

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD ON
WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY 2019**

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden welcomed members to the meeting. He expressed members' sadness at the passing of Cllr Mrs Penny Wride who had been Chair of the Berkeley Site Stakeholder Group.
- Mr Leon Flexman of Horizon Nuclear Power updated members on the position following his company's recent announcement that it was suspending work on the new nuclear generation projects at Wylfa and Oldbury. He said that the level of activity was being reduced substantially whilst keeping open the option to resume development in the future. Horizon was committed to remaining a responsible landowner and good neighbour and would ensure that dialogue was maintained with local residents and stakeholders.
- Mr Rob Ledger reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site. He referred to the continued high standards of safety, environmental and security performance and outlined arrangements being made to remove the requirement for operational staff to be on site outside normal day working hours.
- Mr Ledger described the progress of decommissioning work on site. He described the removal of equipment from the former cooling ponds and the draining of water from the ponds which was nearing completion. Items removed from the ponds were being prepared for disposal and the internal surfaces of the cooling ponds were being cleaned. Items of waste were being sorted and segregated in order to reduce the volume of materials to be classified as intermediate level waste.
- Reports had been received from the local site inspectors of the Office for Nuclear Regulation and the Environment Agency. No significant issues had arisen from their inspection activities.
- Mr Jonathan Jenkin presented a report on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority. He drew particular attention to the start of a process to identify the site for a geological disposal facility for radioactive waste, and to announcements by NDA of senior appointments within Magnox Ltd.

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE
CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 30 JANUARY 2019**

PRESENT:

Mr M Lynden (in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Ms C Collinson	-	Aust Parish Council
Cllr D Dovey	-	Monmouthshire County Council
Cllr C Evers	-	Glos Assoc of Parish and Town Councils
Cllr D Griffiths	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr Ms J Lyons	-	Olveston Parish Council
Cllr J O'Neill	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Cllr M Riddle	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Commerce
Mr J Stanton	-	Berkeley SSG
Cllr K Sullivan	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Mr K Warren	-	Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr J Jenkin	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr A Lord	-	Environment Agency
Ms G Ellis-King	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr R Ledger	-	Oldbury on Severn Power Station
Mrs E Vaughan Lewis	-	Magnox Communications
Mr L Flexman	-	Horizon Nuclear Power
Ms C Loveday	-	Horizon Nuclear Power
Ms S Stagg	-	James Reed PR for Horizon Nuclear Power
Mr W Gill		
Mr G Vaughan Lewis		
Mr J McHugh		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- 1 Mr Lynden welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Oldbury on Severn Site Stakeholder Group. Mr Lynden expressed members' deep sadness at the passing of Cllr Mrs Penny Wride. Penny had been Chair of the Berkeley SSG since its inception and in that capacity had worked tirelessly and with great enthusiasm despite a long illness. The establishment of the college campus on the Berkeley site owed much to her vision and determination and her contribution to the work of the stakeholder groups would be greatly missed.
- 2 Mr Lynden welcomed Mr Flexman and Ms Loveday who were attending to provide information following the recent announcement by Horizon Nuclear Power regarding future nuclear power station development.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 3 Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Heaton, Mr N Shaw, Falfield Parish Council, Mr A Mitchell, Dr L Hales, Ms G Coombs and Luke Hall MP.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

(a) Accuracy

- 4 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 1 August and of the meeting held jointly with Berkeley SSG on 31 October 2018 were approved as accurate records.

(b) Matters arising

- 5 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meetings.

PUBLIC FORUM

- 6 Mr Lynden invited members of the public to raise any issues which might not arise in discussion later in the meeting.
- 7 Mr Flexman referred to the recent announcement by Horizon Nuclear Power that it was suspending work relating to the proposed developments at Wylfa and Oldbury. He said that good progress had been made in all aspects of the project including establishing a capable organisation and supply chain but it had not been possible to reach agreements on financing and commercial arrangements. He said that work was being suspended on both projects until a solution could be found in relation to the financial arrangements; steps were being taken to reduce substantially the level of activity whilst keeping open the option to resume development in the future. Horizon was committed to remaining a responsible landowner and good neighbour and would ensure that dialogue was maintained with local residents and stakeholders.
- 8 Cllr Riddle said he had been pleased to have received assurances that properties in the area owned by Horizon would continue to be maintained and used. He said that Luke Hall MP had raised issues in parliament and arrangements were being made for the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy to visit the area.
- 9 Mr Roberts was pleased that Horizon was retaining its landholding as he felt that its release onto the market could adversely affect land values. Cllr Sullivan was concerned about the availability of skilled members of the workforce in the local area if the project was delayed significantly. Mr Flexman said that the skilled workforce which Horizon would no longer be able to retain would be able to find alternative employment with other companies, suppliers and regulators. He said he was confident that nuclear power remained critical to providing the secure low carbon energy which the country needed.

- 10 Ms Loveday confirmed that Horizon would provide information for residents via its Community Update newsletter as soon as possible and said that the information line (0800 130 3125) and the enquiries inbox (oldburyenquiries@horizonnuclearpower.com) would remain open.

