

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION  
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP  
SUMMARY OF KEY POINTS ARISING AT THE MEETING HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2020**

- Chairman Mr Malcolm Lynden welcomed members to the meeting.
- Mr Jim Payne, Infrastructure Manager, representing Mike Heaton, Site Closure Director, reported on recent activities at the Oldbury site. He said that high standards of safety, environmental and security performance had been maintained and there were no significant events to report.
- Mr Payne reported that progress was being made with the retrieval of miscellaneous contaminated items of intermediate level waste from storage cells and the packaging of these items into containers for dispatch to the interim storage facility at Berkeley.
- Preparations were being made for the clearance and isolation of various buildings on the site to facilitate demolition in due course. Consideration was being given to possible changes in decommissioning work programmes which could be achieved if more funding was to be made available to the site.
- Mr Nick Shaw, the Office for Nuclear Regulation's Site Inspector and Mr Alex Lord, the Environment Agency's lead regulator for the Oldbury Site reported on their inspection activities. There had been no significant compliance issues. Both had attended with other regulators a meeting which had provided a satisfactory review of safety, security and environmental performance.
- Mr Jonathan Jenkin presented a report on behalf of the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority giving an update on current issues of interest.

**OLDBURY ON SEVERN POWER STATION  
SITE STAKEHOLDER GROUP  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT THE OLDBURY CONFERENCE  
CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2020**

**PRESENT:**

Mr M Lynden (in the chair)	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr M Fairless	-	Woolaston Parish Council
Cllr D Griffiths	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council
Cllr H Molyneux	-	Forest of Dean District Council
Cllr J O'Neill	-	South Gloucestershire Council
Mr B Roberts	-	Thornbury Chamber of Commerce
Mr J Stanton	-	Berkeley SSG
Cllr K Sullivan	-	Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr J Jenkin	-	Nuclear Decommissioning Authority
Mr N Shaw	-	Office for Nuclear Regulation
Mr A Lord	-	Environment Agency
Mr J Payne	-	Infrastructure Manager
Mrs E Vaughan Lewis	-	Magnox Communications
Ms S Stagg	-	James Reed PR for Horizon Nuclear Power
Mr J McHugh	-	Independent Environment Analyst
Mr T Hellen		
Mrs J Hellen		
Mr A Mitchell		
Mr C Molyneux		
Mr M J Davis (Secretary)		

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

- 1 Mr Lynden welcomed everyone to this meeting of the Oldbury on Severn Site Stakeholder Group. He expressed a particular welcome to Cllr Fairless who was attending a meeting of this Group for the first time as representative of Woolaston Parish Council.

**APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

- 2 Apologies for absence were received from Mr M Heaton, Mrs G Ellis-King, Mr T Harding, Mr M Johnson, Cllr Ms C Collinson, Mr W Gill, Mr J Mills, Cllr M Riddle, Cllr D Dovey, Mr K Warren, Mr G Vaughan-Lewis and Mr G P Simms.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

**(a) Accuracy**

- 3 The minutes of the meeting of this Group held on 7 August 2019 were approved as an accurate record.

**(b) Matters arising**

- 4 There were no matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 7 August or from those of the meeting held jointly with the Berkeley Site SSG held on 30 October 2019.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

- 5 Mr Lynden invited members of the public to raise any issues which might not arise in discussion later in the meeting. No such issues were raised.

**QUARTERLY REPORTS**

**Site Closure Director's Report**

- 6 On behalf of Mr Heaton, Mr Payne reported on recent activities at the Oldbury Site, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) There had been no significant events since the date of the previous meeting and high standards of safety, environmental and security performance had been maintained.
  - (ii) In the former cooling ponds, which had been drained and cleaned, surfaces had been painted and were being monitored. Pond skips which were classified as low level waste would be subjected to volume reduction before despatch from site. A decision was awaited on the disposal route for those skips classified as intermediate level waste.
  - (iii) Miscellaneous contaminated items to be processed as intermediate level waste were being retrieved from storage cells and packaged into ductile cast iron containers for transport to the Interim Storage Facility at Berkeley.
  - (iv) Preparations were being made with the clearance and isolation of some buildings to facilitate subsequent demolition. Consideration was given to priorities for clearing individual areas and facilities.
  - (v) Consideration was being given to possible changes in decommissioning work programmes which could be made if additional funding were to be made available for work at the Site.
  - (vi) The Site continued to provide socio-economic support for local causes and organisations. Mrs Vaughan-Lewis invited members to register via the website any potential organisations or projects which might be appropriate recipients of such funding.
- 7 Mr Mitchell questioned the apparently low priority being given to clearance and demolition of the former cooling water pumphouse and Mr Sullivan asked whether this area might provide wildlife habitats. Mr Payne said that clearance of this area was not of a high priority; it would be dealt with in due course

before entry into care and maintenance but in the meantime was kept secure. He did not feel that the area was as valuable for wildlife habitats as other areas around the site.

