the SSG to the meeting today and explained that they would be going through the agenda. Col. Smythe explained that there has been a lot of work going on in the background and is hopeful that there will be some conclusions made shortly.

## **II APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3663 Col. Smythe explained that there is a list of attendees and apologies available for members.

## **III TO APPROVE THE MINUTES**

3664 Minutes from meeting Thursday, 2 October 2018 have been agreed as a true reflection.

## **IV CORRESPONDENCE**

3665 There is a list of Correspondence which has been provided dating back from Thursday 2, October 2018. There has been a lot of correspondence since the 2 January, there are hard copies available at the back of the room.

## **V MATTERS ARISING – GEORGE SMYTHE**

3666 No matters arising from previous meeting, there will be further discussions about Continuous Care and Maintenance. Col. Smythe is hopeful there will be a workshop this year, but there is no further information from further up the chain.

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

3667 Mr Wilkinson delivered his report and highlighted the following points:

- Health and Safety is still the main focus at the site, we have had a good period without a lost time accident, 950 days currently.
- There is a lot of work going on at the moment mainly asbestos removal, ponds drain and construction of a Modular Active Effluent Plant. The staff and contractors are working very hard and extremely well at the moment.
- Following on from the issues and setbacks experienced last year, we are now 96 per cent the way through the pond drainage project. Decontamination should be completed mid-April.
- We have installed a modular active effluent treatment plant, which will take over from the main active effluent treatment plant, this will enable us to decommission the original plant within the next few years.
- There has been significant work to repackage the ILW waste, transferring the resin materials into DCIC boxes and then sent to the Interim storage facility at Bradwell, we have done really well on this.
- Boiler annexe removal progresses with authorisation from the NDA to move forward with the removal of both the boilers and annexes.

3668 Mr Wilkinson invited questions from the SSG  
Col. Smythe asked if Mr Wilkinson would like to discuss the transition for September 2019?

Mr Wilkinson explained from the point of view from Magnox, that all executive staff will be replaced post for post and this should have limited impact on the staff and they can continue to focus on their day jobs. Mr Hamilton said he would be covering more on transition in his report.

**VII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS REGARDING DUNGENESS B's STATION DIRECTORS REPORTS – JOHN BENN, PLANT MANAGER**

3669 Mr Stewart has sent his apologies, Mr Benn – plant manager delivered the station report in his absence and highlighted the following points:

- It was explained that it has been an eventual year, there has been an exemplary safety record for 2018, with the first six months being the best in the history of the site. There have been some really encouraging results from the staff surveys.
- There has been a significant maintenance outage since August 2018 and this will continue into February 2019. There have been some issues following inspections of the main steam lines, this is not nuclear specific, more plant based. We are still currently working through this, we had a breakthrough for this work on boiler 27. We are still working to planned times and positive we will work to the set timeframes and to budget.
- There has been enhanced works based to remediate the effects of systems susceptible to environmental corrosion, the ONR have been closely monitoring the work carried out through an extensive inspective regime.
- We have a big recruitment campaign at the moment, they have 27 vacancies at the moment and have held numerous roadshows and events to attract the right people to the roles.
- We are continuing to work with local schools to encourage the local children to gain a better understanding of what we do, and inspire a future generation.

3670 Mr Benn invited questions from the SSG:

Mr Leyshon: Do you foresee any major outages for this year?

Mr Benn: At the moment, our next fixed outage is planned for 2020 we will look to see if this is suitable and possibly move this to 2021.

**VIII COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS A – ROWLAND COOK, ONR INSPECTOR**

3671 Mr Cook had sent his apologies, report previously circulated.

**IX COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ONR REPORT FOR DUNGENESS B –STEPHEN KIRSOPP, ONR INSPECTOR**

3672 Mr Kirsopp delivered his report and highlighted the following points:

- They have carried out a number of compliance and system based inspections throughout the year, they have recently had an observation of inspection from the government who have left positive feedback based on the way they interact with the station, and the relationship they have. During the inspection carried out by Structural Integrity specialists and mechanical specialists and there were a number of corrosion issues identified, this has been an ongoing concern for the station given the condition of the plant, the sea and the salt air. In 2006 this was first identified in 2018 this work was inspected again by ONR and it was felt that insufficient progress was not made to satisfy ONR's concerns. As a consequence of that inspection there is a Direction issued on the station under the licence condition 15 (4).
- The report was completed, and the direction has now been closed. The station still has a number of commitments to deliver before the return to service of both units.
- During the outage, the station has seen some significant work being carried out. During the outage there has been an increase from 600 FTE staff to

close to 1,800, there has been in general a low number of safety events given the number of individuals working on Dungeness B during the outage. Personal contamination rates have also remained low.

