

**Scottish Environment Protection Agency  
Report to the Chapelcross Stakeholders' Group  
August 2019.**

**Radioactive Substances Act 1993**

**Inspection**

SEPA has undertaken two regulatory inspections since the last stakeholder group meeting.

The first of these was undertaken on May 14<sup>th</sup> 2019. The focus of this inspection was the site's procedures for the maintenance of the aqueous waste discharge system. The Chapelcross site now makes very few aqueous waste discharge campaigns over the course of a year. SEPA's interest lay in how the system is maintained now the site is making much less frequent discharge campaigns.

The site's Environmental Maintenance Schedule was reviewed to assess its adequacy in ensuring the site's discharge system is fully operational when a discharge needs to be made. No issues were identified. There are adequate number of suitably qualified staff to ensure that the system can be maintained and operated adequately.

SEPA inspected the development of a database to improve the management of solid low level radioactive waste held on the Chapelcross site on June 20<sup>th</sup> 2019. The database is being developed as a result of recommendations made by SEPA following the issuing of warning letter relating to storage of LLW on the site and its subsequent disposal in December 2018.

The inspection found that development of the database was ongoing and its design and eventual content should be adequate enable the site to manage its solid LLW in a more regulatory compliant manner.

SEPA also undertook a walk down of the LLW compound and associated storage areas. No issues were identified during the walk down and it was noted that the general housekeeping of the storage areas had improved significantly.

**Other Regulatory Interactions**

Following notification from the Chapelcross site in February 2019 that there were bulk items of solid radioactive waste into which water had ingressed whilst being stored on site SEPA has had a number of regulatory interactions with Magnox Ltd to understand the issue more fully. The site has also been investigating this event and has forwarded their report to SEPA.

At this time SEPA is preparing its regulatory response to this event. It is noteworthy that this is a very similar event to that which resulted in the site being issued with a warning letter in December 2018. It is noteworthy that the presence of water in the bulk items of solid LLW was identified by Magnox Ltd during their own internal inspections. The waste has not been disposed of. SEPA are confident that there has been no radiological risk to the public or the environment.

SEPA's regulatory response to this event is, at the time of writing, under internal review to ensure that it is proportionate and that it enables the site to meet the requirements that are likely to be placed upon them and improves their management of solid waste that is stored on the site.

It is likely that there will be a verbal update available at the stakeholder meeting.

David Stone.