

## Hunterston Site Stakeholder Group

### SEPA Update on Hunterston A

5<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at the Waterside Hotel, Seamill

#### Regulation

##### Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations (EASR) - radioactive substances

SEPA staff have inspected the station in relation to its EASR permit three times since the last SSG report in September 2019:

- 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019. An inspection of the site's LLW safety case. This looked at the site's management of LLW that is generated on site. There were no non-conformities identified during the inspection.
- 24<sup>th</sup> October 2019. An inspection for the site's facilities and procedures for monitoring solid waste that is believed to radiologically clean or out of scope prior to its disposal from the site. There were no non-conformities identified during the inspection.

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

There have been no notified issues relating to the station's PPC permit.

#### Events

There have been no reported events at the Hunterston A site

#### 2018 Compliance Assessment Scheme Scores Published

SEPA operates the Compliance Assessment Scheme (CAS) to demonstrate the level of compliance associated with specific licence conditions across the four principal regulatory regimes and publishes a summary of the results. The results for 2018 have been published and are available on SEPA's website. Hunterston A achieved a score of "excellent" on its RSA authorisation.

#### International Regulatory Review Service (IRRS) Mission

SEPA participated in the IRRS Mission in October 2019, which is organised by the International Atomic Energy Authority (IAEA). The purpose of the mission was to review the UK's regulatory framework for nuclear and radiation safety and had been formally requested by the UK Government in March 2018. The IRRS team performed a systematic review of all topics within the agreed scope of the mission through review of reference material and conducting interviews with staff from the UK authorities. It is understood that the final report will be made available in the next few weeks and will address the findings of the review.

#### 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 24) covering 2018 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*". The total dose for the critical group around Hunterston for the year was 0.005 millisieverts, which is broadly similar to previous years, and is about 0.5% of the annual dose limit (1 millisievert). The decrease in total dose and change in the representative person from 2017 was mostly due to a lower estimate of direct radiation from the site in 2018.

### **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 2017, including that from Hunterston A, have been published and are available on SEPA's website: [www.sepa.org.uk](http://www.sepa.org.uk) under "*Environment/Environmental data/SPRI*".

David Stone  
Specialist 1- Radioactive Substances Unit  
24 February 2020