- 8 In reply to a question from Mrs Hellen, Mr Payne said that, where appropriate, materials arising from demolition would be used for infilling voids elsewhere on the site to minimise the need for transport for disposal off site. Mr Lord said that the aim of the Agency's guidance on requirements for release of nuclear sites from radioactive substances regulation was to avoid large volumes of low hazard waste material being removed from sites only to be taken to another site for disposal.

### **Office for Nuclear Regulation**

- 9 Mr Shaw reported on ONR's regulatory activities in relation to the Oldbury Site. A written report had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.
- 10 Mr Shaw referred to his attendance at the Regional Annual Review of Safety, Security and the Environment covering Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Sites. He said that the meeting had been very positive, had provided a good review of performance and had demonstrated good evidence of learning from experience.
- 11 Mr Shaw said that the ONR Chief Inspector and Chairman had visited Oldbury at the end of last year. The visit had provided a valuable opportunity for discussions with the site management team and safety representatives and had enabled the ONR senior officers to gain confidence in the way the Site was managed.
- 12 Mr Shaw said that with effect from 1 April he would be taking up another post within the Office for Nuclear Regulation and would be replaced as Site Inspector before that date. He said that with the reduced level of hazards on the Site and the reduction in the volume of radiologically significant work he could anticipate a reduction in the number of inspections carried out on the Site; it was important that inspection activities were proportionate to the risks associated with activities being undertaken. There were regular meetings and other interactions with the company as necessary. Mr Lynden thanked Mr Shaw for the contribution to the work of this Group which he had made as ONR Site Inspector. He emphasised the value which he attached to the presence of regulators' inspectors at these meetings to provide an independent view on matters discussed.

### **Environment Agency**

- 13 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. He said that there had been no significant compliance issues at the site since the date of the previous meeting.

- 14 Mr Lord said that he also had attended the Regional Annual Review of Safety, Security and the Environment for the Oldbury, Berkeley and Hinkley Point A Sites. He said that the meeting had provided an impressive report on compliance at these sites and given a very positive impression of the efforts made to learn from experience at other sites.
- 15 Mr Lord said that Magnox's reporting requirements had been changed in order to implement a Basic Safety Standards Directive (BSSD) recommendation relating to standardised discharge reporting from nuclear power station sites.

### **Nuclear Decommissioning Authority**

- 16 Mr Jenkin provided an update on issues of current interest, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) The NDA was currently undertaking consultation on its draft Business Plan for the next three years; the consultation would close on 14 February.
  - (ii) The transfer of civil separated plutonium from Dounreay to Sellafield had now been completed. All significant stocks of the material were now at Sellafield and the transfer of this material from Dounreay represented a significant step forward in decommissioning that site.
  - (iii) The NDA was collaborating with the UK Space Agency to explore whether data collected by satellites could provide useful information in relation to nuclear clean-up and decommissioning.
  - (iv) It was anticipated that an announcement would be made in the Spring of a lead site to develop plans for a process of continuous decommissioning leading to final site clearance without the delay of a period of care and maintenance. Decisions on the strategy to be adopted at each of the other Magnox sites would be taken in due course.
  - (v) It was hoped that the publication of the Holliday Report relating to the NDA's competition for the Magnox contract would take place shortly following the resolution of issues raised in a judicial review.
  - (vi) The NDA would be undertaking consultation later in the year on its strategy document for the coming five years.

### **CHAIR'S UPDATE**

- 17 Mr Lynden reported on his recent activities as chairman of this Group, drawing particular attention to the following:
- (i) He had attended a meeting of the Emergency Planning Consultative Committee and had been impressed by the good relationships and effective working arrangements which existed between the Site and emergency services personnel.

- (ii) During the past week together with the chairs and vice chairs of other SSGs he had attended a meeting in London with Magnox senior managers.
- 18 During discussion on the draft Magnox Stakeholder Charter, copies of which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting, members emphasised the importance of this group adequately representing the views of the local community and providing effective feedback to the community on issues discussed at its meetings. Mr Lynden emphasised the need for members to report back to their respective organisations on matters discussed at these meetings. He felt that it might be possible to give more publicity to arrangements for meetings in order to encourage more members of the community to attend.
- 19 In relation to providing assurance to the community on the safety of activities on the site, Mr Mitchell felt that greater effort should be made to allow members of the public to visit the site. Mr Shaw felt that while it was a relatively straightforward matter to allow public access to an operational power station site, the nature of the work undertaken during decommissioning meant that it was very difficult to provide safe means of public access to a decommissioning site.
- 20 Members felt that the draft Magnox Stakeholder Charter was generally acceptable. Mr Lynden said that there was to be a further meeting with SSG Chairs at which this Charter would be discussed. He said that there was to be an NDA summit meeting during the coming summer in Edinburgh.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 21 Mr Shaw drew members' attention to the ONR's draft strategy document which was currently undergoing consultation and could be accessed via the ONR website.

**DATE TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING**

- 22 It was noted that the next meeting of this Group, a joint meeting with members of the Berkeley SSG, was to be held on 13 May 2020 at the Oldbury Conference Centre.

MJD  
30 January 2020