- Mr Kirsopp explained the International Nuclear and Radiological Event Scale (INES) rating, this is a rating with the aim of communicating the safety significance of events at nuclear installations. The station had reported an INES level 2 event which in light of its corrosion findings across the station on several areas of nuclear safety plant, as a consequence the station considered that there had been a degradation of its defence in depth and therefore rated it as an INES level 2. This INES event is shared internationally as a means to promote learning from such events.
- The INS scale is available on the ONR website and is available for all to see, and explained how this is used. An INS 7 rating would be Chernobyl for example and Fukushima sat at an INS 6. INS 1 – 3 for anomalies that have been found during inspections.

Mr Kirsopp invited questions from the group. No questions

## **X COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ON ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATES – PHIL FAHEY, EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS A AND ANDREW STONE, EA INSPECTOR, DUNGENESS B**

3673 Mr Stone explained that Mr Fahey has sent his apologies but will deliver the report for both Dungeness A and Dungeness B. He highlighted the following from his report:

- The Radioactivity and Food report was issued in October and highlights the monitoring that has been going on around the country. The link for the report <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/radioactivity-in-food-and-the-environment-rife-reports>. The report explains that total doses to the public from permitted discharges and direct radiation around nuclear sites, remained well below the legal limit of 1000 µSv per year. For Dungeness the rate has remained very similar to previous years at 21 µSv in 2017.

3674 Mr Stone invited questions from the group

Cllr Tony Hills: I was interested to read about the 4 Becquerel per kg (Bq/kg) found in Rye Harbour, I was surprised that it was found there due to the currents.

Mr Stone: It was a positive result just above the limit of detection. Subsequent samples have shown levels to be below the limit of detection. We continue to monitor twice yearly in order to trend any accumulation in the environment.

## **XI NDA UPDATE – BILL HAMILTON, NDA**

3675 Mr Hamilton introduced himself and delivered the following highlights from the report:

- Sellafield's Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (THORP) has now closed and will no longer be reprocessing waste.
- Bradwell has been approved by the regulators to go into Care and Maintenance, the site will be closed and there will be no further operations. This is the first Magnox site to enter this phase. There will be onsite security, and there will be continued support for socio economic purposes and the SSG will continue to operate and we will work with the SSG and the local community to phase this out.
- There has been an announcement made in regards to the transition period from Magnox to the new company as of 1 September 2019, a chair designate

has been appointed Laurie Haynes. He has a wealth of experience across multiple sectors and he will be employed as a non-executive director.

- Radioactive Waste Management Ltd. (subsidiary of NDA) have been granted permission to move forward to find a suitable geological disposal facility. There will be a planned consultation to discuss with stakeholders the prospect of where would be suitable to situate it.

3676 Mr Hamilton invited questions from the group  
Mrs Barton: You mentioned that there will be no more reprocessing at Sellafield, what will happen now? Will it go overseas?  
Mr Hamilton: No, what is left will be stored safely at Sellafield until the Geological Disposal Facility has been built.

3677 Col Smythe: What will happen to spent fuel from sites such as Dungeness B following the closure of Sellafield?  
Mr Hamilton: That will be stored at Sellafield, in the Pond system as it needs to be kept under water for 5 years. They will then move to the Geological Disposal Facility once built as spent fuel. The NDA has a contractual relationship with EDF to continue to dispose of waste so this will not impact the removal of waste until the Geological Disposal Facility has been built.

3678 Cllr Hills: You have mentioned Bradwell going into Care and Maintenance, for Dungeness we have discussed that there will be a remote security presence, will Bradwell have a physical security presence?  
Mr Hamilton: The long term aim is for a remote security presence but for the time being we will have a physical presence on site.

## **XII RADIOACTIVE WASTE MANAGEMENT GDF UPDATE**

3679 Cancelled – Col. Smythe has explained that he will be attending workshops prior to the next meeting and this will be shared with the group.

## **XIII CHAIRMANS UPDATE**

3680 Col. Smythe explained that late last night there was a guide issued in regards to the GDF and there are copies available at the back of the room.

Col. Smythe said that there have been questions in regards to the Mountfield Estate development, there has not been an application made so there are no further updates to make at this point.

## **XIV SOCIO-ECONOMIC UPDATE – GEORGE SMYTHE, SSG CHAIRMAN**

3681 The good neighbourhood scheme is still open and available for applications and he stressed that applications are needed for funding.

## **XV ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

3682 None raised

## **XVI DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

3683 Thursday 9 May at Dungeness B Visitor Centre 10:30 start with refreshments available at 10:00