QUARTERLY REPORTS

Site Closure Director's Report

- 11 Mr Ledger reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The Site had maintained high standards of safety, environmental and security performance. It was now more than three years since the most recent accident involving time lost from work.
 - (ii) Arrangements were being established to allow there to be no operational staff on shift outside normal day working hours. It was hoped that this change, which required the approval of the Office for Nuclear Regulation, would be able to be implemented by the end of March.
 - (iii) All the furniture and equipment had been removed from the cooling ponds. This included 111 ponds skips classified as low-level waste which were being stored on site for disposal at the Low Level Waste Repository and 25 skips classified as intermediate level waste which were being stored for transport to Hinkley Point for interim storage in due course.
 - (iv) The IONSIV components which had been held in the ponds had all been retrieved and packaged into "Mosaik" DCIC containers. The 36 components had been packaged into 10 containers and were being dried within the ambient temperature conditioning system established on the Site. Transport of these containers for storage at the Berkeley Site was due to commence in March.
 - (v) Substantial volumes of water had been drained from the cooling ponds. One of the bays had been drained completely and the radiation dose rates were sufficiently low to allow personnel access for cleaning the pond floor.
 - (vi) Arrangements had been made to sort miscellaneous contaminated items removed from the Site's waste vaults. By segregating items which could be classified as low level waste it had been possible to reduce significantly the volume of the material which would need to be despatched as intermediate level waste for storage at Berkeley.
- 12 Mr Ledger said that the deadline for applications for funding of local community activities under the company's socio-economic support scheme was 15 February.

- 13 In reply to a question from Mr Lynden, Mr Ledger said that the sides of the cooling ponds had been cleaned as the water level had been reduced. The low level of the radiation doses which allowed personnel access for cleaning the floor were testament to the good conditions which had been maintained in the ponds during the operating life of the plant.
- 14 In reply to a question from Cllr Evers on the classification of some ponds skips as low level waste and others as intermediate level waste, Mr Ledger said that during operation skips had been transferred between power station sites and Sellafield and some skips had picked up higher levels of contamination from elsewhere.

Office for Nuclear Regulation

- 15 It was noted that Mr Shaw had been unable to attend this meeting. A report on ONR's regulatory activities in relation to the Oldbury site had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. No questions were raised by members on the ONR report.

Environment Agency

- 16 Mr Lord presented a report on the Environment Agency's regulatory activities in relation to the Oldbury Site which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr Lord referred to a recent successful inspection of operational controls and management arrangements to ensure compliance.
- 17 Mr Lord said that discharges of radioactivity had remained well below the relevant annual discharge limits. He said that he had been informed by the Site in December that due to the increased volume of liquid discharges associated with draining the ponds, it was likely that the quarterly notification level (QNL) for liquid tritium discharges would be exceeded in early January. Exceeding the QNL did not represent a breach of the permit (this QNL limit was set at 1/8 of the annual limit) but it served to ensure that appropriate controls were in place. The Site had subsequently informed the Agency that the limit had been exceeded. The Agency was satisfied that best available techniques were used and that there was minimal risk of the annual limit being exceeded.
- 18 Cllr Evers drew attention to the report that the Agency had been notified by the Oldbury Site that slightly elevated levels of iodine 131 had been detected during its off-site environmental monitoring. He asked where this activity might have originated as, due to its relatively short half life, it could not have come from the Oldbury Site. Mr Lord said it was likely that it had originated from a hospital; this issue had arisen previously but it was not of sufficient concern to warrant further investigation of its possible source.

Nuclear Decommissioning Authority

- 19 Mr Jenkin provided an update on issues of current interest, drawing particular attention to the following:

- (i) Following publication of the government's policy, the process of identifying a site for a geological disposal facility had begun; a number of stakeholder events would be taking place around the country. Ms Ellis-King understood that these events included a meeting at Cheltenham on 26 February and another at Exeter on 28 February.
- (ii) Bradwell had become the first of the former Magnox power station sites to enter into care and maintenance. Some minor demolition and landscaping work remained to be completed on the site.
- (iii) The NDA had appointed Mr Lawrie Haynes as designate Chairman of Magnox Ltd which would become a subsidiary of the NDA on 1 September 2019. Mr Bill Hamilton was to become Communications Director of Magnox Ltd.
- (iv) NDA had published its latest draft business plan for public consultation.
- (v) A workshop meeting with representatives of SSGs, local government and other organisations had been held in November to review possible strategies for decommissioning of the Magnox sites. Options considered had included the possibility of continuous decommissioning, proceeding to final site clearance without a care and maintenance period. Issues raised at the workshop would be taken into account in considering a possible business case for continuous decommissioning. This would require approval by the NDA Board and government.

CHAIR'S UPDATE

- 20 Mr Lynden reported on his recent activities as chairman of this Group. He referred particularly to a meeting of the Emergency Planning Consultative Committee for the Berkeley and Oldbury sites which had received a report on a multi-agency terrorist exercise to test responses to terrorist events. The exercise had been held on the Berkeley site and had been considered by all parties to be a very valuable learning experience.
- 21 Mr Lynden drew attention to the company's socio economic support given to an Envision project designed to help children at local schools. He said that the results of the project had been very impressive.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No Business

DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

- 19 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group, a joint meeting with members of the Berkeley SSG, was to be held on 24 April at the Oldbury Conference Centre.
- MJD 31 January 2019